

# Sugar Creek Sweet Talk

Newsletter for Sugar Creek, Missouri • April 2011

**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](http://www.sugar-creek.mo.us)

## **SUGAR CREEK ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Mayor**  
Stanley J. Salva

**Aldermen**  
Dennis R. Onka  
Stanley J. Sagehorn  
Joseph D. Kenney  
Lorcan Doyle

**City Marshal**  
Herbert M. Soule

**City Administrator**  
Ron Martinovich

**City Clerk**  
Jana Olivarez-Dickerson

**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

## 'Smokin' In The Creek' To Be April 29-30

The Kid's Q is back for the eighth annual Smokin' in the Creek BBQ Cook-Off, set for Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30.

Hosted by the City of Sugar Creek and sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society, Smokin' in the Creek draws teams from near and far. It will be held at the Mike Onka Memorial Building starting at 4 p.m. Friday.

The Kids' Q is open to the public, said Sue Mikula, Public Works Administrative Assistant/Special Events Coordinator for the City of Sugar Creek. There will be two divisions; 6-10 year-olds and 11-15 year-olds. She said registration for the kids is \$10.

In the Kids' Q, the young contestants will be given ground pork to grill. Grills will be provided, but contestants can bring their own condiments. Grilling will begin at 5 p.m. Friday, with judging at 6:30 p.m.

For more information and to register – either kids or adult teams – call



Sue Mikula, 252-4413, extension 302, by April 22.

Once again, the adult winners of Smokin' in the Creek – which is a

state championship contest – will be automatically entered in the

— See "Smokin' In The Creek" on page 4

## Restoration Health Services Opens In City

Natural remedies, less trauma and cost efficiency are what patients will get from visits to see Dr. Evin Pearsall at Restoration Health Services.

The office opened in mid-February.

Pearsall said her office will handle patients of all ages, but believes about half her patients will be concerned about geriatric diseases and the stages of aging. She said she plans to communicate with their medical doctors to coordinate herbal remedies, diet, supplements and other treatment for what ails them.

Watching her parents and their issues with aging is what has inspired her to pursue this field of medicine.

After careers in the pharmaceutical industry and massage therapy, Pearsall, has earned a doctorate in chiropractic medicine from Cleveland Chiropractic College here in Kansas City. She is completing her last year as a chiropractic internist at National University of Health Sciences (Lombard, IL). Fortunately, these classes are held locally on weekends, allowing her to practice most days of the week.

"I want to bridge the gap between traditional medicine doctors and chiropractors. I do adjustments like other chiropractors, but I also prescribe natural rem-

— See "Health Services Opens" on page 4



*"The Mayor's Report on Sugar Creek is intended to communicate and inform the citizenry of current Council discussions and actions as well as reporting on recent and upcoming events and meetings that impact the City as well as the entire community. My intentions are to provide the best and most accurate information to all the people of Sugar Creek. This mayor would welcome any suggestions or comments on how to make this report even more valuable."*

— Mayor Stan Salva  
mayor@sugar-creek.mo.us

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS AND EVENTS:

- **Neighborhood improvement through removal of substandard housing**
- **Lafarge mine stabilization gets refinement**
- **New school announced for City**
- **Sugar Creek Shockers to help fund City's recreation programs**
- **Tribute paid to Mayor Charles Dumsky**
- **Delinquent water bills receive more attention**
- **Independence causes City sewer rates to increase**
- **Public Works again excels in winter street care**

# MAYOR'S REPORT ON SUGAR CREEK

## Study Session: February 14, 2011

1. Lafarge Semi-Annual Presentation – Steve Kidwell, Lafarge North America
2. Discussion pertaining to 353 Development Corporation – Oschner Hare and Hare
3. Discussion pertaining to Sewer Rates. Wilbur Smith and Associates.
4. Correspondence relating to BP remediation - Mayor

## Regular Council Meeting: February 14, 2011

1. Approval of the Optimist Club to sell fireworks from June 20, 2011 through July 4, 2011. A fee of \$500 will be assessed.
2. Mayor Salva presented an award to Charlotte Kenney for Student of the Month. She is a fourth grader at Nativity of Mary Catholic School and is active in her community. She is an altar server at St. Cyril Catholic Church and plays an instrument similar to a mandolin in the Sugar Creek Youth Tamburitians and also sings in the Youth Choir at her school.
3. Approved Ord. 3487 approving a Supplemental Agreement with Wilbur Smith Associates.
4. Approved Ord. 3488 rezoning a Tract of Land in the City of Sugar Creek, MO from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to C2-P (General Commercial-Planned).
5. Approved Ord. 3489 approving a reimbursement agreement with Northwest Community Development Corporation to provide for demolition of six (6) houses in the City of Sugar Creek. The City Administrator indicated that the City has been working with the Northwest CDC and the Sugar Creek CDC to demolish approximately 24 structures. Eighteen are located in Sugar Creek and the City owns six.
6. Approved Ord. 3490 granting a Special Use Permit to Lafarge North America, Inc. to engage in Mine Stabilization and setting forth the conditions for such use. First Reading Only. The Building Official had concerns because the cement kiln dust had been added which has a slightly different characteristic than fly ash.
7. Approved Ord. 3491 approving the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission Federal Aid Program Supplemental Agreement.
8. Approved Ord. 3492 authorizing the Finance Officer for the City to transfer from the Public Health Fund to the Sewer Fund for Sewer Engineering.
9. Approved Ord. 3493 approving an engagement agreement between the City and Cochran Head Vick & Co., P.C. to provide audit services for the City.
10. Approved Ord. 3494 approving the design agreement for the right-of-way and final design of the Sterling Avenue extension, grade separation and connection to Cement City road and the preliminary and right-of-way design from Front street to Sterling Avenue of the Lewis and Clark Expressway project between the City and Wilbur Smith Associates, Inc.
11. Heard Mayor's Report:
  - There was a discussion from the Sugar Creek Shockers about bringing some of their revenue stream into the Parks & Rec. Dept. for various programs. The organization is not currently incorporated and the City Attorney noted he would research and bring information back to the Board.
  - A resident asked about marketing the green house which has yearly floral sales. The City Administrator indicated that another school may take over and there will be more information to distribute soon.
  - Mayor Salva asked for a moment of silence because the City recently lost former Mayor Charles Dumsky an individual who gave a great deal to the City and community. No one loved Sugar Creek more than Charles Dumsky and a memorial is being discussed for the future.
  - Mayor Salva announced that a contract was signed on February 25 for the Independence School District to purchase property in Sugar Creek with a plan to begin construction in the spring for a new school which would open in the fall of 2013. The Mayor

believes it is a good move for the City and gives an opportunity for more residential development or another school. The present Sugar Creek school will be Kindergarten through second grade and the new school will be grade 3 through 5.

- Mayor Salva and the City Administrator recently traveled to Jefferson City to attend an MML Legislative Conference and in the evening there was a meeting and dinner with all of the legislators from Eastern Jackson County to discuss all of the issues of Eastern Jackson County. The next day they met with Representative Anders and Senator Victor Callahan to discuss issues that impact Sugar Creek.

### 12. Heard Aldermen's Reports:

- ONKA: was contacted today by Chief Soule about finding a location for the Independence bomb, fire insertion and SWAT teams; primarily somewhere where they can conduct their exercises in an interior area, not disturbing the exterior. There are boarded up structures on Carlisle that might be appropriate. Chief Soule noted that this has been done for several other organizations including the Sugar Creek Fire Dept. on previous occasions. These organizations also extend invitations to the Sugar Creek department to watch and learn their techniques. The City would not be financially liable and the Chief asked for a blank form which could be signed for approval. It was suggested that the neighbors be notified before these exercises begin.

- KENNEY: believes that the old Police and Fire Dept. needs to be used since it is empty during the week.

13. The City Administrator reviewed franchise fees and noted that most of them range from 3-10%. Time Warner has offered a \$1.00 per lineal foot which would be \$4,255.00, and \$250.00 for administrative fees. He recommended to the Board that the administrative fee be \$1,200 and that the Board advises that the fee for lineal foot would not exceed \$4.00 and has asked for schedules. Also, Comcast may provide the service because they have fiber in the vicinity. Mayor Salva suggested creating a list and what the Board believes should be charged and present to Time Warner for their review. The other item discussed was NB7 representing T-Mobile about redoing the cell tower lease on Vermont. He and the City Attorney have reviewed which lengthens the time frame and adds ten years to the city lease and reduces the lease rate downward. The rate that is charged now and the schedule in place are significantly higher than what is being paid for these towers although they are expensive to install. The current lease is for five years, and expires in 2015. He asked for the Board's authority to renegotiate.

14. The Court Clerk contacted the Chief because there are concerns that there are individuals who have Independence water and Sugar Creek sewer facilities and do not pay their bills. They are being brought into court and being fined but the violation still continues. The Chief does not know if the customer can be compelled to pay the sewer bill so guidance is being asked. The current fine is \$75.00, \$51.50 for the city's portion, \$24.50 to the state but if they do not pay, they must return and some of the residents are absentee. If they are jailed, the city absorbs the cost of \$30.00 a day. The City Attorney noted that an agreement was attempted with Independence for shutting off the water if the sewer bill was not paid but he believes their demands are unacceptable. Sugar Creek pays the water bill to Independence while the water is shut off and there are currently 34 utilities unpaid at this time. The Mayor believes this is a small amount compared with the total number but he will discuss with the Independence Mayor and City Manager because he believes there needs to be an agreement whereby Independence will turn off the water if the sewer bill isn't paid. Alderman Sagehorn asked if this would become a health issue and could force the resident out of the house if the sewer service is cut off and the customer does not pay their sewer bill? Chief Soule believes the City has a successful method to deal with the problem for those with Sugar Creek water which compels the resident to pay because they cannot continue to live in the residence and asked the City Attorney if a solution similar can be found for the sewer problem.

15. The cost of snow removal was presented and the City is \$6,000 over budget at this time including labor and materials. This has

# MAYOR'S CITY REPORT

■ *continued from page 2*

been an extremely heavy snow year but Alderman Sagehorn commended Public Works for the good job they have done.

## Study Session: February 28, 2011

1. Presentation pertaining to a Sugar Creek Community Center.
2. Sugar Creek Shockers presentation on partnering with Parks and Recreation.

## Regular Council Meeting: February 28, 2011

1. Two new police officers were sworn in by Mayor Salva, Reserve Officer Felicia Hakes and Full Time Officer Aaron Stone. Officer Hakes has been an officer in Blue Springs and Gladstone. Officer Stone graduated from the academy and has a military background.
2. Approved Ord. 3495 amending Section 16-9 of the Code of Ordinances by adopting the International Property Maintenance Code, 2009 Edition. The Building Official noted that the language in the 2009 Property Maintenance Code is almost exactly as it was in 2003 and 2006. It is the basis for property inspections and he would like a better system of cross reference for enforcement so he is asking for an update to the Code.
3. Approved Ord. 3496 authorizing the City to increase sewer charges for residential and commercial/industrial users in the City. The City Administrator noted that there was a presentation at the last meeting concerning the three basic components that make up the sewer rates, the city's administrative cost, and the cost of treatment and a regulatory fee recently approved by the City of Independence. These charges are being passed on to us by the City of Independence. The recommendation is based on a fee structure that has not yet been formalized by the City of Independence with the exception of the 2011 rate. Alderman Onka suggested sending a notice to customers concerning the increase and the City Treasurer suggested an insert to the monthly utility bill as well as an article in the monthly newsletter.
4. Approved Ord. 3497 a Real Estate Agreement between the City and Andrea Welch and John Jarvis, authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement completion of the conveyance.
5. Heard Aldermen's Reports:
  - ONKA: commended Public Works on their recent snow removal. The Public Works Director noted that approximately four businesses have difficulty during these snow days and the department will attempt to assist with snow removal with a Bobcat after the streets are cleared. Also, there is enough salt in storage at this time.
  - SAGEHORN: asked about taking a tour of the City and it was decided by the Board that one would be scheduled as soon as one could be arranged.
6. The City Administrator reported there were several outstanding issues after the highway design was recently approved for Wilbur Smith & Associates but most issues have been resolved; therefore MODOT has approved the contract which is now in the office of the Federal Highway Dept. There will be a Supplemental amendment to make changes regarding the reporting of the Geo technical activity. The Independence School District foundation is working to implement improvements in the local ball park. The City Administrator was recently contacted by the Foundation about selling advertising for the park to generate additional funds. He asked the Board's direction for signage and noted that there will be an agreement soon. Also, there are changes anticipated in services that might be available from the Post Office. Since CVS Drugstores sell stamps, he asked the Board if the City could sell them if there was no cost to the City.
7. The City Clerk reported that several weeks ago, Captain Hodges met with the staff at City Hall to discuss security at the building for plans to renovate. It will not cost the city money from the General Fund and will be taken from MPR funding for safety. Alderman Onka noted that many stores and museums have security cameras at their entrances. Captain Hodges asked the Board if plans for city hall security renovation should be brought to the Board for their review and the Mayor believes it could be discussed at the next Study Session.
8. The City of Independence sent the Public Works Director a request to appraise a well at LaBenite Park. Karen Kelly was the representative that came to the meeting to answer questions. Alderman Sagehorn asked about the well in the old farmhouse on the premises but it was noted it has been closed because there was a risk of contaminating the aquifer.
9. The Finance Officer is still exploring the credit card options that may be paid online but a fee will be charged to the City. Also, the water reading device that was recently stolen will be replaced costing approximately \$4,500.

# NEWS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

## Public Works

**The first large item pick up will begin April 4** – It normally takes 5 to 7 days to cover the entire city so please be patient with our crew. Generally, the first month is very heavy so it usually takes a few extra days.

Refuse must be out by 7:00 a.m. on April 4, but not more than 72 hours prior to that time.

Yard waste should be placed in Kraft paper bags or containers and should not be mixed with refuse. Large branches/limbs must be at the curb.

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".

**Yardwaste Pickup** – On April 7, Public Works will begin the yard waste collection. Place yard waste out by 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning but no earlier than 24 hours. Limbs and branches with 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 weigh over 65 lbs. You can also use paper bags that can be purchased at most hardware stores. For more information, please contact the Department of Public Works at 252-4413.

**Landfill permits** – Remember a Landfill Permit is issued for the day it is going to be used. Please bring your Sugar Creek utility bill to Public Works when obtaining a permit. The bill must be current and up to date.

**Courtney Ridge Landfill** – Courtney Ridge Landfill will be open Saturdays after major holidays in 2011. **Memorial Day, June 4; Independence Day, July 9; Labor Day September 10; Thanksgiving Day, November 26; Christmas Day, December 31; New Years Day, January 7, 2012**

**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."

## Summary of Police Department activity for February 2011

### INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED

- 4 Assault
- 1 Burglary
- 7 Larceny/stealing
- 6 Vandalism/destruction Of Property
- 3 Stolen/recovered Autos
- 8 Disturbance
- 2 Intrusion Alarms (Business/residential)
- 7 Vehicular Accidents

1 Crime Involving Juvenile

### ARREST

- 7 Felony Arrest
- 3 Felony Warrants Cleared
- 64 Misdemeanor Arrest
- 69 Misdemeanor Warrants Cleared
- 4 Drug Possession
- 65 Traffic Violations
- 50 General Ordinance Summons



## SMOKIN' IN THE CREEK

■ *continued from page 1*

American Royal Barbecue in October.

Mikula said there are four divisions in the barbecue contest: chicken, pork ribs, brisket and pork shoulder. Local teams are welcome and there is a hometown division.

The Grand Champion from last year's contest, KC Can Crew, is returning for competition, said Mikula. Other teams come from as far away as Oklahoma, Nebraska and Iowa.

Though attendees to Smokin' in the Creek cannot taste any of the registered teams' cooking – that is the job of the judges the next day – there will be a number of food booths offering barbecue and that which goes with it for sale on Friday.

Friday night at 8 p.m. there will be a free concert featuring Southbound. Members of the band are home-grown, Sugar Creek residents. They play a mixture of country and old time rock and roll.



## HEALTH SERVICES OPENS

■ *continued from page 1*

edics for many problems that MDs treat with drugs or surgery. It is never too early to plan for healthy aging and never too late to make changes that improve your quality of life," said Pearsall.

Pearsall also is a graduate of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill., with a bachelor's degree in chemistry specializing in biochemistry and forensic chemistry. She interned with the Illinois State Police forensic crime laboratory in trace and drug chemistry, as well as body fluid analysis.

Pearsall is a retired amateur boxing champion. In 2001 she was ranked fourth in the nation as a USA Boxing female heavyweight. She also holds advanced certificates in several martial arts including Kung Fu, Muay Thai boxing and Filipino Kali.

She is also an accomplished soprano who enjoys singing at home, in church and most often in the car.

"It is hard to get angry in traffic when my heart and mouth are filled with song."

Pearsall, who currently lives in Gladstone, is engaged to middle school science teacher and published songwriter Gregg Eddins. He is in his final year of study at the University of Missouri-Columbia where he is earning a doctorate in education and leadership. A beachside wedding is planned at the completion of their studies. They plan to establish a home in Sugar Creek.

The office is located at 100 S. Sterling. Call 254-4624 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

## News and Notes from the Sugar Creek Elementary PTA

Happy Spring to all our staff, students, families and community members!

PTA elections for our 2011-2012 officers were held March 8th. Our new officers are as follows: President, RaShel Adams; Treasurer, Rhonda Smith; Membership, Tammy Shields and Reflections, Angie Hattey. We still need to fill the offices of Vice-President and Secretary.

Not interested in an officer position but would still like to participate in PTA? We have several committees that we need help with as well. We need people to help with Field Day, Fundraising, Hospitality, Holiday Store, Walk-a-thon and Membership. If you have any questions, please contact the school or our PTA President at rashel.adams@gmail.com.

The PTA would like to thank Brian Zevecke for clearing snow several times in the school parking lot to ensure the safety of our parent pick-up children.

We would also like to thank Angela Zevecke for her dedication to our Box Tops program. The PTA has made more than \$500 in Box Tops during the 2010-2011 school year and we could not have done it without her help.

We owe another thank you to our Membership Director, Tammy Shields. Tammy's dedication to PTA Membership has been amazing. We have more individual and business members than we have ever had before!

April is a busy and important month for our third, fourth and fifth grade students. MAP (Missouri Assessment

Program) Testing starts April 4th and will run until April 21st. Make sure your students are getting plenty of rest and starting the day with a healthy breakfast. The testing is stressful for the students so doing these simple things will help them have a good day.

Sugar Creek PTA would like to invite staff, students, families and the Sugar Creek Community to our first Family Bingo Night on April 8th from 6-8 PM. Join us for a fun family night of bingo, concessions and awesome raffle prizes!

PTA School of Information will be held at Pioneer Ridge from 6-8 PM on March 7th. April 13th from 5-9 PM is Sonic Night. April 18th the PTA Board will meet from 4-5:30 PM.

There is a School District Town Hall meeting on April 21st at Bingham Middle School at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. No classes on April 22nd and April 25th due to the Easter Holiday. The winners of Reflections will be awarded on April 26th in the Nowlin Middle School auditorium at 7 PM. April 26th is also kindergarten enrollment from 8 AM to 6 PM. Please call the office at 816-521-5460 to schedule an enrollment time.

Don't forget, it is never too late to become a PTA member and support your children and your school. Individual memberships are only \$5 and business memberships are \$20. Thank you so much for your continued support and remember involved families = successful kids!

## City Sewer Rates To Increase

On February 28, 2011 the Board of Aldermen unanimously approved an increase in the sewer rates that will take effect with the bill that is mailed at the end of April 2011.

The City sanitary sewer rates have not increased since October 2007. The sanitary sewer rate increase is primarily due to the cost increase charged to the City of Sugar Creek by the City of Independence for treatment of wastewater. The Independence rate increase combined with the cost of providing service exceeding revenue for several years caused the City to engage Wilbur Smith and As-

sociates to complete a sewer rate study for the city. Based on the rate study the city adopted the following rates.

After the change in April of 2011 the rates will change on the bill that is mailed at the end October each year.

The \$3.00 monthly sewer regulatory compliance base charge will continue to be billed as a separate charge on your utility bill. This charge is being billed to City of Sugar Creek, by the City of Independence for each sewer customer.

The complete rate chart will be included with your utility bill and is available at City Hall upon request.

# Sweet Talk

## April 2011 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-no.us/City\\_News.html](http://www.sugar-creek-no.us/City_News.html)

911  
252-7058

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
						1 2 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Craft Fair 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Walnut & Liberty Independence
3	4 Refuse Route 1	5 Refuse Route 2 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION 12:00 noon - Red Hat Sugar Mamas	6 Refuse Route 3	7 Yardwaste Pickup	8	9 Women's Self Defense Class Sugar Creek Gym
10	11 Refuse Route 1 6:00 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	12 Refuse Route 2 12:00 noon - Community Potluck 6:30 p.m. Municipal Court Sugar Creek City Hall	13 Refuse Route 3 Travel Show Presentation	14 Yardwaste Pickup 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting	15	16
17	18 Refuse Route 1 T-Ball Registration Sugar Creek Gymnasium <i>Delinquent date for utilities</i>	19 Refuse Route 2	20 Refuse Route 3 New Dinner Theatre	21 Yardwaste Pickup	22 GOOD FRIDAY EARTH DAY	23 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Optimist Easter Egg Hunt Harrison Park
24 EASTER	25 Refuse Route 1 6:00 p.m. Study Session 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	26 Refuse Route 2 6:30 p.m. Municipal Court Sugar Creek City Hall	27 Refuse Route 3	28 Yardwaste Pickup <i>Past due notification date</i>	29	30

# Smokin' In The Creek BBQ Cook-Off

## April 29 & 30, 2011

### Sugar Creek, Missouri

Free Concert  
8:00 p.m.

**FEATURING**  
**SOUTHBOUND**  
**SUGAR CREEK'S**  
**HOMETOWN MUSICIANS**

**Mike Onka**  
**Memorial Building**  
**11520 Putnam**  
**Sugar Creek MO**



**8th Annual**  
**State Championship**  
**BBQ Cook-off**



Shuttle Parking starts 5:00 p.m.  
Sterling Ave and Evans  
Watch for signs.

For more information please call;  
Sue Mikula 816-252-4413 ext. 302  
[smikula@sugar-creek.mo.us](mailto:smikula@sugar-creek.mo.us)



# National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, April 10-16, 2011

For the past thirty years, Public Safety Agencies nationwide have recognized the pivotal role played by telecommunicators, dispatchers, communications operators, radio control personnel, ALL those people, by whatever job title, who utilize telephones, radios, computers and technical skill to provide support to Law Enforcement, Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services and other governmental field personnel.

Each year, the second week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators. In 1991, Congress proclaimed it as a nationally recognized week of recognition.

The Sugar Creek Communications Center celebrates this year's National Telecommunicators Week (April 10-16) in honor of their dedicated dispatchers who handle several thousand wireless 9-1-1 calls each year.

They dispatch officers and coordinate with outside agencies for other law enforcement, fire services, and emergency medical services response to the needs of the public in emergencies and on a routine basis.

Throughout the week small gifts of appreciation will be given to express appreciation for all the dispatchers who work around the clock, all year long, to support their officers in the field and help keep the public safe. Most of these gifts and other gift certificates were generously donated by local businesses. Some of the dispatchers will also be attending the 14th Annual Telecommunicators Appreciation Celebration on Friday, April 15 at the Adams Pointe Conference Center in Blue Springs. This event is put on by Mid-America Regional Council and honors over 600 telecommunicators in the Kansas City region.

When you dial 9-1-1 on your cellular phone in the Sugar Creek/Independence/River Bend area, please know where you are and stay on the line so they can help get the assistance you need! Remember 9-1-1 is for emergencies only.

### **Facts About the Sugar Creek Communications Center**

Employees: 6 full-time dispatchers (1 is a supervisor) and 2 reserve dispatchers

Average length of service for full-time dispatchers: 7.5 years  
9-1-1 calls received in 2010: 4774

## RIVERS OF LIVING WATER CHURCH

215 N. Sterling Ave., Sugar Creek,  
Pastor Larry Kuhl 816-716-8755

*"Rivers of Living Water" welcomes you to come worship with us in celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord. It is a time of renewal, new beginnings, and hope only that comes from what Jesus did for us on the cross. On Easter Sunday we will have a Easter Brunch during our Sunday School hour at 9:30 a.m. & then our worship service at 10:45 a.m.*



*At the library...*  
APRIL 2011

### ■ computer classes

**Working with Pictures** – Tuesday, April 5 and Thursday, May 5 at 11:00 a.m.

Have a question about your digital camera or how to put pictures on your computer? This class can show you the step by step process for uploading, organizing, and storing your photographs.

**Computer Basics**– Tuesday, April 12 and Thursday, May 12 at 11:00 a.m. Learn more about getting around on your computer in this class, which offers insights into hardware and software components.

**E-mail Basics** Tuesday, April 19 and Thursday, May 19 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.

**Computer Media Basics**– Tuesday, April 26 and Thursday, May 26 at 11:00 a.m. Expand your computer knowledge basics with this class which will teach you the basics of using media on your computer. Come and experiment with music, pictures, videos. This beginning class will introduce you to basic media concepts.

### ■ crafts

**Quilting for the People**– Saturdays, April 2, 16, and 30 at 11:00 a.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.

### ■ teen activities

**Teen Creek Book Club**– Wednesday, April 27 at 5:00 p.m. Join us for our monthly book club meeting and bring any book that you have read recently! We have free snacks, and copies of the book are available at the desk. Don't miss out on our Galley Reader discussions! Your opinion + time = FREE BOOKS. See Megan for details.

**Super Smash Brother Brawl**– Thursday, April 28 and 5:00 p.m. This month and every month battle your friends around the system in our Super Smash Brothers Brawl Tournament. Play each other or play online!

### ■ events

**Adult Winter Reading Party**– Friday, April 1 and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Did you participate in the 2011 Adult Winter Reading Program? Join us on Friday April 1st at the Trails West Branch of the Kansas City Public Library for a celebration of your efforts. Refreshments provided.



**Sugar Creek Branch Library**

**102 S. Sterling Avenue**

**Sugar Creek, MO 64054 | 816.701.3489**

**Hours of Operation:**

**12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday**

**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday – Sunday**



# Sweet Talk



Sugar Creek City Hall  
103 South Sterling Ave.  
Sugar Creek, MO 64054



## Why Not Go On A ‘Slavacation’ This Summer?

High gas prices have you grounded? The 26th annual Slavic Festival is set to sweep you away to faraway lands, June 10th and 11th. And it’s all right here in Sugar Creek.

Headlining the entertainment at the 2011 Slavic Festival is Grammy award nominee Alex Meixner. The Florida-based artist has won over audiences throughout North America with high-energy performances that cover everything from old time polkas and waltzes to jazz and pop. Meixner will perform both Friday and Saturday, and will be joined on Friday by Polka Hall of Fame member, Don Lipovac. Also featured will be local favorites the Sugar Creek Tamburitzans, Kolo Kids and Ethnic Dance Troupe - plus groups from across the metro area.

Beyond music and dance, festival visitors can feast on Slavic meals including sarma, haluski kapusta, rozniijici, kielbasa, povitica, strudel, kolache, nut horns and other traditional American foods. There’s even an exhibit of Slavic artifacts to browse and a Kids Zone for youngsters.

As festival organizer Debbie Ray explains, visitors get much more than they bargain for. “People are shocked at how much they learn just from coming to the festival. We make sure to highlight all that makes Slavic culture unique while providing enough entertainment to make the whole experience worth coming back to year after year.” As this is the 26th year in a row for this local celebration, it’s safe to say Ray and her team have the formula figured out.

Another benefit of staying focused on the Slavic culture is the unique niche the festival holds in the crowded local event schedule. The financial success of the festival has made a major impact on Sugar Creek with more than \$180,000 donated to community projects over the years by the Slavic Festival’s Fair & Festival Board.

The Slavic Festival is held on the Mike Onka Memorial Building grounds, 11520 East Putnam, in Sugar Creek, Missouri. Dates and hours are 5:00 to 11:30 p.m. on Friday, June 10th and 3:00 to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, June

11th. Admission is \$3.00 for adults. For more information, visit [www.slavicfest.com](http://www.slavicfest.com).

### Dance Practice Begins May 2nd

Want to join in the fun? Dance practice for the Sugar Creek Ethnic Dance Troupe and Kolo Kids will begin on Monday, May 2nd at the Sugar Creek Gym. Practice for children ages 3 and up will begin at 6:15 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 work out. 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. To volunteer, please call Rosemary Dotson at (816) 461-7806. Also, make sure to watch for the weeklong kitchen food preparation schedule in next month’s Sweet Talk.