

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • March 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

Training Crucial For City's Fire Department



At least once a month we meet for our regular training meeting to go over either new or refresh on the older tactics that we were taught. During the winter months we generally try to stay indoor for training and then as the weather breaks we go outdoors for more hands on training.

As the Chief of this Fire Department I could not be any more delighted to have the staff I do today.

When I started, way back then to today, the fire service has changed drastically. We are so much more community oriented and when the public calls for help we go and assist with whatever the problem may be.

In our department today we have a total of 6 career firefighters, along with 21 reserve fire fighters, 16 of whom are EMT certified 2 certified fire investigators, 1 certified fire inspector, 1 certified fire instructor, 1 Photographer, & 1 Chaplain. When you talk about a medical, I believe we have some the best EMT's in the field today. All of our folks have the utmost respect for whoever they are treating as a patient.

With the inspection program on house's and commercial building we had very few fires last year, which is a good thing and we are doing our job.

Here is a breakdown of the 639 calls for service in 2013:

- Structured Fire 6
- Brush & Grass 16
- Vehicle 4
- Trash 6
- Smoke Invest 3,
- Police Department Assist 79
- Electrical/Wires Down 16
- Spill/Leak/Hazmat 7
- Medical 348
- False Alarm 27
- Citizen Assist/Other 84,
- Vehicle Accident/Extrication 20
- CO/Oder Investigation 23

Once again we are your fire department and all of our guys are very proud to be members of the Sugar Creek Fire Department.

If at any time you should need anything, please do not hesitate to call us.



MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

One of the best kept secrets of the mid-west is we have the opportunity to experience all four seasons. We always have something to look forward to. If it is too hot, the fall is just around the corner. Then we are ready for the Holiday season and maybe a bit of snow. Then when we have the snow, and lots of it, we are looking forward to planting the tomato plants. Well, this is now the season to look forward to the 4th of July Parade!

For 74 years the Sugar Creek Business and Civic Club has hosted the Parade. 2014 will be a monumental year, 75th anniversary! I strongly encourage and request our community's help in making this the largest and best ever.

Remember when....there were seemingly countless family floats? Remember when..... pizza slices were given out? Remember when....ice cream bars and sandwiches were handed out? (although they were a



bit mushy in the sun). Remember when.... you saw Abe Lincoln? The stilt walker? The Standard Oil Wagon?

This year needs to be the year that our children and grandchildren say "remember when?" Creating family and business floats provides lifelong memories. Now is the time to start thinking and talking. Businesses, get your patrons involved. Families, get several generations rounded up. Neighbors, get your friends rallied. Military units?

Bands? Schools? Organizations? Clubs? Let's get 'fired up'! Thoughts on a theme? Let me know and I will relay your idea. Don't forget the firework display in the evening.

Just like the seasons, Sugar Creek is always looking forward to the next event. We certainly have a bright future ahead of us!

*Thank you,
Mayor Matt Mallinson*

business spotlight

*The Kansas City
Public Library –
Sugar Creek Branch*



The Kansas City Public Library - Sugar Creek Branch often gets over looked by those that drive by it every day. We have a lot to offer in our small storefront location that opened in Late 1996 but it's the right size for our community.

We are open Monday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. We also open early on Tuesdays for Computer Class from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; all classes are a basic overview of a certain topic, some class taught are Computer Basics, Internet Basics, and Email Basics; anyone is welcome to attend.

We hold several monthly activities for Children, Teens and Adults.

We have a Family Story Time on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m., as well as a Family Movie generally on the last Saturday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

We have a monthly Teen Creek After Hours program that meets on the first Friday of every month. This event allows local teens to get to hang out at the library after hours playing board games, socializing with friends and being loud in the library.

We also have two adult book clubs. The After Lunch Book Club meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the branch and an off-site club, the Fairmount Seniors Book Club, that meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Fairmount Community Center.

We also have a Quilting Club that meets every other Saturday at 1:00 p.m. that welcomes anyone interested in learning something new or needs a quiet time to work on a project. We have a lot of programs to offer throughout the year that are all FREE to the community. I would like to personally invite you to take the time to stop by and "check out" your local library.

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

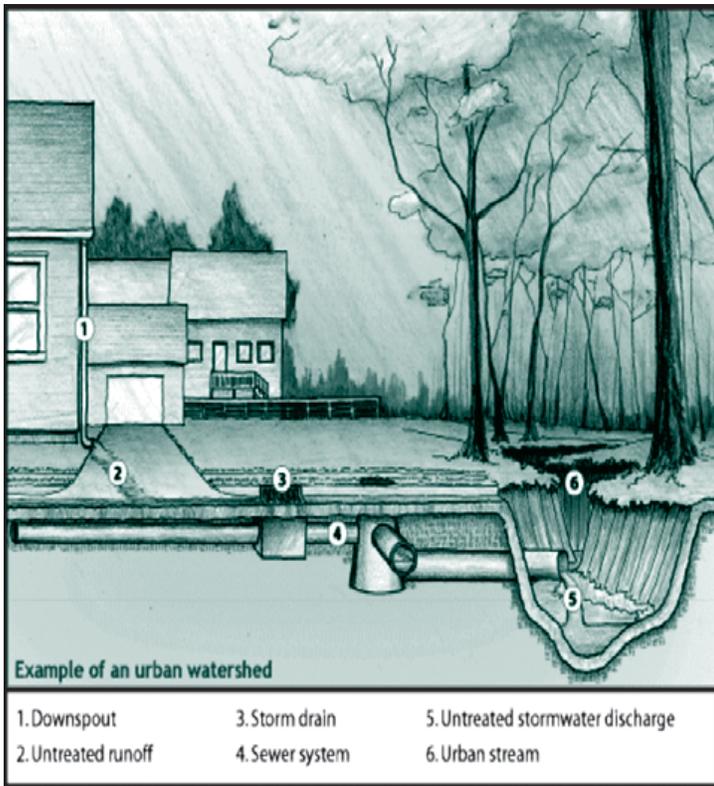
YARD WASTE PICKUP– Yard waste pickup will resume on April 10, 2014 and continue weekly through November. Additional dates will be announced at a later time.

To use this collection, place yard waste out by 7:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings, but not more than 24 hours before. Limbs and twigs should be cut in 4-foot sections and tied into bundles with string or twine, NO WIRE. If placing in a container, the container cannot be over 65 lb. You can also use the paper bags that can be purchased at most hardware stores. Collection normally takes 1-½ working days to finish the entire City depending on the amount of yard waste in the City.

BULKY ITEM PICKUP– 2014 Bulky item pickups are March 31, July 7 and October 6.

DEFINING A WATERSHED– A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common body of water, such as a nearby creek, stream, river or lake. We all live in a watershed.

Watersheds vary considerably in size. For example, when it rains, all the water from a small watershed may travel to a local creek. That creek will flow into a larger stream, like Brush Creek, which in turn collects water from an even larger watershed. Brush Creek flows into the Blue River, which then deposits water into the Missouri River. The majority of the City of Sugar Creek is in the “MILL CREEK” watershed.



We all live downstream. Watersheds cross city, county and state lines. When different communities share a watershed, the residents of all the cities and counties in the watershed need to address issues like flooding and water quality together. All of our actions impact our upstream and downstream neighbors.

What’s the problem? During the construction of homes, roads and

office buildings, vegetation is often removed and replaced by large paved areas. These impervious surfaces keep rain from seeping into the soil and recharging groundwater supplies. Paved surfaces also increase the speed and amount of water that rushes down gutters and into storm drains during a rain storm. This “stormwater runoff” picks up pollutants from motor oil, lawn chemicals, pet waste, salt, litter and soil along the way, before flowing to rivers, lakes and streams — untreated.

The large amount of untreated water entering the storm sewer system — and eventually our streams and lakes — has lasting health, safety, environmental and economic impacts on our watersheds and communities.

Watersheds support a wide variety of plants and wildlife and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for residents. Protecting the health of our watersheds preserves and enhances the quality of life for Kansas City residents and those living downstream.

What can you do?

1. Landscape with native plants to increase water infiltration and decrease lawn maintenance.
2. Never discard trash or yard waste down storm drains or in the street.
3. Dispose of pet waste properly.
4. Use lawn chemicals safely. Always follow label instructions and never apply before rain or watering the lawn, unless directed.
5. Redirect downspouts to drain rain water onto lawns and gardens.
6. Wash your car at a professional car wash that filters the wastewater or wash your car in a grassy area. Do not wash cars on driveways or in the street.
7. Use rain barrels or rain gardens to conserve rain water on your property.

To learn more about watersheds, visit www.marc.org.

— Sue Mikula,

Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator

Police Department

NEW ORDINANCE CONCERNING DOGS– The Board of Aldermen has passed a new ordinance stating that if you have a dangerous or vicious dog as determined by the police chief based on evidence brought before him you must have a homeowner’s insurance policy in the amount of at least \$350,000.00 dollars. If you do not purchase such a policy your animal can be impounded and destroyed.

A recent attack on a postal worker resulted in horrific injuries to the letter carrier. If your dog bites a postal worker, or any person for that matter, it could result in charges being brought against you and in worse case scenarios, the euthanasia of your animal.

Pretty soon this cold weather and snow will be just a memory. It will be time for reassessment and introspect.

Property conditions in the city sure could stand a little improvement and we ask that you assess your own property and see if it needs attention. The Police Department will be checking for property conditions and taking appropriate action when they are needed. We don’t want people to go to court and pay fines, we just want them to pay attention to nuisance and trash conditions and correct them when necessary.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Police Chief at 521-7923 x 223.

— Herb Soule, Sugar Creek Chief of Police

NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Life of Bokarae Remembered

Sugar Creek mourns the loss of a former law enforcement officer and community supporter in the death of Anthony Bokarae.



His wife, Louise, said more than a thousand people showed up for her husband's wake and funeral. Many expressed to her "He was such a role model to us and affected how we should lead our lives."

She said not many people hear that from other people and the family was truly touched by how highly Anthony was held in regard by residents of Sugar Creek.

Bokarae was born Sept. 27, 1944, in Independence and graduated from St. Mary's High School. He died Jan. 6 at the age of 69.

Bokarae was an Eagle Scout and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. As an adult he continued being active with the St. Ann's Catholic Church Boy Scout troop and later with St. Mary's Catholic Church Boy Scout Troop 1221. As an adult leader for more than 20 years, he attended many overnights and two-week summer camps.

He was on the parish council at St. Cyril's Catholic Church. He was a veteran of the United States Army.

Bokarae and his wife, Louise, were married on April 28, 1967.

Bokarae was a police officer with the Sugar Creek Police Department for three years during the 1960s. On Feb. 5, 1968 he and Police Chief Mike Onka responded to an armed robbery

at Ernie's Restaurant. During the incident, both men were shot, but Chief Onka died. That fact left a definite impression on Bokarae, said his wife Louise, in part because the men had become friends. The families had become friends.

Later, Bokarae helped build the Mike Onka Memorial Hall at Harrison Park in Sugar Creek with friends. Onka Hall is now the location of many community events and private celebrations. Louise said the materials and labor to build the hall were all donated and in particular Bokarae worked on the wrought iron railings and chandeliers.

Eventually Bokarae left the Sugar Creek police department and joined the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, where he retired 30 years later in December 1998 at the rank of colonel. "It was a passion," said Louise of her husband's career and dedication to law enforcement.

He is survived by his wife, Louise, of the home in Sugar Creek; son Michael, and his wife, Amy of Olathe, Kan.; daughter Denise M. Beach and her husband Russell, of Sugar Creek; sister Antoinette Stewart, California; brother Sam, Independence; and four grandchildren.

— Sheryl Trick

Beard Will Be Missed

Gloria M. Beard 82, of Sugar Creek passed away peacefully at home on Monday, February 3, 2014. Visitation and Mass of Christian Burial were held at St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Gloria was born October 26, 1931 to Ernest and Maria Mancini. She married Kenneth Beard and the couple celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last April.

Survivors include husband, Kenneth; her son Michael; son, Ernie and wife Paula; four grandchildren, a great grandchild and her sister Anna Pirania. Condolences may be offered at www.passantinobros.com

celebrate st. patrick's day in SUGAR CREEK

Sugar Creek's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 15th. The parade will line up in the Heritage Center Parking lot beginning at 9:30 a.m. The parade began in 2009 with Grand Marshalls Earl Casey and Jack O'Renck walking 20 steps across Sterling Avenue. Since then the parade has grown every year the parade route had to be lengthened to 2 full blocks to allow the parade to turn around. Anyone is invited to join in the fun family event and after parade Irish cheer at Kross's - just wear your green!



GO

Sugar Creek

We are developing a "Community Garden" in Sugar Creek. A local family has generously agreed to let us use the lots across the street from Cuzzy's. Contact Sandy Mikulich at 816-805-1111 if you are interested in participating in this project.

Go Sugar Creek's March meeting will be Thursday the 20th. at 7:00 PM at the police department training room. All Sugar Creek residents and business owners are encouraged to attend and help us in improve our city.

We are also working with the city and several organizations to develop and build soccer fields at La Benite Park.

Go Sugar Creek is sponsoring a citywide clean up the weekend of April 5-6. More details later on the website.

Neighborhood Improvement: If you are a homeowner in Sugar Creek in need of exterior repairs and lack the resources to complete the tasks, pick up an application at the police station to apply for assistance from Go Sugar Creek volunteers

www.gosugarcreek.com



At the library...

MARCH 2014

■ computer classes

Computer Basics– Tuesday, March 14 at 11:00 a.m. Learn more about getting around on your computer in this class, which offers insights into hardware and software components.

Internet Basics– Tuesday, March 11 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, March 18 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.

Geneology Basics– Tuesday, March 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.

■ crafts

Quilting For The People– Saturdays, March 1, March 15 and March 29 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, March 7 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!

Creeker Club– Thursday, March 20 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, then this Club is for you! Open to all middle and high school kids! For more information, call Christy at 816-701-3489 or visit her at the library.

Family Story Time– Wednesdays, March 12 and March 26 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, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. Join us as for a special kid-friendly movie and enjoy a snack.

■ book clubs

After Lunch Book Club– Thursdays, March 13 and March 27 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 *Mud Season* by Ellen Stimson, our final selection in the annual Adult Winter Reading Club.

Fairmount Community Center Book Group– Wednesdays March 12 and March 26 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

March 2014 Calendar

City Hall Offices 252-4400 Police or Fire Emergencies 911
 Public Works 252-4413 Non Emergencies 252-7058
 Parks & Recreation 252-4400, ext. 137 www.sugar-creek.nc.us/City_News.html

sunday monday tuesday wednesday thursday friday saturday

RESIDENTS, BE SURE TO REMEMBER:
 • OPEN GYM: 4 to 5:30 p.m. for Youth, ages 8-17 • CLUB WALK: M-F, 9 to 10 a.m. at the Gym • SENIOR EXERCISE: Mondays 10 to 11 a.m. at the Gym
 • TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS: Bus service to residents, 60 years or older, or Handicapped
 • ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS: Every Monday and Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym. \$5.00/class

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Refuse Route 1	Refuse Route 1	Refuse Route 2	Refuse Route 3			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS	Refuse Route 1	Refuse Route 2 12:00 p.m. Community Potluck at Mike Onka Hall 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building	Refuse Route 3 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sugar Creek United Methodist Church Corned Beef and Cabbage Fundraiser	7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting - City Hall	Casino Day Trip	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Refuse Route 1 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	Refuse Route 1	Refuse Route 2 <i>Delinquent date for utilities</i>	Refuse Route 3	SPRING BEGINS		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Refuse Route 1 6:30 p.m. S.S. 7:00 p.m. CM	Refuse Route 1	Refuse Route 2	Refuse Route 3			
30	31					
Large Item Pickup		5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building			Past due notification date	