

# Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • March 2016

## 2015 Crime Statistics: Good News, Bad News

**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. 1128 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 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



There is some good news and some bad news coming from the Sugar Creek Police Department.

The statistics are in for 2015, and Chief Chris Soule says the good news is that crime in general is down in the city. He also noted that domestic violence is up – by 48%.

He said that the department started taking a more pro-active approach with crime last year, and so there has been a decline in major crimes.

- 64% decrease in common assault
- Child neglect is down 50%
- 80% decrease in armed disturbances
- 47% decrease in both exparte and fraud
- 72% decrease in neighborhood problems
- 52% decrease in problem houses
- 61% decrease in stealing, and
- 13% decrease in both trespassing and vandalism

In addition, because of the pro-activity, there has been an increase in drug arrests and arrests in general – 71% increase in traffic arrests, 72% increase in regular

arrests, 20% increase in drug paraphernalia violations and 59% increase in drug possessions.

Interestingly, there has been a 100% increase in assault on police officers.

There has been no change in burglaries, but a 90% increase in recovering stolen vehicles.

“We are doing more with the same number of people,” said Soule. “We are addressing problems sooner patrolling more, working in school zones, and addressing complaints.”

“We’ve made a difference,” he added.

Soule also said he can’t take the credit for the changes. “I have great officers working for me.”

“We are making Sugar Creek a great place to live.”

In the coming months, for the sake of transparency, crime statistics for the City of Sugar Creek will be listed in the Sweet Talk and posted to the City’s web site.





# MAYOR MATT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Sugar Creek is not just 'the little town over there'. Sugar Creek has taken our place back. Sugar Creek is advancing. Sugar Creek is progressive. We are respected. We are admired. Our real estate has increased in value. The 24 Highway corridor, in which we are part of, is being addressed. Dollar General will soon have open doors. Missouri Main Street promises to be extremely beneficial. Parks are improving. Our soccer organization has grown to over 80 players in the last year. Well deserved overdue pay raises are happening. New Fire Truck and Police Cars have arrived. Crime rate down. Streets much safer. The old Gymnasium will soon see new life. The list continues. City Hall burns the mid-night oil.

There is no question that Sugar Creek wants to keep our own identity. We are us. We are a very diverse culture that has some of the oldest history on this side of the Mississippi.

From the early Indians, Lewis and Clark, farming families and early American west-



ward travelers, to the opening of Standard Oil and the immigration of many of our early residents to build a refinery town. Our best assets are our citizens.

With this said, Sugar Creek is not isolated. We should not act as a closed door city. We are part of a larger community. Our community rolls into the next, into

the next, and so on. We have now taken our place as part of a bigger community. We still have our own identity, but we now share in the greater community spirit.

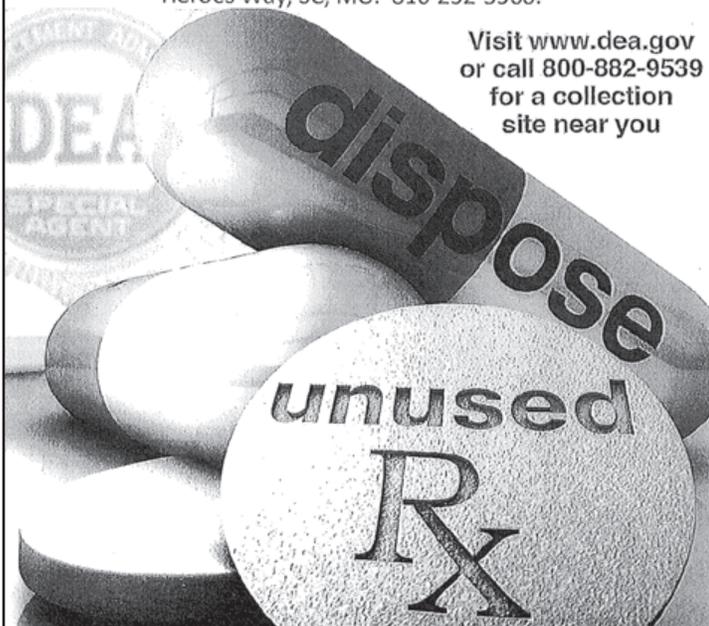
Let there be no mistake, Sugar Creek is going places!

*Thank you,  
Mayor Matt Mallinson*

## Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal anytime between now and **APRIL 30, 2016**. Bring them to the Sugar Creek Police & Fire Department, 1001 Heroes Way, SC, MO. 816-252-5560.

Visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)  
or call 800-882-9539  
for a collection  
site near you



## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sugar Creek Business & Civic Club is offering scholarships to students in pursuit of a four year degree at an accredited college. Also available is Community College tuition reimbursement of one-half tuition paid up to a maximum of \$1,200 per year. Sugar Creek residency of two years or more required. Applications are available at Sugar Creek Public Library.

# NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

## PLEASE MAKE NOTE:

The City of Sugar Creek has a new telephone system. The new system will allow all of our staff to keep up with technology and service our customers more efficiently. All of the department numbers are the same, the only difference is our extensions. **ALL EXTENSION NUMBERS ARE NOW 4 DIGITS.** For example, if you were trying to reach the Mayor or the City Administrator the new extensions are 1132 (Mayor) 1131 (City Administrator). All of Public Works and Public Safety now have 4 digit extensions as well. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the City Clerk at (816) 252-4400 ext. 1128.

— *Jana Olivarez-Dickerson, City Clerk*

## Public Works

**YARD WASTE COLLECTION**– Yard waste pickup will resume on April 7, 2016 and continue weekly through October. Additional dates will be announced at a later time.

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

Collection normally takes 1-½ working days to finish the entire City depending on the amount of yard waste around the City, but remember to place it out on Thursday's at 7:00 a.m.

**LARGE ITEM PICKUP**– There will be 2 pickups for large items in 2016. Spring pickup up will begin April 18 and Fall pickup will begin September 12. Extra refuse is defined as items of refuse which are not banned from landfills, and are too large to be loaded in the solid waste collection vehicles. Items need to be out by 7 a.m. on the scheduled dates, and no sooner than 72 hours before the pick-up begins. It normally takes 4 to 5 days for the entire city to be picked up, please be patient with our crews

**REFUSE AND RECYCLING PICKUP**– ALL REFUSE AND RECYCLING FOR PICK UP MUST BE PLACED IN THE PROPER PICK UP AREA (*curbside*) BY 7:00 A.M. ON YOUR DESIGNATED DAY. It must be visible, and not beside or behind vehicles, stacks of wood, fences, trees, or anything that could block the view of our driver and refuse workers.

**SHARE TREASURED MEMORIES WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**– 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 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. 1302.

**SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE**– The City of Sugar Creek Public Works Department is accepting applications for the position of part-time laborer; minimum age of 16. The position is for a period of 13 weeks. Applications are accepted at Sugar Creek City Hall until April 15, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**LIGHTS OUT?**– During the spring/summer months, to better keep our city safe, should you see any street lights out, please report them

to the Public Works Department at 252-4413. In order to expedite the replacement procedure more rapidly, KCPL requires the following information: 1. Pole # SC 2. Pole # KCPL 3. Address nearest to pole 4. Is light completely out or flickering?

— *Sue Mikula, Public Works Administrative Assistant*

## Parks & Recreation

**COMMUNITY POTLUCK**– The Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Community Potluck on March 8; We will provide Shepherd's Pie; 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**– June 18, 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.

**CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES**– This is a FREE event to participate in. You will not need to have a special permit for the Citywide Garage Sale held April 15 and April 16. You will be responsible for your own advertising. The city will place an ad in the local newspaper and in the City's Sweet Talk newsletter, on the City website, and on Facebook. Any advertising you do must not be placed on any utility pole in the city limits of Sugar Creek; this is against city ordinance. Signage must be placed on private property only and must be removed at the end of the sale on April 16. Sale hours shall be from 8:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.

**SPRING CRAFT FAIR**– This will be held at the Mike Onka Hall March 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you have a craft item and would like to sell your products, contact the Parks and Recreation Department for more information.

**DAYTRIP TO JAMESPORT, MO**– Join us for a day out to visit and take a tour of Jamesport, MO on April 1! 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. \$25.00 per person; Price includes transportation, lunch, and stops at local merchants. Pre-register before March 25. Limited availability.

**GARDEN CLUB**– Next meeting will be March 17. 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*

## Have You Checked Out The City's Little Free Library?



Sugar Creek has a Little Free Library that was a neighborhood project by Dave Schafer, Chuck Mikulich and his grandson, Eli. This will be the third year for the little library that has books for all ages.

Currently there is a large supply of books for adult readers but more is always needed for younger readers who seem to visit the library more often. The little library closes in the winter but will open in April. Everyone is invited to stop at 11420 Burton and take advantage of this great opportunity to take free books or leave books any time. "Be awesome! Be a book nut" (Dr. Seuss)



## Abraham Mallinson Elementary

The Abraham Mallinson Elementary PTA would like to thank the staff at Corporate Copy Print in Independence, MO for their donations and creative assistance with a very special project for our students during the month of December!

Our next PTA meeting is on March 8, 2016 at 4:30pm.

This meeting is open to all community members, however you must be a member of the PTA to vote. At this meeting, we will be voting in our officers for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year! If you are interested in helping our students reach their full potential, then we are looking for you!

You must be a member to become an officer. Memberships are always available for just \$7.00.

Thank you for your continued support in making our school community a positive place for our students to grow and reach their full potential.

# celebrate st. patrick's day in SUGAR CREEK

Sugar Creek's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 12th. The parade will line up in the Heritage Center Parking lot beginning at 9:30 a.m. The parade began in 2009 with Grand Marshalls Earl Casey and Jack O'Renck walking 20 steps across Sterling Avenue. Since then the parade has grown every year the parade route had to be lengthened to 2 full blocks to allow the parade to turn around. Anyone is invited to join in the fun family event and after parade Irish cheer at Kross's. It's fun for all ages - just wear your green!



# NEIGHBORLY NEWS

## Life of Diesko Remembered

Edward E. Diesko, 92, of Sugar Creek, Mo., passed away Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Eddie was born December 13, 1923, in Sugar Creek, Mo., as one of two children to Frank and Mildred K. (Onka) Diesko. He graduated from Northeast High School and proudly served his country in the Coast Guard from 1943-46 aboard the USS Ramsden. He worked for Standard Oil until 1959 when he went to work for GM retiring as a maintenance foreman in 1979. Eddie was baptized Catholic at St. Cyril's Parish and was a parishioner at St. Ann's for a number of years. He was a classy man who loved dancing and socializing. He was an active member of the American Legion, the Northeast Alumni Association, and contributor to Friends of Sugar Creek. He attended the Ramsden Annual Reunion with his companion every year. His family remembers his compassionate and giving nature.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Bernice Kester; and companions, Peggy and Jan.

Eddie is survived by numerous cousins and friends who will miss him.

## Kuzila Will Be Missed

Thomas Kuzila, Jr., 52, of Sugar Creek, Mo., passed away Saturday, January 30, 2016.

Tom was born to Thomas and Donna (Barr) Kuzila. He was a graduate of Fort Osage, attended University of Central Missouri, and was a 2nd Lt in the National Guard.

Tom "Swede" was a union pipefitter and a proud 25 year member of Local #533. Tom leaves to mourn his loss, the love of his life, fiancée Christina Coatney "Shortypants". Other survivors include; parents Tom Sr. and Donna (Barr) Kuzila; brother Jeff Kuzila and wife Lisa, along with their daughter Michaela; sister Nicole Kuzila Hinken and her daughters Isabella and Sophia; nieces and nephews Brianna Nichols Moore, Kyle and Jaclyn Morris, and Logan and Tyler Hein; aunts, Norma Murray and Alice Gregory (John); uncle John Barr (Jody); his beloved cat, Rufus R. Jones, and numerous cousins. Tom loved all these people and they loved him more!

He also leaves behind his union brothers that were so much a part of his life, his fraternity brothers from Sigma Tau Gamma, as well many friends too numerous to mention (but they know who they are!)

Tom is preceded in death by grandparents John and Frances Barr, Andrew and Susan Kuzila, and several aunts and uncles.

Tommy we hope you've found the peace that you prayed daily for "those who still suffer" will find. We could hear St. Peter say, "Come in, Berlin!" when you arrived at the Pearly Gates.



## At the library... MARCH 2016



### computer classes

**Computer Basics**— Tuesday, March 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, March 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, March 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.

**Google Docs**— Tuesday, March 22 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.

**Computer Basics**— Tuesday, March 29 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**— Saturday, March 12 and Saturday, March 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.

### book clubs

**After Lunch Book Club**— Thursday, March 10 and Thursday, March 24 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, March 23 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**



## DON'T FORGET TO SPRING FORWARD

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR  
CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

# Sweet Talk

## March 2016 Calendar

City Hall Offices  
Public Works  
Parks & Recreation

252-4400  
252-4413  
252-4400, ext. 1137

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
	02/29 Refuse Route 1	1 Refuse Route 2	2 Refuse Route 3	3	4	5
6 Refuse Route 1	7 Refuse Route 1	8 Refuse Route 2 <b>Community Potluck Mike Onka Hall</b> 5:30 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Building	9 Refuse Route 3	10 7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall	11	12 St. Patrick's Day Parade
13 Refuse Route 1	14 Refuse Route 1	15 Refuse Route 2	16 Refuse Route 3 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. <b>Sugar Creek United Methodist Church Corned Beef and Cabbage Fundraiser</b>	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 6:00 p.m. Garden Club Meeting	18	19 Bob Ross Oil Painting Class
DAVILIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS						
20 Refuse Route 1	21 Refuse Route 1	22 Refuse Route 2	23 Refuse Route 3	24	25	26 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spring Craft Fair - Onka Hall
27 Refuse Route 1	28 Refuse Route 1	29 Refuse Route 2	30 Refuse Route 3	31	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>REMEMBER:</b>  <b>CLUB WALK:</b> Monday-Friday, 9-10:00 a.m. at the                      Sugar Creek Gym  <b>ZUMBA CLASS:</b> Every Mon. &amp; Wed., 6-7 p.m. at the                      Sugar Creek Gym - \$5.00/class</p> </div>	
6:30 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting <i>Past due notification date</i>						