

Economic Development Newsletter

DEER PARK, TEXAS

August is Summer's Grand Finale; Stay Cool by Shopping Local

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A "Must Try"

Owner Brandon Gawthorp first ate "Nashville-style hot chicken" in Las Vegas while there on vacation and fell in love with the flavor. Upon coming back home to Katy, Texas, he decided to embark upon a new business venture by opening Urban Bird Hot Chicken. The restaurant has since opened multiple locations across Texas. Their most recent location will open August 4 at 8015 Spencer Hwy. in Deer Park (next door to Chipotle and the former location of I Heart Mac & Cheese). Brandon's success comes from his commitment to using all-natural, halal, antibiotic and



hormone-free chicken and the perfect combination of flavors and spices. Urban Bird's menu includes the Tender Basket, Urban Fries, and the Sando Combo, all customizable with flavors ranging from "Country" (no heat) to "Fire in the Hole!" Sides like mac and cheese topped with Flamin' Hot Cheetos, kale slaw, and seasoned street corn complement the main offerings. They also serve waffles, shakes, frozen custard and more. See the full menu at www.urbanbirdhotchicken.com or call them at (281) 715-7676.

Business for Sale

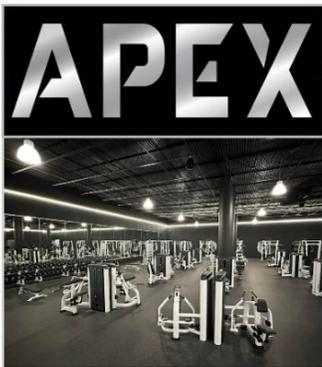
Hers & Mine Boutique, which opened at 4102 Center St. two years ago (right across the street from Sparkling Image carwash) is now for sale. The owners are Tabitha Moody (former owner of Apple Sassy in Pasadena) and Brock Jackson. They are both also full-time healthcare workers, but a great career opportunity has made the owners decide to now sell this successful boutique. If you are interested in becoming a business owner, check out www.businessforsale.com and search for "Turnkey Ready Boutique in Deer Park", where



you will find all key information including the sales price. You can also stop by the boutique to check out their amazing deals on shoes, sweaters, tees, jewelry, handbags, perfumes, ball caps and much more. They are open noon to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Official Grand Opening

Don't miss the grand opening event on August 1 from 10AM to 2PM for Big Mouth Grub at 3602 Underwood Rd., right on the southwest corner of Underwood Road and Pasadena Blvd.—directly across from King's BBQ. The Chamber will be on hand to officiate the official cutting of the ribbon at 11AM. The event will be fun for the whole family with free food, free drinks, face painting, giveaways (including a 65" TV), DJ Victor spinning tunes and much more. Owner Jag Legha has revived the long-quiet kitchen inside the former Anna's Kitchen, located in the station/convenience store. Swing by and enjoy a classic diner vibe at this freshly renovated spot, now serving up a tasty lineup that includes a breakfast taco bar, juicy burgers, black bean burgers, steak fingers, wings, fries, and more.



Expanding!

Apex Gym is currently expanding their 50,000 square foot gym by adding another 12,000 square feet of workout space. Located at 9701 Spencer Hwy. in Deer Park (Spencer at Underwood Rd.), they are installing over 100 new pieces of equipment, plus adding new services and making major upgrades, including a smoothie bar, group fitness classes and a full wellness department with doctor-supervised services like IV therapy, weight loss programs, rejuvenation therapy and much more. The past two years of operation have seen a surge of customers who enjoy 24/7 access, large luxury locker rooms, saunas, an apparel shop and more. The expansion will be completed in early August, but you can stay updated by following them on Facebook or Instagram at [@theapexgym](#) or call (832) 348-6377.

ICT Expands

International Cooling Tower USA (ICT) has expanded into an 18,000 square foot office/warehouse location at 313 Deerwood Glen Dr. in the Deerwood Glen Business Park, located on the south side of Highway 225, just east of Beltway 8. ICT is one of Deer Park's largest employers with offices also located at 4400 Hwy. 225 and 1723 Center St. The company designs, manufactures and constructs a complete line of cooling towers for the petrochemical industry, power plants, refineries and more. Find more at www.ictower.com.



IFS Leases Space

Industrial Flow Solutions (IFS) has leased a 20,000 square foot office/warehouse at 307 Deerwood Glen Dr. in the Deerwood Glen Business Park, located on the south side of Highway 225, just east of Beltway 8. IFS is a global company founded in 2017 specializing in the design, manufacturing, sales and service of wastewater pumps and controls. Find more at www.flowsolutions.com.



What a GREAT Idea:

In previous years, San Jacinto College students would complete their final exam, walk at commencement, and three or four months later they would have to sit for their state licensing exam. After a recent partnership with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR), a new innovative program puts students on a path that lets them get to work faster by allowing the San Jacinto College faculty to administer the state licensing exam at the same time as the



class's final exam. Upon final exam completion, students know whether or not they are licensed to go to work right away. The initial programs included are cosmetology operator, barbering, massage therapy, manicurist and esthetician. The project's first class graduated on May 16 and included about 130 students. They received their state license directly from the TDLR Executive Director during the San Jacinto College commencement ceremony. Instead of waiting months after graduation to be able to work, these students could start working right away. San Jacinto College, which has been serving our community since 1961, was selected for this pilot project because of their continued excellence. They are ranked second in the nation among more than 1,100 community colleges, as designated by the Aspen Institute, and were also name an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction in 2020. We are so fortunate to have them in our community.

Bits & Pieces



- The Dow Active Complex (DAC) grand opening is August 2 from 9AM-12PM. Stop by 610 E. San Augustine for a tour, vendors, membership sign-ups and more.
- Ready to slide into fall sports? CareNow® urgent care is offering sports physicals for only \$35 – no appointment needed. Available now through August 31, 2025. Call (346) 954-6270 or stop by 9055 Spencer Hwy. at the corner of East Blvd.
- The Port occasionally has to shut down the shipping/barge traffic due to fog, hurricanes, union strikes, etc., and they estimate the cost of stopping operations to be \$2.8 million per day.
- Fun Fact: We are now closer to the year 2050 than we are to the year 2000 – which doesn't seem all that long ago.

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

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