### COMMUNITY NEWS \*

# HIGHLANDS ROTARY **CLUB NEWS**

## Healthcare services in East Harris County

HIGHLANDS - Residents in East Harris County have had fewer choices for serious health services since the East Houston Hospital closed several years ago.

Jeanna Bamburg, CEO of the HCA Bayshore Hospital in Pasadena, gave the Highlands Rotarians an overview of available healthcare services that exist in the area. She spoke last Tuesday at the regular club luncheon.

Bamburg was raised in Highlands, so therefore knows conditions here intimately. The area still has two major hospitals, she said, her own Bayshore and the Methodist Baytown facility. Each hospital is expanding, offering more services and higher quali-ty care. In addition, LBJ Hospital is not far away on the North Loop.

Bamburg has two degrees from UHClear Lake, and is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, serving as president of the Southeast Texas Chapter. She also has membership in the Pasadena Rotary club, and boards at Pasadena Chamber and San Jacinto College Foundation.

Bamburg's presentation included stories of two patients with serious medical problems, one a brain tumor and the other a heart A-fib problem. Both were treated successfully at Bayshore Hospital with a high level of care and expertise, she said, and indicated that successes such as these are her reward and motivation in her job.



JEANNA BAMBURG, CEO OF HCA BAYSHORE

Bayshore is developing as a Level Two trauma center, with six full-time physicians always in the hospital. It has a total of 1500 staff, 475 affiliated doctors, and 350 beds.

She said that safety, accountability and open dia-logue are factors in a successful hospital, and she works to ensure this at Bayshore.

She told the personal story of losiing her husband to a heart problem that was treated incorrectly due to a misdiagnosis, from which she learned to instill in her staff a sense of teamwork and commu-nication. She said that nationally medical errors are the third most common

Other concerns she dis-

cussed included affordability, and a shortage of doctors and nurses that will peak in a few years. "Who will be available to treat you?" she inquired. Perhaps no one. High cost of health care in hospitals is related to over-regulation, and high costs of pharma-

ceuticals she noted. Healthcare is changing, she said, noting the rise of 24 hour emergency clinics, and specialty clinics such as HCA's Womens Center on I-10, where childbirth is conducted by midwifes.

Many east Harris County residents are using the HCA 24/7 ER on Beltway 8 in Channelview, and it is planning to expand. More of these are being built by HCA and Houston Methodist Baytown.

# **Relief for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome**

BAYTOWN — (February 7, 2020) —Carpal tunnel syndrome refers to a compression or pinching of the median nerve—which travels from the neck through the fingers—that causes numbness and tingling in the hands that is usually worse at night and when the hands are elevat-

Left untreated, carpal tunnel syndrome may progress from an uncomfortable tingling in the hands to a potentially debilitating condition.

Houston Methodist Bay-town Hospital orthopedic surgeon, Jennifer Wagner, MD, a specialist in surgeries of the hands and upper extremities, says while it is established that carpal tunnel syndrome is caused by compression of the median nerve at the wrist, it is not always clear why certain people are susceptible to the condition.

"There are several things that may contribute to the development of the condition, including repetitive activities of the wrist and hands," Wagner said.
"It is more common in diabetics and people with thyroid issues or connective tissue disorders Obesity is also known to be a factor."

Studies indicate that roughly five percent of the U.S. population suffers from some degree of carpal tunnel syndrome. Surgical treatment of the condition is the most frequent surgery of the hand and wrist, with about 500,000 such procedures performed each

The condition affects a wide range of people, including those who spend hours daily typing on a keyboard, mechanics, musicians, landscapers and anyone whose hobby involves repeated, meticu-



Dr. Jennifer Wagner

lous hand or wrist movements.

"It may feel initially like the hand is falling asleep and you need to shake your hand out or hang it over the side of the bed. If you're experiencing this, you should see your physician," Wagner said.

Wagner says the condition is usually diagnosed through an examination of the median nerve, which is housed in the carpal tunnel; a narrow, rigid pas-sageway of ligament and bones at the base of the hand.

Treatment generally begins with a wrist brace to prevent the joint from being involuntarily flexed while the person sleeps. In many cases, that is only action needed. But if braces do not relieve the symptoms, Wagner performs a nerve study to determine the presence of any serious nerve conditions. Often, injecting steroidal medicine into the carpal tunnel relieves symptoms, but surgery may also be needed. Left untreated, the condition may lead to permanent

nerve damage. Surgical options include a procedure called the mini-open procedure.

"This procedure allows me to look directly at the nerve to ensure that nothing is pinching on it,"Wag-ner said. "Using a small incision of about three stitches, it provides for a shorter recovery time than the traditional open surgery that has a very large

Wagner says there are several ways to help pre-vent carpal tunnel syndrome, including using keyboard pads to help keep the wrist in a neutral po-sition; using the entire hand-not just the fin-—to hold objects, and switching hands often when performing repeti-

tive movements. To schedule an appointment with a Houston Methodist Baytown ortho-pedic specialist to determine the possible presence of carpal tunnel syndrome, call 281 427 7400

#### About Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital has provided Baytown and east Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties with quality medical care since opening its doors in 1948. The hospital has grown throughout the years with the community, providing com-prehensive care at all stages of life. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist Baytown provides some of the most advanced and innovative procedures while never wavering from its focus on compassionate and patient-centered care. Houstonmethodist.org/bay-



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# Lung Cancer Screening can save lives

BAYTOWN — (January 31, 2020) — The goal of the comprehensive Lung Cancer Screening Program at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is to help high risk cancer patients receive a diagnosis and treatment plan at an early stage.

The program provides fast, accurate and efficient diagnosis and management of suspicious lung nodules through expert analysis by a radiologist, interventional pulmonologist or thoracic surgeon.

Suspicious lung nodules—small masses of tissue in the lung—are quite common and detected through chest imaging such as X-ray and CT scans. Nodules can be cancerous, though most are benign. Noncancerous nodules usually require no treatment, with your doctor possibly recommending periodic imaging tests to monitor their growth or changes. Patients diagnosed with malignant nodules may begin a treatment plan developed through collaboration between oncologists, pulmonologists and thoracic surgeons.

The Lung Cancer Screening Program also seeks to dispel some of the many myths related to lung cancer and other conditions of the pulmonary system

"Because smoking rates have fallen in recent decades, many people assume that lung cancer is no longer a major health



Houssam Oueini

concern," said Houssam Oueini, pulmonologist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. "But lung cancer remains the deadliest of all cancers. More Americans die each year from lung cancer than from colon, breast and prostate cancer combined, even though most lung cancers are easily prevent-

One of the most persistent misconceptions about lung cancer, especially among long-term smokers, is that it is "too late" to stop. But Oueini says that quitting smoking at any time not only can reduce the risk of cancer, but also provides other health benefits, including improved circulation and heart and lung function.

A smoker can cut his or her risk of lung cancer by as much as 50 percent by quitting," Oueini said. "It's never too late to gain some benefit, and of course, the earlier you quit, the better."

Another common myth is that only smokers get

lung cancer. While smoking is by far the number one cause, approximately 20 percent of lung cancers occur in patients who have never smoked. Some of those cases are the result of genetic mutations; others are caused by environmental factors, such as exposure to asbestos or ra-

don gas.

Regardless of the underlying cause, early detection is critical to survival rates. Lung cancer patients can now benefit from a range of new, targeted therapies, such as low-dose radiation CT scanning for high-risk patients.

"In the past, most patients didn't realize they had lung cancer until it was in an advanced stage," said Oueini. "Screening with CT gives us the oppor-

tunity to detect lung cancer long before it becomes symptomatic or spreads outside the lungs. And early detection is one of the keys to successful treatment."

People 55 to 77 years of age who currently smoke or have quit smoking in the past 15 years, have a tobacco smoking history of at least 30 "pack years" (an average of one pack a day for 30 years, two packs a day for 15 years, etc.), and receive a written order from a physician are eligible for low-dose CT lung screening.

For more information on the Lung Cancer Screening Program at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, visit houstonmethodist.org/bay-

town or call 281-428-4510.



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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

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&Ing=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 TCEO

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 com-

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 comment

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

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 imited 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.tceg.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

### TEXAS COMMISSION ON **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit** 

Draft Permit No.: O612

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. O612, 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&Ing=-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.tceg.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)

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/ 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

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 require 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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