

Sugar Creek Missouri Parks and Facility's

Sugar Creek is a community with a rich and vibrant history. From the footsteps of Lewis & Clark on the banks of the Missouri River, to a community that would blossom in the 20th Century - built on the sweat of settlers and immigrants seeking a better life through the promise of the industrial revolution.

It's a story that has unfolded with the generations of those who share in its treasures. The immeasurable moments of joy and sorrow, of victory and loss, and of timeless traditions that stand as the guideposts to our past. Now, these memories have a home - a place where the story can come to life for all to share. Welcome to the Sugar Creek.

Roper Stadium In 1929 the ball field was the home to the Young Mens Christian Association baseball team with 11 local residents on the team. In 1938 Ellis Cairns organized the first Girls softball team they played there home games at this facility. In 1955 Through the efforts of the Sugar Creek Business & Professional Club, the first flood lights were installed at the baseball field making it one of the first lighted ball fields in the county . In 1982 the shelter house and ball fields had new electronic scoreboard when the facility was renamed R.J. Roper Stadium this was to honor the mayor of 40 years "Rudy Roper" The stadium was the home to many semi pro players including Rick Sutcliffe whom the road we are on is named after.

Kenney Fields Located next to R.J. Roper Stadium these are used for T-Ball or as practice fields the fields were dedicated in the name Charles W. Kenney in 1991 Charles was the founder of the youth baseball teams in the community.

Public Works Facility provides A multitude of excellent services to the community from street maintenance, sewer maintenance, trash removal, snow removal, the upkeep of all the parks and city ride way's. Is the team of 17 employees from mechanics, laborers, maintenance and utility professionals. The building they call home was purchased from Standard

Beverage Co. the warehouse for Schlitz Brewery owned by Mike Roper in the Mid 1980s.

Sugar Creek License Office Is one of the business located in Sugar Creek they are a contract office of the Missouri Division of Motor Vehicles, they have been located in sugar creek for several years now and are a welcome addition to the services of the community.

Sugar Creek Community Wellness Center This was the site of the former post office; sugar creek purchased the building from the government to transform into a community wellness center. The site is still undergoing the design and transformation of the building.

City Hall Was built at this location in 1962 voters passed a bond of \$190,000 to build the 5000 square foot center this included city council chambers, a conference room, small kitchen, vault, storage room, offices for the mayor, and city officials and a room for the dental clinic. In 1985 an addition was added to the much needed building as the city grew so did the need for more employees. The building now has offices for the Mayor, City administrator, Building Official, City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, Finance Officer, Assistant finance officer, Utility Clerk assistant utility clerk, Accounting payroll, Parks and Recreation Supervisor.

Library The Sugar Creek Branch storefront library opened for the community in November 1996 and has served the community well they host a variety of events for the community of Sugar Creek. Book Clubs, Internet availability, children's events and story times.

McAdams Park Was the site of the City's water tower for many years it was also the site for the former drinking water reservoir, The park was dedicated in the name of Charles M. McAdams in 1998. Charles McAdams served the community in a variety of volunteer services.

Well's Park The park was dedicated in memory of John Wells SR. in 2005 Through grant funding a gazebo was built on the site for community use

and in corporation with the Fort Osage Vocational School, new flower beds were planted that attract a variety of butterfly's, The gazebo is used for several different events such as Concerts in the park, the Mayors Christmas tree lighting, and a back drop for senior pictures and prom pictures.

Heritage Center Is sponsored by the Friends of Sugar Creek. Through many hours of fundraising they have to offer a legacy of history for the community to last for generations. The building was the past site of Mattie's Drive in a local spot for people to enjoy a meal or just to socialize with friends, after they closed. The building was bought by B.P. Amaco and they housed there offices for many years and when they moved out they donated the building to the Friends of Sugar Creek. Roger Hooper and Jody Eaton, Both members and officers of the friends of Sugar Creek nonprofit group were crowned the King and Queen of the 1964 School Spring Carnival.

Gymnasium The gymnasium was opened in the winter of 1948 to become a site for the children of the school to have an indoor recreation area. Today the gym is still being used for a multitude of activities, from basketball, volleyball, senior walking, exercise classes, dance classes, and can be rented out for birthday party's or other events.

CCRC (Citizens Civic Relief Commission) During the depression years of the 1930's, Sugar Creek struggled like other communities across the country. An assistance organization, the Citizens Civic Relief Commission (CCRC) was formed to help residents who were out of work and in need of food or medical assistance. The organization is still active to this day.

John C. O'Renick Park

Former Mayor John C. Jack O'Renick worked to complete and obtain approval of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement during 1987. This environmental clearance allowed Jack to pursue federal funding which was obtained in 1991. The federal funds paid for the design and construction of the Sterling Ave Extension that will connect to Century Drive in the City of Kansas City in the future

The Roadway and Park improvements include a 9-11 Memorial within the park which features a steel beam from one of the two World Trade Center Towers that were perished on September 11, 2001. The beam was acquired by the City and delivered in June 2011.

The beam will take center stage at the memorial site with a scaled down replica of the towers. Four glass panels around the beam and towers represent the four flights lost that day. Two panels, on the north and south side of the memorial represent the two planes that crashed into the World Trade Center. The panel on the west represents the flight that crashed into the Pentagon and is closer to the Sugar Creek police and fire building and honors the men and women who serve our country. The panel on the east represents the flight that crashed into an open field in Somerset County, Penn., that was believed headed toward the White House.

O'Renick Park will serve as a trail head stop on a bike and pedestrian trail headed toward Berkley Park in Kansas City, Mo. The trail is along the corridor of the Lewis & Clark Expressway. The Lewis & Clark Expressway will eventually connect Kansas City, Sugar Creek and Independence from I-70 and I-435 near Front Street to Highway 291.

Mike Onka Memorial Hall on March 9th, 1966 The Sugar Creek Business and Professional Club spearheaded the project of the future site of the

community meeting place. This project would take them more than three years to build.

The community center was incomplete when Police Chief Mike D. Onka was killed in the line of duty on February 5, 1968. Onka's Death was a stimulus to community members to push the center to completion in June 1969 the Mike Onka Memorial Building was dedicated. The Building was equipped with kitchen facilities a large banquet hall and other amenities for community activities.

Tennis Court's Were built in the early 1970's as an addition to the Kaw field project. There's no better sport than tennis for making friends, staying fit and having fun! Whether you've played before or are just picking up the game, these courts are well maintained and lighted for evening enjoyment. They also have two basketball goals.

Kaw field Kaw field was built in the early 1970's. A variety of local teams have played on this field. It is now the home field of the semi-pro team the sugar creek shockers. The field also has a one-fifth mile walking track that encircles it.

Harrison Park The city acquired ten acres of land which were tax delinquent for \$333.33 as the city developed plans to extend the city limits to the east. Property was donated by Mrs. Ethel Harrison and was dedicated in June 1958 with other city-owned land as the William Henry Harrison Memorial park. William Henry Harrison was the Great Grandson of William Henry Harrison the 9th President of the United States.

LaBenite Park LaBenite park, is on the southern bank of the Missouri River just east of Missouri 291 Hwy. this park is under county jurisdiction used by the Missouri Department of Conservation. The latest addition to the park is a 1.7-mile trail. The trail was built with all volunteer labor and equipment. The trail begins in the east end of the paved parking area and continues through the Missouri Department of Conservation area all the way to the mouth of Mill Creek. Future expansion of the park is in the planning process. The park also has 8 primitive camp sites. On June 25, 1804, the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped on an island in the Missouri River opposite what is modern day Sugar Creek.

Wayne City Landing In the early 1800s, the area that is now Sugar Creek served as an important link in America's westward expansion. Known at the time as Wayne City Landing, the territory along the Missouri River served as a port to receive supplies for early pioneers. This was known as "The Jumping off place"

At the site right below the area is the Missouri river where the cargoes would unload from the steam boats and haul the supplies up the steep bluff to the top to be put in wagons and delivered to warehouses around the Independence Square. They would have to walk the trail from Wayne city landing to Independence leading a mule drawn wagon. People, goods and supplies would pass through this area bound for Oregon and California. They would have to travel through the site of the new Abraham Mallinson School to the Independence square.

Police & Fire Complex The police department works with the residents and businesses of our city with the goal of making our city a safe place to live the police department has 16 full time officers 11 part time officers, 9 dispatchers, 2 chaplains, and 1 court clerk. The fire department has full fire suppression capabilities along with Emergency Medical Technicians basic life support medical and full extrication capability's The fire department provides around the clock protection to all citizens. The fire department has 9 full time firefighters, 16 part time fire fighters and 15 with EMT training.

Sugar Creek Elementary School The school opened in 1956 as a state of the art school . The citizens of sugar creek voted to join the Kansas city School district in 1957 the school remained in the Kansas City district for more than 50 years until 2007 when a vote transferred them to the Independence school district. The Development of the New Abraham Mallinson School the Elementary school will now hold classes for grades Pre-K - 1st grade

braham Mallinson School

Eighty - eight year old John Mallinson says he had the opportunity to sell a piece of property in Sugar Creek off of Forest Avenue “innumerable” times. It wasn’t until the school district had spent a year searching for a viable property for an elementary school in the western part of the district, and approached him to see if this time he would be willing to sell, that he finally said yes.

He agreed because he knew his grandfather, Abraham Mallinson, would have approved of a school going on the property he’d purchased in 1867.

An early pioneer, Abraham Mallinson had always been a strong advocate of education.

John Mallinson says, “He knew the value of education, particularly for women. In those days, a woman having a profession was rare, but he made sure that each of his children, including four daughters, received a quality education.”

Those women all became teachers.

When Mallinson agreed to sell the property, he did so with one condition; the school to be built on the property would be named after his grandfather. He felt so strongly that he wrote it into the contract.

“He was my hero,” Mallinson says. “It would make him proud to know his name was on an elementary school.”

In the fall, Abraham Mallinson Elementary will open its doors in Sugar Creek, the newest school in the Independence School District. Abraham Mallinson’s name will continue to stand for education for many decades to come.

War Memorial Park In 1944, ground was purchased for a Memorial Park and local residents contributed \$1,600 for a monument to honor those residents who gave their lives in war. Left of the Memorial is a 155 MM Howitzer dated 1918. To the right, is open parkland. One proceeds along a concrete path, Obscuring the Memorial is an Island consisting of

landscaping and a lighted flagpole. The flagpole has the American flag, The Missouri State Flag, and MIA/POIW flags flying.