

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • January 2014

Sweet Talk is published monthly by the office of the City Clerk of Sugar Creek, MO at 103 South Sterling, Sugar Creek, MO 64054. For more information call Jana Olivarez-Dickerson at 252-4400, ext. 128 or visit Sugar Creek on the web at www.sugar-creek.mo.us

SUGAR CREEK ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor

Matt Mallinson

Aldermen

Stanley J. Sagehorn
Joseph D. Kenney
Lorcan Doyle
Robert Ray

City Marshal

Herbert M. Soule

City Administrator

Ron Martinovich

City Clerk

Jana Olivarez-Dickerson

City Treasurer

Linda Martinovich

Building Official

Paul Loving

Director of Public Works

Ed Layton

City Attorney

C. Robert Buckley

Municipal Judge

Garry L. Helm

Municipal Court Clerk

Cassie Williams

Public Works Ready For Inclement Weather



Whether it is half an inch or half a foot of snow, public works street crews for the City of Sugar Creek will be ready, willing and able to clear the street in front of your home.

Ed Layton, Director of Public Works, said his department is responsible for clearing the now 37 miles of streets within Sugar Creek – be they business or residential.

He said the City has 300 tons each of salt and sand with which to do the job. That and a fleet of vehicles, including six trucks, two high loaders and a Bob Cat for clearing some sidewalks and in tight areas.

And, depending on the amount of sleet, ice and snow we get during the course of a winter season, that may not be enough.

Whether there is only a light snow, ice glazed streets, or a blizzard of epic proportions, street

crews still have to clear the public streets to make them safe on which to drive.

He said crews begin plowing when the first inch of snow falls, and spreading salt to help prevent ice from forming later. With heavier amounts of snow, snow plows make three passes on streets by going first down the middle, then separate trips on each side. Drivers take care to go around cars parked at the curbs and they really do try to not pile too much snow back on the foot of driveways where residents have already dug out. Plus, different types of snow – the dry, light stuff vs. the heavy wet stuff – call for different techniques, too, he said. Regardless, the goal is to get to pavement.

When there is just an ice situation on the streets, Layton said they plow and salt at the same time.

But, the trick is that there are many steep hills in Sugar Creek, which can make the job treacherous. Sometimes drivers need to salt at the bottom of a hill and come back later when the salt has melted the ice and the truck can have enough traction to make it up the hill.

Sometimes, the drivers must drive backward, too. So the salt and sand – which is generally spread from the rear of the truck – can help create that needed traction for the truck to make it up the hill.

In Sugar Creek there is no real snow ordinance, as in some cities in the Metro. Residents are not required to remove cars from the streets or park only on one side of the street. However, sometimes, police officers have to ask residents individually to move cars if city crews just can't get through because vehicles are blocking the street.



MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

As many of you are aware by now, McKeever's will open and operate a 50,000 square foot grocery store on the corner of 24 Highway and Sterling. I want to thank the Alderman and many in city hall for their help in the last six months. By EVERYONE working together we have made this a reality. We still have a few financial issues to attend to, but we are confident that we are well on our way to moving dirt in the next several months. Please remember, this does not cure our present financial situation, but it does relieve a lot of pressure and will allow us to confidently move on with our other city projects. Thank you for your patience while we search for more retail outlets to occupy the rest of the space.

To borrow and change a quote from JFK, 'Ask not what your city can do for you, but what you can do for your city.' We have a

variety of volunteer committees and boards to serve our city. Some have been active, but many have not been needed for a long time. Because we are now rapidly moving forward on many projects, we may need to utilize these boards. We have some openings that need to be filled. I am asking citizens to please look at the below

listed committees and boards and volunteer your expertise for the appropriate one for you. Requirements and applications are available at City Hall for each one. Now is the time for citizen involvement. If you have suggestions on other boards that we need to create, please let us know.

Other projects we are working on:

- 1) Putting soccer fields in LaBenite Park.
- 2) Wayne City Days, a carnival and craft tents in August 2014, also in LaBenite Park.
- 3) Bring the 'old gymnasium' back to life, performing needed repairs and updates-Alderman Robert Ray's project.

4) The next phases of our shopping center.

5) Taking a close look and planning where in our city we need sidewalks and other improvements-Alderman Lorcan Doyle's project.

Please remember, some of these are in planning stages and we are not promising them. We are looking to improve our city as we can and we need a plan to do so.

Thank you,

Mayor Matt Mallinson



- **Planning and Zoning Commission**
- **Board of Zoning Adjustment**
- **Enhanced Enterprise Zone Committee**
- **Tax Increment Financing Commission**
- **Appeal Board**
- **Sales Tax Oversight Committee**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**
- **Historical Trails and Sites Advisory Board (newly added)**

business spotlight

Reliable Financial Services



Let's say you need a tool that costs a \$100. You currently don't have the funds to purchase the item, so you look for a service that would loan it to you. You find a place that would loan you the tool for a fee of \$17 when you return the item after two weeks. That's the gist of what Reliable Financial Services does. Except, instead of an item we loan money. I'm Justin Davis and I'm the one who's home away from home is at 100 North Sterling here in Sugar Creek. A lot of people have their own feelings about the service I provide, but when somebody needs to play financial catch-up I can help. I'm not sure exactly what the cost of re-activating lights after a shut-off is but if you're \$100 short; I'd charge you \$17 for two-weeks. If that's cheaper than re-activation I may be of service to you. Our rate is 17% over two-weeks. We loan \$25 to \$500. As long as people get in binds they'll need options. I encourage everyone to do the math before deciding between those options.

I believe business to be more than just numbers. In that spirit,

I'm lucky that my office settled here in September of 2008 where I've met a lot of good people who care about the community. They want to see it prosper in ways beyond that which can be tracked on a spreadsheet. I've been honored to serve on the Sugar Creek Business and Civic club where I've met many of those good people. We gather to encourage and share each others visions. We toil in the background and our payment is the enjoyment of the people we manage to catch glimpses of. I think that I and my office fit into this community perfectly. We're a family owned and operated business that strives to help families operate. This seems to be a family ran and operated city that strives to help the community operate as a family. That's why I'm proud to have my business here.

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERS– Thank you to the following sponsors for their support during the 2013 Concert in the Park Series; BP, Metcalf Bank, Sugar Creek Fair and Festival Board, Central Plains Cement Company, Talon Concrete & Aggregates, Quicksilver Ready Mix, Foley Power Equipment, Republic Services, Bob & Jake Welch, Wrabec Law

Also thanks goes to these organizations: Moose Lodge, Optimist Club, St. Cyril's Altar & Rosary Society, Sugar Creek Business & Civic Club, and the Sugar Creek Public Works and Police and Fire Departments. Without their support these community events would not have been a success; Smokin' In the Creek BBQ, Slavic Festival, July 4th concert & fireworks, Fall concert, and the Mayor Tree Lighting.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP, JANUARY 9– Public Works department will be picking up Christmas trees on January 9 and 10. To recycle your Christmas tree, please make sure all decorating trim is removed from the tree, and place by the street curb for easy access.

GLASS– Please be careful when setting out glass in your trash. Be sure to mark the bag or place the broken glass in a separate container.

WINTER WEATHER TIPS– Now that winter is fully upon us, here are a few ideas to help you prepare for the cold weather.

FROZEN PIPES:

- After you have checked your inside pipes and still no water, if you suspect that the water meter is frozen please contact the Public Works department.
- Insulate all areas of the house where water pipes are, including crawl spaces, and porches.
- Never use antifreeze to keep pipes from freezing. The chemicals could be drawn back into the water supply and contaminate the system.
- Seal drafty cracks and repair broken windows
- Unhook lawn hoses from the outside faucet.
- Keep a trickle of water running from the faucet highest in the house, this trickle should be steady stream the size of the lead in a pencil.
- If you are going to be away from your home for an extended period, you should shut off the water supply and drain the pipes.
- If you are only leaving for a few days, the thermostat should be set high enough so the temperature in the basement will off set a severe temperature drop.
- Never try to thaw frozen pipes with an open flame. Use a hair dryer, sweeper exhaust, light bulb, heat tape or call a plumber.

PET TIPS:

- Refill the water bowl often, as it might freeze with below 0° temperatures.
- Use a heat lamp to warm their shelter.
- Place straw or cedar chips inside shelters, blankets can freeze and cause frostbite.
- In extremely cold temperatures bring your pets into the garage, breezeway or basement.

TRAVELING:When traveling, consider taking a winter storm kit along with you. This kit should include such items as tire chains, booster cables, a flashlight, shovel, blankets and extra clothing. Take along plenty of water as well as a first aid kit.

SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM: In years past it has not been uncommon for residents to experience narrow plowed paths or par-

tially cleaned streets during heavy snow events. If possible, please wait until after the plows have been through your street to shovel your drive, this situation in almost every instance is related to vehicles parked in the street area, and residents placing snow removed from their driveways in public right-of-way. It is not unusual to go through the freeze-thaw cycle for several days, before crews can return to widen the narrow paths to the street's edge. While ordinary passenger vehicles can negotiate these narrow paths, emergency vehicles such as ambulance and fire department equipment were forced to take an alternate route, thus effecting response time to an emergency call. As we all know, response time is critical during an emergency. For this reason the department is asking residents to pay close attention to the weather forecasts for snow and ice events, and avoid, where possible, parking on street areas. This will assist snow removal crews in providing the highest level of snow removal service practical, and possibly avoid any inconvenience during the winter months. Several residents have commented on snow being pushed back into their driveways after snowplows have been through. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

THINGS CITIZENS CAN DO TO HELP:

- Make sure to have the proper snow or all weather tires on your vehicle to prevent you from getting stuck.
- Park off street if possible.
- Shovel the snow to the right side of the driveway as you face the street. This will lessen the amount of snow at the mouth of the driveway when the snowplow comes by.

— Sue Mikula,

Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator

Parks & Recreation Department

COMMUNITY POTLUCK– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold the Community Potluck on January 14. We will provide meatloaf, but please bring a side dish or desert, and enjoy visiting with your community. The potluck will be held at Mike Onka Hall, lunch will begin at 12:00pm.

CASINO DAY TRIP– The casino day trip will be January 10; call for the information.

YOUTH BASKETBALL/VOLLEYBALL TEAMS– We will be starting instructional youth basketball teams and instructional youth volleyball teams. These will be for ages 5 up to 12 years old or grades Kindergarten through fifth grade. If you have children interested in joining, we will have registrations available at City Hall after January 1 for these winter youth sports programs.

LITTLE PRINCESS DANCE– Registrations will be available after January 1 for the Little Princess dance that will be held February 8. We will have limited space for this event, so don't wait to sign up.

EXERCISE AND DANCE PROGRAMS– We now offer morning exercise programs for a \$2.00 donation. These programs will be held at the Sugar Creek Gym, 11232 Chicago, starting at 9:15 a.m. Chair exercises at 10:00 a.m.; Strength Training and Weights at 10:15 a.m. These will be instructed by Kim Hanes. We will also be offering Line Dance instructions on Mondays from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Youth dance classes will begin in January on Saturdays from 12:30 -1:30 p.m.; classes are \$6.00. These classes will consist of tap, jazz, ballet and hip hop. For questions pertaining to any of these programs please contact Connie Dickinson at (816) 252-4400 ext. 137.

— Connie Dickinson, Parks & Recreation Supervisor



IMPORTANT CITY OF SUGAR CREEK INFORMATION & NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Main number: (816) 252-4400

Mayor

Matt Mallinson..... Ext. 132

City Administrator

Ronald P. Martinovich.....Ext. 131

City Clerk

Jana J. Olivarez-Dickerson..... Ext. 128

City Treasurer/Finance Officer

Linda R. Martinovich..... Ext. 125

Senior Accountant

Marilyn Thomas..... Ext. 142

Accounting

Debra S. Burns..... Ext. 126

Deputy City Clerk

Marilyn Evans..... Ext. 124

Collector

Pat Sagehorn..... Ext. 127

Building Official

Paul Loving..... Ext. 122

Utilities/Mike Onka Bldg. Reservations

Cari BeemanExt. 121

Aldermen *(Please leave a message)*

Robert Ray Ext. 133

Stanley J. Sagehorn..... Ext. 134

Joseph D. Kenney..... Ext. 135

Lorcan Doyle..... Ext. 136

POLICE/FIRE DEPARTMENT

Main number: (816) 252-7058

Direct voice mail number: (816) 521-7923

Chief..... Ext. 223 Stevens.....Ext. 273

Captain..... Ext. 227 K. Soule, Jr. Ext. 270

Beeman Ext. 263 B. Smith Ext. 275

Fire Office..... Ext. 229 Kelsey..... Ext. 271

A. Sammons Ext. 261 Baker..... Ext. 280

R. Greer..... Ext. 258 Thompson Ext. 283

B. Zevecke Ext. 264 Doss Ext. 239

Edwards Ext. 262 J. Brown..... Ext. 281

Russell Ext. 253 S. Smith..... Ext. 282

Garcia..... Ext. 254 Loring Ext. 251

Myers Ext. 256 Richardson Ext. 272

Waterfield..... Ext. 257 Detective Ext. 225

Kline Ext. 259 J. Wrabec Ext. 252

C. Soule..... Ext. 260 C. Williams Ext. 286

Casey..... Ext. 274

PUBLIC WORKS

Main number is (816) 252-4413

Public Works Secretary

Dorothy Hilliard..... Ext. 301

Public Works Administrative Assistant Special Events Coordinator

Sue MikulaExt. 302

Public Works Director

Ed Layton Ext. 303

PARKS AND RECREATION

Connie Halastik (816) 252-4400, ext. 137

Superintendent of Operations

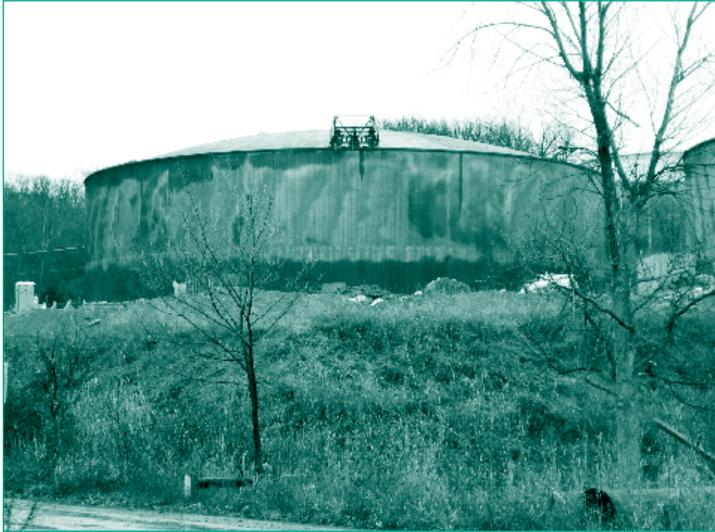
Bill Mikula..... Ext. 304

Maintenance Foreman

Dave Martinovich..... Ext. 305

Mechanic

Gary Mann..... Ext. 307



City's Waste Water Project

Because of the construction and the above ground visibility, the City has received questions from residents about a City of Independence project located on the former refinery.

During the spring of this year, the Board of Aldermen spent several months evaluating five different sites for location of two waste water storage tanks that would be owned and operated by the City of Independence. It was required the selected site be located at a down gradient location near the existing Sugar Creek Interceptor.

The Sugar Creek Interceptor serves approximately an eight square mile area and all of Sugar Creek except for five customers located along M-291 highway in the Mill Creek Basin. The approved site is the exact same location of two asphalt storage tanks that were abandoned by Koch Industries. The City of Sugar Creek eventually gained control of these abandoned tanks and sold the tanks to an out of state business generating revenue to the City.

During this process the Board was advised by the City attorney the City of Independence is exempt from Sugar Creek zoning and building requirements and could have located the tanks without approval of Sugar Creek. However the City of Sugar Creek engaged in discussions with the City of Independence and with their cooperation a mutually agreed upon location was approved.

Since the City of Independence was exempt from obtaining a permit from Sugar Creek the City was not able to verify compliance with the City adopted industrial performance standards. For this reason Sugar Creek will continue to monitor the process and operation once the tanks are placed into service early next year.

PLEASE NOTE: The Sugar Creek Branch Library will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's Day. The library will also be closed on Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King Day.



At the library...

JANUARY 2014

■ computer classes

Internet Basics— Tuesday, Jan. 5 at 11:00 a.m. Learn what the Internet and your Internet browser can do for you! This class concentrates on the basics of online searches.

E-Mail Basics— Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 11:00 a.m. Sign up for a free e-mail account and follow along this tutorial teaches the ins and outs of sending and receiving email, as well as how to organize your messages.

Genealogy Basics— Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 11:00 a.m. Discover your family heritage! Bring with you anything that will be helpful in finding out more about your family heritage. We will provide a starter pack to get your journey going.

Working With Pictures— Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 11:00 a.m. Have a question about your digital camera or how to put pictures on your computer? This class can show you the step by step process for uploading, organizing, and storing your photographs.

■ crafts

Quilting For The People— Saturdays, Jan. 4 and Jan. 18 at 1:00 p.m. This bi-weekly class at Sugar Creek offers many options for all levels of quilters. Bring a project, start a project, or come to learn something new. Class is every other Saturday at the Sugar Creek Library. Call Nancy at 816-252-3344 for more information.

■ activities

Teen Creek After Hours— Friday, Jan. 3 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Be creative. Be loud. Be here! The Sugar Creek Library stays open late for TEENS ONLY. Come and hang out – play on the computers, watch a movie, or just meet up with friends. Food and noise allowed!

Teen Creek Club— Thursday, Jan. 16 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. If you like to discuss books you've recently read, play board games, have fun and hang out with friends. Teen Creek is looking for you! For more information, call Christy at 816-701-3489 or visit her at the library.

Family Story Time— Wednesdays, Jan. 8 and Jan. 22 at 5:30 p.m. Join us for a winter-themed story time. Bring a friend, listen to a few stories, and make a craft.

Family Movie— Saturday, Jan. 25 at 2:00 p.m. Join us as for a special kid-friendly movie and enjoy a snack.

■ book clubs

After Lunch Book Club— Thursday, Jan. 9 and Thursday, Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m. Join us for an After Lunch Book Club as we read and discuss great books. We will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Sugar Creek Branch Library. This month we will be discussing *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* by Rhonda Janzen, our first selection in the annual Adult Winter Reading Club.

Fairmount Community Center Book Group— Thursday, Jan. 9 and Thursday, Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m. Join us on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Fairmount Community Center, located at 217 S. Cedar Ave in Independence, MO 64053. Books provided by the Sugar Creek Branch Library, with discussions moderated by Mary Roberson.

Sweet Talk

January 2014 Calendar

City Hall Offices
Public Works
Parks & Recreation

252-4400
252-4413
252-4400, ext. 137

Police or Fire Emergencies
Non Emergencies
www.sugar-creek.mo.us/City_News.html

911
252-7058

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	12/30 Refuse Route 1	12/31 Refuse Route 2	1 NEW YEARS DAY City Hall and Public Works Offices Closed	2 Refuse Route 3	3	4
5	6 Refuse Route 1	7 Refuse Route 2	8 Refuse Route 3	9 Christmas Tree Pickup	10	11
12	13 Refuse Route 1	14 Refuse Route 2	15 Refuse Route 3	16	17	18
	6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	12:00 p.m. Community Potluck at Mike Onka Hall 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building		7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting - City Hall	Debtiquent date for utilities	
19	20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY City Hall and Public Works Offices Closed	21 Refuse Route 1	22 Refuse Route 2	23 Refuse Route 3	24	25
		Filing for Municipal Election Closes at 5:00 p.m.				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting <i>Past due notification date</i>	5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building				