



City of Deer Park

# Messenger

Summer 2016

## Be Prepared for Hurricane Season

Although hurricane season in the Atlantic Basin is June 1 through November 30, our area tends to experience the most activity in August and September. That does not mean, however, that storms will not develop before or after peak months. Tropical Storm Allison, which formed at the end of May 2001, dropped over 36 inches of rain in the Deer Park vicinity during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June. Citizens are urged to focus on family preparedness by building an emergency kit, having a plan, and staying informed of weather developments.

### *Build a Kit*

Several resources suggest items to include in an emergency supply kit. We all know that food and water are important items to have, but what other supplies will you need? Unfortunately, the items that are sufficient for one family may not be enough for another. Determine your needs as a family and involve the children in the process. It will give them a sense of comfort to know that they helped. If anyone requires medications,



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## IT Director Retires After 36 Years



**I**nformation Technology Director Linda McHone began working for the City of Deer Park in 1979. She

recently retired in March 2016. A reception was held on March 23 to celebrate Linda's accomplishments throughout her 36 years of service.



"Linda has been a valued part of our City family for more than 36 years," Assistant City Manager Gary Jackson said. "It has been an honor to work with her and to watch the technology utilized in our City evolve through her leadership." He added that Linda was instrumental in implementing technological advancements throughout the City, from work order management tools

used by the Public Works Department to a range of software and mobile technology for the Deer Park Police Department.

During her time with the City, she has had a profound impact on many of its leaders, including Police Chief Greg Grigg, who has valued her as both a colleague and a friend since joining the City in 2009.

"Soon after joining the City of Deer Park, I discovered that Linda was top shelf in every way – she was the consummate professional, loyal to a fault, a trustworthy counselor, and almost always happy and smiling," he said. He commented, "It is no exaggeration to say that – without Linda – the department could not be where it is today. Linda understood how valuable her support role was to ensure we could serve the citizens of Deer Park."

## Workshop & Safety Fair

KTRK ABC-13 Chief Meteorologist Tim Heller will be presenting valuable hurricane season forecast information again



this year at the Annual Hurricane Workshop and Community Safety Fair. The workshop will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center, located at 7902 Fairmont Parkway, on Saturday, June 4, 10am to 2pm. Tim Heller's presentation is scheduled to begin around 1pm. This is a free public event. All residents are encouraged to attend. There will be over 50 information booths, numerous door prizes, plus free hot dogs and soft drinks, while supplies last.

# 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  
 James Lewis ..... 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.

## June

4 Siren Test 12pm  
 6 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm  
 7 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm  
 11 Siren Test 12pm  
 18 Siren Test 12pm  
 20 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm  
 21 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm  
 25 Siren Test 12pm  
 28 LEPC Meeting - 11am

## July

2 Siren Test 12pm  
 4 City Services Closed - Independence Day  
 5 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm  
 9 Siren Test 12pm  
 11 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm  
 16 Siren Test 12pm  
 18 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm  
 19 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm  
 23 Siren Test 12pm  
 30 Siren Test 12pm

## August

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  
 23 LEPC Meeting - 11am  
 27 Siren Test 12pm



1600 Georgia Ave.

[www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com](http://www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com)  
 Golf Course 281-478-2080  
 Republic Grill 281-478-2089

# Be Prepared for Hurricane Season

*Continued from pg. 1*

you may want to ask the doctor for an emergency prescription to carry with you. If you have pets, they'll need supplies too. The emergency kit should contain supplies for a few days. Most importantly, do not wait to make your kit until a storm is approaching and store shelves are empty. For more information, go to [www.ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit).

## Make a Plan

Vast improvements have been made to hurricane evacuation planning over the past decade. You should, however, have a plan for your family. Keep in mind that roadways will likely be crowded, hotels may be full, and public shelters may not meet your family's expectations. Your family's plan should identify evacuation destinations, such as an extended family member's home, a friend's home, or a hotel located several counties inland. If you plan to rely on hotel accommodations and your pets will be traveling with you, confirm in



advance that the hotel allows pets. You may also want to consider a few alternate hotels in case there is no vacancy at your first choice. If your family decides to ride out the storm at home, take into account the limitations for assistance and the additional supplies you will need. Emergency response is restricted during the storm's high winds. Supplies to protect the windows of your home, such as pre-cut plywood, are in high demand and short supply during the last few days before a hurricane.

## Stay Informed

Throughout hurricane season, pay close attention to developing conditions that may threaten our area. Local broadcast stations maintain current weather forecast information on their websites. The National Hurricane Center ([www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)) and the National Weather Service ([www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)) provide a broader view. For local updates, including the city's preparations for a threatening storm, go to [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov).

## Garage Sales

Garage sale permits are 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 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.

## 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*.

## Facebook

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

# Fire Dept.

## Grilling Fire Safety

- Use your grill only outdoors. Keep it at a safe distance from siding, deck rails, trees, and other materials that can ignite easily. Maintain a 3-foot safe zone around your grill to keep children and pets safe. Never leave your grill or fire pit unattended.
- Check your gas grill for leaks, worn hoses, and frayed igniter wiring. Confirm that all of the connections are tight.
- Open your gas grill before lighting. If you are using a charcoal grill, use only starter fluid that was designed for charcoal grills and do not add fluid after the coals have been lit.
- Place coals and ashes from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.

## Fireworks Safety

- Private use, sale, or possession of fireworks is prohibited in Deer Park.
- Be safe and plan to attend a public fireworks display, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> Fest at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center.

## Prevent Fires

- Safely dispose of cigarettes in ashtrays. Carelessly discarded cigarettes can start fires, especially when there hasn't been any rain and everything is dry.
- Properly dispose of paper and litter discarded around structures, such as your home or storage shed, that easily burn.
- Remove dead plants and bushes from your yard.

# Police Department

## *Bias Based/Racial Profiling*

Bias based/racial profiling is defined as a law enforcement-initiated act based solely upon an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin, or on the basis of other criteria rather than upon the individual's behavior, activity, or other lawful reason. Deer Park Police Officers are strictly prohibited from engaging in bias based/racial profiling. The Deer Park Police Dept. is committed to providing service and enforcing laws in a fair and equitable manner. Citizens who believe they have been the subject of bias based/racial profiling may file a complaint with any employee of the Deer Park Police Dept. or call the Internal Affairs contact, Captain Wade Conner, at 281-930-2102.

## *Citizen's Police Academy*

The Deer Park Police Dept. is currently recruiting citizens for the 34<sup>th</sup> class of the Citizen's Police Academy. Classes begin on August 18, 2016 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).



## *Distracted Driving*

In 2015, the City of Deer Park established an ordinance prohibiting the use of wireless communication devices while driving. According to the Texas Department of Transportation statistics, there are more than 100,000 motor vehicle accidents in Texas each year directly attributed to distracted driving. A 2015 study by the Texas A&M Traffic Safety Institute revealed that 38% of Texas drivers admitted to talking on their cell phone while driving and 21% admitted to texting or sending e-mails while driving. Using wireless communication devices while driving is distracting and risky. So, please drive safely and use your cell phone in hands-free mode if you must use it while driving.

## *Extended School Days*

The 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature passed House Bill 2610 amending the Texas Education Code regarding how school districts plan instructional calendars. The new law allows districts to plan calendars using instructional minutes (required minimum is 75,600 minutes) instead of days. This change allows the district to slightly extend the school day, while reducing the total number of days in the school

year. Pursuant to House Bill 2610 for the 2016-2017 school year, the Deer Park Independent School District will extend the school day by adding 15 minutes to the end of the day. The change will also impact the effective times for the school zones at W. Pasadena Blvd., Ivy (across from Deer Park High School - North Campus), and E. Eighth Street. A proposal to extend the school zone times is being considered and, if approved, will be in effect prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The Deer Park Police Dept. and the Deer Park Independent School District will continue to work together to provide a safe environment for students and motorists. Keep in mind that the extended time during the school year will result in a longer summer break!



## *New Night for National Night Out 2016*

This year, National Night Out (NNO) will be held on a special night due to a scheduling conflict with the city. Mark your calendars - National Night Out 2016 is on Tuesday, October 11. Spend your evening with neighbors and police officers focusing on the importance of police-citizen partnerships in an effort to keep our community safe. Contact Sheila Plovovich at 281-930-2118 or [splovovich@deerparktx.org](mailto:splovovich@deerparktx.org) to plan your block party!



# Police Department

## 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 or visit [www.deerparktx.gov/police](http://www.deerparktx.gov/police).

## Pool Safety

Enjoying a beautiful day by the pool with family and friends is an ordinary event during the summer. Unfortunately, everything can change in a matter of seconds and it can happen to anyone. Would you know what to do if a child was drowning?



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death in children, ages 1 to 4. Reportedly, there has been an average of 390 deaths per year in pools and spas across the United States between 2011 and 2013. About 76% of the deaths

involved children younger than 5 years old. In drowning deaths of children, 0-14 years of age, 71% are male and 58% occurred in residential inground pools.

The following tips will help you keep your children safe while having fun by the pool.

- Always stay within arm's reach.
- Assign an adult water watcher and be sure to switch out adult water watchers often so they are fresh and alert.
- Learn how to swim.
- Learn CPR.



We challenge everyone to take the Pool Safety Pledge this summer at [www.poolsafely.gov/pledge](http://www.poolsafely.gov/pledge).



## Lock Your Vehicle

Crime trends in Deer Park are evaluated every month. The data shows that the highest reoccurring crime in Deer Park is motor vehicle burglary. Furthermore, the vehicles targeted in the burglaries were left unlocked.

Crime prevention can be simple. Reducing the number of motor vehicle burglaries by 80% can be achieved by simply locking your vehicle and hiding your belongings.

Criminals will go after as much as possible with minimal effort. Criminals have been known to walk the streets at night and check if the vehicles they come across are unlocked. Upon discovering an unlocked vehicle, criminals can easily open the car door and take what they want.



Don't become a victim. When possible, take all of your belongings out of the vehicle. If you cannot take the property with you, then hide it in a secure area, such as the trunk.

Deer Park is a wonderful community that is fortunate to report a very low number of violent crimes. It is easy for citizens to be lulled into a false sense of security and believe that crime and criminals do not exist in Deer Park. Leaving temptation in full view, such as a purse or iPad, on the front seat of your unlocked vehicle, will very likely result in a crime where you are the victim.

## 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.



# Public Works

## *Minimize Potential Flood Damage*

Since Deer Park is a flat city and its elevation is not much above sea level, draining the streets has always been a challenge. Many streets have been designed to handle about 2 inches of rain per hour. Flood waters are funneled into streams and bayous through storm drains. Rain events producing over 2 inches of rain per hour may result in flooding and flood damage to your property.

### *Tips to Minimize Flood Damage*

- Consider raising the furnace, water heater, permanent generators, and other anchored equipment above your property's flood level.
- Be sure to anchor fuel tanks, air conditioning units, and generators. Unanchored fuel tanks can break free and sever supply lines, contaminating the surrounding ground.
- Install an interior or exterior back flow valve to prevent sewage from backing up into your home when the sewer system is flooded. The Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) recommends gate valves. Although, gate valves are more complex and can be operated by hand, they provide stronger seals than flap or check valves. According to FLASH, valves should be installed on all pipes going into your house.
- If your home floods frequently, consider dry proofing your walls by applying coatings and other sealing materials to help keep flood waters out.
- If water appears to be rising and you anticipate water coming into your home, move all furni-

ture, rugs, electronics, and other belongings to upper floors or at least get them off the ground.

- Shut off electricity at the breaker panel.
- Elevate major appliances onto concrete blocks.

Only flood insurance covers flood damage. Most standard homeowners policies do not cover flood damage. There is a 30-day waiting period after you purchase a flood insurance policy before coverage is in effect, so buy or renew your policy as soon as possible. Flood insurance is affordable. The average flood insurance policy is approximately \$600 per year. Rates for homes in moderate-to-low risk areas start at about \$129 per year.



## *Are You Ready for Hurricane Season?*

### *Before the Hurricane*

- Cut back all trees and weak branches that contact buildings.
- Make sure that drainage ditches and inlets are free of debris.
- Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches.
- Remove miscellaneous debris from your yard, such as old lumber, broken lawn furniture, etc.

### *Hurricane is Approaching*

- Do not cut down trees or do any major yard work.
- Do not begin construction proj-

ects that produce debris.

- Once a hurricane watch or warning is issued, do not trim vegetation of any kind. Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the normal curbside collection process. Unfortunately, there is not enough equipment or manpower to collect the additional material once the storm makes landfall. All of the resources will be used to pick up the debris after the storm.

### *After the Storm*

- Keep household garbage, recycling, and vegetation/storm debris sorted separately.
- Put all household garbage in securely tied plastic trash bags and place at the curb on your normal scheduled collection day.
- Carry any storm debris to the curb/right-of-way (between the sidewalk and curb). City employees cannot pick up debris on private property.



## *Drainage System Maintenance*

The drainage system in Deer Park includes both open and closed segments. The open sections are drainage swales and ditches, which are utilized to carry storm water away from homes to drainage areas. The closed system is comprised of storm water inlets and storm drain pipes,

# Public Works

which also carry water from streets and developments to drainage areas.

Keeping the drainage system maintained is very important. The city performs maintenance work on the system at least twice a year and on an as-needed basis. Debris in ditches and streams can obstruct the flow of flood water, which can cause overflow onto streets and yards. Dumping is against city ordinance and may be punishable with a fine. To report illegal dumping, call 281-478-7252.

Citizens are expected to perform routine maintenance on ditches located on rights-of-way in front of their properties, including the removal of high weeds, litter, and other items that may be considered a nuisance. The area should also be kept free of stagnant water so it does not become an ideal breeding ground for mosquitos.



## Mosquito Control

The city uses an EPA approved application to spray for mosquitoes Monday through Thursday during mosquito season. In addition to spraying, the city treats drainage ditches and the storm sewer system (areas of standing water) with EPA approved Altosid Briquets. Controlling the mosquito population by killing mosquito larvae before they develop into adult mosquitoes is the most effective approach.

Nothing takes the fun out of an evening outdoors like bloodthirsty

mosquitoes. In addition to inflicting an irritating bite, mosquitoes can transmit diseases. Mosquitoes require water to breed. They lay eggs in stagnant or slow moving water, moist soil, leaf litter, or any area that is likely to collect water. Be diligent about getting rid of standing water around your property. Drill holes in the bottom, not the sides, of garbage cans and recycling containers stored outdoors. Keep the gutters unclogged and clean. Also, make sure your downspouts drain properly and do not create puddles in the drainage area. Keep swimming pools cleaned and chlorinated, even when not in use. Ornamental ponds should be aerated to keep water moving and discourage mosquitoes from laying eggs. Keep your property clean of items that can hold water, including discarded aluminum cans and tires.



## Adopt-a-Pet Program

Dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Deer Park Animal Shelter after a holding period of 3 business days. 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.

## City Projects

- *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. In May 2013, City Council authorized staff to enter into a contract with CDM Smith for the design of phase 1. Phase I has been awarded to CSA Construction for \$4,908,600. Construction began in June 2015 and is anticipated to continue through 2017, possibly 2018. The project is being funded with Certificates of Obligation.
- *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 was redesigned and went out for rebid in early 2016. On April 5, 2016, the project was awarded to IKLO Construction in the amount of \$1,881,500. The construction of the facility will be funded with CCPD funds.
- *18-inch Force Main CIPP Rehabilitation* - 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. The project involves lining the force main with approximately 1,000 feet

## Public Works

of UV cured liner. This section of the pipe has had several blowouts over the last few years and needs to be rehabilitated. Construction starts this summer and is expected to be completed by fall. Total cost of the project is \$225,323.10.

- *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. The

project is expected to be completed by fall.

- *Citywide Sidewalk Replacement* - The 2016 Sidewalk Improvement Project was awarded to Precise Services, Inc. on March 1, 2016 in the amount of \$242,055. The project is being funded out of the Capital Improvement Fund. The project focuses on installing new sidewalks in areas where they are lacking. The project also includes installing wheelchair ramps at various locations around town. A special emphasis will be placed on areas that are considered routes to and from local schools. The project is expected to be completed by fall.
- *Concrete Ring Road at the City Maintenance Facility on Luella Ave.* - City Council approved \$200,000 in the 2015-2016 fiscal budget to construct a concrete ring road that will connect the existing driveways at the city facility. The project is being designed by city staff and expected to be completed by end of the fiscal year.

## Resident Reminders

A means of egress is simply the path available for a person to leave a structure. Residents are reminded to keep hallways and doorways at home clear and free from obstruction. In the event of an emergency where emergency personnel need to assist people out of the home, pathways to and from the bedrooms need to be clear all the way to an exit point. Keeping pathways clear will decrease the amount of time it takes emergency personnel to get everyone out safely and provide medical attention.



## 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.



## 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.

## Follow Us

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

# 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  
Thursdays, 10:15-10:45am  
June 16-Aug. 4*

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  
June 16-Aug. 4*

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

## **Kids Kaboodle**

*For ages 5-8  
Tuesdays, 1:30-2:15pm  
June 14-Aug. 2*

Join us Tuesday afternoons for craft time. A list of the specific crafts we'll be making is available at the library.

## **Preteen Craft**

*For ages 9 & over  
Tuesdays, 3-4pm  
June 14-Aug. 2*

Join us Tuesday afternoons for craft time. A list of the specific crafts we'll be making is available at the library.

## **Monday Movie Flicks**

*Mondays, 10:30am-12pm  
June 13-Aug. 8*

Join us for a family friendly movie. We'll provide the snacks. A list of

this summer's movies is available at the library.

## **Thursday Movie Matinee**

*Thursdays, 3pm  
June 16-Aug. 4*

Join us for a movie and snacks! The movies will be rated PG or PG-13. A list of the movies will be available at the library.

## **Friends of the Deer Park Library**

The Friends of the Deer Park Library support programs for children, teens, and adults. They also provide prizes for the summer reading program. Following the expansion in 2012, Friends purchased and dedicated *The Reading Tree* for children to enjoy. In 2015, Friends installed a built-in display case to commemorate the library's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Patrons wishing to support the library are encouraged to join the Friends of the Library. Annual membership dues are \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$2 for senior citizens. For more information, call 281-478-7208.



## **Scholastic Book Fair**

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for June 2-11 in the library's meeting room during normal hours. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Deer Park Library. Proceeds from the book fair provide incentive prizes for the summer reading club.

## **On Your Mark, Get Set . . . Read**

The summer reading club provides children of all ages an opportunity to maintain or improve reading

skills during the summer months, while earning prizes for each book log completed. Children may submit up to 6 weekly book logs. The last day to turn in a book log for a prize is Aug. 13.



The reading club also provides a variety of activities during the summer. Children do not need to be registered in the reading program to participate in these activities.

Teens may choose to participate in the *Get in the Game. Read!* reading program with similar incentives and guidelines.

Registration for the reading club begins June 2. A detailed brochure of weekly activities and rewards are available at the library.

## **Exercise Your Mind. Read!**

*For ages 18 & over  
June 2-Aug. 13*

Make the most of your summer by joining the library's adult summer reading program, *Exercise Your Mind. Read!* Prizes include gift cards, tote bags, and more. Stop by the library to pick up an entry form, start reading, and earn rewards for it. The more you read, the more chances you have to win!

## **Special Events**

*For ages 4 & over  
Wednesdays, 10:30-11:15am*

June 15: Happy the Clown  
June 22: Armand Bayou Nature Center  
June 29: Express Theatre's *Ali Baba & 40 Thieves*  
July 6: Julian Franklin  
July 13: Puppet Pizzazz  
July 20: Incredible Events  
July 27: Homegrown Entertainment

# Library News

## Teen Tech

For school-aged teens  
Wednesdays, 3-5:30pm  
Starts June 15

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.

## 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. One book per month from a variety of genres will be discussed. 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, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/library](http://www.deerparktx.gov/library) or call 281-478-7208.

**June 14** - World War I Historical Fiction, *The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman

**July 12** - World War II Historical Fiction, *At the Water's Edge* by Sara Gruen

## Award Winning Books for Children & Teens

The winner of the 2015 Newbery Medal, awarded to the author of the

most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, is *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander. Honor books were *El Deafo* by Cece Bell and *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson.

The winner of the 2015 Caldecott Medal, awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book, is *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* by Dan Santat. Honor books were *Nana in the City* by Lauren Castillo, *The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art* by Barb Rosenstock, *Sam & Dave Dig a Hole* by Mac Barnett, *Viva Frida* by Yuyi Morales, *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus* by Jen Bryant and *This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki.

*I'll Give You the Sun* by Jandy Nelson was awarded the 2015 Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in young adult literature. Honor books were *And We Stay* by Jenny Hubbard, *The Carnival at Bray* by Jessie Ann Foley, *Grasshopper Jungle* by Andrew Smith, and *This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki.

## Career Resources

Are you confused or exhausted by the job hunt? The Deer Park Public Library offers 2 classes for those seeking employment. *Find a Job* provides hints and strategies to bring you up to speed with the 21<sup>st</sup> century application process, while *Keys For Career Seekers* introduces you to powerful library resources that lead you in the right direction. Take the next step toward your professional future and register for a class today! For more information, call 281-478-7208.

## 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

# Library

research your family history. Become familiar with Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage-Quest 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

### June

- *End of Watch* by Stephen King
- *First Comes Love* by Emily Giffin
- *Private Rio* by James Patterson & Mark Sullivan
- *Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War* by Mary Roach



### July

- *Dishonorable Intentions* by Stuart Woods
- *The Black Widow* by Daniel Silva
- *Night and Day (Eve Duncan)* by Iris Johansen



### August

- *Sting* by Sandra Brown
- *The Shattered Tree: A Bess Crawford Mystery* by Charles Todd
- *Sweet Tomorrows: A Rose Harbor Novel* by Debbie Macomber



# Employee Awards

January Supervisor	January Support Staff	February Supervisor
		
Brent Costlow Public Works	Nathan Bell Information Technology	Joshua Patton Police Department
February Field Service	March Field Service	
		
Al Garces Public Works	Xavier Chatmon Public Works	

## 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.

## Tiffany's Tips

### *The Importance of Healthy Soil*

Poor soil is often the main culprit when plants are struggling. Poor soil health affects drainage, aeration, compaction, nutrient uptake, and plant development. If you notice that one side of your yard struggles more than the other side, compare the soil in both areas. Soil test kits are available at local nurseries. If you prefer a more thorough test with nutrient recommendations, you can send a sample of the soil to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. They have several options to choose from, depending on how detailed of a report you are looking for.



Air space is critical to the development of roots. If the soil is compacted, it is difficult for small feeder roots to break through the soil. Compact soil makes it more difficult to properly spread structural roots, which can cause the roots to compete against each other for space. A soil sample can help determine the amendments your soil needs. Compost or organic material can help by adding nutrients and improving drainage. If you have a heavy clay soil, adding compost will break up the small clay particles, form larger aggregates, and result in increased airspace in the soil. If you have sandy soil, adding compost or organic material will help with water holding capacity. You can also add 2 to 4 inches of natural mulch to help retain water and insulate soil temperature.

Limit the use of chemicals that create an imbalance in your yard. Attempts to kill off a pest may also kill off beneficial insects that help keep your soil healthy. Healthy soil grows healthy plants.

## Healthy Living

### *Eat a Healthy Diet For Better Sleep*



There's a large number of people who do not get enough sleep at night. Lack of sleep can cause serious health issues, including weight gain or loss. According to a small study published in the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*, consuming more saturated fat, more sugar, and less fiber is associated with lighter, less restorative, and more disrupted sleep. Results indicated that the more fiber a person ate, the more time he or she spent in the stage of deep, slow-wave sleep. In contrast, eating foods with more saturated fat resulted in poor quality sleep. The study also found that eating more sugar caused more arousals from sleep. There are plenty of reasons to eat a healthy diet. A good night's sleep is just another reason to add to the list. Source: IDEA Food & Nutrition Tips, Volume 5, Issue 2

### *Summer Tennis Camp*

*Monday- Thursday, \$35 per week for ages 5-9, \$70 per week for ages 10-12, Dow Park Tennis Courts*

Bring a bottle of water and a tennis racket to each class. Fridays are reserved for rain out make up days, not for missed days. All students will receive a T-shirt.

*Sessions: June 6-9, June 13-16, June 20-23, June 27-30, July 11-14, July 18-21, July 25-28, Aug. 1-4, Aug. 8-11 & Aug. 15-18*

### *Future Stars I & II*

*10-10:30am, ages 5-9*

### *Beginner - All Stars*

*10:30-11:30am, ages 10-12*

### *Advanced - Super Stars*

*10:30am-12pm (Coach's approval required)*

### *NRA's Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program for Children*

*June 7 & Aug. 9, 6-7pm, for ages 3-11, \$10 per child, Deer Park*

*Community Center, Instructor Tania Weber* This is the #1 gun accident prevention 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, storytime, a craft project for children, as well as a parent's guide to gun safety, and a certificate for the participant.

### *Music Together*

*For ages 0-5, \$200 for 10-week course or \$150 for 6-week course,*

*Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Samantha Yarberry - Elementary Music Specialist at San Jacinto Elementary*

The Music Together program offers children, from birth to age 5, the proper environment to grow and develop, while interacting socially and musi-

# Parks & Recreation

cally with other children of varying ages. This program provides children with a wealth of musical experience to share with their parents. Participants will receive a special *Babies Guide for Parents in Mixed-age Classes* and other educational materials for parents, including the Music Together CD, a digital download of the current collection, a songbook, and the online Family Music Zone.

## Sessions:

June 8-Aug. 10, 9-9:45am

June 8-Aug. 10, 10-10:45am

June 8-July 13, 11-11:45am

## Market Days

June 18, July 16 & Aug. 20, 9am-1pm, Dow Park Stroll through Dow Park on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. Market Days help support local businesses by allowing them to sell their ready-made or homemade items. There is always something 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.

## Drawing Class

June 13-17 (Session 1) & July 18-22 (Session 2), 10-11am, for ages 7 & over, \$50 per session, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Jo Perez It's time to learn about drawing techniques, perspectives, textures, and values. You'll also learn about colors and shapes while drawing human figures and hands. All materials are included.

## Dance Camp

June 13-17 (for ages 11-18) & June 20-24 (for ages 6-10), 1-6pm, \$85 per child, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Alice Miller This camp includes a T-shirt, snacks, swim fees, classes in Jazz and Hip

Hop, as well as Lyrical, Contemporary, and Musical Theatre Dance. There will be a performance for family and friends on the last day of camp.

## Camp Crabgrass

Monday-Friday, 7:30am-5:30pm, for ages 6-11, \$105 per session for residents, \$115 per session for non-residents, Jimmy Burke Activity Center Children will enjoy a full

week of swimming, archery, riflery, and more. All campers need a sack lunch and 2 snacks per day. Limited to 80 per session.

June 13-17: Splashtown

June 20-24: Typhoon Texas

June 27-July 1: Pleasure Pier

July 18-22: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey

July 25-29: Dave & Buster's

Aug. 1-5: iT'Z Willowbrook

Aug. 8-12: Top Golf & Sub Zero Ice Cream

## Swim Lessons for Special Populations

June 14-24 (Session 1) & July 5-15 (Session 2), 8:15am, all ages welcome, \$55 per person per session, Dow Park Pool Swim lessons for individuals with special needs are taught by Ellis certified instructors experienced in special education. The program is not one-on-one instruction. There will be 6 to 8 students per class/instructor. The participant needs to be able to listen and receive instructions. They must also be willing to get in the water.

## Youth & Family Painting

June 17 & July 22, 6:30-8:30pm, for ages 7 & over, \$25 per canvas, \$10 for each additional canvas per family, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Pam Gross Enjoy a night out with the family and take home

a painted masterpiece. Pam will guide you step by step. No painting experience necessary. Parents of young children are asked to stay and help the children with their paintings. You are welcome to bring snacks. The class in June will be painting the Eiffel Tower, while the class in July will be painting a monkey.

## Daddy-Daughter Dance

June 18, 7-9pm, for all ages, \$35 per couple & \$15 for each additional daughter (through June 12) or \$45 per couple & \$20 for each additional daughter (after June 12), Jimmy Burke Activity Center Dance the night away in the enchanted forest! There won't be a shortage of awe-inspiring moments when you join us for this captivating evening. Get ready for refreshments, music, and door prizes. Photos will be available for a small fee.

## Clay Class

June 20-24 (Session 1) & July 11-15 (Session 2), 10-11am, for ages 7 & over, \$50 per session, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Jo Perez It's time to learn the art of clay sculpting. The class will cover sculpting, glazing, and firing, as well as making a figure from air-dry clay. All materials are included.

## Adult Painting Class

June 24 & Aug. 5, 6:30-9pm, for ages 18 & over, \$30 per canvas, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor Pam Gross Enjoy a night out and take home a painted masterpiece. Pam will guide you step by step. No painting experience necessary. The class in June will be painting a sunflower, while the class in August will be painting an owl.

# Parks & Recreation

## Mini Gourmet

June 27-30 (Session 1) & Aug. 1-4 (Session 2), 11am-1pm, for ages 7-12, \$55 per child per session, Deer Park Community Center, Instructor *Tiffany Ramos* Spice up your summer by learning the basics of cooking and becoming a chef at Mini Gourmet. In each session, we'll explore new recipes and tips that will make your meals a delicious success. Be sure to bring your apron because this could get messy.

## Independence 5K & 10K, Children's Patriotic Mile

July 2, 10K starts at 7:30am, \$30 pre-registration or \$35 race day; 5K starts at 7:45am, \$20 pre-registration or \$25 race day; Children's Patriotic Mile starts at 9am, \$10 pre-registration or \$15 race day Join us for the Annual Independence Run/Walk at the Deer Park Community Center. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project.

## Concealed Handgun Class

July 9 & Sept. 10, 8:30am-3pm, for ages 21 & over or 18 years old if actively serving in the military, \$80 per person, plus \$15 fee paid directly to gun range, 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. The necessary documentation from the State of Texas can be found at [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us). You will also find instructions for the fingerprinting requirement. The documents and fingerprinting must be completed prior to the class. Go to [www.tchconcealed.com](http://www.tchconcealed.com) for more information.

## Balloon Sculpting

July 14, 7-8:30pm, for ages 10 & over, \$35 per person, Deer Park Community Center, Room 10, Master Balloon Artist *Ralph Dewey*

This is an introductory class that will teach you the basics of making amazing, yet simple balloon animals and sculptures. A balloon kit with balloons, a marker, and pump will be provided.

## Fast Forward Kids

Designed using research-based programs proven to impact student performance. Our mission is to inspire and build confidence through academic and social learning for all children.

For more information, go to [www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec](http://www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrec). Classes are \$99 per child per class and will be held July 25-29 at the Deer Park Community Center.

*Lego Mania, for ages 5-7, 9-11am*  
*Lego Designer, for ages 5-7, 9-11am*  
*FUN Academy, for ages 5-7, 9-11am*  
*Camp Barbie, for ages 4-8, 11:30am-1:30pm*  
*Lego Logo, for ages 8-12, 11:30am-1:30pm*  
*Lego Expert, for ages 8-12, 11:30am-1:30pm*  
*Fashion Designer, for ages 8-12, 11:30am-1:30pm*  
*Survival Tactics Camp, for ages 8-12, 2-4pm*  
*Your Creative Expressions & Look at Me, I'm an Author!, for ages 8-12, 2-4pm*

## Women's Situational Awareness & Self Defense

July 13 & Sept. 7, 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.

## Youth Flag Football League

For boys and girls ages 6-11, \$60 per child, *Adult Softball Complex, 2700 Pasadena Blvd.* Youth flag football is an alternative for parents who hesitate allowing their children to play tackle football. Volunteer coaches, which are often parents of the players, help run each team by conducting practices and keeping parents informed. There are 2 scheduled practices per week (starting Aug. 29) and games are on Saturday mornings (starting Sept. 10 for 6 weeks). Registration ends Aug. 14.

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

## 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.

## 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.

## Art Park Players



### Drama Camp GREASE!

*June 6-17, 1-5pm, for ages 6 & over, \$150 per person, Municipal Court & Theatre Building* Get ready to Hand Jive! This musical performance training camp is the one you don't want to miss. Packed full of food, games, special events, and all things stage! Camp includes a daily meal, swimming pool field trips, camp T-shirt, and a musical review performance at camp's end.

### Modeling Camp

*Activity #5843, June 6-10, 10am-12pm, for ages 6-18, \$80 per child, Municipal Court & Theatre Building, Instructor Susan Mele* Modeling for young ladies goes beyond striking a pose! This course covers topics, such as runway modeling, social graces, public speaking, make-up and skin care application, interviewing techniques, and posing for the photographer. There will be a fashion show at camp's end. Make-up and skin care products will be provided to each participant.

### Advanced Modeling Camp

*Activity #5484, June 13-17, 10am-12pm, for ages 6-18, \$80 per child, Municipal Court & Theatre Building, Instructor Susan Mele* Move on from the runway to print modeling and portfolio building with our advanced model training. This advanced course is for students who

received certification in the previous course. Students will review skills from the introduction course and learn about selecting an agent, completing a resume, and preparing a portfolio. Students will also participate in a photo session with a professional photographer and an in-store fashion show at camp's end. Students earn a certificate for completing the advanced course.

### Acting Camp

*Activity #5482, June 20-24, 2-5pm, for ages 10 & over, \$80 per child, Municipal Court & Theatre Building* This camp focuses on the art of acting and provides extensive training on the various techniques used in comedic and dramatic performances. An acting showcase will be presented at camp's end.

### Professional Actors' Workshop

*Activity #5485, July 11-14, 2-5pm, for ages 13 & over, \$80 per child, Municipal Court & Theatre Building* Ready to take acting to the next level? This 4-day course will provide you with the necessary tools to walk into an audition room with confidence. Topics to be covered include resume building, camera auditions, and cold-readings. Students will also participate in a session with a headshot photographer.

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 St.

## Maxwell Center

The Maxwell Adult Center is a recreational facility for seniors, ages 55 & over. We offer several activities, including ceramics, woodworking, quilting, dominos, cards, oil painting, card making, scrapbooking, bingo, and much more. There's something for everyone! Call us for more details at 281-478-7276.

### Meal Programs

Deer Park residents who are homebound and over the age of 55 may qualify for a meal delivery service coordinated through the Maxwell Senior Center. If you are a resident of Deer Park and over the age of 55 but are not homebound, you are welcome to participate in the congregate meals offered every weekday for only a \$2 donation at the Maxwell Center.

### Jam Sessions

There is a new groove in town! The Maxwell Center offers free jam sessions every Friday from 3 to 6pm. You are welcome to bring your instrument or just come by to listen.

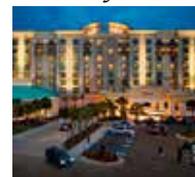
### Social Hour

*June 17, 6-10pm, \$5 per person* Join us for dinner, drinks, and a flick! We'll provide the transportation and you pay the tab.

*July 29, 7-11pm, \$130 per person* Defy gravity as we head to the Hobby Center to catch the Tony Award winning play, *Wicked*.

### Senior Trips

*June 22-24: Paragon Casino* Join us for a 2-night trip to Louisiana and find out just how lucky you are! Trip cost is \$85 per person,



## Maxwell Center

which includes \$30 in free play, \$10 food voucher, round trip transportation, and lodging.



*December 4-9: Biltmore Estate & Asheville, NC* Visit beautiful North Carolina this winter! Trip cost is \$480 per person, which includes lodging, round trip transportation, some meals, and tours.

## 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.

## Economic Development

### Business News

- **Bullritos**, located at 3709 Center St. (next door to Starbucks), recently celebrated their six-year anniversary. Bullritos is a casual, family-friendly restaurant serving bag 'n' go burritos, burrito bowls, tacos, and all your Tex-Mex favorites like fajitas and tamales. 
- **KZ Sweet Boutique** is now open at 3428 Center St. (next door to Shipley Donuts), serving ice cream, snow cones, cookies, and more.
- Brock Bihm, owner of **Mr. Electric - Deer Park**, was recently honored with the Mr. Electric Top Gun Award. This award is presented to the franchisee who consistently sites in the top 10 percent of the Mr. Electric network, which includes almost 200 locations in several countries. 
- Deer Park's Mandie Morris has written several eBooks (how-to guides) that show you how to paint and faux-finish furniture. Mandie started her **Altar'd Market** business in her garage and turned it into a thriving retail location at 122 W. San Augustine (former location of Curves). To purchase and download the eBooks, click on the **EBOOKS** tab at [www.altard.com](http://www.altard.com). 
- What's coming next door to Norma's Country Dreams? **Fresenius Medical Care** is constructing a new dialysis clinic.
- **Oliver's Pizza** is now open at

3702 Center St. Stop by and try their all-you-can-eat pizza buffet and 50-item salad bar.

- **Pita Pit** is coming to 8015 Spencer Hwy. in Deer Park (next door to Smashburger and Smoothie King). They start with soft, roll-able pita bread and then fill it with your choice of lean, grilled meats, fresh vegetables, cheeses, and savory sauces. Their breakfast pitas are equally delicious! 
- **Rebel Fitness** has opened at 306 E. Pasadena Blvd. This unique gym is a private facility created to help ordinary people achieve extraordinary results, offering affordable personal training and boot camps. Call 832-348-6377 to schedule your free fitness consultation.
- The **former H-E-B location** at the corner of Center St. and Pasadena Blvd. is expected to be modified into a multi-tenant retail center.

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

## 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.

# Council Actions

## February 2016

- Authorized staff to purchase a 2016 Freightliner M2-106-80 garbage truck for the Sanitation Dept. through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program from Houston Freightliner in the amount of \$178,500 and also to seek bids to obtain lease purchase financing for the 2016 Freightliner.
- Accepted the completion of the emergency 8-inch Pipe Bursting and Manhole Rehabilitation project on Almax Drive. Final cost was \$81,191.48.
- Accepted the completion of the P Street Detention Pond Rehabilitation project. Final cost was \$93,700.72.
- Accepted the Deer Park Community Development Corporation Quarterly Report for the period of October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Pinnacle Industries to rebuild blowers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$50,392.
- Approved the purchase of a John Deere 8800A Terrain Cut Rough Mower through the H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Park Maintenance Dept. in the amount of \$54,621.87.
- Approved an agreement with Emergicon, Inc. for EMS billing services.
- Approved the amendment and restated ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Deer Park, Texas, Certificates of Obligation, Series 2016.
- Renewed the agreement for collection of delinquent

municipal court fees and fines with the law firm Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson.

- Renewed the agreement for collection of delinquent emergency medical service bills with the law firm Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson.
- Established an Architect and Engineering Committee to provide oversight and assistance in the selection of architectural firms and engineering firms hired to perform professional services for the city.
- Approved an agreement with the City of Deer Park and the Deer Park Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District and the City of Deer Park Crime Control & Prevention District for a joint election on May 7, 2016.
- Approved a contract with Halff Associates, Inc. for architectural services for the Deer Park Community Development Corp.
- Approved an ordinance calling a general election for the election of Council positions 4, 5 & 6.

## March 2016

- Awarded the bid for the 2015 Sidewalk Improvement project to Precise Services, Inc. in the amount of \$242,055.
- Authorized staff to seek proposals for debris removal services.
- Accepted the completion of the emergency sanitary sewer repair on East 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Final cost was \$124,143.
- Accepted the completion of the Water Line Rehabilitation Phase III project. Final cost was \$545,711.
- Accepted the completion of

the rehabilitation of the Hole #5 pond overflow system at the Battleground Golf Course. Final cost was \$95,931.

- Authorized staff to negotiate a contract with Quorum Architects for architectural services for the new Deer Park Animal Control Shelter.
- Accepted the completion of the emergency manhole rehabilitation on Railroad Ave. Final cost was \$37,388.
- Renewed an agreement with Economic Alliance Houston Port Region for office space to house the city's Visitors Center.
- Renewed an agreement with SHI for Microsoft Enterprise Services that allows the city to attain continuous license compliance.
- Approved an ordinance amending the 2015-2016 Budget for repairs to the roadway servicing the golf course maintenance facility.
- Approved an agreement with Cobb, Fendley & Associates for engineering services relating to the driveway project at the Battleground Golf Course.
- Approved an ordinance amending the 2015-2016 Budget to replace the roof at the Battleground Golf Course Club House.
- Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2015-2016 Budget for the Golf Cart Lease at the Battleground Golf Course.
- Approved an agreement with E-Z-Go to lease golf carts for the Battleground Golf Course.
- Reappointed Troy Cothran as the City of Deer Park's representative on the Board of Directors for the Southeast Texas Housing

# Council Actions

- Finance Corporation.
  - Approved a resolution authorizing the publication of Notice of Intention to issue Limited Tax Refunding Bonds.
  - Approved a resolution authorizing the city's participation in the Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Purchasing Cooperative Program.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the 2015-2016 Budget for the P Street Detention Basin Rehabilitation.
  - Approved a Specific Use Permit at 1222 E. Purdue and an ordinance for the Native Prairies Association of Texas to operate field education programs at this location.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances Section 14, Animals by amending Section 14-245(e) regarding attacks by dangerous dogs.
  - Awarded the bid for the lease purchase financing of a 2016 Freightliner garbage truck.
  - Accepted the completion of the Manhole Rehabilitation Phase I project. Final cost was \$131,124.75.
  - Accepted the completion of the Storm Drainage Improvements at College Park and Academy Lane. Final cost was \$148,424.
  - Authorized staff to seek bids for the renovation of the hot water system for the Municipal Court & Theatre Building.
  - Authorized the write-off of delinquent Emergency Medical Services accounts.
  - Approved the renewal of the roof maintenance contract with TREMCO, Inc.
  - Renewed the agreement with Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP for professional audit services.
  - Approved an agreement with American Tower, LLC to allow city access to their tower at the Luella Maintenance and Operations Facility.
  - Approved an agreement with AT&T for internet services.
  - Approved the ratification of the grant submittal through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. and Harris County for the Deer Park Wetlands project.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the 2014-2015 Budget for the General Obligation and Refunding Bonds, Series 2014.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the 2014-2015 Budget for the Central Warehouse.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the 2014-2015 Budget for the Parks and Recreation Dept. Senior Services and Athletics & Aquatics.
  - Accepted the Annual Audit FY 2014-2015.
- April 2016*
- Authorized staff to seek bids for a one-year supply of gasoline and diesel for all city vehicles and equipment.
  - Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for the first quarter ended December 31, 2015.
  - Approved a resolution supporting Storm Surge Suppression Alternative #1 and a resolution opposing Storm Surge Suppression Alternative #2.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the part-time employee wage and classification scale.
  - Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2015-2016 Deer Park Crime Control and Prevention District Budget.
  - Authorized the purchase of a bullet-trap and baffles from Action Target through the GSA Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Police Dept. firing range facility in the amount of \$725,600.
  - Awarded the bid for construction of the Police Dept. Gun Range to IKLO Construction in the amount of \$1,881,500.
  - Authorized staff to seek bids for a one year period for the Senior Meals Program.
  - Authorized the purchase of 8 Chevrolet Tahoes for the Crime Control Prevention District through the H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$263,208, as well as expenditures to outfit the units with light bars, graphics, camera systems, etc. in the amount of \$174,111.80.
  - Authorized the purchase of camera/surveillance equipment at 3 fire stations.
  - Authorized the purchase of additional equipment to expand the current door access system at the Community Center/Gym and add one to Dow Park Pool from Lensec, LLC, through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program.
  - Authorized staff to apply for and accept a grant through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act for the Police Dept.
  - Authorized an agreement with Lensec, LLC for support of the city's enterprise solution for door access and camera systems.
  - Referred a request from Next Step Transition Center to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a Specific Use Permit for a Day Habilitation Center at 229 East Vaughn Lane.

***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.



Celebrate Independence Day at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center on July 4. This hometown celebration includes performances by *Skyline Band* on the indoor stage at 5pm and *Big Richard* on the outdoor stage at 7pm. If you will be viewing the fireworks display from the Jimmy Burke Activity Center, participate in our *Most Patriotic Contest* and decorate your area for a chance to win a gift card. Judging takes place at 8:45pm. Top off your evening with a massive fireworks display at 9:15pm and an encore performance by *Big Richard* following the fireworks.

## May 7, 2016 Election Results

**ELECTION RESULTS**

**Council Position 4**  
Bill Patterson

**Council Position 5**  
Ron Martin

**Council Position 6**  
Rae A. Sinor



**Proposition:**

Whether the City of Deer Park 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.  
Passed

**Proposition:**

Whether the City of Deer Park 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.  
Passed

The results of the election on May 7 were unofficial at the time of this printing. Election results will be official after the canvass is conducted by City Council on May 17, 2016 at 7:30pm.