



City of Deer Park

# Messenger

Winter 2014

## Santa Around Town

Every December, members of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department escort Santa on a fire truck through the neighborhoods of Deer Park. Beginning Wednesday, December 17 and continuing through Saturday, December 20, Santa will be spreading holiday cheer from 6pm to 9:30pm each night. So, when you hear the sirens and music playing, you'll know Santa is approaching!

This hometown tradition began with a dedicated group of volunteer firefighters 30 years ago. The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department considers this to be a very special event for children and adults alike. To find out when Santa will be in your neighborhood, go to [www.dpvfd.org](http://www.dpvfd.org) or [www.giftofchristmas.com](http://www.giftofchristmas.com).

## Gift of Christmas

The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department (DPVFD) is requesting donations for their annual Gift of Christmas program. Every year, the program provides assistance to over 100 families in need within the Deer Park Independent School District. The Fire Dept. is accepting new, unwrapped toys, non-perishable food items, and monetary donations. Please make checks payable to the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department GOC. To request a collection container for your business, arrange for the firefighters to pick up your donation items, or to inform us of a family in need, call 281-478-7283. Donations will be accepted at Fire Station No. 3, Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm, December 1-18. The DPVFD is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Your help is greatly appreciated.



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### Shop Local Program

The City of Deer Park has partnered with the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce in a new Shop Local campaign, which promotes the advantages of shopping within our own community. Compared to chain stores, local businesses recycle a much larger share of their revenue back into the local economy. Shopping local also promotes Deer Park's one-of-a-kind businesses and encourages their distinctive character. The program educates residents and provides participating businesses with advertising opportunities at seasonal and promotional events. For more information on the Shop Local Program, go to [www.deerpark.org](http://www.deerpark.org).



### Become a Member

Are you interested in serving your community as a firefighter or an emergency medical services provider? The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Dept. is accepting applications for volunteer firefighters and EMS providers. The next academy begins in March 2015. For more information, go to [www.dpvfd.org](http://www.dpvfd.org).

# General Information

## Elected Officials

Jerry Mouton, Jr. ....	Mayor
Sherry Garrison .....	Council Member - Position 1
Thane Harrison .....	Council Member - Position 2
Chris Richey .....	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](mailto:cityhall@deerparktx.org).

## Department Directors

James J. Stokes .....	City Manager
Gary M. Jackson .....	Assistant City Manager
Sandra Watkins .....	City Secretary
Donna Todd .....	Director, Finance
Bill Philibert .....	Director, Human Resources
Bill Pedersen .....	Director, Public Works
Scott E. Swigert .....	Director, Parks and Recreation
Rebecca Pool .....	Director, Library
Malcolm Swinney .....	Director, Emergency Services
Greg Grigg .....	Chief of Police
Linda McHone .....	I.T. Director

## 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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

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](http://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.

## Calendar

### December

- 1 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 2 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 6 Siren Test 12pm
- 13 Siren Test 12pm
- 15 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 16 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 20 Siren Test 12pm
- 24 City Services Closed - Christmas Eve
- 25 City Services Closed - Christmas Day
- 27 Siren Test 12pm

### January

- 1 City Services Closed - New Year's Day
- 3 Siren Test 12pm
- 5 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 6 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 10 Siren Test 12pm
- 17 Siren Test 12pm
- 19 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 20 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 24 Siren Test 12pm
- 27 LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 31 Siren Test 12pm

### February

- 2 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 3 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 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



1600 Georgia Ave.

[www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com](http://www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com)

Golf Course 281-478-2080

Republic Grill 281-478-2089



*Sherry Garrison*

Council Member Sherry Garrison

*Jerry Mouton, Jr.*

Mayor Jerry Mouton, Jr.

*Rae A. Sinor*

Council Member Rae A. Sinor

*Merry Christmas & best wishes for a joyous new year!*  
*Deer Park City Council*

*Thane T. Harrison*

Council Member Thane Harrison

*Ron Martin*

Council Member Ron Martin

*Chris Richey*

Council Member Chris Richey

*Bill Patterson*

Council Member Bill Patterson

## Maxwell Center

The Maxwell Adult Center has a new coffee bar with free Wi-Fi, so bring your iPad and join us for a relaxing cup of coffee. We also have several other activities to choose from, including a pool tournament, a 42 tournament, fishing outings, oil painting classes, and walking clubs. Ceramics classes are at capacity, but check with us periodically to see if any spots have opened up. In addition, the Maxwell Center offers a variety of day and overnight trips.

### Senior Holiday Banquet

Join us for the Senior Holiday Banquet at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center on December 11, starting at 6pm. Call 281-478-7276 to make your reservations.

## Prescription Discount Card 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 20% 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](http://www.deerparktx.gov), hover over *Our Community*, and click on *Prescription Discount Card Program*.

To access the program online, print a card, check drug prices, or locate participating pharmacies, visit [www.caremark.com/nlc](http://www.caremark.com/nlc).

Residents may also pick up a card at the City of Deer Park City Hall, Community Center, Public Library, Maxwell Adult Center, or Police Station.

This is not insurance. Discounts are only available at participating pharmacies. By using this card, participants agree to pay the entire prescription cost less any applicable discount. Savings may vary by drug and pharmacy.



# Fire Department



## Winter Fire Safety

### Fireplaces

- Use a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to keep sparks from escaping.
- Be sure the fireplace fire is completely out before going to sleep.
- Do not close the damper if ashes in the fireplace are still hot. This will force carbon monoxide into the home.
- Discard hot ashes in a metal container and cover. Do not place in a plastic trash can.
- Do not burn charcoal indoors. Charcoal gives off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate a fire.

### Space Heaters

- Use space heaters that meet the latest safety standards and are certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories.
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from bedding, drapes, furniture, or other flammable materials.
- Place the space heater on a level, nonflammable surface. Do not place on rugs or carpets, or on top of tables or countertops.
- Turn the space heater off when you leave the area. Do not leave



- a space heater on while sleeping.
- Do not run any cords under rugs or carpeting. The constant friction of walking over a rug can cause the cord to crack or break, which could cause a short circuit and lead to a fire or electrocution.

## Simple Ways to Improve Fire Prevention & Safety at Home

- Do not ignore the chirping sound your smoke alarm makes when maintenance is required.
- When you reset your clocks in spring and fall, change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Be sure to have at least one working smoke alarm on each level of your home and test your smoke alarms every month.
- Plan and practice a fire escape route with your family.
- Do not leave a burning candle unattended. Keep them away from curtains, lampshades, blankets, and other flammable objects.
- Keep candles and fire-starting materials, such as lighters, matches, and cigarettes, away from children. Remember that having a child-resistant lighter doesn't mean that it is child-proof.
- Use flashlights instead of candles to light your home during power outages.
- Keep fire extinguishers in the kitchen, laundry room, and garage. An extinguisher with an ABC rating can fight fires caused by paper, wood, cloth, flammables, and electrical short circuits.



## Christmas Tree Safety

- When selecting a location for your Christmas tree, be sure it is away from heat sources, such as fireplaces and heat vents, it is not near candles, and it does not block any doorways.
- If you decide to purchase an artificial tree, choose one that is labeled fire resistant.
- If you opt to purchase a real tree, keeping it fresh will make it less of a fire hazard.
- If the tree is a conifer, such as a pine, fir, or cedar tree, fresh means the tree is green and does not shed needles when tapped on the ground, the needles are hard to pull off of the branches and do not break when bent, and that the sticky resin is around the trunk.

## Texas Parks & Wildlife

The new season of the Texas Parks & Wildlife television series airs on DPTV every Tuesday at 7:30pm and repeats on Saturday at 10:30am. You'll be inspired to get outdoors and enjoy all of the interesting parks Texas has to offer. DPTV is available on Comcast channel 16, Comcast digital cable channel 99, and AT&T U-verse channel 99.



# Police Department

## *Read Before You Sign - Alarm System Contracts*

Have you been approached by alarm sales personnel offering deals on equipment or upgrades for existing alarm systems? They may use high pressure tactics to persuade you to sign a long-term contract carrying a hefty early termination fee. You should not sign any contract until you have read the fine print and fully understand the terms of the agreement.

If you've signed a contract without reading the fine print, are you aware of the 3-day cooling off period? This provision enables you to cancel the contract without a penalty and receive a full refund, even if the equipment has already been installed. If an alarm company fails to provide you with a cancellation form, you may have additional time to cancel. If the cooling off period has elapsed and you are experiencing problems with your alarm system, call the alarm company and give them a chance to correct the issues. They are responsible, according to the Texas Occupations Code, to provide you with information on the operation of your system. If you have trouble getting your system serviced, write down your concerns with enough detail so that your alarm company can easily determine how they can assist you. If you are unable to obtain their cooperation and assistance, you may want to consider filing a complaint with the Better Business Bureau ([www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)) and the Private Security Bureau ([www.txdps.state.tx.us/rsd/psb](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/rsd/psb)), which licenses alarm companies and their individual employees.

For information on alarm per-

mits, contact Officer Merv Howard at 281-930-2144 or [mhoward@deerparktx.org](mailto:mhoward@deerparktx.org).

## *Citizen's Police Academy - Class 31*

The Deer Park Police Dept. is currently recruiting citizens for the 31<sup>st</sup> class of the Citizen's Police Academy. Classes begin on Feb. 20 and meet every Thursday, 6:30-9:30pm, until graduation. Classes generally run for 14 weeks and cover several aspects of police-related work.

Classes include hands-on training in SWAT, DWI procedures, self defense, investigations, communications, and many other topics. Prospective students must be at least 18 years old with a clear criminal history, willing to attend the entire academy, and live, work or attend school in Deer Park.

Graduates are encouraged to join the Deer Park Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association. Alumni members continue to interact with the police department in a number of capacities.

The academy is provided free of charge. For more information, contact Sheila Plovovich at 281-930-2118 or [splovovich@deerparktx.org](mailto:splovovich@deerparktx.org).

## *Residential Security Checks*

The Deer Park Police Dept. offers periodic residential security checks to Deer Park residents while they are away from home. Your residence qualifies for a residential security check if the house will remain vacant for more than 72 hours, but less than 1 month. Interested residents may obtain an application at the police station or go to [www.deerparktx.gov/police](http://www.deerparktx.gov/police). Be

sure to complete all sections of the application and return it to the police station in person. You must have photo identification with you when submitting your application. For more information, call 281-478-2000.

## *Shepherd Program*

People diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, autism, or other mental impairment are likely to wander and get lost at some point, which poses a threat to their safety. Preparing for the situation in advance can greatly increase the chances of recovering your loved one quickly and safely. In 2011, the Endangered Missing Persons Alert was added to the Texas Department of Public Safety Alerts Program. This alert acknowledges people who have been diagnosed with cognitive impairment, whose disappearance poses a credible threat to his or her own health and safety, and who do not qualify for an Amber Alert (abduction) or a Silver Alert (over 65 years old).

The Deer Park Police Department's Shepherd Program is designed to collect critical information in the event that it is necessary to issue a Silver or Endangered Missing Persons Alert. To prevent abuse of the alert system, specific requirements must be met before an alert is issued. Some information that is required to issue an alert may be difficult to obtain after business hours or on weekends and holidays, such as a written diagnosis from a physician. Submitting all of the critical information and documentation to the police department in advance will ensure that an alert can be activated quickly if your loved one goes missing. For more infor-

# Police Department

mation on the Shepherd Program, stop by the police station lobby or go to [www.deerparktx.gov/police](http://www.deerparktx.gov/police).



## *Raising Drug-Free Children*

It's a parent's ultimate goal to raise safe, healthy, and drug-free children. Below are some helpful tips on how to do just that.

- Pregnant women should refrain from using drugs, including nicotine and alcohol, during their entire pregnancy. Drugs can damage the unborn fetus as early as 3 weeks after conception. Research also indicates that babies who are born to addicted mothers may be at higher risk for addiction later in life.
- Talk to your children about saying no to drugs. Practice how they should respond when approached with drugs and teach them to avoid places where they may be pressured to use illegal drugs.
- Be an example for your children and teach them early about honesty, fairness, and respect for others, as well as for the law.
- Involve your children in family activities, such as eating dinner together and planning vacations. Teach your children to make the right decisions on their own and not to simply be followers.
- Communicate with your children. Don't worry about how you'll start the conversation on drugs, just talk openly about it.
- Parents should continuously monitor any changes in their child's behavior or appearance and be aware of the types of drugs the child may be exposed to.
- Keep your children involved with hobbies and extra-curricular activities. Research indicates that children are more likely to experiment with drugs when they are bored.
- Set limits for your children, and get to know their friends and their parents. Make sure your children attend only drug-free, chaperoned events and closely monitor their whereabouts.
- A parent must remain directly involved with their children and be a part of their lives in order to immediately notice changes in their behavior.
- Be clear and consistent about the "no drugs or alcohol" policy and emphasize that it applies not only at home, but everywhere your child goes.
- A parent must be prepared to enforce the penalties when rules are broken. Your child should know what the rules are, the reasons for the rules, and what the consequences will be if they're broken.
- You can learn a lot about your child by simply listening. Children are not always in a talking mood, so you must be ready to drop whatever you are doing and listen when they are ready to open up.

# Public Works



## *Stormwater Runoff*

One of the greatest threats to water quality is stormwater runoff. Stormwater runoff is the precipitation that flows over the ground's surface instead of soaking into the ground. When water runs off yards, streets, and parking lots into storm sewers or waterways, it carries sediments that clog streams, reduces oxygen in the water, and picks up chemicals that poison aquatic ecosystems. As the populations in cities continue to increase, the stormwater runoff problem continues to worsen. The impervious surfaces in developed areas, along with the lack of natural vegetation, prevent precipitation from soaking into the ground.

## *Ways to Reduce Stormwater Runoff*

- Harvest rainwater into a barrel and use it to water your yard 
- Minimize impervious surfaces on your property
- Replace lawn area with native plants and trees
- Add organic matter to your soil
- Wash your car in your yard rather than on the driveway
- Create a rain garden

For more information, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/publicworks](http://www.deerparktx.gov/publicworks).

# Public Works

## Household Hazardous Waste

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients are considered to be household hazardous waste (HHW). Special care should be taken when disposing products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides, that contain potentially hazardous ingredients. Pouring these products down the drain, onto the ground, into storm sewers, or setting them out with the trash would be considered improper disposal. Improper disposal of these products can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. Harris County provides a Household Hazardous Waste Facility for county residents to dispose of their HHW. For more information, call 281-560-6200.



## Fire Hydrant Flushing

Residents may have seen city crews working at fire hydrants and water running down the street. The city crews are flushing the water lines through the use of fire hydrants, which is a preventative maintenance activity. Although the process may appear to waste water, it is a routine procedure necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system and enable the city to continue to deliver the highest quality water possible.

As a result of the line flushing process, residents in the immediate vicinity may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt and air and does not affect the safety of the water. If you notice the discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your home by running all of the water faucets for a few minutes.

### *Why is it necessary to flush the hydrants?*

The city's treated water distribution system is a complex network of pipes and storage reservoirs where sediment or deposits may naturally accumulate over time. If not removed, these materials may cause water quality deterioration, taste and odor problems, or discoloration of the water. Water may also stagnate in lesser used parts of the distribution system, resulting in degraded water quality.

Homeowners should follow a similar preventive maintenance measure to ensure the quality of water inside the home. To keep your water heater operating efficiently, it should be drained and flushed according to the manufacturers' recommendations.

## City Projects

- The Deer Park Gateway Project involves installing a masonry monument within the Center Street right-of-way between Railroad Avenue and State Highway 225. The project was awarded to DT Construction in the amount of \$463,500. The funding is coming from industry donations and the Hotel Occupancy Tax.
- The Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project for College Park Subdivisions 1-8 and Heritage Additions, Sections 1 & 2, involve rehabilitating sanitary sewer lines throughout 10 subdivisions. This project was awarded to PM Construction in the amount of \$1,724,755 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2014.
- The 2013 Water Line Improvement Project involves replacing a 6-inch water line with a 12-inch water line along with more fire hydrants. The water line replacement will take place along the full length of Arbor Drive. The project also includes installing a new 8-inch water line from Patrick's Bayou Detention Pond to the Park Green Subdivision. The project was awarded to Metro City Construction in the amount of \$632,126 and is expected to be completed during the final quarter of 2014.
- The Sidewalk Improvement Project will result in new sidewalks and sidewalk ramps in various parts of town. This project was awarded to Aztec Remodeling and Landscaping in the amount of \$307,700.
- The Drainage Improvements to Deer Park Gardens Subdivision involves drainage improvements on N. Amy Street, S. Amy Street, and Brenda Street. The project was awarded to Mar-Con Services in the amount of \$156,606.
- The Drainage Improvements to E. Highline Drive involve drainage improvements and pavement replacement. The project was awarded to Metro City Construction in the

## Public Works

- amount of \$283,260.60.
- The Norwood Street Reconstruction Project will take place on Norwood Street between 13<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. The project is expected to be awarded during the fourth quarter of 2014.
- The Traffic Signal Improvements Project at the Intersection of Center Street & Pasadena Boulevard involves installing pedestrian crosswalks at the intersection of Center St. and Pasadena Blvd. This project is expected to be awarded during the fourth quarter of 2014.

### Utility Billing & Central Collections

You can conveniently pay your water bill online, by mail, via electronic draft, or in person. We also have a drive-thru window and a 24-hour payment drop box available at City Hall.

If your services have been disconnected due to non-payment, you cannot pay online to restore service. To begin the reconnection process, payment must be made in person at the counter or the drive-thru window.

For more information, call 281-478-7221 or go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov), hover over *Your Government* and click on *Utility Billing/Central Collections*.

## Economic Development

### Business News

- Several new businesses are now open at 8015 Spencer Highway in the new College Park Shopping Center, across the street from San Jacinto College.



*Smashburger*

*Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches*



*Smoothie King*

*(opening in November/December)*

*Goodwill Industries Donation Center*



- Waller County Line Barbecue* at 6915 Spencer Highway (near the intersection of Red Bluff Rd.) has Karaoke on the patio every Sunday, 3pm to 7pm. Check out their new website at [www.wallercountyline.com](http://www.wallercountyline.com).
- A-Quality Appliance & Resale* has opened at 4910 Luella (near the intersection of Spencer Hwy.)
- Kake Chick Bakery* is now open at 4914 Luella (near the intersection of Spencer Hwy.) Owner Ruby Rodriguez offers ready-made cakes, custom cakes, and cookies.

### Notify Me

Stay up-to-date with news and announcements from the City Deer Park by joining the e-mail subscription lists of your choice. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov) and select *Notify Me*.



- Lil' Rascals Daycare* is under construction at 4509 Center Street (at the corner of Center and Lambuth). It will be a 16,000 sq. ft. childcare facility with fun amenities.
- Sweet Pea's Children's Boutique* is open at 118 Dixie Dr. (near the intersection of San Augustine and Center). This is your one-stop shop for children's clothing, sizes birth to 10/12.
- Phat Fitness has changed its name to *Fitness Kingz* at 120 Dixie Dr. Owner Jerry Hudson is an experienced personal trainer and the equipment is state-of-the-art.
- Michael Anthony Cevallos has opened an *Edward Jones* branch office at 102 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Come enjoy *Pizza Bella's* original New York-style pizza and graze the salad bar at 3310 Center (behind Walgreens). The restaurant will be opening in early December.
- ShIPLEY Do-Nuts* purchased the Bosa Donuts store at 3310 Center and will be relocating to this site.

For questions, contact Debbie Westbeld, Economic Development Administrator, at 281-478-2042 or go to [www.deerparktx.gov/ed](http://www.deerparktx.gov/ed).

### Emergency Alerts

Be sure to sign up for the city's emergency notification service. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov/oem](http://www.deerparktx.gov/oem), click on the Blackboard Connect icon and then click on the one-step notification sign up icon to enter your contact information into the database.



# Art Park Players



## *The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Louise McBee Circle of Life, Circle of Wreaths Fundraiser*

*Dec. 2-5, 6-9pm*  
*Dec. 6, 6-8pm*

The theatre lobby will display an array of beautiful wreaths graciously donated by “little angels” in the community honoring someone who has had breast cancer. Last year, 79 wreaths were donated! If you are interested in donating a wreath, contact Susan Mele at 281-478-7288. The public is invited to participate in this silent auction. The winners will be announced at the end of the evening on Dec. 6. All donations are tax deductible and benefit *The Rose*. In addition to the wreaths, there will be vendors selling delightful treasures in the lobby during the Christmas shows.



## *Singin' Sleigh Ride*

*Dec. 6, 6pm Meal, 7pm Show*  
*\$20 per ticket*

Join the Art Park Singers as they present *Swingin' Sleigh Ride*, featuring your favorite Christmas songs and holiday characters. It's a Christmas spectacular for the entire family! The festivities in the theatre

lobby will include a dessert auction, concessions, several vendors, Santa and his elves, and The Louise McBee Circle of Life, Circle of Wreaths display benefiting *The Rose*.

## *Boeing-Boeing*

*Feb. 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28*  
*7pm Meal, 8pm Curtain*  
*Feb. 15 & 22*  
*1pm Meal & 2pm Curtain*  
*\$25 Meal & Show Tickets*  
*\$15 Show Only Tickets*

Boeing-Boeing, the uproarious jet-propelled comedy is coming in for a landing! A successful architect living in Paris thinks he can easily juggle his three flight attendant fiancées. It's all a question of timing, but when an old friend arrives and all three of his fiancées change their flight schedules, his life hits some turbulence!



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

# Library News



## *Beginning Crochet*

*For ages 8 to adult*  
*Tuesdays, 7-8pm*

This free class is offered at the library for those with some or no previous knowledge. Learn at your own pace. Attend at your own convenience. Initial materials provided. Registration is not required.

*Storytime* programs for toddlers and preschool children incorporate books, fingerplays, songs, and activities to promote interest in reading and lifelong learning.



## *Toddler Storytime*

*For children up to 3½ years old*  
*Wed. & Thurs., 10:15-10:45am*  
*Jan. 7-Apr. 30*

The sessions include stories and activities designed to encourage a love for books, 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, 11-11:45am*  
*Jan. 8-Apr. 30*

In these sessions, children listen to stories and participate in group activities.

# Library News



## **Holiday Storytime for Toddlers & Preschoolers**

*For ages up to 6 years old*

*Dec. 4, 10:30-11:30am*

This special storytime hour is a combined toddler & preschool session. The children will enjoy Santa stories and refreshments. Don't forget your camera!

## **Matinee Movie**

*Thursdays, 3:30pm*

Join us for a free family friendly movie and popcorn every Thursday afternoon at the library. Call 281-478-7208 for movie titles and age ratings.



## **Holiday Craft**

*For ages 5 to 12*

*Dec. 16, 3:30-4:30pm*

Materials to assemble the holiday craft will be provided to children free of charge. A craft to accommodate children ages 5 to 8 and ages 9 to 12 will be available.

## **Puppet Pals Craft**

*For ages 5 to 12*

*Jan. 13, 3:30-4:30pm*

Materials to create a puppet will be provided to children free of charge. Children will be presented with samples to choose from. The choices offered will be suitable for different age levels.

## **Valentine's Day Craft**

*For ages 5 to 12*

*Feb. 10, 3:30-4:30pm*

Materials to assemble the craft will be provided to children free of charge. There will be crafts to choose from that accommodate children ages 5 to 8 and ages 9 to 12.



## **Teen Tech**

*For school-aged teens*

*Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30pm*

Teens will enjoy socializing and a little friendly competition at video gaming, board games, and card games. Free snacks are provided by the Friends of the Library.

## **Teen Advisory Board Meeting**

*For ages 13 to 18*

Join the library's Teen Advisory Board and be a part of the planning for teen programs. Discuss reading trends and make suggestions for the teen collection. Meetings will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month from 4pm to 5pm. To join, contact Robert at [rzambrano@deerparktx.org](mailto:rzambrano@deerparktx.org) or stop by the library to pick up a form.

## **Teen Mystery Dinner**

*For school-aged teens*

*Feb. 12, 4-6pm*

At this dinner, everyone is a suspect, even you! Participants will be given clues to solve the mystery while enjoying a barbecue dinner provided by the Friends of the Library.

## **Mystery Book Club**

meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6pm. Join other mystery readers to discuss the selected books and other mystery favorites. Registration is not required. You are welcome to come whether you have read the

books or not. There are no book selections for Dec. 9. The club will meet to discuss this year's favorite books. The book club selections for Jan. 13 & Feb. 10 will be determined in early December. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library) or call 281-478-7208 for details.

## **Spring Break at the Library**

The library will offer several programs throughout the week of spring break (March 16-20) for children and families. Brochures with a list of activities will be available at the library in February. You can also go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library) for more information.

## **Genealogy Resources**

The library offers resources, such as Ancestry Library Edition, HeritageQuest Online, and OverDrive, to help you research your family tree. Ancestry Library Edition provides access to many genealogical and historical resources, including images of the decennial U.S. census from 1790-1930, plus birth, marriage, immigration, and death records. HeritageQuest Online is a collection of American genealogical sources, local and family histories, and finding aids. OverDrive enables you to download relevant electronic books onto your computer or portable device.

## **Computer Classes**

Computer classes are free, but space is limited so registration is required. Some classes have pre-requisites.

Register for Dec. classes starting Nov. 17, Jan. classes starting Dec. 15, and Feb. classes starting Jan 19. To register, call 281-478-7208.



# Library News

In addition to computer classes, open lab sessions will be offered every month. Open lab sessions do not require registration. You may request to have your e-mail address added to the Open Lab reminder list. Call 281-478-7208 for details.

- **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 Media** - Learn the basics of social networking sites and how they are used. Web-sites to be discussed will include Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
- **Microsoft Word 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Word and learn how to create and edit basic Word documents, including resumes and letters.
- **Microsoft Excel 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Excel and learn how to create and edit basic spreadsheets, and use simple formulas and functions.
- **Microsoft PowerPoint 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of PowerPoint and learn how to create a presentation using themes, illustrations, transitions, and animation.
- **Basic Genealogy** - Learn how to use the library's resources to research your family history. Become familiar with Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage-

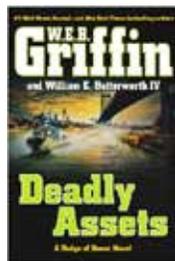
Quest Online.

- **Open Lab Session** - One-on-one assistance for Microsoft Office programs, Windows 7, and our electronic resources. Feel free to bring your laptop from home.

## New Arrivals for Adults

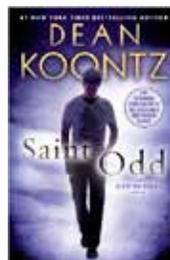
### December

Die Again: A Rizzoli & Isles Novel by Tess Gerritsen



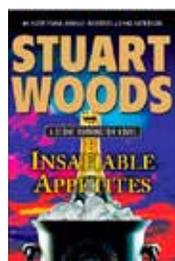
Deadly Assets by W.E.B. Griffin & William E. Butterworth IV

Saint Odd: An Odd Thomas Novel by Dean Koontz



### January

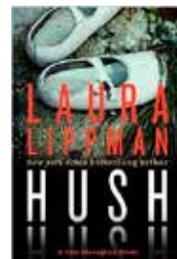
Private Vegas by James Patterson & Maxine Paetro



Insatiable Appetite by Stuart Woods

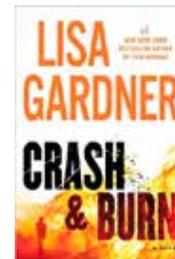
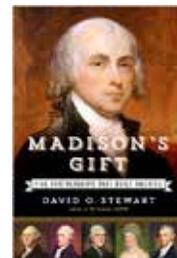
### February

Hush: A Tess Monaghan Novel by Laura Lippman



A Touch of Stardust by Kate Alcott

Madison's Gift: Five Partnerships that Built America by David O. Stewart



Crash & Burn by Lisa Gardner

A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler



### Deer Park Library Hours

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

## Adopt-a-Pet

Dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Deer Park Animal Shelter. 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 Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm or Sat. 8am-12pm or go to [www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.AnimalShelter](http://www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.AnimalShelter). For more information, call 281-478-7274.

## Successful Adoptions



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Employee Awards

## Supervisors



Susan Mele, Theatre Supervisor - Art Park Players/Parks & Recreation Dept.

## Support Staff



Eddie Salazar, Public Safety Attendant/Property Evidence Custodian - Police Dept.



James Tryon, Sergeant - Police Dept.



Ryan McBride, Public Safety Attendant - Police Dept.

## Garage Sales

A garage sale permit is required in Deer Park. The permit fee is \$5 and may be obtained from the Utilities Dept. at City Hall. A garage sale sign permit may be obtained for an additional \$5. A \$25 deposit is required. A garage sale permit can issued only once within a 6-month period for the same address or same person and cannot exceed 10 consecutive days.



Joe Piper, Theatre Drama Specialist II - Art Park Players/Parks & Recreation Dept.



Facebook

## We're on Facebook!

Link to the City of Deer Park Facebook pages by going to [www.deerparktx.gov/facebook](http://www.deerparktx.gov/facebook).

## Healthy Living - Make Exercise Fun

Research has indicated that viewing exercise as a fun activity or as a well-deserved break instead of a workout significantly changed the way people approached post-activity food consumption. Those who viewed exercise as fun ate less than those who viewed it as a workout. According to a professor at Grenoble Ecole de Management in France, the notion is that some exercisers have a tendency to reward themselves by overeating after a workout. The bottom line is that you should make the workout fun for you, such as play music, watch a video, or just be grateful that you are enjoying yourself rather than working. Brian Wansink, PhD, co-author and director of the Cornell Food and Brand Lab said that "Anything that brings a smile is likely to get you to eat less." Choosing on an activity or exercise regime that you enjoy will also help you set goals. Sign up for the next fun run or try something new like P90X or CrossFit. There's nothing more uplifting than doing something that's beneficial for your body. You'll feel like you accomplished something great and live longer for it.

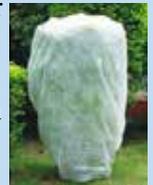


Lacy Stole  
Athletic & Aquatic Supervisor

Source: [www.ideafit.com](http://www.ideafit.com)

## Tiffany's Tips - Winterizing Your Yard

It's that time of the year when trees drop their leaves and plant growth starts slowing down in preparation for cooler temperatures. Help your plants prepare for the winter with a few easy steps. It is very important to stop fertilizing. If you feed your plants now, they will produce tender growth that will likely be damaged by the cold, dry wind. Most plants will become dormant over the winter months and produce very little growth, if any. Lawns need extra potassium during the winter months. However, if you did not add potassium to the lawn in the fall, don't add it during the winter months. Relocate potted plants indoors because they don't have insulation from the ground during freezing temperatures. Ceramic pots are known for cracking during freezing temperatures. If you have plants that are sensitive to the cold weather, you can cover them with frost cloth. Drape the cloth completely over the plant so that it is touching the ground on all sides and trapping the heat that is released out of the soil. Dehydrated plants are more susceptible to frost damage. On nights when the temperature is expected to drop below freezing, moisten the soil (do not soak) so it retains more heat. As you make preparations for your yard, be mindful of your lawn equipment too. You will need to drain the gasoline out of the lawn mower or add fuel stabilizer to it. If you decide to add fuel stabilizer, remember to run the mower for a few minutes to circulate the solution into the carburetor. Your mower will probably end up at the repair shop if you fail to do so.



Tiffany McGallian  
Park Operations Coordinator

## Earl Dunn Gym

*Open Monday-Thursday, 6am-9pm,  
Friday, 6am-9pm, Saturday, 9am-  
3pm & Closed on Sunday*

Stop by the Earl Dunn Gym located at the Deer Park Community Center to try out some of the new amenities. The gym includes a basketball/volleyball court, 2 racquetball courts, and a weight room with upgraded fitness equipment. We've got treadmills, a new arc trainer, and spin bike. As a Deer Park resident, all you need to do is show your proof of residency. You must be 18 & over to utilize the weight room. If the child is 16 or 17 years old, an adult or legal guardian must sign a waiver

and accompany them when they use the facility. Children under the age of 16 are not permitted. Membership for non-residents is available for a nominal fee.

## Ladies Low Impact Aerobics

*Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays,  
8:30-9:30am,  
for adults, \$20*

*per month (early  
registration before  
the 5<sup>th</sup>) or \$30 per  
month, Deer Park*



*Community Center* A cardiovascular exercise class for sculpting, weight training, and elevating your heart rate.

# Parks & Recreation

## Pilates

*Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30-7:30pm, for teens and adults, \$20 per month for 1 day per week or \$40 per month for 2 days per week* Strengthen and tone your body, better your posture, regain balance, and burn calories.

## Zumba

*Mondays & Wednesdays, 7:15-8:15pm, Sessions: Dec. 1-17, Jan. 12-28 & Feb. 2-25, \$35 per person (session 1 or 2) or \$50 per person (session 3), Deer Park Community Center* Come try out the fastest growing fitness craze in the world. Zumba is a high energy cardio class that combines dance and fitness moves with Latin rhythms. It's taught through visual cues so you don't have to be a dancer to join the fun.



## Reindeer Park

*Dec. 5, 6-9pm & Dec. 6, 4-8:30pm* Join us for the 4<sup>th</sup> 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, and a lighted Christmas parade! The theatre will host Mrs. Clause's Marketplace and the Art Park Players' Swingin' Sleigh Ride Christmas Musical Revue at Prancer's Playhouse. Overflow parking will be at the Houston Area Safety Council, where a shuttle service will be available to transport passengers to and from the Jimmy Burke Activity

Center and theatre. The shuttle service will operate from 4 to 8pm on Dec. 6. For more information, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/reindeerpark](http://www.deerparktx.gov/reindeerpark).



## Reindeer Dash

*Dec. 6, 8am, for all ages, \$20 per person (pre-registration) or \$25 per person (race day), Jimmy Burke Activity Center* Bring the whole family on this 5K cross country course led by Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Please note that awards will not be given and chip timing will not be available. All proceeds from the Reindeer Dash will benefit the Deer Park Opportunity Center, a local non-profit organization helping DPISD students and families with counseling, holiday assistance, clothing, meals, and more.

## Santa Calling

*Dec. 9 & 11, 6-8:30pm* Santa's phone call is absolutely free. It's intended for children who can hold a conversation and believe in Santa Claus. Sign up online at [www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec](http://www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec).



## Breakfast with Santa

*Dec. 13, 9am, \$10 per child, \$5.50 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. All participants will receive a McDonald's Big Deluxe Breakfast. Breakfast is limited to the first 40 children. Registration will close on Dec. 1. This is a self-paced breakfast. All craft supplies are given to participants when they arrive and supervision is required. A ticket is required to be admitted to the event.

## Sleigh Ride

*Dec. 17-20, 6:15-7:30pm & 7:15-8:30pm, \$5 per rider, Deer Park Community Center* Join us for hot chocolate and cookies as we prepare to load up the sleighs and enjoy Deer Park's Christmas lights. Space is limited so reservations are required. Children must be accompanied by an adult and a waiver must be signed for each participant. Limited to 60 per ride.

## Santa's Night Out

*Dec. 19, 6pm-12am, for ages 5-11, \$25 per child, Deer Park Community Center* The children will enjoy a night of fun with dinner and a ride to Moody Gardens for the festival of lights. Upon returning to the community center, we'll play games, watch a movie, and eat snacks.

# Parks & Recreation

## **Elf Camp**

*Dec. 22, 9am-5pm, for ages 6-11, \$25 per child, Deer Park Community Center* Parents, don't miss this opportunity to get all of your last minute Christmas shopping done. We've got an enjoyable day filled with games, cooking, arts & crafts, and more for your little ones. Limited to 25. Children must bring a sack lunch.

## **Archery Camp**

*Dec. 29-31, 8am-3pm, for ages 9-14, \$40 per child, Jimmy Burke Activity Center* Learn the basics of recurve archery from USA Archery level 2 certified instructors. Archery instills confidence, increases attention spans, and inspires a willingness to try other sports.

## **Skills & Drills Basketball Camp**

*Dec. 29-31, 9:30am-12pm, for ages 7-12, \$45 per child, Earl Dunn Gym* In this 3-day camp, you will learn basketball tips and drills to help you improve your game. You'll improve your ball handling, shooting, passing, defense, and more.

## **Football Fundamentals**

*Tuesdays & Thursdays, January-May 2015, for ages 7-18, \$50 per child for 1 week, 2 hours, 2 days per week or \$200 per child for 3 weeks, 2 hours, 2 days per week, Adult Softball Complex Multi-Use Field* The fundamental training led by Coach Alfredo "Bubba" Gonzales is designed for children at flag level through high school senior athletes. The focus is on the basic fundamentals of football, such as speed, agility, power, and knowledge. Contact the coach directly at [agfootballtraining@gmail.com](mailto:agfootballtraining@gmail.com).

## **Movie in the Park**

*Jan. 3 & Feb. 7, 7:30pm* Watch a family friendly movie in Dow Park on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month for free!

## **Wild Child Destination - iT'Z Tomball**

*Jan. 19, 9am-4pm, for ages 6-11, \$35 per child, Deer Park Community Center* Children will enjoy their day off from school as we travel to iT'Z Tomball for fun and lunch. No classes for DPISD.

## **Roscoe's Fishing Adventure**

*Jan. 29, 4-8pm, Jan. 30, 4-8pm & Jan. 31, 10am-2pm, free for all ages, Dow Park Pool* Join us for the inaugural winter fishing event at the Dow Park Pool. The Parks & Recreation Dept. partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife to stock the pool with fish! Fishing poles will be provided. Jan. 29 is reserved for special populations, Jan. 30 is reserved for senior citizens and veterans, and Jan. 31 is open to all adults and children. If you would like to fish, registration is required. Stop by the Community Center to register in person.

## **Aquatic Jobs**

Are you interested in working with the aquatics team? We are searching for hard working individuals to fill multiple positions at the Dow Park Pool, including lifeguards, cashiers and pool managers. Positions will be posted at [www.deerparktx.gov/humanresources](http://www.deerparktx.gov/humanresources) in February.

## **Getting Paid to Talk**

*Feb. 4, 6:30-9pm, for ages 18 & over, \$10 per person, Deer Park Community Center* Explore several aspects of voice over work for television,

radio, and more. Topics of discussion include how to prepare a demo and earn great income in this field. Space is limited. For more details, go to [www.voicecoaches.com/gppt](http://www.voicecoaches.com/gppt).



## **Another Man's Treasure**

*Feb. 20, 7am-3pm & Feb. 21, 7am-2pm, free admission and parking, Jimmy Burke Activity Center* Come discover your treasure at the citywide garage sale. Reserve your indoor booth space to become a vendor. The cost for booth space is as follows: Single (10' x 10') is \$40, Double (20' x 10') is \$50, and Triple (30' x 10') is \$60.

## **Outdoor Adventures Camp**

*Feb. 16, 7:30am-5:30pm, for ages 6-11, \$25 per child, Claude Burgess Center* Children will enjoy a day of outdoor adventures, including a trip to a nature center, archery, and lunch. No classes for DPISD.

## **Adult Softball**

*Monday - Men & Tuesday - Co-ed, March 23-Oct. 26, for ages 17 & over, \$575 per team includes 12 free softballs and all officials fees, registration starts March 2015, Adult Softball Complex* Are you interested in an 8-month adult softball program? We are trying something new this spring. If your team is interested, call 281-478-2050. Each league will be divided into 2 divisions, with 1 less competitive than the other, in order to allow teams to play with others at similar skill levels. Guaranteed 2 games per week for 30 weeks (rain out games will be made up).

# 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.

For more information, go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov), hover over *Your Government* on the menu 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.

## Recycling

Collection bins for recycling aluminum, plastic, glass, and paper are set up at the Transfer Station, located at 610 Underwood Road. To find out more about recycling and what you can do to ensure that the materials remain acceptable, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/publicworks](http://www.deerparktx.gov/publicworks), click on *Recycling* under *Community Services*, and click on *Recycling Guidelines*. For questions, contact the Transfer Station at 281-478-7213.

# Council Actions

## August 2014

- Awarded the bid for the Fire Station #2 building addition to Comex Corporation in the amount of \$74,000.
- Approved the expenses for Council to attend the 2014 Texas Municipal League Annual Conference in Houston, Texas.
- Authorized staff to seek proposals for a catering vendor to provide buffet style meals for the Parks & Recreation Theatre Department.
- Authorized the sale of surplus equipment and miscellaneous items to be auctioned via internet through Rene Bates Auctioneers.
- Approved a contract with Phoenix Coating Surveillance LLC for inspection services during the painting of the Pasadena Blvd. elevated storage tank in the amount of \$29,500.
- Authorized staff to negotiate a contract with G2 Griggs Group, Inc. for design and construction administration services related to a police firing range and classroom.
- Approved an ordinance to amend Section 74.1, hours for certain parks and recreation facilities.
- Awarded the bid for the 2013 Water Line Improvement Project to Metro City Construction in the amount of \$632,126.
- Awarded the bid for the Surface Water Treatment Plant Improvements for the replacement of the automatic transfer switch and utility service appurtenances to W. W. Payton Corporation in the amount of \$384,000.
- Awarded the bid for the Backwash Return Pumping System

# Council Actions

at the Water Treatment Plant to JSG Constructors in the amount of \$98,720.

- Authorized staff to seek bids for the Traffic Signalization Improvements at Center St. and Pasadena Blvd.
- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of FY 2013-2014.
- Accepted the completion of the Patrick's Bayou Detention Basin. Final cost was \$5,006,070.02.
- Approved an appointment of a member to the Golf Course Committee.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Finance Committee.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Tourism Committee.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Historical Committee.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Master Plan Steering Committee.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Boards and Commissions Selection Committee.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the Parks & Recreation Dept. to apply for a grant via the Local Park Grant Program through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the publication of Notice of Intention to issue Certificates of Obligation and approving the preparation of the Preliminary Official Statement.
- Approved an appointment of a member to the Senior Citizens Commission.
- Approved an ordinance

appointing members to the Crime Control Prevention District Board of Directors.

- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Fire Control, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services District Board of Directors.

## September 2014

- Awarded the bid for the Sidewalk Improvement Project to Aztec Remodeling and Landscaping in the amount of \$307,700.
- Approved the quarterly financial report for April through June 2014.
- Authorized staff to issue a request for qualifications for architectural services related to the renovations at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center.
- Approved an agreement with Digital Air Control for professional services for the purchase and upgrade of the controller for the Police Dept. HVAC system.
- Approved the adoption of a new Fraud Policy, and amendment of the Financial Management Policy.
- Authorized the submittal of the 2014 Tax Roll and the calculation of the Effective Tax Rate and the Rollback Tax Rate.
- Approved the certification of the anticipated tax collection rate for ad valorem taxes for FY 2014-2015 at 100%.
- Approved setting the tax rate at \$.72/\$100 of valuation for FY 2014-2015 at a future meeting.
- Approved a resolution to suspend the effective date of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric LLC's application to amend its rate schedules.

- Approved an ordinance calling two public hearings on the proposed 2014 tax rate.
- Approved an ordinance changing the time of the Oct. 7 regular Council meeting to 5:30 p.m. due to National Night Out.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 2 alternate members to the Board of Adjustments.
- Approved the casting of a ballot in the election of members of the Board of Trustees of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool, Places 1-4.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for a 1-year supply of pulsar plus calcium hypochlorite briquettes.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for a 1-year supply of Ferric Chloride for the water purification process at the Water Treatment Plant.
- Approved a contract with Azalea Creek Catering to provide buffet style catering services for the Parks & Recreation Theater Department.
- Approved a contract with Kraftsman Commercial Playgrounds & Water Parks through the BuyBoard Purchasing Co-op for the construction of the Dow Park Splash Park.
- Approved a resolution to restrict a portion of the unrestricted net assets in the Series 2002 TWDB Fund and the Water and Sewer Fund.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the FY 2014-2015 budget.
- Approved an ordinance amending Section 106-25 (b)(c) of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to water and sewer rates.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the FY 2014-2015 Employee Classification and Salary Scales.

# Council Actions

- Approved an ordinance granting a storm sewer easement deed between the City of Deer Park and First Baptist Church of Deer Park.
- Approved an ordinance regarding the annual review of the city's Investment Policy.
- Approved an ordinance calling a joint public hearing to rezone 1701 East Blvd. from Single Family One to Highway Service.
- Approved an ordinance appointing a member to the Senior Citizen Committee.
- Approved the city's participation with the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce in a "Shop Local" program.
- Approved an ordinance approving Industrial District Agreements.
- Approved a resolution to commit \$2,500,000 of the FY 2013-2014 fund balance for renovations at City Hall.
- Approved an ordinance adding Sections 22-30 through 22-37 regulating residential, solicitors, peddlers, or canvassers; establishing registration requirements; regulating handbill and commercial flyers; and providing penalties for violations.
- Approved the selection of the graphic design to be used for the Dow Park Splash Park.
- Awarded the bid for the City of Deer Park Gateway Project to DT Construction in the amount of \$463,500.
- Accepted the completion of the Fire Station #3 Parking Lot Expansion Project. Final cost was \$43,981.11.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for the Norwood Street Reconstruction Project.
- Approved the 2014 Strategic Plan Action Plan.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Deer Park, Texas, Certificates of Obligation, and General Obligations and Refunding Bonds, Series 2014.
- Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2014-2015 Special Revenue Fund Budget in the amount of \$50,000 to allow for expenditures to fund the new Gateway Project.
- Approved an ordinance approving Industrial District Agreements.
- Awarded the bid for a 2-year supply of pulsar plus calcium hypochlorite briquettes to R&K Aquatics in the amount of \$2.10 per pound per 50 pound pail.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of ferric chloride to Kemira Water Solutions at a unit price of \$464.94/dry ton per 700 tons.
- Awarded the bid for material bins at the Luella Service Center to Teamwork Construction in the amount of \$47,725.
- Approved a change order in the amount of \$20,150 to cover additional work on the Pasadena Blvd. Elevated Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project.
- Approved a change order in the amount of \$28,900 for the Highline Drive Drainage Project.
- Accepted the completion of the Drainage Improvements at Deer Park Gardens Subdivision, Section 8B. Final cost was \$192,482.40.
- Authorized staff to seek bids on the Rehabilitation of the Coy Street 1 million gallon ground storage tank.
- Authorized staff to seek proposals for hosting and administering the 2015 Totally Texas Festival.
- Approved a letter regarding illegal immigration issues to be sent to President Barack Obama and federal and state elected officials.
- Authorized the Police Dept. to apply for a State Farm Insurance Safe Driving Grant.
- Approved an interlocal agreement for emergency services with Harris County for mutual aid.
- Amended the agreements with Crime Control and Prevention District, and Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Services District for FY 2014-2015.
- Approved an ordinance assigning funds to the FY 2013-2014 fund balance for the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District.
- Approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget in the amount of \$18,350 to allow for the purchase of fleet management software.

## October 2014

- Approved an ordinance levying Ad Valorem Taxes for 2014.
- Awarded a bid for the City Hall Parking Lot Expansion project to T and T Construction in the amount of \$74,844.20.
- Authorized expenses for City Council to attend the National League of Cities Conference in Austin, Texas.

***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](http://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

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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.

## Patrick's Bayou Stormwater Detention Basin

The Patrick's Bayou Stormwater Detention Basin was the result of a joint effort between the City of Deer Park, the Harris County Flood Control District, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management. The bid for construction was awarded to Serco Construction Group Ltd. in the amount of \$5,475,963. The official ground breaking took place in January 2013 and the project was completed in June 2014. The final contract amount for the project was \$5,006,070.02. The dedication ceremony for the detention basin was held on October 21, 2014.



Photo courtesy of Stacey Glaesmann, Houston Community Newspapers



Mayor Jerry Mouton speaks at the dedication ceremony.



Gary Conaway of Serco Construction Group presents plaque to Mike Talbott of Harris County Flood Control.