Good morning! Are any of us surprised that Houston leads the country in road rage incidents? Keep reading to learn why 🚗

What Houston's Talking About

🛣️ Houston Leads The Country In Road Rage Incidents

Houston had the most road rage incidents in the last decade compared to any other city in the country, according to data from nonprofit Gun Violence Archive. Within the last decade, 207 people were killed or wounded during a road rage incident in Houston. [Chron.com]

- Btw, if you want to stay safe on Houston streets, avoid these roads. [City Cast Houston 🎧]

🎒Houston ISD Moves Back Testing Dates

Houston ISD is abruptly moving its end-of-the-year assessments to later in May – causing some schools to reschedule field trips and other activities. Houston ISD said they were moving the test dates because of the school district's commitment to "run through the finish line" and "ensure every child receives excellent instruction every day." [Houston Chronicle 🔒]

🩺 Liver Transplants Were Falling Before Scandal

Memorial Hermann's liver transplant volume has been declining since 2015, according to publicly available data from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients. The hospital's liver program also had nine waitlist deaths last year — the most since 2006. This comes after a Memorial Hermann doctor allegedly manipulated information in an organ sharing database, which could've prevented patients from receiving life-saving organs. [Houston Chronicle 🔒]

- Here's more backstory on the liver transplant scandal. [City Cast Houston 🎧]

☀️ Your Guide to May in Houston

Today on the City Cast Houston podcast, I join host Raheel Ramzanali and producer Carlignon Jones to share all the fun activities happening in Houston this month. From how to celebrate Mother's Day to where you should eat, we have picks for everybody to enjoy the city. [City Cast Houston 🎧]

- ICYMI: Here are Houston's best spots to play pickleball [City Cast Houston 🎧]

The Best Things To Do in May

May in Houston means enjoying a cocktail on an outdoor patio, visiting Kemah or Galveston before it gets too hot, and also celebrating Mother's Day, and Asian American and Pacific Island Heritage Month. Below, I breakdown all the ways you can have fun this month with help from the City Cast Houston team.

What To Do For Mother's Day

- If you have a mother that loves musicals or can sing the whole production by heart, then grab tickets to Houston Grand Opera's production of "The Sound of Music" playing at the Wortham Center through May 12. I'm taking my mom on Mother's Day weekend. Growing up, we watched the original one with Julie Andrews nearly every year.
- City Cast Houston producer Carlignon Jones wants to take her mom to this comedy show on Mother's Day at the Ayva Center, featuring hilarious comedians who will poke fun at those one-of-a-kind mom experiences.
- Participate in the first-ever Mother's Day Walk at Houston Botanic Garden, where you can enjoy art, beautiful installations, and complimentary wellness treatments.
- During this popular Rice Village class, learn the art of making perfume at Love & Make. Tickets are selling fast for this weekend and Mother's Day weekend, so grab them now!
- Stroll through the stunning grounds at Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens' special Mother's Day celebration, which includes complimentary treats and harpist performances.

What To Do For AAPI Month

- Check out this delicious AAPI Celebration Dinner hosted at Money Cat next Thursday, May 16. This eight-course feast will feature food created by Chef Jio Dingayan, Chef Evelyn Garcia, and Chef Niki Vongthong.
- Houston author Kevin Kwan, who penned the "Crazy Rich Asians" trilogy, is releasing a new book "Lies and Weddings" later this month. Grab your tickets for his conversation and the champagne and sushi social at Asia Society Texas Center.
- Root for the Space Cowboys baseball team with the family on AAPI Heritage Night on Saturday, May 25. The first 2,000 people will receive a free Space Cowboys Year of the Dragon jersey.

- Producer Carlignon Jones plans to eat at her favorite AAPI restaurants, which include the delicious Crawfish & Noodles, Aga's, and KPot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot.

Other Fun Activities To Do

- You won't want to miss Comicpalooza starting Friday, May 24. City Cast Houston Host Raheel Ramzanali wants to see Jong Lee and Micahel Carrell, hosts of Houston podcast, ComicCast.
- For Cinco De Mayo, spend time at the beach in Galveston and also check out the celebration on Kemah Boardwalk.
- Of course, I'll be at my book festival, BIPOC Book Fest this Saturday, May 4, where you can enjoy a diverse book fair, poetry showcase, book-themed cocktails, and engaging author conversations.

Houston Chatter

Over the weekend Charles Barkley, former basketball star and current sportscaster on TNT and CBS Sports, shamed Galveston on national television. Barkley and his fellow sportscaster Shaquille O'Neal joked the New Orleans Pelicans team might have to start their summer vacation early because of the team's bad performance. For their vacation though, Barkley said the team should go to Galveston, "That dirty a– water. We not even gonna send them to Cancun."

Here's what some Houstonians thought about Barkley's comments. A Galveston City council member had choice words for Barkley.

🌴 Bryan De La Rosa halfway agreed: "Beach in Galveston…..not good. The town of Galveston…fun."

🌴 Skelly also sided with Barkley: "As a Texan, this is hilarious and spot on."

🌴 David shared these thoughts: "Not one Texan was offended by this statement lol"

Do you agree with Barkley or is Galveston one of your favorite places to go during the summer? Tell me your thoughts.

Here's what the City Cast Houston crew thought about Barkley's comments 🌴

What To Do

Wednesday, May 1

🎭 Beauty and The Beast | 11 a.m. | Free | Miller Outdoor Theatre
🍔 BOGO Burgers Day at Moon Tower Inn | Starts at 12 p.m. | No cover | Downtown
🥳 Bingo in the Biergarten | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. | Free | Karbach Brewing Company
🎤 Poetry Open Mic & Slam Poetry Slam | 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. | Free | Midtown
🎫 Bad Bunny | 8 p.m. | $99+ | Toyota Center

Today On City Cast Houston

What To Do In Houston This Month?

There are so many things to do in May around H-Town, but trying to figure out the best of the best is really hard! That's why we're talking about all of the big cultural celebrations, outdoor dining spots, and even a trip to space in our guide for May.

Now, go have a fabulous day ☀️

Thanks to Wil Fulton for today's edits.

–Brooke Lewis

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