

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • February 2016

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

City Joins Missouri Main Street Connection

Sugar Creek has taken the first steps to revitalize its downtown area with guidance from the Missouri Main Street Connection program.

According to an agreement signed by the Board of Aldermen, during the next two years Sugar Creek will develop a comprehensive plan to revitalize the downtown area following a Four-Point Approach recommended by the National Main Street Center and the Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC). This plan will include a written work plan for the Sugar Creek program and establishing a local team including committees for organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring.

According to the agreement, Sugar Creek will provide 40% – or \$9,600 – of the cost of training and assistance needed to implement the program. Volunteers are to raise funds for the revitalization effort and continue the program.

Keith Winge, MMSC State Community Development Coordinator, who lives in the Kansas City area, said the organization will help Sugar Creek “figure out what is important,” in terms of goals for the city. He said other cities throughout the state that have participated often continue for many years because the needs and goals of a city change over the course of time.

Winge has been part of the MMSC since 2013, helping communities develop and grow their Main Street program. He was a founding board member and then first Executive Director for the Main Street program in Excelsior Springs.

Locally, the cities of Lee’s Summit and Liberty have accredited MMSC programs. Local associate communities include Excelsior Springs,



Blue Springs, Grandview, Odessa, Lexington, and more recently, Butler.

According to the MMSC website: “At Missouri Main Street Connection, our mission is to enhance the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of historic downtown business districts in Missouri. We do this within the context of historic preservation using educational tools of the Main Street Four-Point Approach® to Revitalization which was developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Main Street Program.”

Sugar Creek City Administrator Ron Martinovich said the exact area targeted for revitalization has not been set, but will likely be along Sterling Avenue from about Kentucky Road to Lake Street. He said the process for this program was tried several years ago, but this current effort was started by Mayor Matt Mallinson.

Martinovich said the goal for Sugar Creek is to attract new business, preserve historic buildings,

and increase customer traffic and numbers at existing business. It is also hoped they can create new events or festivals centered on Sterling Avenue. In addition, they are looking to be able to improve existing infrastructure, possibly including new walkways, enhanced lighting and landscape amenities.

“Initially there will be a steering committee comprised of community leaders, land owners and business owners,” said Martinovich. “The steering committee will develop the structure for the governing board such as membership, bylaws, et cetera.”

Among other things, the MMSC will provide two on-site service visits each year and offer three off-site opportunities every year for committee members and other volunteers. The off-site educational workshops and conferences will offer networking opportunities as well as information gathering. MMSC will also cover 60 percent – or \$14,400 – toward the cost of assistance and training.



MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

As you can see from the feature article, Sugar Creek has joined Missouri Main Street. I encourage all to view their web site, www.momainstreet.org. I have been attending their meetings and events for several years to make sure they truly are a proper fit for our town. Almost any down town that has become revitalized has been a member of this progressive organization. Blue Springs and Lee's Summit are two prime examples. We do not need to re-invent the wheel, we simply need to be smart enough to utilize what has already been created.

Sugar Creek was able to receive a grant to pay for the majority of this two year program. An organizational committee will be formed to oversee the endeavors. The membership will consist of the real estate and business owners located in that area. They will make their own decisions as to what they want the area to be and the time frame in which they wish to progress. Of course City Hall will be represented because we are a stake holder as well. The



area involved is yet to be determined but will not be limited to Sterling. This may extend one block, two blocks, or more on each side of Sterling. Even our churches will have an opportunity to be a part of this project. This is not just for retail, this is all inclusive of the entire area of wanted participation. The overall scope will be determined by the organizational members with input from the area. Missouri Main Street will oversee and guide the program to help make sure the most profitable types of businesses are sought and created as well as helping existing businesses increase their profits. They are the experts and have

prior experience of what works, and more importantly, what does not. One of the first visible events you will see will be a Farmer's Market this spring. When one event starts, others follow.

I am excited about where Missouri Main Street can help take us. In my opinion, this is a needed step in re-building what can be a very prosperous area of our town. We are excited for the new Dollar General to open in March. Progression!

Sugar Creek is going places.

*Thank you,
Mayor Matt Mallinson*



Anna O'Renack Miss Czech Slovak Missouri 2015-16

I am a senior at William Chrisman High School in Independence Missouri and a student at Blue River Community College. I am in a program called Trailblazers which allows me to earn my Associates Degree and my Diploma at the same time. Currently I am ranked second in my class with a 4.3 GPA and a 4.0 GPA in college. I am a member of the high school and community college honor societies. I am a member of Future Business Leaders of America and have competed and placed at district and state competition. I am a 4 year member of the women's soccer team and I am very active in music and theater and have won many awards for vocal performance. In college I plan to pursue a degree in vocal performance and minor in business and theater.

I have grown up in Sugar Creek Missouri. Sugar Creek is a small town with a strong

cultural heritage. Our claim to fame is our annual Slavic Festival in June. My family has been very involved in perpetuating our culture and participating in the festival for my entire life. I have danced and been an active participant in the festival since the age of two.

My Slovak heritage comes from my grandfather Jack O'Renack. His grandparents (my great great grandparents) were from the town of Kochanovce the region of Zeplin. They moved to America in 1898 and to Sugar Creek in 1904. They were John Orenic and Anna Sabol. Anna returned to Slovakia to give birth to some of her children one being my great grandfather Nicholas O'Renack. The family was very proud of their culture and religion. My great great grandfather John helped build St Cyril's Parish named after the Patron Saint of Slovakia. St. Cyrils is where my parents Mark and Debbie O'Renack were married 31 years ago. I was also baptized and had my first communion at this church.

— See "O'Renack Proud of Slovak Culture" on page 5

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

LANDFILL PERMIT PROCEDURES– The procedures for using the landfill are as follows:

- Must be a resident of Sugar Creek and all city refuse charges are current and up to date.
- A current Sugar Creek utility bill must be presented at the time of obtaining a permit.
- Maximum number of daily permits shall be twelve (12) in a calendar year. Additional permits may be issued at the discretion of the public works director.
- Residents using haulers other than themselves must call ahead to approve hauler to pick up permit.
- All waste material being hauled to the landfill must be in compliance with the regulations that govern what items may be placed into a sanitary landfill as determined by state law. NO batteries, white goods, appliances, paint, or hazardous materials. For the full list contact Courtney Ridge Landfill.
- Permits for the landfill are only issued to property that is located in city limits of Sugar Creek. All refuse must be coming from the address located in Sugar Creek.

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

How You Can Help:

- 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, not on the street.
- Stay back at least 50' from the rear of a plow truck so the driver can see you. If you can't see the driver in his mirrors, he can't see you.
- 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 side 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.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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

Who is responsible for clearing and maintaining sidewalks? The adjacent property owners are responsible for maintaining their sidewalks. We ask that both business and residential owners maintain their sidewalks for safe pedestrian travel.

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

Parks & Recreation

COMMUNITY POTLUCK– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Community Potluck on February 9; We will provide baked potato; please bring a side dish or desert. The potluck will be held at Mike Onka Hall, and lunch will begin at 12:00 pm.

BOB ROSS OIL PAINTING CLASSES– Next class will be held March 19. 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.

NEW DINNER THEATER– February 20, 2016. \$40.00 per person, price includes transportation, lunch, and production. We have limited amount of reserved seats you must pre register for this.

YOUTH OF THE MONTH– Open to all youth residents of Sugar Creek ages K-18. Nomination forms can be picked up at City Hall.

CLUB WALK– Club Walk is held at the Sugar Creek gym, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. For those interested in walking to stay in shape, 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.

ZUMBA CLASS– Held Monday and Wednesday, 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. Certified licensed instructor Krystal Thompson, krystalthompson300@msn.com.

LITTLE PRINCESS DANCE– We will also have the registrations available after February 8, 2016 for the Little Princess Dance that will be held on February 13, 2016. We will have limited space for this event so don't wait until the last minute to sign up.

BOATER SAFETY EDUCATION COURSE– February 20. Class size is limited, so register early. Any one born after February 1, 1984 and operates a vessel on any lake or waterway in the state of Missouri will need this card. Class will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call to register.

DAYTRIP TO JAMESPORT, MO– Join us for a day out to visit and take a tour of Jamesport, MO on March 31! During our visit we will make stops at the Bakery, Fabric Barn, General Store. We will have a lunch buffet at the Gingrich Dutch Pantry. \$35.00 per person; Price includes transportation, lunch, and stops at local merchants. Pre register before March 4. Limited availability.

GARDEN CLUB– We will hold our next meeting February 18. The meeting will be held at Sugar Creek Gym at 6:00 p.m. We will have a guest speaker.

SUGAR CREEK HARVEST MARKET– The Sugar Creek Harvest Market will operate Thursdays from March through October, 2016. The market will be held at 606 N. Sterling lot, times to be announced. The Harvest Market is open to the general public. Vendor's are required to have a permit to set up a booth. This consists of a 10' x 10' space. Contact Connie Dickinson for booth permit.

— Connie Dickinson, Parks and Recreation Supervisor

Parks are closed for the winter! Reservations can be made for the 2016 season by contacting the Parks and Recreation Department.

SUGAR CREEK PARKS AND RECREATION
WILL BE OFFERING AN
Official Boater Safety Education Course
Sponsored by: Missouri Highway Patrol



February 20th, 2016
9:00am – 4:00pm

Class will be held at Sugar Creek Police & Fire Building
1001 Heroes Way
Sugar Creek, MO 64054

Under a new law effective

Anyone born after Jan. 1, 1984 and operates a vessel on any Missouri lake or water way will need a card.

Boater Safety Education Course is designed to help you improve your boating skills and prepare you for the final exam. It is broken down into 6 easy-to-understand units.

Class size limited to 30

To register contact Connie Dickinson 816-252-4400 ext 137

cdickinson@sugar-creek.mo.us



Approved by Missouri State Highway Patrol, Water Patrol Division
<http://www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov>

Come Out, Grow With Us



The Sugar Creek Community Garden was started with a group of volunteers and is a Sugar Creek Community Development Corporation project. This is the third year for the garden located on Kentucky Avenue across from City Hall.

After receiving a state grant from Jackson County Health Department last year, more ground beds were added and the garden was expanded to a second tier by adding raised beds. There are currently 20 in-grounds plots and four raised beds, with hopes of adding more raised beds this year.

The community garden is a sunny place for people to grow vegetables and fruit organically for their own use or to donate to organizations. The gardeners learn from each other as well as with guidance from Kansas City Community Gardens.

Gardeners are responsible for the care of their own plots as well as maintaining the lots. If you are interested in reserving a 5' X 10' ground bed or a 4' X 12' raised bed, contact Sandy Mikulich at 461-3528. Donations are welcome for the purchase of materials to make more raised beds, even if you are not one of the gardeners.

Come grow with us. You will be amazed at how much can be grown in such a small plot.

— Sandy Mikulich

License Offices To Introduce Appointment Scheduling

The Independence License Office and Sugar Creek License Office are introducing a scheduling service that allows customers to make an appointment to visit these offices. The service was introduced on a limited basis in December 2015 and is now fully functional for customers visiting these offices. “Our customers have responded positively to this convenience and by scheduling an appointment have essentially reduced their DMV wait times to zero,” says Brianna Corso, General Manager of the three License Offices, including Independence and Sugar Creek, operated by the Paul J. Wrabec Co., Inc. The system, which uses an online website to schedule appointments, allows customers to determine a date and time that is convenient for them to conduct their Missouri Department of Revenue motor vehicle and drivers license transactions.

By scheduling an appointment a customer can bypass waiting in line and the office promises to serve the customer within a few minutes of their scheduled time. This service is being offered free of charge and is an addition to the existing call-ahead feature that allows customers to place themselves in line before arriving on-site. Corso adds, “the investment into this system and service was born out of our company’s continued use of technology to increase customer satisfaction and convenience. We were the very first to offer the call-ahead service and now we are the first to offer appointments.”

Customers can schedule an appointment at either office by visiting www.metrolicenseoffice.com and picking a date and time they wish to conduct their DMV business. Appointments are offered 10AM – 2PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays of

every week. This availability will be expanded as customer demand increases. Appointments can be scheduled one day to two weeks in advance.

The Sugar Creek and Independence License Offices are contract managed by the Paul J. Wrabec Co., Inc. The Independence License Office was the first DMV office in the state of Missouri to offer the convenient QLess call-ahead system for customers to place themselves in line before arriving on site. This system texts the user to keep them informed of their place in line and allows them to spend their time waiting off-site and as they wish. Customers may still use this system by visiting the metrolicenseoffice.com website or calling 888-90-INDEP.

For any questions please contact Cyril J. Wrabec, President of the Paul J. Wrabec Co., Inc. 816-213-5903.

O'RENICK PROUD OF SLOVAK CULTURE

■ *continued from page 2*

My family also celebrates our culture at Christmas every year by participating in mass and the celebration of music with the Tamburitzans. We also share the tradition of the oplatky where we dip unleavened wafers that have been blessed by nuns into honey.

To be Miss Czech Slovak Missouri is an honor. It gives me an opportunity to share my culture with others and to be a role model for other young ladies. I am excited about the opportunity to represent Missouri at the National Pageant in Wilbur Nebraska this coming August. I truly enjoy the research involved in preparing for the pageant and love the opportunity to learn more about my heritage.

I love children and in the coming year, I hope to be able to visit many festivals throughout the state. I hope to encourage other young ladies to participate in the pageant and to celebrate their heritage. America is truly a melting pot and our many different backgrounds are what make us the great country that we are.

I am very blessed that I have such a loving family and community. My extended family through the culture and festival has brought me many memories and friendships. I will always cherish being able to peel potatoes and mix slaw with the altar society ladies and help slice the povatica and...eat the leftovers. As well as, dancing and singing with the Sugar Creek Troupe and the many other groups that perform. I also cherish the opportunities I have had to sing with the Tamburitzans at special masses. I am excited about the opportunity to continue to learn more about my culture by representing Missouri and participating in the National pageant.



ST. CYRIL'S CHURCH

FAT SATURDAY FUNDRAISER

Celebrate Mardi Gras Sugar Creek style!!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 6:30 P.M.

Mike Onka Hall 11520 E Putnam

Sugar Creek, MO

advance ticket price

Adults \$25.00 – Child \$12.00 (6-12)

\$30.00 at door if available

Music by

the Sugar Creek Tamburitzans

Raffles & Silent Auction

Ticket includes – dinner, beer, wine & set-ups

For more information call Debbie Ray

816-461-4877



At the library...

FEBRUARY 2016

■ computer classes

Computer Basics– Tuesday, February 2 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 9 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 16 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 23 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– Saturday, February 13 and Saturday, February 27 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.

■ book clubs

After Lunch Book Club– Thursday, February 11 and Thursday, February 25 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– Wednesday, February 24 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.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday Closed

PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE:

**THE SUGAR CREEK BRANCH LIBRARY
WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 15 FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY.**

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

facebook.com/SugarCreekMO

SUGAR CREEK TALK

February 2016 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 Refuse Route 1	2 Refuse Route 2	3 Refuse Route 3	4	5	6 6:30 p.m. St. Cyril's Fundraiser Mike Onka Hall
7	8 Refuse Route 1	9 Refuse Route 2 Community Potluck Mike Onka Hall	10 Refuse Route 3	11	12	13 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Princess Dance – Onka Bldg.
14	15 PRESIDENT'S DAY City Hall and Public Works Offices Closed	16 Refuse Route 1	17 Refuse Route 2	18 Refuse Route 3	19	20 9:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. Boater Safety Class – Police and Fire Building New Dinner Theater
21	22 Refuse Route 1	23 Refuse Route 2	24 Refuse Route 3	25	26	27
	6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Building				
28	29 Refuse Route 1					
	<i>Past due notification date</i>					

BE SURE TO REMEMBER...

CLUB WALK: Monday-Friday, 9-10:00 a.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym
ZUMBA CLASS: Every Mon. & Wed., 6-7 p.m. at the Sugar Creek Gym - \$5.00/class