

# Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • April 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](http://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

## Getting To Know The Staff Behind The City



If you follow political campaigns, you know a little bit about your elected officials and what they do. But how much do you know about the City of Sugar Creek employees who run the day-to-day business at City Hall? The following is some information you may or may not know about these individuals.

### **Debi Burns, Independence; Accountant II/Payroll Specialist – 33 Years In August**

*What I really do is:* Accounting balance the bond account, journal entries, append and post all SEs, payroll, wire money for the city, W-2s, record employee benefits, keep personnel files.

*What I like about my job is:* I enjoy the work I do. In all the years I have worked for The City I have successfully learned all the job duties!

*The most interesting thing I do is:* When we purchased new computers, Linda M. and I ran everything parallel for six months just to be sure everything balanced.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* The residents are great and friendly. I've learned a lot working for the city – the different jobs, the effort of the refinery closing, and the changes throughout The City.

*The best part of working for The City is:* The small town atmosphere. It's a little city, surrounded by large cities. And, I've learned how a municipality works.

*I'm making a difference by:* As a hard worker and one who takes pride in my work, I work 10-hour days and like to keep busy.

### **Paul Loving, Independence; City of Sugar Creek Building Official – 8 years**

*What I really do is:* I provide information about building codes, enforce building codes by giving permits and doing inspections. I am the staff representative for the Planning Commission, helping to resolve zoning issues and enforcing zoning ordinances.

*What I like about my job is:* Talking to residents about their building and construction plans.

*The most interesting thing I do is:* The new Mallinson Elementary construction projects were very interesting, and, honestly, fun.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* What a tight knit community Sugar Creek is.

*The best part of working for The City is:* Having fabulous people to work with in the community.

— See "Get To Know Your City's Staff" on page 4



# MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

This is the month for updates:

1) Four Trails Landing (24 Highway and Sterling) contracts are signed with bank approval. David Edwards is the developer. McKeevers will operate the Grocery Store. As soon as the CDBG grant is either approved or denied, we will start the dirt work. Expected date of store opening is April of 2015. We are pursuing more tenants for the development, so please provide us with ideas.

2) Thanks to the creative works of our Public Works Department, most of the sign posts and monuments marking the three trails on River Blvd are installed. Two tour busses full of national trails leaders toured our city and Wayne City Landing. One of their functions was to participate in the design and placement of the sidewalk that is anticipated to be built from Wayne City Landing to Gardner Kansas. Within a couple of years a person will be able to start in

## UPDATE

Sugar Creek and walk, run, ride a bike, etc all the way to Gardner Kansas! This brings tourism. Tourism brings commerce. Thanks to all that made these visitors welcome.

3) Wayne City Landing Days is progressing well. The dates for the Crafts, Carnival and bands are August 7-9, 2014. We anticipate this to be a huge success. All city departments have joined together (as is our fashion) to make this a reality. We are very proud of these endeavors.

4) Sugar Creek has placed an annexation issue on the Ballot for an April 8th election. Please contact your Alderman or City Hall for more information.

Sugar Creek is unique for many reasons. We are the only place that our four trails meet. We are given credit for the beginning of three trails. We have a lot of national recognition. We have the advantage of Missouri River frontage. We have several strong ethnic backgrounds that we are proud of and celebrate. We have the largest and oldest Fourth of July Parade in the county. We have growth and growth potential. The above four items are just the beginning. Thank you for helping Sugar Creek prosper.

*Thank you,  
Mayor Matt Mallinson*

# SLAVIC FESTIVAL

## JUNE 6 & 7, 2014

The Sugar Creek Slavic Festival is gearing up for the 29th annual event on June 6 and 7. The 2014 Festival is excited to welcome new entertainment to the weekend. Two-time Grammy award winner Brave Combo returns from Texas to headline the event with high-energy performances and a world music mix that includes old-time polka, salsa, rock, classical and more.

For the first time the Miss Czech-Slovak Missouri Pageant will visit Sugar Creek and invite young women to share their heritage and compete for the crown at the Slavic Festival. The winner will be chosen based on traditional Kroj modeling, interviews and a talent performance. The woman crowned will receive a royal prize and head to Nebraska to represent Missouri in the Miss Czech-Slovak national competition.

For more information about the Slavic Festival visit [www.slavicfest.com](http://www.slavicfest.com)

### DANCE PRACTICE

Dance practice for the Sugar Creek Ethnic Dance Troupe and Kolo Kids will begin on Monday, May 5 at the Sugar Creek Gym. Practice for children ages 3 and up will begin at 6:30p.m. and the adult practice for both men and women will begin at 7:30 p.m.

No experience is necessary and it's a great chance to have some fun while getting a good work out. Contact Debbie Ray at (816)-461-4877 for more information.

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Get involved in your community by volunteering to work at this year's Slavic Festival. It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and give back to our City. To volunteer, please contact Debbie Ray at (816)-461-4877.

# NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

## Public Works

**YARD WASTE PICKUP**– On April 10, Public Works will begin the yard waste collection. Place yard waste at the curb by 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning but no earlier than 24 hours. Limbs and branches with 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 weigh over 65 lb. You can also use paper bags that can be purchased at most hardware stores. For more information please contact the Department of Public Works at 252-4413.

**LANDFILL PERMITS**– Remember a Landfill Permit is issued for the day it is going to be used. Please bring your Sugar Creek utility bill to the Public Works when obtaining a permit. The bill must be current and up to date.

**REMOVAL OF REFUSE**– According to Sugar Creek Code “Section 14-25 Prohibited practices”

(a) Generally, it shall be unlawful for any person to:

(6) To place, or permit to be placed, any solid waste container in a place where it can be seen from the public right-of-way, except when it is set out for pickup, but in such case no sooner than sunset on the day before pickup and no later than sunrise the day after pickup.

**SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE**– The City of Sugar Creek public works department is accepting applications for the position of part-time laborer; minimum age of 18 at a rate of \$9.00 per hour. The position is for a period of 13 weeks. Applications are accepted at Sugar Creek City Hall until April 11, 2014 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

— Sue Mikula,

Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator

## Parks & Recreation

**COMMUNITY POTLUCK**– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Community Potluck on April 8. We will provide baked ham, 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 12:00 p.m.

**CASINO DAY TRIP**– The Casino day trip will be held on April 11. Call to register and for the time and location information.

**INSTRUCTIONAL YOUTH T-BALL/BITTY BALL**– These will be for ages 4 up to 10 years old or grades Kindergarten through 4th grade. If you have children interested in joining, we will have registrations available at City Hall for the Youth Sports programs.

**MORNING EXERCISE PROGRAMS/LINE DANCING**– We are now offering morning exercise programs for a \$2.00 donation. These will be held at the Sugar Creek Gym, 11232 Chicago. The schedule is: 10:00 a.m. Chair Exercises; 10:15 a.m. Strength Training; 10:30 a.m. Weights. These will be instructed by Kim Hanes. We will also be offering line dance instructions on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. These will also be held at the Sugar Creek Gym.

**PITCH, HIT & RUN COMPETITION**– We will host the Pitch, Hit and Run competition again this year for ages 7-14. This will be held on April 26. You can register at City Hall.

**BOB ROSS OIL PAINTING CLASS**– Bob Ross Oil painting classes will be on May 17, for a fee of \$35.00. You will be instructed by certified Bob Ross instructor Jean Libby. You will be able to take home your finished painting at the end of the class. These classes will be every other month on the third Saturday.

**PELLA TULIP FESTIVAL**– Pella Tulip Festival will be held May 1 through May 3. Join us as we travel to Iowa for the annual Pella Iowa Tulip Festival. If interested, call for pricing and brochure.

**TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE**– Transportation for Seniors and or Disabled bus service provides transportation for medical appointments, hair appointments, errands, etc. This service is provided to Sugar Creek residents or Sugar Creek Township residents 50 years of age or older or handicapped.

**PARK RESERVATIONS**– Parks open the end of this month. Don't forget to get your reservations in early as the shelters fill up fast.

— Connie Dickinson, Parks and Recreation Supervisor

To the Mayor and Board of Aldermen,

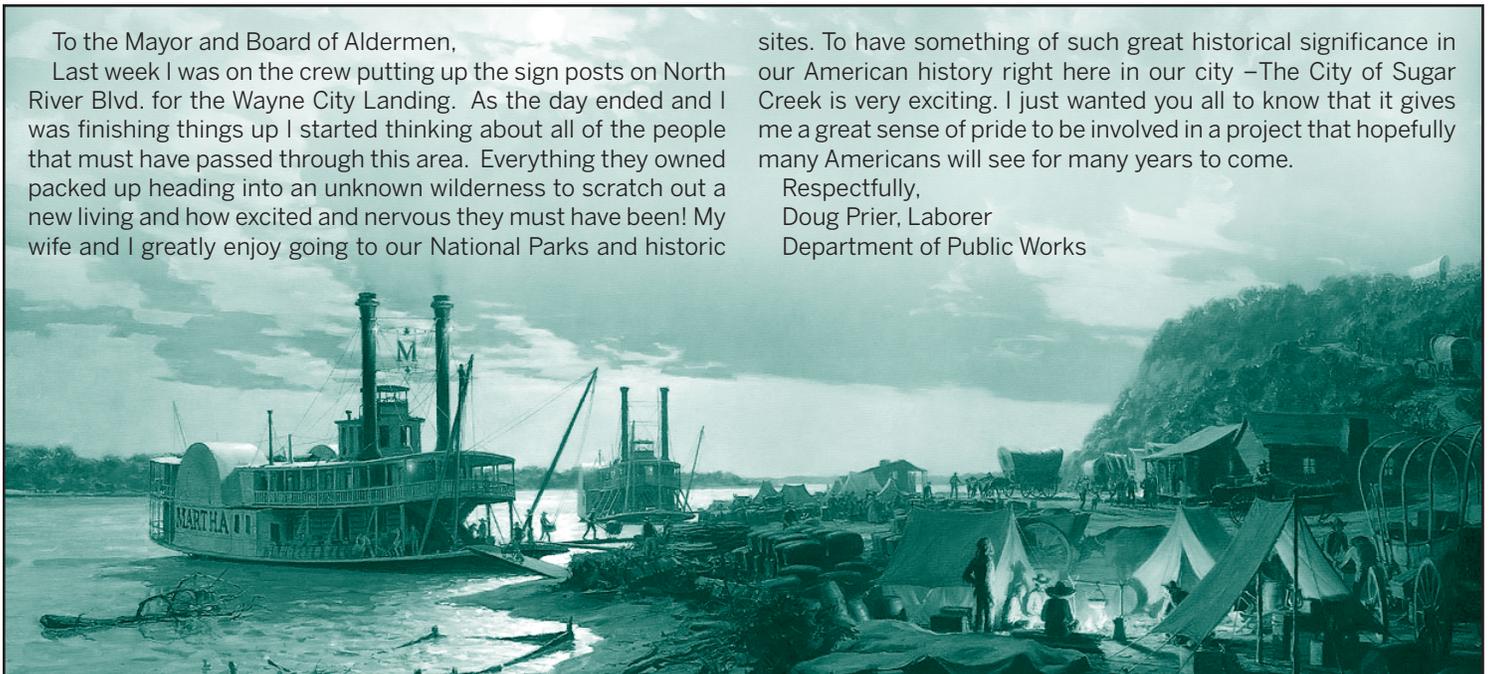
Last week I was on the crew putting up the sign posts on North River Blvd. for the Wayne City Landing. As the day ended and I was finishing things up I started thinking about all of the people that must have passed through this area. Everything they owned packed up heading into an unknown wilderness to scratch out a new living and how excited and nervous they must have been! My wife and I greatly enjoy going to our National Parks and historic

sites. To have something of such great historical significance in our American history right here in our city –The City of Sugar Creek is very exciting. I just wanted you all to know that it gives me a great sense of pride to be involved in a project that hopefully many Americans will see for many years to come.

Respectfully,

Doug Prier, Laborer

Department of Public Works





# GET TO KNOW YOUR CITY'S STAFF

■ *continued from page 1*

*I'm making a difference by:* City Hall is an open forum. Resident can meet staff and elect officials face to face and exchange ideas. I like being a small part of that.

## **Connie Dickinson, Sugar Creek; Supervisor of Parks and Recreation – 3 years part-time/5 years full-time**

*What I really do is:* Operate all of the aspects of the parks and develop recreational programs for the community.

*What I like about my job is:* Doing something that brings enjoyment to the community.

*The most interesting thing I do is:* watch how the City is growing.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* That the community is very cooperative in keeping with the heritage of the past and building a better future for tomorrow.

*The best part of working for The City is:* Knowing the community you work with.

## **Cari Beeman, Independence; Utility Clerk – 4 years**

*What I really do is:* I get the utility bills ready every month for the billing along with several other reports.

*What I like about my job is:* Getting to visit and see the residents each month. It always brings a smile to my face seeing them and getting to talk with them. I feel like they all are part of my extended family.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* I feel that all of the employees of the city work hard to make Sugar Creek the best!

*The best part of working for The City is:* I get to work in a family like atmosphere.

*I'm making a difference by:* I treat everyone with respect. I feel that if I have a smile on my face, that no matter what the situation is, the out come will be the best for the customer as well for The City. I represent the City of Sugar Creek so I feel I should have the highest standards.

## **Jana J. Olivarez-Dickerson, Sugar Creek; City Clerk/Human Resource Manager – 16 years**

*What I really do is:* I wear many hats. I work for the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen. I prepare agendas, ordinances and minutes for the City Council meetings. I am the keeper of the records for The City. I am responsible for gathering information and making sure that the City Newsletter is produced in a timely manner. As Human Resources Manager I work with all City employees answering questions about their employee benefits and everyday issues while working for The City.

*What I like about my job is:* Problem solving and assisting the public and The City employees.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* The City is very “paternal” and the City Staff will go over and above to assist their citizens (customers).

*The best part of working for The City is:* A wonderful staff to work with.

*I'm making a difference by:* Knowing that our customers will be treated with kindness and respect. If I don't know an answer, I will find out for them.

## **Marilyn A. Evans, Sugar Creek; Deputy City Clerk – 11 years**

*What I really do is:* Process Accounts Payable and business licenses; assist the City Clerk; back up Payroll Clerk and other duties as

assigned.

*What I like about my job is:* This is my residence of choice. I have lived in this city since 1965. I enjoy the people and have many friends in The City. My children have grown up here and I have many memories here.

*The most interesting thing I do is:* Coordinate the painting of the Mural of Fairmount Park by Russ Lawrence in City; obtained the Senior Bus for The City and the Parks & Recreation Department; working with the Slavic Festival to obtain grant funding for the festival.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* This is a community! We care about each other and are willing to step up and be a friend whenever needed.

*The best part of working for The City is:* Not having to drive the distance into Kansas City each morning to go to work.

*I'm making a difference by:* I am a capable individual with skills that are adaptable to this environment. I make a difference.

## **Marilyn Thomas, Independence; Senior Accountant; 6 years**

*What I really do is:* Balance all sorts of General Ledger accounts, budget preparation, assist during the annual audit, and sometimes wait on residents at the counter.

*What I like about my job is:* When my accounts balance with no reconciling items.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* It still has a small, hometown atmosphere, which I love.

*The best part of working for The City is:* Working with really nice people, employees and residents.

*I'm making a difference by:* Financially, our books are very well kept, and it shows at audit time.

## **Linda Martinovich, Sugar Creek; City of Sugar Creek Treasurer/ Finance Officer – 36 years.**

*What I really do is:* I manage all accounting software programs and financial matters for The City.

*The most interesting thing I do is:* Watch the change in technology of how we do our work. I have enjoyed working with implementing accounting software changes.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* We are a public entity, here to serve the residents any way we can.

*The best part of working for The City is:* It is very close to home.

*I'm making a difference by:* Through my 36 years of service I have an opportunity to grow through learning opportunities about the city and hands-on experience.

## **Pat Sagehorn, Sugar Creek Collections – 4 1/2 years**

*What I really do is:* I post all monies that come into The City to the appropriate accounts.

*What I like about my job is:* I enjoy talking with the customers that come in and trying to help our new residents with their questions.

*While working for Sugar Creek I've learned:* That the employees at City Hall, Police/Fire Department and Public Works really care about our city and it shows in their work. Our residents take pride in The City and try to come up with ideas that will make our town a little better.

*The best part of working for The City is:* Everyone here is like family. It's a friendly and caring atmosphere.

*I'm making a difference by:* Trying to treat everyone the way I would want to be treated. If they have questions or problems, I try and help them with whatever it is. And, if I don't have the answer, I try and find someone that does. Our customers and residents deserve the best.

# NOTICE: GENERAL ELECTION CITY OF SUGAR CREEK, MO TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014

Notice is hereby given to the registered, qualified voters of the City of Sugar Creek, Missouri, that the Board of Alderman of said City has called a General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The official ballot will be substantially in the following form:

SAMPLE BALLOT  
CITY OF SUGAR CREEK, MISSOURI  
GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014

FOR ALDERMAN – WARD 1

Lorcan Doyle  
Write-In

FOR ALDERMAN – WARD 2

Robert Ray  
Write-In

QUESTION

Shall the City of Sugar Creek, Missouri annex unincorporated territory adjacent to it?

YES  
NO

*In May of 1997, the Sugar Creek Comprehensive Plan was developed as a cooperative effort between the residents of Sugar Creek and the Board of Aldermen.*

*The Comprehensive Plan was intended to guide and achieve coordinated development. As a part of that Plan, the citizens and the Board of Aldermen considered expansion of the city's boundaries as an essential component of future development. Surrounded by other cities on the north, west and south of the city, if expansion was to occur, it was going to be to the east.*

*In the past 17 years, the City has taken important steps to expand the boundaries through multiple voluntary annexations by landowners to the east, including the Missouri Department of Conservation, Jackson County, the Burlington Northern Railroad and Lafarge (now Eagle Materials). It is essential to the orderly growth of the city to include consideration of areas outside the city.*

*It is for this reason that the Board of Aldermen recently voted to ask the residents of Sugar Creek whether eastward expansion should continue. Thus, on April 8th, the voters of the city and in the area proposed to be annexed will be asked to vote on this issue. For annexation to occur, the residents of the city and of the area to be annexed must vote in favor of the annexation.*

*The City is currently providing services to residents adjacent to the areas proposed to be annexed without any increase in the taxes of residents. All voters are encouraged to vote on this important issue.*



## At the library... APRIL 2014

### ■ computer classes

**Computer Basics**– Tuesday, April 1 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, April 8 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, April 15 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.

**Facebook Basics**– Tuesday, April 22 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.

**Google Docs**– Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 a.m. Stop relying on email attachments and multiple documents! Discover Google Docs and how it can help you and your colleagues collaborate, share, and store multiple documents in one convenient place.

### ■ crafts

**Quilting For The People**– Saturdays, April 12 and April 26 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, April 4 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!

**Family Story Time**– Wednesdays, April 9 and April 23 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.

### ■ book clubs

**After Lunch Book Club**– Thursdays, April 10 and April 24 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.

**Fairmount Community Center Book Group**– Wednesdays April 9 and April 23 at 12:15 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.

### — LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION —

**12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday**

**1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday**

**CLOSED SUNDAYS**

# SUGAR CREEK SWEET TALK

## April 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](http://www.sugar-creek.mo.us/City_News.html)

911  
252-7058

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		1 Refuse Route 2	2 Refuse Route 3	3 Yardwaste Pickup	4	5
6	7 Refuse Route 1	8 MUNICIPAL ELECTION Refuse Route 2 12:00 p.m. Community Potluck at Mike Onka Hall 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building	9 Refuse Route 3	10 Yardwaste Pickup 7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting - City Hall	11	12
13	14 Refuse Route 1	15 Refuse Route 2	16 Refuse Route 3	17 Yardwaste Pickup	18 Casino Day Trip <i>Past due notification date</i>	19 Optimist Easter Egg Hunt - Harrison Park 11 a.m.
20 EASTER SUNDAY	21 Refuse Route 1	22 Refuse Route 2 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police/Fire Building <i>Delinquent date for utilities</i>	23 Refuse Route 3	24 Yardwaste Pickup	25	26
27	28 Refuse Route 1 6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting <i>Past due notification date</i>	29 Refuse Route 2	30 Refuse Route 3			

### REMINDERS...

- **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