

Deer Park News – City Manager B J Jetter

Summer in Deer Park is under way and the Party in the Park Summer Music Series is off to a good start. There are still a few summer concerts left. For information on upcoming concerts, please check out our Facebook page. The Days in the Park Festival in Chamberlin Park will be on Friday, Aug 4th and Saturday, Aug 5th. Rozzi's fireworks will be on Saturday night at 10:00pm. Friday's band will be The Remains and on Saturday the Cassette Junkies will take the stage. This year we are bringing back the Poker Tent, the big rides for the kiddies and have added some new games for everyone to enjoy!

Improvements in the Park continue to happen. We received a grant to upgrade the walking path and are hoping to have that completed by fall. We plan to resurface the entire walk path, and thanks to another grant from We Thrive, we will be adding signage along the path with distance markers and helpful information. Design for the music pavilion in the park has begun. The city received some grant funds and a state capital grant to help fund the music pavilion. Engineering and bid preparation are under way now and once that process is complete the project will be put out for bid.



Economic development remains one of our top priorities. Even with the high-interest rates, home sales in the city remain steady and homes for sale in Deer Park are at a premium.

The Townhomes at Wentworth construction is almost complete, and all 45 units have been sold! We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new neighbors living in the Wentworth townhomes.

There has been tremendous interest from developers on other sites available in Deer Park for re-development. We hope to bring you more information on those as they become available.

The repaving of Plainfield Road, part of the 2023 Street Program, was scheduled to start in July and will begin after Cincinnati Waterworks completes the installation of new water mains.

We would like to welcome two new employees, Julie Hoffman, our new part-time Tax Clerk, and Jake Preston, who has accepted a position in our city Maintenance department. This is a great time to Re-Discover Deer Park!



Congratulations to Deer Park residents, Madison, and Faith Hermesch. Madison participated for the first time in 4-H at Gorman Heritage Farm and took a Fancy Hen named Sissy for exhibition at the Hamilton County Fair. Judges' criteria are based on breed standards/appearance and showmanship, which involves knowledge, presentation, and handling of the bird. She placed first in her class in both categories and won the title Reserve Grand Champion of the poultry!

Her sister Faith did a general project on American Sign Language and got a General A award, and her project is being sent for exhibition at the Ohio State Fair.



From the Desk of Police Chief David Battin

The Police Department has gone through some major personnel changes in the first half of 2023. On May 1st, Michael Schlie retired from the department after serving the community for 26 years. He joined the department in 1997 and served as Police Chief since May of 2007. We thank him for all his years of service to Deer Park and wish him the best in his retirement.

On May 1st, Lt. David Battin was sworn in as the new Chief of Police. Chief Battin joined the department in 2007 and we congratulate him on his promotion!

Officer Jeremy Jordan was promoted in April to Lieutenant to fill the vacancy from the promotion of Lt. Battin.

Because of Chief Schlie's retirement, we had a vacancy in the department that was filled by Jacob Johnson, who was sworn in as an officer April 3rd. Jacob previously worked as an officer for Terrace Park.

Officer Derek Noland is transitioning from patrol officer to detective of the department. This transition will allow us to better serve the residents of Deer Park.

Thanks go out to Officer Noland, who recently enrolled the police department in the group, Neighbors by Ring, a public program that can be utilized by Ring camera customers and public safety officials. For more information on this program, you can visit www.ring.com/neighbors.

The Police Department remains proactive and urges residents to report suspicious behavior, if you see something please say something. We remind residents to lock their homes and vehicles and keep your valuables out of sight.

Issue One in Ohio – What is it?

Issue One is an amendment to require a 60% vote to pass citizen led initiatives proposed to the Ohio State constitution. Ohio is one of only 18 states that allows for citizen led initiatives to be placed on the ballot. This would be any amendment to a state's constitution that results from petitioning by a state's citizens. By utilizing this process, citizens can propose and vote on constitutional amendments directly, without need of legislative referral. When the required number of citizens have signed a petition requesting it, a proposed constitutional amendment is then put on the ballot for all the voters to decide on.

Issue One would no longer accept a simple majority of the vote to pass these initiatives, it would now require a 60% voter approval to pass. And it would require more stringent rules for obtaining signatures before it can even be put forth on the ballot for voting.

Issue One would only affect proposed amendments by the citizens. Regardless of where you stand on this issue, educate yourself and make sure you know what you are voting for. Early voting is now open at the Board of Elections, 4700 Smith Road, Norwood, or at your polling place on August 8th. Mark your calendars and be sure to vote.



Yoga in the Park

10:00 Saturday Morning

thru September 2nd

\$10 per person

Everyone is welcome

Chamberlin Park

Fire Department Update – Fire Chief Denny Meador

Summer means grilling season across the country. According to the Hearth, Patio, and Barbecue Association, 70% of adults in the U.S. have a grill or a smoker. While food from the grill tastes great, it also means there is an increased risk of home fires.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), in 2017-2021, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 11,421 home fires involving grills, hibachis, or barbecues per year, including an average of 5,763 structure fires and 5,658 outside fires.

Grilling Fire Facts and Tips

- July is the peak month for grill fires.
- Between 2017 and 2021, an average of 22,155 patients of all ages were seen in an emergency department due to grilling injuries. Nearly half of the injuries were thermal burns.
- Children under the age of five accounted for almost half of all thermal burns.
- Grills should only be used outdoors.
- Keep grills away from decks, vinyl or wooden siding, or other combustible materials.
- Keep your grating and burners clean to prevent grease fires.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill while in use.

If you would like additional information on grilling safety, please visit the NFPA website and enter the word “grilling” in the search bar.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Deer Park has been growing and changing in good ways over the last several years but one thing that never changes and one of the best assets we have as a community are the people of Deer Park. We like to say we are the “friendly city”, and recently I reached out via social media to try and highlight the silent heroes in our community. Those who go above and beyond to help, and do not expect anything in return. I received several examples of neighbors helping neighbors, and I am sure there are many more out there. Here are a few of the ones that were submitted. A heartfelt thank you to these neighbors and the many others who offer big or small acts of kindness and support to others. In many cases it is appreciated more than you know.

- After a fall that left her wheelchair bound for 6 months. Jen Calhoun’s neighbors, Amanda & Joe Stoffolano, really stepped up to help her out. From taking her daughter back and forth to school every day from October till the end of the school year, to shoveling her walk and driveway through the winter months. Jen said she doesn’t know what she would have done without their help.
- Stephanie Arbogast met Linda Kob Smith when she first moved to Deer Park and attended St. Savior Church. Fast forward a few years and Stephanie found herself in a difficult situation and Linda stepped in again. She connected her with people who could help her until she could get a job and get back on her feet. Linda did not stop there, she continued to check in on Stephanie and provided help in small but important ways, so Stephanie and her children knew they were not alone. Without that help Stephanie doesn’t know if they would be where they are today.
- Laura Mayne wanted to highlight Jennifer Denson for all she does for the schools and the students of Deer Park. Despite being a single mom, raising amazing kids, holding down 3+ jobs, Laura says Jennifer ALWAYS has time for Deer Park schools and Deer Park families. “She is always the first to step up even with her busy schedule. She volunteers for anything and everything she can for our District. She is always willing to do anything to make sure the kids of Deer Park are okay.” You can always hear Jennifer say, “find something safe to do.” Listen up kids, that is good advice. Thank you, Jennifer, for the gift of your time to help our students and schools.

City of Deer Park
7777 Blue Ash Road
Deer Park, Ohio 45236

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Are You Interested in What Is Going on in Deer Park? Here is your chance!

On Monday, September 11th, you will have the opportunity to meet the members of Deer Park City Council at the Public Library located in the Dillonvale Shopping Center, from 7:00 to 8:00pm.

City Council can address concerns you may have about your neighborhood, your city, and the services provided by our local city government.

We want to hear from **YOU**. Bring your concerns, ideas, questions, and problems to the attention of your Council Member.

Plan to attend the quarterly Council Information Session. We look forward to seeing you there.

Join Us for Friday Grill Outs

Friday Grill outs with Keith are back. 11:00-1:00 every Friday we pitch a tent in front of the store and grill Metts, Brats, Hamburgers, Italian Sausage, Hot Dogs, and Steak sandwiches. Come see us!



7916 Blue Ash Road
Fridays through Halloween