

125th Celebration Concert Event

In honor of Deer Park's 125th anniversary, all residents are invited to a special concert and community event on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 4pm to 9pm, featuring country music star RaeLynn.

Partnering with Shell, the 125th Anniversary Committee, which includes participation from the City of Deer Park, the Deer Park Independent School District and the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce, is offering a family-friendly afternoon of food, history, and fun, leading up to an evening concert. Best of all, it's free to attend! The event will be held in the Abshier Stadium parking lot. Parking arrangements will be available closer to the event date.

"We've spent the entire year building up to this event, and we're looking forward to bringing all of Deer Park together for this family-friendly concert event," Mayor Jerry Mouton said. "It is an honor to announce that RaeLynn, whose hits include 'Lonely Call' and 'Love Triangle,' will be the headliner of our event, with Shell's 7 Mile Perimeter setting the stage. "We want to see our entire community take part in this event - let's celebrate our birthday as a city!"

Join us for the Shell Experience, including a walk through Shell's history in Deer Park, exploring Shell's business in virtual reality, and other family fun activities. Also, make sure to bring your appetite because food trucks from around



the Houston and southeast Texas region will be there offering a variety of delicious treats.

Find event information updates at www.deerparktx.gov/125th, the City of Deer Park Facebook page, or the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

2017-2018 Budget

On July 31, the City Manager presented to the Mayor and City Council a proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins on October 1, 2017 (FY 2017-2018). The City Manager's proposed operating budget totals \$69,489,991. The proposed operating budget expenditures for the major City funds are:

General Fund	\$42,456,581
Water & Sewer Fund.....	10,908,161
Debt Service Fund.....	7,018,928
Special Revenue Fund	1,786,568
Storm Water Utility Fund	337,500
Golf Course Lease Fund.....	176,000
Capital Improv. Fund.....	6,406,253
Ch. 380 Reimbursement Fund	400,000
TOTAL.....	\$69,489,991



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As submitted, the operating budget anticipates a proposed tax rate of \$0.720000/\$100 of valuation, which is the same tax rate as was levied in FY 2016-2017. As in the past, all residential property owners will continue to receive a 20% value reduction on their homestead property for the purpose of computing the property tax. By way of example, the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will pay property taxes on \$80,000 of that value. Additionally, senior citizens, age 65 and older, will continue receiving an additional exemption of \$50,000 on the value of their homestead. Utilizing the same example of a residence valued at \$100,000, a senior citizen

General Information

Elected Officials

Jerry Mouton, Jr.	Mayor
Sherry Garrison	Council Member - Position 1
Thane Harrison	Council Member - Position 2
Tommy Ginn	Council Member - Position 3
Bill Patterson	Council Member - Position 4
Ron Martin	Council Member - Position 5
Rae A. Sinor	Council Member - Position 6

Contact the Mayor and members of City Council by e-mail at cityhall@deerparktx.org.

Department Directors

James J. Stokes	City Manager
Gary M. Jackson	Assistant City Manager
Shannon Bennett	City Secretary
Donna Todd	Director, Finance
Bill Philibert	Director, Human Resources
Bill Pedersen	Director, Public Works
Charlie Sandberg	Director, Parks and Recreation
Rebecca Pool	Director, Library
Robert Hemminger	Director, Emergency Services
Greg Grigg	Chief of Police
James Lewis	Director, Information Technology

Other Appointed Officials

Jim Fox	City Attorney
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City Facilities

Animal Shelter	281-478-7274	4213 Luella
Art Park Players Dinner Theatre	281-478-7288	1302 Center
Avon Recreation Center	281-478-7216	601 W. 8 th Street
Battleground Golf Course	281-478-2080	1600 Georgia
City Hall	281-479-2394	710 E. San Augustine
Claude Burgess Recreation Center	281-478-2060	4200 Kalwick
Community Center	281-478-2050	610 E. San Augustine
Fire Station #1	281-478-2043	1302 Center
Fire Station #2	281-478-7282	711 E. Pasadena Blvd.
Fire Station #3	281-478-7281	2211 East X
Jimmy Burke Activity Center	281-478-2049	500 W. 13 th Street
Kingsdale Center	281-478-7215	2218 Kingsdale
Maxwell Adult Center	281-478-7276	1201 Center
Municipal Court	281-478-7238	1302 Center
Police Station	281-479-1511	2911 Center
Public Library	281-478-7208	3009 Center
Swimming Pool	281-478-2055	610 E. San Augustine
Transfer Station	281-478-7213	610 Underwood
Visitors Center	832-780-0973	203 Ivy Ave., Suite 606

The Messenger is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Deer Park, 710 E. San Augustine, Deer Park, Texas 77536. Go to www.deerparktx.gov to read the newsletter online or to sign up for Notify Me so you can receive the latest edition of the Messenger by e-mail as soon as it is available.

September

- 2 Siren Test 12pm
- 4 City Services Closed - Labor Day
- 5 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 9 Siren Test 12pm
- 11 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 16 Siren Test 12pm
- 18 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 19 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 23 Siren Test 12pm
- 26 LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 30 Siren Test 12pm

October

- 2 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 3 City Council Meeting - 5:30pm
- 7 Siren Test 12pm
- 14 Siren Test 12pm
- 16 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 17 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 21 Siren Test 12pm
- 24 LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 28 Siren Test 12pm

November

- 4 Siren Test 12pm
- 6 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 7 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 11 Siren Test 12pm
- 18 Siren Test 12pm
- 20 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 21 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 23 City Services Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 24 City Services Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 25 Siren Test 12pm
- 28 LEPC Meeting - 11am



1600 Georgia Ave.

www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com

Golf Course 281-478-2080

Republic Grill 281-478-2089

2017-2018 Budget

Continued from pg. 1

will pay property tax on \$30,000 of the value of the residence. As a further benefit for senior citizens, ages 65 and older, the amount of property taxes paid to the city is capped as of the year in which they turn 65. Unless a senior citizen makes improvements to their home, such as adding a room or building a swimming pool, they will never pay more in property taxes to the city than the amount paid in the year they turn 65 years of age, even if their existing residence increases in value. For more information on these exemptions and the tax cap for senior citizens, please contact our Tax Department at 281-478-7222.

The City of Deer Park uses a variety of funds to pay for its operations. The General Fund includes monies for the general operation of the city, including services such as Police, Fire/EMS, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Library, and Administration. The proposed FY 2017-2018 General Fund budget calls for the same tax rate as levied in FY 2016-2017, a net decrease of 1 full-time staff position, and a 2% cost of living increase for full-time city employees.

The City will continue addressing water and sewer capital improvements designated as part of a 10-year capital improvements program. These include \$3.1 million of improvements at our surface water treatment plant, along with the rehabilitation of numerous water and sewer lines throughout Deer Park. FY 2017-2018 is the seventh year of this program. These costs will be funded through the issuance in FY 2017-2018 of nearly \$6,700,000 in certificates

of obligation. The city's Water & Sewer Fund operates as an enterprise fund, which means it derives revenue from water and sewer rates, not property taxes. In recent years, these rates have been increased 5% annually to fund the cost of operations and debt service. The City plans to conduct a new rate study in FY 2017-2018 to update future cost estimates. In lieu of a rate increase, the City has moved a portion of the FY 2017-2018 debt obligations for the water and sewer system to the debt service fund to offset the flat revenue projections. No new full-time positions are proposed to be funded in the Water & Sewer Fund.

Funds in the Debt Service Fund are used to pay the annual interest and principal payments on the city's outstanding bonds, including for FY 2017-2018, a portion of the annual debt obligations for the water and sewer system, as well as the related paying agent fees. These expenditures in FY 2017-2018 are estimated to be \$7,018,928.

Special Revenue Funds have been established to record the revenue and expenditures related to Hotel Occupancy Tax, Municipal Court fees, Police Forfeiture funds, and Grant funds. For FY 2017-2018, proposed Hotel Occupancy Tax expenditures total \$886,832. Several city events are funded through Hotel Occupancy Tax proceeds, including the annual Reindeer Park, partial co-sponsorship of the San Jacinto Day Festival and Battle Reenactment, wayfinding signs, and advertising of Deer Park's 125th Anniversary. Municipal Court fees will fund related Court expenditures of \$355,748 in FY 2017-2018, and Police Forfei-

ture funds will cover \$14,403 of Police Department expenditures. Grant funds of \$529,585 expected from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will be used to cover costs for the city's wetlands project and hike and bike trails.

The Capital Improvements Fund is for the purpose of funding capital improvements on a cash or pay-as-you-go basis, which reduces the use of long-term debt financing. Projects totaling \$6,406,253 in the FY 2017-2018 budget include \$3,622,440 allocated for construction and furnishings of the new City Hall, \$1,633,813 allocated for street improvements, \$200,000 for sidewalk improvements, and \$637,000 for various Parks & Recreation facilities. There is also a \$100,000 contingency for unforeseen capital needs.

The Storm Water Utility Fund allows the City to cover expenses associated with the unfunded federal mandate known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The NPDES mandate requires cities to implement programs and practices to control polluted storm water run-off through a permitting program. These expenses in FY 2017-2018 total \$337,500, and include continued lease-purchase payments toward a new street sweeper and a Gradall vehicle, which is used to clean ditches. Revenues to support this fund stem from a fee of \$1.60 per month per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), an increase of \$0.15 over the present fiscal year.

The Golf Course Lease Fund is used to record the expenditures associ-

2017-18 Budget

ated with operating and maintaining The Battleground Golf Course and Republic Grill through a lease agreement with Touchstone Golf. For FY 2017-2018, the Golf Course Lease Fund expenditures are budgeted at \$176,000 for equipment rental, repairs, maintenance, and a new marquee. Budgeted revenues are down from past years due to the restructuring of the city's lease agreement with Touchstone Golf.

In May 2016, Deer Park voters re-authorized a ¼ cent sales tax for continuation of the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) and a ¼ cent sales tax for continuation of the Fire Control, Prevention

and Emergency Medical Services District (FCPEMSD). These districts are component units of the City, led by their respective Board of Directors. The FY 2017-2018 budgets of both districts provide resources beyond the city's General Fund, which allow for the purchase of many other items to be utilized by the Deer Park Police Department and the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department. FY 2017-2018 budgeted expenditures for the CCPD are \$1,442,096. The FCPEMSD's FY 2017-2018 budgeted expenditures total \$3,810,343.

In May 2015, Deer Park voters approved the Deer Park Com-

munity Development Corporation (DPCDC), a Type B sales tax corporation supported by a ½ cent sales tax. The DPCDC operates under the direction of its own Board of Directors and exists to support 7 specific public parks improvement initiatives. For FY 2017-2018, DPCDC expenditures total \$2,700,900.

For more information about the proposed budget, please contact the City Manager's Office at 281-478-7245. You may also review the proposed budget at www.deerparktx.gov, or visit the City Secretary's Office or the Deer Park Public Library.

City Secretary's Office

Residential Solicitation Ordinance

The City of Deer Park adopted a new ordinance on Sept. 29, 2014, which regulates residential solicitors, peddlers and canvassers, establishes registration requirements for residential solicitors and peddlers, and regulates handbills and commercial flyers.

A *residential solicitor* is a person attempting to obtain a donation, sell a good or service, or distribute a handbill or flyer advertising a commercial event or service for a particular patriotic, philanthropic, social service, welfare, benevolent education, civic, fraternal, charitable, political, or religious purpose.

A *peddler* is a person attempting to sell a good or service.

A *canvasser* is a person attempting to enlist support for a donation to a

particular religion, philosophy, ideology, political party, issue or candidate, or is distributing a handbill or flyer advertising a non-commercial event or service.

Anyone acting as a residential solicitor or peddler within the City of Deer Park must obtain a license from the City Secretary. There is a \$15 fee for a peddler's license, but no fee will be charged for a residential solicitor or canvasser. The license is valid for 14 days. Residential solicitors, peddlers, and canvassers may be in residential neighborhoods between 10am and 30 minutes before sunset of any day, unless they have an express invitation from the resident of the home. They are required to display the license or have it readily available to confirm their compliance with the ordinance.

Residential solicitors, peddlers, and

canvassers should not go onto any private property where a sign has been posted in the front yard or a sign/sticker has been placed on a door or entrance to the residence indicating prohibition against soliciting, peddling, or canvassing. **The sign should not exceed 1 square foot and may contain the words "no soliciting" or "no solicitors" in letters at least 2 inches in height.** Residential solicitors, peddlers, and canvassers must use the front or main entrance to a residence, unless the resident has expressly invited them to do otherwise.

This ordinance does not apply to a federal, state, or local government employee or public utility employee in the performance of their job duties.

Citizens may verify that a solicitor has a permit by contacting the City

City Secretary's Office

Secretary on weekdays between 8am and 5pm at 281-478-2394. You may also call the Deer Park Police Dept. non-emergency line at 281-479-1511 during after hours and weekends.

Roadside Solicitation Ordinance

An application for a license must be submitted to the City of Deer Park, Attention: City Secretary. Obtain the application from the City Secretary's office or our website at www.deerparktx.gov/yourgovernment/citysecretary/licenses/roadsidesolicitation.

The application must be submitted no later than the 12th calendar day before the solicitation is to begin.

Once the application is submitted, the City shall investigate as to the truth and accuracy of the information contained in the application.

An application may be denied or revoked if the license holder has been convicted of a violation of any provisions of the articles as set out in Ordinance No. 3613 or

has knowingly made a false material statement in the application or otherwise becomes disqualified for the issuance of a license, or has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of moral turpitude within 10 years, has been incarcerated for such act within the last 10 years, or is a high risk sex offender as classified by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Should an application for a license be denied, there is an appeal process which shall be followed as outlined in the ordinance.

No persons shall engage in solicitation or sales prior to 8:00 a.m. or after 30 minutes prior to sunset of any day.

No persons shall be allowed in the streets or roadways for the purpose of collecting funds or advertising. All solicitation and advertising must be conducted from the sidewalk areas.

It shall be the responsibility of the

responsible party to display or have available upon their person evidence of a license for roadside solicitation.

The license shall be valid for a period of 14 days from its date of issuance or the term requested, whichever is less.

Any violation or failure to observe the provisions of the ordinance shall cause the responsible party(ies) to be deemed as guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$200. Subsequent to receipt of a citation of a violation, a police or code enforcement officer shall, upon continuation of the violation, seize the license and forward to the City Secretary on the next regular scheduled business day.

For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov, hover over *Your Government* at the top, and click on *City Secretary*. Then click on *Licenses* from the menu on the left. You may also contact the City Secretary's Office at 281-478-7247.

Police Department

False Alarm Reduction

The Deer Park Police Department (DPPD), in partnership with AOT Public Safety Corporation, offers online registration to improve the False Alarm Reduction Program. By reducing the number of false alarms, first responders are available for higher priority calls and crime reduction efforts. For more information on alarm permit applications, renewals, and online payments, go to www.crywolfservices.com/deerparktx. You may also contact the Deer Park

False Alarm Reduction Program by mail at P. O. Box 844908, Dallas, TX 75284-4908, by phone at 1-855-905-0611, or by e-mail at deerparktx@publicsafetycorp.com.

Police2Citizen

Recently, the DPPD renewed access to some online police records via the Police2Citizen portal. The police department provides this service to the community in an effort to promote transparency of government. Using the Police2Citizen portal to access records online saves you a trip to

the police station. And, best of all, there is no charge for the service. Records available through the Police2Citizen portal include basic offense reports, crash reports, and some arrest information. Please note that there may be instances where you will still need to request records directly from DPPD. To request records that are not available online, submit a written request in person at 2911 Center Street, by e-mail at policerecords@deerparktx.org, or by fax at 281-479-4372.

To access the Police2Citizen portal,

Police Department

go to <http://p2c.deerparktx.gov>. You may contact the Records Unit at 281-478-2000 for assistance. However, keep in mind that information in department records cannot be released over the phone.

Citizens interested in viewing crime statistics on a map, go to www.crimereports.com.

Home Alone

Back-to-School sales, football season, and cooler weather can make fall an exciting time of the year. For many families, this will also be a time when parents will make the decision to leave their child home alone after school. Did you know that the State of Texas does not specify at which age a child can be left alone? There is no agreed-upon age when all children are able to stay home alone safely. Children mature at different rates. Although age is an important factor, you should not base your decision entirely on age. To determine if your child is ready to stay home alone, consider whether the child is physically and mentally able to care for themselves, how he or she responds to unfamiliar or stressful situations, and whether your child feels comfortable or fearful about being home alone.

Be sure to set guidelines for your child when he or she will be staying home alone. He or she must have access to a telephone (landline or cellular). Having access to a phone allows your child to check in and communicate with you, especially if there is an emergency. Checking in by phone can bring comfort to the parent and child staying home alone. Confirm that your child knows his or her full name, address,

and telephone number. Talk to your child about what to do in case of an emergency. Make sure he or she can follow the plan and call for help. If you think your child is ready to stay home alone, try it out a few times, such as leaving the child home alone while you go take care of some errands close by.

Staying home alone can be an exciting time for your child. The experience can foster trust between the parent and child and also help the child with confidence and independence.



National Night Out 2017

On Oct. 3, neighborhoods throughout Deer Park are invited to join thousands of communities nationwide for the 34th Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Deer Park Police Dept. Over 16,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world will participate. Sponsors this year include Dietz and Watson, ADT, Kings Hawaiian, Associa, and Ring.

National Night Out, a year-long community building campaign, is designed to: (1) Heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) Generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs, (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-

community partnerships, and (4) Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and plan to fight back. In addition to the traditional outside lights and front porch vigils, most cities celebrate National Night Out with block parties, parades, festivals, safety fairs, and youth activities. On Oct. 3, residents in neighborhoods throughout Deer Park and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on the outside lights, and spend the evening visiting with neighbors and police.

National Night Out emphasizes the importance of partnerships between police and the community, as well as citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. Contact Sheila Plovovich, Community Liaison, at splovovich@deerparktx.org or 281-930-2118 for more information.

Holiday Safety

The holiday season is a time for celebration, but the hectic pace can also make it a stressful time of year. Overcrowded stores and more online shopping increase consumer risks during the holidays. The following safety tips will help protect you this holiday season.

Protect Your Identity

Before heading out to the malls and shopping centers, think about the amount of personal information a thief could acquire if your wallet, purse, or other belongings were stolen. Carry only the credit cards you plan to use. Avoid carrying social security cards, birth certificates, and passports unless absolutely necessary. When shopping online, use only websites that begin with "https:," which indicates that

Police Dept.

the website is secure and encrypting your information. Be sure to log off a website after you have completed your purchase. Check your bank accounts, credit cards, and other financial records on a regular basis. Taking precautionary steps to protect your personal information is key to preventing identity theft.

Beware of Porch Poachers

Items purchased online and dropped off at your front door step provide “porch poachers” the opportunity to intercept home deliveries. When making online purchases, take advantage of text alerts to ensure you are notified when your purchases are delivered. If possible, consider requesting that the delivery driver drop off packages at a specific time and/or location. You may also opt to pick up your items from the nearest facility instead of having them delivered to your home and left unattended.

Travel Safely

Whether you are headed to the shopping mall or traveling to grandma’s for a family celebration, you will encounter risks on the road. Changing weather conditions, as well as an increase in the number of drivers on the road, can often be a cause for concern. Give yourself extra travel time and eliminate distractions.

Beware of Parking Lot Thieves

While shopping for gifts, be cautious if you decide to take items to your car and then continue to shop. Purchases that you leave in your car may catch the attention of thieves roaming through the parking lot. So, remember to always lock the doors, roll up the windows, park in a well-lit area, and hide valuables from plain view.

Public Works



Street Light Outages

Do you know what to do when a street light is out? To report a street light outage, go to <https://slo.centerpointenergy.com> and complete the simple online form. You will have the option of supplying an e-mail address so you can be notified of the status of the request. Identifying the specific street light will ensure the issue gets resolved in a timely manner. You will be asked to enter the 6-digit identification number on the street light pole or estimate the location of the street light on a map. The form allows you to report up to 10 street light issues at a time.

Power Lines

The Public Works Department often receives phone calls regarding trees growing into power lines or items, such as shoes, kites, etc. hanging from the power lines. City employees are not allowed to trim trees or remove these items from the power lines. Please contact CenterPoint Energy for such issues at 713-207-2222.



To report a natural gas leak, call 9-1-1 and then contact CenterPoint Energy at 713-659-2111.

To report an electrical outage, call 713-207-2222.

Resident Reminder

A carport, although considered a permanent structure, cannot be used for any purpose other than motor vehicle or trailer parking. Using a carport as a covered porch or as a storage area is not allowed. Please keep this area clear of any items other than vehicles or trailers. Thank you for your cooperation.



Be Water Wise

Q: Where does Deer Park’s public water system end and your private plumbing begin?

A: At the water meter, the water line on your side of the meter is your property.

Q: Occasionally, I see a city employee open a fire hydrant and let the water run. Why is that done?

A: It is called flushing. It’s a way to scour mineral and other deposits from inside the water main. Water flows out of fire hydrants at a very high velocity, which helps remove any build-up. It’s important to remove these mineral deposits because the accumulation can eventually reduce water flow through the main. Mineral deposits can also cause discolored water if the deposits become dislodged and dissolve in the water. This sometimes occurs after crews repair a damaged water main. Routine preventative maintenance helps keep things running smoothly.



Public Works

City Projects

- **Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project** - This project is identified in the 10-year Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plan and split into two phases. It is being funded with Certificates of Obligation. In November 2015, the City entered into a contract with CDM Smith for the design of Phase II in the amount of \$2,130,425. Phase II of the project has been awarded to LEM Construction in the amount of \$13,636,685. Phase I of the project was awarded to CSA Construction. Construction of Phase I began in June 2015 and was completed in February 2017 at a cost of \$4,998,654.
- **New City Hall** - The City hired cre8 Architects to design the new City Hall. The building is being built on the vacant property east of the existing city hall. After the construction of the new building, the existing building will be demolished. The project has been awarded to Construction LTD at a cost of \$6,121,000. Construction is expected to be completed around April 2018.
- **Police Firing Range and Classroom** - In Nov. 2014, City Council authorized staff to enter into a contract with Griggs Group, Inc. (G2) for the design of the Deer Park Police Firing Range and Classroom. On April 5, 2016, the project was awarded to IKLO Construction in the amount of \$1,881,500. The facility is currently under construction and being funded with CCPD funds.
- **Construction of New Animal Shelter** - In July 2015, City Council approved using funds from Certificates of Obligation for the construction of a new animal shelter and equipment. City Council authorized city staff to negotiate a contract with Quorum Architects, Inc. for professional design services. In April 2017, the project was awarded to Construction LTD in the amount of \$2,240,668. The ground breaking ceremony was held on June 13, 2017. Construction started July 1 and is expected to be completed during the 1st quarter of 2018.
- **Street Replacement Project** - In November 2015, the City received \$7.5 million from the sale of Series 2015 Certificates of Obligation, of which \$4.7 million was allocated for street reconstruction projects. These funds, along with \$1,718,148 in the Capital Improvement Funds (FY 2016-2017) will fund this project. The Street Replacement Project includes Baron Lane, Cork Lane, Dahlia Lane, Ember Lane, Fleet Lane, Glacier Lane, Hastings Lane, Iris Lane, Justin Lane, Kelvin Lane, Amherst Lane, Brown Lane, West 9th Street from Boston Avenue to Center Street, and West 12th Street from the dead end to Center Street. This project is currently in the design phase.
- **Water & Sewer Maintenance Building** - In September 2016, City Council authorized staff to advertise and seek bids on the construction of the new Water & Sewer Maintenance Building, which will be located at the City Maintenance Facility on Luella Avenue. This facility will also serve as a backup Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for city staff. The project was awarded to Arnold Construction in the amount of \$550,485 and is funded out of Certificate of Obligation Bond Funds.
- **Water Treatment Plant Maintenance Shop** - In September 2016, City Council authorized staff to advertise and seek bids on the construction of a maintenance shop, which will be located at the city's Surface Water Treatment Plant located on East X Street. Arnold Construction was awarded the project at a cost of \$221,290. This project is funded out of Certificate of Obligation Bond Funds and is anticipated to be completed in the last quarter of 2017.

Adopt-a-Pet

Dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Deer Park Animal Shelter after a holding period of 3 business days. There is a \$50 adoption fee, plus you must prepay for the spaying or neutering of the animal and a rabies vaccination. To view the pets currently available for adoption, visit the shelter, located at 4213 Luella, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm or Sat., 8am-12pm, or go to www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.AnimalShelter. For more information, call us today at 281-478-7274.



Library News

Friends of the Deer Park Library

The dates for the annual fall book sale will be announced soon. A preview sale will be open to members of the Friends of the Deer Park Public Library. Friends support programs for children, teens, and adults, as well as provide prizes for the summer reading programs. Following the 2012 expansion, the Friends purchased and dedicated The Reading Tree for children of all ages to enjoy. In 2015, the Friends installed a built-in display case to commemorate the library's 50th anniversary. Patrons who wish to support the library are encouraged to join Friends. Annual membership dues begin at \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$2 for senior citizens. For more information, call 281-478-7208.

Matinée Movies

Thursdays, 4pm

Join us for a movie and popcorn after school on Thursdays. Contact the library at 281-478-7208 or youthlibrarian@deerparktx.org for movie titles and suggested age ratings.

Infant Lapsit Storytime

For ages 0 to 2

Wednesdays, 10:15am

September 6-December 20

Storytime features songs, nursery rhymes, socialization opportunities, and so much more! Parents and caregivers are required to stay with the child to help them participate.

Toddler Storytime

For ages 2 to 3½

Thursdays, 10:15am

September 7-December 21

The sessions are designed to encourage a love for books and lan-

guage, increase attention spans, and develop basic social skills. Parents and caregivers are required to stay with the toddler to encourage them to participate.

Preschool Storytime

For ages 3½ to 6

Thursdays, 11am

September 7-December 21

Storytime incorporates books, fingerplays, songs, and activities to promote interest in reading and lifelong learning. In these sessions, children listen to stories and participate in group activities.



A special *Halloween Storytime* session for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers will be offered on October 26 at 10:15am. Refreshments will be served. Costumes are highly encouraged. Parents, don't forget your cameras.

Fall Craft

For ages 5-12

September 12, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the craft are provided to children free of charge. There will be 2 fabulous fall craft options for children ages 5 to 8 and 9 to 12 to choose from.

Halloween Craft

For ages 5-12

October 24, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the craft are provided to children free of charge. Several spooktacular craft options for children ages 5 to 8 and 9 to 12 are available to choose from.

Thanksgiving Craft

For ages 5-12

November 21, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the craft are provided to children free of charge. There will be 2 terrific Thanksgiving craft options for children ages 5 to 8 and 9 to 12 to choose from.

Teen Time

For ages 12 & over

Wednesdays, 4-5:45pm

Teens will enjoy socializing, making crafts, and a little friendly competition at video gaming, board games, and card games. Free snacks are provided by the Friends of the Library. On October 25, Teen Time will feature a Halloweenie Roast, which includes a video gaming tournament and a costume contest. There will be prizes for the winners! On Nov. 22, Teen Time will offer extended hours from 1-4pm.

T.A.B. Meeting

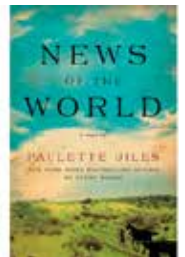
For ages 12-18

1st Tuesday of the month, 4:15pm

Join the Teen Advisory Board and help plan for teen programs. Discuss reading trends and make suggestions for the teen collection. If you are interested, contact Robert at youthlibrarian@deerparktx.org or pick up a form at the library.

Gulf Coast Reads

The Deer Park Public Library is a participant in the annual *Gulf Coast Reads* initiative. A new book is chosen each year to be read and promoted at several libraries in the Southeast Texas region. This year, the selected title is *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles. Set in Texas after the Civil War,



Library News

the book tells the story of an aging itinerant news reader who agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowas back to her relatives in San Antonio.

News of the World is the selected title for October's Mysteries & More Book Club. The book is available in hardcover, large print, and electronic format at the Deer Park Public Library. For more information on *Gulf Coast Reads*, go to www.gulfcoastreads.org.

All *Gulf Coast Reads* events are scheduled for October. The library will host a program in conjunction with *Gulf Coast Reads*. For more information, call 281-478-7208 or stop by the library.

Mysteries & More Book Club

Deer Park Mystery Book Club has changed its name to reflect the broader selection of books to be discussed. The book club is now Mysteries & More. Meetings continue to be every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm. Discussions will be about books from a variety of genres. Registration is not required. You are welcome to come whether you have read the books or not. For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/library or call 281-478-7208.

September 12 - Ghost Stories, *Help for the Haunted* by John Searles & *The Visitor* by Amanda Stevens

October 10 - *Gulf Coast Reads* Book Discussion Group, *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

Book selections for Nov. 14 will be determined in September. Call 281-478-7208 or go to www.deerparktx.gov/library for titles.

Computer Classes

Computer classes are free, but registration is required. Open lab sessions are also available.

- **Introduction to Computers** - Become familiar with computers and technical terminology, plus get comfortable using a mouse, opening software applications, and other basic skills.
- **Browsing the Web** - Learn the basic skills of browsing the world wide web. Topics include search engines, simple search techniques, security precautions, and the basics of e-mail.
- **Using Social Networks** - Learn the basics of social networking sites and how they are used. Websites to be discussed include Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
- **Microsoft Word 2016 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2016 version of Word and learn how to create and edit basic Word documents, including resumes and letters.
- **Microsoft Excel 2016 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2016 version of Excel and learn how to create and edit basic spreadsheets, as well as use simple formulas and functions.
- **Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2016 version of PowerPoint and learn how to create a presentation using themes, illustrations, transitions, and animation.

Special Classes

- **Basic Genealogy** - Learn how to use our genealogy resources to research your family history. Become familiar with Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online.

- **Find a Job** - Become familiar with the resources available to assist you with exploring career opportunities, searching for jobs, creating or updating a resume and cover letter, preparing for an interview, and more.
- **Keys for Career Seekers** - Discover online resources to assist you with each stage of the job search process. Use Career Cruising to search for jobs based on your skills and interests, or create a professional resume in Job & Career Accelerator, and even obtain information from popular career-oriented websites like LinkedIn and Glassdoor. Access the keys that will help unlock your potential as a candidate.

New Classes This Fall

- **Microsoft Excel Shortcuts & More** - Learn shortcuts for navigation, selection, formatting, formulas, and more in Microsoft Excel. You will also learn to use the paste special option and a few formulas for joining and manipulating data. Basic Excel knowledge is helpful.
- **Organizing, Sharing and Saving your Family History** - Now that you've learned the basics of genealogy searching, what do you do with all of those great documents and photos that you've found in your search? Keeping up with all of the information you discovered can be overwhelming, especially if you want to make sure that you pass it down to others in your family. This class will teach you how to care for, organize, and share your genealogy research with your loved ones. Attendance of the Basic Genealogy


Library News

class at DPPL or basic knowledge of genealogy research is required.

For a list of current offerings and a description of all of the computer classes offered at the library, go to www.deerparktx.gov/library.

New Arrivals for Adults

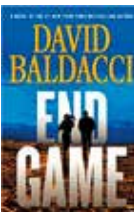
September

- *Y is for Yesterday* by Sue Grafton 
- *A Legacy of Spies* by John le Carre'
- *Haunted: A Michael Bennett Thriller* by James Patterson & James O. Born

October

- *Mind Game: A Novel* by Iris Johansen 
- *Two Kinds of Truth* by Michael Connelly
- *Origin* by Dan Brown

November

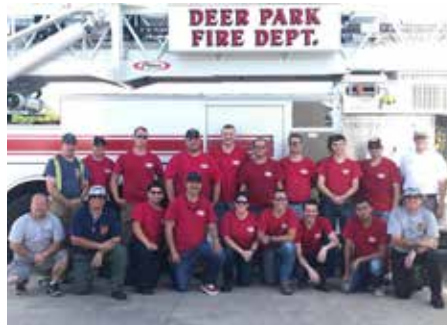
- *End Game* by David Baldacci 
- *The Midnight Line: A Jack Reacher Novel* by Lee Child
- *Hardcore Twenty-four: A Stephanie Plum novel* by Janet Evanovich
- *Snow White, Deadly Night* by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke



Library Hours

Mon. & Wed. 10am-6pm
 Tues. & Thurs. 10am-9pm
 Fri. & Sat. 10am-5pm

Fire Department



Become a Volunteer

Look around and you are bound to find someone in your neighborhood who is a member of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department (DPVFD). These men and women donate time to the community they live in and so should you. We are always recruiting volunteers for our Fire and EMS academy every spring. The academy is available at no cost to you! For more information, go to www.dpvfd.org. If you meet the requirements listed and are interested in becoming a member, submit an application. To keep up with the DPVFD, follow us at www.facebook.com/deerparkfiredepartment.

Fire Prevention Week October 8-14, 2017

Imagine it is 2am and your family is suddenly awakened by the alarming sounds of a smoke detector and the smell of smoke. What do you do? If your family doesn't have a plan, it could jeopardize the safety of your family, and may even prove to be deadly. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as 1 to 2 minutes from the time the smoke alarm sounds to escape safely. That's why home escape planning is so critical in a fire situation. It ensures that everyone in the household knows how to use that small window of time wisely.

“Developing and practicing a home escape plan is like building muscle memory,” said Buddy Rice, Fire Marshal, City of Deer Park. “That pre-planning is what everyone will draw upon to snap into action and escape as quickly as possible in the event of a fire.” This year’s campaign, “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!,” works to better educate the public about the critical importance of developing a home escape plan and practicing it. “Home escape planning is one of the most basic but fundamental elements of home fire safety, and can truly make the difference between life and death in a fire situation,” said Lorraine Carli, National Fire Protection Association's Vice President of Outreach & Advocacy.

In support of Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, the Deer Park Fire Marshal’s Office strongly encourages all Deer Park residents to develop a plan together and practice it. A home escape plan includes having working smoke alarms on every level of the home, in every bedroom, and near all sleeping areas, as well as devising 2 ways out of every room, usually a door and a window, with a clear path to an outside meeting place, such as a tree, light pole, or mailbox, that is a safe distance from the home.



Continued on pg. 20

Parks & Recreation

Pickleball League

Wednesdays, Sept. 13-Oct. 25, 10am-2pm, for ages 55 & over, \$30 per team, Earl Dunn Gym Pickleball is a paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn. It can develop into a fast-paced competitive game for experienced players.

Worldwide Day of Play

September 16, 12-3pm, Dow Park Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play is an entire day devoted to play! To celebrate and encourage everyone to get outside and play, Nickelodeon will go off the air from 12 to 3pm. Join us at Dow Park for games, face painting, inflatables, refreshments, music, and more. The Deer Park Police Department will also have a booth with activities. The event is free so bring the whole family! There will be hot dogs and ice cold water for the first 100 people. Popsicles and popcorn will be available throughout the event.

New this year - Doggie Dip Day at the pool! Friendly dogs and their owners are welcome to enjoy a refreshing swim. All dogs must have current rabies vaccinations and provide proof on the day of the event. Dogs must wear a collar in the pool. Owners must wear a swimsuit. Please bring dog food, a toy, or blanket to benefit our local animal shelter. Dogs are not allowed inside the Community Center.

In case of inclement weather, a limited number of activities will be held inside the Community Center.

Another Man's Treasure

Sept. 15, 7am-3pm & Sept. 16, 7am-2pm, free parking and admission,

Jimmy Burke Activity Center Discover your treasure at the citywide garage sale. Plan to shop for bargains or find out how to become a vendor. All indoor booths.

Booth Prices:

Single (10' x 10') = \$40

Double (20' x 10') = \$50

Triple (30' x 10') = \$60

Goblin Gallop 5K & Children's Monster Mile

Oct. 7, 8am, \$20 pre-registration or \$25 race day for 5K, \$10 pre-registration or \$15 race day for Children's Monster Mile, Deer Park Community Center Walk or run in the Goblin Gallop 5K or Children's Monster Mile this spooky season! This is a USATF certified course. A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to The Rose - Houston, which provides access to screening, diagnostic, and treatment services to all women regardless of the ability to pay.

Outdoor Family Camping

Oct. 14, 9am to Oct. 15, 11am, \$25 per family, Stephen F. Austin State Park, Park Rd 38, San Felipe, TX 77473 The City of Deer Park Parks and Recreation Dept., in conjunction with Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., would like to offer you and your family the opportunity to get away for an overnight camping adventure in one of our beautiful state parks. We have fun activities planned such as fishing, water colors, hiking, and more. There will even be a Halloween contest for the best and spookiest tent. Are you up for the challenge? If so, sign up today!

Halloween Carnival

October 28, 12-3pm, Jimmy Burke Activity Center This Halloween

event for the whole family is free! Wear your craziest family-friendly costume and enter the costume contest (sign up begins at 12pm, contest 12:30-2:30pm, winners announced about 2:45pm), hop on carnival rides, or participate in the pumpkin carving/decorating contest (pumpkin drop-off 11-11:45am). Activities for the little ones include fun games in Pumpkin Town. You can stroll down the friendly community streets of Pumpkin Town for plenty of great carnival games from 12-3pm. Pumpkin Town/carnival ride tickets are sold in bunches of 15 for \$5 and will go on sale from 12-3pm. Tickets may be purchased in the office at the Deer Park Community Center starting Oct. 23 through Oct. 27 until 5pm. Most games in Pumpkin Town require 1-2 tickets. Carnival rides require 6 tickets each or you may purchase a wristband for unlimited rides for \$7 (not available for use in Pumpkin Town). Concessions will also be available for purchase.

Turkey Shoot

Nov. 22, 5-9pm, for all ages, \$10 with Chick-Fil-A box dinner or \$5 without box dinner, Jimmy Burke Activity Center It's time for the annual turkey shoot! All equipment is provided for participants. No personal equipment is allowed. Sign up early for the shoot to include a Chick-fil-A box dinner with your registration and save! Participants will be divided into 4 age groups, starting at age 6. Participants, ages 18 & over, will compete in only archery. The winners in each division will get a prize! Pre-registration is required. Stop by the Deer Park Community Center or call 281-478-2050 to register.

Parks & Recreation

Turkey Camp

Nov. 20-22, 7:30am-5:30pm, for ages 6-12, \$75 per person for residents or \$85 per person for non-residents, Claude Burgess Recreation Center Gobble until you wobble with fun this year during Thanksgiving Break! Enjoy arts & crafts, games, and field trips. You will be so stuffed full of fun after 3 days, there won't be any room for turkey! Limited to the first 45 participants.

Reindeer Park

Dec. 1, 6-9pm & Dec. 2, 4-8:30pm, Jimmy Burke Activity Center Join us for the 7th annual fun-filled 2-day event, Reindeer Park. There will be a Santa's Village with craft vendors, photos with Santa, Santa's Tree Farm, the Christmas tree lighting, snow areas and slides, plus the Reindeer Dash. The Art Park Players will host shows inside the theatre. For more information, including specific activity times and cost, go to www.deerparktx.gov/reindeerpark.

Reindeer Dash

Dec. 2, 8am, for ages 6 & over, \$10 per DPISD student, \$20 per person pre-registration or \$25 per person race day, Jimmy Burke Activity Center Bring the whole family out to the 5th Annual Reindeer Dash 5K Run/Walk. The cross country course will be led by Rudolph! Proceeds will help families in need during the holiday season. Please note that awards will not be given and the race will not be chip timed. There will be a clock timing the event as you cross the finish line.

Breakfast with Santa

Dec. 9, 9-11am, \$10 per child, \$5 per adult, Deer Park Community Center Santa will stop by for breakfast before heading off to the North

Pole to finish preparing for the big day. Children will enjoy making a wish list and holiday crafts. This year, breakfast will be Chick-Fil-A chicken biscuits and fruit. Parents must also purchase a ticket to attend the event. Pre-registration is required.

Sleigh Ride

Dec. 13-17, 1st ride is 6:15-7:30pm, 2nd ride is 7:15-8:30pm, \$5 per rider, Jimmy Burke Activity Center Join us for hot chocolate, cookies, and Christmas lights. Once again, we are loading up the sleighs and enjoying Deer Park's holiday spirit! Reservations must be made in advance. Reservations will be accepted beginning October 9. Children must be accompanied by an adult and a waiver must be signed for each participant. Limit 60 participants per ride.

Art Park Dancers' Holiday Gala

The Art Park Dancers' Annual Holiday Gala is at 8pm on Dec. 22 at the Municipal Court & Theatre Building. The performance includes a preview of the 2017-2018 Competition Dance Season routines. Tickets are \$5 each. For additional information, contact Alice Miller at amiller@deerparktx.org.

Archery Camp

Dec. 27-29, 10am-2pm, for ages 9-15, \$40 per child, Jimmy Burke Activity Center This is a crash course in Recurve Archery! Participants will learn foundational archery skills and about safety from US Archery level 2 certified instructors. Archery instills confidence, increases attention span, and inspires a willingness to try other sports. Lunch is included.

Youth Basketball League

Starts mid-January 2018, for ages 7-12 (must be 7 by 9/1), \$75 per child The number of teams in the league are determined by the number of volunteer coaches registered for the season. Teams will be determined by a blind draft per age division, regardless of the school they attend. Each player receives a basketball jersey. Practices are twice a week. Games are held on Saturdays at a DPISD gym. It's a longer season so we're starting sooner! Register at the Deer Park Community Center or online. Registration ends Nov. 17 at midnight. If you are interested in becoming a youth basketball coach, you are required to complete a background check.

Roscoe's Fishing Adventure

Jan. 26, 4-8pm & Jan. 27, 8am-12pm, free for all ages, Dow Park Pool Join us for a fishing adventure at Dow Park Pool. We're partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife and stocking the pool with fish! Fishing poles will be provided. Registration starts November 1. You must register in person at the Deer Park Community Center. Jan. 26 is reserved for special populations, veterans, and their families. Jan. 27 is open to the general public.

Santa's Workshop

Dec. 21, 4-9pm, for ages 6-12, \$25 per child, Deer Park Community Center Parents, don't miss a chance to check off items on your holiday to-do list. Children will enjoy games, arts & crafts, a movie, and pizza for dinner.

For more information, check out the *Live and Play* brochure at www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec.

Tiffany's Tips

Tree Topping is Harmful to Your Trees

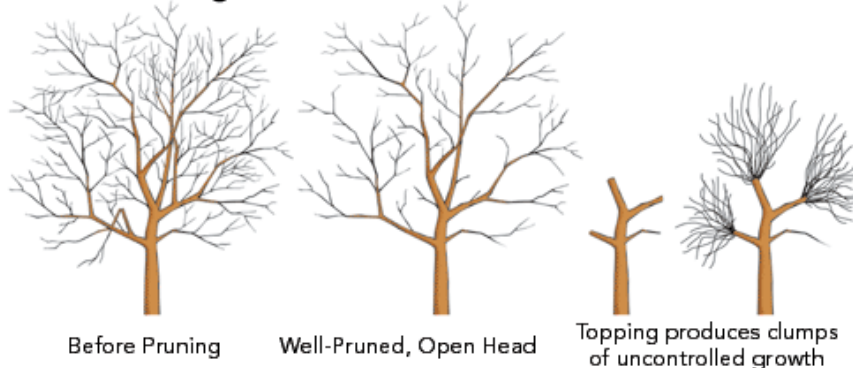
Tree topping has become one of the most harmful common pruning practices. Ash, crepe myrtle, and oak have endured the most damage from tree topping. Arborists who follow tree care industry standards through TCIA accreditation or ISA certification refuse to participate in this practice. Tree topping involves the removal of the entire top of a tree, including the main stem and/or other large branches, leaving stubs or lateral branches that are too small to assume the role of the terminal leader. Other common names for tree topping include hat-racking, heading, rounding over, and tipping.

Reasons Not to Use the Tree Topping Approach

- Starvation - Removing the leaf canopy from a tree not only stresses the tree, but makes photosynthesis difficult to do. Photosynthesis is the means by which trees and other plants turn sunlight into food. Thus, the lack of leaves can lead to the absence of food supply and temporarily starve the tree.
- Shock - The removal of the leafy protective layer exposes the trunk to sun scalding.
- Insects and Disease - Large wounds have difficulty healing, which invite insect invasions and the spread of decay.
- Weak Limbs - Trees respond by sprouting many new limbs that are weakly attached to the main branch.
- Death - Some species of trees are intolerant to topping.
- Appearance - The tree will look disfigured and will not regain its natural form.
- Cost - Reduced property values, plus risk and liability increases as a result of the weakened branches.

Crown reduction is the best method for properly pruning your trees. Planting appropriately sized trees for a location will help ensure the tree will never be topped. Be sure to do your research when hiring a professional company to trim your trees. Check for certifications, insurance coverage, and references. For more information, go to www.isa-arbor.com, www.treesaregood.org, www.arborday.org or contact a certified arborist. You may also contact the Deer Park Parks & Recreation office at 281-478-2050.

A Look at Pruning



Employee Awards

April
Supervisor



Susan Mele
Art Park Players

April
Support Staff



Charlene Tighe
Fire Department

May
Supervisor



Jacob Zuniga
Parks and Recreation

May
Supervisor



Tiffany McGallian
Parks and Recreation



Employee Awards

May

Support Staff



Alyssa Crawford

Utilities Department

May

Field Service



Al Garces

Code Enforcement

June

Supervisor



Debra Culp

Parks and Recreation

June

Support Staff




Brandi Brumley & Analie Cuadras

Police Department

Economic Development

Business News

- Julia Meadows recently opened the *Deer Park Hypnosis Center*, adjacent to her already successful counseling practice, Meadows Counseling Center, located at 4650 Center Street. Julia can use hypnosis to quickly help spark the breakthrough you need when trying to overcome weight issues, stress, anxiety or addictions. See if hypnosis is right for you by calling to schedule your free hypnosis screening at 281-402-5459. For more information, go to www.deerparkhypnosiscenter.com.
- Happy Anniversary to 5 businesses in Deer Park!
 - Shell Federal Credit Union* 80 years
 - Norma's Country Dreams* 30 years
 - Eclipse Massage & Spa* 10 years
 - Brisket House* 5 years
 - Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream* 5 years
- Andrea Pressley, owner of the home-based business *Bath Ever After* in Deer Park, features handcrafted, all natural lotion bars, soaps, and bath fizzies that your skin will love.  Order online at <https://squareup.com/market/bath-ever-after>.
- *Planet Fitness* and *Value Dollar* are now open at 3601 Center Street in the old H-E-B building, renamed Deer Park Marketplace (corner of Center St. and Pasadena Boulevard).
- *Credeur's Cajun Cookin'* recently relocated from their Pasadena location to 6915 Spencer Hwy., near the corner of Spencer and Glenwood Drive.
- Who will you find at *The Junction at Deer Park* retail center (under construction next to H-E-B's gas station at 9315 Spencer Highway)? MOD Pizza, Sub-Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, AT&T Mobile, Nails of America, Ideal Dental, and Yo Yo's Chinese Cafe.
- *Somethin' Sweet* relocated their delicious bakery to 118 Dixie Dr. (across the street from the Deer Park Post Office on San Augustine). Stop by for cupcakes, daily lunch specials, coffee, and much more.
- Troy Wilburn has re-opened *T-Roy's Music Academy* at 2605 Center Street. In addition to selling a full line of music and band accessories, the new store also offers music lessons.

For questions, contact Debbie Westbeld at 281-478-2042 or go to www.deerparktx.gov/ed.

Prescription Program

The City of Deer Park, in collaboration with the National League of Cities, offers a prescription discount card program that may save residents an average of 24% off the regular retail price of prescription drugs at participating pharmacies. The card is free to all Deer Park residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health insurance. For more information, call 888-620-1749 toll free or go to www.deerparktx.gov, hover over *Our Community*, and click on *Prescription Discount Card Program*. Residents may also pick up a card at the City of Deer Park City Hall, Community Center, Public Library, or Police Station.

Maxwell Center

The Maxwell Center's daily operations have moved to the Deer Park Community Center. Activities include ceramics, woodworking, quilting, dominos, cards, oil painting, card making, scrapbooking, bingo, and more. There is something for everyone. All classes have been relocated, so please call us at 281-478-7276 before you join us.

Homebound & Congregate Meals

Deer Park residents who are homebound and over the age of 55 may qualify for a meal delivery service coordinated through the Maxwell Senior Center. If you are a resident of Deer Park and over the age of 55 but are not homebound, you are welcome to participate in the congregate meals offered every weekday at 11:45am. For more information, call 281-478-7276.

Texas Prison Museum

For ages 55 & over

\$10 per person, not including lunch

The Texas Prison Museum offers an intriguing glimpse into the lives of the state's imprisoned citizens. The museum features numerous exhibits detailing the history of the Texas prison system and a look inside the operations behind the fences and walls. We'll stop at a restaurant in Huntsville for lunch after the tour.

Senior Olympics

For ages 55 & over

Sept. 25-29, 9am-12pm

Jimmy Burke Activity Center

Compete to win gold, silver, or bronze in your favorite activity. Events include walking, basketball, bean bag baseball, chair volleyball, dominoes, bridge, and more. Register by Sept. 5 to guarantee a free T-shirt!

Art Park Players

Introducing the Art Park Players 2017-2018 Season

FALL 2017	WINTER 2018	SPRING 2018	SUMMER 2018
			

RENEW NOW! Renew your Membership for the 2017 - 2018 season during Shrek or call the Box Office at 281.794.2448 to renew.

\$1,000 - Deluxe Corporate Includes 6 dinner tickets to Full Season. Screen Advertisement for every show. Priority seating, Playbill recognition.	\$600 - Corporate Sponsor Includes 4 dinner tickets to Full Season, Priority seating, Playbill recognition.	\$220 - Patron Includes 2 dinner tickets to Full Season, Priority seating, Playbill recognition.
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Art Park Players
1302 Center Street
Deer Park, TX 77536
Office: 281.478.7276 Box Office: 281.794.2448
www.artparkplayers.com

The City of Deer Park Parks and Recreation Department
610 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, TX 77536
recreation@deerparktx.org
www.deerpark.gov/recreation

The Drowsy Chaperone

Oct. 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27 & 28

\$30 Dinner and Show Ticket

\$15 Show Only Ticket

Join us for the opening show of the Art Park Players' 38th season, The Drowsy Chaperone. This Tony Award-winning show pays homage to musical comedies of the early 20th century. Music, laughs, and surprises abound when an avid musical theatre fan puts the needle down on his favorite vinyl LP of a fictitious 1928 musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone." The show magically bursts into life with two lovers on the eve of their wedding, a bumbling best man, a misguided Don Juan, an intoxicated chaperone, and a pair of gangsters who double as pastry chefs for an evening of madcap delight.

14th Annual

Louise McBee Circle of Life

Come by the Court & Theatre Building Nov. 28 through Dec. 1 to admire the beautiful wreaths decorating the lobby. Each wreath was graciously donated in honor of someone who has had breast cancer.

The public is invited to participate in the silent auction for the wreaths. The winners will be announced at the end of the evening on Dec. 1.

Last year over 60 wreaths were donated. This year, we are hoping for more. If you would be interested in donating a wreath, contact Susan Mele at 281-478-7288. All donations go to The Rose and are 100% tax deductible.



For more information, call 281-478-7288. To purchase tickets to any of our shows, call the Art Park Players Box Office at 281-794-2448. Unless otherwise noted, productions and auditions are held at the Municipal Court & Theatre Building located at 1302 Center St.

Council Actions

May 2017

- Authorized the purchase and installation of a wrought iron fence in Dow Park at the Mary W. Jackson and William Wilson historical cemetery in the amount of \$4,600.
- Authorized the purchase of high resolution images and permissions to utilize images of Simeon West's letters from Bancroft Library in the amount of \$870.
- Accepted the Deer Park Community Development Corporation's quarterly report for the period of January through March 2017.
- Approved capital improvement requirements from Touchstone Golf, LLC for FY 2017-2018.
- Approved a resolution requesting the members of the 85th Legislative Session of the State of Texas to support funding for the Texas Heritage Trail Program.
- Approved an ordinance moving the date of the July 4, 2017 regular Council Meeting to July 11, 2017, due to the Independence Day holiday.
- Approved an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Classification Scales.
- Approved the canvassing of the votes for the May 6, 2017 City General Election.
- Approved an ordinance declaring the results of the General Election held May 6, 2017.
- Awarded the bid for lease purchase financing of a 2017 Freightliner 108SD-80 truck for the Sanitation Dept. to Signature Public Financing Corporation.
- Awarded the contract to Construction LTD for construction of the new Deer Park Animal Shelter & Adoption Center in the amount of \$2,240,668.
- Accepted the completion of the Surface Water Treatment Plant Sludge Removal project. Final cost was \$485,800.
- Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Second Quarter ending March 31, 2017.
- Authorized staff to seek bids to obtain lease purchase financing for a new 2017 Saf-T-Liner C2 251 school bus for the All Star Activity Program.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for a one-year supply of garbage bags.
- Authorized the issuance of a Request for Qualifications for medical director services for the Deer Park Fire Dept. Emergency Medical Services Operation and negotiating contract terms with selected individuals.
- Approved a recommendation from the Fire Control Prevention and Emergency Services District for a Request for Qualifications for architectural services for the new EMS Sub-Station.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 2 members to the Planning and Zoning Commission/Board of Adjustments.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 2 alternate members to the Board of Adjustment.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 3 members to the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of gasoline and diesel fuel to Petroleum Traders Corp.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of Sodium Hexameta-phosphate for the Water Treatment Plant to Chemrite, Inc. in the amount of \$0.871 per pound for 50,000 pounds.
- Awarded the bid for the construction of Phase II of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement project to LEM Construction, Ltd. in the amount of \$13,636,685.
- Rejected the bids received for the Deer Park Sports Fields and authorized rebidding the projects.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for a one-year contract with the option for an additional year for the printing of the City of Deer Park Messenger.
- Approved the purchase of four License Plate Recognition systems through H-GAC in the amount of \$49,930.
- Accepted the completion of the Dow Park Ditch Regrading project. Final cost was \$35,406.25.
- Accepted the completion of the City Hall Parking Lot Expansion project. Final cost was \$282,747.87.
- Accepted the completion of the SSO Year 6 project. Final cost was \$785,116.37.
- Accepted and recognized the Seminoles football team as a youth football program in Deer Park.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for the Maxwell Adult Center Renovation and Parking Lot Expansion project.
- Approved a change order on the Dow Park Pavilion and Improvements project.
- Approved a recommendation from the Deer Park Historical Committee to purchase a

June 2017

Council Actions

- storybook marker to accompany the State Centennial Marker at Patrick's Cabin.
 - Renewed the contract for the Senior Meals Program with KHSS Ventures, Inc. (Skillet's Restaurant).
 - Approved an agreement for professional services for a study on water system enhancements to the Surface Water Treatment Plant and distribution system.
 - Awarded the bid for lease purchase financing of a 2017 Saf-T-Liner C2 251 school bus for the All Star Activity Program to City National Bank.
 - Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for the lane striping on Center St. and East Blvd.
 - Approved the purchase of audio-video equipment from Ford Audio-Video Systems for the new City Hall in the amount of \$169,702.74.
 - Approved the purchase of audio-video equipment from Ford Audio-Video Systems for the council chambers at the new City Hall in the amount of \$288,876.12.
 - Renewed the agreement with the American National Red Cross for specialized transportation services.
 - Approved the purchase of services from SKE, Inc. to perform the rehabilitation of waterlines on Estate Dr., Kingsdale Dr., and Stephanie Dr., in the amount of \$268,580.72.
 - Approved a contract to acquire country recording artist Rae-Lynn for the free concert on November 4, 2017.
 - Approved the Youth Sports Organization Utilization Agreement with Deer Park Girls Softball for 2017.
 - Approved a resolution to update the City of Deer Park's corporate seal.
 - Approved a resolution to update the personnel manual.
 - Approved an ordinance amending the Industrial District Agreement with Lubrizol Corporation.
 - Approved an ordinance confirming the appointment of Charlie Sandberg as Parks and Recreation Director.
- July 2017*
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of garbage bags to Houston Poly Bag in the amount of \$193,380.
 - Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for January through March 2017.
 - Accepted the completion of the Battleground Golf Course Driveway Improvements project. Final cost was \$207,991.32.
 - Approved the application submission and acceptance of a grant through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act.
 - Authorized the purchase of services from Vaught Services, LLC to perform the Erin Glen Storm Sewer Upsizing project in the amount of \$242,560.50.
 - Approved the purchase of services from SKE, Inc. to perform the relocation of sanitary and water utilities on Ivy Street in the amount of \$48,202.31.
 - Awarded the bid for the city's Messenger newsletter to Richmond Printing in the amount of \$19,932.
 - Awarded the bid for the replacement of the 10" force main at the Harris County Flood Control District Unit B112-00-00 to PMG, LLC in the amount of \$51,463.
 - Awarded the bid for the Center Street and East Boulevard Restriping and Marking project to Stripes and Stops in the amount of \$43,316.75.
 - Authorized the purchase of a Ford Explorer for the Parks & Recreation Dept. from Silsbee Ford in the amount of \$25,834.25.
 - Accepted the certification of the anticipated Tax Collection Rate at 100%.
 - Approved a contract with PAX Water Technologies for water quality improvements at the Coy Street water storage tanks.
 - Approved a Mutual Aid Fire Protection Agreement for mutual aid fire protection for municipalities, volunteer fire departments, and emergency service districts throughout Harris County.
 - Approved an ordinance accepting a donation of real property from Dean Lawther.
 - Approved an ordinance calling a public hearing on the proposed FY 2017-2018 Crime Control and Prevention District budget.
 - Approved an ordinance calling a public hearing on the proposed FY 2017-2018 Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District budget.
 - Approved an ordinance amending Section 26-19 (c) of the Code of Ordinances to allow for an outdoor siren system at Clyde Abshier Stadium.

Facebook

The City of Deer Park is on Facebook! To connect, go to www.deerparktx.gov/facebook.

Register Today - Before a Storm is on its way!
Transportation Assistance Registry

If you will need help evacuating in the event of a hurricane, please dial 2-1-1 to register in advance for a ride. Dial 2-1-1 as soon as possible, if you:

- Have a disability or special health care need and require assistance to get out.
- Cannot drive and cannot arrange for transportation.
- Do not have a vehicle and you have no one else to help you evacuate.

The 2-1-1 registration process gives local emergency planners a better idea of the number of individuals who may need assistance, and the type of assistance they may need. The State of Texas will provide your information back to local emergency planners so they can plan accordingly.

Once you are registered, your information is safe in the state database. There is no need to call either 2-1-1 or your local emergency management office back to verify registration. This includes people who registered last year. Unless there is a change to your information, you do not need to re-register.

You will need the following information to register:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number (There is only room for one number, so please give the best number to call.)
- Contact name
- Contact relationship (aunt, brother, son, friend, landlord, etc.)
- Contact phone number
- Do you need transportation? (yes or no)
- Do you have any pets or service animals? (yes or no)
- Do you have a special medical need? (Describe the type of need you have.)



Save Your Life. Dial 2-1-1 To Register In Advance For A Ride.

Report A Concern

To report a concern or issue that needs our attention, complete this form and return it to:
City Manager, 710 E. San Augustine, Deer Park, Texas 77536.

You can also submit the appropriate form online at www.deerparktx.gov.

Together we can make Deer Park a better place!

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Best time to call: _____

Location of concern: _____

Describe the issue: _____



P.O. Box 700
Deer Park, TX 77536

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Deer Park, Texas
Permit #15

The Mission of the City of Deer Park is to deliver exemplary municipal services that provide the community a high quality of life consistent with our history, culture, and unique character.

Fire Department

Continued from pg. 11

Home Escape Plan

The key to your family's safety is developing and practicing a home fire escape plan. The following are some important reminders for fire escape planning.

- Sit down with all of the members in your household and draw a map of your home, marking 2 exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home. Be sure to practice getting out using different routes.
- Teach your children how to get out of the house safely. This will be especially important if the children find themselves alone or you are unable to get to them quickly.

- Make sure your house number is clearly marked and easy for emergency responders to see.
- Close the doors behind you as you leave the home, since this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

For more information, go to www.nfpa.org/factsheets.

Fire Prevention Parade

Join Sparky on October 7 at 10am to kick off Fire Prevention Week with a parade. The parade route is on Center Street from P Street to 13th Street. Bring the whole family out to see over 100 fire trucks and emergency response vehicles.



Garbage Bags

The city will operate its trash bag distribution center in the west parking lot of the Jimmy Burke Activity Center at 500 W. 13th St. from Oct. 2 through Oct. 21. The distribution center will be open 6am to 6pm on weekdays and 7am to 4pm on Saturdays (Oct. 7, 14 & 21).

In late September, residential customers will receive a yellow coupon in the mail, which will be required to redeem the boxes of trash bags. Through Oct. 21, residents will be able to drive through and pick up 2 free boxes of trash bags. Beginning Oct. 23 through Nov. 22, residents that have not obtained their trash bags will be able to redeem their coupon for 2 free boxes of bags by visiting the utility counter at City Hall, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. After the Nov. 22 deadline, trash bags will be available for purchase at the utility counter, subject to availability, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, excluding holidays.