



Economic Development Newsletter

DEER PARK, TEXAS

Support your Ho-Ho-Hometown: Be Unique & Buy Local

December 2017/January 2018 • VOL. 48



Now Open!

Authentic, Japanese ramen has now arrived in Deer Park at Otsuka Ramen & Bar, located at 8035 Spencer Highway (next door to 1000 Degrees Pizza and Chipotle). The owner is Andy Chen, who also owns Spicy Chen Chinese restaurant on Spencer near Center Street. Eating ramen is an everyday ritual in Japan, and traditional ramen is more about the broth than the noodles. Otsuka sent their chef to Japan for a six-month

course on authentic preparation, consisting of simmering broth for over ten hours and finding the perfect ingredients like savory meats and vegetables. Stop by soon and experience the taste of Japan.

When Ice Cream Meets Science

Sub-Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream will soon open at 9315 Spencer Hwy. (next door to MOD Pizza and YoYo's Chinese restaurant). Drawn to the idea of "customizable food", Jerry and Naomi Hancock wanted to apply this to desserts. With a background in chemistry, Jerry developed a method to freeze ice cream using liquid nitrogen. This cool way to eat delicious ice cream became the first Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream restaurant in 2004. Kids love watching the science behind their favorite



dessert, and you will love the fresh taste of ice cream that has not been sitting in a freezer. Look for them to open in mid-December and "like" their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/subzerodeerpark.



New Emergency Room on East Blvd.

Hospitality 1st Emergency Room will soon be coming to 1101 East Blvd. (near the intersection of East Blvd. and State Hwy. 225). This 9,000 square foot, independently- owned ER will have nine treatment rooms with state of the art diagnostic technology, capable of handling both major and minor emergency medical services. Look for construction to start in December and a grand opening in the fall of 2018.



Daycare ‘Til Midnight

Those who work longer hours or the night shift will be happy to know that Kids Kountry Learning Center will soon expand their childcare hours to 6:00 am - midnight, Monday through Friday. Kids Kountry has been one of Deer Park’s beloved daycares for the past 15 years at 310 E. X Street (near Center Street). It is a caring and fun environment for children 6 weeks to 12 years of age, offering meals and snacks, plus transportation to and from schools in the Deer Park and La Porte districts. The longer hours will begin in January. For more information, call Kids Kountry at (281) 479-1126.

Deer Park is Lovin’ It!

Area events can be real money-makers for our local businesses. For instance, the McDonald’s Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament was just held November 16-18 in Deer Park and Pasadena. The Deer Park’s ISD and Deer Park Education Foundation, in partnership with Pasadena, has co-hosted this event for the 7th year in a row. The tournament is 2nd largest of its kind in the country and brought in 80 teams and over 40,000 fans to our area (the girls’ teams all played and stayed in Deer Park). Last year, Deer Park’s estimated economic impact for the 3-day tournament was over \$1 million for our local hotels, restaurants and retailers. Proceeds benefit the Deer Park Education Foundation (www.helpdpkids.org).



New Buildings on Underwood

E&S Construction is underway with constructing four new buildings on Underwood Road (near Spencer Highway). The occupants remain to be seen, as these buildings are being constructed “spec” which is short for “speculation”; meaning there is no guaranteed tenant upon completion of the building. E&S is betting that tenants will be eager to locate here, once these buildings are completed. The smallest building is 12,600 square feet, and two of them are just over 16,000 square feet. The fourth, and largest building, is proposed at over 400,000 square feet. All are zoned to be light industrial/warehouse facilities. For more information, contact Randy at E&S at (281) 476-4722 or visit www.esconstruction.net.

Apprenticeship School is now Open

Pipefitters Local 211 was chartered in 1949, but recently moved to 1301 W. 13th St. and constructed the Kenneth H. Edwards Apprenticeship School Annex. The impressive new annex building is now being used to train pipe tradesmen in the art of pipe fabrication, installation and servicing. Call (713) 644-5521 for more information.

Business of the Year 2017: Mr. Electric Bay Area

Mr. Electric Bay Area was named Deer Park Chamber's Business of the Year for 2017. Located at 2318 Center Street, Mr. Electric offers expert care in all types of electrical services from repairs to new construction needs – for both residential and commercial customers. Owner Brock Bihm has even received the Mr. Electric Top Gun Award, presented to the franchisee who consistently sites in the top 10 percent of the Mr. Electric network, which includes almost 200 locations throughout several countries. Call Brock and his outstanding crew at (713) 477-1770 or visit them on Facebook.



Industry of the Year 2017: The City of Deer Park

The City of Deer Park was named Deer Park Chamber's Industry of the Year for 2017, because of their outstanding efforts during Hurricane Harvey. The City was also recognized because of its year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary. Mayor Jerry Mouton accepted the award on behalf of the City, and praised City staff and leaders for their dedication.



Bachelor's Degrees Coming to San Jacinto College

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has signed SB 2118, allowing San Jacinto College to begin offering Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Bachelor of Applied Technology degrees. The move was made to help fill a critical workforce need in our region, according to San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. She states that our region will have a stronger workforce and economy because of this legislation. The College will now fine-tune curriculum proposals, and hopes to begin offering the BSN and BAT degrees by fall 2019.

Read more at www.sanjac.edu/article/bachelors-degrees.

Corporate Headquarters Relocates to Deer Park

USA DeBusk has relocated their corporate headquarters from Pasadena to Deer Park at 1005 W. 8th Street. This best-in-class mechanical and industrial cleaning services provider specializes in serving the downstream energy market. They offer a full suite of maintenance and turnaround services. Founded in 2012, USA DeBusk currently has field offices in 21 cities and continues to provide services internationally. They occupy several different buildings on W. 8th Street and bring over 350 employees to Deer Park. Learn more at www.debusksg.com.



Starting or Growing a Small Business?

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for San Jacinto College is located right here in Deer Park at 203 Ivy Ave (in the Economic Alliance building). SBDC provides advice, counseling and mentoring for anyone looking to start or grow a small business. They stay with you every step of the way and the best news is that it is all free of charge. Register for their next workshop “Access to Capital for Small Business Owners” on Dec. 14, 9:00 am to 11:00 am at <https://accesstocapitaldeerpark.eventbrite.com> or see their class/workshop schedule at www.sanjac.edu/sbdc. You can reach them at (281) 476-9176 ext. 7.



Bits & Pieces



- Congratulations to T&T Construction for being named #19 on Houston Business Journal's "Best Places to Work" list for mid-sized companies.
- According to FEMA, Hurricane Harvey had the following residential impact in the Houston region:
 - 2,800 homes were destroyed
 - 35,700 homes received major damage and were uninhabitable
 - 58,700 homes received minor damage and were temporarily uninhabitable
 - 64,400 homes were "affected" but still habitable
- Fun Fact: More wool comes from the state of Texas than any other state in the United States.

Thank you for reading. To see past issues of this newsletter, visit www.deerparktx.gov/ed. To subscribe, submit ideas or comment, email Debbie Westbeld at dwestbeld@deerparktx.org. Subscribers receive this bi-monthly electronic newsletter via email.

Debbie Westbeld, Economic Development Administrator
City of Deer Park
710 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, TX 77536
Phone: (281) 478-2042
Email: dwestbeld@deerparktx.org
Website: www.deerparktx.gov/ed

Get weekly updates – “Like” us on Facebook at *Deer Park Economic Development*