



Economic Development Newsletter

DEER PARK, TEXAS

“Let Your Bucks Stop Here – Buy Local”

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Smashburger will Soon Sizzle in Deer Park

Smashburger restaurant will open later this fall at 8015 Spencer Highway in the new College Park Shopping Center. Their handcrafted burgers are smashed, seared and seasoned to order using fresh, never-frozen 100% Certified Angus Beef®. To satisfy customers looking for

healthy menu items, the restaurant now offers a special gluten-free menu which includes gluten-free seasoned meat, buns, and other entrees. As America’s fastest growing, fast-casual burger restaurant, they now have more than 260 restaurants operating in 30 states and 5 different countries. See their lip-smacking menu at www.smashburger.com.

For the Youngsters

Vanessa Nylund and her daughter Wendy Welch have opened Sweet Peas Children’s Boutique at 118 Dixie Dr. (former location of Emma’s Closet). Sweet Peas is a one-stop shop featuring children’s clothing for boys and girls, sizes birth to 10/12. Sweet Peas also inherited the regional dealership for DaVinci beads, a stunning jewelry collection. Stop by soon and let your kids enjoy the cute play area while you browse the shop, or visit their Facebook at [SweetPeasDeerPark](https://www.facebook.com/SweetPeasDeerPark).



Sweets & Treats

The Kake Chick Bakery at 4914 Luella Avenue (near the intersection of Luella and Spencer Hwy.) is now open. Owner Ruby Rodriguez was one of Deer Park’s stay-at-home moms that found a creative outlet in making her kids’ birthday cakes, but her passion grew to a full-time business for the past 4 years. Need a cake in a hurry or a gluten-free cake? Ruby’s new bakery has ready-made cakes that you can decorate yourself, and she also has cookies, brownies, and gluten-free treats. For custom orders, Ruby can make a cake look like just about anything. She specializes in making fun and unique designs, and her wedding cakes are extraordinary. See some of her amazing creations on Facebook under [TheKakeChickDeerPark](https://www.facebook.com/TheKakeChickDeerPark) or call her at (832) 628-2467.



Goodwill Lends a Hand

Coming soon to Deer Park is a new Goodwill Donation Center, located at 8015 Spencer Highway in the new College Park Shopping Center. The location is for donations only, and will not carry any retail items. After you drop off your shirts, shoes, blankets, electronics and other items, Goodwill sells them in one of their 2,700 Goodwill stores or online auction site, www.shopgoodwill.com. When someone buys the item, that money is used to fund job training and services. Last year, more than 9.8 million people were able to access the career, family and financial support services they needed to succeed thanks to Goodwill. The planet also benefits when you choose to ditch the dumpster and donate your items, keeping literally billions of pounds out of landfills. Look for the opening in mid-August.



Phat Fitness is now Fitness Kingz

Phat Fitness has changed its name to Fitness Kingz at 120 Dixie Drive (across the street from the post office). Owner Jerry Hudson is a certified personal trainer with 10 years of experience. His one-on-one training using state-of-the-art gym equipment is customized for your needs and will help you accomplish your goals. Fitness Kingz encourages confidence, discipline and self-esteem, while you will receive a custom work-out in a private setting at half the cost of a mainstream gym. Contact Jerry soon at (281) 479-2500 to schedule a free fitness assessment.

Make Sense of Investing

Michael Anthony Cevallos has opened an Edward Jones branch office at 102 W. 2nd St. (across the street from the Chamber office). As a Pasadena native with over 7 years of experience in the financial services industry, Michael's goal is to work with our community's families. He offers personal attention and financial guidance to help you reach long-term financial goals like saving for a college education or planning for retirement, while paying close attention to your day-to-day financial demands. To get your hard-earned dollars working for you, stop by the office or call Michael at (281)479-7034. You can also visit his website at www.edwardjones.com.



Cookies Express Remodels

Cookies Express at 910 W. Pasadena Blvd. (just south of the DPISD Administration building) has remodeled, extended its hours, and is offering FREE coffee and free wi-fi. Owner Frank Racioppo still offers delicious cookies, brownies, and cheesecake, but he has added kolaches to his Saturday menu.



Need a Fun Team Activity?

Painting-with-a-Twist will open nearby at 4908 Fairmont in Pasadena mid-month, but the franchise owners, Dina Null Doebbler and Kathy Gutierrez, will be working with Deer Park businesses to do team-building activities, private parties and events. They also offer “Painting with a Purpose” once a month where half of the proceeds are donated to 501(c)3 organizations for fundraising. Painting with a Twist offers a unique

getaway and is led by local art instructors, letting participants paint on bare 16” x 20” canvases using provided supplies. For more information call (281) 487-2486 or visit www.paintingwithatwist.org/pasadena.

TapSnap – What’s That?

Deer Park resident Mark McVey has opened a TapSnap franchise. TapSnap is a technology similar to the old photo booth, but with a digital twist and perfect for any occasion. Once delivered to the event site (the machine is about the size of an ATM machine), TapSnap allows guests to take high-quality digital photos and make them their own by adding graphics, backgrounds, doodles, personal messages and company logo. TapSnap staff is there on hand to take care of the details so you can relax, have fun and enjoy the event. For a true insight to the technology, visit www.TapSnap1088.SmugMug.com or call Mark at 877-577-0566, Ext. 1088.



Cruise Terminal is Festival Site

“Promote Houston Ship Channel 2014” is hosting a regional outdoor family festival at the Bayport Cruise Terminal on Saturday, September 6, to highlight the 100th anniversary of the official opening for the deep-water channel. The event is free and open to the community, but attendees must pre-register to obtain tickets, which will include a pre-determined timeslot for arrival. Register at www.promotehoustonshipchannel2014.org.

Enhance Your First Impression

Deer Park’s Chamber of Commerce will host “Texas Friendly” Hospitality Training on September 23, both basic and advanced classes. If you or your employees deal with the general public, you might consider this certified instructor-led training, fostering best practices in customer service and hospitality. The program is designed to provide instruction for making good impressions, knowing our community and improving communication skills. Get more info by calling the Chamber at (281) 479-1559.





Grand Re-Opening of Republic Grill

The Republic Grill at the Battleground Golf Course (1600 Georgia Avenue in Deer Park) has just undergone a major renovation and grand re-opening. The restaurant constructed a beautiful bar area overlooking the grounds, plus received new carpeting and furniture. Come enjoy the scenery and great food. Hours are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bits & Pieces



- Pizza Bella is coming to Deer Park at 3310 Center St. (former location of Honey Bee Ham & Deli). Their original location is on Garth Road in Baytown. Pizza Bella offers New York style pizza, Italian dishes and salad bar. See their menu at www.pizzabellabaytown.com. It should open in October.
- Bosa Donuts has closed its doors. Owners Don and Petra Cote have sold the business after 30 years and started their much-deserved retirement. The store was sold to Shipley Donuts, which will soon move its current Deer Park location to the Bosa location at 3117 Center Street after some renovations.
- College Park Plaza at 8015 Spencer Highway will see several new businesses open in September and October, including Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwich Shop, Smoothie King and Smashburger.
- Start thinking about Christmas now as Koby's Fine Jewelry at 3428 Center Street is taking layaways for the Christmas season. They are also having a "class ring" sale during August.
- KZ Boutique at 3428 Center Street just received their first-ever shipment of palazzo pants, plus new styles of Grazie Sandals. Stop by soon and browse their clearance section with 70% off clothes and 50% off jewelry, hair accessories and more.
- Don't miss the Petrochemical & Maritime Outlook conference, September 4 at the Pasadena Convention Center. Call Marisela at (281) 476-9176.
- The Port of Houston has awarded over \$360 million to local small businesses since the inception of its Small Business Development Program in 2002. You can learn more about participating in this program by going to www.portofhouston.com and looking under the "Inside the Port Authority" tab.

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.
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