

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## These stories in the PRESS:

• Harry Potter at the Houston Symphony  
• Comm. Garcia meets with Federal Officials on ITC fire  
.....And more, Page 5

## IN THE STARS

### EVENTS

#### THUR. APRIL 11 H/L CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Join the Highlands/Lynchburg Chamber for their regular monthly luncheon and program, 12 noon, Highlands Community Center. Call 281-426-7227 for reservations.

#### MON., APRIL 15 CROSBY LIBRARY MEETING

The Friends of the Crosby Library will be having their Annual Meeting on April 15 from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. The guest speaker will be Precinct 3 JP Lucia Bates. The topic of the evening will be "The importance of reading for all ages and community relations". The public is invited to attend. 135 Hare Road, Crosby, TX 77532. 832-927-7790.

#### TUESDAY, APR. 16 SAN JACINTO RIVER COALITION MEETING

The San Jacinto River Coalition/THEA has rescheduled their monthly meeting, due to the ITC fire and possible air pollution. Meeting is tonight at 6:30 pm at the San Jacinto Community Center in Highlands. Tonight's agenda includes information on an EPA meeting in May regarding the waste pits, an update on work at the waste pits and I-10 bridge, and an overview on the problems caused by the ITC fire, and its impact on local communities and the environment.

#### TUE., APRIL 23 PAIN SEMINAR

Hand, wrist and elbow pain seminar at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, 6-7 pm, 4401 Garth Rd. in Baytown. See AD, page 8 for more details

#### BIRTHDAYS

Apr 11-Ashliegh Oviedo  
Apr 12-Rylee Clamon  
Apr 13-Cameron Hosea  
Apr 15-Harry Stewart  
Cherie Zarsky  
Apr 16-Louis Marie Bradbury  
Morgan Little  
Jason Roffe  
Apr 17-Pat Van Ness  
Charlie Ward  
Callen Reese Tittel

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 17- Roy & Pauline  
Cutbirth

#### DEATHS

Dylan Wade Daskocil

## Another pipeline fire at Crosby oil facility



Only one day after the major fire at the KMCO plant in Crosby, the Crosby fire department was fighting another oil facility fire on Sralla Road. Crosby and Highlands fire departments were called out Wednesday night, May 3rd, after lightning struck storage tanks. Highlands Fire Chief Harvey Little said that the three storage tanks were completely destroyed by flames. He responded with a brush truck, because the facility is far from the road over unpaved fields. This is the same oil well that had a fire about one year ago. See page 8 for additional photos. (Photo by Lewis Spearman, Star-Courier).

## PRESIDENT TRUMP IN CROSBY WEDNESDAY

CROSBY - "It's like the circus is coming to town!" exclaimed one Republican resident of the combined excitement and trepidation of having the presidential motorcade come to an unincorporated area that voted for him in the Presidential election by a whopping 74%.

A flurry of questions poured into the *Star-Courier* concerning where folks could get a view or when traffic could be expected to be stopped on FM 2100 or Foley Road.

Arrival at the International Union of Operating Engineers International Training and Education Center comes in controversy. Presidential executive orders to facilitate making petrochemicals and speed up pipeline construction in



President Donald Trump generates excitement among his supporters.

the wake of four petrochemical fires in less than one month and the union facility recently became non-profit, thus reducing taxes paid to local first responders. White House officials announced the orders will grant incentives for investors to make an energy infrastructure, streamlining pipeline projects. Last May Trump issued a permit to initiate the delayed Keystone XL Pipeline.

See Presidential Visit, continued on Page 3.

## County Attorney shuts down KMCO

Harris County, Texas -- The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office (HCFMO) worked with the Office of Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan (HCAO) to initiate an Agreed Temporary Restraining Order (TRO). The order requested: "Defendant KMCO, its employees, agents, successors,

and assigns, are hereby (1) ordered to cease all operations and not resume operations at the KMCO Facility until a Fire and Life Safety Inspection is completed by the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office."

"The safety of the residents of Harris County is our number one priority," said Fire

Marshal Laurie L. Christensen. "HCFMO collaborated with HCAO to request a TRO against the defendant to ensure regulatory enforcement of fire and life safety codes. We are grateful for the collaborative efforts as we work towards a safer Harris County."

## KMCO status update

Crosby, TX (April 5, 2019) - KMCO, LLC today issued the following update on the status of the incident response at its production facility in Crosby, Texas:

### Regarding KMCO's Most Affected Employees

"Two members of our team are still in critical condition at area hospitals and the entire KMCO family is praying for their rapid recovery. We remain in close contact with all the families and are providing support for their special needs during this challenging time," KMCO CEO, John Foley said.

Out of respect for the families and their request for privacy, the company will not release further information on their status.

### Regarding the Status of the Ongoing Post-Incident Response and Investigation

"The Harris County Fire Marshals have completed their initial scene examination. Investigative teams from the Fire Marshals, OSHA, CSB and KMCO are all working cooperatively to track down the cause of this tragic incident. KMCO has been cleared to continue remediation of the site," KMCO VP of Operations Keith Terhune said.

The company is continuing its water containment and collection efforts. Additional precautions are being taken to manage anticipated rainfall and prevent any uncontrolled runoff. Residents should be aware that mobile water pumping equipment and tank vehicles deployed on adjacent roads are removing water runoff from the site. No hazardous

compounds have been detected in any offsite samples.

We are continuing to systematically assess the facility to verify the extent of any structural damage.

### Important note

The fire suppression foam used by emergency responders at the Crosby site is not hazardous to people or groundwater. If residents should see foam in their yards, it is safe and will not hurt trees, shrubs, lawns or pets.

The EPA continues its aerial and ground level air monitoring using their highly sensitive monitoring equipment. TCEQ is also conducting air monitoring. To date, there have been no findings that would raise community health concerns.

KMCO has numerous air monitoring systems at the Crosby site and deployed teams of mobile monitors to gather air samples in surrounding communities and downwind from the facility. "Our mobile air monitors have been taking air samples around the clock and will continue to do so until we are certain that all systems are locked down and air tight," Mr. Foley said. "We will provide the data from all these samples to the EPA and TCEQ for analysis."

All production operations are currently suspended.

### Regarding the Compliance Record of the KMCO Crosby Facility

KMCO, LLC is aware of the widespread news

See KMCO updates, page 6

## Goose Creek plans \$335 million bond vote

HIGHLANDS - Goose Creek school district is planning on a large \$335 million bond issue to place before voters on election day, Saturday, May 4. School superintendent Randall O'Brien, and others on a planning committee, have been meeting with civic groups and citizens throughout the district to explain the need for this large sum of money, and how it would be used.

O'Brien spoke on Tuesday to the Highlands Rotary club, reviewing the history of the last bond issue in 2013, and the need for another one to keep up with the growth of the student population at present, and as projected into 2040. At that time, he said there would be another 6000 homes in the Baytown area, and those children must be accommodated properly.

As superintendent, O'Brien does not officially take a position on the passage of the bond referendum, but only explains the scope of the vote and answers questions about what it would accomplish, and how much it would cost the average taxpayer.

This is the second attempt at a bond issue to provide facilities and upgrades. Last year, a larger two part referendum was defeated, partially because it included about \$50 million for a multi-purpose center that the taxpayers deemed not necessary. This year's bond committee had 42



Goose Creek CISD superintendent Randall O'Brien speaking at Rotary

community leaders, and included some of last year's critics. Their discussions refined the needs which would be included in the bond package.

The bond referendum includes money

See *Goose Creek Bond*, Page 8

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## To Our Neighbors and Our Community

Last week was heartbreaking for KMCO, LLC in Crosby. The tragic incident at our plant was devastating for me personally, for our entire KMCO team and their families, but most of all for our injured team members and the tragic loss of our friend and coworker, James "Bubba" Mangum.

We grieve with James' family while we continue to pray for the recovery and to support the families of two other coworkers who remain in the care of local hospitals.

We know last week was challenging for our neighbors in Crosby as well. We want to again apologize for the inconvenience and worry the incident caused in our community and beyond. We thank so many of you who have expressed your empathetic well wishes and offered your prayers for those most affected.

On behalf of all of us at KMCO, I especially want to extend our deepest appreciation to the Sheriff's Department, the Harris County Fire Marshal Office, Crosby Fire Department, Life Flight crews, hospital staff, all the Harris County first responders, and the mutual aid teams from partner plants, who rushed to the aid of our people and our plant. We will be forever grateful for their courage and their skill in helping us extinguish the fire and care for our injured colleagues.


The facility is stabilized. KMCO is working in close cooperation with the Fire Marshal, federal Chemical Safety Board and OSHA investigators to determine the cause of last week's tragic incident. I can assure the community that no investigation will be more thorough than our own. We never want to see anything like this occur in the future.

Safe and compliant operations are our number one priority every day, and the measure of our ultimate success every night. As we work to remediate and rebuild, we will resume the four-year capital investment program we were implementing to upgrade our facility with the latest technologies, safety systems and training.

The events of last week have been a terrible setback. But while it has broken our hearts, it has not broken our spirit. As one of our employees put it this week, "A New Tomorrow: Stronger, Safer, Better."

We are determined to finish the job we started and fully transform KMCO into a next-generation, best-practice operator that exceeds the expectations of our customers, employees, surrounding communities, regulators and the industry at large.

With gratitude,



John C. Foley  
President and CEO  
KMCO, LLC



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## Presidential visit,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The International Training and Education Center is about 266 acres between Newport and Foley Road. President Trump indicated reducing red tape around pipelines would allow the US to remain undisputed leader of the world in natural gas and oil in the future.

Of course, the new permit is under court challenge, environmentalists sued over the issue of Congress, not the executive branch, is granted constitutional rule over federal lands.

Trump has added on-shore and off shore drilling. The Department of the Interior is currently in the first stage of developing a plan to build more offshore drilling platforms in the Atlantic. States that thrive

on tourism are not so happy with that development. In his state of the union address in February, Trump stated, "We have unleashed a revolution in American energy."

Environmentalists already say the visit in light of recent local explosion and death adds insult to injury as the intent is reducing states' power to protect citizens from hazardous production.

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## Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor  
Association of Mature American Citizens

### Ask Rusty – Social Security's "First Year" Rule

**Dear Rusty:** I've been trying to determine the best way to proceed with retirement and could use some help. I'd like to retire on or about my 62nd birthday this September. Waiting for "full retirement" does not motivate as I have income replacement through my real estate investments. I'll have way over any earnings limits for 2019, but I don't want to have my benefits reduced. Can I apply as SSA suggests three months before my 62nd birthday without running afoul of SSA's arcane benefit reduction rules? Or should I quit first then apply? Please don't refer me to my Financial Advisor or local SSA office, they just confuse. Signed: Anxious to Retire

**Dear Anxious:** Well I'm afraid I can't offer you any obscure methods to avoid Social Security's rules & regulations, but perhaps I can clarify some things which will help you manage the timing of your application for Social Security benefits. From what you've said, I assume you mean you plan to retire from your working career in September, but by that time you will have greatly exceeded Social Security's annual earnings limit (which is \$17,640 for 2019). Again, from what you've said, you wish to claim SS as soon as possible but you don't want to lose any benefits because of exceeding the earnings limit. So, if you wish to claim SS as soon as you turn 62, you'll be happy to know that there is a special rule which applies for your first year of collecting benefits before your full retirement age (66 in your case).

That "first year rule" essentially says that if you start benefits in mid-year, earnings prior to the month your benefits start don't count; instead you'll be subject to a monthly earnings test for the remainder of that year, once your benefits have started. So in your case, your first month of eligibility for SS would be the month of October (you must be 62 for the entire month to be eligible for benefits), and your benefit payment for October would be paid the following month (the payment date will be either the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Wednesday of the month,

depending on the day of the month you were born). Then, starting with the month of October, if you do not have earnings from working which exceed \$1,470 in any of the remaining months of 2019, your benefits will not be cut; but if you have earnings from working which exceed that monthly amount in any month for the rest of 2019, then you will not be entitled to SS benefits for that month. So, if your plan is to retire from your working career in September and depend upon your savings and investments for income, and if you claim Social Security as soon as you're eligible in October and you have no further earnings from working, you'll not suffer any loss of benefits in 2019.

But just as a caution, after 2019 you'll still be subject to the annual "earnings test" because you're claiming Social Security before you reach your full retirement age, and the annual earnings test will apply until the month that you reach your full retirement age (after that, there is no longer a limit to what you can earn). As for when you should apply for benefits, Social Security recommends that you apply 3 months before you wish your benefits to begin. When applying, you can specify the month you want your benefits to start, so if you wish that to be at age 62 simply specify October 2019 as your benefit start month. Applying prior to September and specifying October as your benefit start month will not expose you to any extra earnings limitations over those explained above.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity.*



## House passes legislation to reform school finance, property taxes

AUSTIN — The Texas House of Representatives on April 3 approved much-anticipated legislation written to revise the state's public school finance system. The vote was 148-1, and the bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

House Bill 3 would increase pay for public school classroom teachers, librarians and other full-time personnel and also would enable property tax relief. Primarily authored by House Education Committee Chair Dan Huberty, R-Houston, joint authors include Reps. Diego Bernal, D-San Antonio; John Zerwas, R-Richmond; Ken King, R-Canadian; and Alma Allen, D-Houston.

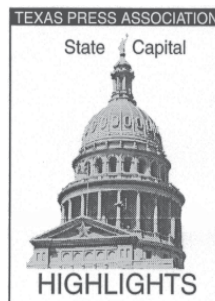
HB 3's estimated net cost would be \$9.5 billion, covering the fiscal biennium that ends Aug. 31, 2021. In addition to pay increases and incentives, HB 3 would reduce recapture and enable some \$2.7 billion in property tax relief. The legislation, among its general provisions, changes the order in which the Foundation School Program is financed so that state-available school funds would be applied before locally generated property tax revenue.

After the House voted, Gov. Greg Abbott applauded lawmakers for their work and said, "Texans are demanding meaningful reforms to our school finance system, and today's passage of HB 3 in the House is a vital step toward that goal. By reducing recapture, investing more money in our schools and in our teachers, the Legislature is making changes that will have a lasting impact on our education system, and more importantly, our students."

State Rep. Gina Hinojosa, D-Austin, chair of the House Democratic Caucus Special Committee on Education, in an April 3 news release called HB 3 "the bill we have been working for."

## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



exactly how the funds would be spent is still up for debate.

Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, said, "We continue to negotiate this issue with the House, but both chambers have now reached \$9 billion set aside for whatever agreement we reach."

### Revenue increase noted

State sales tax revenue totaled \$2.6 billion last month, an amount 9 percent greater than the amount calculated for the month of March 2018, Texas Comptroller Glen Hegar announced April 2.

The comptroller's office reported increased collections in all major economic sectors, including retail trade, information services, oil and gas and restaurants. "Much of the increase stemmed more from consumer spending rather than business spending," Hegar said.

Furthermore, total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in March 2019 was up 7.3 percent compared to the same period a year ago, according to agency statistics.

### RRC marks anniversary

On March 31, 1919, the Texas Legislature enacted a statute giving the Texas Railroad Commission regulatory authority over the oil and gas industry in the Lone Star State.

Railroad Commissioner Christi Craddick wrote an April 1 editorial commemorating the milestone. Among the points she made was that the commission's well-plugging program is hitting historic numbers. In fiscal years 2018-2019, the Texas Legislature set a performance goal for the agency to plug 1,958 abandoned wells. However, Craddick said, the commission is on track to plug about 3,000. Craddick pointed out that funds to plug the wells come from fees paid by the energy industry, not from Texas taxpayers.

"To the teachers who dedicate their working lives to our kids, who for too long have been under-appreciated and unheard: We hear you, and this bill is for you," she said.

"In February, House Democrats put forward our Texas Kids First Plan. We laid out a number of key priorities for our vision for the future of public education in Texas. Today, I am pleased to say that this bill incorporates most of those priorities.

"House Bill 3 is an example of what happens when we come together — Democrats and Republicans — and instead of fighting about our different visions, speak honestly about what we want and what we can achieve together. We can expect and can tolerate no less," Hinojosa added.

### Both houses must agree

Meanwhile, the Senate Finance Committee on April 3 unanimously approved a budget bill that matches the House's appropriation on two of the session's top priorities: education finance and property tax reform.

A report filed by the Senate News Service points out that while the House and Senate have settled on \$9 billion in additional funding toward those priorities,



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## Be 'Earth-Minded'

(NAPSI)—In celebration of Earth Day this month, an online Environmental Survey can help families and classroom students score their environmental habits and get practical tips on how to conserve energy, save water, and reduce waste and pollution.

The free survey can be taken in just a few minutes on a computer, smartphone, or tablet. Based on their survey input, families and classes will receive personalized recommendations that can help them reduce their environmental footprint and, in some cases, even save money.

"Covering all types of household topics, the Environmental Survey is a fun and informative way for classrooms and families to understand how they impact the environment and to learn commonsense behaviors that help children and adults be more environmentally responsible," says Joe Haworth from the Think Earth Environmental Education Foundation.

Home and school versions of the free survey with detailed results are available online at [www.thinkearth.org/surveys](http://www.thinkearth.org/surveys).

Founded in 1988, Think Earth is a nonprofit organization that pioneered the development of classroom lesson plans promoting environmental awareness and behaviors. Think Earth lessons for K-5 elementary grades have reached more than 4 million students. Educators and parents can download the free materials at [www.thinkearth.org](http://www.thinkearth.org).

## How are you going to celebrate Earth Day?

(NAPSI)—On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans gathered in the streets, in parks and in auditoriums around the country in support of a healthy, sustainable environment. By the end of that year, the first Earth Day had led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This year, the EPA is hoping that same number of Americans will make a difference—by pledging to choose ENERGY STAR certified products. Products that earn the ENERGY STAR label—everything from appliances and electronics to LED lighting, smart thermostats and air conditioners—are independently certified to save energy and reduce emissions of the greenhouse gases associated with climate change.

ENERGY STAR certified products not only help protect the climate, they help lower energy bills. According to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, a typical household spends about \$2,000 a year on energy. A home outfitted with products that have earned the ENERGY STAR can save 30 percent, or about \$575 a year. Over their lifetime, these products can save the average homeowner about \$8,750 on utility bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 77,000 pounds of carbon dioxide.

For more information about the ENERGY STAR pledge, visit [www.energystar.gov/earthday](http://www.energystar.gov/earthday).

# Barbers Hill Dayton **Press**

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

P.O. BOX 2351, MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

## ROUND-UP

### Nurture Nature Festival

Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 10 am - 4 pm. Live animals, butterflies, kid fish tank and much more. 6213 Bayway Drive, Baytown TX 77520. For questions, please contact Tracey Prothro at 281-420-7128.

### Events at the Jones Library

Wednesday - April 17th - 10:00 AM - Easter Egg Hunt

Join them for the Easter Storytime beginning at 10:00 am - read a short story - then head outside for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Don't forget to bring your own Easter Basket. When finish hunting Easter Eggs, the kids will redeem them for a goodie bag full of treats.

Please bring a snack to share with the group and a blanket to sit on. They will have a picnic on the lawn once the egg hunt is over.

Saturday - April 27th - 10:00 AM - Nimble Thimbles

The next meeting of the Nimble Thimbles Quilting/ Sewing Club will be Saturday April 27th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please bring your sewing machine and your sewing materials with you.

Jones Public Library is located at 801 S. Cleveland St., Dayton, TX 77535. Call 936-258-7060 with any questions.

### Audubon Bird Survey

Thursday, April 18, 2019, 8 am, 6213 Bayway Drive, Baytown TX 77520. Each third Thursday September - May, Houston Audubon sponsors a bird count done by volunteers to help collect valuable date of birds that breed, winter and migrate through the nature center. No experience is necessary; in fact, this is one of the best ways to gain experience in bird identification. Come be a part of this important citizen science project. Don't miss the fall migration of warblers, humminbirds, shore birds, hawks and maby more!

### Full Moon Hike

Saturday, April 20, 2019, 9 pm at Baytown Nature Center, 6213 Bayway Drive, Baytown, TX. 77520.

Meet at Tracey's Theater, hikes are weather permitting and free with regular admission to the nature center. If doubt about weather, call 281-424-9198 or check facebook page.

### Programs at Sam & Carmena Goss Library

This is what is happening at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library the week of April, 15.

• Tuesday, April 16 - 10:00, Baby & Me (ages 0-24 mos)

• The Library will be closed Friday, April 19, for Good Friday and Saturday, April 20, for the Easter Holiday.

Call 281-576-2245 to register.

## Baytown Youth Fair Cook Off was popular



The Kick-off dance and Cook-off for the Baytown Youth Fair & Livestock show was last weekend at the 7900 N. Main location. The dance featured David Glenn from Montgomery County and many teams from Highlands and Crosby participated. Funds raised in the weekend event go to purchase of projects at next week's Baytown Youth Fair Auction. Above climate controlled tents were very attractive for those seeking relief from our door atmosphere.

## Commissioner Garcia meets with Federal Officials to address ITC incident

HOUSTON - Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia met with federal officials in Washington, D.C., this week to advocate for infrastructure resources and enhancing safety and collaboration with the chemical industry after the ITC explosion.

During the visit, which spanned Monday, April 1, through Thursday, April 4, Commissioner Garcia met with EPA officials to address the lack of air monitors available after a fire broke out at Intercontinental Terminals Company in Deer Park March 17 and burned for days. Garcia emphasized the need for more foam on site to be able to combat these blazes, as well as the importance of knowing quickly what is inside the tanks so first-responders can be both safe and effective.

"We need to work together, at all levels of government, to ensure industry leaders and our communities cannot just co-exist, but be good neighbors and look out for each other," Commissioner Garcia said.

ITC continued to be addressed in meetings with Speaker Nancy Pelosi's team, Senator John Cornyn, various members of Congress and the American Chemical Council. Also in those discussions, Commissioner Garcia pushed for infrastructure resources in Precinct 2, specifically around the



Commissioner Garcia with State Officials at Washington, D.C.



Commissioner Garcia, middle, with State Officials at Washington, D.C.

Port of Houston and advocated for more funding for community colleges to help with workforce development.

"I'm working to make sure Precinct 2 is the place where people and companies alike come to thrive," Garcia said. "But I can't do

it alone. All government stakeholders need be aware of our needs and exactly what needs to be done to address it."

Garcia wrapped up the trip Thursday with meetings with Rep. Lizzie Fletcher and the National Association of Counties.

## The Houston Symphony announces Harry Potter film concert series

(April 3, 2019 - HOUSTON, TX) - The Harry Potter Film Concert Series returns to Jones Hall with Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix in Concert, the fifth film in the Harry Potter series. On July 18-20, Keitaro Harada will conduct the Houston Symphony in performing the magical score live from Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix while the entire film plays in high-definition on a 40-foot screen.

In 2016, CineConcerts and Warner Bros. Consumer Products announced the Harry Potter Film Concert Series, a

global concert tour celebrating the Harry Potter films. Since the world premiere of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone in Concert in June 2016, more than 1.3 million fans have enjoyed this magical experience from J.K. Rowling's Wizarding World, which is scheduled to include over 900 performances across more than 48 countries worldwide through 2019.

The rebellion begins! Lord Voldemort is back, but the Ministry of Magic tries to keep a lid on the truth - including appointing a new, power-hungry Defense

Against the Dark Arts professor at Hogwarts. Ron and Hermione convince Harry to secretly train students for the wizarding war ahead. A terrifying showdown between good and evil awaits!

Nominated for a World Soundtrack Discovery Award, composer Nicholas Hooper uses experimental techniques and unique instruments to compose two new main themes reflecting not only Dolores Umbridge but Voldemort's inflection into Harry's psyche. By using Japanese Taiko drums, Hooper allows a deeper and more nefarious undercurrent to permeate the

## EPA announces new Air Quality website

•EPA and TCEQ announce story map resource  
•Interactive tool provides easy access for ITC fire data

DALLAS - (March 31, 2019) - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) announce a new interactive resource to help keep the public updated and informed about the response activities for the Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC (ITC) Fire in La Porte, Texas.

The new resource, a collaborative, interactive "story map," can be viewed on EPA's website at [response.epa.gov/ITCTankFire](https://response.epa.gov/ITCTankFire).

EPA and TCEQ's response actions, as well as maps, photos and sampling locations are featured.

On March 17, 2019, in response to a tank fire at the ITC facility, EPA, TCEQ, along with state and local agencies joined ITC in a Unified Command. EPA and TCEQ continue to be onsite for the emergency response focused on providing the assistance and coordination needed to address any discharges from the site. EPA and TCEQ have been conducting water sampling and air monitoring throughout the affected areas from the onset of the response.

TCEQ and the EPA have decades of experience

See EPA Air Quality, p. 8

## Baytown area quilt show set May 3, 4

The Baytown Area Quilt Guild is having a Quilt Show, Friday, May 3 from 9 am - 5 pm and Saturday, May 4 from 9 am - 4 pm at Lee College's Sports Arena located at 200 Lee Drive, Baytown, Texas 77520.

The theme will be Votes For Women...Celebrating the 19th Amendment.

Special Guest Texas Historian Kay Reed Arnold of the Ruthe Winegarten Foundation for Women in Texas History will give daily lectures titled "Piecing It

Together; Women win the right to vote." Lectures daily at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Special Quilt Exhibit: HERstory: A Celebration of Strong Women (A traveling exhibit that was first shown at International Quilt Festival in Houston)

Admission is \$8. There will be also quilt exhibits, vendors, donation quilt drawing, raffle baskets, scissor sharpening, silent auction, special exhibits and historical lectures.



Baytown Area Quilt Guild's 2019 Donation Quilt called "Women of Courage" symbolizing Texas women who worked tirelessly in the Suffrage Movement to win the right to vote in National and State elections. Shown with the quilt are Quilt Show Chairperson, Tracy Williams (left) and Donation Quilt Ticket Sales, Becky Bradley (right).

The quilt is designed by Cinda Thompson & Jane DeStefano and quilted by Jen Dupey. The dimensions are 74.5" x 88". To purchase donation quilt tickets (\$6/\$5 or \$1 each), contact Becky at [reandu@gmail.com](mailto:reandu@gmail.com). The drawing for this quilt will occur at the upcoming Quilt Show (May 3-4) at Lee College's Sports Arena, 200 Lee Drive, Baytown.

magical adventure of Harry and his friends as they prepare for the wizarding war ahead.

Justin Freer, President of CineConcerts and Producer/Conductor of the Harry Potter Film Concert Series explains, "The Harry Potter film series is a once-in-a-lifetime cultural phenomenon that continues to delight millions of fans around the world. It is with great pleasure that we bring fans for the first time ever an opportunity to experience the award-winning music scores played live by a symphony orchestra, all while the beloved film is simulta-

neously projected onto the big screen. This is truly an unforgettable event."

Brady Beaubien of CineConcerts and Concert Producer for the Harry Potter Film Concert Series added, "Harry Potter is synonymous with excitement around the world and we hope that by performing this incredible music with the full movie, audiences will enjoy returning to the Wizarding World."

Tickets went on sale April 3, 2019 at 12 p.m. via [houstonstsymphony.org](http://houstonstsymphony.org), (713) 224-7575 for Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix in Concert.

## ★ COMMUNITY WATCH ★

## Sam Houston killed, really

HUFFMAN – Tony Samuel Houston was gunned down on Sunday, April 7.

At about 5:25 p.m. deputies from District 2 of the Harris County Sheriff's Office responded to a shooting call at a business in Huffman. The address toned out via radio indicated 23,100 FM 2100. Actually, the shooting was behind the business at a travel trailer.

The son of the owner of that trailer, one Dar-

ren Petix, told investigators that he had allowed Houston to live in the trailer temporarily. He further stated that the two of them had begun to argue and that Houston had threatened to get a knife from inside the trailer and cut Petix.

Investigators will allege that Darren Petix pulled out his handgun and shot Sam Houston at point blank range multiple times. The injuries that resulted

killed Houston.

Petix's statements indicated that he then put his gun inside his pickup truck and called 911.

According to detectives, the scene investigation and the statements made by Petix did not match. The Homicide team say that Petix claim of self-defense did not collaborate with his version of the facts. Petix has been charged with the murder of Tony Samuel Houston.

## KMCO Updates,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reports and commentary questioning our company's commitment to safe and compliant operations based largely on the cumulative record of enforcement actions over the decades of the plant's existence.

Mr. Foley noted, "It is important for our neighbors to understand that KMCO, LLC is a new company that acquired a 40-year old plant in its preexisting condition. When our new management team came on-board starting in 2015, we immediately revamped the inspection process and self-reported all compliance violations we discovered to TCEQ. The first step in fixing problems is to own up to them, and we did so. While we have self-reported shortcomings in recent years, the bulk of our citations and fines have been a direct result of our responsible efforts to fix preexisting

issues, improve maintenance and upgrade the facility."

KMCO LLC purchased the Crosby facility from KMCO LP in 2012. Therefore, KMCO, LLC did not own or operate the Crosby facility and is not responsible for any historic incidents or violations that occurred prior to 2012, including those that were fully adjudicated in 2016. From the beginning, our number one priority at KMCO, LLC has been safe and compliant operations.

After the acquisition, KMCO, LLC's new owners recruited a new management team in 2015 that dramatically accelerated the process of transforming the company by investing tens of millions in new capital and re-investing ongoing profits in people, processes, policies, and facility upgrades to safe-

guard our employees and the community, as well as the integrity and sustainability of our business. With the help of our dedicated team, we will continue our mission of transforming KMCO into a next-generation, best-practice operator that exceeds the expectations of our customers, employees, surrounding communities, regulators and the industry at large.

Regarding Communications with the Company

Community residents wishing to contact the company are invited to call the KMCO community outreach number at (281) 328-0285.

If residents should find any debris from the incident on their property, they should call the community outreach number above and the company will dispatch crews to remove it.

## Goose Creek CISD invites community to celebrate 100th anniversary

A 100th anniversary calls for a celebration, and Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District invites the community to join the festivities Saturday, April 13, at Bicentennial Park in Baytown. The event is from 4-8 p.m., and entry is free to the public.

Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, will kick off the festival at 4 p.m., and Brandon Capetillo, Mayor of Baytown, will present a proclamation in recognition of the district's 100th anniversary.

Vendors, food trucks, inflatables, a photo booth, face painters and other activities will add to the celebration. A special performance by 1980s cover band Molly and the Ringwalds is scheduled for 6:30-8 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the event!

Parking will be available on Market Street and at IMPACT Early College High School. A portion of Lee Drive will be blocked off to help with traffic flow, so attendees should plan accordingly.

Goose Creek Independent School District was created by the Special Laws of Texas in February 1919, and the first Goose Creek ISD School Board was organized July 26, 1919. The board's first task was to hire the



Ricky Clem, member of the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees, and wife Brenda Clem, a retired Goose Creek CISD teacher, get ready to celebrate the school district's 100th anniversary.

first superintendent John F. Crawford. The growing population, many brought by Humble Oil and Refining Company (later Exxon U.S.A.) to the booming oil town, was served by school district, and donations from businesses and the willingness of parents to volunteer helped Goose Creek ISD provide a quality education for its students just as the community and business partnerships strengthen Goose Creek CISD today.

In 1936, voters approved the annexation of Highlands, and Goose Creek, Pelly and Baytown, known as

the Tri-Cities, officially unified January 24, 1948. March 5, 1954, Cedar Bayou Independent School District consolidated with Goose Creek Independent School District, forming the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District. The district has a rich history, and today it serves nearly 24,000 students on 28 campuses and offers two early college high schools, seven career academies, dual credit and advanced placement classes as well as numerous programs and extracurricular activities.

## Hopper Primary celebrates second annual science fair

B. P. Hopper Primary celebrates the school's Second Annual Science Fair. The winners are (front, from left) Dorean Sanchez, Jack Arnolds, Jayden Burguete, (back, from left) Jorge Gomez, Abraham Gonzalez and Jude Kilgore.



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★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

# Carmen in Highlands



The Highlands Ministerial Alliance brought the legenday CARMEN to sing and preach at the Highlands Middle School on April 5 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Carmen Domenic Licciardello a popular contemporary gospel singer and evangelist was a charismatic part of the genesis of the new Christian Music movement from 1982 until present. Carmen became a born again Christian at an Andrae' Crouch concert.

## Eastgate Church Easter "Love Is Alive."

Eastgate Church Easter Production, LOVE IS ALIVE, will be Easter Sunday at 10 :30 a.m. with an Egg Hunt and BBQ lunch following the service.

There will also be a special Saturday Matinee Performance at 4 p.m. with a Hamburger Supper, Egg Hunt, and activities for the kids afterward.

Eastgate Church is located at 1707 CR 611 - 6 miles east of Huffman on FM 1960, then south 1/4 mile on CR 611. [www.eastgate-church.com](http://www.eastgate-church.com)

## Hippity Hop Egg Hunt at Crosby Community Center

Children up to age nine are welcome to join in the fun-filled activities at Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road, Crosby 77532, Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Activities include

crafts, a picture with the Easter bunny, train ride, treats, and hunting for goodies nestled in bright plastic eggs. Children are encouraged to bring an Easter basket. Space is

limited, so register today by calling the Center at (281) 462-0543.

Easter Egg Hunt Schedule:  
9:30 a.m. Ages 3 and under  
10 a.m. Ages 4 through 6  
10:30 a.m. Ages 7 through 9

## CHS Alumni Committee meeting dates

The Crosby High School Alumni Association has announced the dates of the meetings to plan the 2019 Annual All Classes Reunion. The meetings are

held at the Crosby Community Center on Hare Road beginning at 6 pm. The dates are: Wednesday, April 24, Wednesday, May 22, Wednesday, June 26

and Wednesday, July 24. The 37th Annual All Classes Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, August 3, 2019 at the Crosby American Legion Hall.

### Dylan Wade Dorskocil

Dylan Wade Dorskocil, of Crosby, passed away on March 28, 2019 at the age of 29. He was born on May 25, 1989 in Baytown, Texas to Cheryl Bayless and Royce Dorskocil. Dylan was an amazing father to his two little beautiful girls, Haylee and Makenna. He enjoyed going to the beach, hunting, fishing on the boat, and playing softball. Dylan also enjoyed hanging out at family gatherings. He was a good brother and protector to his younger sisters. Dylan was working hard towards becoming a Master Electrician, and anytime he accomplished something he couldn't wait to show off his achievements to his family. He was a fun-loving, happy-go-lucky man that was always smiling. Dylan was a kid at heart with a big personality who will be missed dearly by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother Sandra Bayless; and grandfather Raymond Dorskocil.

Dylan is survived by his two girls Haylee and Mak-

# ★ OBITUARIES



enna; mother and stepfather Cheryl Bayless & James Bell; father and step-mother Royce & Angela Dorskocil; sisters Cheyanne Reis, Amanda Raye Dorskocil, Cassandra Bell and Ava Dorskocil; grandfather Young Jim Bayless; and grandmother Doris "Memaw" Dorskocil. He is also survived by a very big family and many friends.

A visitation for family and friends was held on Friday, April 5, 2019 from 5:00-8:00 pm at Crosby Church, 5725 US-90, Crosby, TX 77532. Funeral services were held at 10:00 am on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at Crosby Church. Interment followed in Sterling-White Cemetery. To offer condolences to the family, please visit [www.sterlingwhite.com](http://www.sterlingwhite.com).

In lieu of flowers, Dylan's family has set up a memorial fund that will benefit his daughters. The family requests that donations be made C\O CommunityBank of Texas, PO Box 929, Crosby, Texas 77532. Attn: Judy Culbreath 281-328-4815. Checks may be made payable to either of his daughters, Haylee or Makenna Dorskocil. Thank you for respecting these wishes.

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## Annual Czech Spring Festival set April 28

The Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Harris County Chapter is preparing for our Annual Czech SpringFest. We will hold our festival on Sunday, April 28, 2019. It will be held at the SPJST Lodge #88, 1435 Beall St. Houston, in the Heights Area.

This being our 24th Annual Czech SpringFest, we look forward to having an outstanding crowd with

much entertainment and many vendors selling their wares. Our usual Country Store and Sausage Booth will be available. This year we will have a Czech Market selling decorative accessories, books and other Czech items. A small silent auction of boutique items will be adjacent to the Czech Market.

Craft Artist Vladimir Klimis from the Czech Re-

public will be there to demonstrate his skill of wood carving.

A traditional Czech Sunday dinner will be served from 11 am till 2 pm.

Music will be provided by the Kovanda Czech Band from 11 am till 3 pm and The Texas legacy Czech Band will play from 3 pm till 6:30 pm.

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Matthew 17:20

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I Corinthians 13:8

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.  
**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**

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Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble  
Psalm: 46:1

In order to be the best, you have to be willing to give the best.

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What we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will reveal to us later  
**ROMANS 8:18**

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All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.  
1 Corinthians 16:13

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Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.  
Leviticus 19:32

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Smoke billows from the burning oil storage tanks at this well facility on Sralla Road. The photo was taken Thursday morning, after burning all night from a lightning strike. (Photo by Lewis Spearman/Star-Courier)

**Crosby Oil Facility Fire,**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At right is an aerial view of the oil well and storage tanks that were destroyed in the fire. The aerial photo was taken before the fire. Sralla Road is about 1500 feet to the right.



**Goose Creek Bond,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for five areas:  
 -- Aging Schools and Repairs, \$114.8 million  
 -- New Construction for Growth and Equity, \$155.3 million  
 -- Athletics Improvements, \$12 million  
 -- Safety and Security Improvements, \$3.75 million  
 -- Technology, \$49.7 million.  
 The total for all the categories is \$335,725,000 million.  
 Within the category Aging School and Repairs, plans are for 3 renovations and additions to Stuart Career Tech High School; Upgrades and renovations to building systems; roof repairs and replacements; Lee High School Auditorium Renovation; Fine Arts upgrades; Parking and site drainage work; CTE classroom renovations; and some new buses.  
 Within the category New Construction, plans are for a new Elementary School, a new Junior School, a replacement for San Jacinto elementary,

Stuart Career Tech addition; new Fine Arts facilities; an Education Service Center; and a construction lab at Sterling high school.  
 Within the category Athletic Improvements, plans are for a new field house at Stallworth Stadium; new running tracks and lighting at all the junior schools.  
 Within the category of Safety and Security, plans are for a bus camera system, and GPS tracking upgrades; and expansion of the GC CISD police department.  
 Within the category Technology, plans are to replace white boards and projectors, computer lab and library technology, teacher desktops and presentation stations at all schools; expand and replace mobile devices at all elementary and junior schools; and at all facilities replace administrative computers, upgrade wireless networks, and replace network cabling.  
 O'Brien said that the cost to taxpayers would be \$9.60 per month or \$115 per year for a home owner with a \$100,000 valued home; and proportionately for others. School taxes are expected to rise 11.5 cents per appraised \$100 value. He noted that for homeowners over 64 years old, taxes would be frozen at the current level.  
 Election Day is Saturday, May 4 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Voters can vote early starting April 22-27 from 7am to 7pm; April 28 from 1pm to 6pm; and April 29-30 from 7am to 7pm.  
 Voting locations in Harris County are at the Law Library downtown, and the Baytown Community Center. Locations for Chambers County residents are the GCCISD Admin Building on I-10 in Baytown, and the Chambers County Community Center Bayou Annex on Highway 146 in Baytown.  
 Additional information is available on the GC CISD website, [GCCISD.net](http://GCCISD.net), or at [GCbond2019.com](http://GCbond2019.com).

**EPA Air Quality,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

responding to natural and man-made disasters. Both agencies are assisting in this response with equipment and expertise in response management and air and water quality testing and analysis. EPA has conducted ground level air monitoring with hand held equipment and the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology aircraft (ASPECT). The EPA Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) has also been monitoring for organic compounds in the air. The TCEQ continues to work around the clock, pulling in inspectors from regions around the state to conduct air monitoring and water quality sampling. Test results are being posted to the TCEQ's incident website daily

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"Proposals for RFP 19-006 UIL Student Athletic Insurance will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until Tuesday, May 7, 2019 @ 2:30 PM CST. At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bldg located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Brooke Lakner, Director of Purchasing at 832-386-1008 or on our website: <http://galenaparkisd.com>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 473407; Estate of MARY LUCILLE ROUSE Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 29, 2019.

**DANIEL JAMES ROUSE, JR. and LORETTA SHERRI GREGERSEN**

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten  
5223 Garth Rd.  
Baytown, TX  
77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this April 4, 2019

*Weston Cotten*  
by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

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**Hearne - Crossroads Home Town Festival**, April 13, 2019, Hearne, TX. Festival opens at 10 a.m., Street Dance 8-11 p.m. Kids zone, live entertainment, food & more. [www.crossroadshometownfestival.com](http://www.crossroadshometownfestival.com).

**New Braunfels Area Car Club Swap Meet**, April 19-21, Comal County Fairgrounds, 801 E. Common St., New Braunfels. No dogs please. [www.newbraunfelsareacarclub.com](http://www.newbraunfelsareacarclub.com).

**McQueeney - Texas Reptile Expo**, April 13-14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lions Club, 3211 FM 78, McQueeney, TX. Adults \$10; \$5 for kids under 10. 501-454-9357, [texasreptiles.com](http://texasreptiles.com).

**Mount Vernon - 15th Annual Tour de Cypress Ride**, Sat., April 20. Enjoy a Franklin County weekend of activities: Bike Ride, Music and Barbecue. 10, 20 45, 52 Mile and 100K rides. Beautiful routes past Exotic Animal Farm and Lake Cypress Springs. [www.tourdecypress.com](http://www.tourdecypress.com).

**Seguin - 49th Texas Ladies State Chili Championship**, Sat., April 13, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Max Starcke Park East, Seguin, TX. Chili, Craft and Food Vendors, Music, Silent Auction, Raffles, Family Fun! Judging begins at 12:30 p.m. Sign up to be a judge at <https://www.tlscoco.com/chili-judges-needed.html>. 830-401-5000, [visitseguin.com](http://visitseguin.com).

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★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

## Harris County Attorney Ryan files court brief seeking to remove citizenship question from 2020 census

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan yesterday filed a friend of the court brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in a lawsuit seeking to prevent the U.S. Census Bureau from including a question about citizenship on the 2020 Census.

Ryan is joined in Harris County's brief by Fort Bend County Judge K.P. George and the City of Marfa. The brief asks the Supreme Court to affirm a district court judge's ruling that the citizenship question cannot be included. The ruling came in a lawsuit filed against the Census Bureau by the State of New York.

"We join in the concerns expressed across the country that a question on citizenship will reduce the number of people participating in the 2020 Census," said Ryan. "This question will intimidate our immigrant population. We want everyone to participate—whether they are citizens or not."

The brief states that the addition of the citizenship question to the 2020 Decennial Census will cause in an undercount of each jurisdiction's significant

foreign-born population resulting in disproportionately low representation at the local, state, and federal levels along with corrupt data inadequate for effective governance. An undercount will also hurt the amount of federal dollars coming to these communities in programs based on population.

Harris County's growth has always been driven by immigrants intertwined with new industries creating diverse economic engines for Texas and the country, Ryan points out in the brief. Neighboring suburban Fort Bend County has exploded in growth, diversity and affluence in the last few decades electing its first non-Anglo chief executive since the 1800s, immigrant K.P. George. While the tiny City of Marfa has not seen such explosive growth, it shares a high foreign-born population with Harris and Fort Bend at risk for a net undercount in the Decennial Census.

Ryan says the current intense climate of fear among immigrants makes it all the more likely that the net differential under-

count will be more acute in Texas should the citizenship question be added to the census. In the past, as with the decades-long practice of using "white primaries" to disenfranchise African-American voters, the Supreme Court was the only source of protection to the constitutional rights of people wishing to engage in the civic sphere.

"Now, the Supreme Court's intervention is needed again, to ensure that the integrity of the data for representation and effective governance is protected," Ryan said. "Judge George, the City of Marfa and we agree with the New York district court's finding that the undocumented and Hispanics will be disproportionately undercounted if the citizenship question is left in the Census."

"We believe adding that question will depress responses, undercount the people and harm the representation and safety of the people of Harris and Fort Bend Counties and the City of Marfa," Ryan concludes.

## Fatalities decline in the State's Highway construction areas

TxDOT Promotes Safe Driving in Conjunction with National Work Zone Awareness Week

HOUSTON — April 8, 2019 — In spite of a decrease in work zone crashes in Texas last year, 161 people still lost their lives and another 684 were seriously injured, with the vast majority of those killed—84 percent—being motorists and/or their passengers. As National Work Zone Awareness Week gets underway today, the Texas Department of Transportation highlights its Be Safe. Drive Smart. campaign, reminding motorists to stay alert and exercise caution when driving through work zones.

"Work zones present a different environment for drivers to navigate with concrete barriers, slow-moving heavy equipment and vehicles that may make sudden stops," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "That's why we're urging drivers to pay special attention in work zones on Texas roadways—for their protection and the safety of highway work crews."

In 2018, a total of 25,162 work zone traffic crashes were reported, an average of nearly 70 crashes per day, resulting in deaths that fell by 20 percent between 2017 and 2018 in construction zones in Texas.

At any given time, Texas has as many as 3,000 active work zones across the 80,000 miles of road TxDOT

maintains. Since the leading causes of work zone crashes in Texas are speeding and driver inattention, TxDOT asks motorists to avoid distractions and put their phones away, obey road crew flaggers, slow down and follow posted work zone speed limits. Traffic fines double in work zones when workers are present, and fines can cost up to \$2,000.

To safeguard roadside crews and first responders, the state's Move Over/Slow Down law also requires drivers to move over a lane or reduce their speed to 20 mph below the posted limit when they see flashing blue or amber lights on a TxDOT vehicle, emergency vehicle, tow truck, or law enforcement stopped on the roadside or shoulder. Not doing so can result in a fine of up to \$2,000.

The Texas Mutual Insurance Company is joining TxDOT to promote work zone safety through sharing of campaign materials and providing speakers for safety-related events. Part of Texas Mutual's mission is to help employers prevent workplace incidents and minimize their consequences, which aligns with TxDOT's work zone awareness safety efforts.

Also, as part of National Work Zone Awareness Week, TxDOT Houston District is teaming up with the City of Houston to highlight the importance of being aware in all work

zones. The programmable LED lights that decorate multiple bridges above the mainlanes of I-69 Southwest Freeway in the Montrose area will be lit up in orange and white starting Monday, April 8.

The City of Houston and TxDOT are also working together to promote work zone awareness during a Facebook Live presentation on Wednesday, April 10th at 1 p.m. The discussion will focus on ways motorists can keep safe in work zones including not texting and driving, obeying the posted speed limit, and to always expect the unexpected. Catch the event at [www.facebook.com/txdohouston](http://www.facebook.com/txdohouston).

For media inquiries, contact TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5076.

Be Safe. Drive Smart. is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a larger grassroots effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while on the road. Since Nov. 7, 2000, at least one person has died on Texas roadways every single day, and that's why #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to helping end the streak of daily deaths on our roadways.

The information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from the Texas Peace Officer's Crash Report (CR-3). This information was received and processed by the department as of February 28, 2019.

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