



# Jewish Federation OF GREATER HOUSTON

May 21 PM - JРАН Email

Dear JРАН Community:

Today, we will cover updates from the State, City, and County; how to watch out for COVID19 related scams; and predictions for hurricane season.

## **Updates from the State, County, and City**

Governor Abbott announced that [CVS Pharmacy will be offering drive-thru testing](#) at 44 locations beginning this Friday. CVS plans to ramp up this program to 80 sites across the state by the end of May. You may [register in advance online](#).

Mayor Turner announced that the [City's 38 swimming pools and 27 splash pads](#) will be closed for the summer. The Mayor expressed concern about the ability to maintain social distancing and proper health protocols in a pool setting. The City will be opening its tennis centers and public golf courses. You can find locations and [updated information online](#).

The City of Houston and Harris County Public Health is urging people to continue practicing social distancing and wearing masks when out in public. Dr. Umair Shah stated that our area has [not seen a decline in cases](#) and we can expect to see an increase as the State continues into the next phases of opening.

The Texas Medical Center continues to update their [dash board](#) with new features.

The Federation has added more resources to our online [COVID19 tool kit](#). These include new guidance from Harris Public Health for managers of non-medical employees, temperature check guidelines and encouraging staff testing (under the "Harris Public Health Downloadable Graphics" tab).

## **Scams in the Age of COVID19**

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is warning people about scams related to COVID19. They range from fraud related to stimulus checks to testing kits not approved by the FDA and online offers for fake vaccinations. The FTC has an [entire website](#) dedicated to COVID19 scams and how you can report them.

### **Above Average Hurricane Season Predicted**

Today, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released its [2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season forecast](#). NOAA is predicting a 60% chance for above normal activity, 30% chance of normal and 10% chance of below normal.

The best time to prepare for a hurricane is now, which is why the Federation will be hosting its second “Conversation Starter” next Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. on hurricane preparedness.

### **In Other News...**

NASA has been busy debunking some wishful thinking. Recently, reports began circulating online that researchers at our national space agency discovered a [parallel universe where time runs backwards](#). I’m pretty sure that this plot already happened in Back to the Future I and III (but not II).

Take care today and I hope you find time to watch a good movie,

Jackie

**Jackie Fisherman** | Director of Government Affairs

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