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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Texas governor opens school safety summit, vows to protect the 'innocent'

AUSTIN, Texas (Reuters) - Days after 10 people were shot to death at Texas high school, Governor Greg Abbott met with politicians and school administrators on Tuesday to consider proposals to stem school violence in a state where gun-control measures usually sink in the Republican-controlled legislature.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott hosts a round table discussion, on school safety to prevent another mass shooting, at the Texas Capitol in Austin, Texas, U.S., May 22, 2018. REUTERS/Jon Herskovitz

About 20 people, including those who support arming teachers, attended the first of three days of meetings in the state capital, Austin, following the fourth-deadliest U.S. school shooting this year at Santa Fe High School in Santa Fe, Texas, on Friday.

"The problem is that innocent people are being shot and that must be stopped," Abbott, a staunch gun rights supporter, told reporters before the meeting that lasted more than two hours and was held behind closed doors.

Among the measures coming out of the meeting that Abbott said he would like to see implemented quickly were expanding school safety training programs, bolstering threat assessment systems and expanding a pilot program designed to screen for students who might be a threat to themselves or others.

People embrace at a makeshift memorial left in memory of the victims killed in a shooting at Santa Fe High School, in Santa Fe, Texas, U.S., May 22, 2018. REUTERS/Jonathan Bachman

"We did more today than talk. We came up with some very



Texas Governor Greg Abbott hosts a round table discussion on school safety at the Texas Capitol in Austin

solid solutions," Abbott told reporters. Another measure under consideration was setting up a system to monitor social media for warning signs of an attack.

The Republican-controlled legislature is out of session until January 2019, making it nearly impossible for the state to implement and fund any major changes that come out of this

week's talks.

The Texas Democratic Party in a statement called the roundtable meetings "theatrics" and chastised Abbott for holding the discussions behind closed doors.

Abbott, a Republican, has vowed that any changes to state laws would "protect Second Amendment rights."

## Wall St. slips on U.S.-China trade talk uncertainty; energy falls

NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. stocks ended lower on Tuesday, weighed down by lingering uncertainty over the outcome of trade talks between the United States and China and declines in energy and industrial shares.

President Donald Trump on Tuesday said he was not pleased with recent trade talks between the United States and China and earlier said there was no deal yet with China on ZTE Corp (000063.SZ).

Trump floated a plan to fine ZTE and shake up its management after his administration considering rolling back more severe penalties imposed for violating U.S. sanctions by shipping goods to Iran.

Trump also said there was a "substantial chance" his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will not take place as planned on June 12.

The president's comments come after U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said over the weekend that the two countries had put the prospect of a trade war "on hold" and agreed to hold more talks to boost U.S. exports to China.

"As day worn on, Trump's comments about North Korea and not having a deal with ZTE just brought people back from yesterday's euphoria into more of a reality that this issue with trade is not going to end as quickly as many had thought," said Robert Pavlik, chief investment strategist and senior portfolio manager at SlateS-

tone Wealth LLC in New York.

"So you're seeing a little bit of giveback," he said.

The industrial sector .SPLRCI dipped 1.3 percent, a day after posting its best percentage gain in nearly two months on the trade truce, while the energy index .SPNY also fell 1.3 percent.

Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) shares fell 3.3 percent, sending the stock to its lowest close since early April, a day after Consumer Reports said the company's new Model 3 car, despite many positives, had "big flaws," highlighting issues with braking. Tesla Chief Executive Elon Musk late on Monday tweeted that the braking flaw can be fixed with a software update, and Consumer Reports said it would retest the brakes.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average .DJI fell 178.88 points, or 0.72 percent, at 24,834.41, the S&P 500 .SPX lost 8.57 points, or 0.31 percent, to 2,724.44 and the Nasdaq Composite .IXIC dropped 15.58 points, or 0.21 percent, to 7,378.46.

Shares of Micron Technology Inc (MU.O) climbed 6.4 percent after the memory-chip maker announced a \$10 billion stock-buyback plan.

The financials sector .SPSY rose 0.6 percent on hopes that a bill aimed at easing bank rules, put in place after the financial crisis, could be passed as soon as this week. The consumer discretionary index .SPLRCD fell 0.5 percent after warnings from retailer Kohl's and auto parts seller Autozone.

Autozone (AZO.N) sank 9.5 percent after warning that higher costs would persist due to wage pressure.

Steel stocks climbed after the United States said it would slap steep import duties on steel products with origins in China but shipped from Vietnam to evade anti-dumping orders. Carmakers Ford (F.N), General Motors (GM.N) and Fiat Chrysler (FCAU.N) gained slightly after Beijing announced tariff cuts on car imports.

Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones on the NYSE by a 1.49-to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 1.33-to-1 ratio favored decliners.

The S&P 500 posted 29 new 52-week highs and one new low; the Nasdaq Composite recorded 146 new highs and 36 new lows.

About 6.2 billion shares changed hands on U.S. exchanges. That compares with the 6.6 billion daily average for the past 20 trading days, according to Thomson Reuters data.



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## Looking for old Houston charm? Check out these bars that have been around for more than 20 years

By William Axford

If you're a transplant who moved to Houston in the past five years, you've no doubt heard your share of stories about "the way Houston used to be."

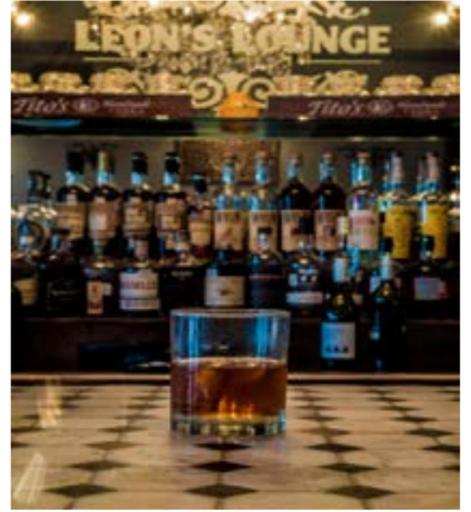
From Jimmie's Ice House to Proletariat, there's no shortage of former drinking holes in H-Town that no longer exist that old timers and natives will fondly tell transplants about. "You missed out," is a common phrase interjected in these conversations.

Luckily, not every bar and club from yesteryear have disappeared from Houston.

The West Alabama Ice House in Montrose has been there since 1928, although these days it serves beer instead of blocks of ice. Warren's Inn at 307 Travis St. has been a staple of downtown Houston since 1978.



Houston bars that are at least 20 years old  
Bar: West Alabama Ice House  
Address: 1919 West Alabama  
Opened: 1928



Bar: Leon's Lounge  
Address: 1006 McGowen St.  
Opened: 1947

## Shipley Do-Nuts expands to Colorado

By Katherine Feser

Houston-based Shipley Do-Nuts will expand to Colorado with the opening of its first store in June.

The store, scheduled to open at 5400 S. Parker Road in Aurora, will be run by franchisees Bryan Kopp and Julie Kopp. The Koppes are developing their second location in 2019.

"We are very eager to bring our famous Shipley Do-Nuts to Colorado," CEO Lawrence Shipley III said in an announcement.

"Colorado is a perfect fit for our company, which started in 1936. We serve over 50 varieties of donuts and kolaches and are excited to bring over 800 jobs to the state of Colorado."

RELATED: As energy recovers, law firms move to get piece of the action



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特此通知，德州哈里斯郡大都会交通局(METRO)董事会将于2018年5月30日周三中午12时举行公开听证会，以听取公众对拟议的2018年8月变更的意见。拟议的服务变更包括：

路线调整；29, 36, 54, 65, 80, 82, 246和248；路线8, 11, 29, 36, 40, 48, 54, 65, 80, 82, 85, 99, 161, 209, 219, 222, 229, 246, 249, 259 和269的时间表更改；以及路线417的可能中止。

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公众听证会将于1900 Main Street, Houston, TX二楼会议室举行(可搭乘包括METRO路线6, 11, 32, 44, 51, 52, 54, 82, 85, 102, 137, 160, 161, 162, 249和METRO地铁)。

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- 给我们写信至METRO, 收件人: August 2018 Service Change, 1900 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002.
- 传真意见至(713) 652-7956, 并带有主题行" August 2018 Service Change"。
- 拨打METRO的客户服务热线(713) 635-4000。
- 在METRO网站上提交意见- RideMETRO.org.

意见应在公众听证会的日期和时间之前被METRO收到。

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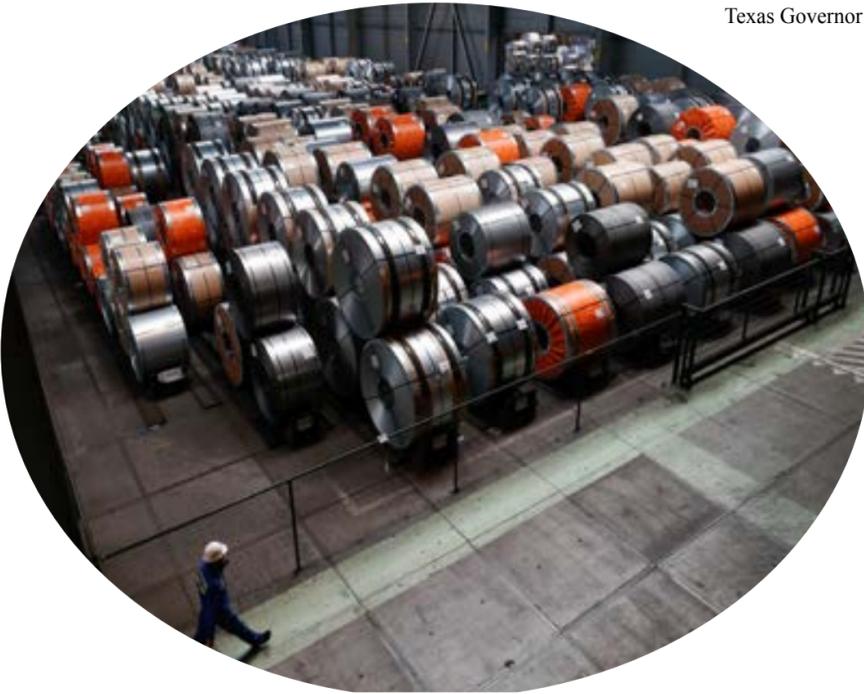
# Editor's Choice



Brazilian truck drivers block the BR-116 highway with their trucks during a strike in Curitiba



Texas Governor Greg Abbott hosts a round table discussion on school safety at the Texas Capitol in Austin



Metal coils are seen at ArcelorMittal steel plant in Ghent



Muslims attend an evening prayer called "Tarawih", during the holy fasting month of Ramadan, at Al Azhar mosque in the old Islamic area of Cairo



Staff install a huge inflatable promotional snack packet outside a supermarket in Bucarias, Mexico, May 2, 2018. Thomson Reuters Foundation/Sophie Hares



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off carrying the NASA/German Research Centre for Geosciences GRACE Follow-On spacecraft from Space Launch Complex 4E at Vandenberg Air Force Base



Arthur Rathburn, convicted of providing diseased body parts to medical customers, is pictured in a court sketch while being sentenced by U.S. District Judge Paul Borman in Detroit



FILE PHOTO: The SpongeBob SquarePants balloon makes its way down 6th Ave during the 91st Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in the Manhattan borough of New York City



Congolese boys paddle their boat along the Congo River during the vaccination campaign aimed at beating an outbreak of Ebola in the port city of Mbandaka

The Astrodome To Receive Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Marker

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



The Astrodome will be designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. The iconic Astrodome is now in line for a dramatic \$105 million transformation.

The Astrodome will be designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark — the highest honor the state can bestow on a historic structure.

The marker will finally and officially tell the story of the "Eighth Wonder of the World" and, officials hope, create a snapshot destination.

"The Dome has never had an actual historical marker," said Mike Vance, a member of the Harris County Historical Commission, which is the local arm of the Texas Historical Commission.

The state agency approved the stadium's designation in January among 172 new historical markers across Texas for 2018.

The Astrodome's Colorful Past



1)October 1963: Harris County commissioners check out stadium seats for the to-be-completed domed stadium (Astrodome), commissioner Philip Sayers, County Judge Bill Elliott, commissioners W. Kyle Chapman, E.A. (Squatty) Lyons and V.V. (Red) Ramsey. 2) Start of construction on Astrodome, March 27, 1963. Concrete was poured for a foundation footing Wednesday morning at a ceremony formally starting construction of the domed stadium. About 20 members of the Houston consular corps were guests at the ceremony. They put mementos from their countries into a capsule embedded in the concrete. Officials from the city of Houston, Harris County, Chamber of Commerce, and Houston Sports Association (HSA) were also at the cornerstone ceremony.



1)Excavation work for the Harris County

Domed Stadium, May 30, 1963. 2) Astrodome construction, circa late 1964.



A crowd of spellbound onlookers peers 212 feet upward to the top of the steel framework of Harris County's domed stadium (Astrodome). The steel work was "topped out" Friday, Nov 1, 1963, by contractors, H.A. Lott, Inc., and Johnson, Drake & Piper, Inc. The next step, say the contractors, is putting the plastic covering on the dome. The aluminum skin will be added to the sides in a later stage of construction.



March 1964: Former County Judge Roy Hofheinz, National League President Warren Giles, and astronaut Alan Shepard join news media to view the now open interior of the Harris County Domed Stadium (Astrodome) free of the support towers which held the dome up until the structural steel framing was in place. Removal of the 37 four-ton steel towers started Feb. 4 at the rate of two a day when weather permitted.



The Dome in 1964: Downtown Houston in the distance.

At its opening, the Astrodome embodied the height of innovation. The building was the world's largest domed structure and the biggest air-conditioned stadium as well as the first ballpark with artificial turf, luxury suites and an animated scoreboard.

"The Astrodome is the most important building we've ever had in our city's history," said Vance, a professional historian and program director for The Heritage Society at Sam Houston Park. "It's the most recognized and the most influential building that we've ever had. ... It absolutely changed architecture and engineering around the world."

The stadium opened on April 9, 1965, to a sold-out crowd of more than 47,000 for an exhibition baseball game between the Astros and the New York Yankees. The historical marker dedication, which will be scheduled soon, comes near the Dome's 53rd birthday.

The Astrodome received its strongest protection with a 2017 state antiquities landmark designation, giving the stadium special safeguards against demolition and requiring clearance from the Texas Historical Commission for any alterations.

Becoming a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark adds another measure of protection.

This week 55 years ago construction started on the Astrodome



The new Astrodome hosted all levels of sports and entertainment events.

"It's a higher standard you have to reach to qualify for that kind of marker," Vance said. "That means that it's a building and it has to be intact in the judgment of the Texas Historical Commission — and the Dome, thankfully, is."

In addition, the sign's unveiling will be "something tangible and visible," unlike the antiquities designation, Vance said.

Preservation and renovation of the Astrodome has been a long-held priority for Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. The county is spending \$105 million to renovate the stadium. Construction is expected to begin in October.

"Judge Emmett has been supportive of the Astros and the county historical society's efforts in putting a marker at the Astrodome from the very beginning," said Joe Stinebaker, a spokesman for the county executive. "He has said repeatedly that The Alamo and the Astrodome are probably the two most recognizably historic buildings in the state of Texas — and if the Astrodome doesn't deserve a historical marker, what does?"

The Astros organization, whose history is intertwined with the Astrodome, is paying the state about \$2,000 for the marker.



The Astrodome Conservancy also is planning a public event at the stadium. Previously, the organization announced a bash for April 9, but details are expected to be released next week.

"We are hoping to create a real party atmosphere to celebrate the history of the Astrodome and look forward to a bright future," said Beth Wiedower Jackson, the conservancy's executive director.

The Dome has not housed a professional sports team since the Astros moved to Minute Maid Park in 2000. NRG Stadium opened in the Dome complex two years later to serve as the home of the National Football League's Houston Texans.

The Houston fire marshal's office declared the massive building unfit for occupancy in 2009.

The county spends about \$170,000 a year to maintain the Dome in NRG Park, located on South Loop 610 between Kirby and Fannin — largely for electricity bills and flood insurance. The renovation costs will be paid from the county's general fund, largely made up of property tax revenue, hotel occupancy taxes and parking revenue, county officials have said. (Courtesy chron.com)

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Gina Haspel Confirmed As First Female Director Of CIA

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

On Thursday, the Senate voted, 54-45, to confirm Haspel, one day after the Senate Intelligence Committee, in a 10-5 vote, reported her nomination favorably.

President Trump nominated Haspel to the post in March, in a tweet, while announcing that her predecessor, former CIA director Mike Pompeo, was being tapped to lead the State Department.

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump Congratulations to our new CIA Director, Gina Haspel!

4:00 PM - May 17, 2018 Much of Haspel's 30-year career at CIA was spent in the clandestine service, and remains classified.

Her involvement in ordering the destruction, in 2005, of 92 videotapes -- some of which documented the interrogations -- while serving as chief of staff to then-Director of the clandestine service Jose Rodriguez was also roundly criticized.

Among those opposed was Sen. John McCain, R-Arizona, who survived years of torture as a POW in Vietnam, and who, as he undergoes treatment for brain cancer, was not present for the floor vote.

McCain's opposition became a key factor in swaying Arizona Republican Sen. Jeff Flake's vote, and was cited by a number of Democrats who spoke out against her nomination in the following days and, just before the vote, on the Senate floor.

"There is no greater voice on this subject than John McCain's," said Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, citing his "powerful and unimpeachable views" as reason to oppose Haspel's candidacy.

He conceded he struggled with the decision: "To those here who have concluded that Ms. Haspel's background with the [Rendition, Detention and Interrogation] program should preclude her from leading



Gina Haspel Confirmed As First Female Director Of CIA

has been a disservice to our constitutional duties, to our democratic principles and to the American people," Wyden said.



CIA director nominee and acting CIA Director Gina Haspel is sworn in by U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr to testify at her confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., May 9, 2018. (Photo/Reuters)

Those speaking out in favor of Haspel's candidacy -- like Senate Intelligence Committee Vice Chairman Mark Warner, D-Virginia -- cited, among other things, the immense support for Haspel from within the CIA.

He conceded he struggled with the decision: "To those here who have concluded that Ms. Haspel's background with the [Rendition, Detention and Interrogation] program should preclude her from leading

the CIA -- I respect their arguments, and I know the passion with which they put forward their position."

"I strongly believe that we, as Americans, have a duty to look squarely at our mistakes, and to not sweep them under the rug, but to learn from them, and in the future, to do better," Warner said.



After news of her confirmation broke, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which led a sustained campaign in opposition to her nomination, called the process a "cover-up" and a "disgrace to our democracy."

"Gina Haspel's confirmation is a black mark in our history, one we will regret," the ACLU said in a statement.

Even as seminal strategic and policy decisions are being made by the Trump administration with regard to adversaries like Russia, North Korea and Iran, it was Haspel's past connection to enhanced interrogation and her current views on the morality of program that made up the overwhelming focus of her confirmation process.

highest interest and of greatest concern to senators examining her eligibility.

In the run-up to her confirmation hearing before the Senate Intelligence Committee, the CIA engaged in a uniquely persistent campaign to disclose some elements of Haspel's background and interests without compromising what it said were necessarily classified details.



Much of the resistance to Haspel's confirmation was whether she supported the used of torture by the CIA, specifically "waterboarding."

"I have found no fault with the performance of Ms. Haspel," the memorandum said. "I have concluded that she acted appropriately in her role as Mr. Rodriguez's Chief of Staff."

Some senators, like Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, ultimately disparaged the agency's moves as self-serving, accusing it of engaging in "selective declassification" while withholding damaging information about Haspel's background.

Haspel's testimony at her May 9 confirmation hearing failed to persuade five Democratic senators -- Wyden; Martin Heinrich,

D-New Mexico; Kamala Harris, D-California; Dianne Feinstein, D-California; and Angus King, I-Maine -- of her suitability for the role.

After the hearing, Haspel -- and her supporters with influence, mainly former CIA heads -- worked behind the scenes with senators to remedy what came to be perceived as missteps at the hearing.

"Over the last 17 years, the agency and I have learned the hard lessons since 9/11," she wrote. "While I won't condemn those that made these hard calls, and I have noted the valuable intelligence collected, the program ultimately did damage to our officers and our standing in the world."



Gina Haspel Enjoyed the full support of President Trump As First Female Director Of CIA.

"With the benefit of hindsight and my experience as a senior agency leader, the enhanced interrogation program is not one the CIA should have undertaken," Haspel wrote. "The United States must be an example to the rest of the world, and I support that."

It will now be up to Haspel to navigate an increasingly complex array of national security challenges while maintaining a stasis, domestically, between her agency and a president who has been known to be suspicious -- and sharply critical -- of its activities in the past.

Especially as investigations into any of his campaign's connections with Russian actors deepen, it may not be long before Haspel is forced to deliver some hard truths while in the Oval Office -- something she and her supporters promised repeatedly she would neither shy from doing, nor fail to do. (Courtesy cbsnews.com)

Advertisement for 雲天燒腊麵食家 (Yun Tian BBQ Noodle House) featuring menu items like 京都肉排, 葱油鯧魚, and 特價晚餐 options.

Advertisement for 中美酒樓 (Chinese American Restaurant) featuring menu items like 四人份, 八人份, and 十人份套餐, along with contact information and address.

Large advertisement for Adolphus Rice, featuring the brand name in multiple fonts, 'US #1 Quality Select Variety', and 'LONG GRAIN Enriched RICE'.