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# Off The Shelf

## President's Message

Whether you make New Year's resolutions or not, here's one to consider. Did you know that reading everyday has proven health benefits? Recently, the Huffington Post updated an article that laid out science-backed reasons to go read a book right now.\* These benefits include how effective reading is in helping you overcome stress, keeping your brain sharp, possibly staving off the effects of Alzheimer's, sleeping better, and improving empathy.

Wow! All these benefits and, of course, reading is just plain fun. Remember that feeling when you were a child and hid under the covers with a flashlight to finish a scary story or a comic book. Reading will bring back those pleasant sensations and improve your brain.

You can get all these benefits and it won't cost you a dime because your library has books in all formats to fit your reading needs. If you prefer to read a print book, we have plenty of those. If you want to read on your phone while standing in line or waiting for an appointment, the library has a great selection of ebooks that can be downloaded to phone, tablet or e-reader. There are also audiobooks on CD and in downloadable format for those of you on the go; use your commute time to improve your brain and increase your empathy.

Make a commitment to visit the library to get books and read more in 2018.

Penny Henson  
President, Friends of the Deer Park Public Library

\*Schocker, Laura. "6 Science-Backed Reasons To Go Read A Book Right Now." The Huffington Post, TheHuffingtonPost.com, 6 Dec. 2017, www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/08/05/health-benefits-reading\_n\_4081258.html.

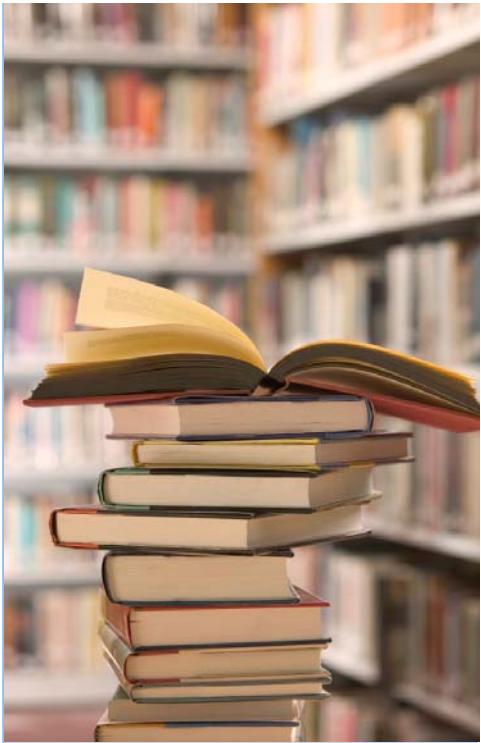


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### DID YOU KNOW THE LIBRARY OFFERS THESE SERVICES?

- E-Books & Audiobooks
- Inter-Library Loans
- Group Study Rooms
- Homework Help
- Craft Classes



#### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Hello! We are working hard to make 2018 a wonderful reading and learning experience at the library. Here are a few highlights:

We are adding a new self-check machine to make it simpler to grab your books and go. The new self-check machine will allow us to introduce credit card payments for fines, as well as printing.

We are growing our Advantage Collection on OverDrive, so your wait for ebooks and downloadable audiobooks will be as short as possible.

We are once again holding a yearlong reading challenge to encourage everyone to read. The 2018 Reading Challenge will focus on forgotten books, so make a pledge to read a classic or re-read your favorite book this year.

We look forward to another great year of Featured Friday programs, kicking off with "The Battle of Galveston" presented by Andy Hall on Friday, January 19.

Hope to see you at the Library soon!

Rebecca Pool  
Library Director

## INDUSTRIAL INTELLIGENCE SERIES

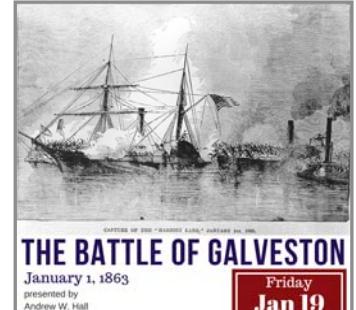
Deer Park Public Library is excited to announce the arrival of trainee guides to enhance our program offerings for patrons seeking to work in industrial fields. In the coming months, we will be collaborating with experts to inform patrons on subjects relevant to industrial work. New classes, branded as "The Industrial Intelligence Series," will be taught in the Library, which will enhance the library's existing class offerings. The addition of the trainee guides will allow us to target these patrons and make a significant contribution to workforce development in the community.



We are pleased to be able to offer materials on more than twenty topics. Topics include boilermaking, welding, pipefitting, and electrical. The first class will be on Tuesday, January 30 at 7 PM in the Library's meeting room. Carla Thompson, Workforce Development Coordinator for the Turner Industries Group, Houston Region, will speak on craft careers, training, and preparing for NCCER certification. NCCER materials will be available in late January or early February.

## FEATURED FRIDAY: THE BATTLE OF GALVESTON JANUARY 1, 1863

Can you believe that 155 years ago, a Civil War battle took place in Galveston, TX? The Battle of Galveston occurred on January 1, 1863. On January 19, 2018, find out what role steamboats played in the battle as well as who won control of the port when Andy Hall discusses the battle at the Library. Mr. Hall is the author of The Galveston-HoustonPacket, Civil War Blockade Running on the Texas Coast, and most recently, an article on The Battle of Galveston in Civil War Navy magazine. He is also a volunteer with the office of the State Marine Archaeologist at the Texas Historical Commission. His presentation will begin at 11 AM in the library's meeting room.



Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Deer Park Public Library. No registration is required and all are welcome to attend. There is no admission fee.

### ***Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale Dates Set***

The Friends of the Library **Spring Book Sale** will be March 20th–24th. The sale will begin with a "Friends Only" preview night on Tuesday, March 20. This year we are adding a **Friends "Happy Hour"** prior to the sale opening. Happy Hour will begin at 4pm so come early to enjoy refreshments, music and friendship. Book sales on preview night will not begin until 5pm so all Friends can participate in Happy Hour. The Book Sale will open to the general public on Wednesday, March 21st. Proceeds from the Friends Book Sale are used to support Library programs such as Feature Friday and assist with children's programming needs.

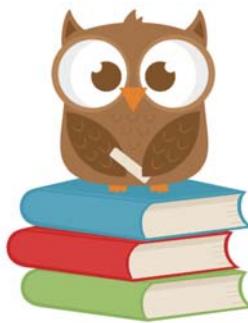
# NAME THE LIBRARY MASCOT

Attention Friends! The Library has some very exciting news to share with you.

Deer Park Public Library will be getting an Owl Mascot and we are looking to *you* to help us find the perfect name.

To enter into our Naming Contest you must:

- \* Be between the ages of 4-18.
- \* Pick up a copy of our Owl Coloring Sheet along with contest rules.
- \* Choose an awesome name. Don't forget to include YOUR name and phone number as well.
- \* Turn in your coloring sheet with that awesome name.



The Naming Contest will end on **March 14, 2018** during Spring Break. A winner will be chosen from the entries and we will announce the new name of our Mascot on **March 16, 2018**.

Along with the honor of having chosen the name for our new Mascot, the winner of the Deer Park Public Library Mascot Naming contest will also be awarded a \$25 book store gift card, courtesy of the Friends of the Deer Park Public Library.

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEE EVELYN MASSEY STEPS DOWN



Longtime Board of Trustee member, Evelyn Massey has decided to step down. When asked to apply for reappointment, she told the Library Director: "It's time to go. The library needs someone younger and more energetic to move forward in this position." Evelyn was appointed on February 1, 1977 and has served on the Library Board of Trustees for 40 years. Her service is marked by her kindness and willingness to always serve and support the Library.

Rebecca Pool, Director of Library said, "We are grateful for the forty years of service she provided to the Deer Park Public Library. You can't truly replace someone like Evelyn Massey. Her support for the patrons, the staff, and myself was unfailing. Over the years, Evelyn worked with the children at the library, as well as serving on the Library Board of Trustee. We were blessed to have had such a wonderful person serving this library and this community."

### Local Author Panel Discussion & Book Signing

Have you ever wondered what goes on in an author's mind? What their writing process is? Or, how they first got published? Join us on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 1 PM, when the Deer Park Public Library will host a panel discussion with local authors that will hopefully answer these questions. Following the panel discussion, author's will be selling and signing their books until 4 PM.

### FROM THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN

#### Graphic Novels

A super popular format of reading for the past several years, and one that will continue to grow, is the Graphic Novel. You will find books of all natures in a Graphic Novel format, from romance to non-fiction. This format of book can be sorely misunderstood and underrated!

The illustrations in these novels help visual learners engage. When images are included with the text, readers are more easily able to decipher the meaning of the text, how it fits in with the story, and are better able to retain what they have learned. Graphic Novels are full of text! Often that text contains higher level vocabulary that other books for readers in the same age range.

Graphic Novels are a wonderful way to get reluctant readers or emergent readers hooked into a story that makes them want to keep reading. For many, Graphic Novels will remain their book of choice but for many others, they serve as a starting point to other types of literature and reading.

As formats of communication evolve, readers are using text and images together to interpret the world around them in texts, tweets, Instagrams, and other social media posts. Graphic Novels tap into that style of communication to present information to readers in a fun and exciting way.

So, encourage your kids to pick up a Graphic Novel and try a new form of reading and remember, all reading is good reading!

Happy Reading,  
Susan Zykorie  
Children's Librarian



## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library is a citizen's organization that contributes greatly to the library. The members promote library services, organize public events, raise money, and sponsor a variety of library activities.

### FRIENDS OFFICERS

President ..... Penny Henson  
Vice President ..... Paulette Lawther  
Treasurer ..... Pat Adams  
Secretary ..... Brenda Spencer

### Membership Dues

The Friends welcome new members. Annual membership dues are \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$2 for seniors and students.

For more information on how you can get involved please call the library at 281-478-7208 or visit us online at [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library). We are also on Facebook at [deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library)

## "FRIENDLY" NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

We can't pass up the chance to inspire you to participate in the Friends of the Library in 2018. Check out these "friendly" resolutions.

- ☞ Visit the Library
- ☞ Renew Your Friends Membership
- ☞ Donate Your Books & DVD's
- ☞ Pick up the Friends Bookmark
- ☞ Attend Friends Meetings
- ☞ Visit the Friends Book Nook
- ☞ Bring A Friend to Happy Hour
- ☞ Shop Amazon & Kroger to support the Friends of the Library
- ☞ Volunteer at a Friend Event

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SPRING CALENDAR

**January 19** @ 11 am - Featured Friday, The Battle of Galveston presented by Andrew W. Hall

**January 22** @ 5pm - Friends Monthly Meeting

**February 7** -@ 4pm-6pm - Teen's Mystery Dinner

**February 24** @ 1pm—4pm - Author Discussion and Book Signing

**February 26** @ 5pm - Friends Monthly Meeting

**March 20** @ 4pm - Happy Hour for member of the Friends of the Library

**March 20** @ 5pm—9pm - Friends Preview night.

**March 21st - 24th** - Spring Book Sale during normal Library hours.

**March 30—31** - Library closed.

**April** - Friends Annual Meeting (date to be determined)

Deer Park Public Library  
3009 Center Street  
Deer Park, Texas 77536

Phone: 281-478-7208  
[www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday ..... 10-6  
Tuesday ..... 10-9  
Wednesday ..... 10-6  
Thursday ..... 10-9  
Friday ..... 10-5  
Saturday ..... 10-5  
Sunday ..... Closed

