

**"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." - Langston Hughes**



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# The Dallas Post Tribune

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VOLUME 72 NUMBER 32

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

April 23 - 29, 2020

# 'They're killing us,' Texas residents say of Trump rollbacks



Activist Hilton Kelley talks about the neighborhood where he grew up Monday, March 23, 2020, in Port Arthur, Texas. Kelley says he started speaking out for Port Arthur's black community when he got fed up "always hearing about someone dying of cancer, always smelling smells, watching little babies using nebulizers." (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

Homes are seen with The Valero Houston Refinery in the background on Monday, March 23, 2020, in Houston. The Texas Gulf Coast is the United States' petrochemical corridor, with four of the country's 10 biggest oil and gas refineries and thousands of chemical facilities. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

By ELLEN  
KNICKMEYER

HOUSTON (AP) — Danielle Nelson's best monitor for the emissions billowing out of the oil refineries and chemical plants surrounding her home: The heaving chest of her 9-year-old asthmatic son.

On some nights, the boy's chest shudders as he fights for breath in his sleep. Nelson suspects the towering plants and refineries are to blame, rising like a lit-up city at night around her squat brick apartment building in the rugged Texas Gulf Coast city of Port Arthur.

Ask Nelson what protection the federal government and plant operators provide her African American community, and her answer is blunt.

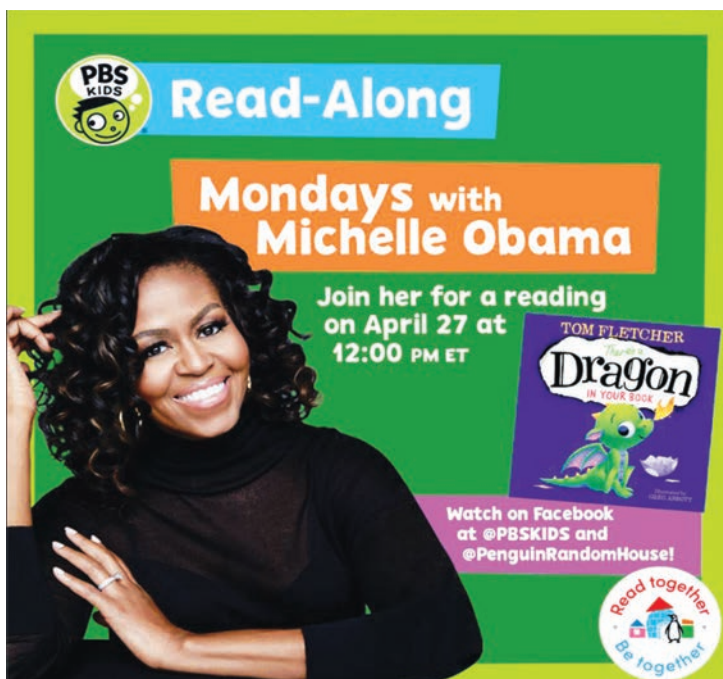
"They're basically killing us," says the 37-year-old, who herself has been diagnosed with respiratory problems since moving to the community after 2017's Hurricane Harvey. "We don't even know what we're breathing," she says.

The Texas Gulf Coast is the United States' petrochemical corridor, with four of the country's 10 biggest oil and gas refineries and thousands of chemical facilities.

Residents of the mostly black and Latino communities closest to the refineries and chemical plants say that puts them on the front line of the Trump administration's rollbacks of decades of public health and environmental protections.

See PAGE 3

## Michelle Obama launches online reading series for kids



NEW YORK (AP) — Michelle Obama launched a series of online video readings for kids with the classic picture book "The Gruffalo," which the former first lady called the story of a mouse who uses his "wit and imagination" to get the best of a fox and other would-be predators.

"Mondays with Michelle Obama" is part of the PBS KIDS Read-Along series, and will continue through May 11. It can be seen at noon EDT on the Facebook and YouTube pages of PBS KIDS and the Facebook page of Obama's publisher, Penguin Random House.

## Governor defends testing levels as Texas begins reopening



By PAUL J. WEBER

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Republican Gov. Greg Abbott on Tuesday renewed his defense of coronavirus monitoring in Texas, which throughout the crisis has ranked near the bottom in the U.S. in testing, as he accelerates toward relaxing social

restrictions before the end of April.

Next Monday, Abbott is planning to issue new statewide orders that will further loosen Texas' lockdown beyond the reopening of state parks and letting retailers sell items curbside, which take effect this week.

See PAGE 6

## Ambassador Moseley-Braun Endorses West in Texas US Senate Race



CHICAGO — today she is supporting Ambassador Carol Sen. Royce West (D-Dallas) in the July 14 African American woman Democratic Primary to win a seat in the United States Senate, announced

runoff for U.S. Senate.

See PAGE 5

## Dallas County Commissioners vote to Extend "STAY-AT-HOME" Order through May 15

See PAGE 2



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## COVID-19 and Family Violence

With the stress of COVID-19 causing residents to stay home and stay safe, family violence victims may have a feeling of nowhere to escape and no one to call upon in their time of need. Below are just a few safety tips victims should consider:

- The first step to safety is action. If an argument seems unavoidable, try to have it in a room or area that has access to an exit and not in a bathroom, kitchen, or anywhere near potential weapons.

- Practice how to get out of your home safely. Identify which doors, windows, elevator, or stairwell works best.

- Have a packed bag ready and keep it in an undisclosed but accessible place in order to leave quickly.

- Identify a neighbor you can tell about the violence and ask that they call the police if they hear a disturbance coming from your home.

- Devise a code word to use with your children,

family, friends, and neighbors when you need the police.

- Decide and plan for where you will go if you must leave home (even if you don't think you will need to leave).

- Keep the phone numbers of area shelters close at hand.

People who are experiencing family violence can call the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE.

### Dallas County Commissioners vote to Extend "STAY-AT-HOME" Order through May 15

Dallas – Tuesday, Dallas County Commissioners voted 3-2 to extend the county's stay-at-home order until May 15. A few exceptions with restrictions in place on which businesses may operate and how large public gatherings should be while continuing advising people to "stay-at-home," unless they are conducting "essential business."

Dr. Philip Huang, Dallas County Health and Human Services Director, recommended that the court extend the Stay-at-Home order until May 31. Experts advised that cases should trend downward for at least two weeks before the community begins to return to normal, May 15 was a compromise.

Jenkins is concerned that Texas is currently testing 27 out of every 100,000 people. He would like to see that number increased to at least 138 before things start reopening. Jenkins hopes the tests will show that COVID-19 is often symptom-free and ultimately less deadly than first believed.

### Elba and wife, recovering from coronavirus, to help others



(Photo by Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP, File)

By LOUISE DIXON

Even though they only had mild symptoms, Idris Elba says he and his wife had their lives "turned around" after contracting the coronavirus, calling the experience "definitely scary and unsettling and nervous."

But the British actor feels that there are life lessons to be learned, and the pandemic serves as a reminder that "the world doesn't tick on your time."

The British actor and his model wife, Sabrina Dhowre Elba, spoke to the AP as they began a push with the United Nations to lessen the impact of COVID-19 on farmers and food producers in rural areas.

"People forget that 80 percent of the poor population live in these rural areas," Dhowre Elba said. "What we are really worried about at the moment, and why we are launching this fund is that those people are being forgotten."

In their new roles as U.N.

Goodwill Ambassadors, Elba and his wife, have joined forces with the 2020 United Nations

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to launch the new \$40 million fund. IFAD hopes to raise up to \$200 million more from governments worldwide.

The actor believes people in rural and poor areas are likely to suffer more in the pandemic.



**STAY HOME. SAVE LIVES.**

Help stop coronavirus

- 1 **STAY** home as much as you can
- 2 **KEEP** a safe distance
- 3 **WASH** hands often
- 4 **COVER** your cough
- 5 **SICK?** Call ahead



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# EDITORIAL PAGE



## Congresswoman Johnson Announces More Than \$10 Million in Coronavirus Relief for Colleges & Universities for Losses & Emergency Financial Aid Grants

Dallas, TX. – Today, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson announced that colleges and universities within the 30th Congressional District will receive more than \$10 Million in emergency grants to help cover significant financial losses. At least half of the funding to the institutions is required to be distributed to students in the form of emergency cash grants to help students pay for housing, food, and other necessities.

- Dallas Baptist University received a total of \$2,198,677, with \$1,099,339 as the mini-

mum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- Dallas Institute of Funeral Service received a total of \$220,704, with \$110,352 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- Dallas Theological Seminary received a total of \$306,745, with \$153,373 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- Cedar Valley College received a total of \$1,401,492, with \$700,746 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to stu-

dents.

- Buckner Barber School received a total of \$37,184, with \$18,592 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- El Centro College received a total of \$2,550,619, with \$1,275,310 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- Paul Quinn College received a total of \$1,163,719, with \$581,860 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

- University of North Texas At Dallas received

a total of \$3,036,810, with \$1,518,405 as the minimum allocation for emergency financial aid grants to students.

“This emergency funding by the Department of Education will help students and schools rapidly adapt to the new reality that the COVID-19 pandemic has created,” said Congresswoman Johnson. “My colleagues and I have worked hard to ensure adequate funding is provided to students who need it as together we adapt to these rapidly changing times.”

## ‘They’re killing us,’ Texas residents say of Trump rollbacks

*Continued from Page 1*

Under President Donald Trump, federal regulatory changes are slashing requirements on industry to monitor, report and reduce toxic pollutants, heavy metals and climate-damaging fossil fuel emissions, and to work transparently with communities to prevent plant disasters — such as the half-dozen major chemical fires and explosions that have killed workers, frightened residents and disrupted life along the Texas Gulf Coast over the past year alone.

And that plunge in public health enforcement may be about to get even more dramatic. Last month, Environmental Protection Agency administrator Andrew Wheeler, a coal lobbyist before Trump appointed him to the agency, announced enforcement waivers for industries on monitoring, reporting and quickly fixing hazardous releases in instances where the EPA decides that staffing problems related to the coronavirus pandemic have made compliance difficult.

Since then, air pollutants in Houston’s most heavily industrialized areas have surged as much as 62%, a Texas A & M analysis of state air monitor readings found.

EPA says it is balancing public and business interests in trimming what the Trump administration

considers unnecessary regulations.

“Maintaining public health and enforcing existing environmental protections is of the upmost importance to EPA,” agency spokeswoman Andrea Woods said by email. “This administration’s deregulatory efforts are focused on rooting out inefficiencies, not paring back protections for any sector of society.”

On the Texas Gulf Coast, African Americans under segregation were shunted to low-lying coastal areas prone to high water, Port Arthur activist Hilton Kelley says as he tours his industrial neighborhood. As Texas towns grew, refineries, interstates and other, dirtier industries moved to those areas.

Stopping at the site of a razed public housing project where he was born in a bedroom looking out on the refineries, Kelley recalls, “always hearing about someone dying of cancer, always smelling, watching little babies using nebulizers.”

During the Obama administration, Kelley traveled to Washington for signing ceremonies for rules tightening regulations on pollutants and other health threats, and requiring industries to do more to report hazardous emissions. These days, Kelley’s trips to Washington are to protest rollbacks relaxing those rules.

”That’s a death sentence for us,” Kelley says, driving past the the sickly yellow light of a refinery burning off methane gas.

In Houston, one of the country’s largest cities without zoning rules, the exposure to toxins is compounded. In Hispanic Galena Park, a developer this year fracked an oil and gas well just hundreds of yards (meters) from a school. In another Hispanic community, Manchester, chemical storage tanks tower over single-story frame homes, encasing all but their porches and driveways.

Before dawn one day last month a headache-inducing chemical stench suffused the neighborhood as a child waited for a school bus.

Even before the Trump administration rollbacks, Houston’s urban freeways and industries were pumping enough poisonous refinery chemicals, heavy metals, and diesel and car exhaust to “almost certainly” be to blame for respiratory problems and early deaths, as well as an “unacceptable increased risk” for cancers and chronic disease, concluded a city task force, started in 2005 to study the health impacts.

Residents of some predominantly minority Houston neighborhoods face at least three times the cancer risks of Americans overall, according to a 2014 EPA assessment, the most

recent available.

Last year, state health officials confirmed a cancer cluster in one African American Houston neighborhood where residents had for years complained that creosote from a former rail yard was killing residents. One woman drove around with a mock human skeleton in her passenger seat to try to draw attention to the deaths.

Among other health harms, Houston’s African American families, many of them in neighborhoods near one of the nation’s largest clusters of petrochemical plants, report twice as many asthma cases as the city’s white families, according to a federal government study.

One recent day, 50-year-old Felicia Lacy hummed a hymn as she nuzzled her 4-year-old granddaughter, Kdynn, who lay in bed with a plastic oxygen mask on her face. Lacy wakes the girl at 5:30 a.m each morning for an hour of asthma treatment.

Lacy blames Houston’s polluted air for the asthma-related pneumonia that killed a son at 27, and for the little girl’s asthma and her own. She takes her own turn at the nebulizer after she gets the child off to preschool.

Lacy doesn’t often allow Kdynn and another grandchild play outside, no matter how much they plead. “I can’t have it happen to them,” she says, referring to her son’s asthma death. “Not on my watch.”

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Health and Wellness Resources

The Metrocare Coronavirus Support Line is available during our normal business hours Monday through Friday for those Dallas County residents experiencing high anxiety or depression during these turbulent times. Metrocare’s professionals will assist individuals in accessing our mental health services and provide referrals for other services that may be needed. **The Metrocare Coronavirus Support Line for Dallas County is 214-743-1215.**

North Texas Behavioral Health Authority - Individuals can contact the **24/7 COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line at 833-251-7544.** Those needing support outside of the COVID-19 crisis can still contact our **NTBHA 24/7 Crisis Line at 866-260-8000.**

**National Support Lifelines**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline -  
**1 (800) 273-8255**

Suicide Crisis Center - 24 hours - **(214) 828-1000**

Crisis Text Line - **Text the word HOME to 741741**

Crisis Text Line - Special keyword for students of color - **Text the word STEVE to 741741**

# Church Directory

**Carver Heights Baptist Church**  
2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216  
P. 214-371-2024



**Pastor Daryl R. Carter**

Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.  
Early Worship - 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.



**The Mount Moriah**  
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3611 Latimer Street  
Dallas, Texas 75215  
214-428-2990  
www.mountmoriahdallas.org

**Sunday**  
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Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
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**Worship Opportunities**  
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**Wednesdays**  
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F. 214-421-9324



**Pastor Donald R. Parish, Sr.**

**Sunday School**  
9:00 a.m.

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
11:00 a.m.


**Monday Morning Worship**  
7:00 p.m.

**Prayer & Bible Study Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.

**Radio Station**  
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6000 Singing Hills Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75241  
P. 214-374-6631



**Rev. Dr. C.J.R Phillips Jr.**

**Email address**  
[stphillipsmbc@att.net](mailto:stphillipsmbc@att.net)

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**Sunday**  
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.  
Church School 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

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For more information please contact us at;

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website: [www.dwcc.com](http://www.dwcc.com)



**Sammie Berry**  
Minister

**Calendar of Events**

**Sunday Bible School**  
8:45 a.m.

**Sunday Worship**  
10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday Song Practice**  
7:00 p.m.


**Wednesday Bible Class**  
9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday Radio Broadcast**  
7:30 a.m. on 970 AM

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**Greenville Avenue Church of Christ**

1013 S. Greenville Ave.  
Richardson, Texas 75081  
P. 972-644-2335 F. 972-644-9347



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**Associate Ministers:**  
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Ben Myers  
Patrick Worthey

**Elders:**  
Frederick Green  
Raymond Hart  
Otis Idlebird, Jr.  
Jason Moseley  
David Phillips, Jr.

**Schedule of Services**

**SUNDAY**  
Early Worship 8:00 a.m.  
Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Bible Classes 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Devotional Service 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

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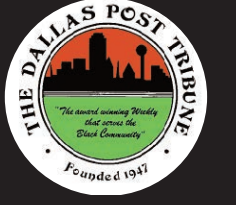
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## Ambassador Moseley-Braun Endorses West in Texas US Senate Race

*Continued from Page 1*

"Senator West is a true Democratic leader of tremendous substance and experience," said Ambassador Moseley-Braun. "He has been a longtime leader in the Texas Senate on health-care issues, protecting women's healthcare choices, public education, criminal justice reform, and more," she said.

"America needs Senator West's experienced leadership in the U.S. Senate during these difficult times our nation currently faces. I call on Texas Democrats to support Senator West with their vote, and for Democrats around the country to support him by visiting [RoyceWest.com](http://RoyceWest.com) to sign up and volunteer for the campaign," Moseley-Braun said.

West said he was honored to receive the Ambassador's endorsement.

"Carol Moseley Braun is a trailblazer and has given much of her life to public service, in local office, in the Senate and as our Ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa. I am honored to have her endorsement," West said.

normally file taxes to take action now. Immediately go to IRS.gov so that you will receive the full amount of the Economic Impact Payments you and your family are eligible for.

People with Direct Express debit cards who enter information at the IRS's website should complete all of the mandatory questions, but they may leave the bank account information section blank as Treasury already has their Direct Express information on file.

Additionally, any new beneficiaries since January 1, 2020, of either Social Security or SSI benefits, who did not file a tax return for 2018 or 2019, will also need to go to the IRS's Non-Filers website to enter their information as they will not receive automatic payments from Treasury."

**Wednesday, April 22, in order to receive additional payments for their eligible children quickly. SSI recipients need to take this action by later this month; a specific date will be available soon.**

By taking this proactive step to enter information on the IRS website about them and their qualifying children, they will also receive the \$500 per dependent child payment in addition to their \$1,200 individual payment. If beneficiaries in this group do not provide their information to the IRS soon, their payment at this time will be \$1,200. People would then be required to file a tax year 2020 tax return to obtain the additional \$500 per eligible child.

I urge Social Security and SSI recipients with qualifying children who do not

# SOCIAL SECURITY

## Act Now – Go to IRS.gov – A Message from Social Security Commissioner Andrew Saul

Action Needed for Social Security Beneficiaries with Dependents and Who Do Not File Tax Returns to Receive \$500 Per Child Payment

"Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients who don't file tax returns will start receiving their automatic Economic Impact Payments directly from the Treasury Department soon. People receiving benefits who did not file 2018 or 2019 taxes, and have qualifying children under age 17, however, should not wait for their automatic \$1,200 individual payment. They should immediately go to the IRS's webpage at [www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here](http://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here) and visit the Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here section to provide their information. Social Security retirement, survivors, and disability insurance beneficiaries with dependent children and who did not file 2018 or 2019 taxes need to act by

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## South Dallas Proud: Expanded all-day learning center and new STEAM academy will give more opportunities to families

DALLAS — Change is coming to South Dallas schools! An expanded all-day early learning center and a new state-of-the-art STEAM academy are just the latest building blocks in an effort to grow Dallas

First up, in addition to continuing to serve our K-5 students, J.J. Rhoads Elementary is expanding to become an all-day early learning center, and will begin serving both Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 students in 2020-21. With extended hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate working parents, Rhoads will offer music and art as part of its after-school programming. Renovations are planned for the building, but Rhoads will remain open and will continue to serve its students.

In the 2021-22 school year, the neighborhood is gaining a new state-of-the-art S.T.E.A.M. academy to serve 675 students when the rebuilt H.S. Thompson Elementary reopens. The new school will be large enough to accommodate

all the students now at Rhoads as well, and will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math, aimed at preparing students for success in the 21st century.

Once the higher grades move to Thompson, Rhoads will have room to offer wraparound services as well as community partnerships and resources. Meetings will be held to gather community input.

Rhoads will have two principals on site in the coming school year, the current J.J. Rhoads principal, Chaundra Macklin, and the newly named H.S. Thompson principal, Crystal Owens. They will be working together to ensure a smooth transition for our students.

These changes, coupled with the conversion of Martin Luther King Jr. Learning Center into a pre-K through 8th grade school for the arts, are part of the district's whole-cloth plan to better serve students in the South Dallas community. Visit our web page to stay updated.

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# SPORTS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, April 23 ☀️ H -84° L - 62°	Friday, April 24 ☀️ H-84° L- 57°	Saturday, April 25 ☁️ H- 76° L - 53°	Sunday, April 26 ☀️ H- 80° L- 60°	Monday, April 27 ☁️ H-82° L-66°	Tuesday, April 28 ☁️ H- 87° L-66°	Wednesday, April 29 ☁️ H- 80° L- 60°
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Or email your resume to: [careers@edbellconstruction.com](mailto:careers@edbellconstruction.com)

## Percy Harvin planning NFL comeback after 4-year hiatus



By **MARK LONG**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Percy Harvin is planning an NFL comeback nearly four years after his last game.

The former Florida star and first-round draft pick by Minnesota in 2009 expects to get invited to a training camp this season and show his 32-year-old body still has what it takes to be an elite playmaker.

“It’s destiny,” Harvin told The Associated Press on Wednesday. “There’s always been something to stop me coming back. But things started slowly leading back to football and

the desire started coming back.”

The biggest step came after hip surgery last August in Gainesville. Doctors found a blockage he said may have been there since high school.

Harvin helped lead the Gators to their third national championship in 2008.

His professional career ended shortly after he was playing soccer with his 2-year-old son in his backyard in 2016. Harvin clearly tweaked something, and not long after he lost balance, had no explosive power in his legs and couldn’t get in

and out of breaks. In short, he no longer looked or felt like himself.

So Harvin walked away. He spent the next three years in pain, physical and mental. He went back to school. He got involved in a few business ventures. But he never stopped working out, even though he was a shell of himself at times.

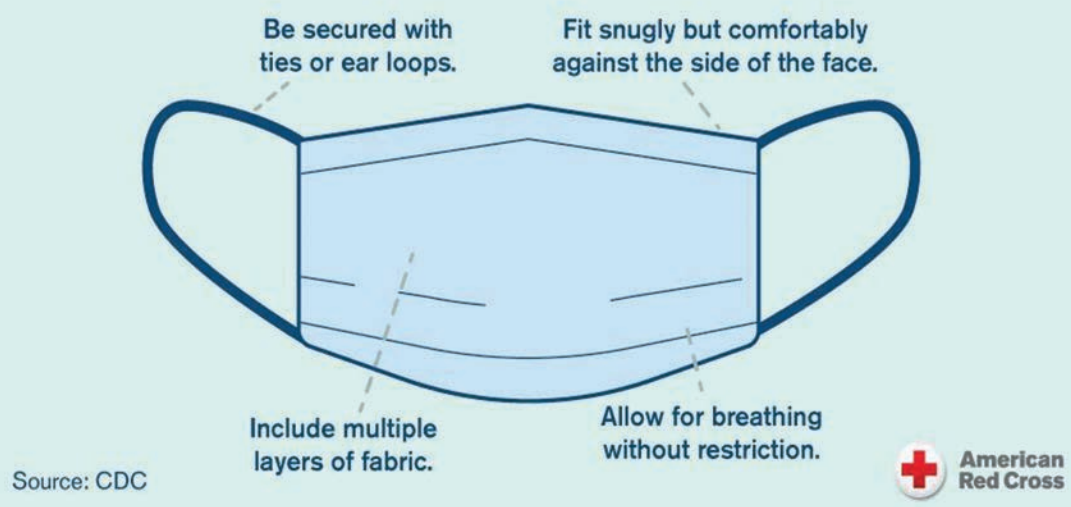
Surgery was the turning point. So was his training that followed. He ended up working with former Olympian Tim Montgomery at NUMA Speed in Gainesville, and calls the 2000 gold medalist sprinter the best trainer he’s ever dealt with.

He started running four miles a day, got strength and power back in his legs through squats, then found the hip flexibility that eluded him for years.

“That light bulb hit,” Harvin said. “I was happy about it and starting thinking about a return. It all just came together.”

He called his doctor and asked him to get all the paperwork ready for NFL teams, saying “They’re definitely going to want to see what’s been done the last couple of years.”

### What to know about face coverings.



## The 3 C’s of COVID-19 to help stop the spread of germs

There are three simple things that you can do every day to help stop the spread of germs.

[www.parklandhospital.com/handwashing](http://www.parklandhospital.com/handwashing).

desks, chairs, cell phones, remote controls and light switches.

#### Clean your hands

Washing your hands is one of the best things you can do to stay healthy. Clean hands help stop germs from spreading to others. It is important for people of all ages to learn the proper way to wash their hands.

- How to wash your hands
1. Wet your hands with cool or warm water.
  2. Add soap to your hands.
  3. Rub your hands together and count to 20. Don’t forget your thumbs!
  4. Rinse the soap from your hands.
  5. Dry your hands using a clean cloth, paper towel or air dry.

If you have questions about washing your hands, read more at

#### Cover your coughs and sneezes

When you feel yourself getting ready to cough or sneeze, your first instinct may be to cover it with your hand or not cover it at all. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains more than 60% alcohol.

#### Clean surfaces

Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like flu. Focus on cleaning surfaces that commonly come in contact with your skin like your kitchen counter,

Cleaners or detergents are products that remove dirt and germs (like bacteria, viruses, and fungi). Cleaning with a detergent is necessary to remove dirt that can prevent disinfectants from working.

Disinfectants are chemical products that are used to kill germs. The disinfectant’s label should have a list of germs that the product can kill. These products are also sold at grocery and other retail stores.

If you need COVID-19 information or have questions you need answered, you can now call 211. This service connects you with community services, and this now includes COVID-19 information. Call 211 or visit [www.211texas.org](http://www.211texas.org).

## Governor defends testing levels as Texas begins reopening

Continued from Page 1

Saying hospitals aren’t overwhelmed and pointing to a decline in fatalities in recent days, Abbott said the numbers are trending well as Texas marches toward reopening.

But Texas has also lagged nationally when it comes to testing and ranks near the bottom per capita, according to an analysis by The Associated Press of data collected by The COVID Tracking Project. The low numbers have raised concerns, including in big cities such as Houston, as conservatives in Texas and supporters of President Donald Trump amplify calls to get the country back to work.

Abbott said his team of medical experts are outlining a strategy that calls for an increase of up to 25,000

to 30,000 tests daily to monitor COVID-19, done with more testing supplies that he says are in the pipeline.

“Bottom line is, according to information provided to me by the assessment provided by the advisors in the White House, they believe that Texas is going to have all the testing capability that we need,” Abbott said at a briefing at the Texas Capitol.

Texas has more than 20,000 coronavirus cases and more than 500 deaths, according to state health figures.

But even as Abbott plans to relax more restrictions come Monday, leaders in Dallas are extending restrictions into May. Health officials have also warned that easing up on restrictions too soon could

result in a new wave of cases.

Dallas County commissioners voted Tuesday to extend stay-at-home orders through May 15, which is two weeks beyond statewide orders that are set to expire April 30. Abbott made clear that his forthcoming orders designed to reopen Texas would overrule and local mandates.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said it would be up to Abbott’s office to decide whether there is a conflict. The Dallas Morning News reported.

“If I’m wrong, he will quickly tell us and tell us that we have to let everybody play pick-up basketball and do whatever they want to on April 30,” Jenkins said.