



Economic Development Newsletter

DEER PARK, TEXAS

March 4th is the Only Day that is Also a Sentence 😊

March 2025 • VOL. 101

Hand Made & Home Made

Deer Park is encouraged to support our local home-based entrepreneurs like Robyn and Matt Smith, owners of Scandalous Soap Company. The Smiths are local residents who started their business in 2018. Scandalous Soap includes bath bombs, bubble bath, shower steamers, lotions, scrubs, dryer balls and more. You can order online at www.scandalousoap.com, or find them at our local vendor markets, including La Porte's



Main Street Trade Days on the first Saturday of each month. Robyn has also published a book entitled *Bath Bomb Revolution*, and she was featured as a contestant on the 2021 TV series *Meet Your Makers Showdown*, where she competed along other soap-makers and earned second place. Be sure to follow them on Facebook, or contact them at hello@scandalousoap.com.

Moving Down the Street

JVision Care is moving their optometry office from 310 W. San Augustine to 122 W. San Augustine (former location of Belvieu Bridal). They expect the new location to be open March 3. Dr. Jo Zhou is the optometrist who took over the practice for Dr. Michelle Lamb, who retired in February 2020. Dr. Jo is a therapeutic optometrist certified as a glaucoma specialist and a University of Houston grad. Call soon to make your appointment for eyeglasses, contact lenses or specialty lens needs. They also have a large selection of designer eyeglass frames and sunglasses.



You can reach the office at (281) 930-0020. You can also book appointments at www.jvisioncare.com or email them at office@jvisioncare.com.

Moving Back In!

The building at 2318 Center Street (near the intersection of San Augustine St.) is now beginning to move in new and former tenants. The building was completely remodeled after being devastated by a tornado in January 2023. Brock Bihm, owner of Mr. Electric, is also the owner of the building, and he still has a few spaces for lease. This beautiful building has the added bonus of covered parking. Interested in leasing office space? Call Brock at (713) 477-1770.



Welders Welcome

Snakebelly, LLC has expanded their welding supply store by relocating to a new storefront location at 2502 Center St. The owners are area locals Jose Garcia and Ruth Castro, who started Snakebelly with the vision to provide the best welding lens in the industry. They have grown to specialize in TIG torches, welding hoods, fabrication products and much more. You can find video demonstrations for many of their products on their website www.arc-show.com, and see many of their products on Facebook. Call them at (832) 429-3034.

More Homes Being Built

East Meadows subdivision will finally construct the last 50 homes, finishing out the subdivision. Spanning between E. Pasadena Blvd. and Spencer Blvd. (just west of Monument Baptist Church and Walmart), East Meadows has a mix of custom built and builder tract homes. These last 50 homes will build-out the subdivision at a total count of 350 homes. This last phase will include 18 custom homes built by Dean Lawther, and his phone number is (281) 479-2326. It will also include 32 tract homes by Hovnanian Home Builders, but the tracts are not quite yet ready for sale. Stay tuned.



55 YEARS!

Charburger

Since 1970, Charburger has been serving up hot and tasty burgers, gyros, homemade onion rings and more to hungry customers at 1921 Center St. Long-time owners and Deer Park residents, The Phillipos family originally moved here from Chicago. They brought with them a restaurant background and several delicious family-recipes that have allowed Charburger to cruise through the last five decades. Congratulations to the Phillipos family and wishing them continued future success. You can call in your order at (281) 479-1143 or find them on Facebook.



A Barber Shop

A Barber Shop is celebrating their 55th year in business. They are located at 314 W. San Augustine, right next door to the south campus high school. Congratulations are in order for the owners, Deer Park locals Bob Quinn and Susan Pagel. They started off in 1970 as the Town Plaza Barber Shop on Center Street. It was 1985 when they moved to their present location in this adorable little building on San Augustine, which is filled with all kinds of fun “barbershop memorabilia” and antiques. They specialize primarily in men’s haircuts, and have master-barbers on staff, but they also love cutting kids’ hair and can do women’s styles as well. Everyone will enjoy their time in this wonderfully charming Deer Park business. Stop by soon – they are open 6 days a week. You can call them at (281) 479-4792 or find them on Facebook.



Ken’s Restaurant

Ken’s Restaurant at 1122 Center Street recently celebrated their 55th anniversary. It was February 3, 1970 when Randy Voltz's dad, Ken Voltz, opened the restaurant, which was originally named Ken’s Taco Burger. Randy took over the helm of Ken’s Restaurant several decades ago, but still serves up the most delicious breakfast and lunch items including an amazing plate of onion rings, along with chicken fried steak, salads, burgers, meat loaf, chicken and dumplings and much more.



Still Growing.....

The conversion of an existing warehouse into the Port of Galveston's fourth cruise terminal is now underway. Galveston Wharves and Switzerland-based MSC Cruises, the world's third-largest cruise line, celebrated the project's groundbreaking on August 20, 2024. The \$151 million project at Pier 16 includes a 165,000 square foot terminal and a \$55 million parking garage. The project is slated to be complete in time for the MSC Seascape to homeport at the new terminal in November 2025. That will make Galveston the fourth MSC homeport in the U.S., joining Miami, Port Canaveral and New York City. Nationwide, Galveston is the fourth-busiest port for cruises, based on its record 3.4 million cruise passengers in 2024. In 2026, Royal Caribbean will launch the Symphony of the Seas from Galveston, which is one of the largest cruise ships in the world.



Bits & Pieces

- Attention entrepreneurs and small businesses; vendors are needed for the Deer Park Pony Baseball opening day event in Deer Park. Email Jessica at jessicahdz.dpb@gmail.com for more information.
- El Jalisciense Mexican restaurant is looking to hire afternoon shift wait staff. Stop by 2428 Center St. if you are interested.
- Add together all the large ship arriving in the largest ports on the east coast AND the west coast on an annual basis, and the number of ships is still smaller than the number of vessels arriving in the Houston Ship Channel. This does not even included the barge traffic.
- Fun Fact: One million seconds is equal to 11 days, one billion seconds is equal to 31 years, and one trillion seconds equals 31,709 years.

Thank you for reading. To see past issues of this bi-monthly newsletter, visit www.deerparktx.gov/ed. To subscribe, submit ideas or comment, email Debbie Westbeld at dwestbeld@deerparktx.org. Subscribers receive this bi-monthly electronic newsletter via email.

Debbie Westbeld, Economic Development Administrator
City of Deer Park

710 E. San Augustine, Deer Park, TX 77536

Phone: (281) 478-2042

Email: dwestbeld@deerparktx.org

Website: www.deerparktx.gov/ed

Get weekly updates – “Like” us on Facebook at *Deer Park Economic Development*