



MESSENGER

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2021

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No Trash Collection

City offices will be closed on:

**Thursday & Friday
December 23 & 24 -
Christmas**

**Friday, December 31 -
New Year's Day**

Curbside collection of rubbish will not be available on these days. Service will resume on your next regular collection day following the holiday. Garbage should not be placed out for pick up earlier than 6 p.m. on the evening before the scheduled collection day. All rubbish must be in a bag and put out at curbside by 8 a.m. on your scheduled pickup day. Garbage should be placed between the curb and the sidewalk. Please note that the Transfer Station will be closed on **Saturday, December 25 & Jan. 1.**

Gift of Christmas

The holidays are approaching, which means it's time to help the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department (DPVFD) with their annual Gift of Christmas program! This program has been helping families in need during the holiday season since 1987. Firefighter Jonathan Neal, along with his wife Tiffany, and their team are distributing over 160 barrels for citizens to donate toys and canned goods around the City of Deer Park.



Continued on page 3

Santa Around Town

The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department (DPVFD) will continue its annual Christmas tradition – the Santa Around Town tours – from December 8 through 10. The DPVFD and Santa will take to the streets of Deer Park on those nights from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in decorated high-water vehicles.

“After this year's dates were confirmed, Santa talked about how much he enjoys this annual tradition. He loves the hospitality that our members provide and he especially loves the time he gets to interact with citizens every night he is here,” said Justin Crow, Deputy Fire Chief of Station #2. Fire Chief Don

Continued on page 3

DPVFD Recruitment

The Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department is seeking volunteers who want to give back to their community, enjoy the camaraderie of a tight-knit group, and savor an adrenaline rush. “I would encourage anyone who has ever been interested in serving this community as a firefighter to apply for our March academy as soon as possible,” Assistant Fire Chief Phillip Arroyo said. “Your time is a precious product and serving as part of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Dept. is a great way to give back to your community as a volunteer, especially in these challenging and uncharted times.” To qualify for the fire academy, which consists of 15 weeks with classes held on Monday, Wednesday, and occasionally Saturday, applicants must be between the ages of 21 and 55, pass a physical agility test and thorough criminal background check, and must live within the City of Deer Park. In assessing potential firefighting recruits, the department is seeking individuals who are motivated, energetic and have the time to commit to training and responding to calls, especially during the first year. Applications are now being accepted

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City of Deer Park

710 E. San Augustine
Deer Park, TX 77536
(281) 479-2394
www.deerparktx.gov

 www.facebook.com/deerparktx

 [@deerparktxgov](https://twitter.com/deerparktxgov)

 [deerparktxgov](https://www.instagram.com/deerparktxgov)

General Information

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.

Elected Officials

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jerry Mouton, Jr. | Mayor |
| Sherry Garrison | Council Member - Position 1 |
| TJ Haight | 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 Mayor and City Council Members by e-mail at cityhall@deerparktx.org.

Department Directors

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| James J. Stokes | City Manager |
| Gary M. Jackson | Assistant City Manager |
| Shannon Bennett | City Secretary |
| Donna Todd | Director, Finance |
| Bill Philibert | Director, Human Resources |
| Bill Pedersen | Director, Public Works |
| Charlie Sandberg | Director, Parks and Recreation |
| Rebecca Pool | Director, Library |
| Jamie Galloway | 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 | 4221 Luella |
| Art Park Players/Theater | 281-478-7288 | 1302 Center |
| Avon Recreation Center | 281-478-7216 | 601 W. 8 th 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 |
| Earl Dunn Gym | 281-478-2056 | 610 E. San Augustine |
| Fire Station #1 | 281-478-2043 | 1302 Center |
| Fire Station #2 | 281-478-7269 | 711 E. Pasadena Blvd. |
| Fire Station #3 | 281-478-7281 | 2211 East X |
| Jimmy Burke Activity Center | 281-478-2049 | 500 W. 13 th 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 |
| Visitors Center | 832-780-0973 | 203 Ivy Ave., Suite 606 |



City Hall
 Open Monday through Friday
 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Notify Me
 Subscribe to receive city news and the Messenger newsletter by e-mail at www.deerparktx.gov.

- ### December
- 4 Siren Test - Noon
 - 6 Planning & Zoning Meeting
 - 7 City Council Meeting
 - 11 Siren Test - Noon
 - 18 Siren Test - Noon
 - 21 City Council Meeting
 - 23 City Services Closed - Holiday
 - 24 City Services Closed - Holiday
 - 25 Siren Test - Noon

- ### January
- 1 Siren Test - Noon
 - 3 Planning & Zoning Meeting
 - 4 City Council Meeting
 - 8 Siren Test - Noon
 - 15 Siren Test - Noon
 - 18 City Council Meeting
 - 22 Siren Test - Noon
 - 25 LEPC Meeting
 - 29 Siren Test - Noon

- ### February
- 1 City Council Meeting
 - 5 Siren Test - Noon
 - 7 Planning & Zoning Meeting
 - 12 Siren Test - Noon
 - 15 City Council Meeting
 - 19 Siren Test - Noon
 - 22 LEPC Meeting
 - 26 Siren Test - Noon

**Meeting dates are subject to change.*

Gift of Christmas *Continued from page 1*

“This tradition has been nothing short of heartwarming to see the smiles and feel the gratitude of the families in our community when we pass along the donations that our community has provided,” Firefighter Neal said. Barrels will be available at local businesses, schools, and city facilities. A barrel will be placed in each lobby area at City Hall as well. Make sure to donate toys and canned goods before December 13. The DPVFD plans to pick up the barrels starting December 13 through 17 so that they can sort and distribute the community’s donations. According to Firefighter Neal, the Gift of Christmas program helped over 70 families have a happier holiday last year. “My wife and I, along with the entire Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department, are proud and honored to continue to make the holidays a special time for all,” said Firefighter Neal. “Though many people and organizations make the Gift of Christmas program special in our community, I would like to extend a special thanks to our mentors John and Jeannie Green, the Deer Park ROTC students and leadership, Jennifer Griffin and Charlene Tighe with the City of Deer Park Office of Emergency Management, my brothers and sisters at the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department, the City of Deer Park and its City Council members, Deer Park Independent School District Nurse Cheryl Westmoreland, as well as the countless number of people that volunteered in the donating, sorting

and delivering for these families.”

The Gift of Christmas program started with late firefighter Al Workman and his wife Garlene. Workman had a vision to give out toys that had been dropped off at the fire station, specifically to families who were not able to provide their children with Christmas gifts. As the years passed, donations began to grow and the Gift of Christmas program has evolved to its current state! To learn more about the Gift of Christmas program, go to www.deerparktx.gov or contact the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department at (281) 478-7283.

Santa Around Town *Continued from page 1*



Davis says, "Santa around Town is a very special tradition for our department, and we always look forward to this event as a chance to share the holiday spirit with our residents." Santa Around Town routes will be made available on the city's website, www.deerparktx.gov. As usual, Santa's helpers will be distributing candy along the route. The department asks that parents assist Santa with keeping small children safe as Santa passes by.

In the event of a cancellation due to inclement weather or an emergency in the city, the reschedule date will be Saturday, Dec. 11 beginning at 6 p.m. For more information, check out the DPVFD Facebook page, "Deer Park Fire Department," as well as the City of Deer Park Facebook page and the city's web site, www.deerparktx.gov. All residents are encouraged to like the "Deer Park Fire Department" Facebook page for year-round updates, event information, and more.

DPVFD Recruitment *Continued from page 1*

through our website at www.deerparktx.gov/1587/Join-Our-Team until December 21, 2021. An overview meeting will be held on March 10, 2022 and the official start date for the academy is March 21, 2022. For more information, call (281) 478-7281 or send an e-mail to 401@dpvfd.org.



Deer Park Police Department

Citizen's Police Academy

The Deer Park Police Department (DPPD) is currently recruiting citizens for the 45th class of the Citizen's Police Academy. Classes begin on February 17, 2022 and meet every Thursday, 6:30-9:30 p.m., until graduation. Classes generally run for 14 weeks and cover several aspects of police-related work.

Previous classes include hands-on training in SWAT, DWI procedures, self defense, investigations, communications, and many other topics. Students have also had the opportunity to practice dispatch dexterity, conduct mock traffic stops, as well as learn about accident reconstruction and CPR.

Classes are evolving as more citizens take the initiative to interact with the police department by joining the Citizen's Police Academy. 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 Plovnich at (281) 930-2118 or splovnich@deerparktx.org.

Police Dept. Employee Complaints and Commendations

Bias based/racial profiling is defined as a law enforcement initiated act based solely upon an individual's race, ethnicity, 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.

We also encourage you to inform us when employees go beyond the call of duty. Like many in the workforce, our police department employees appreciate it when their good deeds are noticed. Too often, they are remembered for the traffic tickets they issue or the arrests they make, and not for the thousands of helping hands they extend. If an employee of the Deer Park Police Department provides service that you feel should be commended, please write the Chief of Police a letter or a note expressing your feelings on what the employee has done that deserves commendation. The Chief will see that it gets to the employee and that a copy is placed in the employee's personnel file. Your note will not only boost morale, but it will encourage the employee and others in the department to stay positive and to be proud of the service they provide for our community.

Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when a criminal steals your personal information to open and abuse new accounts under your name. Personal information to



assume your identity may include your name, address, Social Security number (SSN) or financial information. According to the Federal Trade Commission, the number of fraud and identity theft reports have steadily risen since 2001. In 2019, there were over 1 million reports of fraud and 650,000 reports of identity theft, excluding complaints for violations of the National Do Not Call Registry.

Signs you may be a victim of identity theft:

- You see suspicious withdrawals from your bank account.
- You aren't receiving your bills or other mail.
- Debt collectors call you about debt that is not yours.
- Medical providers bill you for services you didn't use.
- The IRS notifies you that more than one tax return was filed under your name.
- The IRS notifies you that you have reported income from an employer that you didn't work for.

If your wallet or purse is stolen:

- Report it to the police department as soon as possible.
- Notify all necessary government agencies, such as the Department of Public Safety, Social Security Administration, U.S. Passport Agency, etc., that your personal information was stolen.
- Notify your creditors and credit card merchants, as well as your bank, that your personal information and cards were stolen.

Deer Park Police Department

Make it a habit to check your credit report regularly. You can get a free copy of your credit report every 12 months at www.annualcreditreport.com. For more information, contact Officer K.L. Zheng at kzheng@deerparktx.org.

Prevent Porch Package Thieves

In an effort to curb holiday package theft, the Deer Park Police Dept. is offering residents the option of having their packages delivered to the Deer Park Police Station. This program is free to Deer Park residents. To be eligible, the package must weigh less than 40 pounds. Furniture and oversized packages are not eligible for this program. We are not responsible for any damages.



The recipient must pick up the package within 3 days. Packages should be addressed to you using our address:

<Your Name>
Deer Park Police Department
2911 Center Street
Deer Park, TX 77536

For package pick up, you must present your I.D. and the name must match the name on the package. Please note that we are unable to carry packages to your car so bring someone who can help carry it to your car if you are unable to do so.

Package pick up is available Monday through Friday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This program ends on December 31, 2021. For questions, contact Sheila Plovovich at (281) 930-2118 or splovovich@deerparktx.org.



The Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is a non-profit, cooperative partnership of community residents, emergency responders, and

chemical industry leaders. The committee works together to protect the health and safety of plant workers, community residents, and our environment. For more information, go to www.deerparklepc.org.

For the latest updates go to CAER Online (www.hecma.org/caeronline), Facebook ([deerparktx.oem](https://www.facebook.com/deerparktx.oem)), Twitter ([@deerparkoem](https://twitter.com/deerparkoem)), Deer Park's Government Access Channel (DPTV) on Comcast Cable Channel 16 or AT&T U-Verse Channel 99, or local news stations.

To register for the city's emergency notification service, go to www.deerparktx.gov/oem, click on the *Emergency Notifications* icon, and then click on the *CodeRED* logo to sign up!

Is Luella Avenue a 2-lane or 4-lane street?



Luella Avenue

The answer is Luella Ave. is a 2-lane street.

Lane Markings

San Augustine St. is an example of a 4-lane street.



San Augustine Street

#STAYCONNECTED



www.deerparktx.gov

Public Works

Prepare Your Pool For Freezing Temperatures

Prepare your pool for freezing temperatures with a few simple steps. Always ensure that the water level in your pool is at the appropriate level, the middle of the skimmer. One of the most important things you can do is to keep the chemicals balanced in your pool. Automatic pool cleaners should be removed from the pool, drained of the water, and stored properly. Shut off each piece of equipment individually and turn off the breakers to your equipment. Remember to drain all of your equipment, including the pump, filter, heater, etc.

If you have power, you can opt to run your pool pump continuously. Start running your pool before the water begins to freeze and continue running it throughout the entire freeze period. This option is not without risk. If a power outage occurs, your equipment may be in jeopardy. Even if power is lost for only a brief time, the water inside your equipment may freeze and cause damage. To run your pool pump continuously, you must:

1. Clean and backwash the filter to keep the water flowing properly.
2. Run your pool pump and filter continuously since moving water freezes more slowly.
3. Insulate plumbing lines with blankets or towels to prevent freezing.
4. Open all lines to ensure proper water flow.

Warning - Do not use an electric heater, electric blanket, portable gas heater, or heat lamp on or near your pool pump and filter because they can damage equipment or cause a fire.

If you are without power and unable to run your pool equipment,

1. Make sure all of the equipment has been shut off. The breakers to your equipment should also be turned off.
2. Open the air relief valve on your pool's filter.
3. Remove the drain plugs from the front and rear headers of your pool heater. If you have a heat pump, remove those drain plugs, too.
4. Remove the lid and drain plugs from your pump.
5. Remove the drain plugs from the filter and any other unit that holds water, such as a leaf trap and the in-floor system water valves.
6. Remove the top of the diverter pool valve and ensure all valves are open.
7. Place old plastic gallon jugs filled with some water (not full) in your pool to take up ice expansion and protect your pool tiles and finish from freezing weather. Each jug breaks the surface of the water but is not fully submerged. You can also use floats or anything that can absorb pressure. Place a weighted 5-gallon bucket on your steps or hanging over the edge in the pool, breaking the surface of the water.
8. Place an old plastic drinking bottle in the skimmer to protect it. The



bottle should have enough water to give it weight but not enough to be full. Do the same for in-deck chlorinators or deck debris traps for in-floor cleaners.

9. If there is an auto leveler, wrap a towel around the vac break (backflow preventer) to prevent damage.

Keep in mind that as long as freezing water has somewhere to go in the plumbing, damage can be avoided. The goal is to avoid a single complete sheet of ice in the pool's water surface or in the skimmers.

Protect Your Pipes

Last winter, southeast Texas experienced a historical winter storm resulting in frozen pipes and damage for numerous homeowners and business owners. According to the Farmer's Almanac, our area of the country is expected to experience a very cold winter, with possible freezing temperatures. Being prepared for these winter temperatures may help you avoid the messy and expensive issue of frozen pipes.



Pipes can freeze at 32 degrees and below when exposed for an extended period of time, generally at least half a day before freezing occurs. The general rule of thumb is that temperatures outside must drop to at least 20 degrees or lower to cause pipes to freeze. However, going outside in freezing temperature to wrap pipes isn't something most people like to do. It is best to protect your pipes before a freeze occurs.



Public Works

Tips to Prevent Frozen Pipes

- Insulate pipes located in the attic and crawl space using pipe insulation.
- Seal or caulk any cracks that let in cold air, especially places where pipes run from inside to outside the home, such as dryer vents and water pipes.
- For areas with pipes within the walls, such as sinks, washing machines, etc., keep the cabinet doors open to allow the warm heated air in your home to circulate in those areas as well.
- If the pipes are inside the cabinets, you can apply a hot water bottle or heating pad around the pipe to keep it warm. Do not use an open flame to warm pipes.
- Using space heaters throughout the house or in the crawl spaces may also increase temperatures and prevent pipes from bursting. Remember that leaving space heaters or heating pads on all night is a fire hazard.
- Try to keep the temperature inside your home at least 55 degrees.
- To drip or not to drip your faucets is the big debate. In theory, dripping faucets encourages water and heat to move through the pipe, which reduces the risk for blockages and freezing. If you decide to drip faucets, drip both hot and cold faucets on all sinks and tubs. Some homeowners may argue that this is a waste of water, which leads to a higher water bill. However, it is far less expensive than the damage caused by pipes bursting and flooding your home.
- Be sure your home and the areas around your pipes are properly insulated. Space heaters, dripping faucets, and other solutions are short term fixes. Proper insulation is the best way to be prepared.



Lost Power, Now What?

Last winter's hard freeze combined with mass power outages was a living nightmare. You may now be wondering . . . how do I protect the pipes if there is no power and the temperature inside my home drops to near or below freezing?

- First, turn off the valve that allows water to flow inside your home. Then open all the valves and faucets and keep them open until the pipes are empty. Next, flush the toilets and pour denatured alcohol into toilets and sinks to prevent water in the traps from freezing. Do not use automotive antifreeze.
- If you are unable to shut off the water valve, run all faucets at a fast drip to help prevent freezing.
- The tank to your electric water heater keeps water warm for the first few days after a power outage. However, it can freeze after prolonged cold temperatures and should be drained after 3 days of below freezing temperatures.
- If the water heater is located inside your garage, keep the garage door closed.
- Keep blinds and curtains open during the day and open cabinet doors to allow warmth from the sun to enter your home.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Stormwater runoff is the rain that falls on rooftops, streets, parking areas, sports fields, gravel lots, or other developed land and flows directly

(untreated) into nearby lakes, rivers, bays and oceans .

The next time it rains, grab your umbrella and take a walk to find out where the rain goes. Does the rain soak into the ground or flow across the lawn? Does a downspout send it down a driveway or parking lot to the street and down a storm drain?

Rain flowing across the ground picks up everything, including oil, grease, metals, and coolants from vehicles; fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals from gardens; bacteria from pet waste and failing septic systems; soil from construction sites and other bare grounds; accidental spills, leaky storage containers, tobacco spit, and whatever else the water flows through.

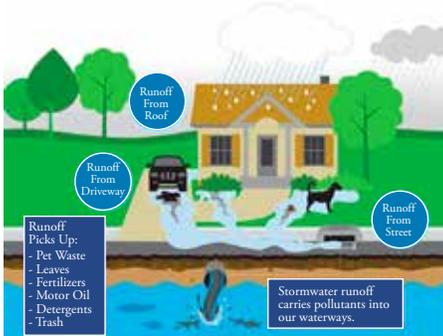
There are a few things you can do to help reduce the runoff from your property.

- Downspouts that are directed toward paved surfaces should be redirected into the lawn or garden so the runoff can soak into the ground.
- Use a rain barrel to catch the runoff from your roof. Rain water is free and you can use it to water your lawn or garden.
- Trees are recognized for their importance in managing runoff so plant some trees. Their leaf canopies help reduce erosion caused by falling rain. They provide surface area where rain water lands and evaporates. The roots take up water and help create conditions in the soil that promote infiltration.
- Maintain your vehicles. Never dump anything, such as motor oil, antifreeze, etc., down a storm drain. Fix oil leaks on your vehicles.
- Wash your vehicle at a commercial car wash rather than in the

Public Works

street or driveway. If you wash your car at home, wash it on the lawn so the dirty, soapy water can soak into the ground rather than running into storm drains.

- Cut down on fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. If you use these chemicals, follow the directions and use sparingly. Consider using organic fertilizers.
- Pick up after your pets and keep animals out of streams. Scoop your dog's poop and properly dispose of it.



Placement of Trash for Curbside Pick Up



Garbage should be placed between the curb and the sidewalk. **Please do not place trash bags or other garbage in the street in front of the curb for any reason.**



Parks and Recreation

Rental Facilities

We have rental facilities for every event and budget! All rentals must be made in person at the Deer Park Community Center, located at 610 E. San Augustine, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call (281) 478-2050.

Tree Lighting Spectacular



You're invited to the annual Tree Lighting Spectacular on **December 3** at the **Municipal Court and Theater Building**. The celebration starts at **6 p.m.** and features a beautiful light display, live performances from the Junior Art Park Players Reaction and Vocal Performance Groups, as well as many other entertainers. Spend time with your favorite Christmas Characters at the historical Patrick's Cabin where you'll be greeted with Christmas cookies and candy canes provided by the City of Deer Park Historical Committee. Don't forget to drop off your Christmas wish letter in Santa's mailbox. Elves stop by to pick up the letters and deliver them to the North Pole by midnight every night.

Reindeer Park

Kick off this holiday season at Reindeer Park on **December 4 from 4 to 8 p.m.** Join us at the **Jimmy Burke Activity Center** to make s'mores, participate in winter-themed activities, enjoy the snow slides, listen to festive music, and so much more. You'll get a taste of Christmas cheer with popcorn, baked goods, hot chocolate, and other delicious treats. Live ice carving is on stage from 4 to 6 p.m. The artwork will be displayed from 6 to 8 p.m. Don't forget to bring your camera to take a picture with Santa! Cost is **\$10 per person**. On-site ticket sales will not be offered at this event. All tickets must be prepurchased. Wristbands must be purchased by 3 p.m. on December 3! Wristband pick up is on December 2 & 3 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Deer Park Community Center. Tickets that have not been picked up prior to the event will be available at the will call desk.



We're offering a Reindeer Park Christmas Character Experience this year for \$16 per person! This hour-long event includes exclusive time with the characters, refreshments, activities for the entire family, as well as a wristband that includes snow areas, s'mores, and carnival rides. The last day to reserve your spot is November 29 and it must be done by 5 p.m.

For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/1787/Reindeer-Park or call (281) 478-2050.

Santa Calling

Santa is going to call all of the good little boys and girls! To obtain a Santa Calling Form, go to www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrecreation starting on November 5. Completed forms are due December 2.



Parks and Recreation

Geocaching with a Christmas Twist

A geocaching adventure to search for Santa's reindeer! Do it alone or form a team of up to 3 explorers. GPS equipment is limited. However, a phone GPS will work just fine. All ages are welcome. Explorers under the age of 12 should be accompanied by an adult. First team to find all of the reindeer get a prize! **Friday, December 10, 5:30-7 p.m., \$5 per person, Dow Park**

Sleigh Rides

Get into the holiday spirit with a sleigh ride for all ages! Sleigh rides are offered on **December 15, 16, 17, and 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.** Doors open at 5:45 p.m. for the first ride and 6:45 p.m. for the second ride. The cost is **\$5 per person**. Meet us at the **Jimmy Burke Activity Center**. There are 2 rides per night. The first ride departs at 6 p.m. and the second ride departs at 7:30 p.m. If you require any special accommodations due to a disability, please let us know during registration. To register, call Community Center at (281) 478-2050.



Little's Elf Camp & Mini Elf Camp

Get into the holiday spirit with a little camp! This camp offers a craft, game, and a Christmas-themed science experiment. **Tuesday, December 21, 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 3 to 5 (\$10 per student), and 1-3 p.m. for ages 6 to 12 (\$12 per student), Deer Park Community Center**

Festive Sweets

Turn Christmas treats into delicious pieces of art! In this class, you will learn how to decorate 3 different holiday treats. You can't hang these on the wall, but you'll hopefully make it home with some to share with your family.

Wednesday, December 22, 1-2:30 p.m., Deer Park Community Center, for ages 10 to 15, \$12 per student

Canvas & Chill

Enjoy a family night while you paint a masterpiece with step-by-step instructions. Experience not required. All materials are provided. If desired, bring an apron or old shirt to protect your clothing. You are welcome to bring snacks. Participants under the age of 8 should be accompanied by an adult for assistance. Limited to 10 participants. **Friday, December 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Deer Park Community Center, for all ages, \$20 per person**

Game Room Social

Interested in decorating holiday cookies and playing Super Smash Bros.? Join us in the game room for a holly jolly holiday cookie decorating night. Register to attend by calling (281) 478-2050. **Wednesday, December 15, 4-6 p.m., Deer Park Community Center, free**

Hunter Education

Learn the rules and regulations pertaining to land, weapons, and animals to obtain your hunter's permit. Payment of \$15 is required when you show up for class. For questions, contact James Davies at (832) 498-1609. **Saturday**

& Sunday, December 18 & 19, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., respectively

Wild Child

Join in the celebration! We're starting with the 28th Annual Martin Luther King Parade at 1200 Holman Street in Houston and completing our cultural journey with a visit to Emancipation Park. Participants must bring a sack lunch, 2 snacks, a reusable water bottle, and wear comfortable walking shoes. **Monday, January 17, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Claude Burgess Creation Center at 4200 Kalwick, for ages 6 to 12, \$10 per child**



Roscoe's Fishing Adventure

Join us for a fishing adventure as we partner with Texas Parks and Wildlife and stock the pool with fish! Admission is free, but all participants must register. Fishing poles are provided on a first come, first serve basis. On January 29, from 12 to 3 p.m., everyone will be able to catch as many fish as they can!

Friday, January 28, from 4-7 p.m. & Saturday, January 29, from 7-11 a.m. and 12-3 p.m., Dow Park Pool, for all ages

Cupid Treats

There's no school on Valentine's Day this year! Get into the spirit and make some Cupid treats with us. **Monday, February 14, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Deer Park Community Center, for ages 6 to 11, \$8 per person**

Maxwell Center *A Division of the Parks & Rec. Dept.*

Senior Holiday Party

Elvis is back for the Senior Holiday Party on Monday, December 13 at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center, located at 500 W. 13th St., from 6 to 8 p.m. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. It's free for residents and available to non-residents for \$10 per person. Participants must be ages 55 and over. Registration ends on December 6. To register, call (281) 478-2050!

Sweethearts Dinner & Dance

Grab your sweetheart or a friend and come listen to the smooth sounds of Mr. Tony Mac. Dinner is catered by Antonio's Italian Grill and includes pasta, salad, and bread. It's a night you don't want to miss. Registration begins December 6 and closes on February 3, 2022. To register, call the Community Center at (281) 478-2050. If you require any special accommodations, please let us know during registration.

Theater *A Division of the Parks & Rec. Dept.*

Louise McBee Circle of Life, Circle of Wreaths Fundraiser

You will be amazed by the array of beautiful wreaths in the lobby, which were graciously donated by little angels in the community to honor someone who has had breast cancer. The public is invited to participate in the silent auction. The winners will be announced at the end of the evening on Saturday, December 4. Last year, over 60 wreaths were donated! This year, we are hoping for even more. If you would like to donate a wreath, contact Susan Mele at (281) 478-7288. All donations are 100% tax deductible and all funds collected go directly to The Rose. **November 30 through December 4, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Municipal Court and Theater Building**

Christmas Music Revue: Believe

The Art Park Players present *Believe*, featuring your favorite Christmas songs and holiday characters. In the lobby, you'll find the Louise McBee Circle of Life, Circle of Wreaths display benefitting The Rose. There will also be several vendors to do a little Christmas shopping, as well as Santa and his elves for photos. *Believe* offers a healthy dose of Christmas cheer! **Saturday, December 4, 6 p.m. Dinner, 7 p.m. Show, \$25 for Dinner and Show or \$15 Show Only Tickets**



Sharing Deer Park's Early History

The City of Deer Park Historical Committee continues



to search for items important to our local history, focusing on the people, places, and events of our early history. Over the years, local residents have shared pictures, letters, documents, and artifacts, which are displayed in our cabinets throughout the city. Share your items so residents and visitors can learn more about the early history of Deer Park. Items donated or loaned for copying are added to our digital database.

Thank you for your continued support. Contact Sherry Garrison, Chair of the Historical Committee at sgarrison@deerparktx.org for more information.



Watch the City of Deer Park

Government Access Channel (DPTV) on Comcast channel 16, AT&T U-Verse channel 99, our website, or your ROKU streaming device! To watch DPTV online, go to www.deerparktx.gov/DPTV. Programming on DPTV focuses on matters pertaining to city services, workshops and meetings, special events, public service announcements, and topics deemed to be of benefit or interest to our residents. For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/dptv.

MRS. KRINGLE'S CLAUS-ETTE

Kick off your holiday shopping at Mrs. Kringle's Claus-ette. Pick up that unique gift for that special someone in your life at our annual artisan fair.

**Municipal Court and Theater Building, 1302 Center St.
Friday, December 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Deer Park Public Library

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program

Our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program is a fun new way to encourage a child's love for reading and build pre-reading skills. Babies and children begin to develop pre-reading skills and build their vocabulary through interactions, such as reading aloud with parents and caregivers. Research indicates that young children who are read to on a regular basis have an advantage when learning to read on their own. It's also an important predictor of future success in school. The program helps children develop literacy skills and provides the framework for great bonding time between you and your child. So, set aside time each day to read together. The goal is to read 1,000 books before kindergarten. If you read just 1 book a night, you have the potential to read 365 books in a year, 730 books in 2 years, and 1,095 books in 3 years! To begin, participants sign in or register for an account on READSquared, the online software to log your progress. Then simply log the books you read into the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program to earn badges and prizes! While you cannot count the books you read before starting the program, once you are registered, you can begin to count all books, including books from home or the library, books read during storytime, etc. You can even read the same book multiple times. The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program kicks off in January 2022.

December Craft - Snowy Owl, for ages 5-11, Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m.

Whoooo's ready for a fun craft? Craft materials are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting Friday, December 3. On December 7 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.

January Craft - Firework, for ages 5-11, Jan. 11, 3:30 p.m.

Let's celebrate the new year! Craft materials are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting Friday, January 7. On January 11 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.

Valentine Craft, for ages 5-11, Feb. 8, 3:30 p.m.

You'll love this craft! Craft materials are provided free of charge and can be picked up from the library starting Friday, February 4. On February 8 at 3:30 p.m., watch the instructional video at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.Library. Registration is not required.

T.A.B. Meeting, for ages 12-18, 1st Tuesday of the month, 4:15 p.m.

Join the Teen Advisory Board and tell us what you want to see for teens at the library. Be a part of it! Come to discuss reading trends and make suggestions for the Teen Collection. If you are interested, contact Robert at youthlibrarian@deerparktx.org or pick up a form at the library.

Teen Blind Date with a Book

Stop by the Deer Park Public Library (DPPL) this February to check out our Teen Blind Date with a Book display. All display books have been wrapped so your selection will be based only on the description of the book. Take your book home, read it, and rate it. No peeking before you check out the book! Inside each book is a form so you can rate your experience. With

each form you submit, you are entered for a chance to win a dinner and a movie prize drawing, which consists of gift cards to a local restaurant and movie theater, at the end of the month.

Teen Mystery Theater, for school-aged teens, Feb. 1, 4 p.m.

Everyone is a suspect in this fun, interactive murder mystery. Participants will be given clues while they enjoy playing their parts and solving the mystery. Registration is required and starts January 4. The format, whether

Storytime

For ages 0 to 6

STORYTIME starts at 11 a.m. on Thursdays! Whether presented virtually or in-person, it is designed to encourage a love for books and language. It incorporates books, fingerplays, and songs to promote interest in reading and lifelong learning. Caregivers are encouraged to watch with the children and encourage participation.



A special *Holiday Storytime* is planned for December 16 at 10:30 a.m. with songs, stories, and a special guest. Goodie bags and crafts will be available. Whether this will be a virtual or in person event is yet to be determined. Check out our website or Facebook page for more details.

*Storytime will be assessed on a continual basis to determine the safest method of delivery, whether virtual or in person. Check out our social media outlets for the latest updates.

Deer Park Public Library

virtual or in person, is to be determined. Visit the library's Facebook page or the city's website for updates and additional details.

Adult and Family Crafts

Learn how to use new crafting materials and techniques by following along each month with instructions and supplies provided by the library. Go to www.deerparktx.gov/library, call (281) 478-7208, or send an e-mail to library@deerparktx.org to find out what we will be doing this month.

Nonfiction Book Club

Want to share about your latest inspiring read or find out about must-read nonfiction books that you'll enjoy? Join the Nonfiction Book Club on the last Thursday of every month at 10:30 a.m. To register or for more information, call (281) 478-7208 or send an e-mail to library@deerparktx.org.

Mysteries & More Book Club

The Mysteries & More Book Club plans to meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. in the library's meeting room to discuss books from a variety of genres. Future titles will be selected at upcoming meetings. Registration is not required. Join us regardless of whether you have read the book! For the most current information, call (281) 478-7208 or go to www.deerparktx.gov/library.

December 14 - No book selection, group discussion on favorite books.

January 11 & February 8 - To be announced

Beginning Spanish

Is learning Spanish part of your New Year's resolution? Beginning Spanish meets on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. beginning on January 12. The class will use the library's Rosetta Stone account to learn vocabulary and grammar, as well as practice conversationally during sessions. Go to www.deerparktx.gov/library and hover over *E-Library* to get started. For more information or to register, call (281) 478-7208 or send an e-mail to library@deerparktx.org.

Computer Classes

Looking to improve your computer skills? The Deer Park Library offers daytime and evening sessions! For more information or to sign up for a Thursday evening class, call (281) 478-7208 or send an e-mail to library@deerparktx.org.

- **Introduction to Computers:** Learn to use the computer for everyday tasks, such as searching the internet and creating/saving documents.
- **Microsoft Excel Basics:** Become familiar with Excel and learn how to create and edit basic spreadsheets, as well as use simple formulas and functions.
- **Microsoft Word Basics:** Learn how to create and edit Word documents, including resumes and letters.

In addition, library patrons can find a variety of free classes online by going to www.deerparktx.gov/library, hovering over *E-Library* on the menu at the top and clicking on *Gale Courses* or *LearningExpress Library*.

Citizenship Prep Class

We're hosting a free U.S. citizenship interview preparation class beginning on Thursday, January 20. The class meets every Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. through March 10 and covers civics, government, and history topics necessary for the exam. For more information or to register, call (281) 478-7208 or send an e-mail to library@deerparktx.org.



December

- *The Stranger in the Lifeboat: A Novel* by Mitch Albom
- *Dark Night: A Mystery (Alaska Wild Book 3)* by Paige Shelton
- *The Replacement Wife: A Novel* by Darby Kane

January

- *The Horsewoman* by James Patterson & Mike Lupica
- *Invisible: A Novel* by Danielle Steel
- *End of Days: A Pike Logan Novel (A Pike Logan Thriller Book 16)* by Brad Taylor
- *One Step Too Far: A Novel (A Frankie Elkin Novel Book 2)* by Lisa Gardner

February

- *The Paris Apartment: A Novel* by Lucy Foley
- *Nothing to Lose: A J. P. Beaumont Novel* by J. A. Jance
- *The Chase: A Novel* by Adrian McKinty

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TYPE B DEDICATED SALES TAX PROJECTS

COMPLETED

- Maxwell Adult Center
- Girls Softball Complex
- Dow Park Pavilion
- Deer Park Soccer Complex
- Spencerview Athletic Complex (with the exception of the pedestrian bridge)

IN PROGRESS

- Plans for the **Spencerview Bridge**, a planned pedestrian bridge to connect the Spencerview Athletic Complex (Durant Fields) to the adjoining property donated to the City of Deer Park for the development of additional parking and a new park/playground area, have been completed. CobbFendley & Associates provided the design, studied the floodplain requirement, and submitted the plans for approval by the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). The City of Deer Park was asked by the HCFCD to identify access to the bridge so City staff is discussing the easement with the adjacent property owner to gain and use access for drainage channel maintenance. Once negotiations are complete, City staff anticipates meeting all of the criteria set forth by HCFCD and moving forward to request bids for the construction of the bridge. The City is currently working on providing easements for HCFCD access before construction can commence.
- **Community Center** – The renovation and expansion of the Community Center to include an indoor pool was one of the original Type B projects in 2015. However, after review by a team of professionals (engineers, architects, and an accessibility consultant), the key conclusions/considerations contained in the Building Observations Survey report were: 1) It would be very expensive to make permanent repairs to the structure; 2) The City should consider replacement versus repair of the Community Center, and 3) The cost and consequences of disruption of services should also be considered. The conclusion of the architects/engineers that studied the facility was that permanent repairs would be very expensive, so much so that they believed that the City should seriously consider replacement versus repair of the Community Center. Beginning on July 23, 2018, the City Council, the Deer Park Community Development Corporation (DPCDC) and the Parks and Recreation Commission conducted a total of eight joint meetings to discuss the Community Center project. The complexities and challenges associated with renovating and expanding the Community Center and Gym to include an indoor pool were discussed at length. As the project was studied further, it became apparent that the cost of the renovations and structural repairs to the existing facilities, let alone adding an indoor therapy pool, would well exceed \$6 million. Ultimately, the consensus was that the best option was to ask the Deer Park voters if they would like to conduct a new Type B sales tax and use tax election to authorize additional Type B purposes, including the new Community/Recreation Center. A May 1, 2021 Type B continuation election was called at which voters authorized the Type B sales and use tax to be continued and authorized additional uses of the tax to include the new Community/Recreation Center Complex. In June 2021, City Council authorized staff, as recommended by the DPCDC, to negotiate a contract with Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects for the design of the new Community/Recreation Center. The proposed Community/Recreation Center complex is currently proposed to consist of 3 new buildings, each located on the north side of Dow Park. The first building (Community Center), to be constructed next to City Hall, is intended to house the activity, program, and meeting rooms, as well as staff offices. The second building (Recreation Center) is intended to house the gymnasium, indoor walking track, and indoor pool, which is to be built on the site of the current Community Center and Gymnasium after demolition of the existing buildings. The third building would be a new, outdoor swimming pool bathhouse replacing the existing structure. The anticipated timeline for construction of the new Community/Recreation Center Complex is approximately 44 months. The estimated cost is approximately \$42.6 million. Cost estimates include all professional services, such as architectural, engineering, geotechnical, surveying, as well as construction and the furniture and equipment for the facilities. The City has initiated the two-step process for selecting a Construction Manager at Risk for the project.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

- **Hike and Bike Trails, Phase 1** - On February 5, 2019, the Deer Park Community Development Corporation recommended and City Council approved a contract with Burditt Consultants, LLC for professional services in the development of the comprehensive hike and bike trail system. This is one of the original Type B projects. Burditt Consultants is working on project design and management, as well as other services as required by the scope of work for site feasibility and trail master plan implementation. Anticipated cost for this project is \$500,000. The committee, consisting of members from City Council, the Deer Park Community Development Corporation, Parks and Recreation Commission, and City staff, selected Phase 1 as a 1.04 mile Tributary B to Willowspring Creek. The contract for construction design services with Burditt Consultants, LLC for Phase 1 was approved by the Community Development Corporation on October 28, 2019 and by City Council on November 5, 2019. Midtown Engineers, LLC, an independent traffic engineering firm, worked on the design, which included developing crosswalk safety specifications. On December 15, 2020, City Council approved entering into an agreement with CenterPoint Energy regarding trail access in the easement, which affects approximately 145 feet of the trail. Proposals were accepted for review this fall. Construction is expected to begin in December 2021 and completed after 120 days.

OTHER PARKS AND RECREATION PROJECTS

- The Parks and Recreation Department, in collaboration with the Deer Park Public Library and the Friends of the Deer Park Public Library, are joining the Little Free Library book-sharing movement. **Book Houses** will be placed in city parks creating a network of self-sustaining libraries to expand the availability of reading materials in our community. This project spreads the joy of reading using the take a book, share a book philosophy. The first 2 book houses will be located at Kingsdale Recreation Center and Deer Meadows Park.
- In Phase I and II of the **New Dow Park Bridges** project, the Parks and Recreation Department replaced 4 of the 8 pedestrian bridges in Dow Park with new 8' x 23' galvanized steel bridges, completing Phase I in spring 2021 and Phase II in summer 2021. Funds from a previously planned project in Fiscal Year 2020-2021 were reallocated for 2 bridges in Phase III, which were completed and installed this fall. This leaves 2 remaining bridges that need to be replaced, which are included in the FY 2021-2022 budget. Total cost for Phase IV to replace the last 2 bridges is estimated to be \$100,000, which includes materials, freight, and installation.
- The Parks and Recreation Department worked hard to find a solution to the **Drainage Issue at the Court and Theater Building**. The project focused on diverting water away from the facility and replacing the glass doors at the front entry. Installation of the new glass entry doors was completed in mid-summer. The doors were purchased and installed by ABCO Door for \$16,977. The City hired W&R Construction to mobilize, grade, and sod the area in front of the building, as well as install pipes and grates for drainage at an estimated cost of \$23,800. This project has been completed.
- The City of Deer Park received a grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the future **Northeast Hike and Bike Trail**. RVi Planning was selected as the landscape architecture firm to develop the design and layout of the trail. The trail begins at Park Green Park and extends south to Runningbrook Park, offering several trail and path connections along the way. Construction plans have been completed by RVi Planning. Competitive sealed proposals were accepted this fall for review. Authorization by City Council for the project is anticipated by December 2021. Construction is expected to begin in the 1st quarter 2022 and completed in 90 to 120 days. The project is being funded with \$200,000 from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department grant, in addition to \$170,000 from the General Fund.
- Repairs are needed on **Bulkheads at The Battleground Golf Course** at holes # 9, 13 and 14. The project involved obtaining bids that included the addition of vinyl bulkheads to help prevent erosion and the loss of greens adjacent to water areas. Bids are being reviewed at this time. The project is expected to be awarded by the end of 2021. Anticipated construction duration is 60 days, beginning in January 2022 with an estimated completion in March 2022. The cost of the project is \$27,200.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

COMPLETED

2021 Concrete Maintenance Contract

Started: October 2020 Completed: September 2021 Cost: \$398,616.24

The project consisted of repairing or replacing concrete pavement, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. This was a work order based program, which was used for emergency and maintenance issues. Services for this project were purchased from SKE, Inc. through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$398,616.24, which was budgeted in the Streets fund for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

IN PROGRESS

2021 Street Striping

Started: October 2021 Anticipated Completion: January 2022 Cost: \$66,841.74

The project consists of applying traffic paint and reflective pavement markings at various locations around the city. The streets selected to be striped are: Center St. (Railroad Ave. to 13th St.), 13th St. (city limit to Georgia Ave.), San Augustine St. (city limit to Georgia Ave. and Center St. to East Blvd.), P St. (Deer Park High School South Campus to East Blvd.), Glenwood Ave. (Wisdom Dr. to city limit), and Durant St. (Coy Dr. to city limit). Roadbumps will be remarked on 3rd St., 4th St., Ivy Ave., 12th St., Wisdom Dr., Bayou Bend Dr., Bayou Vista Dr., Spa Dr., Coy Dr., Stephanie Dr., Valeda Dr., Temperance Lane, Oscar Dr., Lambuth Lane, Arbor Dr., as well as intersections off East Blvd. at 13th St., X St., San Augustine St., P St., Pasadena Blvd., and the street light at the Walmart Supercenter. Crosswalks will also be included. The project was awarded on September 7, 2021 to One Way Striping & Signs, LLC. in the amount of \$66,841.74 and is being funded out of the General Fund. Work began in October 2021.

SWTP Solids Handling Improvements

Started: September 2020 Anticipated Completion: January 2022 Cost: \$4,453,685

The Ardurra Group was hired to prepare the design, specifications, and engineering plans for solids handling improvements at the Surface Water Treatment Plant (SWTP). The improvements involve the construction of several new facilities at the SWTP, including a sludge thickener behind the existing holding basin. Changes to the holding basin will allow the sludge to be thickened and caught prior to going into the lagoons. Thus, enabling the plant to reuse some of the water it loses through backwashing and desludging the clarifiers. The project will be funded with \$4.5 million out of the Water and Sewer Certificates of Obligation. The project was awarded to CSA Construction in the amount of \$4,453,685. Construction started in September 2020 and is on schedule to be completed in 480 days - January 2022.

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation - Deer Meadows Section 2

Started: November 2021 Anticipated Completion: May 2022 Cost: \$565,676

The project will consist of pipe-bursting approximately 5,500 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary pipe on Oklahoma Ave., New Orleans St., Tulsa St., and Atlanta St., as well as rehabilitation of 15 manholes. This section of the Deer Meadows Subdivision has had several pipe collapses. The rehabilitation will help reduce residential sewer problems and prevent inflow and infiltration reaching the sewer plant. The project is being funded with water and sewer funds. Total cost of the project is \$565,676.

Hurricane Harvey, Storm Drainage Projects

Started: June 2018 Anticipated Completion: Undetermined Engineering Services Cost: \$504,290

CobbFendley was hired to perform engineering services to develop ways to alleviate flooding associated with the 2017 Hurricane Harvey. In June 2018, the initial agreement focused engineering design services on Heritage Addition and Deer Meadows Subdivisions. Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine Subdivisions were added in February 2019. In June 2019, the agreement was amended to also include an analysis of historical repetitive flooded areas in the city. CobbFendley reported the findings of their study to City Council on November 19, 2019. The proposed locations are in different phases of the study.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE



- Heritage Addition, Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine Subdivisions:
 - » Heritage Addition - The project was awarded to Mar-Con Services, LLC in the amount of \$1.989 million. Construction began in August 2020 and completed in August 2021. The City of Deer Park entered into an interlocal agreement (ILA) with Precinct 2/Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) to jointly fund this project. Deer Park was awarded \$2,047,461 through the ILA for storm sewer improvements, including a detention pond on Lambuth Street, storm sewer and inlets, as well as a new roadway on Lincoln Street. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 4, 2021, with representatives from the City of Deer Park, HCFCD, Precinct 2, and the engineering firm.
 - » Deer Park Manor and Delo-Elaine - The project was awarded to Mar-Con Services, LLC in the amount of \$1.653 million. Construction began in August 2021 and expected to be completed in February 2022. The City of Deer Park entered into an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Precinct 2/Harris County Flood Control District to jointly fund this project. The City of Deer Park was awarded \$1,005,985 through the ILA for storm sewer improvements, including a detention pond on Pasadena Blvd., storm sewer inlets, as well as a new roadway and outfalls on both Kitty Street and Luella Ave.
- College Park: This project is ongoing and estimated cost is between \$5.3 million to \$5.9 million for pavement and drainage items, including land acquisition, engineering, design, inspection, and testing costs. Harris County Precinct 2 and the Harris County Flood Control District has taken over as lead of the project and continues with the study and construction plan development. A budget amendment was approved for 50% of the project cost with Precinct 2/HCFCD through an ILA to be negotiated.
- Deer Park Gardens: The project is a multi-phased (approximately 8 phases) drainage improvement plan within the Deer Park Gardens study area. The Norwood drainage improvement project is the first phase. The design is complete and construction plans include new storm sewer and inlets on Norwood, and a new storm sewer on E. 8th Street. Engineering and construction cost estimates for this phase are \$500,000. City staff plans to solicit for bids and start construction in early 2022. A budget amendment was approved for 50% of the project cost with Precinct 2/HCFCD through an ILA to be negotiated. The project aims to reduce structural flood risk, particularly at the mid-blocks on Norwood Street and Martha Street between E. 8th Street and Marlene Street.
- Boggy Bayou Watershed: An engineering drainage study began in June 2020 with results presented to Deer Park City Council on November 3, 2020. The study was awarded to CobbFendley in the amount of \$84,560, and jointly funded through an ILA with Precinct 2/HCFCD. Deer Park was awarded \$42,280 through the ILA. The drainage study included areas in the Boggy Bayou watershed and proposed improvements to the main channel (G105-00-00), channel tributaries, interconnected storm sewer, and the possible construction of storm water detention. The drainage study area project boundaries were the Houston Ship Channel, Center Street, Pasadena Boulevard/Red Bluff Road, and the Sam Houston Tollway/Beltway 8 (north, east, south and west boundaries, respectively). The drainage study identified over 30 different individual options that could be pursued to potentially mitigate flooding, with a conglomeration of several individual options combined into 4 potential alternatives. The solution involves a regional cooperative effort between the Harris County Flood Control District, City of Deer Park, City of Pasadena, Harris County Precinct 2, Harris



Continued on page 20

Council Actions

Regular City Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Special meetings and workshops are held as needed. To view full agendas and meeting minutes or to listen to the audio recordings, go to <https://cityofdeerpark.legistar.com/calendar.aspx>.

August 2021

- Accepted the completion of renovation and replacement to the Dow Park pool fence and release of final retainage to Foster Fence, LLC. Final cost was \$149,759.
- Accepted the completion of the purchase and installation of 2 walking bridges in Dow Park. Final cost was \$79,154.83.
- Approved the surplus property list and authorized the auction of these items via the internet through Rene Bates Auctioneers.
- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending June 30, 2021.
- Accepted the Deer Park Community Development Corporation Quarterly Report for the period of April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for the 2021 Lane Striping project.
- Approved an agreement to renew the mutual agreement with Deer Park Independent School District for facility usage during the 2021-2022 school year.
- Approved an agreement with Deer Park Community Development Corporation for the construction of improvements.
- Authorized staff to receive bids on the Surface Water Treatment Plant Clearwell Transfer Pump, Ground Storage Tanks and Disinfection Improvements project.
- Approved an agreement with Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects for architectural services to design the new community center/recreation center and pool house.
- Approved the submittal of the 2021 Tax Roll and the calculation of the no-new revenue tax rate, as well as the voter-approved tax rate.
- Approved an ordinance calling a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Tax Rate.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Deer Park, Texas Certificates of Obligation, Series 2021 in the amount of \$25,225,000 for the construction of the new community center/recreation center and pool house.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Deer Park, Texas General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021 in the amount of \$24,600,000 for drainage projects, street projects, and Fire Department facilities.
- Approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Deer Park, Texas Limited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2021.
- Approved an ordinance approving the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 Deer Park Community Development Corporation budget.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the FY 2021-2022 Crime Control and Prevention District budget.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the FY 2021-2022 Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical District budget.

- Approved an ordinance calling a public hearing to adopt the Standards of Care for the All Star Activity Program.
- Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2020-2021 Deer Park Community Development Corporation budget for costs associated with topographical surveys for the new soccer complex and girls softball fields at the Youth Sports Complex.

September 2021

- Awarded the bid for meal services for the Parks & Recreation Art Park Players theater shows to Azalea Creek LLC at a cost of \$18.50 per meal.
- Awarded the bid for the 2021 Lane Striping project to One Way Striping & Signs LLC in the amount of \$66,841.74.
- Accepted the completion of the 2020 Concrete Maintenance project. Final cost was \$228,963.45.
- Approved the casting of a ballot for Region 14 Representative to the TML Health Benefits Pool Board of Trustees.
- Approved a professional services agreement with SOAP Engineering, LLC for services related to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.
- Approved a contract with R&C Bradley, LLC for EMS Medical Director Services.
- Approved a revised Exhibit A in the professional service agreement with Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects for services in connection with the design of the new community center/recreation center and pool house.
- Authorized the purchase of services from Vaught Services, LLC through TIPS Cooperative Purchasing Program to perform sanitary rehabilitation in the

Council Actions

Deer Park Meadows Subdivision, Section 2.

- Approved a resolution to adopt a paid quarantine leave policy for paid peace officers, jailers, emergency medical technicians, and fire fighters pursuant to Texas HB 2073.
- Approved an ordinance amending Chapter 54, Section 94-1 of City Code pertaining to Obstructions and Encroachments and Amended Traffic Regulations.
- Awarded the bid for annual mowing services to Merriam Group, LLC in the amount of \$66,822.
- Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for FY 2020-2021 third quarter ending June 30, 2021.
- Accepted the completion of Phase 2 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement project to LEM Construction. Final cost was \$13,636,685.
- Accepted the completion of the Yard Pipe Painting project to D&M Tank.
- Authorized staff to reject proposals and begin the process anew for Professional Administrative Services related to the American Rescue Plan Act.
- Amended the Financial Management Policy.
- Approved a resolution maintaining the City of Deer Park's contribution rate to the Texas Municipal Retirement System.
- Approved a resolution to transfer \$1,000,000 from the FY 2020-2021 Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund to the Capital Improvements Funds.
- Approved a resolution to transfer \$1,500,000 from the FY 2020-2021 Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund to the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the City's Investment Policy.
- Approved an ordinance adopting the FY 2021-2022 budget for the City of Deer Park.
- Approved an ordinance levying Ad Valorem Taxes for tax year 2021.
- Approved an ordinance amending Section 105-25(b)(c) of the Code of Ordinance pertaining to water and sewer rates.
- Approved an ordinance appointing associate judges.
- Approved an ordinance approving the 2021-2022 Salary & Classification Scales.

October 2021

- Accepted the completion of the 2021 Waterline Rehabilitation project. Final cost was \$610,664.59.
- Authorized a 3 year extension of commercial waste removal services with Waste Management of Texas, Inc.
- Approved an extension of a depository bank services agreement with Wells Fargo Bank through January 31, 2023.
- Appointed a representative to the 2022 Houston-Galveston Area Council General Assembly and Board of Directors.
- Approved a payment to Harris County related to the Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR Bayou Bend Regional Detention Facility and Drainage Improvements project in the amount of \$177,811.
- Approved a resolution to nominate a person to be on the ballot of the

Board of Directors of the Harris County Appraisal District.

- Accepted the completion of the Coy Street Elevated Water Storage Tank project. Final cost was \$419,000.
- Accepted the completion of 2 additional walking bridges in Dow Park. Final cost was \$91,463.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for the East Meadows Detention Pond project.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for mowing services within the City of Deer Park.
- Authorized staff to negotiate a professional engineering service agreement with Schaumberg & Polk, Inc. for the 2021 Street Bond project.
- Approved Amendment No. 6 in the agreement with the Deer Park Crime Control Prevention District.
- Approved Amendment No. 6 in the agreement with the Deer Park Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Services District.
- Approved an amendment to the contract between the City of Deer Park and the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System.
- Approved a contract amendment between the City of Deer Park and the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System to increase the city's monthly contribution.
- Authorized the purchase of field lights for the Deer Park Girls Softball Complex in the amount of \$327,691.
- Authorized the purchase of field lights for the Deer Park Soccer Complex in the amount of \$301,022.
- Authorized the purchase of field lights for the Spencerview Athletic Complex in the amount of \$249,946.

Council Actions

- Authorized the purchase of parking lot lights for the Spencerview Athletic Complex in the amount of \$89,950.
- Authorized the purchase of 2 Starcraft Allstar 15 passenger E-350 buses for the Parks & Recreation Department in the amount of \$129,479.22.
- Authorized the purchase of 3 Ford F-250 trucks for the Fire Department through the Goodbuy Cooperative Purchasing Program.
- Approved a resolution joining with the State of Texas as a party in the Texas Opioid Settlement Agreement secured by the Office of the Attorney General.
- Approved an ordinance confirming the appointment of Jamie Galloway as Emergency Services Director for the City of Deer Park.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 4 members to the Crime Control and Prevention District.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 4 members to the Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District.
- Approved an ordinance appointing 4 members to the Deer Park Community Development Corporation.

Save the Date
 Mayor Jerry Mouton's 2021 State of the City address will be held on Thursday, February 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center.



Economic Development



- **The Law Office of Travis W. Earp PLLC** has moved to 2201 Center Street, the former location of Kenneth Bradshaw's law office. Travis Earp practices corporate and business law, as well as wills and estates law. For more information, call (832) 509-5216 or go to www.tearplaw.com.
- **Taqueria Julio's** is open at 2709 Center Street. Stop by for breakfast and lunch. They can also cater for your next event. The menu contains a wide assortment of savory options, including breakfast tacos, tamales, Mexican dishes, sandwiches with a Salvadorian twist, and hamburgers with French fries. The fan favorites are beef and chicken fajitas, as well as the pupusas, which are only \$1 each on Tuesdays. Call them for to-go orders at (832) 872-1633.
 
- **Speed Queen Laundry** is open at 3209 Center Street. The facility is more than just a place to do laundry. It offers free high-speed internet, lots of comfortable seating and tables, and a kid-friendly lounge area featuring complimentary use of iPads to keep everyone entertained and happy while waiting. You'll appreciate the large-capacity machines, in addition to the versatility and convenience of the Speed Queen mobile app and Speed Queen Rewards.
- **Serenity Gardens** is open at 4324 East Blvd., next door to Deer Park Animal Hospital and across the street from Heritage Elementary School. They are an assisted living facility focused on Alzheimer's, dementia, and memory care. Serenity Gardens offers 16 private rooms, and is dedicated to making your loved one feel at home and meeting their every need. For more information, call (281) 476-9179.
 
- Deer Park residents Todd and Eva Carpenter have opened **Carpenter Glass and Mirror**. This home-based business specializes in skylights, doors, windows, enclosures, storefronts, patios, glass replacement, solar panels, and more. For your next home improvement project, call Todd at (281) 254-6730. Check out their Facebook page @CGMHouston to see some of their amazing projects.
- The **Shell Federal Credit Union parking garage** is open and will be used by Shell FCU employees only.
- **Frosting Dreams & All The Things** now serves a quick lunch on weekdays. Choose from a chicken salad or pulled pork sandwich, plus chips, drink, and a delicious cookie. The bakery is located at 910 W. Pasadena Blvd., just south of Deer Park High School South Campus. Call the owner, Ashley, for more information at (346) 315-5620.
 

For questions, contact Debbie Westbeld, Economic Development Administrator, at (281) 478-2042 or dwestbeld@deerparktx.org. For business news, go to www.deerparktx.gov/ed.



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Deer Park Animal Shelter

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. Call (281) 478-7274 for details on our adoptable pets. The Deer Park Animal Shelter, located at 4221 Luella Ave., is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.AnimalShelter.

Construction Project Update

Continued from page 16, Boggy Bayou Watershed

County Toll Road Authority, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Port of Houston, and Texas Department of Transportation, as well as private facility operators, such as the chemical industry, pipeline operators, electric transmission operators, private landholders and other restricted easement owners and entities. This project will require significant resources in terms of engineering design, overall construction time, contractor capabilities, materials procurement, legal contracts, interlocal agreements, facility relocations, title deed/ownership/easement research, sequencing, cooperation, safety, and cost. Recommendations made as a result of the engineering analysis are being further investigated for feasibility.

*Merry 2021
Christmas*

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| <i>Mayor</i> Jerry Mouton, Jr. | <i>City Council</i> Sherry Garrison T J Haight Tommy Ginn Bill Patterson Ron Martin Rae A. Sinor |
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