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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

**These stories in the PRESS:**

- Chambers County warns on scam calls
- Denial of COVID-19 testing in Chambers
- .....And more, Page 3

**COVID-19 Cases as of April 21, 2020**

**HOUSTON AREA**

7,578 POSITIVE  
153 DEATHS  
1892 RECOVERED

**TEXAS**

20,087 POSITIVE  
520 DEATHS  
Recoveries Not Reported

**UNITED STATES**

788,920 POSITIVE  
42,458 DEATHS  
73,533 RECOVERED

**WORLDWIDE**

2,501,156 POSITIVE  
171,810 DEATHS  
659,732 RECOVERED

**COVID-19 RESOURCES**

**CITY OF HOUSTON**

832-393-4220

**HARRIS COUNTY**

713-634-1110  
ASK A NURSE  
MOBILE TESTS  
713-439-6000

**PRE-SCREENING**

**HARRIS COUNTY**  
832-927-7575  
readyharris.org

**MD MEDICAL**

1-888-776-5252  
For Pre-screening  
Aldine Mail Rte.

**EVENTS**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- Apr 23—Paul Bauer
- Apr 24—Casey Gower  
Amanda Leath  
Lacy Maness  
Kaitlyn Kaly
- Apr 25—Colton Cutbirth
- Apr 26—Lyndsey West
- Apr 27—Kitty Elkins
- April 28—Ms. Chrislee Stephens
- Apr 29—Becky Gomez  
Jason Maness

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- Apr 23—Jerry & Jeanette Thompson
- Apr 26—Danny & Cindy Leath
- Apr 28—Dan & Margie Nicholson  
Mike & Tanya Williams

## Houston, Harris County appoint 'Recovery Czars' to lead relief from Covid19 crisis

HARRIS COUNTY - April 20, 2020, County Judge Lina Hidalgo on Monday selected State Representative Armando Walle to lead the COVID-19 pandemic relief and recovery effort on her behalf. As Harris County COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Czar, Rep. Walle is tasked with leading the effort to drive the region's economic recovery. He will join the Houston relief and recovery Czar in this effort and jointly they will convene

community and government stakeholders as necessary.

"State Rep. Walle is uniquely positioned to build consensus across Harris County's diverse communities to help our region emerge from the COVID-19 disaster. As a leader in the state Legislature on issues of health, safety, and the economic well being of families, he's a champion for the important priorities that we want to make sure are in



State Representative Armando Walle appointed Harris County Relief and Recovery Effort Czar

Marvin E. Odum, former Chief Recovery Officer for Houston's Hurricane Harvey efforts, appointed City's Recovery Czar

the forefront of this relief and recovery effort," Judge Hidalgo said. "Like the rest of the world, Harris County will not be the same when this crisis abates. But with inclusive, fast and coordinated planning, we will build an economy and a social services network that gives every resident the tools they need to thrive once again."

A Harris County native, Rep. Walle is a graduate of

See Recovery Czar, Page 8

## Governor plans to reopen state

By Patrick Svitek, The Texas Tribune

AUSTIN -- Gov. Greg Abbott last Friday, April 17, 2020, announced initial steps to re-open the Texas economy as it continues to reel from the coronavirus pandemic.

During a news conference at the Texas Capitol, Abbott said Texans' efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus were pay-

ing off.

"We're now beginning to see glimmers that the worst of COVID-19 may soon be behind us," Abbott said. "We have demonstrated that we can corral the coronavirus."

To get the economy going again, Abbott named a "statewide strike force" chaired by James Huffines, the Austin banker and former UT regent. The task force staff will be led by Mike Toomey, a



Governor Greg Abbott at a new conference in Austin last Friday, announcing steps to re-open the state.

veteran lobbyist who was chief of staff to Abbott's predecessor, Rick Perry.

Abbott offered a host of names that will advise the task force, including fellow statewide officials, top medical experts and business leaders. You can view those names — as well as Abbott's executive order establishing the task force — here.

After naming the task

Governor to open State, Page 6

## Mobile virus test site opens in Humble, free total sites now number 18

HARRIS COUNTY, Texas — Mobile coronavirus testing sites temporarily in the Tomball and Humble area starting this week, the Harris County Pct. 4 Commissioner's Office confirmed Monday.

Harris County Public Health is running both sites, which are temporary and only available for pre-approved residents. Officials said walk-ins will not be allowed.

Harris County Public

Health will be testing 100 pre-approved residents a day at each location.

The Tomball site will do tests through April 14 - 16 and April 27 - 29.

The Humble site will be doing tests through April 20 - 22 and May 7 - 9.

Commissioner R. Jack Cagle said each site is able to complete as many as 100 tests per day, but these numbers expected to increase daily.

Residents must do pre-

screening at checkforcorona.com/harriscounty or call 713-439-6000 for information.

Those deemed to be at-risk for coronavirus will be given a code and phone number to call. After a telephone consultation, those still deemed to be at risk will be given another unique code and information on where and when they are to be tested.

See List of Tests Site on Page 6



Drive-Thru Coronavirus test swab technique.

## Crosby's rodeo, concerts cancelled but auction, cook-off still on for now

CROSBY — According to a letter from the Crosby Fair & Rodeo Board the entertainment and rodeo has been cancelled for this year but the livestock auction is still to be held.

According to Gene Hicks a board member, the Cook-Off is still to be held and the performing act "Bag Of Donuts" from New Orleans is still to play for one of the two nights. Of course, this too is subject to change based on developments of the COVID 19 struggle and

governmental regulation.

A letter dated April 21, To our community: These past few months have been a very disappointing time, to say the least. We are deeply saddened that it has affected Crosby Fair & Rodeo, as well. With the continuous spread of COVID-19, the board has decided to suspend the rodeo and entertainment for the June 2020 show. THE LIVE-STOCK SHOW IS STILL ON AS SCHEDULED. This was a very hard deci-

sion and please know that we are as just as disappointed as you. The board is working every day to ensure that the exhibitors get rewarded for all the time & effort put forth on their projects. We know that this has been tough on everyone, but we will get through this and look forward to getting back to normal at some point. We will keep everyone updated on any future announcements. Sincerely, Crosby See CROSBY RODEO, p8



Scheduled to play for the Crosby Fair & Rodeo Cook-Off in early June.

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

## Child dies in crash on US 90 at Beltway 8

Reasons for changes in legislation concerning restraint of children in vehicles were never better illustrated than on the morning of April 16 when a three or four year old was fatally thrown from his family's car onto the roadway in a failure to yield right of way accident.

The other two people in the vehicle, the mother and sister were taken to Memorial Hermann Hospital with injuries described as non-critical.

It seems the mother, Oralia Martinez, was behind the wheel and according to witnesses, failed to stop at the eastbound redlight from the US 90 Feeder Road at Beltway 8. An 18-wheeler coming from the southside of the Beltway on the green light struck the rear quarter panel of the passenger side of the car and projected the boy from the other side of the vehicle.

The boy was in the back seat and most of the investigation was centered upon if he were restrained.

"All the buckles were intact," said Sesan Teare, Vehicular Crimes Chief at Harris County District Attorney's Office. "So that leads us to believe he was unrestrained."

"We offer condolences on the loss of the four



year old. It's just devastating to see the child's body out here," said Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzales.

Traffic investigators later discovered the age difference in the lad than originally reported.

Traffic investigators determined that the car was travelling about 50 miles per hour when struck at about 10:10 a.m. But according to the Sheriff, speed wasn't a factor.

The accident happened during a call for all non-essential traffic to stay at home.

The 18 wheeler was a 2016 Freightliner towing a 48'flatbed semitrailer.

## Precinct 2 contracts small restaurants to cater free hot meals for the community

Harris County Precinct 2 is offering 1,000 free hot meals to the community and supporting small restaurants while doing it. Commissioner Garcia tasked his team to contract small restaurants to cater the meals that will be offered at 4 community centers throughout Precinct 2.

Last Friday was the first time the Precinct offered the meals for individuals of all ages and plans to continue to award a different catering company/restaurant every week. Each center

will serve 250 meals on a first come, first serve basis. Meals will be served until supplies last.

Last Fridays' restaurants being supported with a total spend of \$6,309 included:

1. The Teapot Depot
2. Azalea Creek Catering
3. Armenta's Mexican Restaurant
4. Snapper Jack's

Meals will be served again this Friday, April 24, 2020 starting at noon at the following

community centers:

1. Grayson Community Center 13828 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015
2. Barrett Community Center 11901 Mulberry St, Barrett, TX 77532
3. Northeast Community Center (10918 1/2 Bentley, Houston, TX 77093)
4. JD Walker Community Center (7613 Wade Rd., Baytown, TX 77521)

You may also check Pct. 2 website for any updates at [hcp2.com](http://hcp2.com) or change in locations.

## New to working from Home Full-Time? Here's How To Stay Productive

As the coronavirus pandemic threatens public health and the U.S. economy, more people are working from home on a regular basis. The move follows social distancing guidelines as an attempt to slow the outbreak, but keeping scattered workforces connected and productive can be challenging for managers and employees.

"This is new terrain for all involved, but employees and their companies can come out of this stronger by learning how to work together even better while they're physically apart," says Dr. Jim Guilkey (www.jimguilkey.com), author of M-Pact Learning: The New Competitive Advantage — What All Executives Need To Know.

"Optimally, working remotely can sharpen the skills you have and open new avenues of training that broaden skill-sets and increase results. But technology alone can't smooth the transition to remote working, and both employees and business leaders must learn how to implement new structures and some new or tweaked processes."

Dr. Guilkey offers tips for both managers and associates to make working from home work out well for their companies:

### For employees:

— Get started early. "When going to the office, you normally get up and out the door early," Dr. Guilkey says. "At home, this is more difficult. Get up, take a shower, and get started."

— Create a dedicated work space. People who haven't worked remotely may need to experiment with different approaches to find what setting works best

for them. "Just because you're not going to the office doesn't mean you can't have an office. Dedicate a specific room or surface in your home to work," Dr. Guilkey says. "You should associate your home office with your actual office. This creates the correct mindset for being productive."

— Structure your day like you would in the office. Workers need to adopt exceptional conscientiousness when it comes to dividing their day into intensive work, communications, personal time and family life," Dr. Guilkey says. "Have an agenda. Schedule meetings and project time and stay on schedule."

### For managers:

— Set expectations. "It is vital that employees know what is expected of them," Dr. Guilkey says. "When will you be available? How long will it take to get back to someone?"

— Create a cadence of communication. Without daily face-to-face interaction, there's more importance on communication. "A rhythm of communication is vital—daily check-ins, weekly one-on-ones, weekly team meetings, etc.," Dr. Guilkey says.

— Take a video-first approach. "Video, with all the current technology, is the most effective means of remote communication," Dr. Guilkey says. "Invest in reliable tools."

— Maintain company social bonds. One drawback of working remotely is the potential breaking of social bonds that are necessary for productive teamwork. "Video conferencing or a quick Google chat with a colleague is vital to keep relationships strong," Dr. Guilkey says.

"Employees miss face-to-face banter and impromptu discussions in the physical office, so seeing faces on the screen daily is optimal for morale and a sense of normalcy."

"Employees and employers can take this unprecedented time as a time to improve individually and as a company," Dr. Guilkey says. "Working from home and working well together can go hand-in-hand when everyone is pulling even harder in the same direction."

### About Dr. Jim Guilkey

Jim Guilkey, PhD (<http://www.jimguilkey.com>) is the author of M-Pact Learning: The New Competitive Advantage — What All Executives Need To Know. He is the president of S4 NetQuest and a nationally recognized expert in instructional design and learning strategy, with extensive experience in leading the design, development, and implementation of innovative, highly effective learning solutions. Under his leadership, S4 NetQuest has transformed the learning programs for numerous corporations, including Johnson & Johnson, McDonald's, Merck, Nationwide, Chase Bank, BMW, Cardinal Health, Domino's, GE Medical, Kaiser Permanente, Yum! Brands, and others. Guilkey is a frequent speaker at national conferences and corporate training meetings. Before co-founding S4 NetQuest, Guilkey served as the assistant director of flight education at The Ohio State University. He received a BS in aviation and an MA and PhD in instructional design and technology from Ohio State.

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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

# Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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

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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

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

## ROUND-UP

### CORVID-19 CASES CHAMBERS COUNTY

As of April 21, 2020

Tested-520  
Confirmed-36  
Recovered-20  
Hospitalized-2  
Deaths-0

East Chambers-5  
Med Chambers-7  
West Chambers-24

### Sign-up for ChambersWARNS!

ChambersWARNS allows the county to send phone calls and email messages to the community. While we have a database of all landlines via the 911 system, we do not have persons cell phones unless you register with ChambersWARNS via internet at [www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/chamberswarns](http://www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/chamberswarns)

When a ChambersWARNS call comes in, it should be from one of the following numbers:  
409-794-4532  
409-794-4533  
409-794-4534  
888-898-4413

This may be helpful if you want to put the numbers in your contact list on your phone and label them "ChambersWARNS".

### Mont Belvieu Food pantry needs help

The Mont Belvieu Food Pantry is in need of a number of items to restock their pantry due to the increased demand caused by the COVID-19 impact on our economy. John Eversole, the BCVFD President and current Volunteer of the Year, has organized some volunteers to collect food in Beach City and nearby to help the Food Pantry on Friday April 24th beginning at 10:00AM. They will be collecting along the route that the BCVFD follows for Santa on the Bay each year. John asks that you just leave a box or bag at the end of your driveway by 10:00am and someone will come by and pick it up. Here is a list of items that are needed the most: Spam, canned spaghetti sauce, spaghetti pasta, pinto beans in bags, rice in box or bags, elbow macaroni, mixed vegetables, ramen noodles, tomato sauce, cream of mushroom soup, cream of chicken soup, pancake mix, syrup, 18 ounce oatmeal and grape jelly.

## Why Chambers County can't Test for COVID-19 Like Other Jurisdictions

Contributed by Chambers County Public Health

CHAMBERS COUNTY, TX- April 16, 2020 -- Chambers County Public Health Department along with the Chambers County Office of Emergency Management have repeatedly attempted to secure testing supplies and the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to support a drive through testing facility in Chambers County since mid-March, 2020. Our initial State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR) of 1,000 testing kits was denied,

and the Public Health Department was instead sent 5 test kits.

The residents of Chambers County continually ask and wonder why Chambers County does not provide free testing, when that message has continually been pushed out from the Federal level. Chambers County has repeatedly requested the resources to enable us to conduct those free COVID-19 tests, but like several other smaller counties, we have been denied the resources to enable us to offer free tests to our residents. Free testing has been ongoing in

neighboring jurisdictions, such as Harris County. This has not provided optimal service for Chambers County residents. The lack of communication with the Chambers County Public Health Department from these testing sites has left the county with long delays in receiving test results on our residents, if at all. Repeated formal resource requests to the State to obtain COVID testing kits and PPE have continually been denied in the quantities to support high volume testing sites, with only token quantities being received

from the state.

Chambers County Public Health Department and the Office of Emergency Management have also been unsuccessful in obtaining test kits through independent suppliers, as all test kits are on backorder. Again, this leaves Chambers County without the ability to offer free testing, or partner with a local entity to offer free testing for our local residents.

Our local healthcare providers and hospitals have done an amazing job at keeping up with the demand of screening and facilitating COVID-19

testing, but the ability to offer free testing is not available in Chambers County. This is especially troubling as some of our residents do not have the money or ability to travel out of county to obtain a test. Surrounding counties, such as Galveston and Harris, are testing 1,000 people a day, with limited or no criteria. To date, we have been able to facilitate 421 tests out of an estimated population of 44,000 residents. How can this

See Denial of Tests, Page 6

## Lee College to receive \$4 million in Coronavirus aid from Federal CARES Act

Baytown, TX - Lee College will receive a little more than \$4 million from the federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund as part of the \$14 billion in support for colleges and universities and their students under the recently passed Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Of the more than \$4 million, half of the money — or approximately \$2 million — will be earmarked for emergency funds for Lee College students.

From its share of the funding, Lee College will award cash grants to students to pay for expenses

related to the COVID-19 outbreak, including materials and technology, food, housing, and childcare. Lee College President, Dr. Lynda Villanueva, has appointed a task force to develop a plan for distributing the money to students. The group, which is working on a tight deadline, plans to begin disbursements as soon as possible. Details on how students can apply for the emergency aid are available on the Lee College website [www.lee.edu/lee-caresemergencyfund](http://www.lee.edu/lee-caresemergencyfund).

"The emotional, financial, and academic well-being of students remain my

top priority, and I am committed to doing all that I can to support students during this incredibly challenging time. The CARES Act funds will provide a crucial safety net for students whose lives and education were disrupted by COVID-19," Lee College President Lynda Villanueva said. "These funds will have an immediate impact on the students we serve," President Lynda Villanueva said. "Our goal is to get money into the hands of students as quickly as possible so that they can continue their studies and take care of their families with peace of mind."

These federal dollars will supplement Lee College's ongoing efforts to provide financial relief for students in need of assistance. Since the pandemic began, Lee College has provided aid to more than 200 students who suffered expenses related to COVID-19 disruptions, including Chromebook computers and food.

The Department of Education plans to announce guidance for the second half of the funds allocated to postsecondary institutions — in Lee College's case, approximately \$2 million — in the next two

weeks. This funding is intended for direct institutional use to cover costs associated with changes to educational delivery and campus operations as a result of coronavirus disruptions.

The CARES Act provides \$31 billion overall for education aid at all levels, including \$14 billion in funding to institutions of higher education and students. The Department of Education based college awards on two factors: the share of recipients of federal Pell Grants, and overall undergraduate enrollment numbers.

## HMB Doctors are Available for You

BAYTOWN — (April 17, 2020) — Whether you are concerned about coronavirus or need care for another issue, Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital physicians are here to meet the needs of the residents of Baytown and east Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties.

Our care providers offer three ways in which you can be examined: via video visit, telephone or in-person, when needed. We are committed to our patients and focused on delivering the high-quality care you expect. We take every precaution to keep you safe. If you are in need of care unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic, consider the following options:

- Virtual Urgent Care – See our providers 24/7 for non-emergency, urgent care needs via video visit through the MyMethodist app.

- Orthopedic Injury Clinics – Get same-day orthopedic care for fractures and broken bones, injured tendons, minor dislocations, sports injuries and more.

- Same Day Primary Care – We can connect you with a primary care doctor for same-day virtual appointments. Call 713.394.6724.

If you would like to see a Houston Methodist Baytown physician in person,

feel free to call your doctor's office to schedule an appointment, or do so virtually. The Find a Doctor ([houstonmethodist.org/find-a-doctor](http://houstonmethodist.org/find-a-doctor)) portal allows you to choose a doctor and call his/her office or call our trained representatives to help you at 713-790-3333. Note that online scheduling for virtual appointments is available for some providers.

While some services have been suspended temporarily, many are still available. To learn about services currently being offered, visit [houstonmethodist.org](http://houstonmethodist.org) and click the "How to Access Care, Information and Resources During COVID-19" link.

### COVID-19 Concerns?

If you are concerned you may have COVID-19, Houston Methodist provides a symptom checker that can help you figure out what's going on and what to do next. Visit [buoyhealth.com/system-checker](http://buoyhealth.com/system-checker) to get started. Note: this tool is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Our virtual urgent care providers are available 24/7 to help determine if testing is needed and advise you on where to go for follow up services or treatment.

### Information and Resources

Get the latest announcements, visitation policies and hospital entrance information by going to [houstonmethodist.org/coronavirus/update-for-patients](http://houstonmethodist.org/coronavirus/update-for-patients). The "On Health" blog ([houstonmethodist.org/blog](http://houstonmethodist.org/blog)) provides a wealth of information on managing the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. For answers to general questions you may have about COVID-19, visit [houstonmethodist.org/coronavirus](http://houstonmethodist.org/coronavirus).

### 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](http://Houstonmethodist.org/baytown).

## City of Baytown information on services during virus lockdown

### Are Baytown Police and Baytown Firefighters still providing services as normal?

The Police and Firefighters continue to respond to calls, but the lobby and office areas for these services are closed. Citizens are encouraged to use online reporting or call 911 for emergencies as usual. The non-emergency numbers for both Police and Fire are still being monitored should you have questions.

### Is City Hall closed?

City Hall is closed to the public, like our other City facilities. However, please keep in mind that many of our services remain available online, by phone, or other means.

### How do I get a birth or death certificates while the City Clerk's Office windows are closed?

The City Clerk's Office will continue to process orders by mail-in applications only and handle questions via phone calls at 281-420-6504, ext. 8139 or via email at [vitalstats@baytown.org](mailto:vitalstats@baytown.org). Please visit <https://www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-clerk/birth-death-certificate> for more information on how to submit new orders for birth and death certificates.

### What about paying my water bill?

The Utility Billing Office is closed, but the drop box is still functional. There are many other ways to pay your water bill outlined at [www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/utility-billing/payment-options-alternative](http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/utility-billing/payment-options-alternative) or call (281) 420-6515 if you still have questions or concerns.

### Is the Municipal Court open?

The Court will be closed to the public. No Failure to Appear or warrants for non-appearance will be issued during this timeframe. People are still able to use our online system accessible through our website and PayConnect for phone payments. Payments will continue to be processed as we are able. For more information, please go to: <https://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/municipal-court>.

### I saw City Workers out on the roads still working. Is this in compliance with the mandates you as a City are supporting?

Yes. Some workers are

See Baytown Services, Page 6

★ OPINION PAGE ★

**1918 FLU EPIDEMIC**  
By Prof. Rebecca Howard, LSC

*Lone Star College history professor relates COVID-19 with 1918 flu epidemic*

HOUSTON (April 13, 2020) – The outbreak of COVID-19 has many historians drawing comparisons to the 1918 flu epidemic. Much like the coronavirus, authorities in 1918 responded to the epidemic with a combination of church, school and theater closures, cancellations or prohibitions of public gatherings in attempts to quarantine the ill.

"In 1918, most people would have experienced some kind of disruption to their lives due to the influenza outbreak," said Rebecca A. Howard, Ph.D., LSC associate professor of History. "Some of the closings and cancellations were ordered locally, others came from the state level."

It is estimated that 500 million people, about one-third of the world's population at that time, had been infected and more than 50 million people worldwide died from the 1918 flu epidemic. It killed people within a few days and stood out because it often killed young and health people, not just the very young and the very old like most influenza outbreaks.

"We don't know the exact numbers, even in the United States," said Howard. "The systems for death certificates, if they even existed, became overwhelmed in both urban and rural areas. So we have a mix of official records backed up by oral histories."

The 1918 flu epidemic is not the only 20th-century event which forced self-quarantine measures. During World War II, polio epidemics became especially common. An ancient disease, poliovirus caused paralysis, especially in children. Those who survived often lost the use of their limbs for life.

"Since poliovirus tended to spread in the summer, sleep away camps, public swimming pools, movie theaters, local festivals and even public libraries would close if there were cases reported in the area," said Howard. "Diphtheria epidemics also repeatedly closed churches and schools and limited public gatherings throughout the early 20th century. Entire towns were put under quarantine."

Diphtheria, a bacterial infection, blocks the throat with thick mucus often causing death. Children under the age of 6 would most likely be impacted. Adults could be carriers for the disease and unknowingly give it to children.

During that time, newspapers and public notices in places like post offices were the means of informing the public about social distancing rules.

"We would consider it a violation of privacy today, but it was extremely common to list the names of families that were under quarantine in their homes in newspapers due to the disease," said Howard. "How else would people know not to come over?"

One of the most important things we learned from the past was that controlling diseases required a response at many levels of American society.

"The 1918 flu was spread by soldiers returning from World War I and much of the early information about the epidemic was deliberately hidden from the public out of fear it would hurt morale during a war," said Howard. "By the 1940s and early 1950s, with a robust federal system honed by World War II, you saw a much stronger federal response to polio, especially in tracking the spread of it."

**OPINION**  
By SEN. BRANDON CREIGHTON

*Senator Brandon Creighton Statement on Texas School Closings*

"The health and well-being is the first priority for all Texas students, which is why Governor Abbott and TEA Commissioner Morath made the hard decision to close Texas schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Whether you have a kindergartener, a high school senior, or are finishing up graduate work for your masters, this decision will be a defining part of your education. As a par-

ent and a legislator, I know this is difficult.

"Throughout these difficult times, Texas educators have risen to the occasion and found innovative, creative ways to continue connecting with their students. I know this will continue, and I hope to be a resource for all 19 school districts throughout Senate District 4 to ensure the best outcome for students, educators and Texas families."

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*Governor's orders move state toward reopening*

AUSTIN — In line with signals from the White House to restart the nation's economy, Gov. Greg Abbott on April 17 issued executive orders to move the Lone Star State toward normalizing citizens' activities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Transactions that pose little threat of spreading the deadly virus may reopen using a retail-to-go model beginning April 24, Abbott ordered. On the other hand, schools must remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year.

Teachers will have limited access to campuses for video instruction, to perform administrative duties and to clean out their classrooms, the governor added. In response, the Texas Education Agency issued a statement saying, "While a difficult decision to make, it is the right one for our families and communities, and the only one that makes sense for Texas at this time."

Abbott said he would announce a revised plan for the state on April 27 based on recommendations by his newly appointed Strike Force to Open Texas. The team from the public, private and medical sectors will advise him on safely and strategically reopening the state.

Abbott also issued an order that loosens his March restrictions on non-emergency surgeries. That order was aimed at conserving hospital capacity and personal protective equipment for the COVID-19 response.

Additionally, Abbott reopened state parks effective April 20. His new order requires park visitors to wear face coverings and maintain a six-foot distance from individuals outside of their party. Groups are to be no larger than five people.

After Abbott's news conference, Texas House Democratic Caucus Chairman Chris Turner, D-Grand Prairie, said, "We want the Texas economy to fully reopen as soon as possible, and public health experts agree that can only happen with robust testing in place. When it comes to decisions on how to defeat COVID-19, we have to continue to follow doctors' orders."

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling

"Texas continues to be in the bottom three states when it comes to COVID-19 testing per capita, and Gov. Abbott has failed to provide a clear plan for how Texas will increase testing. ... We need to dramatically increase testing, right now," Turner added.

According to figures posted by the Texas Department of State Health Services at noon on April 19, some 18,923 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 477 deaths resulting from the disease had been confirmed.

**Sales tax holiday set**

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is urging Texans to shop online or practice strict social distancing measures for in-store purchases during the April 25-27 sales tax holiday for emergency preparation supplies.

Hegar noted that the holiday is intended to help Texans prepare for events like hurricanes and spring storms. "Unfortunately, strong spring storms, wildfires and the upcoming hurricane season will still threaten Texans in the months ahead, and so it's important that homes and businesses have the supplies they need to face these emergencies," he said.

Hegar recommended that shoppers visiting retailers practice social distancing as described by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The list of tax-free items is established by law. It does not include items such as masks or personal protection equipment, Hegar stressed. More information can be found at [comptroller.texas.gov](http://comptroller.texas.gov).

**Hemp grower licensed**

Earlier this month, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller announced the first Texas industrial hemp license had been issued to a farmer in Killeen.

The license grants the farmer the opportunity to grow hemp in Texas for one year. As a part of the application process, the applicant specified a facility where the hemp will be grown, Miller said.

This first license represents the long-awaited launch of the hemp industry in Texas following the passage of the Farm Bill by Congress in 2018, he added.

**Rebuild hits milestone**

Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush on April 15 announced the Texas General Land Office has rebuilt more than 1,000 homes destroyed by Hurricane Harvey in 2017. The construction was funded through the Homeowner Assistance Program.

Bush's sights are set on rebuilding 7,000 homes using \$1.334 billion in available Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery, plus an additional \$500 million in Community Development Block Grants for Mitigation that come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

More than 2,500 applicants have been approved for assistance by the General Land Office. An estimated 800 homes are currently under construction, in addition to those completed.

"The GLO's disaster recovery team continues working hard every day to help Texas families rebuild their homes and their lives following one of this nation's largest and most destructive storms," Bush said.

**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By Carrie Classon

*"A Little Stir-Crazy"*

It's safe to say everyone is getting a bit tired of it. My parents, both in their eighties, were going a little stir-crazy in Florida. They missed their house in the woods and so they filled the RV with food and water and drove 2000 miles north. I was worried about them, naturally, but they only left their RV to fill up with gas and they are now in their home up north and a lot happier. My mom explained how they were able to make it in record time.

"Usually, your father would want to stop at every Waffle House along the way. But they were all closed!" I could tell this was not entirely bad news, as far as my mother was concerned.

I read advice columns every day and this enforced closeness is putting a lot of strain on relationships. Couples are discovering annoying habits in their loved one, habits that might have gone undetected for months or even years but now have come to light and—given enough stress or boredom—suddenly become sufficiently aggravating to write to an advice columnist.

Readers write in because their partners are messy cooks or they breathe too loudly or they interrupt them when they are trying to work. It seems there are a lot of folks wondering what the heck they ever saw in their beloved in the first place. There's a lot of tension out there.

The advice columnists counsel patience. "Don't do anything rash in these times." "Assume that you might be a little over sensitive and try to be more tolerant." I suspect this is good advice even in the best of times.

My husband, Peter, is a good person to be in isolation with. He has good habits and leaves me alone to write and, unlike me, he doesn't get wound up over nothing. About the only thing that ever bothers me is that, very occasionally, Peter snores. He tells me to wake him up when he does this and I try. But that's when the trouble starts.

Peter starts to snore and I nudge him. "Honey, you're snoring," I tell him.

Peter stops snoring. There is a long pause. Peter is thinking this over, I can tell.

"I don't think so," he finally decides. Then he falls back to sleep.

A few minutes later, I nudge him again.

"Honey, you're snoring again."

"Well... wake me up!" Peter says, sounding a little exasperated.

"I just did."

"Huh." Peter sounds doubtful, then falls back to sleep again.

We can have this conversation several times in a single night. I know I have it easy. An old college buddy of Peter's is married to a woman who grew up quite poor. Having enough of the essentials on hand has always been more important to her than to most people and so, understandably, having enough toilet paper is a pretty big deal.

She had a fairly good supply, enough to get through a few weeks, when her husband (who was going a little stir-crazy) took all her toilet paper and hid it in the garage.

"Where is all the toilet paper?!" she asked in alarm.

"I traded it for a case of wine," he told her.

I don't know how long he persisted in this charade—and I don't know if his wife will be writing into the newspaper or not—but I'm pretty sure this is exactly the kind of behavior the advice columnists would advise against.

For my part, I'm feeling mighty grateful. Last night, Peter was snoring. I let him snore.

Till next time, Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](http://CarrieClasson.com).

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★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

# Couple Finds Joy in Service

Serving others is a way of life for Brenda and Ricky Clem, so it's no surprise that they sprang into action making masks during the stay home order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Ricky Clem retired as band director at Ross S. Sterling High School in 2016 after 32 years of teaching and began serving on the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees the next year. Brenda Clem retired in 2010 after 35 years as a teacher and three as a reading specialist, but she worked at the Sterling Band Hall and has been tutoring reluctant readers at Travis Elementary for nine years. Since they married nearly 24 years ago, they have had many opportunities to help others, both in and out of schools.

"There's a huge blessing in the giving," Ricky Clem said. "People always say they appreciate us, but we are rewarded by doing things for others."

To date, the couple has created and distributed 542 protective masks in various sizes and patterns, some of which have been mailed to friends and former students. This includes 144 of the 500 masks ordered by Chambers County Fire Marshal Ryan Holzaepfel. The rest of the masks will be completed when the new order of elastic comes in this week.

The project required leaving the house, which they aren't doing much these days, to buy 25 yards of fabric and 25 yards of lining. It didn't take long for them to perfect a system.

"He cuts the fabric and lining and passes them to me. I put them together and sew the side seams, insert the elastic and pass them back to Ricky," Brenda Clem said. "He irons them, making the pleats, and I topstitch them."

Ricky Clem finds that cutting the masks is easier using an Olfa Mat and a rotary cutter, which looks like a mini pizza cutter, since he can cut through several layers of fabric. Surprisingly, he learned to sew and quilt, taking classes at The Pin Cushion, where she worked when they first met, but she prefers to do the sewing. It takes about 10 minutes to complete a mask, but they usually



Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman

Brenda Clem waits for husband Ricky to iron down the pleats on a mask so that she can topstitch it. The Clems have made hundreds of masks, asking only for a donation of \$5 or more for Relay for Life.

don't work on one at a time.

"This has done a great job of keeping us both entertained, and we enjoy doing it together," Brenda Clem said.

The Clems don't charge for the masks and they provide the materials, but they ask for a \$5 or more donation for each one, which goes to Relay for Life. They market jewelry, needlepoint items, baby blankets and other articles at craft shows through Clems' Creations to increase their Relay for Life donation.

Their interest in cancer research began in 2005, when they both realized that no member of their family had ever been touched by cancer. They decided to pay it forward by raising money for Relay for Life. Since then, Ricky Clem's grandmother and uncle have passed away due to cancer, and his aunt, who also was diagnosed with the disease, is recovering, so working to help find a cure is even more important to them. They have donated \$15,000 to Relay for Life since they started this mission.

In addition, the Clems cook several times a week, taking meals to an elderly neighbor. They also take lunch nearly every week to the staff at the office of a local veterinarian, who has

been experiencing health problems. Another favorite service project is volunteering at The Nutcracker Market for the Houston Ballet, wearing the elaborately decorated Band Shaksos (hats) they created.

Life for the two has not always been perfect, but they look for the positive in every situation. Thirteen years ago, due to an infection in her bloodstream, Brenda Clem was hospitalized for 111 days, and her husband spent 110 nights at the hospital with her. They celebrated milestones with the hospital staff - 50 days, 100 days - just to make it fun. While she now uses a walker and scooter, she is determined not to let those things define her. The two travel together, cruising and flying, and rarely miss a chance

to be out and about doing something!

Shortly after she left the hospital, they came across a statement, which has become a mantra for them.

"We plan, God laughs, and success is learning to accept Plan B," has become the way they live their lives, and she wears a necklace bearing those words, giving her the opportunity to share their faith when anyone asks about it.

"Ricky and I have a strong faith, and it was strengthened 13 years ago when I was so ill and didn't know if I would live," Brenda Clem said. "We realized that every day is a blessing from God, and our job is to use that blessing and to show our faith in Him through our works."

Anyone wishing to order masks may email [brndajclem@aol.com](mailto:brndajclem@aol.com).



with Slim Randles

Like a doctor removing something important, Herb Collins gently peeled the wrapper back from the root ball and tenderly placed the baby tree in the hole. Then he stood and walked around it to see which way he should align it. Actually, looks pretty good just the way it is.

So he took his bucket of mixed sand and compost and began sprinkling it down onto the roots and then packing it in gently with his fist.

Every few minutes he'd stop and read the directions again. When he ordered the tree, the nurseryman had written back "Are you sure?" Well, that made ol' Herb laugh. Yes, he was sure. He's always sure this time of year.

He was still chuckling to himself when Janice Thomas walked along the sidewalk.

"Hi Herb," said the high school art teacher. "What is it this year?"

"Papaya, Janice. Nice healthy one, don't you think?"

Janice took a close look at the little dark green tree.

Papaya. "Isn't that a tropical tree?"

"Sure is," he said, tucking more dirt around the roots. "I have to read the instructions carefully to get this right."

Janice thought

carefully before speaking. "Papayas sure taste good, Herb."

"Sure do. Wouldn't it be nice if this lives long enough to produce fruit?"

"But you're not expecting ..."

"Of course not. The first nippy day in autumn will turn this little guy belly up."

He looked up and smiled at Janice's consternation.

"You know that banana tree almost made it to Christmas last year. That was my best so far. We'll see how this little guy makes out."

Each year Herb plants something in the front yard that has no chance at all of being there the following spring. He's done it for years. It gives the neighborhood something to look at and talk about, and it's fun.

"You know, Herb, if you're looking for fruit, a cherry tree will produce ..."

"I'm not looking for fruit, Janice," he said, gently. "I'm looking for glory. Glory!"

He laughed. "Where's the glory in planting something that will grow here? Anyone can do that. But a papaya? Ha! There's glory in that."

Brought to you by "Home Country with Slim Randles." Check your local classic country music station for broadcast times.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Joshua in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What's the collective name of the first five books of the Bible? Pentimento, Pentateuch, Pensione, Pequod
3. From Genesis 3:24, who/what guards the Garden of Eden? Roaring lions, Armed angels, Golden rams, God Himself
4. What animal did God provide Abraham to sacrifice in place of Isaac? Dove, Calif, Ram, Camel
5. From Joshua 14, to whom did Joshua give a blessing? Jacob, Caleb, Esau, Himself
6. In the Bible, how many men are named "Dodo"? 1, 2, 3, 4

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Pentateuch; 3) Armed angels; 4) Ram; 5) Caleb; 6) 3

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

MATTHEW 6:28,29

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

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LOVE NEVER FAILS  
I Corinthians 13:8

## Northside Baptist, Highlands open

Northside Baptist Church of Highlands is meeting for Worship each Sunday at 11am. They are also practicing social distancing and even the doors are left open. Those present are asked not to shake hands or hug, but they are friendly! They have been told to trust the Lord, and wash their hands.

Pastor David R. Brumbelow and Singer Gene Littlejohn invite everyone to attend. Northside is located at 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, TX 77562; [nsbhighlands.org](http://nsbhighlands.org).

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The Journey of a thousand miles begins with one step  
-LaoTzu

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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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★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

## Denial of Tests,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

be?

To add to the frustration, Chambers County Public Health was asked last week if we would utilize a highly desirable Abbott point-of-care medical lab testing machine to facilitate rapid testing for COVID-19. These machines were being allocated throughout the region to jurisdictions where they could be of value. Although we gladly accepted this offer, we were notified this week that we were denied that machine by the State, and it was instead allocated to another jurisdiction with no explanation or jus-

tification as to why.

Chambers County Public Health plans to open a free drive-through testing site with the few testing kits we have received. This testing site will be held for Chambers County residents only, who meet screening criteria. Information on when and where this testing will occur will be released to the public in the next few days. We will continue to try and secure additional tests to meet the needs of our county, which will give accurate data counts representative of active disease in our county. Until we receive

additional testing kits, we will not be able to meet our local needs.

We thank you for your continued support in fighting this pandemic together. We believe in preserving, promoting, and protecting the health of our county residents by providing quality and preventive public health services. Please call us with questions, 409-267-2731, or visit us [www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/coronavirus](http://www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/coronavirus)

*This is a message from The Office of Chambers County*

## Baytown Services,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

stilled via teleconferencing or videoconferencing only; the public will not be allowed to be physically present at the meeting. However, the public will be able to give public comment on an item on the agenda by submitting his/her request via email to the City Clerk at [cityclerk@baytown.org](mailto:cityclerk@baytown.org). The request must include the speaker's name and address and the agenda item number. The request must be received prior to the posted time of the meeting. Citizens may also submit written comments to the governing body in written format via email to [cityclerk@baytown.org](mailto:cityclerk@baytown.org). All agenda and meeting information is accessible via the city's website at: [www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-clerk/agendas-minutes](http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-clerk/agendas-minutes). For any questions related to public meetings, please contact the City Clerk at 281-420-6504.

### Can I still adopt a pet from the animal shelter?

Citizens need to call 281-422-7600 or email at [animalcontrol@baytown.org](mailto:animalcontrol@baytown.org) for information regarding any pets available for adoption.

### Will trash collection continue?

Yes. Waste Management continues to collect trash and recycling on a regular schedule.

### Can I still get books from Sterling Municipal Library?

No. But digital books can be downloaded from our website or from the Axis 360 and Overdrive Apps.

The Library has also set up a Community Engagement Story Line where people can leave messages about how they are coping with the current situation. These stories will be archived to create a community history. <https://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/library>

### Is the Green Center still open for recycling services?

Yes, the Green Center is back to operating on normal schedule since March 31st.

### Will you still be holding public meetings such as City Council?

Yes, but differently. Public Meetings will be han-

dled via teleconferencing or videoconferencing only; the public will not be allowed to be physically present at the meeting. However, the public will be able to give public comment on an item on the agenda by submitting his/her request via email to the City Clerk at [cityclerk@baytown.org](mailto:cityclerk@baytown.org). The request must include the speaker's name and address and the agenda item number. The request must be received prior to the posted time of the meeting. Citizens may also submit written comments to the governing body in written format via email to [cityclerk@baytown.org](mailto:cityclerk@baytown.org). All agenda and meeting information is accessible via the city's website at: [www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-clerk/agendas-minutes](http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-clerk/agendas-minutes). For any questions related to public meetings, please contact the City Clerk at 281-420-6504.

### Can I apply for a new building permit?

The permit counter in City Hall is closed. No new permits will be issued during this time. However, those permits that were submitted prior to March 24th will be processed. For status of permit applications, visit the permit center tab on our website [www.baytown.org](http://www.baytown.org). For general questions, please contact the Building Division at [building@baytown.org](mailto:building@baytown.org).

### What about the Tourist Information Center at the Brunson?

The Brunson Theater Building is closed, but you may contact staff at (281) 691-6710 or via email at [tourism@baytown.org](mailto:tourism@baytown.org) or on the web at [www.visitbaytown.org](http://www.visitbaytown.org).

### Are parks still open?

All outdoor parks remain open: Open areas may be utilized while maintaining social distancing, 6 ft. apart. All surfaces including playground equipment, basketball courts, park benches and tables are NOT permitted for use. Baytown Parks & Recreation Department has closed all splash pads as well as all enclosed facilities like the Wetlands Center.

### Can I request a building inspection?

Inspections for existing permitted projects may be requested through [www.baytown.org/inspection](http://www.baytown.org/inspection). Inspections will be

performed Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. All inspection requests must be received before 7:00 a.m. for same day inspections.

We will continue to accommodate utility recon-nects for occupied homes. Please email [building@baytown.org](mailto:building@baytown.org) with the following information for utility recon-nect requests:

- Name
- Address
- Unit number
- Phone number
- Type of utility that needs to be connected (electricity or gas)

### Can I apply for a new building permit?

The permit counter in City Hall is closed. No new permits will be issued during this time. However, those permits that were submitted prior to March 24th will be processed. For status of permit applications, visit the permit center tab on our website [www.baytown.org](http://www.baytown.org). For general questions, please contact the Building Division at [building@baytown.org](mailto:building@baytown.org).

### What about zoning and land development?

The Planning Division will accept new plats on April 21st by electronic submission only. All applications received prior to March 24th for annexation, zoning, variances, and plats will continue through the hearing and/or approval process. No new applications for annexation, zoning, variances, or the Development Review Committee (pre-applications) will be accepted during this time. For questions, please contact the Planning Division at [planning@baytown.org](mailto:planning@baytown.org).

### Will you still be spraying for mosquitos?

Mosquito control will be on-call as needed. The will begin larvaciding next week, and will be prepared to spray when needed.

## Where you can get tested for coronavirus in the Houston area

Here's a list of free, COVID-19 testing sites in Houston and Harris, Fort Bend and Galveston counties.

There are several free, drive-through coronavirus test sites in the Greater Houston Area and some will test with or without symptoms.

### Houston testing sites HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Houston Health Department's two COVID-19 drive-thru sites will broaden testing to anyone wanting to get a test and double their daily testing capacity to 1,000 on Tuesday.

Each community site will ramp up its testing capacity from 250 to 500 people per day. The tests are free to the public.

People can call the department's COVID-19 call center at 832-393-4220 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. to receive a unique identification code and instructions on where to go for testing and how to obtain their test results.

The community sites only accept people with the identification code obtained through the department's COVID-19 call center. People showing up at the test sites without an identification code will not get tested.

The testing sites will continue operating until further notice.

Workers at the sites only collect insurance information and don't accept payment. The information obtained through testing or services will not be used against immigrants in their public charge evaluation.

### WALGREENS

Walgreens will operate two COVID-19 testing facilities in Harris County.

One will be in Houston at the former Walgreens store site at 14531 Westheimer Road and the other in Pasadena at 101 West Southmore Avenue. (Note: The Westheimer location does not show up on most online map services because it is a closed location. Walgreens is re-opening that site to conduct testing.)

Testing at these locations will begin Friday, April 17.

These sites will provide drive-up COVID-19 testing through a self-administered nasal swab, at no cost to the patient. The guidelines for being tested at each of these sites align with HHS guidelines where testing is being prioritized for individuals that have symptoms and are/have:

- Healthcare worker with symptoms
- First responder with symptoms 65 or older with symptoms
- Those with pre-existing health condition with symptoms

### UNITED MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee has teamed up with United Memorial Medical Center to open these free testing sites in the Houston area.

UMMC; 510 W. Tidwell Road, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Forest Brook Middle School; 7525 Tidwell Road, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jacinto City Town Center Community Building: Mobile testing for seniors and first responders is now underway at 1025 Oates Rd in Jacinto City. Due to the size restrictions of this testing apparatus, they are asking seniors and first responders to pre-register for testing at this location through the City of Jacinto City.

Cullen Middle School, 6900 Scott St.

People are asked to bring one thing.

"You can have a drivers license a water bill, just something that we can be able to record in the registration. And if there is some kind of birth certificate for the child or anything or school ID," said congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

Health care professional in protective gear will screen you from your car. If you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, you'll go to a second tent for a nasal swab.

Anyone with a positive test will get a call from the Harris County Health Department.

### LEGACY COMMUNITY HEALTH

Legacy Baker-Ripley, 6500 Rookin Street, Bldg B, Ste 200 Legacy Bissonnet, 12667 Bissonnet

Legacy Branard, 401 Branard St., Level 3

Legacy Deer Park Center St., 3430 Center St., Deer Park

Legacy Fifth Ward, 3811 Lyons Ave.

Legacy Lyons, 3811 Lyons Ave.

Legacy Mapleridge, 6550 Mapleridge Street, Ste. 106

Legacy Montrose, 1415 California St.

Legacy Northline, 5598-A1 North Freeway, Northtown Plaza

Legacy Santa Clara, 5616 Lawndale St., Ste A108

Legacy San Jacinto, 4301 Garth Suite 400, Baytown

Legacy Sharpstown, 6677 Rookin

Legacy Southwest, 6441 High Star Dr.

Legacy Central Beaumont, 450 North 11th St.

Legacy asks that you please call (832) 548-5226 first with any questions before arriving.

### HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

On Monday, April 13, County Judge Lina Hidalgo announced two new Harris County Public Health mobile units will provide drive-through testing for COVID-19, adding up to 200 tests per day to the county's current testing capacity.

Each pop-up site, which will rotate locations across the precincts and will be able to up to 100 drive-through tests per day.

The first mobile sites are coming to the Tomball and Humble area, the Harris County Pct. 4 Commissioner's Office confirmed.

The Tomball site will do tests through April 14 - 16 and April 27 - 29.

The Humble site will be doing tests through April 20 - 22 and May 7 - 9.

Commissioner R. Jack Cagle said each site is able to complete as many as 100 tests per day, but these numbers expected to increase daily.

Residents must do pre-screening at [checkforcorona.com/harriscounty](http://checkforcorona.com/harriscounty) or call 713-439-6000.

Those deemed to be at-risk for coronavirus will be given a code and phone number to call. After a telephone consultation, those still deemed to be at risk will be given another unique code and information on where and when they are to be tested.

If you have a fever, cough or other potential symptoms, the Harris County Health Department offers an online screening to determine if you should be tested.

Here's how it works: If deemed "at-risk" you will receive a unique code and a phone number to call.

Call the given number and complete phone consultation. If confirmed "at-risk" you will be given another unique code and information of where to get your first test.

Proceed to the testing facility at your scheduled time. Be sure to bring with you a photo ID and other information as requested by your nurse screener.

The online screening tool is available in several languages.

### FIRST RESPONDERS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS

The City of Houston has set up a free testing site for first responders and healthcare workers only. Details about the site, including its location and the pre-screening process, are being shared with these individuals through their organizations.

## Governor to open State,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

force, Abbott said he was issuing an executive order loosening the restrictions he previously put in place on non-essential surgeries.

Abbott also announced he was letting retail outlets re-open Friday, April 24 to offer "retail-to-go" — meaning the outlets can make deliveries to customers' cars outside their location or to cus-

tomers' homes.

Abbott then said he's allowing state parks to re-open Monday, April 20, but with a few requirements for visitors. Visitors have to wear face coverings, they have to keep a 6-foot distance from people outside their group, and there can't be gatherings larger than five people.

Finally, Abbott an-

nounced that all Texas schools will remain closed through the end of the school year. The closure applies to all public and private schools and institutions of higher learning.

Abbott promised to have another announcement April 27 about additional steps to re-open Texas.

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14-4

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15-4

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17-2

**LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code that CROSBY BOAT, RV & MINI STORAGE, located at 15118A FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532, will hold a public sale at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 2th day of May, 2020, at the above address to sell for cash only the contents of Stall F-16, Frances Williams and J-30, Donna Brown, in order to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. The property to be sold is house hold items and etc.....

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Proposals for Construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 Phase 2 to serve the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 in Harris County, Texas will be received online at [www.CivCastUSA.com](http://www.CivCastUSA.com) until 2:00 P.M. local time, May 14, 2020. A NON-MANDATORY BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held by teleconference on May 7, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. To participate in the pre-bid meeting call 1-346-248-7799, meeting code 945 3057 7733. Each bid must be submitted and accompanied by a Bid Bond, duly executed, in the amount of not less than five (5%) percent of the bid.

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 is proposing to expand an existing Wastewater Treatment Plant currently serving portions of the District. The project includes furnishing and installing a new digester and aeration basin, and necessary appurtenances and piping, to deliver a complete and in place wastewater treatment plant.

This project is eligible for CWSRF funding, therefore, the following requirements apply:

- This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).
- Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by financial assistance from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this IFB, RFQ, or any resulting contract.
- The awarded contractor will be required to supply Payment and Performance Bonds upon award of the project.
- This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of P.L. 113-76 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. All iron and steel products for construction, alteration, maintenance, or repairs incorporated in these plans must be produced in the United States.
- "Equal Opportunity in Employment - All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60."
- This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to Minority Business Enterprise and Women-Owned Business Enterprise firms. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps. The current fair share goals for the State of Texas are as follows:

CATEGORY	MBE	WBE
CONSTRUCTION	12.94%	8.72%
SUPPLIES	9.68%	9.34%
EQUIPMENT	7.12%	5.39%
SERVICES	10.84%	5.72%

- Equal Opportunity in Employment - All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.
- Right to reject any and all bids.
- All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.
- Any contracts in excess of \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair (including painting and decorating and funded under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs shall include the Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from [www.CivCastUSA.com](http://www.CivCastUSA.com): Search Harris County MUD No. 50 Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 Phase 2. **Questions deadline is May 11th at 10:00 AM.** Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, and plans for this project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.



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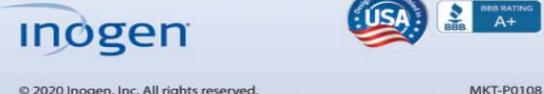
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## Recovery Czar,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the University of Houston School of Law and has served in the Texas Legislature since 2009. Rep. Walle serves on the Business and Industry Committee, serves as Vice Chair of the Land & Resource Management Committee, and serves on the Federalism & Fiscal Responsibility Committee.

"While we are in the midst of a public health crisis, it is critical for our decision-making to be driven by data and the judgment of our public health experts on how those decisions impact the people of the greater Houston region," Rep. Walle said Monday. "We need to work together on an inclusive recovery that responsibly ensures the health and economic well being of the people of Harris County. We need to save lives, and also save livelihoods."

Rep. Walle will work with a wide variety of regional stakeholders in this effort, including private sector, philanthropy, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, and local governments.

The goals of the effort will be to build a relief and recovery effort that is:

**Inclusive:** Ensure a widespread recovery including every sector of society and geographic area including small businesses, workers (including undocumented workers), food



Last Monday, during a press conference, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, left, appointed State Representative Armando Walle, right, to lead COVID-19 county relief and recovery effort.

distribution, and access to education.

**Fast:** Acknowledging a full recovery will take years, take action to alleviate red tape or other obstacles in the way of progress.

**Coordinated:** Facilitate a coordinated effort to leverage state and federal recovery resources, maximize local and regional resources, and work with city and regional governments to achieve results.

House District 140, which Rep. Walle represents, includes portions of north Houston and unincorporated portions of north Harris County, including parts of the Northside and Aldine communities. After those areas were hit hard by Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Walle champi-

oned a bill requiring the Health and Human Services Commission to coordinate with county judges to more rapidly deploy Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during a disaster. During the 86th Texas Legislative Session, Walle also authored and passed a bill that established a grant program to help food banks respond to increased demand after a disaster.

Rep. Walle is currently a member of the House Committee on Appropriations, serving as Vice-Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Article III (public and higher education) and as a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on State Infrastructure, Resiliency, and Investment.

## Crosby Rodeo,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fair & Rodeo Board of Directors.

Currently, the Cook-Off is scheduled for June 5 and 6 with a pack up day of Sunday, June 7. Then Wednesday, June 10, the

Livestock auction is to be held. Generally, this is a massive gathering of most of Crosby with bidders and family all present. Directors plan for moving the livestock auction to the

Rock N C Arena, a more spacious and temperature controllable setting. Some light in the tunnel for the future.

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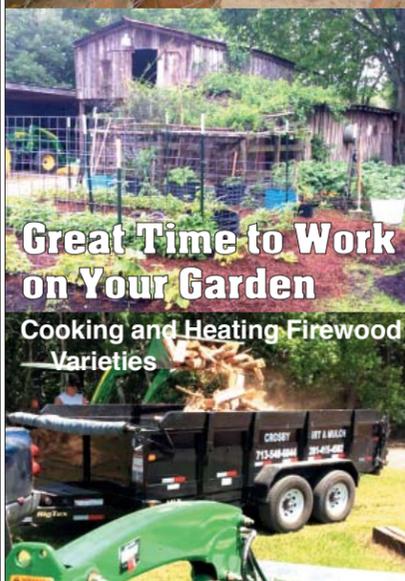


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