

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City

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www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### Early voting underway

You have until Friday, February 28th to vote early in the 2020 primary election! Election Day is Tuesday, March 3rd. Texas has open primaries. That means that ALL Texas voters can participate. The Texas primary is an extremely important election in Texas!

All Texans' ballots will include the statewide races, but the rest of the races on there will be determined by where you live. On the federal level, Texans are divided among 36 congressional districts. On the state level, Texans are divided into 150 House districts, 31 Senate districts and 15 State Board of Education districts. All congressional and Texas House districts are up for election this year, along with one U.S. Senate seat, several Texas Senate seats and eight State Board of Education seats.

Remember to bring an acceptable form of photo ID to the polls to cast your ballot.

See Early Voting, Page 6

## Congresswoman Garcia tours new pipefitters school

By Allan Jamail

Deer Park, TX. – February 18, 2020 Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia toured the new four million dollar state of the art Pipefitters Local 211 Apprentice School. While on the tour Business Manager Bryan Edwards stopped briefly enough to present Garcia an award in recognition and appreciation for her long history of supporting and promoting organized labor.

See New school, Page 6



CUTLINE: L – R: Business Agent John Guyon, Organizer Andrea Delagarza, Training Coordinator Kevin Bickerstaff, Business Manager Bryan Edwards, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, President Mark Baker, Business Agent Kenneth Waybright, HVAC Training Coordinator Randy Beal and Organizer Matt Patrick. (Allan Jamail Photo)

## Lady Mustangs Playoff win over Dobie Longhorns 50 - 40

By Allan Jamail

Pasadena, TX. - February 17, 2020 on a neutral court the GPISD North Shore Mustangs girl's varsity basketball team won Monday's playoff game against Dobie (Houston, TX) by a score of 50-40. The games are a part of the "2020 Girls State Basketball Championships - 6A Regions 1 & 3" tournament.

Mustangs Head Coach Allison Campbell brought her team out after trailing at half-time to outscore the Longhorns in the second half 28 to 17. By pulling pull out a victory they'll now advance to play Clear Springs (League City, TX) on Thursday, February 20th at 6 pm. The results will be in the next issue of the North Channel Star.

The Mustangs players are, Ameria

Castillo, Shalayne Gould, Ti'Ye Davis, Ebonie Sallie, Sonaia Johnson, Donalyn Johnson, Makayla Patterson, Jayda Smith, Erika Guy, Alexis Smith, Shelle Washington, Branasia Brazelton, Leniah Maxwell, Cy'maya Colquitt and Zaida Burris, they have a 13 win 2 loss district record.

Assistant Coaches GiGi Gaudet, Giselle Price, Ashley Dennis with Student Assistants, Peria Garcia and Kennedy Moss.

**NS BOYS HAVE 11 WINS**

Coach Sam Benitez' North Shore Boys Varsity has an 11 win 3 loss district record. **Game updates:** February 11, Mustangs defeat Beaumont West Brook 47 - 32. February 14, Mustangs lost to Beaumont United 68 - 55. February 18, Mustangs lost to Channelview 39 - 37.

See Lady Mustangs, Page 6



#10 Makayla Patterson, senior Lady Mustangs leading scorer makes a 2 point fade-away-shot. She made 20 points in the game with 15 of them in the final period to seal the win. She made 90 percent of her free throws. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

More Photos on Page 6.

## Early detection starts with your ANNUAL MAMMOGRAM

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## New School,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Allan Jamail

L – R: Business Manager Bryan Edwards explains the basic gas metal arc (MIG) welding principals to Congresswoman Garcia. Welding Instructor Joseph Gerik gave a brief tutorial on welding pipe that's used throughout the chemical plants and refineries in the ship channel industries. The blue light in the right of the photo is from a welder welding pipe and in training by Gerik. The new state of the art welding machine pictured is one of fifty new \$16,000 to \$22,000 welding machines the union has to train with.

Garcia's district includes thousands of union jobs in the North Channel area and along and near the Houston Ship Channel. Local 211 have a couple thousand members in Garcia's district as well. She has worked to secure union jobs first when she was as a County Commissioner, then Texas Senator and now as a member of Congress. She believes organized labor gives workers a voice which allows them to report unsafe job conditions without fear of retaliation and provides a decent fair wage, with health benefits for the union member's family and a respectable retirement pension.

Garcia said, "As someone who is one of ten children and grew up poor, I know the importance of a good paying job and organized labor has historically stood up for working families and fought to ensure that they are treated with dignity and respect. That's why I am such a strong supporter of organized labor." She advocates high school graduates to get a college education if possible, but for those who can't for one reason or another then a good trade union apprentice school can be a good alternative.

Business Manager Bryan Edwards said, "We have a brand-new state-of-the-art Apprentice School with 450 apprentices and are steadily growing. We have 50 brand new welding training booths, and each contains its own brand-new welding machine. These apprentices earn a good living while they go to school 2 nights a week...for FREE! Students only have to pay for their school books which they keep for referencing later in their career. Everything else is FREE. Our apprentice program is college credited with up to 45 credits."

We do so much than just teaching pipefitting, we specialize in several skills, such as Instrumentation, Heating & Air Conditioning, Computer Welding, Diametric Welding, Mig Welding, Tig Welding, Pipe Fabrication, Isometric Drafting, Supervisor Foreman Training, Load Lifting Riggering

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The apprentices train and work for five years before

graduating into a journeyman. A first year apprentice earns about \$26 an hour including their benefits. Each year thereafter they'll get a substantial pay raise until they become a journeyman who now has a near \$48 an hour pay wage and benefit package, earning \$70,000 on average annually.

The Edwards family has a long history with Local 211, Business Manager Bryan's grandfather known as Big Ed Edwards served as Sgt. at Arms in the union meetings. He was muscular and built like a professional football running back. Big Ed's son, Kenneth Edwards, Bryan's dad served as Business Manager for many years and the current apprentice school is named after him, The Kenneth H. Edwards Apprentice School.

Interested applicants must pass a basic math test, be 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED certificate. Applicant testing began in January and goes through June 4th. For more information call Karey Johnson at (713) 649-0201 Ext. 103 or go to 1301 West 13th Street Suite B. Deer Park, TX. 77536. Learn more at: [www.pipefitterslocal211.com](http://www.pipefitterslocal211.com) for a map and directions.

## GALENA PARK ISD

## Normandy Crossing Elementary Teacher Recognized at Board Meeting

The Galena Park I.S.D (GPISD) Board of Trustees recognized Angel Herring, Normandy Crossing Elementary teacher, at the February Board Meeting. Ms. Herring was recognized for her recent accomplishments of having an article published in the magazine, Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) TechNotes about Bee-Bots.

Bee-Bots are an exciting robot designed specifically for use by young children. As a Pre-Kindergarten ESL teacher, Ms. Herring is always looking for ways to ignite her students' love for learning. Congratulations, Ms. Herring!



## Rotary kicks off fish fry



North Shore Rotarians held a big Kick-Off dinner last week at the Crosby American Legion Hall, in preparation for ticket sales of the 45th Annual Catfish Fry and Crawfish Bowl, raffle and auction set for May.

Pictured are several of the teams that will be competing for most ticket sales.



## North Shore Rotary at Crenshaw elementary



North Shore Rotarians were at Crenshaw Elementary school to present the EA/FK, Early Act/First Knight program to the students. The EA/FK teaches moral values and life skills through an enactment of Medieval Chivalry.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Channelview ISD receives Paul Harris Fellow Recognition



The North Shore Rotary honored Superintendent Greg Ollis and Channelview High School teacher Steven Shoemaker with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.

Rotary established the Paul Harris Fellow recognition in 1957 to encourage and show appreciation for substantial contributions to the Rotary Foundation Fellowships for Advanced Study, the precursor to Ambassadorial Scholarships.

## SHELDON ISD KASE hosts College Mini Fair



On Friday, Feb 4, KASE Academy hosted its annual mini college fair. Several schools participated including San Jacinto College-North, San Jacinto College-Maritime Campus, Lee College, the University of Houston-Downtown, Texas State Technical College, Texas Barber College, and the Texas Workforce Commission.

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**"When I started learning to box at Hester House, I saw this guy hitting the speed bag, I thought to myself, 'Man, he's a real fighter, I'd better not mess with him.' Of course, I went on to become an Olympic Gold Medalist and the World Champion, And the guy at the speed bag? He became our Champion, Representative Harold Dutton, District 142."**

**—GEORGE FOREMAN**



George Foreman with long-time friend, State Representative Harold Dutton.

**VOTE EARLY FEBRUARY 18-28  
OR ELECTION DAY MARCH 3!**

**"Representative Harold Dutton is still a real fighter!"**

**—George Foreman**

"Representative Harold Dutton touches so many lives in so many positive ways."  
"He's there for the children headed down a bad road, steering them down the right path to opportunity and prosperity."  
"He's there for the senior citizens struggling just to survive, helping them get the health care they so desperately need."  
"And he's always there for our entire community, opposing the forces that have always stood against us."  
"In the upcoming Democratic Primary, please vote for my dear friend, Representative Harold Dutton."  
"Let's keep Harold Dutton fighting for us."

**Harold DUTTON**

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## Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor  
Association of Mature American Citizens

### Ask Rusty – Why Did My Social Security Payment Go Down?

**Dear Rusty:** Upon reading a magazine article about the 2020 COLA increase, I thought I'd share the following: Like others, I received the 1.6% raise in my Social Security benefit. However, after their manipulations with Medicare, the net result was a reduction of \$124 in my Social Security payment. I can't afford their "raise." I now pay double for Medicare! Signed: Disgusted

**Dear Disgusted:** Actually, Social Security and Medicare are two totally separate and financially independent programs, but the Social Security Administration handles enrollment and premium payments on behalf of CMS (the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services). For 2020, your gross Social Security benefit went up by 1.6% as a result of the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), but at the same time the standard Medicare Part B premium went up by \$9.10 to \$144.60 per month. Most Medicare beneficiaries pay the standard premium amount.

If your Medicare Part B premium is deducted from your Social Security benefit you would normally be protected by a provision known as "Hold Harmless," which prevents your Social Security payment from decreasing as a result of an increase in the standard Medicare Part B premium. But if you have any change (other than a COLA increase) to your Social Security benefit amount, or if you pay an "IRMAA" surcharge on your Medicare Part B premium, the "hold harmless" provision doesn't apply to you. In either of those cases your net Social Security payment could go down as a result of an increase in your Medicare Part B premium.

"IRMAA" is Medicare's "Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount" which is a surcharge assessed on Medicare Part B (and Part D) premiums for those with higher incomes (the surcharge varies depending

upon your IRS filing status and income level). I suspect that you are suddenly subject to IRMAA because of a sudden increase in your income and the 1.6% COLA increase to your Social Security was applied to your new Medicare premium. That, however, fell short of covering your entire IRMAA Medicare premium increase and, since you're not protected by the Hold Harmless provision, the remainder was taken from your Social Security benefit.

Most Medicare enrollees pay the standard Part B premium (\$144.60 for 2020) and are protected by the hold harmless provision from a decrease in their Social Security payment. But higher earning Medicare beneficiaries are affected by IRMAA, and I believe that is what happened in your case, especially because you say you suddenly "pay double" for Medicare. This might typically happen if you took a large one-time distribution from a tax-advantaged investment, or received some other form of significant, but temporary, income. The good news is that if your premium doubled because you had a temporary increase in your income in one year, the Medicare premium increase will also be temporary, and you will automatically revert back to the lower premium the following year.

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### Governor charges agency heads with developing workforce plan

AUSTIN — Requirements in House Bill 3, the sweeping school finance law passed by the Texas Legislature in 2019, require the state to plan for long-term workforce development.

On Feb. 13, Gov. Greg Abbott cited HB 3 in assigning the commissioners of three state agencies to identify strategies to meet the state's future workforce needs through his 2016 Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative. He instructed them to deliver a report to him by Sept. 1.

"The passage of House Bill 3 marked the most significant transformation of our education system in decades and an unwavering commitment to shaping the future of our workforce," Abbott said. "We must continue in our efforts to ensure Texans of all ages have access to high-quality education and workforce skills training that empowers them to achieve their full potential."

Abbott assigned Commissioners Mike Morath, Texas Education Agency; Harrison Keller, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and Bryan Daniel, Texas Workforce Commission, to:

—Recommend strategies to ensure students are prepared for future growth at each stage in the educational pipeline;

—Ensure students who pursue higher education and workforce educational programs can complete those programs in a cost-efficient and timely manner;

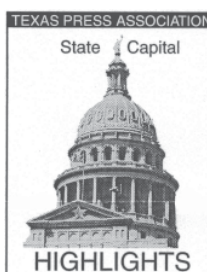
—Analyze and make recommendations regarding strategies to streamline educational pathways, ensuring students can seamlessly transition into high-wage and high-demand careers;

—Improve the capacity within the state to produce credentials of value aligned with the needs of high-wage and high-demand occupations;

—Analyze and make recommendations to increase the supply of highly qualified and well-trained individuals entering the teaching profession across the state;

—Explore and recommend options for increasing economic activity in

### STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



rural Texas, reducing regulatory burdens, and expanding educational partnerships between businesses, school districts and colleges; and

—Identify strategies to align agency operations, increase program efficiency, improve data analysis and capacity.

#### AG sues over travel ban

Texas is on a list of 11 states banned by a California law for state-funded travel. The law, Assembly Bill 1887, applies to states that since June 26, 2015, have enacted laws that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Feb. 10 filed an original action against the State of California in the U.S. Supreme Court, seeking to strike down the travel ban for states that uphold First Amendment protections for religious liberty.

What put Texas on California's list was HB 3859, a 2017 law allowing faith-based foster care and adoption agencies to decline placements they believe would violate their religious beliefs.

"Boycotting states based on nothing more than political disagreement breaks down the ability of states to serve as laboratories of democracy while still working together as one nation — the very thing our Constitution intended to prevent," Paxton said.

#### Revenue is distributed

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Feb. 12 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$1.04 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, which was 9.4% more than the amount distributed for February 2019.

The allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2019 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

In his announcement, Hegar pointed out that Christmas shopping typically occurring in November was shifted into December due to the relatively late date of Thanksgiving (Nov. 28), helping make the February allocations substantially higher than in previous months.

#### Report: Coronavirus case

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported Feb. 13 that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed one case of COVID-19 in a person who has been under quarantine at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland since returning from China on a U.S. State Department-chartered flight.

The individual reportedly is currently isolated and receiving medical care at a local hospital. Authorities said that because the patient has been under quarantine, the case does not change the risk of infection for people in San Antonio or other parts of Texas.

Meanwhile, federal and state health officials ask that travelers stay home, monitor themselves for symptoms and contact their health care provider if they develop fever, cough or shortness of breath within 14 days of being in China.

The Texas Department of State Health Services offers additional information on COVID-19 for the public, health care professionals, health departments and labs at [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus).

### THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

#### "Raising the Roof"

The roof fell in on the church I started attending

The collapse occurred after I'd been coming only a couple of weeks. While I have not always been a regular churchgoer, I thought this was kind of an over-the-top response to my unexpected appearance in church.

The collapse was pretty serious, as it turned out. Several roof joists snapped and the rest were badly compromised and we were not permitted to return to the sanctuary. So, services had to be held in the basement (which was not directly underneath). The roof came down in January—of last year—we are still in the basement.

"What's our word for the year?" one of the church's two pastors would ask at the start of every service.

"Flexibility!" the congregation would reply, in unison.

It might have been my imagination but I sensed that a fair portion of the parishioners felt that yoga class would be a better place to practice this than church.

The first few weeks were a bit disorienting. The basement is long and narrow so it was hard to know how to set up the folding chairs. One arrangement was tried the first week but when we arrived the second week, the chairs were in an entirely new set-up. Older parishioners would enter the room and stand for several long moments, surveying the landscape, to get their bearings.

When the formation of the building committee was announced, there were plenty of eager volunteers. The thing about church committees is that they almost always involve: 1) cooking something, 2) visiting very sick people or, 3) asking people for money.

No one actually likes going to the hospital or asking for money and going to battle with an insurance company beats making a tuna noodle casserole any day of the week. But, as the months went by, I began to worry that this committee was, perhaps, having just a little too much fun. They spent months going back and forth with the insurance adjusters and the committee chairman became a minor celebrity. He'd announce who'd won the latest round in church and folks would cheer as if it were some new kind of competitive sport.

Apparently, we are now getting close.

The project grew, as projects like this almost always do. The pews were in need of refinishing and the radiators needed an upgrade and the lighting was pretty badly damaged when the roof dropped down like the underside of a boat.

"I think we'll be in for Easter!" the chairman announced. That will be sixteen months after the collapse, and far longer, I am sure, than anyone imagined it would be.

On the way out last Sunday, I looked at the pews, lined up in the narthex with a new coat of stain and brand-new cushions on them. It's going to be nice, no question.

But I wondered if I would be the only one to feel a little nostalgic for our year of "flexibility." I wondered if joining this new church would have been as rich an experience if I'd been comfortably sitting in a pew the whole time.

Every week, we've had to move and adapt to change. Every week, the church has faced the challenge of how it can fit everyone in and still accomplish its many other functions the other six days of the week. Every week the congregation has had to work together in ways they never have before.

While I'm certainly not wishing for the roof to fall in on anyone, I'm not sure it's been such a bad thing.

*Till next time,  
Carrie*

NATALIA CORNELIO

for Judge  
351st District Court

HARRIS COUNTY

DEMOCRAT

Election Day March 3rd

Early Voting Feb 18th - 28th

Feb 18th - 22nd → 7am - 7pm

Feb 23rd → 1pm - 6pm

Feb 24th - 28th → 7am - 7pm

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#### TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Targa Midstream Services LLC, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for: Amendment of Permit 101616 Amendment of Nonattainment Permit N214M2 This application would authorize installation of a Fractionation Train within the Mont Belvieu Fractionator located at 10319 Highway 146, Mont Belvieu, Chambers County, Texas 77580. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

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## Goose Creek ISD Rodeo Art Winners



Goose Creek CISD Rodeo Art Gold Medalists, pictured with Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent (back) are (from left) Khorl Jones, kindergarten, Lamar Elementary; Lily Phillips, 8th grade, Highlands Junior and Jackelyn Fernandez, 10th grade, Robert E. Lee High School. Not pictured is Via Cabanez, 2th grade, Goose Creek Memorial High School.



Goose Creek CISD students receiving Rodeo Art Special Merit Awards are (front, from left) LaKeisha Barajas, 10th grade, Robert E. Lee High School; Jennifer Ceja, 10th grade, Robert E. Lee High School and Skylar Newton, 12th grade, Goose Creek Memorial High School. Not pictured is Myreya Avia, 11th grade, Goose Creek Memorial High School. They are pictured with (back, from left) Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, and Susan Chiboroski, director of fine arts.



Goose Creek CISD Rodeo Art Best of Show Awards went to (front, from left) Grethel Carrillo, 7th grade, Highlands Junior; Nola Gaines, 3rd grade, Crockett Elementary; Jodee Prigmore, 11th grade, Ross S. Sterling High School and Jose Alcala, 9th grade, Ross S. Sterling High School. They are pictured with (back, from left) Susan Chiboroski, director of fine arts, and Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent.

Photos by Mima Trujillo

## Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet Thursday, February 13, 2020



BOARD MEMBERS PICTURED at the Awards Banquet, Sherry Lee, John Vann, Blanca Beltran, Jamie Ruiz, Sarah Davis, Gary Guy, Virginia Woods, Patrick Courtney, Julie Rodriguez, Gretchen Knowles, LaNelle McKay, Kathy Jeager (behind), Weston Cotten, Randy Casey.



RANDY CASEY in the new Chamber President.



RANDY CASEY was sworn into office by Judge Lucia Bates.



Firefighter of the Year was Guy Gautier, Jr.



Constable of the Year was Sherman Eagleton.



Business of the Year was Attorney Weston Cotten.



Outgoing President Jim Wadzinski reviewed his 17 years with the Chamber.



BETTY BREWER was recognized for 35 years supporting the Chamber.



Outgoing board members Betty Michalsky and Jim Wadzinski were recognized for their service.

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## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of Ecclesiastes in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which book could be summarized, "God will hold us accountable for all our actions"? Daniel, Hosea, Zephaniah, Haggai

3. In Genesis 28, who had the vision of angels going up and down a ladder reaching into Heaven? Joseph, Ahab, Ehud, Jacob
4. What does Paul say is the supreme gift of the spirit to believers? Faith, Love, Holiness, Eternity
5. In Genesis 19,

where did Lot encounter an angel? Wilderness spring, City gate, New temple, Tent door6. Where did Jesus turn water into wine? Bethany, Nazareth, Cana, Gethsemane  
ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Zephaniah; 3) Jacob; 4) Love; 5) City gate; 6) Cana

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# ASK THE EXPERT

## Lady Mustangs,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



#1 Shalayne Gould, Lady Mustang freshman, game second leading scorer avoids a Longhorn defender for a 2 point basket. She made 100 percent of her free throws.

## Free Coffee Networking

The North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce invites you to Expand your network and gain opportunities, drop in to Coffee Networking event, sponsored by Hampton Inn East Houston I-10, and pitch your business to others in the community! This is a great way to get exposure in a casual setting to those you are interested in and you do not want to miss out!

Complimentary food, drinks, and lots of great networking!

Thursday, Feb. 27th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at Hampton Inn East Houston I-10, 10505 East Frwy., Houston, TX 77029

## ASK DIAMOND JIM

### Diamond Jim: "What is the history of Sterling Silver?"



#### Characteristics of Sterling Silver

The whitest of all of the precious metals, sterling silver has been heralded for centuries for its highly lustrous finish and versatile applications. Although harder than gold, sterling silver is still considered one of the more pliable and supple metals. Its malleability makes silver easy to hammer and mold into various forms and shapes. Silver melts at a slightly lower temperature than gold (1760 degrees F as opposed to 1960 degrees F).

The official designation of "sterling" to a piece of silver indicates that it contains at least 92.5% of pure silver. The remaining 7.5% can be comprised of any other metal alloy, most commonly copper. Although it may seem that an even higher silver content would be desirable, that's not actually the case. Metal alloys with a silver content of more than 92.5% are too pliable to be used without suffering from dents and dings. The second alloy is required to ensure the metal's stability and resilience.

#### Other Types of Silver

In addition to sterling silver, which contains 92.5% silver and 7.5% copper alloy, there are many different varieties and grades of silver in production throughout the world:

**Fine silver:** This type of silver has a silver content of 99.9% or higher. Fine silver is much too soft to be used in everyday applications, such as jewelry or tableware. This premium class of silver is used to make bullion bars for international commerce.

**Britannia silver:** A higher grade than sterling silver, Britannia

has a silver content of at least 95.84%. Originating as a standard in Britain as far back as 1697, Britannia silver is denoted by a hallmark stamp of "958" to indicate its silver content, sometimes accompanied by the symbol of Britannia.

**Mexican silver:** Another premium silver, Mexican silver consists of at least 95% pure silver and 5% copper. This elite form of the metal is not currently in wide circulation in Mexico; most of the silver jewelry and accents sold in Mexican marketplaces is forged from 92.5% sterling.

**Coin silver:** Comprised of 90% silver and 10% copper, coin silver is made from melting down standard silver coins. Lower in silver content than sterling, this metal was widely used as silver tableware in the United States between 1820 and 1868, and as common currency until 1964.

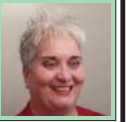
**German silver:** This term is usually used to refer to 800-standard silver, which consists of 80% silver and is commonly used for silverware, silver tableware, and decorative silver accents. 900-standard silver is another higher-grade version of German silver, and has a 90% silver content.

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

*Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).*

*If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email [jmills@pineforestjewelry.com](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com).*

## CHARLOTTE'S WEB



## Doing Your Part

There are times that seem like we are all entirely too busy. The holidays, graduations, vacations, back to school and elections seem to take up much of our lives as well as children's activities and professional development activities. Some days you might want to close the calendar, unplug from the phone and other electronics and perhaps just get in your car and head down to Galveston. As busy as Galveston gets with Mardi gras, other annual events as well as tourists, that might not be your destination of choice. Maybe you want to head down there to leave on a cruise ship.

One thing we learn as adults is that even with vacation time, we still have responsibilities. If we are heading out of town, we often call on the Harris County Sheriff's office or on Constable Eagleton's office to have someone scheduled for a "vacation check" on our home while we are out of town. We typically either ask the post office to hold our mail or perhaps ask a neighbor to pick it up so that it does not invite those who are up to no good to take it from the mailbox. We may stop the delivery of the newspaper, again so that it does not appear that we are gone. Perhaps you are someone who sets timers on different lights in your home to come on and give the appearance of someone being there.

Even when we take that time away, we still have responsibilities of paying bills, checking on family members and making memories. Life is too short not to make some memories.

And making memo-

ries does not have to be expensive. When is the last time you decided to go watch the neighborhood children play baseball or softball? No doubt, the concessions will save you much more than going to a professional event. Maybe the young girls down the street are in the high school choir or drill team? Support them by attending various performances. Check out the local neighborhood restaurants, the smaller ones that are not a part of a large chain. These are the ones that support our various community projects. Bonfire Wings on Woodforest is one of my favorite examples, as the owners rarely say no when someone approaches them to help sponsor an event. Gatti's Pizza has been helping with classroom parties, end of season sporting events as well as birthday parties for decades.

When you are looking for childcare, I realize there are many options but again I suggest you look around and visit those such as Kidztown, Creative Corner and Anointed Childcare. All three of these owners have been involved and giving back for years. They have been here, supported families and continue to make a difference.

In order for our community to remain vibrant and thriving, we much shop at the local stores, eat at the restaurants, invest into the community by supporting the schools and taking pride in the community. Look for details in the next few weeks of a community clean up that if being planned so that you can help teach children and youth to be involved.

## NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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## Early Voting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When you take your vote to the polls, make sure to take one of the following:

- Texas Driver Licence
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- U.S. Citizenship Certificate with photo
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All these forms of ID are acceptable for voting in person.

Voting early is quick and convenient, allowing you to vote at any polling location in your county! To find a location near you, visit [www.VoteTexas.Gov](http://www.VoteTexas.Gov)

Don't wait for Election Day, vote early!

*A message from State Representative District 143, Ana Hernandez*

## 17-year-old gunned down in Channelview

CHANNELVIEW, Texas – February 19, 2020 – Harris County deputies search for shooting suspects after a teen was killed in northeast Harris County last Wednesday morning, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said.

Deputies said they responded to reports of a shooting at around 3:20

a.m. on Mira Colina near Rio Torcido in Channelview. When they arrived at the scene, deputies said they found 17-year-old Tristan Jones with multiple gunshot wounds. Sheriff Gonzalez said the teen was taken to a nearby hospital where he later died.

The investigation is ongoing.

Back Issues of the  
NORTH CHANNEL STAR  
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## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

### TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



#### NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT

AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 101616 AND N214M2

**APPLICATION** Targa Midstream Services LLC, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for:  
Amendment of Permit 101616  
Amendment of Nonattainment Permit N214M2

This application would authorize installation of a Fractionation Train within the Mont Belvieu Fractionator located at 10319 Highway 146, Mont Belvieu, Chambers County, Texas 77580. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.841944&lng=-94.895555&zoom=13&type=r>. The facility will emit the following contaminants: carbon monoxide, hazardous air pollutants, hydrogen sulfide, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on December 30, 2019. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Houston regional office, and the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library, 1 John Hall Road, Mont Belvieu, Chambers County, Texas beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING** You may submit public comments, or request a public meeting or a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all public comments.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application, if requested by an interested person, or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

After technical review of the application is complete, the executive director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision for an Air Quality Permit will then be published and mailed to those who made comments, submitted hearing requests or are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING** You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on those issues submitted during the public comment period and not withdrawn. A contested case hearing may be requested until 30 days after the mailing of the response to comments.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, and daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or an association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

If a hearing request is timely filed, following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

**MAILING LIST** In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Targa Midstream Services LLC, 811 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002-1446 or by calling Mr. Jeff Myhra, Senior Environmental Specialist, at (713) 584-1597.

Notice Issuance Date: January 22, 2020

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

### TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

#### Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: 0612

**Application and Draft Permit.** Targa Midstream Services LLC, 811 Louisiana St Ste 2100, Houston, TX 77002-1446, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a significant revision of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. 0612, Application No. 29448, to authorize operation of the Mont Belvieu Fractionator, a Natural Gas Extraction facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 10319 Highway 146 in Mont Belvieu, Chambers County, Texas 77580. This application is being processed in an expedited manner, as allowed by the commission's rules in 30 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 101, Subchapter J. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.84&lng=-94.900555&zoom=13&type=r>. This application was received by the TCEQ on September 3, 2019. The significant revision will result in a change of emissions for the following air pollutant(s): volatile organic compounds: increase, particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter: increase, hazardous air pollutants: increase, hydrogen sulfide: increase.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas 78753; the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk St Ste H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452; and the West Chambers Courthouse Annex, 10616 Eagle Dr, Mont Belvieu, Texas 77523-7600, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website:

[www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice)

At the TCEQ central and regional offices, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512) 2392900.

**Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing.** Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/) and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

**Mailing List.** In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

**Information.** For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free at 18006874040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained for Targa Midstream Services LLC by calling Mr. Jeff Myhra at (713) 584-1597.

Notice Issuance Date: January 29, 2020

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