



City of Deer Park

# Messenger

Spring 2016

## The Deer Park Gateway Project

The ground breaking ceremony for the Deer Park Gateway project was held on November 6, 2014 and the project was completed in December 2015. This Gateway, which will serve as the entrance to Deer Park, is part of a larger beautification initiative coordinated by the San Jacinto Texas Historic District and the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region. The Deer Park Gateway features two locations. Two large monuments flank Center St. at Railroad St. and mark the entrance into Deer Park off of State Highway 225.

Also, a smaller gateway monument was erected at the southern end of Center St. in Deer Park near Spencer Highway. Mayor Jerry Mouton commented that “The Gateway project serves as an important way for visitors and residents to connect to our history and as a catalyst for the continued beautification of Center Street.” This project was made possible by generous contributions, including \$200,000 from Shell Deer Park, a \$73,000 grant from the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, a \$50,000 donation from Lubrizol, and a \$25,000 grant from the Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation through the Houston-Galveston Area Council.



Gateway Monument - Located at north end of Deer Park at Center St. and Railroad St., marking the main entrance to the city off of State Highway 225.



Civic Club Monument - Located at south end of Deer Park in the Center St. median near Spencer Highway.

### Follow Us

Follow the City of Deer Park on Twitter @deerparktxgov and on Instagram at deerparktxgov.

### Notify Me

Stay informed with news and announcements from the City of 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*.



### In this issue:

General Information .....	2
Fire Dept.....	3
Police Dept. ....	4-5
Battleground Golf Course .....	5
Public Works.....	6-8
Library News.....	8-10
Employee Awards.....	11
Parks & Recreation.....	12-14
Art Park Players.....	15
Economic Development.....	16
Council Actions .....	17-18
Maxwell Center.....	18
Election Information.....	20

## State of the City

If you didn't make it to Mayor Jerry Mouton's State of the City address on February 25, visit the city's website for details. All the information



presented during the live event, including a link to the video presentation, is available on the homepage in *News and Announcements*.

The State of the City address featured City Council input on the many accomplishments of 2015, as well as key insights about what's coming up in 2016. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov) to see what you missed.

# General Information

## Elected Officials

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

Contact the Mayor and members of City Council by e-mail at [cityhall@deerparktx.org](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
Robert Hemminger .....	Director, Emergency Services
Greg Grigg .....	Chief of Police
Linda McHone .....	Director, Information Technology

## Other Appointed Officials

Jim Fox .....	City Attorney
---------------	---------------

## 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.

## March

- 1 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 5 Siren Test 12pm
- 7 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 12 Siren Test 12pm
- 19 Siren Test 12pm
- 21 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 22 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm  
LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 25 City Services Closed - Good Friday
- 26 Siren Test 12pm

## April

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

## May

- 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
- 30 City Services Closed - Memorial Day

## Facebook

The City of Deer Park is on Facebook! To connect, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/facebook](http://www.deerparktx.gov/facebook).

# Fire Department



## *Become a Member*

The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Dept. accepting applications for volunteer firefighters and EMS service providers. The next academy begins this March. Candidates with prior fire or EMS training may be eligible for the fast track program and can start sooner. All members are offered pay per call/shift stipends and a state pension program. For more information, go to [www.dpvfd.org](http://www.dpvfd.org).



## *Grill Safety*

Springtime is the season for outdoor activities and barbecues. Each year, Deer Park Fire Personnel respond to an increased number of fires related to outdoor cooking. The following safety reminders will help make it an enjoyable and safe spring for you and your family.

- Get your grill cleaned and serviced. Check your gas grill for

leaks, worn hoses, and frayed igniter wiring.

- Use a leak detection solution to check all connections for tightness.
- Utilize the propane bottle exchange program to ensure you are using a propane bottle that has been properly inspected. Be sure the propane tank is secured to your grill.
- Always grill outdoors in well ventilated areas. Do not grill in a parking garage or under a carport, patio or any surface that can burn.
- Do not leave the grill unattended. Be sure children do not get near the hot exterior surface.
- Keep the grill lid open when lighting. Propane gases and lighter fluids can build up and cause a fire or explosion.
- Turn the grill off at the gas source first and then turn off the burners.
- Make sure the grill is completely shut off and cool before covering it.
- When the grill is not being used, cover disconnected hose end fittings and burner air intakes with small plastic bags or fitting caps.

## *Prevent Drownings*

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death in children, ages 1 to 4. The majority of deaths and injuries in residential pools and spas involve children, ages 1 and 2. A small child can drown in only a few inches of water.

## *Safety Tips*

- Never leave a child unattended around a pool, spa, or any body of water.
- Keep children away from pool

drains and pipes.

- Keep a young child within arm's reach when the child is in a bathtub. If you must leave, take the child with you.



## *Pool Safety*

- Teach children basic water safety skills.
- Be sure you and your children know how to swim.
- When spending time at a pool or spa, keep a phone close by.
- Install a 4-foot fence around the perimeter of the pool and spa.
- Use self-closing and self-latching gates.
- Ensure any pool or spa you use has compliant drain covers.
- Have lifesaving equipment, such as life rings, floats, or a reaching pole easily accessible.

## Streetlights

CenterPoint Energy maintains streetlights throughout our area. To report a street light outage, call 713-207-2222 or visit [www.centerpointenergy.com/cehe/support/streetlight](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/cehe/support/streetlight). You will be asked to provide the 6-digit stenciled number on the pole to identify the exact location of the pole with the issue.



# Police Department

## Officers Memorial Service



Chief Gregory L. Grigg would like to invite you to the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Peace Officers Memorial Service on May 16 at 4pm at the Municipal Court & Theatre Building. We will honor those in law enforcement who lost their lives in the line of duty. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. This year, National Police Week is May 15 through 21.

## Telecommunicator Week & 9-1-1 Education Month

In 1991, Congress designated the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week. This year, the week to recognize the efforts of dispatchers and call takers who work tirelessly behind the scenes along with Fire, EMS, Police and other first responders to protect and serve their communities is April 10-16.

Telecommunicators (TCOs) are licensed by the same state agency that regulates peace officers. They also receive many hours of on-the-job and state mandated training before they can dispatch. One TCO may be responsible for simultaneously answering non-emergency phone calls and 9-1-1 calls, dispatching police, Fire, EMS, and city services, as well as many other duties. Deer Park TCOs are also trained to provide pre-arrival instructions for medical calls. TCOs do not routinely see the results of their efforts because they are not physically present at the scene of the

emergency. The profession is not as visible as uniformed responders. However, they are referred to as the First, First Responder for being the first point of contact during a crisis.

TCO Week occurs during National 9-1-1 Education Month. Greater Harris County 9-1-1 provides helpful information at [www.911.org](http://www.911.org), as well as educates the public through awareness campaigns in April.

## Park Safety

Spending time at the park is great for the body and soul. As you enjoy the great outdoors, there are a few safety tips you should keep in mind.

Be cautious when using earbuds or headphones to listen to music while you exercise at the park. The headphones can prevent you from hearing the sounds around you. Keep the volume low enough so you can still hear what is going on around you.

Some parks are very well lit, but most will have dark spots within their boundaries. If you go to the park before sunrise or after sunset, stay in well lighted areas. Many jogging paths are lighted, but be careful if you leave the open path and go to an area that is wooded or not very visible.

While at the park, do not take your entire wallet or purse with you. If you drop your wallet, you can lose your credit cards, driver's license, and anything else that is in it. A small runner's belt that clips to your waist can hold your keys and phone. Use something that can be attached to you to hold your belongings and carry only what is necessary.

Also, please be cautious and courteous in the parking lot. Drive slowly and back up even slower for the safety of the children, parents, and pets who are out there. There are so many parks around us so get out there and enjoy them!



## A True Hero

Officer Anthony Baggett of the Deer Park Police Dept. saved a life in an unexpected way. Anthony registered with *Be the Match* as a potential bone marrow donor. *Be the Match* matches potential bone marrow donors with patients who need a transplant. For patients diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma and other life-threatening diseases, a bone marrow or cord blood transplant may be their best or only hope for a cure. Unfortunately, 70% of patients who need a transplant do not have a matched donor in their family. Furthermore, most people who register to donate bone marrow are never called. Only 1 in 540 people actually go through the entire process and donate once they are identified as a match.

## Police Department

Anthony's desire to register as a potential bone marrow donor came after his 5 year old cousin was diagnosed with leukemia. He felt powerless because there was nothing he could do for her. Years later, he found out about *Be the Match*. He immediately signed up, but never guessed he would get called. The donation process takes 20 to 30 hours and is spread out over a 4 to 6 week period. Anthony, who happens to be afraid of needles, went through a grueling 5 day process of shots leading up to the actual procedure. The shots caused his body to make more marrow, but also caused bone and muscle pain, headaches, and fatigue. On the day of the procedure, blood was removed through a needle in one arm and passed through a machine that collected only the blood-forming cells. The remaining blood was returned to him through a needle in the other arm. This process took almost 8 hours to complete.

Anthony felt that he was treated like a rock star. Everyone was so grateful that he was a match and that he was willing to take the time to go through the procedure. Anthony is excited about receiving updates on his donor recipient in the first year. He will also have the opportunity to meet her.

### *Staying Connected*

The Deer Park Police Department (DPPD) values the importance of maintaining good community relations every day. With regular beat meetings held by patrol officers to address geographic specific issues and through current informative posts on the department's Facebook page, they aim to achieve two way communication with the people they serve. Visit the DPPD website at [www.deerparktx.gov/police](http://www.deerparktx.gov/police) or join the conversation at [www.facebook.com/deerparktx.police](http://www.facebook.com/deerparktx.police).

## Silent Witness

The Silent Witness program allows citizens to voluntarily



register their exterior facing home surveillance cameras with the Deer Park Police Dept. in an effort to assist with solving crimes. When a crime occurs in the vicinity of a residence that has a registered camera, the investigator will make contact with the owner and ask to view their video in an attempt to identify the suspect. Knowledge of cameras in and around the city would save the DPPD valuable time during investigations and could help in apprehending offenders. The program is entirely voluntary and consent to view video footage from your camera could be withdrawn at any time.

## Battleground Golf Course



The Battleground Golf Course offers more than great golf! Meeting and banquet space is also available. We can help plan your next business meeting, team building function, or social event with food and beverages for up to 225 people, including AV equipment.

Improve your game by joining our *Player Development Program*. Benefits include:

- Unlimited range balls
- Unlimited practice facilities use & 3-hole practice course
- Free weekly instructional clinics
- Cart fee only golf, starts 1 hour prior to twilight
- Special member pricing on merchandise

We offer great rates and excellent service for *golf outings & tournaments* (groups of 16 to 144 players).

Come enjoy the view at *The Republic Bar & Grill*. Call ahead 281-478-

GOLF (4653) and we'll make sure a table is ready for you.

- Open for lunch every day at 11am
- Open for breakfast on Friday & Saturday at 7am
- Happy Hour starts at 3pm

Go to [www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com](http://www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com) for more information.



1600 Georgia Ave.

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

Golf Course 281-478-2080

Republic Grill 281-478-2089



# Public Works

tion will be required to be elevated at least as high as the Base Flood Elevation in effect when the structure was built.

For example, if the estimated cost of a proposed improvement project is \$30,000 and the market value of the building is \$50,000, the cost of the project is 60% of the existing structure's market value. Therefore, the project would be considered a substantial improvement and the floodplain regulations for new construction would apply.

There may be some cases, depending on the details of the project and other factors, where the existing structure may be required to be elevated and brought into compliance.

For more information, contact Kathy Holcomb at 281-478-7252.

## City Projects

- *Rehabilitation of the Coy St. 1-Million Gallon Ground Storage Tank* - The Coy St. ground storage tank is being rehabilitated inside and out. The project was awarded to Blastco Texas, Inc. for \$432,500 and is being funded out of water/sewer bond funds. This project began construction in Sept. 2015 and is expected to be completed by the end of March 2016.
- *Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project, Phase I* - This project is identified in the 10-year Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plan and is split into two phases. CDM Smith has been hired by the city for the design, construction, engineering, and construction oversight phases for

a total of \$3,182,425. Phase I was awarded to CSA Construction for \$4,908,600. The estimated construction cost of Phase II is expected to be near \$14,000,000. Construction began in June 2015 and is anticipated to continue through 2017, possibly 2018. The project is being funded with Certificates of Obligation.

- *P Street Detention Pond Rehabilitation* - This project involved cleaning, regrading, and stabilizing detention ponds located on either side of East P Street near the Parkside Place and Park Meadows subdivisions. The project was awarded to Storm-Tex Services for \$93,700.72. It was funded out of stormwater funds and expected to be completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.
- *Police Firing Range and Classroom* - In Nov. 2014, City Council authorized staff to enter into a contract with Griggs Group, Inc. (G2) for the design of the Deer Park Police Firing Range and Classroom. On July 6, 2015, the CCPD Board authorized staff to approach City Council to begin the bid process. Unfortunately, the bids received exceeded available funding. The project has been redesigned and will go out for rebid during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.
- *Water Line Improvements, Phase III* - The project involves rehabilitating 3,100 linear feet of existing 6" and 8" water lines. The lines will be increased to 6", 8" and 12" HDPE. New fire hydrants will be installed as well. The project will take place on Martha, Peggy, and Marlene

Streets, plus a portion of 8<sup>th</sup> Street. This project is through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program. PM Construction and Rehab, LLC will perform the work for \$532,896. Construction began in Oct. 2015. The project is currently still under construction and expected to be completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.

- *18-inch Force Main CIPP Rehabilitation Project* - Services were purchased from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the 18-inch Force Main CIPP Rehabilitation project. The purchase was approved at the December 1, 2015 City Council meeting. This project addresses the immediate needs of the sanitary sewer collection system. Total cost of the project is \$225,323.10. The project is being funded out of the CIP Bond Funds and expected to be completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.
- *South Plant Lift Station Force Main Upsize* - Services were purchased from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the South Plant Lift Station force main upgrade. This purchase was approved at the December 1, 2015 City Council meeting. The upgrade is necessary so the South Plant Lift Station can be used for bypass pumping while the 18-inch force main is being rehabilitated. The total estimated cost of this project is \$821,255.04. It is being funded out of the CIP Bond Funds and expected to be completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.
- *South Plant Lift Station Trunk*

## Public Works

*Main and Manhole Rehabilitation* - Services were purchased from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the South Plant Lift Station trunk main and manhole rehabilitation. The purchase was approved at the December 1, 2015 City Council meeting. It is an emergency project to address problems with the sanitary sewer collection system. The total cost for this project is \$283,421.28. The project is being funded out of the CIP Bond Funds and expected to be completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.

- *Year 6 of the Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Project* - Services were purchased from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to conduct the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Project. The purchase was approved at the December 1, 2015 City Council meeting. The city entered into a mandatory participation agreement with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality in July of 2010. The program consists of 7 sanitary sewer replacement/rehabilitation projects within 7 years. This will be the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the SSO program. This year's rehabilitation project will take place in the Shell City Subdivision area on the north end of town. The total cost of the project is \$710,983.86, which will be funded out of Certificate of Obligation Bond Funds.

- *Citywide Sidewalk Replacement* - Staff is currently gathering data to develop plans for the next citywide sidewalk project. The project focuses on the construction of new sidewalks in areas where they are currently lack-

ing. The project also includes the construction of wheelchair ramps at various intersections, as well as replacement of some of the existing sidewalks. City staff is expected to go out for bid during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2016.

### Resident Reminders



Property owners are reminded that the city's ordinance states that garbage cannot be placed out for pick up earlier than 6pm on the evening before a scheduled collection day. Rubbish should be placed in trash bags and securely tied to keep trash from blowing away. Be careful when placing broken glass or sharp items into the bags because we do not want city personnel to get cut or injured. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### Emergency Alerts

Deer Park residents are encouraged to register for the city's emergency notification service. To add your contact information to the database, call 281-479-2394 or 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.

## Library News

*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  
Through May 5*

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  
Through May 5*

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

### Easter Craft

*For school-aged children  
March 15, 2:30-3:30pm*

Materials to assemble the Easter craft will be provided to children free of charge. Crafts to accommodate 2 different skill levels will be available.

### Spring Craft

*For school-aged children  
April 12, 3:30-4:30pm*

Materials to assemble the spring craft will be provided to children free of charge. Crafts to accommodate 2 different skill levels will be available.

### Gone Fishing Craft

*For ages 5 to 12  
May 10, 3:30-4:30pm*

Materials to assemble the craft will be provided to children free of

# Library News

charge. Crafts to accommodate 2 different skill levels will be available.

## Family Movie

March 14, 10:30am-12pm



Come join us at the library to enjoy the family friendly movie, Disney's Aladdin (rated G), and some popcorn.

## Friends' Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the Deer Park Public Library's Annual Spring Book Sale is scheduled for April 6-9 during normal library hours. Members of the Friends of the Library are invited to attend the preview sale on April 5 from 5-9pm. Annual membership dues for Friends of the Library are \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$2 for senior citizens.

## Friends' Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Deer Park Public Library's Annual Spring Meeting will be scheduled for March or April. The date and time, as well as the name of the guest speaker, will be publicized when it is available. The meeting is free and open to the general public. For more information, call 281-478-7208 or go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library).

 SCHOLASTIC

## BOOK FAIRS

### Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for June 2-11 in the library's meeting room. Anyone may browse the book fair, sponsored by the Friends of the Deer Park Library. Proceeds from the book fair provide incentive prizes for the Summer Reading Club.

## Summer Reading Club

Stop by the library or go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library) to view the Summer Reading Club brochure on May 2. Registration begins on June 2, which is also the start of the Scholastic Book Fair.

## Teen Time

For school-aged teens

Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30pm

Teen Time weekly program details are available at the library. There will be special spring break hours for Teen Time on March 16 from 1-5pm. There will be a video game tournament and other activities.

## T.A.B. Meeting

For ages 13 to 18

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 4-5pm

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

## Teen Summer Volunteers

Registration starts May 2

Teen volunteers are needed to assist staff during the summer reading club program. Volunteers will work with staff and other teens starting the week of June 6 through July. Be a part of the summer fun at the library, while you make new friends, and accrue volunteer credit.

## Movie Matinee

Thursdays, 3:30pm

Through May 19

Join us for a movie and popcorn. Call 281-478-7208 for movie titles and suggested age ratings.



## Beginning Crochet

For ages 8 to adult

Tuesdays, 7-8pm

This free class is offered for those with some or no previous knowledge. Initial materials provided. Registration is not required.

## Mysteries & More Book Club

The book club's name has changed to reflect the broader selection of books to be discussed. Meetings will continue to be every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6pm. This spring, we'll start discussing one book per month from a variety of genres. Future book titles will be selected at upcoming meetings. Registration is not required. You are welcome to come whether you have read the books or not. For more information or to obtain book titles, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library) or call 281-478-7208.

*March 8* - The Secret Place by Tana French (Elizabeth George, Gillian Flynn, and Ruth Rendell fans will enjoy this novel.)

*April 12* - Leaving Time by Jodi Picoult (Jane Green, Luanne Rice, and Anna Quindlen will enjoy this novel.)

## Featured Friday Program

Featured Friday is a monthly series for adults that offers a variety of lectures, movies, and special programs of cultural, historical and local interest. Guest speakers include college professors, several with connections to the Deer Park community. Previous program topics were Sam Houston's leadership abilities, the history of the Battleship Texas, and what it's like to work for the Houston Astros. For more information on the Featured Friday program

# Library News

and other services offered by the Deer Park Public Library, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library).

## Gale Courses

Through Gale Courses, Deer Park Public Library patrons can take online courses on a wide variety of subjects led by live instructors.



Choose from more than 300 available courses, including memoir writing, learning Quickbooks, using eBay, and even investigating careers in accounting, healthcare, and real estate. Gale Courses can be accessed at the library or from home by going to <http://education.gale.com/l-deerpl/>.

Gale Courses is only one of the many electronic resources available to library patrons. To view a list of the resources, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library).

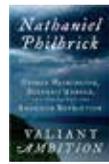
## Computer Classes

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

- **Introduction to Computers** - Become familiar with computers and technical terminology, plus get comfortable using a mouse, opening software applications, and other basic skills.
- **Browsing the Web** - Learn the basic skills of browsing the world wide web. Topics include search engines, simple search techniques, security precautions, and the basics of e-mail.
- **Using Social Networks** - Learn the basics of social networking sites and how they are used. Websites to be discussed include

Facebook and LinkedIn.

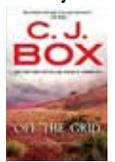
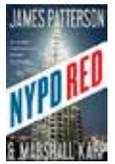
- **Microsoft Word 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Word and learn how to create and edit basic Word documents.
- **Microsoft Excel 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Excel and learn how to create and edit basic spreadsheets, as well as use simple formulas 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.
- **Open Lab Session** - One-on-one assistance for Microsoft Office programs, Windows 7, and more. Our staff can assist with document formatting and electronic resources.
- **Basic Genealogy** - Learn how to use the library's resources to research your family history. Become familiar with Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online.
- **Genealogy Lab** - One-on-one assistance in your search for family history. Basic Genealogy is a pre-requisite for this lab.
- **Find a Job** - Become familiar with the resources available to assist you with exploring career opportunities, creating or updating a resume and cover letter, preparing for an interview, and more.
- **Keys for Career Seekers** - Discover online resources to assist you with each stage of the job search process, including LinkedIn and Career Cruising.



## New Arrivals for Adults

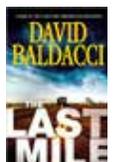
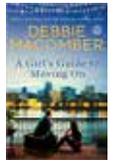
### March

- *NYPD Red 4* by James Patterson and Marshall Karp
- *Off the Grid* by C. J. Box
- *A Girl's Guide to Moving On* by Debbie Macomber



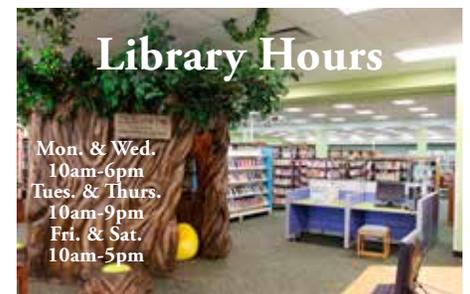
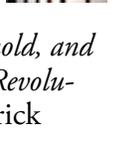
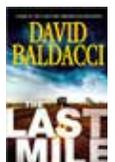
### April

- *The Last Mile* by David Baldacci
- *Hide Away* by Iris Johansen
- *Extreme Prey* by John Sandford
- *Most Wanted* by Lisa Scottoline



### May

- *Boar Island* by Nevada Barr
- *The Second Life of Nick Mason* by Steve Hamilton
- *Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution* by Nathaniel Philbrick



# Congratulations

Deputy City Secretary Shannon Bennett recently received several scholarships for professional development from the Texas Municipal Clerks Association! According to City Secretary Sandra Watkins, Bennett received the 2016 Deloris McKenzie Scholarship of \$250, the 2016 Patrice Fogarty Athenian Dialogue Scholarship of \$100, and \$280 from Olson and Olson to cover her registration to the 2016 TMCA Election Law Seminar in January. "Shannon is an asset, not only to my department but to the entire city," Watkins said. "She does an exceptional job devoting herself to gaining knowledge to ensure the department is one of efficiency. She strives to continually educate herself to the responsibilities of her position and the Municipal Clerk's profession."

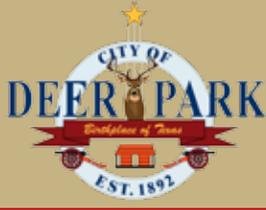


Bennett said she is very grateful to the city for the opportunity to complete her certification as a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk. "I truly enjoy my job and am looking forward to my future here at the city," Bennett said. "The Texas Municipal Clerks Association is a great organization – it has allowed me to gain knowledge and perspective that I put to use every day for the citizens of Deer Park."

## Online Payments

You can now pay for ambulance fees, retiree insurance, property taxes, court payments, water bills, and building permits online. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov) for details.

# Employee Awards

September Field Service	October Supervisor	October Support Staff
		
Greg Melching Public Works	Daryl Denzer Information Technology	Kristen Villalovos Parks & Recreation
November Supervisor	November Field Service	November Support Staff
		
Virginia Harrell Smith Parks & Recreation	Taylor Sandoval Parks & Recreation	Kami Loftin Finance
December Field Service	December Support Staff	
		
Jason Bergman Parks & Recreation	Debra Culp Parks & Recreation	

## DPTV



Texas Parks & Wildlife is a weekly outdoors/nature series focusing on the incredible diversity of wildlife, scenic locations, and fascinating characters that make Texas unique. Watch new episodes on DPTV every Wednesday at 9:30am & 7:30pm. The episode repeats on Saturday at 10:30am. DPTV is available on Comcast channel 16, Comcast digital channel 99, and AT&T U-verse channel 99.



## Tiffany's Tips

### *It's Time to Prune Your Trees*

Late winter and early spring is the proper time to trim your Crepe Myrtles. Start by removing any sucker growth coming up at the base of the tree. Next, select 4-6 main branches to leave intact. Doing this will allow air circulation in the canopy and help prevent diseases such as powdery mildew.



Start thinning out the canopy by removing any broken or crossing branches. Also remove any diseased branches. While you're trimming, be sure to take a step back so that you can look at the shape of the tree and make sure you are removing equal amounts of branches from each side of the tree. Branches smaller in diameter than a pencil should be removed.

Before the temperatures heat up, you should also do any maintenance pruning on other trees, especially oaks. The cooler temperatures help keep diseases from spreading and allow the tree to spend energy healing its wounds rather than growing. When pruning, keep in mind that topping (cutting branches back to stubs that are not large enough to sustain the remaining branch) is not a good tree pruning practice.

If you are hiring a professional company to trim your trees, check for certifications, confirm insurance coverage, and ask for references. Most companies offer debris removal and chipping services as well. Please do not dump debris in city parks. The city provides residents with heavy trash pick up on Wednesdays.

## Healthy Living

### *Exercise For Your Health*

People who are physically active generally expect good health as their reward. Those who choose sedentary lifestyles tend to deal with preventable chronic diseases earlier in life due to their lack of physical activity. According to Robert Sallis M.D. in the article published in IDEA Fit Tips (Volume 14, Issue 1), "Is Exercise Prescription the Magic Pill?," evidence shows that inactivity has become an even bigger risk factor than obesity.

Exercise has the potential to improve a person's quality of life by preventing and treating many diseases. Make it a priority to focus on your health. Aim for a 30-minute walk at a moderate pace on 5 or more days per week.



### *Women's Situational Awareness & Self Defense*

*March 2 & May 4, 6:45-8:30pm, for ages 12 & over, \$35 per person, Claude Burgess Recreation Center, Instructor Tania Weber* Learn how to defend yourself and your family in a threatening situation. This program will teach you about situational awareness and personal protection tools, as well as provide tips on staying safe, improvised weapons, and simple self defense techniques.

### *Texas Outdoor Family*

*March 5-6, April 16-17 & May 7-8, 9am on the first day of the trip to 11am the next day, \$25 per family, State Parks near Houston area* This camping adventure is brought to you by the Deer Park Parks and Recreation Department and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Join us for an overnight experience in one of our beautiful state parks. Limited to the first 14 families who register with 6 members or less per family. Date and location is subject to change.

### *Concealed Handgun Class*

*March 12 & May 21, 8:30am-3pm, \$80 per person, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor CPT Benjamin Whitfield* This course covers the rules and regulations to obtain a license to carry a concealed firearm in the State of Texas, as well as the safety, maintenance, and storage of a firearm. Complete the required documents with the State of Texas at [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us). Additional fees are required by the state.

### *Market Days*

*March 12, April 16 & May 21, 9am-1pm, Dow Park* Stroll through Dow Park on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every

# Parks & Recreation

month. Market Days help support local businesses by allowing them to sell their ready-made or homemade items. There is always something there for everyone. Parking is free for this event. Please contact Betty Geck at [marketdays@yahoo.com](mailto:marketdays@yahoo.com) if you wish to be a vendor.

## Spring Break Camp

March 14-18, 7:30am-5:30pm, for ages 6-11, \$100 per child for residents or \$110 per child for non-residents, Claude Burgess Recreation Center  
Join us for 5 days of pure fun! There will be field trips, dodgeball, arts & crafts, cooking, and more. Limited to the first 45 participants.

## Easter Eggstravaganza



Come meet the Easter Bunny at the Deer Park Community Center and Dow Park on **March 19!** There will be plenty of activities from 9am until noon.

*Petting zoo, pony rides, wagon rides, and face painting (9am-12pm)* - Nominal fee varies by activity.



*Bunny Bingo (9-10am)* - Each child may play one card per game at no charge. Parents are welcome to stay and assist their child. The Easter Bunny will be visiting with the children and available for photos.

*Sidewalk Chalk Picture Contest (9-10:15am)* -



Draw an Easter-themed masterpiece on the sidewalk. Awards will be given for 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category: I did it myself (ages 6 & under), ages 7 to 12, and family (at least one adult with one or more children).

## Rubber Ducky Races

*(9-10:15am)* - Send your little quacker to the finish line with the power of water.



*Carrot Pull* - Rabbit's garden is full of prizes. Everyone wins! Only one pull per child.



*Easter Egg Hunt (10:30am)* - Parents may only assist children 6 months to 2 years old. Aggressive parents will not be tolerated. Over 15,000 toy and candy filled eggs. Some eggs contain a certificate redeemable for a prize. The prizes are for children 6 months to 9 years old and are limited to 1 per child. There is no guarantee that every child will get a prize. Those with an extra prize certificate may give it to someone who did not find a prize certificate or bring it to the prize table for redistribution. In case of inclement weather, the egg hunt will be moved into the Earl Dunn Gym and scheduled by age groups.

## Art Park Players Rockin' Cowgirls

*(11am-12pm)* - The Rockin' Cowgirls will rock the pavilion again this year with singing, dancing, games, and giveaways!



## Pooch Hunt & K-9 Fun Run

March 19, Ella & Friends Dog Park - 500 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street Pooch Hunt

starts at 2pm and is free. K-9 Fun Run starts at 2:30pm and you must register with Deer Park Animal Hospital. The registration fee is \$10 and includes a t-shirt and dog-dana. Register on the day of the event or call Deer Park Animal Hospital at 281-479-0405. In case of inclement weather, the activities will be moved into the Jimmy Burke Activity Center.

## Calling All Lifeguards

As a lifeguard, you are entrusted with the lives of others so you must be extremely responsible, attentive, and patient. You will be required to attend a lifeguard certification course, which includes both physical challenges and a written exam to ensure you are capable of performing the necessary duties of the job.

If you are interested in being a lifeguard this summer, please attend an open house session in Room 10 at the Deer Park Community Center on **April 5 or 26, 6-7:30pm.**

The Open House is designed to give applicants a preview of Deer Park Aquatics. Attendance is highly recommended. At the Open House, interested applicants can sign up for an individual interview and swim test times. Please apply for the position prior to attending the open house by going to [www.deerparktx.gov/hr](http://www.deerparktx.gov/hr) and then clicking on *Job Postings*. Be sure to dress appropriately for the interview.

## NRA's Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program for Children

April 5, 6-7pm, for ages 3-11, \$10 per child, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Tania Weber This is the #1 gun accident prevention

## Parks & Recreation

program in the nation. Children learn what to do if they ever come across a gun through four simple steps: Stop! Don't touch! Run away! Go tell a grown-up! This program includes watching a movie, story-time, a craft project for kids, as well as a parent's guide to gun safety, and a certificate for the participant.



### Dow Park Tennis Program

*April 10-May 15, \$30 for 10U & \$60 for 18U per 6-week session, Dow Park Tennis Courts* The 10U tennis program is for ages 3-11 and is held on Sundays from 1:30-2pm. The 18U tennis program is for ages 12-18 and is held on Sundays from 2-3pm. Both programs focus on building a solid tennis foundation.

### Kayak Classes & Road Trips

*Class - May 27 from 6:30-8:30pm, Road trips - April 23 & May 28, \$10 per class, \$10 per road trip, Deer*

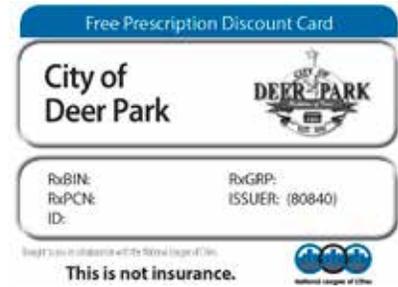


*Park Community Center* For road trips, participants meet at the Deer Park Community Center parking lot to leave at 7am and expect to return by 1pm. Road trip locations will be announced closer to date. Personal floatation devices, kayaks, and paddles are provided.

Check out the *Live and Play* brochure at [www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec](http://www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec).

## Prescription Program

The City of Deer Park, in collaboration with the National League of Cities, offers a prescription discount card program that may save residents an average of 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.

## Recycle

We offer single-stream recycling at the transfer station! Residents can recycle their paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and metal cans by dropping them all into one single bin. Sorting your recyclables is no longer necessary. The guidelines to ensure that quality material goes into the recycling bins can be found at [www.deerparktx.gov/recycle](http://www.deerparktx.gov/recycle). When you recycle, be aware that food waste, plastic bags, and polystyrene foam cups and containers are not acceptable. Improper recycling can slow down the process or even ruin the entire load of recyclables. The Transfer Station is located at 610 Underwood Road and open Monday through Friday, 8am to 6pm, and Saturday, 9am to 6pm. For more information, call 281-478-7213.



*Metal Cans* – steel, tin & aluminum soda, vegetable, fruit & tuna cans

*Paper Cardboard, Dairy & Juice Containers*



*Plastic Bottles & Containers #1-5 & 7*

*Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard*



*Paper* – Brown paper bags, non-confidential office paper, newspaper, magazines

# Art Park Players



## *Potluck Playfest*

*March 5, 7pm*

*\$15 Meal & Show Ticket*

It's time for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual play festival! Come enjoy a night of original plays served up fresh. If you are interested in participating in this year's festival, please contact David Eck at [deck@deerparktx.org](mailto:deck@deerparktx.org).



## *Puttin' on the Ritz*

*March 31, 7pm*

*Cocktail Attire*

*\$25 Meal & Show Ticket*

This is the Art Park Players' Annual Fashion Show, Mixer & Silent Auction benefitting the Mead-Holm Scholarship Fund and the Garrison/Shock Internship Fund. Join us for fantastic food, entertainment, fashion, and fun!



## *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*

*April 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 & 30*

*Meal 7pm, Curtain 8pm*

*April 17 & 24*

*Meal 1pm, Curtain 2pm*

*\$30 Meal & Show Ticket*

*\$15 Show Only Ticket*

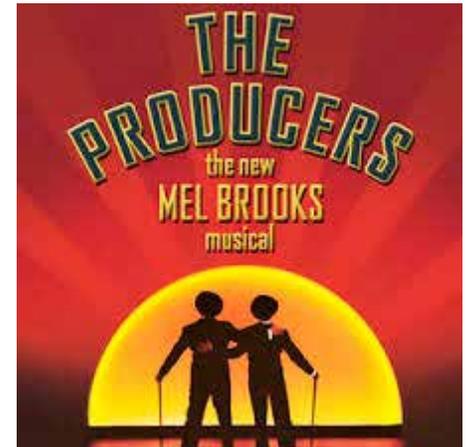
There's a new tenant at Armadillo Acres and she's wreaking havoc all over Florida's most exclusive trailer park. When Pippi, the stripper on the run, comes between the Dr. Phil-loving, agoraphobic Jeannie and her tollbooth collector husband, the storms begin to brew. According to *The New Yorker*, it's "More fun than a chair throwing episode of Jerry Springer set to music."

## *Auditions for The Producers - A Mel Brooks Musical*

*April 26, 7pm*

Teens and adults are encouraged to audition to be a part of *The Producers - A Mel Brooks Musical*. You must bring a headshot, resume, 32 bars of a song in the style of the show (sheet music or track), and be

prepared to dance. For more information, call 281-478-2048.



Performances will be on July 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22 & 23.



For more information, call 281-478-7288. To purchase tickets to any of our shows, call the Art

Park Players Box Office at 281-794-2448. Unless otherwise noted, productions and auditions are held at the Municipal Court & Theatre Building located at 1302 Center Street.

## Code of Ordinances

The City of Deer Park contracts with Municipal Code Corporation to make the City Code of Ordinances available online. By following the link on our website, you can access our code and also that of other cities across Texas and the United States. The search engine will allow you to search by topic. Go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov), hover over the menu option *How Do I?*, click on *City Code*, and then follow the link.

# Economic Development

## Business News

- *Oliver's Pizza Buffet* is coming to 3702 Center St. (former location of CarQuest Auto Parts). The restaurant will feature an all-you-can-eat buffet.
- *Somethin' Sweet* at 4201 Center Street (next door to Hellyer Transmission) is known for their gourmet cupcakes, but they also have cookies, and daily lunches. They recently started offering custom-made cakes.
- Deer Park locals, Janet and Jason Broughton, along with Jaime Morris, have opened *Azalea Creek Catering*. They offer delicious catered dishes for any type or size of event, including parties, meetings, open houses, etc. For more information, call Janet at 281-381-1187.
- *Vertskëbap* restaurant will open this summer at 8035 Spencer



Hwy. in the new College Park Shopping Center Phase II (between Smashburger and Starbucks). A kebab is actually Europe's most popular street food with a combination of rotisserie meats and fresh veggies.



- *The Health Nut* at 2606 Center St. is now selling delicious bison burgers for lunch. These burgers have become quite a hit with the locals. Compared to beef, bison meat is lower in calories, higher in protein, and contains less saturated fat than chicken.
- *Georgia's Catfish Kitchen* is now open at 9001 Spencer Hwy. in Deer Park (former location of The Fish Place at the shopping center in front of Walmart).
- Deer Park is now home to *Bee Smart Bee Removal*. There are only a few pest control companies in the Houston region

that specialize in honey bee nest removal and relocation. For more information, visit [www.beesmarthouston.com](http://www.beesmarthouston.com) or call David at 877-767-4432.

- Ray Landers has announced that *Landers Financial Strategies* has merged with Friendswood-based Lifestyle Financial Advisors, another First Allied office in the area. Ray will remain at the 2318 Center St. office as primary advisor and branch manager.
- *NerdWallet.com* announced their list of *Best Places in Texas to Start a Business*. Deer Park ranked #10! They analyzed 220 cities with a population of at least 10,000 and scores were calculated based on the city's business climate and economic health.

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

# Adopt-a-Pet Program

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, located at 4213 Luella, 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 us today at 281-478-7274.



Successfully Adopted!

# Council Actions

## November 2015

- Approved a monetary donation from the East Meadows Homeowners Association for the purchase of fitness equipment for their neighborhood park.
- Authorized financing for a new Gradall XL5100 excavator for the Street Maintenance Dept.
- Approved a professional service contract with Cre8 Architects for the new City Hall building.
- Approved the purchase of a Gradall XL5100 excavator for the Street Maintenance Dept. through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program.
- Approved a resolution casting its ballot for the election of a person to the Board of Directors of the Harris County Appraisal District.
- Approved an ordinance amending Schedule B of the Code of Ordinances to address solid waste fees.
- Approved the purchase of one 2016 Frazer ambulance and one 2016 Frazer remount ambulance.
- Approved a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and ordinance calling for a Joint Public Hearing to rezone West ½ of Lot 45 Deer Park Outlots (601 E. Pasadena Blvd.) from Single Family 1 to Single Family 3.
- Approved a Youth Sports Organization Utilization Agreement with the Deer Park Baseball Association for 2016 and the Quest Youth Soccer Club.
- Approved an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget for the issuance of the proposed \$9,450,000 Certificates of Obligation, Series

2016.

- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Deer Park Certificates of Obligation, Series 2015-A.
- Approved an ordinance amending Section 2-234 Public Records Fees to the Code of Ordinances.
- Approved an ordinance amending Schedule B of the Code of Ordinances to address Police Dept. schedule of fees, rates, and charges.
- Approved a revision to the traffic ordinance to include a traffic signal light on East Blvd. at the new HEB/Walmart entrance.

## December 2015

- Authorized staff to advertise and seek bids for the Sidewalk Improvements project.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the Almax Dr. 8-inch pipe bursting and manhole rehabilitation.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the South Plant Lift Station trunk main and manhole rehabilitation.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the South Plant force main bypass upgrade.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Fuquay, Inc. through BuyBoard to perform the 18-inch force main CIPP rehabilitation project.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the publication of Notice of Intention to issue Certificates of Obligation; approving the preparation of the Preliminary

Statement.

- Approved a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and a proposed ordinance on the request for a Specific Use Permit for a Verizon Wireless telecommunication tower at 5210 Railroad St.
- Awarded the bid for the lease purchase financing of a Gradall excavator for the Street Maintenance Dept. to U.S. Bancorp Government Leasing & Financing Inc. at 1.807% APR.
- Accepted the completion of the Norwood Reconstruction project. Final cost was \$1,238,842.89.
- Accepted the completion of the Deer Park Gateway Monument project. Final cost was \$474,273.20.
- Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for the fourth quarter ending September 30, 2015.
- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for July-September 2015.
- Approved an agreement with the Youth Sports Organization for Deer Park Girls Softball in 2016.
- Extended an agreement between City of Deer Park and Center-Point Energy for emergency and disaster response coordination.
- Approved a contract with Half Associates, Inc. for architectural services for Deer Park Community Development Corporation projects.
- Authorized staff to seek a STEP grant from TxDOT for speeding enforcement in fiscal year 2017.
- Approved the purchase of the Year 6 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project from Fuquay, Inc. through the BuyBoard Coop-

## Council Actions

- erative Purchasing Program.
- Approved a grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
- Approved an application from Pasadena Taxi Company to operate a taxi cab business in Deer Park.
- Approved a resolution and expenditure of the remaining funds from proposition number five of the 2000 General Obligation Bond Election.
- Approved an ordinance amending FY 2015-2016 budget to perform emergency repairs to the sanitary sewer line on East 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Appointed 3 members to the Library Board of Trustees.
- Approved an ordinance adding Section 2-33 Prohibiting the Possession of Any Handgun in any City Council Meeting or meeting of any Board or Commission of the City that is subject to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.
- Approved the purchase of services from Fuquay, Inc. through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program to perform emergency sanitary sewer work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Approved an ordinance rescheduling the March 15, 2016 regular Council meeting to March 22, 2016.
- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Senior Citizen Commission.
- Approved a recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission and an ordinance calling a Joint Public Hearing on the request to rezone 110 E. Tenth St. from Two-Family to General Commercial for the purpose of selling the property.
- Approved an ordinance appointing a member to the Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Services District (FCPEMSD) Board of Directors.
- Approved an agreement with Houston Community Newspapers.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to contract for certain expenditures without further approval from City Council.
- Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2015-2016 FCPEMSD budget to allocate \$500,000 from the Fund Equity to establish a Building Contingency Fund.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance of sale of the City of Deer Park, Texas, Certificates of Obligation, Series 2016.

### January 2016

- Approved travel expenses for members of City Council to attend the 2016 National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. March 5-9, 2016.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the city's participation in the Purchasing Solutions Alliance, a cooperative purchasing program.

## Agenda & Minutes

To view City Council agendas and meeting minutes or to listen to audio recordings of past meetings, go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov) and click on the *Agenda & Minutes* icon in the middle of the webpage.

## Maxwell Center

The Maxwell Adult Center is a recreational facility for seniors, ages 55 & over. We offer several activities, including arts & crafts, oil painting, ceramics, leatherworking, wood carving, and crochet & knitting. There are several other benefits at the Maxwell Center that you might enjoy!

- Coffee bar with free Wi-Fi
- Fitness room with 2 recumbent bikes, a treadmill, and an elliptical machine
- Pick n' Grin Jam Sessions every Friday from 3-6pm
- Daily Bridge games and dominoes
- Tuesday and Thursday game nights
- Congregate meal program for lunch (Monday-Friday)
- Senior trips throughout the year

For more information, call 281-478-7276.

## Garage Sales

Garage sale permits are required in Deer Park.



The permit fee is \$5 and may be obtained from the Utilities Department at City Hall. A garage sale sign permit is available for an additional \$5. A \$25 deposit is also required and will be refunded to you once all stickers are returned. A garage sale permit can be issued only once within a 6-month period for the same address or same person and cannot exceed 10 consecutive days.

***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

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

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

## Election Information

The City of Deer Park will conduct a General Election on May 7, 2016 to elect Council Positions 4, 5 & 6, a Special Election for the Crime Control and Prevention District, and a Special Election for the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District.

### Register to Vote

You must be registered to vote by April 7, 2016 if you wish to vote in the May 7<sup>th</sup> elections. Voter registration cards are available at City Hall, the Deer Park Public Library, and the Harris County Clerk's Office.

### Early Voting

Early voting will be conducted in the City Secretary's Office at City Hall, 710 East San Augustine St. as follows:

April 25 & 26, 7am-7pm  
April 27-29, May 2 & 3, 8am-5pm

### Election Day - May 7

On election day, voting will be conducted at the Deer Park Community Center, Room 12, 610 East San Augustine St. from 7am-7pm.

### Special Election Information

#### Crime Control and Prevention District: Vote for or against

Whether the Crime Control and Prevention District should be continued for 10 years and the Crime Control and Prevention District sales tax should be continued for 10 years.

#### Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District: Vote for or against

Whether the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Ser-

vices District should be continued for 10 years and the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District sales tax should be continued for 10 years.

**City of Deer Park Special Election - May 7, 2016**

**Special Purpose District Renewals:**  
Crime Control and Prevention District,  
Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District

Citizens of Deer Park will consider two ballot measures during the May 2016 election related to special tax districts supporting public safety: The Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD), supporting the Deer Park Police Department, and the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District (FCPEMSD) - which supports the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department, the Fire Station's Office and EMS - will be eligible for renewal periods of ten years.

According to City Manager Jay Grigg, the renewal of the districts would continue two existing and popular of our current taxes and use the charges in effect in Deer Park and would not result in any new taxes.

"Over the past year, the citizens approved the creation of two special purpose districts - CCPD and FCPEMSD - both of which are governed by citizen boards who work with appropriate staff and directors to create and follow governing plans," Grigg said.

According to Fire Chief Greg Bridges, the funds collected through the special tax districts allow "the City's public safety departments to address ongoing needs and manage as their needs evolve."

"Deer Park's ever-changing community offers the districts many opportunities to fund solutions for equipment, supplies and personnel," he said. "Further, the districts allow purchases to be made in addition to those included in the city's general fund budget."

Police Chief Greg Grigg also emphasized the districts use the special district funding to enhance the department.

"The FCPEMSD funding has enhanced virtually every facet of the Deer Park Police Department," Grigg said. "Funding additional positions to the purchase of vehicles and investigative hardware/software, making this funding available to us has added an essential and invaluable resource to the community."

**Ballot Language - May 7, 2016**

**CCPD: Vote for or against**  
Should the Crime Control and Prevention District should be continued for 10 years and the Crime Control and Prevention District sales tax should be continued for 10 years.

**FCPEMSD: Vote for or against**  
Should the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District should be continued for 10 years and the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District sales tax should be continued for 10 years.