

Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • July 2022

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 Christine McGhee at 252-4400, ext. 1129 or visit Sugar Creek on the web at www.sugar-creek.mo.us

SUGAR CREEK ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor

Mike Larson

Aldermen

Robert Ray
Chuck Mikulich
Chris Steffen
Joi Hazelrigg

City Administrator

Patrick Casey

City Clerk

Christine McGhee

City Marshal

Christopher Soule

Fire Chief

Nathan Richardson

Finance Director

Keisha Guthrie

Building Official

Edward Cary

Parks and Recreation Program Director

Pam Burnham

Director of Public Works

Ben Hedrick

City Attorney

Jennifer Baird

Municipal Judge

Garry L. Helm

Municipal Court Admin

Peggy Doss

Prosecuting Attorney

Andrea Welch

Fireworks Display Moved To New Location

It's an annual tradition in Sugar Creek, but it has a new twist in 2022.

This year's Fourth of July fireworks display will be moved to LaBenite Park, off Missouri 291.

Pam Burnham, Parks and Recreation Program Director, said the display was changed because of construction happening at the old location.

"LaBenite Park has the acreage and parking capacity to accommodate the annual display," Burnham said.

The fireworks display has a large regional draw and is one of few displays that continued - even during COVID. In fact, that was the year Burnham witnessed her first Sugar Creek display.

"I have loved displays all my life and look forward to 'oohing' and 'aahing' over each explosion," Burnham said. "I was so thrilled to see such a grand fireworks display almost from my own backyard."

Police Chief Chris Soule reminded attendees access to LaBenite Park will only be accessible from north-bound 291. He said the crossing at Cement City Road will be closed.

There are two lots at LaBenite Park for guests to park, and Soule said there is plenty of grass area for them to sit and enjoy the show.

The police department, fire department and public works department work together to make the whole day a success. They start working in May to ensure the whole day runs smoothly for the public.

The festivities actually begin at 11:00 a.m. with the annual parade, and Soule suggested parade goers get to their parade locations early



before Sterling Ave. shuts down at 10:30 a.m.

Soule said he enjoys participating in the parade.

"I enjoy watching the joy on the kids' and their parents' faces during the parade," Soule said. "I always enjoy driving in the parade and seeing the current and past residents."

Following the parade, residents can enjoy the day at LaBenite Park - where families can grill, picnic or play on the new playground equipment. Burnham said the boat ramp will be open for fishermen and boaters. The traffic patterns from 291 will change around 5:30 p.m., and the easternmost part of the park will be closed off so Wald & Co can set up for the fireworks display. Burnham encourages guests to get

to their spots early.

Burnham is happy to help continue this important tradition for Sugar Creek. She said the community's dedication to traditions is one of the many things she enjoys about the community.

"Even when other local cities cancelled their fireworks displays during COVID, Sugar Creek continued their traditions with added precautions in place. That passion and loyalty to continue through a pandemic together and keep these traditions alive for its families and neighbors, speaks volumes for Sugar Creek. This year, with the display so close to the Missouri River, will absolutely be a spectacular sight."

The fireworks display will begin at dusk; around 9:00 p.m.

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR MIKE LARSON...

Council Meeting Minutes 5/9/2022

- The Mayor recognized Chuck and Sandy Mikulich for 52 years of wedded bliss.
- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Mr. Bill Haman leading in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call established a quorum with Alderman Steffen using Zoom to attend the meeting. The Consent Agenda was passed with three ayes and one abstention.
- In business from the floor, a resident asked about the possibility of a cornhole feature in one of our parks, a walking trail around the old Fairmount Lake, and if there is any interest in an off-leash dog park. The Aldermen took each question under advisement.
- Two ordinances were presented to the Board.
 - a) #4535 authorized payment for Kaw Field Concession Stand doors. Passed unanimously
 - b) #4536 approved a proposal for Kansas City CCTV to provide installation of security equipment for the Police and Fire building door system. Passed with 3 ayes.
- The Mayor acknowledged the efforts of four individuals that contributed to the success of the Ukrainian Fundraiser. Because of the efforts of all the dedicated individuals and countless volunteers, the event raised over \$30,000. The Mayor notified the Aldermen that an individual has expressed interest in purchasing one of the Centennial Banners. The Aldermen agreed to allow sale of the banners at a reasonable price.
- Alderman Mikulich asked about the possibility of putting a sewer bond issue on the August or November election.
- Alderwoman Hazelrigg thanked Chief Soule for the invitation to the Police Memorial Service. The Alderwoman asked about bids for the fence around the basketball courts on Hink. Mr. Hedrick said he has received three bids. Alderwoman Hazelrigg asked about adding a third

fireman on the busiest shifts. Chief Richardson said he was still working on that.

- Chief Soule is still working on staffing for the dispatch and police officers.
- Mrs. McGhee reminded everyone that City Offices will be closed Memorial Day, Monday, 5/30.
- Mrs. Guthrie stated that the Incode upgrade process is going smoothly with only a few minor difficulties.
- Mr. Hedrick listed the agenda for Public Work employees over the next couple of weeks and stated that ACE Pipe will begin work on the sanitary sewer very soon.
- Seeing no further business, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:31 p.m.

Council Meeting Minutes 5/23/2022

- The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with Alderman Steffen leading the assembly in the Pledge. Roll call established a quorum and the Consent Agenda was passed unanimously.
- In business from the floor, a Scout Leader from Troop 1282 asked for a rental fee of \$50 to use Mike Onka Hall for an August Court of Honor for Boy Scout Troop 1282. The Aldermen agreed unanimously to allow the \$50 rental fee.
- The Mayor recognized the Pintors for their 65th wedding anniversary.
- Three bills were presented to the Aldermen. All passed unanimously.
 - a) #4537 authorized the Finance Director to issue payment to Midwest Public Risk for Worker's Compensation Insurance.
 - b) #4538 authorized the Finance Director to issue payment to Midwest Public Risk for Property and Liability Insurance Contributions.
 - c) #4539 approved the bid and authorized payment to Core and Main LP for the purchase and replacement of fire hydrants in the City of Sugar Creek.
- The Mayor complimented Public

Works for their efforts to keep up with grass cutting during this rainy April and May. The Mayor asked for a study session to discuss a change to the length of time that building permits are effective. Another study session could be used to discuss rules for short-term rental units already in existence in the city.

- Alderwoman Hazelrigg asked about the possibility of a playground in the middle of the Community Park. She continues to hear about interest in an off-leash dog park. The use of a Survey Monkey was suggested to poll citizens.

- Alderman Ray asked for new playground equipment to be considered at McAdams Park.

- Mr. Casey wanted to thank Alderman Steffen and family for installing the Gazebo and picnic table at the new splash park.

- Chief Soule asked about approval of a contract to bring in new police officers. The request was tabled until next meeting.

- Chief Richardson said that a pre-build meeting for the new rescue truck will occur next week.

- Mr. Cary reported that the BZA approved the movement of the Central Bank sign due to the MODOT improvements at US 24 and Sterling.

- Mrs. McGhee reminded everyone that City Offices will be closed on Monday, 5/30.

- Mrs. Burnham stated that the water to the splash park will be turned on Friday, 5/27 at 10:00 a.m.

- Mr. Hedrick informed the Board that Public Works had received one application for summer help.

- In New Business, a suggestion was made to begin proceedings to demo a house on N. Willow.

- The Board voted to return to open session and seeing no further business, voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

TALL WEEDS ARE VIOLATION

The City has an ordinance against tall grass and weeds. If your yard has weeds or grass taller than 12 inches, and it is not cut within the allotted timeframe, the City will send a mower and a lien will be put on the property for the cost of mowing plus processing fee.



SUGAR CREEK SLAVIC FESTIVAL

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE 2022 SLAVIC FESTIVAL!

This year's event was amazing. It was the biggest yet, with more vendors and entertainment. We welcomed visitors from as far away as Texas, Minnesota, and Florida, and were even recognized by festivals in other states as **"THE OLDEST SLAVIC FEST IN THE U.S."**

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the sponsors and volunteers. Thanks to strong community support and participation, this year's festival was one of the best yet!

NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

Fire Department

FIRESIDE CHAT– What would the Fourth of July be without BBQs, family gatherings, and fireworks? In order to help keep this holiday enjoyable and safe, remember that fireworks need to be handled with care by adults who have not been indulging in alcohol and who have some experience in handling these types of explosives.

The City of Sugar Creek has one of the best shows around. If your family would like to enjoy the holiday in a safe fashion, please join us at LeBenite Park at dusk. Viewing public fireworks displays handled by professionals is the safest way to enjoy fireworks, and even then, it's important to keep a safe distance away.

But many Americans, including myself, enjoy celebrating our country's independence by having our own small family fireworks show. Many people consider fireworks to be harmless fun, when in fact they can be extremely dangerous, especially when used near children, handicapped and animals.

Every year, thousands of Americans end up in the ER with fireworks-related injuries, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Most injuries are burns, and nearly half of these incidents involve hands and fingers. Many of these injuries are to teens and children.

To ensure your family can remain out of the ER, please follow these tips from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission.

- Experienced adults should supervise the use of fireworks.
- Only buy fireworks from reputable vendors.
- Be sure to read fireworks labels and follow directions carefully.
- Keep a fire extinguisher, hose or bucket of water nearby.
- Light fireworks one at a time.
- Discard fireworks as advised by the manufacturer.
- Don't consume alcohol when using fireworks.
- Never light fireworks inside or near other objects.
- Do not stand over fireworks while lighting them
- Back up immediately after lighting fireworks
- Never point fireworks towards people.
- Never try to relight fireworks that fail to ignite.
- Do not wear loose clothing while using fireworks.
- Fireworks should never be set off in glass or metal containers.
- Never carry fireworks in pockets.
- In case of injury or fire call 9-1-1 immediately
- Young children should never use fireworks, including sparklers.

Although sparklers may seem safe, they carry hazards as well. A sparkler can burn at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is as hot as some blowtorches.

Stay Safe and enjoy celebrating responsibly!

— Captain Brandon Smith, Sugar Creek Fire Department

Public Works

2021 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT– The 2021 calendar year Consumer Confidence - Annual Water Quality Report for the City of Sugar Creek will **NOT** be mailed to each individual customer but is available online at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO1010773.pdf>.

A copy of the report can be requested at City Hall and the Public Works building. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made to provide safe drinking water. If there are any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact Public Works at (816) 252-4413.

NUMBER OF LANDFILL PERMITS– Residents are only allowed 4

loads to the landfill per year. A load is defined as the back of a pickup truck and having the trailer loaded. If you are doing home remodeling or demolition, please contact Public Works for special arrangements.

ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS– The City has been working with Republic Services on updating the ordering procedure and the cost of a large dumpster to place on your property. The cost to rent a large roll-off is now \$142.00 for a 7-day rental. Anything over 7 days will be charged an additional fee. Contact Taylor Stelling at 816-521-3110 to arrange payment, delivery, and pickup. Give them at least 24 hours to respond.

LANDFILL PERMITS– All residents must show proof their Sugar Creek utility billing is current and up to date when obtaining a landfill permit from the Public Works building. If you don't have your original, a copy of your current city utility bill can be obtained from City Hall.

STREETLIGHTS– Report a streetlight that is not working. Please have the approximate address of the pole. Call Public Works at 816-252-4413.

MOSQUITOS– Mosquitoes are an all-too familiar summer nuisance. They are not only annoying, but they also represent potential health hazards. There are positive steps that you can take to reduce this menace. Since many generations of mosquitoes can breed right in your yard, you can help eliminate the potential breeding grounds around your home. If there are any places around your property where water collects, such as water-holding containers, house drains, and ornamental ponds, check your yard and home for old tires, tin cans, bottles, jars, buckets, and other containers. Repair leaky pipes, outside faucets, clean clogged roof gutters and drain flat roofs.

CAR SHOW– The annual car show, "Cruisin' To The Creek," will be held on Friday, August 26, 2022. The cars will be staged in the old pool parking lot, 11007 E Kentucky Ave. Cars can begin to show up and register at 4 p.m. There is a small fee of \$10.00 per car. Cars will be on display until dusk. Prizes in different categories will receive gifts or trophies. If you would like to help, please contact Sue Mikula to be on the organizing team. **ALSO...** A Concert in the Park will also be held across the street at War Memorial Park on Kentucky Ave. More information will be in the next newsletter.

Parks & Recreation

WALKING CLUB– Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Gym. **No Walking Club on 7/4/2022.**

ZUMBA– Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Gym. Gym shoes only on gym floor and don't forget to bring water! Certified Instructor: Krystal Thompson. Register at krystalthompson300@msn.com. \$5 per class. **No Zumba on 7/4/2022.**

CHALK THE WALL WEEKEND– Friday to Sunday, 7/1 to 7/3, at Wells Park (Sterling Ave & Gill St.). Show your patriotism and artistic talents this 4th of July weekend by decorating the concrete wall in Wells Park just in time for our 4th of July Parade! Realizing this long-standing tradition should not be limited to just one evening, we are inviting you to include your visiting family in creating your masterpieces! The Parks & Rec department will have red, white and blue chalk sets for you to pick up at City Hall until 3:00 p.m. 7/1/2022 while supplies last! No fee.

4TH OF JULY PARADE & FIREWORKS DISPLAY– Monday, 7/4. Happy Birthday America! Head to Sterling Avenue by 11:00 a.m. to see the annual July 4th Parade! Then later in the evening, grab your lawn

— See "Sugar Creek Department News" on page 4

ANNUAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The Sugar Creek 4th of July Fireworks display will take place at LaBenite Park on July 4 starting at dusk (approximately 9:00 p.m.). Please note the change in location this year! The Police Department would like to share the traffic plan with the citizens prior to the event. LaBenite Park will only be accessible from northbound 291. The crossover at Cement City Road and 291 Highway will be closed prior to and after the fireworks display for the safety of all. Entry and exit to LaBenite Park will be Northbound 291 only.

When exiting, you will need to go north to 210 Highway, then return south on 291 Highway.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own chairs, blankets, and snacks.

SUGAR CREEK DEPARTMENT NEWS

■ *continued from page 3*

chairs and favorite snacks and find your seat early for the Sugar Creek Fireworks display at LaBenite Park! Watch for traffic pattern changes and parts of the park blocked off around 5:30 p.m. Fireworks will start approximately at 9:00 p.m.

MUSIC BINGO– Wednesday, 7/6, 6:30 p.m. at Mike Onka Hall. Music bingo is a fun spin on traditional bingo that allows players to listen to clips of favorite songs from the last 60+ years while marking off the titles on your card! 50 players maximum. Bingo prize donations welcome! Contact Pam Burnham at 816-252-4400 ext. 1137 or bring by City Hall. \$1 fee per player.

ZUMBA GOLD– Thursdays, 7/7 & 7/21, 10:30 a.m. at the Gym. Combines music, rhythms and “dancing in your seat” fun! Certified SilverSneakers Flex Instructor: Pam Burnham. Class size limited to 20 participants in chairs. Bleachers available for additional participant seating. \$3 per class (class fee waived if SilverSneakers participant).

COMMUNITY POTLUCK– Tuesday, 7/12, 12:00 p.m. at Mike Onka Hall. It may be hot outside, but it’s cool in the Hall! The Parks & Recreation Department will provide smoked chicken for this month’s potluck; you bring a side, dessert or \$5 donation.

FITNESS EQUIPMENT TRAINING & WORKOUT– By appointment only at the Gym. Call 816-252-4400 ext. 1137 to set up a time for Pam Burnham to meet with you and guide you through working out on our new fitness equipment! No fee.

EYE FOR TIE DYE– Wednesday, 7/13, 6:00 p.m. at Mike Onka Hall. This is a make-up class for the class in May that was cancelled! Explore different techniques of tie dye and create your coolest, summer shirt! You may bring your own garment instead! Registration is required with shirt size by 7/6/2022. Class size limited to 12 additional tie dyers as we already have 6 tie dyers that have registered and paid from the cancelled class in May. \$12 per person.

CHAIR CHI– Thursday, 7/14, 10:30 a.m. at the Gym. Chair Chi is a gentle exercise program performed in the comfort of a chair. Benefits

of Tai Chi or Chair Chi can include improved balance, flexibility, range of motion, strength, energy, pain relief and stress reduction. Certified Instructor: Pam Burnham. Class size limited to 20 participants in chairs. Bleachers available for additional participant seating. No fee.

DAYTRIPPERS: RIVER MARKET ROUNDTrip– Friday, 7/15, 10:00 a.m. It’s a Kansas City classic kind of day trip! We will ride the bus to the River Market, where you may enjoy shopping, touring the Steamboat Arabia Museum, and/or grab lunch, OR hop on the KC Streetcar and travel on to Union Station for lunch and the MAYA The Exhibition! Call Pam Burnham for ticket prices that can be individually purchased to the museum and the Union Station exhibit. Park at the Police Station to board the bus at 10:00 a.m. We will head back to Sugar Creek around 4:00 p.m. to avoid rush hour traffic. Bus seating limited to approximately 20 riders and registration is required. \$7 per person.

BOB ROSS OIL PAINTING CLASS– Saturday, 7/16, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Police Training Room. (Classes are every other month on the 3rd Saturday in the Police Training Room, 1001 Heroes Way, Sugar Creek, MO.) Join Bob Ross Certified Instructor Jean Libby, as she directs you how to create your very own “quiet place with happy clouds and trees”! Class size limited to 12 with minimum age painter of 12+. Call Jean Libby to register 816-836-2356 or 816-377-4536. \$40 (includes all supplies).

PARKS & REC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING– Tuesday, 7/19, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall

CONCERT IN THE PARK– Friday, 7/22, 7:00 p.m. at Wells Park (Sterling Ave & Gill St.). On the Fourth Friday each month through September, bring your lawn chairs and favorite snacks and enjoy music under the stars! The band for this month is Ted Luce & the Moneymakers. No fee.

DRUMMING 2 FITNESS– Thursday, 7/28, 10:30 a.m. at the Gym. Cardio drumming takes a simple movement – drumming – and turns it into a workout that will leave you smiling, energized and feeling great! Cardio drumming brings together drumsticks, an exercise ball (beach ball) and ball stand to create one of the most fun workouts you’ll ever do! Instructor: Pam Burnham. Class size limited to 24 participants unless you bring your own exercise ball, stand and drumsticks. No fee.



Summer time is pool time!

And pool time is fun time! If you are fortunate enough to have a pool for this summer, enjoy it to the ultimate! There can also be many hazards associated with swimming pools. For the safety of your family and guests, before making a pool purchase, or getting your pool ready for the season, please stop by Sugar Creek City Hall to pick up your copy of pool and fencing regulations and your pool permit. All swimming pools over 24 inches in depth require an annual pool permit.

NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Martell Will Be Missed

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Nikita Michael Martell of Sugar Creek, Missouri, who passed away on April 30, 2022, leaving to mourn family and friends.

He is survived by his mother Kristina Hampton, his siblings, Sascha and Melissa, and his niece Luna.



SUGAR CREEK PRESENTS

CONCERT IN THE PARK

4th Friday of the month Concert Series

music by:
**TED LUCE &
THE
MONEYMAKERS**

July 22, 2022
WELLS PARK
7-9PM

Free concert for the family!

Bring lawn chairs/blankets,
your own food and beverage,
then enjoy a great night
of free music!



CHALK THE WALL WEEKEND

Come decorate the wall at Wells Park!



July 1-3, 2022
WELLS Park
Sterling Ave & Gill ST

Pick up a free red, white
and blue chalk set at
City Hall
by 3:00pm July 1, 2022,
then gather the kinfolk
and create your family
masterpieces over the
weekend to celebrate
America's Birthday!



ALL AGES WELCOME

Sponsored by Sugar Creek Parks & Rec 816-252-4400 ext. 1137

**Sugar
Creek
MISSOURI**



At the library...

JULY 2022

■ PING PONG

The library is hosting ping pong for teens and adults on Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Come play ping pong! You bring your competition and we will provide the table and equipment. Come have some fun and bring a friend!

■ AFTER LUNCH BOOK GROUP

After Lunch Book Group is meeting in person once again! Participants may also join the group via zoom, if necessary, by visiting the Library website at KClibrary.org. The group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. This month's selection will be Lisa Wingate's *The Book of Lost Friends*.

■ PUZZLE TIME

The library is hosting Puzzle Time for adults on Wednesdays from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come in, relax, and help put together a jigsaw puzzle, or do several other types of word puzzles. If it is to get out of the heat of summer, maybe meet some new friends, or you just love puzzles, come in and enjoy yourself.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday Closed

GO SUGAR CREEK NEWS

"Go Sugar Creek" is a grassroots volunteer organization working to improve our community. Sugar Creek residents and business owners are encouraged to join our group.

WE ARE IN NEED OF PROJECT VOLUNTEERS!

For more information, please contact Bill Haman at 816-254-8935

RESIDENTS, PLEASE NOTE

UPCOMING CHANGES TO UTILITY BILLS

You will notice some changes to your Sugar Creek utility bill starting August 2022. The utility bill will have an updated look as well as some upgraded features available such as additional payment options. Stay tuned for more information!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
facebook.com/SugarCreekMO

Sweet Talk

July 2022 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

911
252-7058

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
					1 Republic Refuse & Yardwaste Pick-Up	2
3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY All City Offices Closed 11:00 a.m. 4th of July Parade Dusk – Fireworks Display Labentle Park	5	6 6:30 p.m. Music Bingo Mike Onka Hall	7	8	9 Republic Refuse & Yardwaste Pick-Up Due To Holiday
Chalk the Wall Weekend – Wells Park					Chalk the Wall Weekend – Wells Park	Chalk the Wall Weekend – Wells Park
10	11	12 12:00 p.m. Community Potluck Mike Onka Hall 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Building	13	14	15 Republic Refuse & Yardwaste Pick-Up 10:00 a.m. Daytrippers River Market Roundtrip	16 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Bob Ross Oil Painting Class Police Training Room
17	18	19	20	21	22 Republic Refuse & Yardwaste Pick-Up 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Concert in the Park – Wells Park	23
	Delinquent date for utilities	6:00 p.m. Parks & Rec Advisory Committee Meeting – City Hall				
24	25	26 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Municipal Court Police and Fire Building	27	28	29 Republic Refuse & Yardwaste Pick-Up	30
31				Past due notification date		
6:00 p.m. Council Meeting						