

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
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THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories
in the **PRESS:**

- Dayton Farmers Market
 - Dayton Chamber First Responders Luncheon
 - Chambers Library News
-And more, Page 3

★
IN THE STARS

EVENTS

THUR. MAR. 12

Highlands Chamber Luncheon

March luncheon, 11:30AM at the San Jacinto Community Center, Program is on surgical robotics from Houston Methodist Hospital.

THUR. MAR. 19

Crosby Chamber Monthly Luncheon

The luncheon will take place on Thursday, March 19th at The Crawfish Shack, located at 5822 FM 2100 in Crosby. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am.

SAT. MARCH 21

Highlands Little League Parade

Parade starts at 10am, from B.P.Hopper, down Main Street, ending at St. Jude's Church.

SAT. MARCH 21

Rockin C Roundup Cookoff & Concert

9 a.m. 'til Midnight. Steak Dinners \$20 Call 281-543-1712 9am-7pm

TUE. MAR. 24

Weight Loss Surgery

At Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, 4401 Garth Rd., 6-7 pm. Questions? 832-556-6046.

BIRTHDAYS

- Mar 12-Hope Dammon Alexis Bowen
- Mar 13-Dale Browder
- Mar 14-Brice Abbott Alvin Keyes Kaci New Vivian Sanders Christopher Zadrapa
- Mar 15-Jessica Luco Sky Mespadden Sandy Mullins Mrs. L.P. Stevens Rosa Ella Young Angie Zadrapa
- Mar 16-M. Edith Miller Zachary Dunlap
- Mar 17-Lyndsay Damon
- Mar 18-Kent Nelson

ANNIVERSARIES

- Mar 16-Yvonne & Dale Browder

OFFICIALS CONFIRM 13TH CASE OF CORONAVIRUS IN HOUSTON AREA

Events Cancelled, Stock Market down

UPDATED - March 10, 2020 - Health Officials confirmed the second case of coronavirus in the City of Houston, making a total of 13 in Houston and Fort Bend, Harris and Montgomery County areas. (NOTE: This number may change as days go by.)

The female patient, in the 60 to 70 age range, is part of the same group of travelers to Egypt associated with recent cases announced in Fort Bend County and Harris County. She is currently hospitalized and stable.



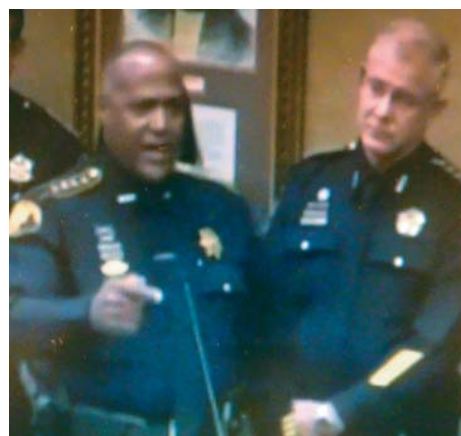
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo with Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and County Health Director Umair Shah, at press conference last Thursday on Coronavirus.

Harris County has established several phone numbers that the public can use to gain up-to-date information, or help reaching a healthcare professional. If you are without access to healthcare, call 713-634-1110. If you want information, call the Harris County Health Department at 832-393-4220.

HOUSTON, Texas - Harris County Public Health (HCPH) confirmed last Thursday four more cases of Coronavirus, bringing the total con-

See Coronavirus in Houston area, Page 8

Commissioner challenged by Constable



Sherman Eagleton Constable of Precinct 3 confronts Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia indicting that the commissioner was undermining his department with varied actions and a call to reduce the contract deputy program for Constable's Departments throughout Harris County. Adrian Garcia denied this and withdrew his proposal to review the contract deputy program.

Eagleton claims Garcia is biased

HOUSTON - Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia weathered a storm of controversy after posting two proposals concerning looking into Constable's offices practices. Precinct 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton confronted the Commissioner at the regular county meeting.

The Commissioner wanted a look into contract deputies programs and how constable deputies were dispatched. The proposal did not include the same for the Sheriff's office, which Garcia had held from 2009 until 2015.

The Contract Deputy Program is one in which deputies from either Sheriff's or Constables' offices are retained to provide extra patrol to an area that pays directly for that ser-

vice. The deputy is still in serice to the county and can go elsewhere nearby should the need arise but the contractee has extra law enforcement patrol on hand to deter crime and fulfill the services for which they are contracted.

It had been rumored for some time that Commissioner Garcia had suggested that his employee, Ken Jones, run for the position he vacated by retirement again. Now, Eagleton who had about 48% of the vote to Jones 16%, is in a run off. Eagleton had held 53% for most of the night and would have avoided the run-off.

But it was about the Commissioner's activities on the Court that Eagleton addressed defiantly, "Tried to stop my deputies from watching over kids playing

in the playground but I kept them there anyway."

"Since I've been in office, you've been doing everything you could to undermine my office, and it's time it stopped," Eagleton announced with a point of hand.

Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner Steve Radack outwardly accused Garcia of having a vendetta against constables.

The various Harris County Constables directed a series of suspicions at Adrian Garcia especially in regard to "contract deputy elimination," ideas that enable employing more sheriff's deputies.

In the end, Commissioner Garcia decided to withdraw both proposals for studies and apologized for the manner in which the proposals were put forth and denied any vendettas.

EPA holds meeting with Community Group

Update on Waste Pits

By Jackie Young

As promised, I want to provide you with updates from the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting that took place on February 12, 2020. The meeting was comprised of various government agencies from our local government to our federal government. The EPA Remedial Project Manager for the Waste Pits Superfund Site provided a presentation that covered post-Imelda repairs, Phase 2 of the Pre-Design Investigation, the Remedial Design approach and schedule, as well as a discussion on vessel traffic north of Interstate 10.

Following Tropical

Storm Imelda, surveyors found multiple areas of the temporary cap that needed to be repaired. The repairs were made to the cap but since then, additional needs were discovered along the river bed, just beyond the cap's edge. These repairs will stabilize the land around the Pit that was eroded during flooding. Repairs will be in March or April so you can expect to see increased on-site activity.

During the Pre-Design Investigation (PDI), the

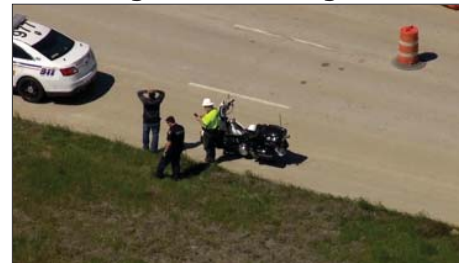


JACKIE YOUNG

responsible parties' contractors and the EPA have done their due diligence in gaining a better understanding of the extent of contamination in and around the Pits. During this time, they proved correct the theory many of our residents have - the waste is deeper than the originally thought 12-14 ft depth. They found a few areas where the waste material is greater than 24 ft deep. This is double the depth originally understood for remediation and has mounted the complexity of full-removal. Once the 30% design package is final within the EPA,

Continued on page 6

Construction worker hit, killed while working on Crosby Freeway



CROSBY, Texas - A construction worker died after he was hit by a passing vehicle in the Crosby area, authorities said. The incident happened before noon on Friday, March 6, 2020 in the 13700 block of the Crosby Freeway. According to deputies, the man was putting out construction cones on the freeway entrance ramp when a driver lost control of her vehicle and hit him. Deputies said the woman thought she was having an epileptic seizure and went off the road, fatally hitting the man.

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

CHANNELVIEW HEALTH & IMPROVEMENT COALITION

Meeting Minutes by Carolyn Stone



Channelview community members had its third meeting, but their first meeting as the newly formed Channelview Health & Improvement Coalition the evening of Jan. 23, 2020, at the Channelview Fire Dept. Sta. 3 located at 1210 Dell Dale. This meeting was held in a continuing effort by residents to share information, to work together with governing and other agencies to address the issues impacting Channelview to bring awareness and to document, remove, prevent and/or improve the issues and conditions affecting our residents and as a progress update to the two meetings held last year in September and October and events which had occurred November thru January 2020.

November included information regarding the opening of the Harris County Clerk's office on November 20, 2019 located in the Jim Fonteno Annex, 14350 Wallisville, Houston, TX 77049 eliminating the need to drive to downtown Houston to pick up records. Also shared with the group was a November incident of an observance of what appeared to be a barge fire coming from a barge docked at property next to River Terrace Park. Viewed was a large plume of grey smoke blowing from the barge at the river bank north across Market St. towards I-10. Notifications were made to the Channelview Fire Department (CFD), Precinct 2 officials and Harris County Pollution Control. Later, follow up with Channelview Fire Dept. was made to learn what had occurred when the fire department had arrived on scene. Per Chief Ryan Thistle, CFD had responded with five fire trucks, upon arrival they did not see a smoke plume of any kind but spoke with the company representative who told the responders what was viewed was saw dust. Pictures that had been taken were shared with Chief Thistle with him agreeing the photos appeared to be of smoke, not sawdust, and determination additional follow up would need to be made. Harris County Pollution Control investigator called complainant to say he had responded to the complaint, but was

unable to find anything. Shared with Harris County Pollution Control Services (CPCS) was the meeting with Chief Thistle, responders being told it was sawdust, but upon viewing the photos CFD planned on further investigation. HCPCS investigator requested the photos and contact information for Chief Thistle. After receiving the photos the HCPCS investigator returned to the area for further investigation. Upon returning the investigator saw what appeared to be a smoke plume coming from a barge along the river bank with workers operating a crane at the barge. The investigator then spoke with a GSD Marine representative who informed him they were mixing fly ash with dredge material to dry the dredge material. The investigator had questions as to what authority HCPCS had to issue violations since the barge was in the water therefore made a call to his superiors for clarification. HCPCS superiors also were unclear as to who has authority in the area as to the barge even though it was docked on the banks/land, but HCPCS had clear authority to issue air quality violations. Later during the follow up conversation with the investigator, the investigator posed the question if the area residents knew who had authority in the area. During additional follow up conversations the HCPCS investigator was informed complainant had viewed additional plumes and two days later complainant observed what appeared to be GSD Marine workers removing material from the barge, spreading it on the GSD property above the banks. Additional photos were shared with the HCPCS investigator. Once received the investigator responded he was working with TCEQ on the issue. This incident served as a good example of the importance of the residents taking photos, videos or other documentation to support the validity of their claims. Had it not been for the photos the investigations by the fire department and the HCPCS investigator would have been closed once they arrived at the location and did not find what was witnessed and had to rely on the

explanation supplied by the offender. Kristen Lee, Pct. 2 requested the photos and details to be sent to her.

Also in November an invitation extended to C.H.I.C members to attend the first "No Sacrifice Zones" meeting held by Lois Gibbs who brought about the first ever designation of a superfund site, Love Canal, and superfund site legislation. Attendees at the meeting brainstormed to create the components of what their dream law to protect residents inside these zones would include. Ms. Gibbs will be conducting a series of these meetings across the nation collecting input from impacted communities, but choose East Harris county as the location of her first meeting. Invitation to attend this meeting was another indication that Channelview was being recognized as an impacted area and their concerns should be heard and addressed. November ended with the news Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia was considering approval of a subsidized apartment complex to be built on Dell Dale near Wallisville Rd. called The Hollows.

Cindy Miller, Pct. 2 Channelview Liaison, provided in December and through the early half of January Precinct 2 representatives had been researching and working towards ensuring the Channelview Improvement District would be a benefit to the community and not a detriment and had a meeting with Senator Carol Alvarado, but had yet to have a meeting with Representative Ana Hernandez. Community members had been trying since prior to June 2019 to speak with Representative Hernandez and Senator Alvarado, sponsors of H.B. 1835 which created the district, without any luck, both had declined to speak on the subject, even though Rep. Hernandez touted the creation of the district as one of her major achievements during the 86th Texas legislative session. Precinct 2 representatives were expected to meet with Rep. Hernandez the week of Jan. 27th - Jan. 31st.

Governor Abbott releases 2020 report to the people of Texas

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott today released his "2020 Report to the People of Texas," looking back at all that was accomplished by and for the people of Texas over the previous year and sharing his vision for the year ahead. This is his third Report to the People since taking office in 2015. It is released in interim years when the Legislature does not meet and no formal State of the State address is given.

"Though the boundaries of this great state are fixed by latitude and longitude, Texas is more than just a place on a map," said Governor Greg Abbott. "It is a state of boundless opportunity—where the compass points north, south, east, west and up. We look to the possibilities, not for

ourselves but for our children and their children."

The Report includes a summary of the historic 86th Legislative Session, noted for its bold ideas and collaboration, and for the passage of landmark legislation that:

- Provides lasting property tax relief
- Limits the ability of local governments to increase property taxes
- Directs more funding to the classroom
- Improves school safety
- Enhances disaster preparedness
- Combats human trafficking and delivers justice for victims of sexual assault
- Protects life and liberty and more

With economic indicators reflecting record job

growth across regions and industries thanks to the unrivaled and diverse Texas workforce, the Report also includes updates on the programs, grants and initiatives within the Office of the Governor dedicated to expanding economic freedom, elevating education, ensuring public safety and envisioning a stronger Texas.

In a recurring theme throughout the Report, Governor Abbott notes, "Texas is exceptional because of you... Families are growing here, jobs are growing here and, best yet, opportunity is growing here. That is why we remain the envy of the nation... Yet even as we continue to grow, we will keep Texas, Texas. And make it even bigger for the generations yet to come."

May Community Center's Special Events

•AARP Free Tax Service

Every Tuesday, February 4th thru April 14th, 2020 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

A team of qualified AARP tax counselors certified by the IRS will be at the May Center to provide you with income tax assistance. This free service provided to the public is offered on a first come-first served basis. Please have all necessary paper work for preparing taxes. To expedite this process have all paper work out of the envelopes and organized before seeing a counselor. Please call the center to see what forms you may need to bring. 713-274-2434.

•Relapse Prevention Group

Every Friday at 9:00 a.m.

This an open group led by a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor. This process

Group help facilitate individuals to recognize triggers, develop problem-solving and coping skills, and avoid high-risk situations that could lead to substance use relapse.

•March Bingo Luncheon

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

Sign up for this fun-filled luncheon as we play Bingo and win prizes. Our menu consists

Of Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Suggested \$5 donation. You can call the center at 713-274-2434 to register.

•Financial Literacy Credit 101 Seminar

Thursday, March 12, 2020 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

Learn more about how to establish credit, the different types of credit, its value and how to rebuild it. Please call or come by the center to register. 713-274-2434.

•CERT class!

Every Monday night starting March 23rd thru

May 11th from 6:30-9:30 No cost to attend! Pre-registration required. To register call 713-274-2434.

May Community Center is located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call (713) 274-2434.

Rock'n C Roundup
Presented by Crosby Fair & Rodeo
MARCH 21, 2020

Steak Cook-Off
Register At: www.steakcookoffs.com or Rick Loggins (281) 543-1712 9 am-7 pm

BBQ Cook-Off
Crosby Young Farmers 9 am - 7pm

Steak Dinners
\$20 Plate Cooked to Order

Live Auction
SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS 8:30 UNTIL 9

CONCERT
Gates Open 5pm Starts 7:30 pm

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Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020

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ROUND-UP

Goss Library events

These are the events taking place at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library the week of Monday, March 16, 2020.

• Tuesday, March 17 - 10:00 am, Baby & Me (ages 0-24 mos)

• Wednesday, March 18 - 10:00 am, TAMU Agrilife Extension Seafood Cooking Program (ages 18 & up)

• Friday, March 20 - 10:30 am & 2:00 pm, Storytime (ages 0-5 yrs)

• Friday, March 20 - 6:00 pm, Escape the Apartment - Do you have what it takes to escape? (ages 12-18, Registration required, 281-576-2245)

Sam Carmena Goss Memorial Library, Mont Belvieu, (281) 576-2245.

Farmers Market in Dayton

Saturday Mar 14, 2020
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM CDT

2nd Saturday of the Month
8:00 am to 11:00 am
Location
The Crossroads Plaza
111 N. Church St.
Dayton, TX 77535

CAFÉ with Pct 2 Commissioner

Café with the Commissioner is an opportunity for residents to connect with Commissioner Adrian Garcia, learn about what he is working on, and share their concerns. Join Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Saturday, March 28th, 10 a.m. at HEB, 6430 Garth Road, Baytown, TX 77521.

Tyke Hike

Fridays in March, 10 am - 11 am. The spring season of the FREE preschool program (designated for ages 3-5) begins Friday, March 6, 2020 meeting weekly through May 22. This season's topics include many hand-on nature adventures for your tyke to enjoy. Check in at the visitor's center to find out where to meet.

March
20-Garden Fun
27-Don't Be a Litterbug
Questions? Call 281-424-9198

Clay Shoot

4th Annual Baytown Shriners Clay Shoot, Duck Hunt Challenge, Saturday March 14, 2020. At Gene's Powersports Country, 12525 I-10 East, Baytown. Shoot Starts at 9:00am. Free lunch for shooters. Raffle: 10 guns, Polaris 570 Ranger Crew. Information 713-539-8584. Each Round \$100.

Dayton Chamber of Commerce recognizes first Responders

The First Responder's Luncheon was a success with over 150 in attendance! We were pleased to honor 50 First Responders at the Luncheon. The attendees enjoyed the guest speaker, George Foreman. It was a knock out! Thank you to our sponsors: Enterprise Products, Milam Discount Tires, CMC Railroad, First Liberty National Bank, Liberty Dayton Chrysler, Jeep, & Dodge, BJ Ford, DAJJ LLC, Thrif-Tee Food Center, Entergy, Main-Frame 24 HR Wrecker, Sterling Funeral Home, Texas Diamond: Amanda Wessels, SMT Childcare, LLC DBA Hearts & Minds ELC, Meadow Noyer All-state, HomeSmart Fine Properties: Donna McDaniel, First United Methodist Church, and Smile Club.



West Chamber Chamber Award

Orlando Jacobs is Public Servant of the Year



Congratulations to Detective Orlando Jacobs with the Chambers County Sheriff's Office for being awarded the 2019 Public Servant of the Year by the WCCCC. Orlando was recognized for his professionalism, hard work and investigative skills.

In photo above, l to r, Macie Schubert Director of West Chambers Chambers of Commerce, Det. Orlando Jacobs and Sheriff Brian Hawthorne.

One injured in fan boat crash



On February 26, 2020 at approximately 9:55 a.m. Chambers County Sheriff's Office was notified of a boating accident that occurred in the area of Jack's Pass on the Trinity River. The boat's pilot had suffered severe lacerations on his head. Investigation revealed that due to speed and windy conditions, the pilot lost control of his boat and impacted a wooded area of Jack's Pass. The boater was not wearing his engine cut off switch, and was ejected from the boat. Another boater following the victim's boat, stopped and provided assistance, transporting the victim to the Wallisville Boat Ramp where he was met by members of the Sheriff's Office Marine Unit, Parks and Wildlife and Anahuac EMS. The victim was then transported to Bayside Hospital, by Anahuac EMS, for further medical attention. Sheriff Hawthorne reminds boaters to be safe and follow boating laws; operate the boat appropriate to the water and weather conditions, wear a personal flotation device and an engine cut-off switch.

Say goodbye to knee pain

BAYTOWN — (March 6, 2020) — Joint pain, especially in the knees, is a daily problem for millions of Americans as they age. But it is possible to combat the wearing down of cartilage (osteoarthritis) and the general wear and tear inflicted on the knees.

Strengthen Your Legs
Dr. Michael Hopson, orthopedic surgeon with Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine at Baytown, says the knee relies on the muscles around it to take some of the impact and pressure of everyday use. By strengthening your leg muscles, you can bolster the joint and relieve pressure. "The main muscles to focus on are your quadriceps (the muscles above your knee on the front of your thigh) and hamstrings (back of your thigh), though the muscles in your calves, hips and core also play important roles in stability," Hopson said.

Try this: Start with low-impact exercises like walking, cycling and yoga to build strength. Speak with a physical therapist or trainer for help with building a tailored strength-training regimen.

Lose Weight
Extra weight puts more pressure on your knees. It's estimated that every extra pound we carry adds four pounds of pressure to our knees. That means a loss of even 10 pounds can relieve 40 pounds of pressure. By staying within a healthy body mass index (BMI) range, usually from 18.5 to 24.9, you can prevent extra wear on your knees and ankles.

Try this: If you're overweight, set a goal for weight loss that's within your reach so you can make progress quickly. You might aim to lose five to 10 percent of your current weight, for example.



Dr. Michael Hopson

Improve Flexibility
"A mobile, conditioned knee is less likely to develop overuse problems. Whether you work out a lot or joint issues keep you mostly stationary, improving your flexibility can alleviate pain and stiffness," Hopson said.

Try this: Work on improving flexibility by stretching the muscles in

your legs (quadriceps, hamstrings and calves). Or, try a gentle yoga or tai chi class. Your doctor or physical therapist can recommend exercises that are right for you.

When knee pain and stiffness interfere with your daily activities, it's time to speak to an orthopedic specialist about knee replacement surgery. At Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine at Baytown, we offer a full range of services, including:

- Minimally invasive knee replacement
- Advanced techniques to minimize postoperative discomfort and accelerate recovery
- Robotic-assisted partial knee replacement
- Complex joint revision surgery
- Therapy for arthritic knees

To schedule an appointment with a Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine at Bay-

town orthopedic specialist, call 281-427-7400 or visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown.

About Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital has provided Baytown and east Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties with quality medical care since opening its doors in 1948. The hospital has grown throughout the years with the community, providing comprehensive care at all stages of life. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist Baytown provides some of the most advanced and innovative procedures while never wavering from its focus on compassionate and patient-centered care. Houstonmethodist.org/baytown.

★ OPINION PAGE ★



Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty – Will Taking My Benefit Early Affect My Widow Benefit?

Dear Rusty: My husband is 70 and has been taking Social Security for several years. His benefit is \$2,100 per month. I am 60 and will turn 61 in March. I have very little built up and my expected SS benefit at my full retirement age is \$1163 and \$829 if I choose to take it at age 62. We are comfortable with our current income, but the benefit at 62 is enticing. I want to know how taking it at 62 would affect my situation if my husband predeceases me. Would I then be able to exchange my benefits for his? Please advise.
Signed: Planning Ahead.

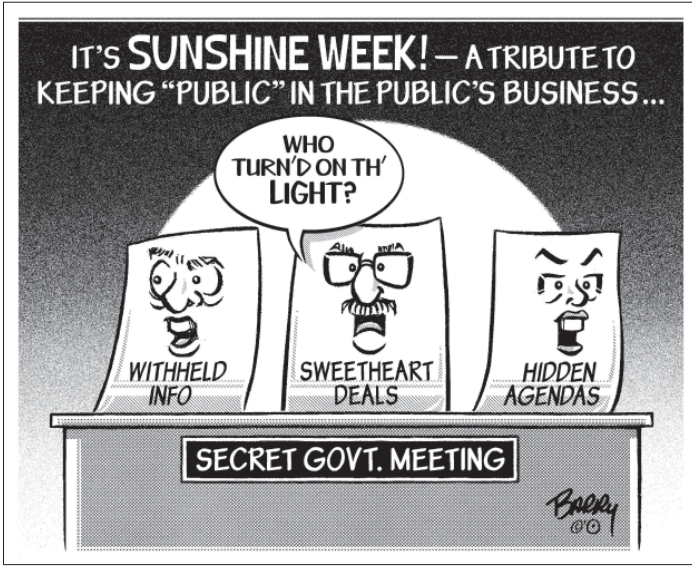
Dear Planning: Taking your own SS benefit early (before your full retirement age) won't affect the amount of your survivor benefit should your husband predecease you. The only thing that would affect your survivor benefit is the age at which you claim it. So yes, you could claim your own benefit first and then switch to your survivor benefit later without hurting your eventual survivor benefit. If you have reached your full retirement age (FRA) when your husband passes, your survivor benefit will be 100% of the amount your husband is receiving at his death, instead of your own smaller benefit. But if you take the survivor benefit before your FRA, it will be actuarially reduced according to the number of months prior to FRA it is claimed. To be clear, if your husband were to pass before you reached FRA, you have the option to wait until your FRA to claim the survivor benefit (so you can get 100% of his benefit). In other words, you could continue to collect your own benefit until your survivor benefit reached 100% at your FRA (a survivor benefit reaches maximum at FRA).

Be aware, though, that there is another consideration if you claim your own SS benefit before you reach your full retirement age. If you are still working and claim your benefit before your

FRA, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings limit" which, if exceeded, will cause SS to take back future benefits equal to 50% of the amount you exceeded the limit by (the 2020 limit is \$18,240, but it changes annually). If you have substantial earnings from working, that could mean you will go some number of months without benefits (depending upon your earnings level). In the year you reach your FRA (but prior to your FRA) the earnings limit goes up by 2.6 times and the penalty is less, and once you reach your FRA there is no longer an earnings limit. But, I want to make sure you're aware that collecting early and exceeding the earnings limit will affect your benefits. If you go months without benefits because you exceeded the earnings limit, SS will give you time credit for those months when you reach your FRA, which will result in a small increase in your own SS benefit at that time.

But the bottom line is that collecting your own Social Security benefit early will not affect your eventual survivor benefit. Only the age at which you claim it, if earlier than your FRA, will affect the amount of your survivor benefit. And, by the way, your FRA as a widow is 4 months less than your normal FRA because SS takes 2 years off of your birth year to determine your "widow's FRA."

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Trump, Biden emerge as winners in Texas primaries

AUSTIN — Incumbent President Donald J. Trump, who received 94% of the vote in the Lone Star State's Republican primary election, and former Vice President Joe Biden, who received 34.5 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary, were their parties' top vote-getters on March 3, Super Tuesday.

Biden's closest rival was Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who received 30% of the Democratic vote. Sanders was followed by former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, 14.4%, and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, 11.4%.

Overall voter turnout figures posted by the Texas Secretary of State's Elections Division show 4,084,431 of the state's 16,211,198 registered voters cast a ballot — slightly more than 25% of total registered voters. That's a higher participation rate than in the 2016 Super Tuesday vote. Then, 3,289,218 Texans cast a ballot, or 23% of the 14,238,436 voters who were registered at the time.

In a major down-ballot race, state Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, and former Air Force helicopter pilot M.J. Hegar, will face each other in a May 26 Democratic primary runoff. The winner will run against long-term incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, a Republican, in the Nov. 3 general election.

Complete election results are available at the Texas Secretary of State's website, sos.texas.gov.

City cancels festival
The city of Austin and Travis County on March 6 declared a "local state of disaster" in response to what officials called an increasing concern over novel coronavirus — COVID-19 — the deadly flu-like contagion that has developed into a worldwide health threat.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Austin Mayor Steve Adler issued a related order canceling the South by Southwest festival, an event that has been hosted annually by the capital city since 1987. To illustrate the rapidity of the local decision-making process, only two days earlier, Austin's public health department stated that "there's no evidence that closing SXSW or any other gatherings will make the community safer."

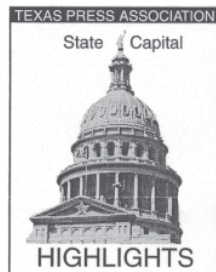
Dr. Mark Escott, commenting on behalf of the department on March 6, said, "While there is no clear guidance on what local jurisdictions should do under these circumstances, our local expert advisory panel took a look at the risk factors and identified a number of concerns."

The SXSW festival, a global magnet for music lovers, the film and media industries and educators usually attracts more than 150,000 attendees over a 10-day period.

Abbott: Texas can test

Texas now has the capacity to test for COVID-19, Gov. Greg Abbott announced on March 5 in a joint press conference with Department of State Health Services Commissioner John Hellerstedt and Texas Division of Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd.

Six public health labs within the Texas Laboratory Response Network are now equipped to perform COVID-19 testing, with the remaining four being fully equipped in the coming days, Abbott said. The network provides laboratory diagnostics and maintains the capacity to respond to biological and chemical threats and other public health emergencies. The six public health labs within the network that are equipped to perform COVID-19 tests include Austin, Houston, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth and Lubbock. The remaining four labs in the network will be equipped with testing capabilities in the coming days: Tyler, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Harlingen. The state public health lab network will be able to test over 125 patients per day once the entire network is equipped, Abbott added.



Gov, AG warn gougers
Gov. Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton on March 6 issued a warning to anyone participating in price-gouging of medical supplies as Texas continues to combat the potential threat of the coronavirus. Abbott said he would invoke a state law that gives Paxton "broader powers" to prosecute price gougers. Texans who suspect a case of price-gouging related to the potential coronavirus threat should file a consumer complaint with the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, Abbott said. Consumer Protection Hotline: (800) 621-0508.

Revenue total reported

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on March 3 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.89 billion in February, an amount 3.5 percent more than the amount reported in February 2019. Growth in state sales tax revenue was led by receipts from the retail trade and information services sectors, while receipts from the construction sector were down from a year ago and growth in tax receipts from retail trade was slightly boosted by collections from online marketplace providers and remote sellers, Hegar said.

OPINION

By Kelley Shannon

Sun starting to shine again on Texas government

By Kelley Shannon
Freedom of Information Foundation

Texans have something to celebrate during Sunshine Week this year. But we also have more work to do to protect the public's right to know about our government.

Sunshine Week, March 15-21, is an annual national initiative proclaiming the importance of access to public information.

First, the bright spot for Texas: Essential elements of contracts between governments and private companies — including pricing and promises — are public again under a law that took effect Jan. 1.

It seems like those basics of how taxpayer dollars are spent should be easily accessible, doesn't it? They were, for years, under our Texas Public Information Act. But the Texas Supreme Court in 2015 blocked the sunshine and in many cases banished that tax-dollar information into the darkness.

The court's action resulted in the Texas Attorney General's Office issuing more than 4,000 rulings from mid-2015 through 2019 allowing governments and private entities to withhold contract details, sometimes even hiding the final price.

Gone from public view were records on school construction contracts; prison supply purchases; Uber, Lyft and Yellow Cab licensing; naming rights agreements at public buildings and stadiums; marketing deals between governments and private firms; and many more tax-dollar expenditures.

After working on it two legislative sessions, Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, and Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, passed Senate Bill 943 in 2019, reopening key contracting records.

"If Texans are to hold their public officials accountable, access to public information is essential," Watson said in a joint statement with Capriglione.

Among the law's early success stories is disclosure of the city of McAllen's contract with entertainer Enrique Iglesias to perform at a holiday festival. For four years, the city refused to reveal what it paid and promised Iglesias, but the newly released contract reveals it paid \$485,000. It agreed to charter a flight for the performer from Mexico and supply his backstage with steak, sushi, sashimi and also juice with pulp.

Other previously concealed contracts are now coming to light across the state. Open government advocates and everyday Texans will be watching to make sure the new law works as intended.

Meanwhile, still on the to-do list in the Texas Legislature are other important bills to open information.

Accuracy is crucial, whether in news reporting, vetting political candidates or checking someone's background for employment, credit scores or lending. Birthdates in public records allow for getting it right. Yet, another court ruling has been closing off this vital information. Legislation is needed in 2021 to respond to the court and enhance accuracy.

When it comes to police records surrounding an in-custody death, families and the public need to know what transpired to hold law enforcement accountable.

Many law enforcement agencies use part of the Public Information Act that was intended to protect the living who were arrested but never convicted to instead hide records when an arrested person dies in custody. It's beyond time to close that loophole.

It's also time for a law to codify what the attorney general's office has long stated: Electronic information shall be provided in the format a requestor prefers if it is stored that way and can be provided at no greater expense or time. For example, if government data is stored in a searchable and sortable electronic spreadsheet and it's requested that way, it should be provided as a spreadsheet — not in some other less useful format.

Stay tuned for additional public information initiatives in the months to come. If there's one thing certain about the quest for open government in Texas, it's that the effort never ends.

We must remain vigilant and protect the public's right to know.

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★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

Project Blue supports injured and sick law enforcement officers



Charity Run Organizer Mark Sanders with announcer and entertainer Eddie Foster.

BAYTOWN – February 29, the 10th Annual Jail Break Run, a 1/2 marathon designed by runners, was hosted by Project Blue at Lee College beginning sharply at 7:00 a.m. The race goes to the top of the Fred Hartman Bridge and back to Lee College in the most scenic way.

Project Blue is a law enforcement support charity that enables funding of non-service related sick or injured law enforcement officers during recovery.

The race is traced back to Mary Pinney, begun in memory of her brother Marcus Lee Zaruba and thus far has contributed

about \$1/2 Million supporting patrolmen. The race now draws from throughout the USA for runners and is supported by varied agencies.

Runners get a Chick-fil-A sandwich, awards and medals in the 5-K. Check out all the details on facebook or the website www.jailbreakrun.org.

The Houston Symphony brings the music of Whitney Houston to Jones Hall May 9th

HOUSTON (Jan. 23, 2020) – The Houston Symphony announced a one-night-only special performance, The Music of Whitney Houston, May 9, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are now available at houstonsymphony.org.

The program celebrates the music of the iconic superstar, remarkable performer, and soon-to-be Rock & Roll Hall of Famer. The evening's program includes the greatest hits from Whitney Houston like "Saving All My Love," "How Will I Know?," and the instantly recognizable "I Will Always Love You."

Returning guest conductor Brent Havens leads the evening of hits with guest vocalist Amanda Cole, who makes her Houston Symphony debut in the program. Cole, who was formerly a member of the R&B vocal group En Vogue, interprets Houston's extraordinary songs.

The Music of Whitney Houston takes place at Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana Street, in Houston's Theater District. For tickets and information, please call 713.224.7575 or visit houstonsymphony.org.

Tickets may also be purchased at the Houston Symphony Patron Services Center in Jones Hall (Monday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m.). All programs and artists are subject to change.

MUSIC OF WHITNEY HOUSTON
Thursday, May 9,
7:30 p.m.
Brent Havens, conductor
Amanda Cole, vocalist

About the Houston Symphony

During the 2019-20 season, the Houston Symphony celebrates its sixth season with Music Director Andrés Orozco-Estrada and continues its second century as one of America's leading orchestras with a full complement of concert, community, education, touring, and recording activities. The Houston Symphony, one of the oldest performing arts organizations in Texas, held its inaugural performance at The Majestic Theater in downtown Houston June 21, 1913. Today, with an annual operating budget of \$35.2 million, the full-time ensemble of 88 professional musicians presents

nearly 170 concerts annually, making it the largest performing arts organization in Houston. Additionally, musicians of the orchestra and the Symphony's four Community-Embedded Musicians offer over 1,000 community-based performances each year at various schools, community centers, hospitals, and churches reaching more than 200,000 people in Greater Houston annually.

The Grammy Award-winning Houston Symphony has recorded under various prestigious labels, including Koch International Classics, Naxos, RCA Red Seal, Telarc, Virgin Classics, and, most recently, Dutch recording label Pentatone. In 2017, the Houston Symphony was awarded an ECHO Klassik award for the live recording of Alban Berg's Wozzeck under the direction of former Music Director Hans Graf. The orchestra earned its first Grammy nomination and Grammy Award at the 60th annual ceremony for the same recording in the Best Opera Recording category.



The finish line stacks up with supporters and cheering new found friends as together they sweat for those who protect and serve.

Graduation Planning



Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman
Goose Creek CISD high school principals (from left) Nathan Chaddick, Ross S. Sterling; Dr. Joseph Farnsworth, Robert E. Lee and (at right) Susan Jackson, Goose Creek Memorial, traveled to Beaumont with Christi Leath, director of advanced academics, and other graduation organizers to work on the plan for graduation ceremonies to be held Saturday, May 23, at Ford Park Arena in Beaumont. Graduation times are: Sterling, 10 a.m.; GCM, 2:15 p.m. and Lee, 6:30 p.m. IMPACT Early College High School will hold graduation Thursday, May 21, at 7 p.m. at Lee College Sports Arena.

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★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★



Caring for the Community

On the morning of February 22, there was a young homeless mother who was killed while crossing Interstate 10. At first, people thought she had intentionally run onto the freeway trying to get to the other side. After talking to several witnesses, it is believed that someone was chasing her and perhaps may have even pushed her causing her to fall before being struck by multiple vehicles.

As family, friends and community members began to raise funds to help with her final expenses perhaps some of the most touching series of events included the generosity of Sterlingwood Church. They opened the doors to the church for the memorial service and their homeless ministry offered to run their shuttle to pick up members of the homeless community to bring them to the service. There were individuals

who organized a barbecue fundraiser as well as donated items for a prize drawing for Sunday, March 1.

The benefit was well attended and funds were raised to help with final needs for the young lady. As I left the benefit, I had purchased several dinners. I dropped my daughter-in-law and granddaughter off at home and was headed home when I saw a homeless gentleman who looked hungry. I pulled my car over and asked if he wanted my extra dinners. He was moving slowly and was very appreciative. Before I handed the dinners to him, I asked a simple question. I asked him how long had it been since he called his mother.

He looked shocked and began to cry. He said it had been at least seven years. I offered him my phone and asked him to

please call her. He called and talked with her for a few minutes. After he hung up the phone, he asked me how I knew she needed to hear from him. I told him that it was just a mother's instinct. I prayed with him before I drove off and hoped he did not notice my tears. He had shared that he just turned 59 and his mother who lives in Wisconsin had just turned 85 earlier this year. I ask you to please keep Robert as well as his mother in your prayers, not just for him and his mother but for the many homeless we see in our community. Even if you are not as bold as me to pull up and talk to them, much less offer them a phone to make a call, at least resist the urge to look away. You may be the only person who acknowledges them. A simple wave or smile might be just what they need today.

Waste Pits CAC meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they will present the updates and path forward to the community.

At the last community meeting, the EPA took away your concerns about excavation during hurricane season and potential re-use of the crushed concrete from the temporary cap. Excavation is planned for non-peak flood seasons which they've determined from looking at the River's historical flood data. Work will take place year round at the Site but excavation specifically will only take place part of the year in efforts to mitigate potential impacts from Mother Nature. As for the crushed concrete, samples of the material were collected from three areas on the northern impoundment and transported to a lab for analysis. After hearing the community concerns, the EPA required stronger testing measures and a three step testing approach. The results from this should be available this summer.

One of the greatest challenges during remediation will be water entering the site from the water table. Consultants and the EPA are looking at this as part of the treatability study. Water samples were taken from site and filtration approaches are being assessed to treat the water on site. The frac tanks that remain on Site have low levels of water

in them and aren't expected to impact the stability of the Site.

As for the dolphin structures north of Interstate 10 - they are not expected to be repaired for up to two years!

Lastly, barge traffic. Post-Imelda, the US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB 55-19) for the area that spans from the southern tip of Southwest Shipyard to just north of the northern Waste Pit. This area is now considered a "safety zone"

for vessel traffic and places specific restrictions and requirements on the navigable waterway. Vessels are only allowed to travel in this zone from sunrise to sunset and each vessel has to check in with the agency prior to entering the zone and upon leaving the zone.

In all, we had an extremely productive dialogue and meeting. We will discuss these topics further at our April Coalition meeting. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



A barge and tugboat pass the Waste Pits in the channel of the San Jacinto River, north of the bridge. The barge traffic was one of the topics discussed at the CAC meeting.



The Dolphin bumpers are badly damaged by the flooding and barge strikes, but are not due to be replaced for two years.

Rep. Babin requests swift action for Beaumont VA Clinic

WASHINGTON, DC – March 6, 2020 - U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) released the following statement after sending a letter to President Donald Trump and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary, Robert Wilkie, requesting that the Major Lease agreement process for the Beaumont, Texas Community Based Outreach Clinic (CBOC) be expedited and given swift approval.



"For too long have the

patients receiving care at the Beaumont CBOC been subjected to less-than-adequate health care services due to circumstances outside of the local VA control," said Babin. "As a Member of Congress, the son of a World War II veteran, a veteran myself, the father of a decorated Navy SEAL, and a health care provider, I believe ensuring quality health care, as well as continuity of care, for our nation's veterans is of the utmost importance.

"My office and I will always work to support local VA administrators and officials who work tirelessly to serve those who have served us."



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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: O1441

Application and Draft Permit. KMCO, LLC, 16503 Ramsey Rd, Crosby, TX 77532-5916, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal and revision of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O1441, Application No. 21181, to authorize operation of the KMCO Crosby Plant, an All Other Basic Organic Chemical Manufacturing facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 16503 Ramsey Rd in Crosby, Harris County, Texas 77532-5916. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?at=29.921666&lng=-95.053055&zoom=13&type=r>. This application was received by the TCEQ on March 19, 2014.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas 78753; the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk St Ste H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452; and the Crosby Public Library, 135 Hare Rd, Crosby, Texas 77532-5273, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice

At the TCEQ central and regional offices, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512) 239-2900.

Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing. Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/ and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

Mailing List. In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

Information. For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained for KMCO, LLC by calling Mr. Bill Glushco at (281) 328-0220.

Notice Issuance Date: February 14, 2020

King Crossword

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ACROSS

1 Symbol of intrigue

4 Jet forth

8 Faucet problem

12 Shade

13 Part of the foot

14 Solemn promise

15 Geological period

16 Silver salmon

17 Wrinkly fruit

18 Informal game

21 "Absolutely"

22 Deposit

23 Brilliance

26 Cotillion honoree

27 Blond shade

30 Proper subject?

31 Stop running

32 Toll road

33 Pooch

34 Cover

35 Bizarre

36 "A mouse!"

37 Donkey

38 Uncanny ability to make money

45 Memory unit

46 Tittle

47 Aye canceler

48 Practice pugilism

49 Heal, as a fracture

50 Little demon

51 Bouquet

52 Withered

53 Ball prop

DOWN

1 Sharpen

2 Continental coin

3 Bridges or Brummell

4 Potpourri bag

5 College lecturers, often

6 Reverberate

7 "Yahoo!"

8 Uncertainty

9 Sitarist's music

10 "— have to do"

11 Collins or Donahue

19 Greenish-blue

20 Bathroom fixture

23 Conclusion

24 Bill's partner

25 Drag along

26 Accomplished

27 Football fill

28 Go downhill rapidly?

29 Haw preceder

31 Long-snouted antelopes

32 Mexican moola

34 Mainlander's memento

35 Will subject

36 Nail smoother

37 Moving about

38 Recipe meas.

39 Syringe, for short

40 Greek vowels

41 Top-notch

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43 Arrived

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Coronavirus Virus cases,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

firmed or presumptive to 13 in areas surrounding Harris County.

As a result of the health concerns, and to avoid spreading the virus, many schools and groups cancelled events. The Stock Market dropped 15% in a week, but slowly regained.

The new cases involved four people in their 60s who were exposed to the virus during a trip to Egypt last month. The 70-year-old from Fort Bend took the same trip and this case was confirmed last Wednesday by a Houston laboratory.

Three of the patients with coronavirus are hospitalized in stable condition and one is self-quarantined at home with mild symptoms, health officials stated. The others have cases have been resolved.

Judge Lina Hidalgo mentioned at a press conference last Thursday that there is no evidence yet of any community spread of the coronavirus.

"All the cases in the Houston area have international travel in common and we've been actively monitoring these individuals since they were identified as being at-risk," Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said. "I encourage Houstonians to limit international travel for the time being and heed the advice of public health officials about healthy hygiene habits. If you are feeling sick, stay at home. But do not be paralyzed by fear."

The health department has launched an investigation to identify any potential contacts exposed to the virus. The department will provide close contacts guidance about the virus and monitor them for the development of symptoms.

"We expect to see more cases in coming days as we receive test results," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo.

The fifth "patient knew to monitor for symptoms and quickly sought medical care when he started feeling ill" said Dr. David Perse, local health authority for the Houston Health Department. "His quick action and the response of the public health system signifies that the potential for public exposure in Houston is minimal."

People who recently returned to the United States from a coronavirus outbreak area need to monitor for fever, cough and difficulty breathing for at least 14 days and seek medical care right away if they develop symptoms. Before going to a doctor's office or emergency room, symptomatic people with a travel history to a coronavirus outbreak area must call ahead to tell the healthcare professionals about their recent travel and symptoms.

If they recommend testing, go as soon as possible to protect yourself and those around you. Testing is confidential. HCPH does not release information about suspected cases to encourage people to get tested and many people test negative.

If a person has not been around anyone with coronavirus or has not visited an ongoing coronavirus outbreak area, they are not at risk.

Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets released into the air by coughing and sneezing;
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands;

WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE DO?

Residents should go about their daily lives, but practice every day preventative measures to avoid the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use the elbow of your sleeve.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning product.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%-95% alcohol.

CDC FACEMASK RECOMMENDATIONS:

CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory viruses, including COVID-19. Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019, to protect others from the risk of getting infected. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in a close setting (at home or in a health care facility).

Call your healthcare professional if you feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19, or if you live in

or have recently traveled from an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

There is no need to go to the emergency room unless you have a medical emergency. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs.

Stay informed by visiting Ready Harris website www.readyharris.org, Harris County Public Health website www.hcphtx.org/nCov and social media channels @readyharris @hcphtx.

ORIGIN OF CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that first emerged in China and has now spread to many countries, including the U.S. While HCPH understands our residents will be concerned, we also know that more than 80% of people who have become infected only experience mild to moderate symptoms and fully recover. Symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath. People at higher risk for serious complications are the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

CRIME REPORT

Precinct 3 stays active with Interdiction unit, patrols



PCT. 3 CONSTABLE SHERMAN EAGLETON

CROSBY – In the last few months, the Precinct 3 Crime Interdiction Unit seized 380 pounds of illegal drugs. The unit has arrested more than 366 individuals since its inception.

In February of this year, the Crime Interdiction Unit partnered with other law enforcement agencies to investigate and close down illegal game rooms. Six illegally operating game rooms were closed and approximately \$100,000 was seized.

The Crime Interdiction Unit along with patrol conducted an investigation into stolen equipment from a local business. Investigators recovered over \$200,000 worth of stolen equipment returning the stolen property back to the owner. The Unit participated in a region wide parole violator round up. In an effort to make this community safer, Constable Sherman Eagleton along

was created by Constable Eagleton to help protect our senior citizens from fraud, abuse, neglect and various scams. The Precinct 3 RUOK program continues to grow with more than 400 participants.

Constable Eagleton reminds us that he initiated and leads a Best Practices-Recognized Law Enforcement Agency of over 175 sworn law enforcement officers, telecommunications and civilian staff working daily to protect the community. His goal is to adopt and practice community policing by connecting members of the community with law enforcement. As the leader of the Constable's Office, he sees his duty is to set the example for others to follow by building trust and establish strong relationships to improve the quality of life in our community.

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