

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • February 2015

City Looking To Advance Projects In 2015

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

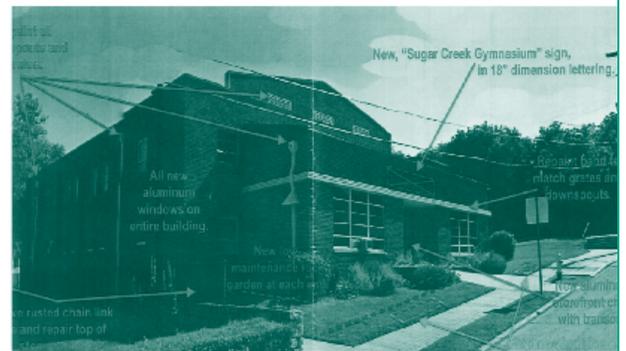
C. Robert Buckley

Municipal Judge

Garry L. Helm

Municipal Court Clerk

Cassie Williams



The City of Sugar Creek has had to take additional steps in order to advance the four Trails Landing Retail Center.

The Four Trails Landing retail project, formerly known as Sugarland Center, at 24 Highway was not able to advance under current agreements. After a couple of years working on the project, Edwards Management Group was not able to build the project under the terms of the redevelopment agreement due to not being able to obtain financing for the project. Through late fall 2014 the City continued to work with Edwards Management Group by relaxing the requirements but these efforts were not successful in advancing the project.

At the end of 2014, City staff was in charge of contacting three

organizations who previously submitted proposals for the Four Trails Landing, so the project could re-start. Three of those bidders responded by early-January and City staff is currently re-evaluating two of them, according to City Administrator Ron Martinovich.

"This project can go forward," said Martinovich. We are optimistic we can work out a new agreement in 90-120 days and construction can commence yet this year.

The other project is the anticipated wellness/community center going in at the 5,000 square-foot former post office building at 431 S. Sterling. Money to complete that project was to come from profits from the Four Trails Landing project.

When the retail center was delayed, the City began considering

other methods of funding – including: an existing capital improvements sales tax; certificates of participation, and a general obligation bond, which voters rejected in August of last year.

"We are currently evaluating other funding sources," said Martinovich for the wellness center, "such as a private partner or corporate sponsors. It is not a dead project.

Another project related to the wellness center is improvements to the Sugar Creek Gymnasium.

Martinovich said The Gymnasium has outdated heating-ventilation-air conditioning systems and needs new windows as well as work done on the entrance and façade. Those items will be a two-phase project

— See "City Looks To Advance Projects" on page 5



MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

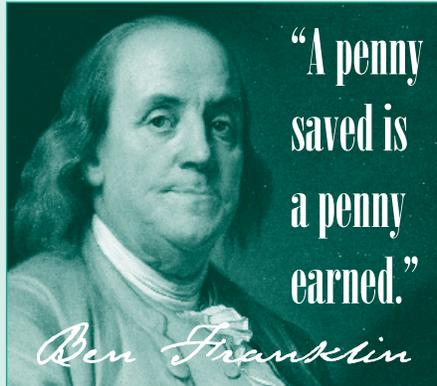
"A penny saved is a penny earned." We all know that is a quote from Ben Franklin.

Dollars translate into what we can purchase with them, so...9 Kilowatts saved is a dollar earned.

Every dollar we can save in our town is a dollar we can use to better our city. At no cost to us, our City's utility usage is being analyzed by an energy auditing expert.

We are all creatures of habit and almost mindlessly perform day to day activities without thinking, such as replacing burnt out light bulbs or simply calling the furnace repair person when the heating/cooling does not work. We need to think further into our actions. None of us like electric and natural gas bills, but we know they are part of our lives.

One of my responsibilities as Mayor is to investigate ways to control our costs. The energy audit will teach us ways to save on lighting as well as heating and cooling. As



a part of this process to savings, we are going to investigate the financial feasibility of installing ground source heating and cooling for the Gymnasium.

For example, a LED light bulb that replaces a 60 watt bulb uses only 9 watts of electricity and will last for at least 25,000 hours of usage. LED light does not 'drop off' or fade over time. It's brightness is 800 lumens.

For a reference point, at 6 hours of usage

per day, the LED will put out 800 lumens for over 11 years. They contain no toxic mercury, they are instantly on, dimmable and do not fade with time.

Florescent lights fade with time, contain questionable materials, certainly do not instantly come on and do not have the life expectancy of LED lighting.

Many of our street lights are old technology mercury vapor and should be considered for upgrade.

Solar power may be an option for several of our buildings. Hopefully I will have more to share next month on the Sugar Creek Solar Farm project that has recently received a lot of press.

Long term we should be able to save money on our utility bills, save money on service and save money on replacement labor. Arguably better for the environment all around as well. Working smarter for our city.

Sugar Creek is going places!

*Thank you,
Mayor Matt Mallinson*



"Go Sugar Creek" is a grassroots volunteer organization is working to improve our community. Sugar Creek residents and business owners are encouraged to join our group. Meetings are held monthly at the Sugar Creek Police and Fire building. For more information, please contact Bill Haman at 816-254-8935.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT: This program is open to homeowners in Sugar Creek. If you have home exterior maintenance, handicap access or general cleanup problems and do not have the resources to complete repairs and meet some income restrictions you may qualify for assistance from Go Sugar Creek. Applications for assistance can be obtained at the Sugar Creek police station. Requests for help will be evaluated to determine if the homeowner qualifies for this program. The necessary repairs will be completed by volunteers from the organization free of charge or on a cost share basis.

COMMUNITY GARDEN: We are presently accepting gardeners to fill the 2015 community garden across the street from city hall. The 2014 garden was a complete success and we hope to "grow" this community project. Last year's garden was completely full so we have an additional lot available next to the existing plot.

For more information contact Sandy at 816-461-3528.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP: We are also considering a city wide clean-up for April 2015 to coincide with the City of Sugar Creek large item pickup. More information to follow.

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

MEMORIAL BRICKS FOR SALE– Sugar Creek is selling memorial bricks. These bricks can be purchased to memorialize a family member, close friend, or family pet. The brick will be displayed for the community to view in Wells Park at Sterling Ave and Gill St. The first set of bricks has been installed. The order form can be found at city hall or public works. A 4" x 8" brick is \$75.00. For any questions please contact Sue Mikula at 252-4413 ext. 302.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION– Yard waste pickup will resume on April 9 and continue weekly through October. Additional dates will be announced at a later time.

LARGE ITEM PICKUP– There will be two (2) large item pickups in 2015. The spring pickup will begin on May 4 and the fall pickup will begin October 5, 2015.

SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM– Sugar Creek remains committed to the safety of motorists and pedestrians, emergency response needs, and economic activity.

How You Can Help: The following tips can help to expedite snow removal and ensure your safety.

- Remain patient; we will ensure that all roads are passable as soon as possible. This is our number one priority.
- Stay off the roads, if possible. The fewer vehicles on the roads, the faster we can get them cleared and have you on your way.
- Park your vehicles in your driveway.
- Stay back at least 50' from the rear of a plow truck so. If you can't see the driver in his mirrors, he can't see you.
- Don't allow your vehicles to hang out into the street.
- Teach your children to stay behind the sidewalks when they see the plow trucks coming.
- Avoid passing or driving beside plow trucks. Some trucks are capable of plowing multiple lanes of snow at one time.
- Avoid placing snow from your driveway back into the street. Less snow will be pushed into your driveway by passing plow trucks.
- Shovel the snow from your driveway to the down street side. Down street is the direction traffic flows past your driveway.
- Remove portable basketball goals, hockey goals, skate board ramps and other structures from the street. This will enable plow trucks to reach the curb and eliminate damage to the truck or portable structures. The city is not responsible for these items left in the street that might become covered by snow.

- Maintain trimmed tree branches along the street.
- Clear sidewalks adjacent to your property.
- DO NOT place refuse containers in the street.

If you have an emergency... call 911 and dispatchers will contact the snow removal operation if emergency vehicles need assistance in reaching you.

SNOW REMOVAL ON SIDEWALKS– Per Ordinance No. 105, § 1, 1-4-22 Sec. 27-55. - Clearing of snow, ice, etc., required.

It shall be unlawful for any person to fail, neglect or refuse to keep the sidewalk or the gutter in front of the buildings, tenements, rooms or real property owned or occupied by him or her, or under his or her management or control, swept clean of mud, filth, dirt or snow and ice, and clear and clean from weeds and grass.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS– During the winter months public works crews are exposed to extreme weather conditions, especially the refuse crews. Cold related illnesses can slowly overcome a person who has been chilled by low temperatures, brisk winds, or wet clothing. Prolonged exposure to freezing or cold temperatures may cause serious health problems such as trench foot, frostbite and hypothermia. The occupational safety and health administration (OSHA) advises to use caution when working in extremely cold temperatures. Temperatures 10 degrees or lower with a moderate wind of 10 mph can cause freezing to exposed flesh within 1 minute. OSHA also recommends that workers use the buddy system - work in pairs so that one worker can recognize danger signs or an illness in co-worker. At very cold temperatures, the most serious concern is the risk of hypothermia or dangerous overcooling of the body.

PLEASE NOTE: Refuse routes will not run on certain days when the temperatures are considered dangerous. Public Works apologizes for any inconvenience, but wish to protect the health and welfare of the city employees.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS– During times of emergencies from public works such as trash cancelation, water breaks, special announcements, or street closures the department will be utilizing the city's Code Red Warning system. To sign up, please contact the police department at (816)252-5560 or follow the link on the Sugar Creek web site at www.sugar-creek.mo.us.

— Sue Mikula,

Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator

— See "News from City Departments" page 4

PLEASE NOTE: WATER PRIMACY FEES 2015

The annual charge for the Water Primacy Fee and Sewer Connect Fee are on the bill with a billing date of February 28, 2015. The City remits these fees to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Water primacy fee's are used to insure safe drinking water and the sewer connect fee's are used for pollution control.

— Cari Beeman, Utility Clerk

GIVE US YOUR OPINION

In reference to the City projects discussed in this edition of Sweet Talk your feedback and opinions are encouraged. Do you want a Wellness/Community Center in the City? What do you think about improvements at the SC Gym? What is your vision for the Retail Center? Please send us your opinions on the City Projects by calling City Hall at (816) 252-4400 ext. 128 or e-mailing jdickerson@sugar-creek.mo.us If you are a Facebook or Twitter user, please like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and send us your opinions. Your opinions are very important; your voice will be heard.

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

■ continued from page 3

Parks & Recreation

COMMUNITY POTLUCK– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Community Potluck on February 10. We will provide baked potato bar; please bring a side dish or desert, and enjoy visiting with your community. The potluck will be held at Mike Onka Hall, and lunch will begin at 12:00pm.

ONCE UPON A TIME PRINCESS BALL– February 7 from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Calling all princesses in the land! All girls up to 10 years old are invited to attend the Princess Ball along with their prince or knight. (Father, Grandfather, Uncle, an adult) put on your prettiest ball gown and join us for an afternoon of enchantment and fun. There will be music, dancing, a light lunch, and a special guest will be joining us this year! Space is limited, so be sure to make your reservations early. Cost: \$15.00 per couple, due at the time of reservation. Deadline January 30, 2015. No sales available at the door; Pictures will be available for sale, as well as a Princess Gift store will be available to purchase princess items.

CLUB WALK– Club Walk is held at the Sugar Creek gymnasium Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for all those interested in walking to stay in shape. This will provide the option to keep

exercising even during inclement weather. Eighteen times around the gym equals one mile! Periodically, we will have rehab facilities attend to enhance our walking program.

TAI CHI EXERCISE– This will be a 6-week session held at the Sugar Creek gymnasium on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at no charge! Next session will start in February 2015.

ZUMBA CLASS– Zumba Class is held Monday and Wednesday, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym. Cost of class \$5.00. Please wear comfortable shoes and don't forget to bring water. Classes are taught by certified licensed instructor Krystal Thompson. Email questions to Krystal at krystalthompson300@msn.com.

PITCH HIT AND RUN– Participation is FREE! Saturday, April 18, 2015 for both boys and girls, ages 7-14. Pre-register by April 10, 2015.

BOB ROSS OIL PAINTING CLASSES– Next class will be held March 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.

NEW DINNER THEATER– April 15, \$40.00 per person. Price includes transportation, lunch, and the production of *Shear Madness* starring Jamie Farr. We have a limited amount of reserved seats; you must pre-register for this by March 15.

GARDEN CLUB– We will hold our next meeting February 19. The meeting will be held at the Sugar Creek Gym at 6:00 p.m. We will have a guest speaker from Jackson County Health Department.

COMING IN SPRING 2015

Sugar Creek Community Garden

Please call Sandy at **816-461-3528** for more information.



This project is funded through a grant from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to support public health in Jackson County.



NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Life of Yuhas Remembered



Anna Marie (Bertalotto) Yuhas, 92, of Sugar Creek, Mo., died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, surrounded by all eight of her children.

Anna was born Aug. 13, 1922, in Monett, Missouri, to Alex and Mary (Strick) Bertalotto. She graduated from Monett High School and worked for the Missouri Division of Employment Security in Monett. Later, she transferred to Kansas City where, at age 35, she met and married John E. Yuhas of Sugar Creek. Upon the birth of her first child, she “retired” to become a domestic engineer, devoting her time to all things family. They had eight children: Johanna (Dennis), Julia (Dave), John, Michael (Renee), Bernadette (Doug), Joseph (Linda), Josephine (Chris) and Janice (Morgan). Her proudest moment was the day when she could say all her children had received a college degree. Known to her as her “little angels,” Anna and John had 19 grandchildren. She was a “second mom” to many and the Yuhas house always had an open-door, no-knocking-required policy for her children’s friends.

Throughout her life, Anna was a very kind and selfless woman who focused on her religion. She also enjoyed gardening, flowers, baking, sewing and quilting. Very large family gatherings at Table Rock Lake, St. Louis, and Sugar Creek were annual events. Anna and John traveled extensively, with a highlight trip to The Vatican in 1995, where they met Pope John Paul II.

Anna was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, John; her sister, Philamine Bertalotto; and her brother, Joseph Bertalotto.

The family wants to especially thank Shawn, Robin, Nicole, Tina, Lori and Kim.

We are very blessed for the life she led and the examples she set. A longtime family friend said it best: “When I think about raising my family, I think about the way Anna and John raised their children. They were role models and didn’t even know it.”

CITY LOOKS TO ADVANCE PROJECTS

■ *continued from page 1*

costing \$97,900 and \$210,700. The City has received proposals for those phases, but has not acted on them yet.

- Other projects the City is looking at include:
- Soccer field design and improvements at LaBenite Park.
 - Improvements to the soccer facilities at Kaw Park, by the Mike Onka Building, that is used by the KC Blaze Soccer Club for boys and girls games. These improvements will likely occur before those at LaBenite Park, said Martinovich.
 - Expressway design on the Lewis & Clark Expressway project between the recently completed Sterling Avenue Extension and Century Drive in Kansas City, Mo. This five-mile stretch is 80 percent federally funded with matching funds from Sugar Creek, Independence and Kansas City.



At the library...
FEBRUARY 2015

■ computer classes

Computer Basics– Tuesday, February 3 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, February 10 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, February 17 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.

Google Docs– Tuesday, February 24 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, February 14 and February 28 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, February 6 from 5:00 p.m. until 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 & noise allowed.

Family Movie– Saturday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m. Contact us at the library for this month’s Family Film. Admission and refreshments are always free. Join us!

Toddler Time– Every Thursday morning in February at 9:30 a.m. Join us for a stories, songs, occasional crafts and fun for your little ones. Preschool age 3-5 (and parents!) welcome. For more information, call Christy at 816-701-3489.

■ book clubs

After Lunch Book Club– Thursdays, February 12 and February 26 at 1:30 p.m. Join us for an After Lunch Book Club at the Sugar Creek Branch Library as we read and discuss great books. Discussions moderated by Christy Tapko.

Fairmount Community Center Book Group– Wednesdays, February 11 and February 25 at 12:15 p.m. Join us at the Fairmount Community Center. Books are provided by the Sugar Creek Branch Library. Discussions moderated by Mary Roberson.

PLEASE NOTE: The Sugar Creek Branch Library will be closed Monday, February 16th in observance of President’s Day.

SUGAR CREEK

February 2015 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
1	2 Refuse Route 1	3 Refuse Route 2	4 Refuse Route 3	5	6	7 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Princess Ball Mike Onka Building
8	9 Refuse Route 1 6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	10 Refuse Route 2 12:00 p.m. Community Potluck - Mike Onka Bldg. 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Bldg.	11 Refuse Route 3	12 7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall	13	14
15	16 PRESIDENT'S DAY City Hall and Public Works Offices Closed	17 Refuse Route 1	18 Refuse Route 2 <i>Delinquent date for utilities</i>	19 Refuse Route 3 6:00 p.m. Garden Club Mtg. Sugar Creek Gym	20	21
22	23 Refuse Route 1 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting	24 Refuse Route 2 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Bldg.	25 Refuse Route 3	26	27 <i>Past due notification date</i>	28

ALL RESIDENTS, BE SURE TO REMEMBER...

CLUB WALK: Every Monday through Friday from 9-10 a.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym
ZUMBA CLASS: Every Monday and Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. - Sugar Creek Gym - \$5.00 per class