

Community UP date

for over 20 years

Thursday, MARCH 19 2020

We continue to be successful because of the contributions of our readers!
Thank you for sharing our email and your ideas.
We appreciate your support!

Thursday, March 19 is Absolutely Incredible Kid Day | Poultry Day | Spring Equinox |
National Let's Laugh Day -- **we certainly need this!!!!**

Friday, March 20 is International Earth Day | Extraterrestrial Abductions Day | Proposal Day |
International Day of Happiness | National Ravioli Day |

Saturday, March 21 is Credit Card Reduction Day | Fragrance Day | Harmony Day |
International Sports Car Racing Day | National Quilting Day | World Down Syndrome Day |
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination | Common Courtesy Day |
National Single Parent Day | National French Bread Day

Sunday, March 22 is National Goof Off Day | National Bavarian Crepes Day

Monday, March 23 is Melba Toast Day | National Chip and Dip Day | National Puppy Day |

Tuesday, March 24 is National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day | World Tuberculosis Day |
National American Diabetes Association Alert Day

Wednesday, March 25 is Pecan Day | Waffle Day | Feast of the Annunciation |
World Agriculture Day | National Tolkien Reading Day | Manatee Appreciation Day |
Epilepsy Awareness Day |

Thursday, March 26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day | National Spinach Day

**March is
Umbrella Month | Noodle Month | Spring Month | Poetry Month,**

Birth Flower: Violet | Daffodil
February 19 to March 20 - Pisces
Birthstone: Amethyst | Bloodstone



NEWS CORNER

News Flash!!!!

We are living in unprecedented times. Whether you are buying into the hype or not, we must admit that the repercussions to people around the world has been disasterous. Including economically. And we're not done yet.

Facts are changing daily/hourly. And often even conflict.

I hope that everyone is taking this virus seriously and taking precautions, not only for your own sake, but **ESPECIALLY** for our elderly and medically compromised family, friends and neighbors. That is who we need to be concerned about.

As you know, gatherings of 10 people or more have been "outlawed" in an effort to slow the spread and gear up our emergency preparedness, This means we don't have many activities to fill the UPdate at this time.

I had hoped to, at a minimum, bring you some news UNRELATED to the epidemic, however my media feeds (both electronic and print) are pretty much ALL related to the virus. (Otherwise, it's all political or the economy.)

You don't need me to remind you about how challenging these times are.

This is not the time to lay blame on anyone. There will be plenty of time for that later.

I believe that it is more important than ever that we work together, help and comfort each other.

Make an effort to care for our susceptible populations.

Reach out to those vulnerable populations and ask how you can help them get through the next few weeks.

***** Please practice social distancing.*****

You may have been exposed to the virus and not know it.

Unless you fall into one of the designated exceptions, you probably won't even suspect you've been exposed.

#HangInThere

#ThisTooShallPass

Corona Virus Information Sources

- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick (at least 6 feet)
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

For official information, you may use any of these links:

[Fort Bend County - Health](#)

[Fort Bend County News](#)

[Fort Bend Health and Human Services News](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[World Health Organization](#)

LOCAL

[How to get a refund on your Houston Live-stock Show and Rodeo tickets](#)

[How to order groceries online in Houston](#)

[To-go orders increase after Harris County restaurants close doors](#)

STATE

NATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL

SPORTS, TRAVEL & ENTERTAINMENT

[Where the Boos Are: The Five Toughest Places to Visit for the Astros in 2020](#)

[Tom Brady leaving Patriots, says his football journey 'will take place elsewhere'](#)

HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

[Coronavirus Tips: Life During a Pandemic](#)

[Germy Things You Touch Every Day](#)

FOOD & DRINK



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Check out our Special Events Calendar by clicking on our logo.

2865 Dulles Avenue, Missouri City, Texas 77459



Are your elderly parents/grandparents in need of assistance?
The Angels at Visiting Angels are happy to help you.
What a great gift to yourself!
281-207-1259

**25-MINUTE
INDIAN HEAD
MASSAGE
\$20.00**

Call or Text Emma
281-658-6681
Reiki Room, Missouri City



When possible, our graphics are "hot links" - click on them to learn more!

SUGAR LAND

March 17th Press Release:

By order of Mayor Joe R. Zimmerman, all Sugar Land restaurants and other establishments that serve food will be limited to take-out, delivery and drive-through services.

All Sugar Land bars and other business establishments that serve alcohol and do not serve food will close for operation -- including nightclubs, lounges, taverns or arcades and private clubs. These measures are effective at 11:59 p.m. tonight and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on March 31

[Read more here and see a video from the Mayor of Sugar Land.](#)



The International Art and Kite Festival that was scheduled for March 27 has been cancelled.

At this time, the health department says the threat in Sugar Land and Fort Bend County remains low, so the city remains open for normal business; however, non-essential meetings and activities are being curtailed.

Alternating lane closures at northbound US 59 are scheduled to take place starting Friday, March 20 at 9 p.m. through Sunday, March 22 at 5 a.m. for urgent roadway repairs. Traffic lanes will reopen should work be completed ahead of schedule.

Right Lane near University Blvd || Full closure of US 59 exit to First Colony Blvd/Sweetwater Blvd. || Multiple lane of US 59 frontage road between University and Sweetwater

MISSOURI CITY

City Officials Close Municipal Court For Two Weeks In Alignment With Public Gathering Guidelines The lobby area remains open.

Residents may sign up to receive alerts and receive real-time information through the [MCTX Emergency Management website](#), and the MCTX Twitter account, [Twitter.com/MissouriCityEM](#).

Local agencies have also established phone banks to assist citizens with concerns/inquiries regarding COVID-19.

For Fort Bend County Residents:
Fort Bend County Health & Human Services
281-633-7795
(This number is staffed Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
www.fbchealth.org/ncov

For Harris County Residents:
Harris County Public Health (HCPH)
713-439-6000.
(This number is staffed 7 days a week 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.)
www.hcphtx.org/COVID-19
www.ReadyHarris.org

All events, programs and room rentals at the Recreation & Tennis Center will be cancelled during this time-frame.

All City parks are still open to public. Citizens are advised to follow Harris and Fort Bend Counties' public health emergency guidelines while at parks:

[Fort Bend County Guidelines](#)
[Harris County Guidelines.](#)

The Quail Valley Golf Course & City Centre, 2880 La Quinta Dr., will maintain operations utilizing the guidelines and recommendations set by Fort Bend and Harris Counties.

Residents who participate in the Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Program will receive regular service as scheduled



KATY

The City of Katy Municipal Court and the Katy Police Department will participate in the 2020 Great Texas Warrant Roundup. The Warrant Roundup is a coordinated statewide warrant enforcement effort to find and then arrest anyone with an outstanding warrant that has been issued as a result of not paying or resolving past due traffic tickets with any court in Texas.

SAFE HARBOR COURT DATE

The Katy Municipal Court has arranged a Safe Harbor Court Date on **Saturday March 28, 2020** from 8AM to 12PM. This will provide the opportunity for all individuals with outstanding warrants to voluntarily clear their cases with out the fear of being arrested.

For more information about payments options or what happens if you fail to take advantage of the Safe Harbor Court Date, please visit www.cityofkaty.com/warrantroundup.

- Limited Access to Katy City Hall Lobby: The only public access will be the entrance on Avenue D and the receptionist is now located within Utility Billing. All services are still operational at this time – we are just mitigating common areas that need cleaning regularly under CDC protocols.
- Cancellation of Current Parks Reservations: All Parks reservations are being cancelled effective March 18, 2020 (tomorrow) through April 12, 2020. All rental fees will be credited to accounts, and we are in the process of contacting renters regarding these cancellations.

Thank you for patience and understanding as we do our part to protect our community. For more information and to stay informed, visit www.cityofkaty.com/coronavirus

There are currently 0 positive cases in the City of Katy

Please support our community by still eating locally while distancing socially! During this time, our restaurants & service industry are being impacted. Many of these establishments are locally owned and operated. The City of Katy urges residents, capable of doing so, to support local Katy establishments while still practicing social distancing by choosing restaurant delivery or takeout services.

- Effective March 17, 2020 non-essential city employees will telecommute, work from home or report on staggered schedules to minimize person-to-person contact.
- Access to public buildings will be restricted.
- Payments will be accepted over the phone, online and by mail.
- Permits, licensing and payment assistance will be handled online or by phone.
- The Irene Stern Center will be closed and not available for rental until further notice.
- Only two City sponsored events are scheduled. Keep Fulshear Beautiful is currently scheduled for April 18, 2020 and the Freedom Fest is scheduled on July 4, 2020. It is undetermined at this time if these events will be cancelled, however, no newly formed events will be scheduled or permitted until further notice.

Fulshear Police Department

Fulshear Police Officers will continue to serve as always, without hesitation. Your safety comes first. However, we ask for your understanding on a few concerns to make sure your officers are safe as well.

- We will maintain a 6 foot safe space during interviews.
- We will take non-emergency reports over the phone to minimize contact.
- We will postpone large group training exercises.
- We will postpone the Citizens Police Academy, Ride to School With a Cop, Community Oriented Events and all Ride-a-Longs.
- WCA will continue trash pick-up and recycling. However, they are asking that all trash be bagged before placing in bins and that recyclables be rinsed off if possible.



We want to encourage the community to come together and help strengthen our local businesses during these difficult times. Check with your local favorite restaurants to see if they are offering curbside service or drive-thru.

Local News by City

RICHMOND

Food Truck Friday



Food Fiend Food Truck

Friday, March 20

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Richmond Central Fire Station
200 Houston St, Richmond

[Facebook](#)

Boogies Chicago Style Bar B Que Food Truck is one of our regularly scheduled trucks now! These guys were here a couple of years ago offering delicious Bar B Que, Boudin and Pork among other tasty food.

TXDOT will be closing one (1) outside lane IH-69 (US 59) Southbound frontage road at Richmond Parkway/ Williams Way Blvd. daily beginning Wednesday, March 18th until Saturday March 21st, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Motorists will continue to see Alternate Lane(s) closure of FM 762 from US 90-A to FM 1640/ Golfview Dr. starting 3-16-20 to 3-20-20, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. This is a TXDOT road overlay and striping project.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES ---

YES! MANY ARE STILL OPEN. ESPECIALLY EATERIES

MOST RESTAURANTS WILL STILL BE OFFERING DRIVE-THRU AND/OR TAKE-OUT!

ROSENBERG

Rosenberg sponsored events have been postponed until further notice.

Until further notice: (a) Restaurants and other establishments that serve food, with or without drive-in or drive-through services and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law,

(b) All bars, adult entertainment establishments and other business establishments that serve alcohol and do not serve food shall close, including nightclubs, lounges, taverns, arcades, private clubs, athletic facilities and gyms.

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office, the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal's Office, and other peace officers, are authorized to enforce this order.

This applies to all unincorporated and incorporated areas within the boundaries of Fort Bend County.

Rosenberg Fire Department Now Hiring!

Responsible for enforcing all city, state and federal laws as they pertain to arson, fire prevention, assisting firefighters in public awareness programs, inspecting new and existing buildings and structure for potentially dangerous conditions relating to fire and reviewing construction and engineering plans for potentially dangerous conditions relating to fire prior to commencement of construction.

[Learn More HERE](#)

Our Parks are still open!

[View the Parks
Information HERE.](#)



All Local School Districts Are Closed For Now
Private Schools have followed suit.

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

FORT BEND ISD

Wishes Come True for Fort Bend Education Foundation's 27th Annual Gala!

The 27th Annual Fort Bend Education Foundation's Gala, Majestic Morocco, took place at the Houston Marriott Sugar Land on February 29, 2020. This event set a new record netting \$383,000 for Grants to Teachers and Schools.

The ballroom was packed with over 800 guests, and every school in Fort Bend ISD participated by providing a Silent Auction basket. The Ridge Point High School Band, along with the band, Password, entertained supporters with music throughout the evening.

For the latest information on Fort Bend ISD [Click HERE.](#)



KATY ISD

The Katy ISD Health Update/School Closure Information web page is being updated regularly, so be sure to bookmark [this link and check back for the latest updates:](#)



LAMAR CONSOLIDATED

The Greater Houston area continues to see an increasing number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and health officials report that this number is expected to continue to increase as more testing is made available.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has outlined the need for all communities to implement a social distancing protocol. The President has also publicly shared that the community should not gather in groups larger than 10 people.

At this time, the District is reviewing options for remote and continuing instruction for students and an update will be shared with parents and staff by Friday, March 20, 2020.

We are strongly encouraging all families to continue

to be proactive in reducing the risk of COVID-19 by following the CDC recommendations on hand washing and social distancing. It is important that we all take these recommendations seriously.

Thank you for your continued patience and support as we work together to keep the Lamar CISD community safe. For additional information and resources, [please review our COVID-19 Updates webpage by clicking here.](#)



STAFFORD MUNICIPAL



**SMSD has a new website
Be sure to check it out:
www.staffordmsd.org**

[The Curbside/Grab N' Go Meal Service schedule has been revised. This link will take you to the Facebook page with a new graphic!](#)

[Learn more about the Coronavirus HERE.](#)

If a student believes that he or she has experienced bullying or has witnessed bullying of another student, it is important for the student or parent to notify a teacher, school counselor, principal, or another district employee as soon as possible to obtain assistance and intervention. The administration will investigate any allegations of bullying or other related misconduct. The district will also provide notice to the parent of the alleged victim and the parent of the student alleged to have engaged in bullying. A student may anonymously report an alleged incident of bullying by emailing: Nobullyingallowed@staffordmsd.org.

NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT - VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers/Donations Are Needed Now More Than Ever

Perform an Act of Kindness for an elderly or infirm neighbor!

If at all possible, please consider volunteering at a food bank or with a school district.....they are providing meals for students.

**Volunteer opportunities at this time, need to offer a “social distancing” set-up.
Volunteers should be six feet apart, wearing gloves and if at all possible, a face mask.
Make sure they have hand sanitizer available also!
Stay Safe!!!!**

Some Benefits of Volunteering:

- Studies actually show the more you volunteer, the happier you become. Your body releases dopamine in the brain when you help others. This has a positive effect on how you feel.
- As we age, we sometimes feel isolated (and right now, we are!) but no matter who we are or what our age is, volunteering can give our lives new meaning.
- Sets a good example – for our children. What better way to teach compassion than to set a good example?
- Boosts self-esteem
- Contributes to a longer life - volunteers encounter greater longevity and less frequency of heart disease. It can also slow the progress of Alzheimer's and other memory loss diseases.
- Expands your connections - it's the perfect opportunity to make new friends with people who share the same interests.
- Teaches new skills
- Makes you feel good

A Partial List of the Non-Profits Serving Fort Bend County residents

Anti-Defamation League (ADL) | ADL.org
Access Health | MyAccessHealth.org
Asians Against Domestic Abuse | AADAinc.org
Behind The Badge Charities | BehindTheBadgeCharities.org
Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB) | CAFB.org
East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry | HumanNeeds.org
Fort Bend CARES | FortBendCares.org
FB Habitat for Humanity | FortBendHabitat.org/

Fort Bend Rainbow Room | FBRR.org
Fort Bend Regional Council | FortBendCouncil.org
Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels | FortBendSeniors.org
Fort Bend Women's Center | Fbwc.org
Hope For Three | HopeForThree.org
Literacy Council of Fort Bend | ftbendliteracy.org
Parks Youth Ranch | ParksYouthRanch.org
Texana | TexanaCenter.com
The ARC of Fort Bend County | arcoffortbend.org

Not only do these non -profits need financial donations, they would love to have your personal involvement.
You can make a difference in the lives of so many.
Please get involved!



**Most graphics in the UPdate
are hotlinks.
Simply click on the graphic
for more information.**



SNEAK PEEK @ UPCOMING EVENTS

**Hint -- There aren't any!!!!
Everything is closed down.....**

**BUT.....I do have a few ideas for you.
Check out the next page.**

SNEAK PEEK

FBCL's regular online services continue to be available 24/7. Through FBCL's website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), library patrons have access to the following, and much more.

- o eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines and newspapers, databases.
- o Brainfuse Homework Help, World Books for Kids, TumbleBooks, and other youth resources.
- o Streaming puppet shows and Story Times will be coming soon.
- o Online SAT/ACT practice tests.
- o Genealogy databases.

For more information, see the Fort Bend County Libraries website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), or call the library system's Communications Office (281-633-4734) Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Comcast has announced they will make wifi hotspots available nationwide due to the COVID-19 virus.

There will be no data caps, disconnects or late fees and speeds will increase to 3 Mbps, allowing parents and students to have access to news and educational content.

Once at a hotspot, select "xfinitywifi" network name from the wifi menu, then launch preferred browser. To find an Xfinity WiFi Hotspot, check the hotspot location map at wifi.xfinity.com or download the Xfinity WiFi Hotspots app from the App Store or Google Play.

[You can watch Alley Theatre's cancelled '1984' from home](#)

Look for more theatres to try this!

[Stuck at Home? These 12 Famous Museums Offer Virtual Tours You Can Take on Your Couch](#)

[Board Games](#)

[Card Games](#)

You can watch Broadway musicals and plays free online for a limited time

On the platform, subscribers will find a combination of acquired performances including performances of "Cats," "The King and I," and "The Sound of Music," along with originals the platform filmed including performances of "Kinky Boots" and "42nd Street," from Broadway, The West End, and other elite venues around the world.

[Check it out HERE.](#)

For those who prefer the outdoors to theatre and books, check this out!

[HERE'S 33 NATIONAL PARK TOURS YOU CAN TAKE VIRTUALLY FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME](#)

[Watch the Sun Set!](#)

Get Creative --

**Learn something you've always wanted to learn:
cooking | baking | scrap booking | learn about the stock market**

Take a walk | ride a bicycle

Paint a room

Clean out your closets or the garage -

The Women's Shelter Will Still Be There When Things Get Back To Normal

Who am I and what am I doing in your inbox?

If you have received this email directly from **the write idea**, your email address has been added to the Community UPdate's email distribution list. All of our recipients are on the list because they asked or agreed to be added.

If you are receiving this email from someone other than the write idea, you may subscribe to the weekly UPdates by sending an email to: **thewriteidea@windstream.net**.

If you received this from a friend and do not wish to receive future editions, please notify your sender and ask to be removed from his/her list.

If you are receiving the UPdate directly from **the write idea** and no longer wish to receive our emails, we will be very sorry to see you go! I would love to hear your feedback so that I can improve. You may unsubscribe by clicking on the link at the bottom left hand side of this email.

Information included in this email is taken from official press releases/ website information and publications. We focus on Fort Bend County issues and events that we believe are of interest to residents of the county. If you have content suggestions, shoot us an email.

If you'd like to simply update your email address, shoot me an email.

Sue Hauenstein

www.thewriteideaonline.com

sue@thewriteideaonline.com /// thewriteidea@windstream.net

P.O. Box 1381, Richmond, TX. 77406

