

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 9, NO. 30 (#381) THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

FRI. AUGUST 6

Chamber Luncheon

Friday, August 6, 2021 |
11:30am | Jacinto City
Town Center
1025 Oates Rd., Jacinto
City, TX 77029

Program:
Port Houston MWBE/
Business Equity Initiative
Speakers:

Gilda Ramirez, Port
Houston Sr. Director of
Business Equity
MEMBERS: \$20 | NON-
MEMBERS: \$25

NEW MEMBERS (Time in
program to introduce
yourself and your
business /organization.)

RSVP DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3,
2021 | LATE RSVPS
MEMBERS: \$25 | NON
MEMBERS \$30

RSVP: YESENIA@NCACHAMBER.COM
| 713.450.3600 |
WWW.NORTHCHANNELAREA.COM

FRI. AUGUST 13

Roaring Twenties Casino Night

NORTH CHANNEL
AREA FOUNDATION
ROARING TWENTIES CA-
SINO NIGHT

Friday, August 13,
2021

7:00 - 11:00 pm, Jacinto
City Town Center

TOGETHER AGAIN,
OVERCOMING THE PAN-
DEMIC TO RING IN THE
TWENTIES!

Help support a local
area student's education
by raising funds for the
Bill Palko Scholarship!

COME DRESSED IN
YOUR ROARING 20'S
BEST!

Our NCA Foundation
Casino Night Fundraiser
will be here in the blink
of an eye! Join us as we
ring in the twenties by
coming together and
funding the education of
a bright and promising
North Channel Area student
through our Casino Night
Fundraiser. We encourage
you to consider participating
or donating to our event.
Break the stigma around
Friday the Thirteenth,
and bring your luck in
support of our Chamber
Foundation!

LyondellBasell Statement on Chemical Leak at plant

This is a message from
the LyondellBasell La
Porte plant. This plant is
north of SH225 and east
of Independence Park-
way and part of the La
Porte CAC. It is not the
LyondellBasell Channel-
view site.

Good morning,

As a community
member in the Greater
Houston area, you may
have heard about the in-
cident involving the La
Porte Complex's acetyls

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

County returns COVID19 threat level to Orange; urges mask wearing

HARRIS COUNTY –
Judge Lina Hidalgo an-
nounced she was increas-
ing the county's COVID-19
Threat Level Indicator from
Level 3: Yellow, the sys-
tem's second-lowest threat
level, to Level 2: Orange,
the system's second-high-
est threat level due to a rise
in COVID-19 cases.

Threat level 2 indicates
a significant and "uncon-
trolled level" of COVID-19
in Harris County, meaning
that there is ongoing trans-
mission of the virus,



THREAT LEVEL for COVID-19 has been
raised to Level 2 Orange - Significant;
from Level 3 Yellow - Moderate.



JUDGE HIDALGO at last week's news
conference wore a mask, but says she
is not comfortable with it, but urges
everyone to wear a mask for now.

according to the county's
COVID-19 data hub.

At this level, county of-
ficials, urge unvaccinated
residents to minimize con-
tact with others, avoid any
medium or large gather-
ings, and visit only permis-
sible businesses that fol-
low public health guid-
ance.

Hidalgo blamed the del-
ta variant and flattening
vaccination rates for the
increase in infections.

Over the past few weeks

*Continued. See THREAT
LEVEL, page 2*

Beloved JC crossing guard in COVID-19 coma for 63 days

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX. – July
28, 2021 – Norma Mendez
the Jacinto City Elementary
School's crossing guard is
in a medically induced
coma at Houston Method-
ist Clear Lake Hospital af-
ter being stricken by the
COVID-19 virus. She had
deliberated about getting
the vaccine but before she
could get vaccinated she
caught the virus.

According to Norma's
niece, Marissa Gonzalez,
Norma has now been in in-
tensive care and hooked up
to a ventilator for 63 days
at the time of this writing.
Marissa says the family is
asking for prayers and in-
viting others to join their
nightly prayer on social
media with the hashtag
#PrayForNorma.

The 58 year old Mendez
has helped thousands of
parent's drop-off and pick-
up their school kids
through the years where
she's been a guard.

Norma's husband
Danny and she have 2
daughters and 3 grandchil-
dren. Daughter Natalie
Mendez and daughter
Myra Rodriguez and her



NORMA MENDEZ

husband David have 2 chil-
dren.

Natalie said, her mom
has breath in her lungs, so
for us "we're not going to
lose faith", "she not quit-
ting or giving up and nei-
ther are we". Marrisa said
doctors said her lungs have
been scarred by the virus,
as of now her condition
isn't changing.

North Channel Star
writer Allan Jamail was
vaccinated January 4th
and had no adverse reac-
tion and says only a tiny
percent of those vaccinat-
ed have reported some dis-
comfort but not life
threatening. "I encourage
everyone to get vaccinated,

the sooner the better for
yourself, your family and
the citizenry" Jamail said.

Jamail said if anyone
wants to help this family
during their ongoing cri-
ses they can call or text
him at: 281-782-0401 or
email at:
allanj211@aol.com and
he'll get them in touch with
the family.

Worldwide, there is an
alarming surge in corona
virus cases — and health
experts say a key factor in
this latest wave is the new
highly contagious Delta
variant.

The variant is spreading
about 55% faster than the
alpha strain that was first
identified in the United
Kingdom late last year, ac-
cording to the World
Health Organization (WHO)
— and that strain
spreads about 50% faster
than the version that first
began infecting people in
late 2019.

"We should think about
the Delta variant as the
2020 version of Covid-19
on steroids," Andy Slavitt,
a former senior adviser to

*Continued. See JC
Crossing Guard, page 3*

Patient Advocate opens CBD store

**PURE CBD Helping Locals
Understand and Utilize
Alternative Relief**

When Maria Azua and
her husband, Gabriel Rey-
naga decided to learn more
about the CBD industry, it
wasn't because of the grow-
ing trends and buzz
around alter-
native medi-
cine. It was
because they
watched their
two young
daughters suf-
fer in pain
from diseases
that eventual-
ly took their
young lives.

It is with a
heavy heart
when you hear Maria's sto-
ries of burying her 10 year
old and 15 year old daugh-
ters due to type-2 juvenile
diabetes and a rare form of
brain disease called Sand-
hoff's all in the last five
years. Her story resonates
of desperation as a parent
frantic to give relief to her
children who suffered from
bone pain to gastroenterol-
ogy complications. They
researched alternatives
and nothing worked that

gave them the ability to
function and coverage.

The families outreach is
very intentional, "we focus
on helping our customers
in the best way possible to
provide pain relief where
traditional medicine stops.
We tried traditional phar-
maceuticals for pain but it



Maria Azua and Gabriel Reynaga at their
PURECBD Store.

wasn't stable or consistent
for them. Losing two
daughters who suffered
pain lead us to help others
not suffer on their journey.
CBD has been the consis-
tent choice for us as a fam-
ily and to recommend to
others."

***CBD is a non-THC
strain derived from the

*Continued. See
PURECBD store, page 3*

Dems remain in DC, Constable arrests gun-toting driver

WASHINGTON, DC –
More than 50 Texas Dem-
ocratic legislators remain
holed up in a Washington,
D.C. hotel, blocking an ef-
fort by Republicans to
pass more restrictive vot-
ing laws during the pres-
ent special session since
state law requires at least
100 reps to have a
quorum.

The legislators have
been meeting with nation-
al Democratic leaders,
such as Vice President Ka-
mala Harris, but also deal-
ing with an outbreak of
COVID-19 among its
members. At least a half
dozen legislators, who say
they were already vac-
cinated, have tested posi-
tive for the virus while in
the nation's capital.

The legislators are
pushing for federal vot-
ing legislation, called the For

the People Act, which has
already passed the U.S.
House but remains bot-
tled up in the Senate.
Without changes to the
Senate filibuster rule, pas-
sage seems unlikely. The
special session in Austin
ends Aug. 7, but Abbott
has vowed to call another
one if the Democrats re-
main absent, effectively
stopping any legislation
from passing.



LOCAL LEGISLATORS IN WASHINGTON
include Mary Ann Perez, Armando
Walle, and Ana Hernandez.



EAST HARRIS COUNTY –
Harris County Pct. 3 Con-
stable Sherman Eagleton's
Office has released a video
after a driver was accused
of pointing a gun and
shooting at another driver
on Beltway 8 near Wood-
forest Boulevard last
weekend.

"I saw him point the
gun at your car," a man
is heard saying on the
dashcam video to another
man.

Days later, Constable
Eagleton's deputies ar-
rested the suspect, Irvin
Guevara, on a separate
gun charge. Deputies ex-
pect he'll

face charges for the in-
cident on the Beltway as
well.

"There's definitely some-
thing going on there,"
said Chief Deputy Kirk
Bonsal. "You don't wave
at somebody or say hi with
a pistol."

Growing concerns about
road rage have local de-
puties taking action.

"I would say any road
rage that does take place
is a problem and before
it becomes an even bigger
problem, we want to try
and stop

Continued. See Road Rage, Page 5

Sheriff initiates UNIDOS program for Hispanics

Kick-off was held at BakerRipley Saturday; Goal is to provide resources and connections

EAST ALDINE – The public was invited to a kick-off party, held by the Sheriff's office, to introduce a new program called UNIDOS. The event was held last Saturday, at the BakerRipley complex in Town Center. Hundreds of families attended in spite of the intense heat, and the Sheriff's team displayed a great deal of their equipment and services in various locations around the BakerRipley campus. This included a mounted horse patrol, SWAT vehicles, an Autism intervention unit, and the most exciting of the show, the landing and exhibition of the department's helicopter.

The event also included a number of



Families lined up to get a picture with the Sheriff's helicopter.**MORE INSIDE**

exhibits and information tents, by community groups such as Lone Star College -- East Aldine, BakerRipley, Houston Police and Fire Departments, health organizations, and Harris County Precinct 2.

Unidos is a new program aimed at providing assistance to Spanish-speaking residents in Harris County through valuable resources and connections to meet the community's needs.

serves as our Hispanic community liaison and Unidos program coordinator. Unidos will host informational meetings and outreach events to introduce our local Hispanic community to Unidos' mission and the various ways

we serve them. Deputy Blanco will cover a range of topics, including how to report a crime, and address public safety concerns.

The program will help promote safer communities and a better quality of life by establishing meaningful relationships with residents and empow-

ering them through education.

Visitors to the event were able to meet with Deputy Blanco and our community partners at this family-friendly event with children's activities and snacks. If you have any questions, please reach out to us at Unidos@sheriff.hctx.net.



Deputy Blanco and Chief Deputy Toquica welcome.

Threat Level raised,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the region has been hit hard by the arrival of the Delta variant, Hidalgo said during the briefing.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced Tuesday that the Delta variant accounts for an estimated 83 percent of new coronavirus cases in the United States. As for the region Texas is a part of, as of July 17, the variant comprises 84 percent of new coronavirus cases, Hidalgo noted.

Hidalgo also noted that the county's COVID-19 positivity rate is doubling every 2.3 weeks, faster than at any point during the third wave of the disease in December.

"It's not too late," Hidalgo said. "But if we don't act now, it will be too late for many people."

Hidalgo also said “everybody” should resume wearing masks to protect those that aren’t vaccinated. Currently, around 2.1 million Harris County residents, 44.1 percent of Harris County’s total population, are fully vaccinated, according to the county’s COVID-19 data hub.

"I know they're uncomfortable," Hidalgo said. "I don't

like wearing masks either but until we get the numbers back down, let's all wear masks again."

Hidalgo urged eligible county residents to get vaccinated.

“We’re now seeing two Harris Counties,” Hidalgo said during the briefing. “One Harris County that’s fully vaccinated, protected, doing its part to get our economy running and doing its part to protect those who cannot get vaccinated. Unfortunately, we’re also seeing another Harris County that’s hesitant to take action. It’s okay to be a victim of this virus, but it’s not okay to be an enabler.”

Worried misinformation may keep eligible residents from seeking out the vaccine, Hidlago said “unchecked Facebook posts should not drive public health decisions.”

"It's natural to have questions," Hidalgo said. "It's okay to be hesitant at first but there's no shortage of credible information from health experts that show that the vaccines are safe, that the vaccines are effective, that we need to get the vaccines to get through this virus."

During the briefing, Dr. Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also the Co-director of the Texas Children's Center for Vaccine Development, said the delta variant is "far more" transmissible than the origi-

nal COVID-19 virus and warned “We’re looking undoubtedly at a serious surge across the South this summer.”

"The big thing that worries me is by now anyone who's unvaccinated and has been lucky enough to escape COVID, your luck is about to run out," Hotez said. "That's how transmissible this virus is."

Most of the individuals hospitalized with coronavirus being treated in the Texas Medical Center are unvaccinated and 99 percent of the deaths attributed to coronavirus are among the unvaccinated, Hotez said.

According to Texas Tribune, Texas has seen nearly 9,000 COVID-19 deaths since February. All but 43 were unvaccinated. The Texas Department of State Health Services said that agency did not release details about the 43 deaths and noted that these are preliminary numbers, which could change because each case must be confirmed through public health investigations.

Statewide, more than 50,000 people have died of COVID-19 since March 2020, but the rate of deaths has slowed dramatically since vaccines became widely available in April.

For more information on Harris County's COVID-19 threat level indicators, guidance, and related information visit [ReadyHarris.org](https://www.ReadyHarris.org).



**Botox & Booze at
The Boutique!!!**

**Friday
July 30
5:30-9:00**

Fillers!

Free Margaritas!

**Botox By Refine
\$12 a unit!**

**15% off all Boutique
Purchases**

Give Aways!

**@ The
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Depot
112 Denny
St.
Highlands,
TX 77562**



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KHOV.COM/CROSBYPARKVILLAGE | 713-590-4342 | MON-SAT 10AM-7PM, SUN 12PM-7PM | 415 CALAMINT, CROSBY, TX 77532

Crosby Park Village is offered by K. Hovnanian of Houston II, L.L.C. See a Sales Consultant for full details. Equal Housing Opportunity.

Maximum Tax Savings

A color portrait photograph of Jack Noonan, a middle-aged man with a full grey beard and mustache. He is wearing a dark grey suit jacket over a white shirt and a patterned tie. He is seated in a dark wooden chair. Behind him is a framed picture of a ship on the wall and a dark red leather chair.

Jack Noonan B.B.A., T.R.E.B., E.A.

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SHELDON MIDDLE SCHOOLS welcome new group of T-STEM students for 2021-22 year Incoming 6th graders at KMS and NMS received a warm welcome into the T-STEM Academy with a four-day camp where they assisted in developing the STEM culture and design, while completing their first project-based learning assignment. This year, students made a rollercoaster with a presentation about potential and kinetic energy. From drones and robotics to circuits and coding, the camp commenced with an Induction Ceremony for friends and family.

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Board of Trustees recognize alumnus Jordon Fite

At the July 20 school board meeting, Sheldon ISD trustees recognized King High School Class of 2019 graduate Jordon Fite. He is preparing to leave for filming in his role as the Gold Power Ranger in Dino Fury. Fite is an excellent example of Sheldon's mission to provide a personalized environment for students that graduates them ready for their futures.



BOARD PRESIDENT EILEEN PALMER, JORDON FIRE, AND SUPERINTENDENT DR. KING DAVIS.

Sheldon preliminarily selected to receive grant to offer after-school care

Sheldon Independent School District is pleased to announce that Sheldon ISD has been preliminarily selected to receive an award for the 2021-2022 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (After-School Program) Cycle 11, Year 1. This federal program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and

low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children. The grant will support students attending Carroll Elementary, Garrett Elementary, Sheldon Lake Elementary, Sheldon Ele-

mentary, and M. R. Null Middle School. Students attending Stephanie Cravens Early Childhood Academy and Sheldon Early Childhood Academy will access the program via one of the elementary campuses. The funds provided by the grant will assist in offering high-quality after-school programs at no charge to our families. Registration to participate in the program will open August 4, 2021. More information will be provided via the Sheldon ISD website.

Pure CBD Store opens,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hemp plant and legal in Texas. It is used as an alternative for pain management as well as to relieve stress and anxiety. Hemp derived CBD is commonly confused with the cannabis plant that is illegal in Texas.*** When asked about the future of CBD retail, Maria had this to say "Coming out of the pandemic is good timing to open up a small business and introduce these solutions to area providers like chiropractors, holistic medical centers

and other non-traditional providers of relief services. People need help to cope. It's important we all connect together to help our community not just live but thrive." Grand opening festivities were scheduled for: Saturday, June 26, 2021 from 11:30am-8pm located at 12750 Woodforest Blvd at the shops of Woodforest Emporium. Maria and Gabriel's hearts are in the right place, "Connections within

our community bonds us when times are good and when times aren't so great, we need each other! This store gives us neighbors not just residential but churches, schools, medical, the service industry.....there's so much business that we all can help each other live better lives." "We're very excited to be a part of our community and help those who feel at a loss like we once did with our daughters."

Road Rage,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it," said Capt. Jonathan Zitzmann with the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office. Precinct 4 is using a team of up to eight deputies to crack down on aggressive driving. "It's our hope that we can catch these issues before they escalate, so if we can catch the individuals swerving in and out of traffic, if we can catch the individuals driving way over the speed limit, we hope that will hopefully curb some of these road rage incidents we're experiencing," said Zitzmann.

JC Crossing Guard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

President Joe Biden's Covid Response Team. The Delta strain was first identified in India in December 2020. It rapidly became the dominant variant, overwhelming the country's health care system. It was identified in the United Kingdom soon after. "This is the most contagious version of the virus we have seen throughout the whole pandemic," said Ashish Jha, dean of the Brown University School of Public Health. "It's really very contagious." For more information on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness visit the Center for Disease Control at: www.cdc.gov -- click on the disease link window. To get a free vaccine shot check with your medical doctor or go to: houstonmethodist.org/vaccine



TxDOT survey asks wrong questions, offers wrong options on I-45 project

HOUSTON - On June 30, the Texas Transportation Commission directed TxDOT to collect public comments on funding changes to the Unified Transportation Program.

Specific to I-45 NHHIP, the public is being asked whether they support the project as proposed or want to see the funds reallocated to other regions and projects.

"A survey is not public engagement. Further, this survey is framing a false choice," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "We do not intend to play their game. There is a right way to do it, and if it is done right it can be transformational," Mayor Turner said of TxDOT's planned reconstruction of I-45.

Through years of community engagement, the City of Houston has developed key priorities for a successful project, as articulated by Mayor Turner's letters of May 12, 2020 and December 8, 2020. They include:

- Study Segment 1 and 2 alternatives to use only the right of way needed, as determined by a recalculation of future demand based on most recent and relevant data.
- Study dedicated transit lanes with stations that serve adjacent communities.
- Design frontage roads, crossings, and other points of neighborhood interface as City streets.

Keep communities whole by allowing residents and businesses to remain in their neighborhood and increase funding for housing construction to maintain the supply of affordable units.

"There is a path forward for this project," said Mayor Turner. "It entails making commitments related to housing, connectivity, flooding, parks and green space, and multi-modal forms of transportation. It can even work within TxDOT's existing Record of Decision. But it requires TxDOT to take a different approach. The take it or lose it position being offered by TxDOT is not helpful in getting this project done."

Texas Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 6-8

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 6-8. State law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The date of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items are set by the Texas Legislature. "For many families with children who are going back to their school campuses for the first time since the pandemic began,

the sales tax holiday is the perfect opportunity to save money on school supplies and other tax-free items," Hegar said. "As a father with three school-aged children myself, I know how these expenses can add up." Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax-free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org. During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either: -- the item is both deliv-

ered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or -- the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends. Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999, allowing consumers to save millions of dollars in state and local sales taxes each year. The Comptroller's office estimates that shoppers will save an estimated \$107.3 million in state and local sales tax during this sales tax holiday.

Grand Opening!!!

PURE CBD

12750 Woodforest Blvd. Houston, 77015
Monday-Saturday, 11:00 AM-8:30 PM
and Sunday 12:00 PM-5:00 PM.

The Grand Opening will be held Saturday, June 26th we will have complimentary healthy snacks and drinks. Our social media is [INSTAGRAM.COM/PURECBD-HOUSTON](https://www.instagram.com/PURECBD-HOUSTON) our website is: WWW.PURECBDHOUSTON.COM and [FACEBOOK.COM/PURECBDHOUSTON](https://www.facebook.com/PURECBDHOUSTON)

"Bring in this ad during the grand opening and get 15% off total order."

Join HCSO Patrol Deputies in southeast Harris County to talk community concerns in your area.

Thursday August 5, 2021 6pm-7pm

Leon Z. Grayson Community Center 13828 Corpus Christi Street Houston, TX 77015

ASK THE EXPERT

CHARLOTTE'S WEB



Surround Yourself

As a child, my father would tell me that if I surrounded myself with turkeys, I would never soar with eagles. Years later, I found myself sitting in a meeting where people identified themselves by prior habits. After a few months of attending these meetings, I woke up one day and said “I am no longer an alcoholic. Why am I introducing myself as one?”

I began to speak life into myself. When people would ask how I was, I started replying with the truth. I would tell them “I am making it, one day at a time.” Finally, I realized that I needed to speak what I wanted to be into existence.

Today I spent several hours with 20 community members who all have much to be praised for, yet none of them were looking for that. Instead, they were looking to see how they could speak life into others and continue to make a difference in East Harris County. We discussed how we can encourage neighbors and event strangers to look at opportunities that are available. Later in the evening, I spent time with my “Tuesday night family” more often referred to as my Maxwell Mastermind Group. We shared thoughts about starting small but believing big. If each one of us took the time to speak life into just one person today and two tomorrow, how many lives could we touch by 2022?

All of us can remember seeing a line of dominoes perfectly spaced and then someone touches one and then they all knock each other down in perfect rhythm. Imagine if each of us surrounded ourselves with positive people as often as possible and took the time to encourage each other and then to encourage others outside of the circle? What would it look like?

Maybe it would be an older retired Army Veteran who has lived, worked and volunteered in the community for decades sitting down with some young men who never had a close relationship with their fathers and listening to him share about how he went into the Army, gained skills, returned to North Shore, attended San Jacinto College followed by the University of Houston. As he married and had children, he became involved in organizations such as the North Shore Rotary Club, the North Channel Area Chamber and W. D. Ley Family YMCA. Perhaps if he met with four or five young men for an hour once a week, some of them might realize the value of serving in the military. Or perhaps one of the mothers in the room decides to volunteer with young single moms, offering an hour of encouragement once a week. She shares with them the resources that she is aware of and looks for other resources to share with them. As they meet weekly, one by one, the young moms get the courage to apply for college. In time, they all complete college and go to work in the community.

It all starts with surrounding yourself with people who will come along and support one another. While a \$30 million dollar donation for college scholarships blessed many of our recent graduates, YOUR words of encouragement can also make a HUGE difference. Get involved today.

LyondellBasell Chemical leak,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

unit leak that occurred at approximately 7:35 p.m., on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Our response team acted quickly to isolate and contain the leak. I am writing to provide an update about the incident and to address any concerns you may have.

This unit was partially shut down and planned maintenance was underway when the incident occurred. The leak is stopped and clean-up is in progress. Air monitoring conducted during the incident did not indicate actionable levels and monitoring is ongoing. All personnel are accounted for and the appropriate regulatory agencies have been notified including the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Chemical Safety Board.

We are saddened to confirm two contractors were fatally injured and 30 workers, who were potentially impacted, were transported to local hospitals for evaluation and treatment. Twenty-four of the individuals were treated and released. We continue to monitor their conditions. We are keeping the families of the injured in our thoughts, and our prayers go out to their families.

We appreciate the assistance of emergency responders from the City of La Porte and Channel Industries Mutual Aid who responded to the incident. An investigation into the cause of this incident is already underway, and we are cooperating fully with authorities.

We are posting incident updates on www.lyondellbasell.com/response.

We strive to be a good corporate neighbor and wanted to make sure you were informed about the incident. We have reached out to nearby community members to provide them with information and to answer their questions. Please let me know if I can be of assistance. I can be reached at Kara.Slaughter@lyondellbasell.com or 346-302-6732.

Sincerely,
Kara Slaughter
Communication Advisor,
Global External Affairs
LyondellBasell

Man dies after driving car into water near 111 East Loop North service road

Houston police are investigating a fatal accident at 111 East Loop North (East Interstate Highway 610 North) service road about 6:25 p.m. on Sunday (July 11).

The identity of the victim, 43, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant F. Briones and Officer C. Song reported:

Members of the HPD Dive Team were dispatched to the Port of Houston under the freeway at the above address on reports a vehicle, a gray Buick Enclave, had driven into the water. The vehicle was recovered and the victim was located inside. He was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Witness statements and evidence at the scene indicates the man was an employee at the business and may have been distraught. He was seen sitting in his vehicle for a lengthy period of time. The vehicle then left the area, and struck and dislodged a large wooden railroad tie secured to the dock prior to entering the water.

The investigation is continuing.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “What is the birthstone for August?”

AUGUST BIRTHSTONE

We have a birthday present for those born in August: the stunning spinel has been added to your month’s birthstone lineup! August now joins June and December as the only months represented by three gems. The original birthstone for August was Sardonyx, and then peridot was added, becoming August’s primary gem. Now spinel adds its multitude of color choices!

PERIDOT OVERVIEW

Though peridot is widely recognized by its brilliant lime green glow, the origin of this gem’s name is unclear. Most scholars agree that the word “peridot” is derived from the Arabic faridat which means “gem,” but some believe it’s rooted in the Greek word peridona, meaning “giving plenty.” Perhaps that’s why peridot is associated with prosperity and good fortune. Rarely, peridot is also found inside meteorites.

Peridot’s signature green color comes from the composition of the mineral itself—rather than from trace impurities, as with many gems. That’s why this is one of few stones that only comes in one color, though shades may vary from yellowish-green to olive to brownish-green, depending how much iron is present. Most of the world’s peridot supply comes from the San Carlos Reservation in Arizona. Other sources are China, Myanmar, Pakistan and Africa.

SARDONYX OVERVIEW

Sardonyx combines alternating layers of sard and onyx—two types of the layered mineral chalcedony—to create a reddish zebra-striped stone with white bands. Sardonyx, like onyx, shows layers of parallel bands—instead of the chaotic, curved bands that compose agate, another type of chalcedony.

The finest examples of sardonyx, which display sharp contrasts between layers, are found in India. Other sources include Brazil, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Madagascar, Uruguay and the United States.

SPINEL OVERVIEW

The spinel is often assumed to be other gemstones because it tends to resemble either a ruby or sapphire. In fact, some of the most famous rubies in history have turned out to be spinel. But its distinguishing features, like its octahedral crystal structure and single refraction, are what sets it apart from other gems. Significant deposits of spinel have been found in Cambodia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. It has also been found in Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Madagascar, Nepal, Nigeria, Tadjikistan, Tanzania and the U.S.

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the IJO for many years. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.

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

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.



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HELP WANTED

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the heirs of PERRY FUSELIER of Opelousas, Louisiana, please contact Ogden Pitre of Pitre Law Firm at 511 E. Landry Street, Opelousas, LA 70570; Telephone (337) 942-1900.

HELP WANTED

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS


Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Testamentary for Docket No. 492782; Estate of LONNIE GREGORCYK Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JULY 14, 2021.

SUZANNE GREGORCYK N/K/A SUZANNE GREGORCYK HOLCOMB

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JULY 21, 2021.


by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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August 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.; Bayou City Event Center at 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045; Cause Number 2007-20313; TRACT 1: LT 49 BLK 7 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD #0836260000049; Property Address: 0 Forest Trail Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 and TRACT 2: LT 4 BLK 11 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD # 0836300000004; Property Address: 0 Forest Trail Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 and TRACT 3: LT 20 BLK 11 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD # 08363000000020; Property Address: 0 Forest Trail Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 Opening Bid: \$19,500.00; call 832.777.3373 for more information

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Channelview ISD Property Foreclosure Auction;

August 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.; Bayou City Event Center at 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045; Cause Number 2011-28085; TRACT 1: LT 21 BLK 8 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD #0836270000021; Property Address: 0 Forest Trail Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 - Opening Bid: \$9,300.00; call 832.777.3373 for more information

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AUCTION SALE

AUCTION SALE

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Mont Belvieu Bank
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WCC Chamber
Buck's Pizza
Old River-Winfrey
City Hall
HEB Center
OmniPoint Health Clinic

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, on Bid Forms provided, addressed to the President and Board of Directors of Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 6, Channelview, Texas, Harris County, will be received at Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 6, 15902 Market Street, Channelview, Texas 77530 until 2:00 P.M., Thursday, August 12, 2021, and then publicly opened and read for construction of the "Automated Bar Screen for the Wastewater Treatment Plant."

Accompany Bids with acceptable Cashier's or Certified Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount bid, payable without recourse to the District, or a Bid Bond of like amount from an approved surety company, as a guarantee that bidder will enter into a contract.

Secure Plans and Specifications from LJA Engineering, Inc., at <https://bids.lja.com> for One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents, which sum will not be refunded. A printed set can be picked up at LJA Engineering, Inc., East Houston Office, 11821 East Freeway, Suite 360, Houston, TX 77029.

Examine documents at the East Houston office of LJA Engineering, Inc, Amtek Plan Room, Dodge Data & Analytics, AGC of Texas, Construct Connect and the District.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, August 5, 2021, at 2:00 P.M. at the Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 6, Conference Room, 15902 Market Street, Channelview, Texas 77530. Bids from Firms other than the Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference Attendees **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 6

Gary O'Brian
President

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Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal. Harris County Emergency Services District No. 4 is accepting Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals for renovation of existing Fire Station. The Proposal is due no later than Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at Martinez Architects, LP 900 Rockmead, Suite 250, Kingwood, TX 77339. The Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal will be utilized pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code and Ch. 2269, Subchapter D, Texas Government Code. For additional information regarding this project, please contact Mr. Ricardo Martinez (ricardom@martinez-architects.com, 281-346-7371). Request for Proposals may be reviewed or requested from Martinez Architects, made available from Associated General Contractors, McGraw Hill Construction/Dodge, Virtual Builders Exchange.

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