

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • April 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 Administrator

Ron Martinovich

City Clerk

Jana Olivarez-Dickerson

City Marshal

Christopher Soule

Fire Chief

Patrick Casey

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

Christopher Soule Becomes City Marshal

There is a new City Marshal in town.

Christopher Soule, nephew of the late Herb Soule, was sworn in as Sugar Creek's City Marshal on March 2. He will fulfill the remaining two years of his uncle's term.

Soule started his career with the Sugar Creek Police Department in 1993 as a part-time dispatcher. In 1995, he became a full-time police officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2003, and then promoted to Staff Sergeant in 2013.

Soule is a lifetime resident of Sugar Creek. He is proud to call it his home, so much that he, along with his wife Valerie, chose to raise both of their sons, Blake and Hunter, in the city.

One of the things that Soule has said is that he looks forward to working with the Mayor and City Council to make the Police Department even better.

He knows that it will take time to make all of the improvements that he has in mind, but he looks forward to the challenge.

He specifically mentioned, "Everyone has an idea of what they would do as a boss, what they would change. Of course I would like to make some changes, which I hope will all be improvements. My uncle did an amazing job as City Marshal for the 14 years that he served the City in that capacity. I only hope to continue his great



Chief Christopher Soule being given Oath of Office by City Clerk.

legacy, but with my own ideas and in my own style. I want to serve the City of Sugar Creek as best as pos-

sible, and give back to the home that has given me so much throughout the years."

**"My uncle did an amazing job as City Marshal...
I only hope to continue his great legacy, with
my own ideas and in my own style."**

Christopher Soule, Sugar Creek City Marshal.



MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

As a follow up from last month's Mayor's Message, we were able to update our ordinances to current standards in line with state law.

I appointed Chris Soule to the position of Police Chief. He will serve for the duration of Herb Soule's term, through April of 2017. By carefully working through the process and consulting with our Police department personnel, I feel we have a stronger city and Police Department. Many people have taken ownership in this process. I thank the Board of Alderman for their hard work, expertise, and patience.

This month's message is regarding improvements to our Business District and City entrances.

I invited the residents and business owners along Sterling to discuss what improvements should be done and what we want Sterling to look like. "Where do we want to be in a year? In two years? In 5 years?" The following suggestions were made:

1) Are the buildings along Sterling historic, and if so, what does this mean? Answer: many are historic. Several building owners are now discussing how to make a historic district.

2) What other businesses should be invited to move into Sugar Creek? Answer: We are discussing what type of businesses would complement our existing businesses and would thrive in our downtown area.

We are taking an inventory of available buildings and open areas.

3) Can we have a farmer's market? Answer: We are expecting to be able to host a Farmer's Market on Saturdays from 4-7pm. We are working on the details as to when this can start.

4) Is it possible to have side walk chalk art? Answer: Our Parks and Recreation department head has discussed this with the schools and there is excitement. Plans are for the students to choose a theme, possibly the history of the building the art will be in front of, and make sidewalk pictures. Each month a different theme and area.

5) Should we have a theme for looks? Answer: Again, Parks and Recreation have partnered with a garden club to provide the planters and plants. These will be maintained by the business owners. We are going to meet again to keep these thoughts moving. For example, light posts? Building lights? Building signage?

6) People tell us they do not know that we are Sugar Creek. We want people to know when they are in our city. Solution: Inviting monument signs at all of our road entrances proudly saying "Welcome

to Sugar Creek, the Sweet Spot of History", or the such.

7) Why are there not signs pointing to our business districts? Solution: attach signage to the monument signs advertising the businesses.

8) We still seem to have an 'image problem'. Can we address this?

Answer: Inviting entry signs may help. (As the Mayor, I feel we need to put together a task force committee to discuss this and, if needed, determine a future plan of action.)

This was a very productive meeting. I thank those involved and invite suggestions for other improvements.

We are still making progress on the Four Trails Shopping Center. Improving Sterling Business district is only one of many facets of our cities growth potential.

Being vigilant in giving attention to every possible means of betterment for our city will in turn create an unstoppable movement of commerce and a thriving community!

Sugar Creek is going places!

*Thank you,
Mayor Matt Mallinson*



Lawrence Rocco Named As A 'Hero In Healthcare'



Physical therapy, says Lawrence Rocco, is a two-headed master. "When I first became interested in it, it was the fact that we have an opportunity as professional health-care providers to make a difference in the life of each individual we come into contact with, and that's so rewarding," he says. "On the flip side, there are occasions where I'm unable to assist, and that's probably the hardest part."

He's a native of northeast Kansas City who is part of a small subset of those who hold degrees from then Rockhurst College, where he earned his PT degree, and as well as Rockhurst University, where he picked up a master's degree. Rocco got on that path after being introduced to the rehabilitation process through a relative's treatment when he was young, and later, at the urging of a physical therapist who doubled as a football coach at the former St. Mary's High School.

And he's part of a group of health-care professionals who have gained renewed perspective on their work thanks to the hand of fate. "On Sept. 20, 2012, I had to have a craniotomy after suffering a stroke—it was a long six months of rehab," Rocco says. "When I think of that experience, I feel like I'm very fortunate to be given this honor. There are many heroes in health care, and I was fortunate to have many heroes in my life."

Their work helped return him to the life he was relishing with his wife and three children in Sugar Creek, but it also sparked a new realization: "There is something about hope and the power of hope," he says. Now, as with his own progression from intensive care to in-patient status to release, "what I notice the most is the feeling of hope and what my own health-care providers were giving, that feeling of hope that allowed me to carry on. "If you have a better appreciation of that hope when you're interacting with patients, it's huge in helping them be successful, too."

— Printed courtesy of Ingram's Magazine

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

YARD WASTE COLLECTION– Yard waste pickup will resume on April 9, 2015 and continue weekly through October.

To use this collection, place yard waste out by 7:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings, but no 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 to collect.

LANDFILL PERMITS– Please bring your Sugar Creek utility bill to the Public Works when obtaining a permit. The bill must be current and up to date. Additional information needed, permits are date specific, who will be transporting materials, what type of materials and how many loads will be taken to the landfill.

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 17, 2015 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

— Sue Mikula,

Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator

Sugar Creek Police Department

WOMEN’S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS– The Sugar Creek Police Department is hosting a Women’s self-defense class on Saturday, April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

The class will be held at the Sugar Creek Gym located at 11232 Chicago. Women living in Sugar Creek and employed within the City are encouraged to attend.

The class will be instructed by Sugar Creek Police staff, with the focus of the training on the importance of awareness, prevention, and self defense.

This training is hands-on, providing the opportunity for women to practice proper defense techniques. Physical activity is encouraged; at the level you feel comfortable.

Enrollment is open to females and children ages 10 and older; however, anyone under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult. The course is FREE, but you are asked to pre-register. Participants are asked to wear athletic type clothing and shoes.

Call the Sugar Creek Police Headquarters for registration at 816-252-7058.

— Tim Waterfield, Community Violence Prevention Officer

Parks & Recreation

COMMUNITY POTLUCK– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Community Potluck on April 14. We will provide Honey Baked Ham; please bring a side dish or desert. The potluck will be held at Mike Onka Hall, and lunch will begin at 12:00pm.

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 May 16. 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.



Volunteers: The Backbone Of Parks And Recreation

Volunteers are what makes everything run smoothly for Sugar Creek’s Park and Recreation Department.

“Having volunteers is a very important role in Parks and Recreation,” said Connie Dickinson, director of the department.

“Without them we would not be able to offer the programs and sports activities,” she said.

“It would raise the cost of the events and families would not be able to participate.”

Volunteers for the Sugar Creek Parks and Recreation Department fall into three areas:

The Parks and Recreation Ad Hoc Committee: These nine members offer suggestions and ideas for events and programs. They also help at the activities throughout the year.

Youth Sports Coaches: These volunteers work primarily in the spring and summer months with soccer, flag football, T-ball, Pitch-Hit-and-Run, Punt-Pass-and-Kick, basketball and quick start tennis.

These people work in all kinds of weather keeping track of the game schedules, teaching the young players the fundamentals of the

game, and they are mentors.

“Some of the kids will always remember what their coach told them,” added Dickinson.

Community Programs: There are many who helps with these programs.

If anyone is interested in giving of their time and talent, they are encouraged to contact Connie Dickinson, 103 S. Sterling, Sugar Creek, MO 64054; or call 252-4400, extension 137; or via e-mail, cdickinson@sugar-creek.mo.us.

April is National Volunteer month. National Volunteer Week is April 12-18.

SLAVIC FESTIVAL

JUNE 5 & 6, 2015

The Sugar Creek Slavic Festival is gearing up for the 30th annual event on June 5 and 6.

The 2015 Festival is excited to welcome back Grammy nominated Alex Meixner to headline the event with high-energy performances of traditional and contemporary Slavic classics and polka with a twist. For the second 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 Sugar Creek Slavic Festival, visit slavicfest.com

DANCE PRACTICE

Dance practice for the Sugar Creek Ethnic Dance Troupe and Kolo Kids will begin on Monday, April 27 at the Sugar Creek Gym.

Practice for children ages 3 and up will begin at 6:30 p.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 workout. 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.

If you would like to volunteer for this year's festival, please contact Debbie Ray at (816) 461-4877, or go online and visit slavicfest.com/participate to register.

APRIL 12 - 18 IS NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

Dispatchers Help To Keep City Residents Safe

The annual National Telecommunicators week is April 12th through 18th. The full-time Sugar Creek Dispatchers are, Peggy Doss, Robin Baker-Bokarae, Krystal Thompson, Sharri Duty and Stacy Smith.

If I were to ask you to describe the job of a Police/Fire Dispatcher, many of you would reasonably respond with the answer, they answer the telephones and the like. You would be correct, however, Dispatchers are much more valuable to the Police Officers and Fire Fighters than simply answering the telephone and listening to our (Police and Fire) radio traffic. Dispatchers play a very important role in keeping the community as well as the Police and Firefighters they work with safe. That's right, I said Dispatchers keep YOU safe!!

Dispatchers are often times the first person you contact when you are in a crisis or an emergency situation. Dispatchers are the people responsible for answering the telephone call and obtaining all the necessary information to get you the help you need (who, what, when, where.) Dispatchers are responsible for alerting the Police, Fire, EMS (ambulance), electric companies, gas companies, etc. of the emergency. Dispatchers are not only trained to obtain information from you, they are also extremely important in making you feel safe and calm. By the way, they are often times making all these notifications while calmly talking to you. That sounds like a lot of work, well let's add to it.

Dispatchers not only perform the functions listed above to help you, they are the LIFELINE to the Police and Fire Fighters they work with. WE rely on them! Dispatchers monitor each Officers location through the Computer Aided Dispatch system, along with listening to the real time information on the radio. More times than not, if we accidentally hit the button on our handheld radios (the radios you see each of us carry while working), our dispatchers are asking us if we are okay. Although this may seem excessive to us at times, it is much appreciated and comforting to know if we were in trouble our Dispatcher was listening and watching out for us. Dispatchers are the main source of information for Officers while we are out on the street keeping you safe. Dispatchers input the information we give them into a computer to check for wanted parties and status of Driver's license.

Dispatchers also have unique responsibilities assigned to them to complete during their work day. These duties consist, but are not limited to; monitor the camera of the detention center, monitor the weather, test the tornado sirens. Their clerical duties include; completing bond papers, entering property into the Police computer as lost or stolen, preparing the Uniform Crime Reporting data and forwarding it to the state, filing police reports, entering and clearing warrants.

Please take a moment and thank a Dispatcher for all of their hard work.

Signed the appreciative members of the Sugar Creek Police and Fire Department



At the library...
APRIL 2015

■ **computer classes**

Computer Basics– Tuesday, April 7 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 14 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 21 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.

Computer Basics– Tuesday, April 28 at 11:00 a.m. Learn more about getting around on your computer in this class, which offers insights into hardware and software components.

■ **crafts**

Quilting For The People– Saturdays, April 11 and April 25 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 3 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 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.

■ **book clubs**

After Lunch Book Club– Thursdays, April 9 and April 23 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, April 8 and April 22 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.

SUGAR CREEK LIBRARY HOURS:
Monday - Thursday 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday Closed

ALSO...Be sure to watch for more information in the coming months about changes to the City's refuse rates and the renewal of City recycling.

Sweet Talk

April 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

BE SURE TO REMEMBER...
CLUB WALK: Monday-Friday, 9-10 a.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym
ZUMBA CLASS: Every Monday & Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Gym - \$5.00 per class

5

EASTER SUNDAY

Refuse Route 1

6

Refuse Route 2

7

Refuse Route 3

8

Yardwaste Pickup

9

7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall

10

11

Craft Fair - Mike Onka Bldg.

12

Refuse Route 1

13

Refuse Route 2

14

12:00 p.m. Community Potluck - Mike Onka Bldg.
5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Bldg.

15

Refuse Route 3

16

Yardwaste Pickup

17

Delinquent date for utilities

18

19

Refuse Route 1

20

Refuse Route 2

21

Refuse Route 3

22

Yardwaste Pickup

23

24

25

10:00 a.m. to noon
Women's Self-Defense Class
Sugar Creek Gym

26

Refuse Route 1

27

Refuse Route 2

28

Refuse Route 3

29

Yardwaste Pickup

30

6:30 p.m. Study Session
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Past due notification date

5:30 p.m. Municipal Court
Police and Fire Bldg.