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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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## Trump threatens 20 percent U.S. tariff on EU car imports



Parked cars are pictures at the car terminal at the port of Valencia, Spain May 29, 2018. Picture taken May 29, 2018. REUTERS/Heino Kalis

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump on Friday threatened to escalate a trade war with Europe by imposing a 20 percent tariff on all U.S. imports of European Union-assembled cars, a month after the administration launched an investigation into whether auto imports pose a national security threat.

"If these Tariffs and Barriers are not soon broken down and removed, we will be placing a 20% Tariff on all of their cars coming into the U.S. Build them here!" Trump wrote on Twitter Friday. Trump's tweet on autos came after EU reprisals against his tariffs on European steel and aluminum. The EU targeted more than \$3 billion in American goods exported to the 28-member European Union.

The United States currently imposes a 2.5 percent tariff on imported passenger cars from the European Union and a 25 percent tariff on imported pickup trucks. The EU imposes a 10 percent tariff on imported U.S. cars.

German automakers Volkswagen AG (VOWG\_p.DE), Daimler AG and BMW AG build vehicles at plants in the United States. Industry data shows that German automakers build more vehicles in southern U.S. states that voted for Trump in the 2016 presidential election

than they ship to the United States from Germany.

The European Autos Stocks Index fell sharply after Trump's tweet and was last down 1.25 percent. Shares of U.S. automakers Ford Motor Co and General Motors Co shares fell immediately after Trump's tweet but rebounded and were trading higher.

The U.S. Commerce Department is investigating whether imports of automobiles and auto parts pose a risk to national security. Two days of public comments have been scheduled in July, and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Thursday said the department aims to wrap up the probe by late July or August.

Tariffs on car imports would add to an array of trade wars Trump has started, saying he aims to create U.S. jobs and protect domestic industries.

Trump has threatened duties on up to \$450 billion of imports from China. Administration officials have said China should strengthen protections for U.S. companies' intellectual property, and reduce tariffs on U.S. products. The move against China could raise prices for American consumers and businesses and hit global supply chains for industries like carmakers and elec-

tronics. [nLANITO1AX] Chinese reprisals have hit American farmers already.

Trump's trade policies have also escalated conflict with Canada and Mexico as he seeks to renegotiate the \$1.1 trillion North American Free Trade Agreement on terms more favorable to Washington. German automakers did not comment on Trump's tweet. The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, representing major U.S. and European automakers, said "tariffs raise vehicle prices ... limit consumer choice and invite retaliatory action by our trading partners. Automakers support reducing trade barriers across the board and achieving fairness through facilitating rather than inhibiting trade." German auto industry association VDA said Germany exported 657,000 cars to North America, 7 percent less than a year earlier, and 200,000 fewer cars than in 2013.

sales to the U.S. fell 10 percent to 494,000 vehicles, while Germany automakers produced 804,000 vehicles in the United States last year. Automotive News data shows about 7.2 percent of vehicles sold in the

United States through May were assembled in Europe.

Trump has repeatedly singled out German auto imports to the United States for criticism and reportedly told French President Emmanuel Macron he wanted to halt Mercedes-Benz models from driving down Fifth Avenue in New York City. He told automakers at a White House meeting in May that he was planning tariffs on some imported vehicles.

Republican lawmakers and business groups have opposed higher auto tariffs.

A group representing major U.S. and foreign automakers has said it was "confident that vehicle imports do not pose a national security risk."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce noted that American auto production has doubled over the past decade, and said tariffs "would deal a staggering blow to the very industry it purports to protect and would threaten to ignite a global trade war." The United States in 2017 accounted for about 15 percent

### The Daily



Soccer Football - World Cup - Group D - Nigeria vs Iceland - Volgograd Arena, Volgograd, Russia - June 22, 2018 Iceland fans during the match REUTERS/Jorge Silva



Soccer Football - World Cup - Mexico Press Conference - Rostov Arena, Rostov-on-Don, Russia - June 22, 2018 Mexico coach Juan Carlos Osorio during the press conference REUTERS/Marko Djurica



Soccer Football - World Cup - Group D - Nigeria vs Iceland - Volgograd Arena, Volgograd, Russia - June 22, 2018 Iceland's Jon Dadi Bodvarsson in action with Nigeria's William Troost-Ekong REUTERS/Sergio Perez

of worldwide Mercedes-Benz and BMW brand sales. It accounts for 5 percent of VW brand sales and 12 percent of Audi sales.

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# Commentary

## Houston businesses caught selling alcohol to minors since April

By Fernando Alfonso III

Of all the Harris County businesses cited for selling alcohol to minors by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) since April, a Chipotle restaurant faced the highest fine. The restaurant at 7457 Southwest Freeway was fined \$7,200 after TABC found it in violation April 18, according to publicly available documents. A request for comment was placed with Chipotle's corporate office; the story will be

updated if and when they respond. Aside from this Chipotle restaurant, two Kroger supermarkets were cited. A Wingstop was also cited for \$2,400. Some of the other businesses had their TABC citations restrained, which is when a company chooses to pass on the punishment to the specific employee responsible for selling alcohol to a minor. In those cases, these are employees that have been TABC trained. Swipe through to see what businesses were cited by TABC for selling alcohol to minors.



## Major insurer says Houston must take bold action to prepare for future flooding, hurricanes

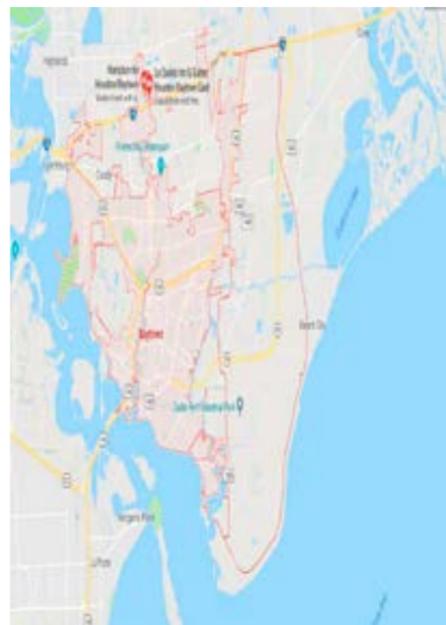
By Mark Collette

A major insurer that has studied flood disasters worldwide says Houston has to act boldly to be ready for the next storm.

That includes making sure leaders and residents understand how high-risk the area is, doing away with old, inaccurate terms such as the "100-year storm," and understanding that no single solution, like drainage improvements or reservoirs, is a silver bullet, according to a new report issued Thursday by Zurich Insurance Group and the nonprofits ISET International

and the American Red Cross.

The report, "Houston and Hurricane Harvey: A Call to Action," finds Houston's geography, regulatory environment, rapid growth and development, and overlapping government jurisdictions each played a role in the disaster.



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# A Snapshot Of The World



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Soccer Football - World Cup - Mexico Press Conference - Rostov Arena, Rostov-on-Don, Russia - June 22, 2018 Mexico's Andres Guardado and coach Juan Carlos Osorio during the press conference REUTERS/Marko Djurica



Soccer Football - World Cup - Group D - Nigeria vs Iceland - Volgograd Arena, Volgograd, Russia - June 22, 2018 Jumbotron shows VAR review called by referee Matthew Conger REUTERS/Jorge Silva



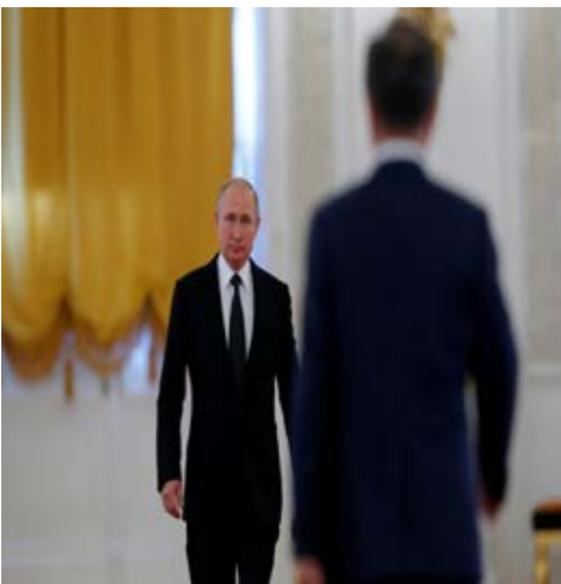
FILE PHOTO: Manafort arrives for arraignment on charges of witness tampering, at U.S. District Court in Washington



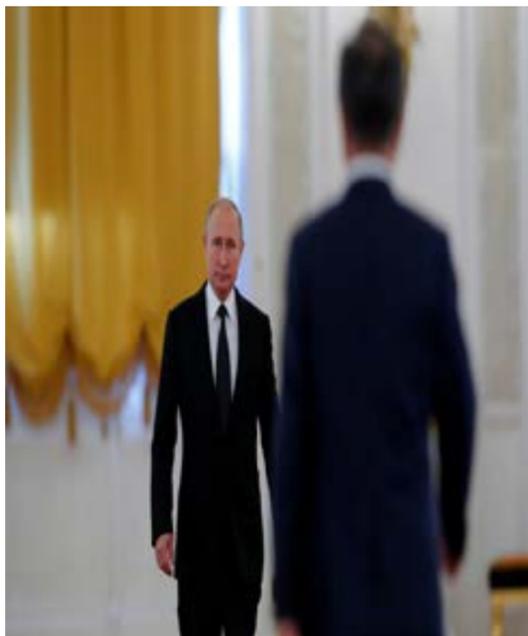
Rescue workers search the house of one of Eufemia Garcia's missing sisters in an area affected by the Fuego volcano at San Miguel Los Lotes in Escuintla, Guatemala, June 14, 2018. REUTERS/Carlos Jasso



People walk past an advertisement poster depicting Argentina's soccer player Lionel Messi in Moscow



Russian President Putin and South Korean President Moon attend a welcoming ceremony in Moscow



Russian President Putin and South Korean President Moon attend a welcoming ceremony in Moscow



Pigeons fly in front of a large election poster of Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan in Istanbul

HOUSTON, June 18, 2018 — On Monday, June 25, local nonprofit Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. (CRR) will continue its 22-year tradition of recognizing inspirational community leaders who have achieved success or helped others overcome hurdles to success at the 22nd Annual Barrier Breaker Awards Luncheon.

This year, CRR will honor the Honorable Harris County Judge Ed and Mrs. Gwen Emmett, Mrs. Philamena and Mr. Arthur Baird as steadfast leaders who exemplify the mission of CRR, and H-E-B the outstanding Corporate Leader and event Signature Underwriter. CRR will also honor several of the organization's STAR clients who have overcome personal barriers in order to achieve success. Hosted by co-chairs Mr. Doug and Mrs. Winell Herron, the luncheon will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency-Houston in downtown Houston.

The event will be co-chaired by Mr. Doug and Mrs. Winell Herron. Additionally, CRR will recognize and honor its Star Clients at the luncheon, as well as Star Company, HEB, as an outstanding Company leader in the community.

"We are so pleased to highlight and recognize the leaders in our community who help individuals overcome barriers to success," said Career and Recovery Resources' CEO Dr. Vernus Swisher. "Judge Ed Emmett and his wife Gwen Emmett, along with Arthur and Philamena Baird, are all wonderful examples of community leaders who are committed to improving the lives and helping our neighbors here in Houston. It is with such gratitude that we honor these individuals who continually embody the values of Career and Recovery Resources."



Offices of Career and Recovery Resources

Career and Recovery Resources, a United

## Local Nonprofit Career And Recovery Resources, Inc. To Honor Judge Ed And Gwen Emmett And Arthur And Philamena Baird At The 22nd Annual Barrier Breaker Awards Luncheon

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



Honorable Harris County Judge Ed and Mrs. Gwen Emmett (left) and Mr. Arthur Baird and Mrs. Philamena Baird

Way of Greater Houston agency, empowers job seekers with job readiness training, career guidance, job placement assistance, job retention counseling, and employment-related services. As CRR's main fundraiser, proceeds from the Barrier Breaker Awards luncheon benefit CRR's numerous specialized programs. Funds raised also support case management and employment services that are available to the organization's diverse client base, including returning veterans, the homeless, persons with disabilities, literacy-challenged individuals, older workers, ex-offenders, and persons in substance abuse recovery. Additionally, CRR helps serve college-educated or highly-skilled professionals who seek career coaching and general counseling. In 2017, CRR served over 5,250 clients and provided educational out-reach to over 5,000 youth and young-adults.

"We have approximately 4.7 million people living in Harris County, and a significant number of them need help achieving their employment goals," said luncheon honoree Judge Ed Emmett. "It's organizations like Career and Recovery Resources that help these individuals overcome barriers to career success, and I am thankful to have such an outstanding organization

in our county."

"Career and Recovery Resources is an organization that effectively reaches out a hand to Houstonians in need who are looking for help to further their careers," said honoree Philamena Baird. "If we could get everybody to reach a hand to just one person, we would solve a whole lot of problems in our community, and that is exactly what CRR is doing."



Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. recognizes that unemployment can be a destructive life experience. Long-term unemployment can lead to divorce, domestic violence, substance abuse and even homelessness. CRR's main mission is to help people identify and overcoming barriers to employment.

The 22nd Annual Barrier Breakers Awards Luncheon also recognizes Career and Recovery Resources' STAR Clients who, with the help of CRR, have successfully overcome personal barriers to achieve employment and lead productive lives. During the luncheon, the Outstanding Corporate Leader, H-E-B, who has generously donated \$25,000+ to Career and Recovery Resources Inc., will be honored along with STAR Clients of Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. In addition, STAR Clients will share their inspiring life stories and describe how CRR positively impacted their lives.

This year's Luncheon Co-Chairs are Doug and Winell Herron. Host Committee Members include Jacquelyn and Courtney Blackburn, Lorenza Butler, Elischa Campbell, Marina Coryat, Susy and Joel Diaz, Dr. Kathy Flanagan, Susan Floyd-Toups, Tamera and Bonar Luzey II, Angela and Lincoln C. McKinnon, Marsha

and Tom Ramsey, Christine A. Romsdahl, Joyce and Ambassador Arthur Schechter, Susan V. Sample, Anita and Gerald Smith, Paula Sutton and Bill Gross, Ellie and Jack Sweeney, Patti and Gary Tuma, Alma and Dr. Vernus C. Swisher, and Patrice and Charles Wilson. Cynthia Cisneros, VP

Community Affairs with KTRK-Television Channel 13 and Spencer Tillman, Author and Fox Sports Sr. Analyst will serve as Co-Emcees this year.

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at [www.careerandrecovery.org](http://www.careerandrecovery.org). Interested

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WASHINGTON (AP) — States will be able to force shoppers to pay sales tax when they make online purchases under a Supreme Court decision Thursday that will leave shoppers with lighter wallets but is a big win for states.

More than 40 states had asked the high court to overrule two, decades-old Supreme Court decisions that they said cost them billions of dollars in lost revenue annually. The decisions made it more difficult for states to collect sales tax on certain online purchases. The high court ruled Thursday to overturn those decisions. They had resulted in some companies not collecting sales tax on every online purchase.

The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a product to a state where it didn't have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn't have to collect the state's sales tax. Customers were generally supposed to pay the tax to the state themselves if they don't get charged it, but the vast majority didn't.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court agreed to overturn those decisions in a 5-4 ruling. The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a customer's purchase to a state where the business didn't have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn't have to collect the state's sales tax. Customers were generally responsible for paying the sales tax to the state themselves if they weren't charged it, but most didn't realize they owed it and few paid.

In addition to being a win for states, the ruling is also a win for large retailers, who argued the physical presence rule was unfair. Large retailers including Apple, Macy's, Target and Walmart, which have brick-and-mortar stores nationwide, already generally collect sales tax from their customers who buy online. That's because they typically have a physical store in whatever state the purchase is

Supreme Court: Online Shoppers Can Be Forced To Pay Sales Tax

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



This file photo shows the Supreme Court in Washington, DC. The Supreme Court has ruled that states can force online shoppers to pay sales tax. The 5-4 ruling Thursday is a win for states, who said they were losing out on billions of dollars annually under two decades-old Supreme Court decisions that impacted online sales tax collection. The high court ruled Thursday to overturn those decisions. (Photo/AP)

being shipped to. Amazon.com, with its network of warehouses, also collects sales tax in every state that charges it, though third party sellers who use the site to sell goods don't have to.

But sellers that only have a physical presence in a single state or a few states have been able to avoid charging customers sales tax when they shipped to addresses outside those states. Online sellers that haven't been charging sales tax on goods shipped to every state range from jewelry website Blue Nile to pet products site Chewy.com to clothing retailer L.L. Bean. Sellers who use eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also haven't been collecting sales tax nationwide. Under the Supreme Court's decision Thursday, states can pass laws requiring

sellers without a physical presence in the state to collect the state's sales tax from customers and send it to the state.

The National Retail Federation trade group, said in a statement that the court's decision was a "major victory" but the group said federal legislation is necessary to spell out details on how sales tax collection will take place, rather than leaving it to each of the states to interpret the court's decision.

Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that the previous decisions were flawed.

"Each year the physical presence rule becomes further removed from economic reality and results in significant revenue losses to the States. These critiques underscore that the physical presence rule, both as first formulated and as applied

today, is an incorrect interpretation of the Commerce Clause," he wrote in an opinion joined by Justices Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch.

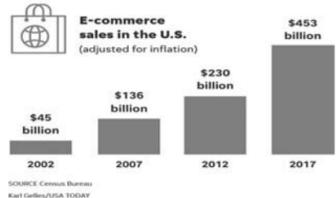


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In addition to being a win for states, the ruling is also a win for large retailers, who argued the physical presence rule was unfair. Retailers including Apple, Macy's, Target and Walmart, which have brick-and-mortar stores nationwide, generally collect sales tax from their customers who buy online. That's because they typically have a physical store in whatever state the purchase is being shipped to. Amazon.com, with its network of warehouses, also collects sales tax in every state that charges it, though third party sellers who use the site to sell goods don't have to.

But sellers that only have a physical presence in a single state or a few states could avoid charging customers sales tax when they're shipping to addresses outside those states. Online sellers that don't charge sales tax on goods shipped to every state range from jewelry website Blue Nile to pet products site Chewy.com to clothing retailer L.L. Bean. Sellers who use eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also aren't

required to collect sales tax nationwide. Chief Justice John Roberts and three of his colleagues would have kept the court's previous decisions in place. Roberts wrote that Congress, not the court, should change the rules if necessary.



"Any alteration to those rules with the potential to disrupt the development of such a critical segment of the economy should be undertaken by Congress," Roberts wrote in a dissent joined by Justices Stephen Breyer, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor.

The case the court ruled in has to do with a law passed by South Dakota in 2016. South Dakota's governor has said his state has been losing out on an estimated \$50 million a year in sales tax that doesn't get collected by out-of-state sellers. Lawmakers in the state, which has no income tax, passed a law designed to directly challenge the Supreme Court's 1992 decision. The law requires out-of-state sellers who do more than \$100,000 of business in the state or more than 200 transactions annually with state residents to collect sales tax and turn it over to the state.

South Dakota wanted out-of-state retailers to begin collecting the tax and sued several of them: Overstock.com, electronics retailer Newegg and home goods company Wayfair. The state conceded in court, however, that it could only win by persuading the Supreme Court to do away with its physical presence rule. After the decision was announced, shares in Wayfair and Overstock both fell, with Wayfair down more than 3 percent and Overstock down more than 2 percent.

The Trump administration had urged the justices to side with South Dakota.

The case is South Dakota v. Wayfair, 17-494. (Courtesy https://mtstandard.com/news/nationa and www.ocregister.com)

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