

AUGUST 2016

O A K C R E E K

# CURRENT

M A G A Z I N E

**WELCOME TO A NEW  
SCHOOL YEAR**

Forest Ridge Becomes City's  
7th Elementary School

**NEW CITY PARKS**

**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

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### ON THE COVER

Forest Ridge Elementary School opens its doors for the new school year as the City's 7th elementary school (see pg. 4).

## CURRENT

M A G A Z I N E

The **Oak Creek Current** is the official magazine of the City of Oak Creek. The **Current** is published four times per year by the City of Oak Creek and the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, with additional financial support from MATC-Oak Creek campus, Wispark LLC, WiRED Properties and Barrett Lo Visionary Development. The magazine also receives funding from local advertisers.

This publication is guided by a professional advisory committee comprised of representatives from the City of Oak Creek, the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, City residents and business owners. Please email all inquiries/suggestions to [info@oakcreekmagazine.com](mailto:info@oakcreekmagazine.com).

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## Message from School Superintendent Dr. Tim Culver: Welcome Back!

These words have double meaning. For everyone, welcome back to the second edition of the *Oak Creek Current* and an opportunity to learn more about this amazing community. For our children and families, welcome back to the new school year starting September 6. In both cases, enjoy the sense of anticipation as you experience something new.



There is an old saying that it takes an entire village to raise a child. I believe this is true. We are fortunate to be part of a community that values and supports families and children in so many ways. Not just great schools (I may be a bit biased on this point). Other elements of Oak Creek that make this a great place to live, raise a

family, and grow up or grow a business are:

- Powerful plans for economic development
- A forward thinking institution of higher learning in our midst
- Visionary community leaders
- Strong faith communities
- Dynamic civic organizations, such as the Community Center, service clubs and youth sports leagues
- A widespread sense of community connection and pride

All of these elements are vital to the success of our community's children; and our children's success is our community's future.

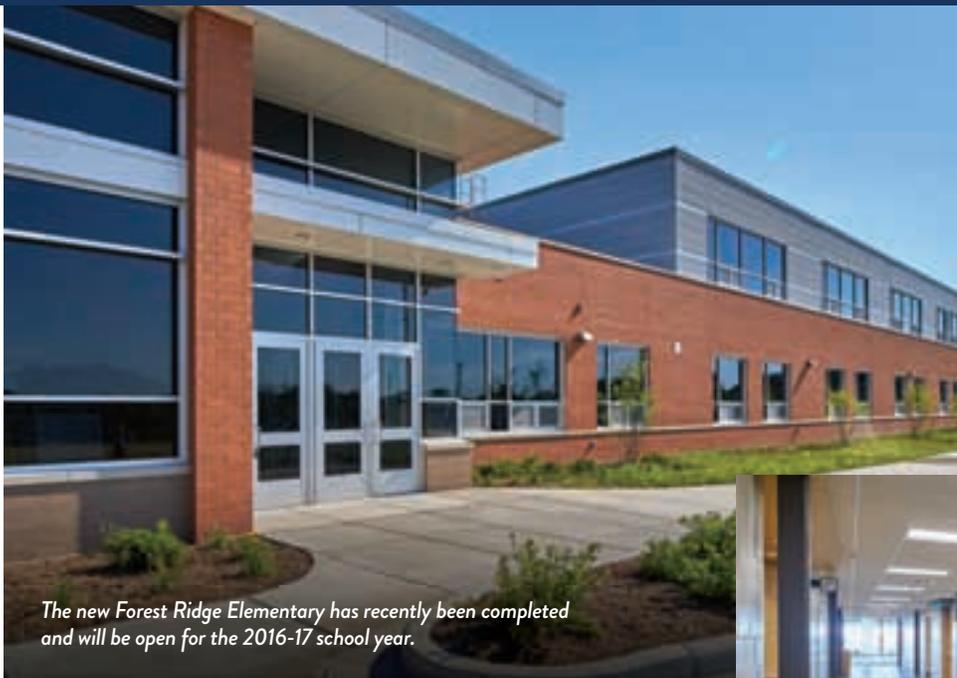
I was attracted to come here a year ago by these things and over the course of this year, I've learned so much more about how truly committed Oak Creek is to being a thriving community where success for all is possible.

I hope you learn more by reading the stories of some of the amazing things happening in Oak Creek. I know I learned a lot in the last edition and I hope you have this enjoyable experience, too.

Happy new (school) year. Please stay in touch!

**Dr. Tim Culver, Superintendent****Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District**

**Oak Creek-Franklin  
Joint School District**  
BUILDING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES TOGETHER



*The new Forest Ridge Elementary has recently been completed and will be open for the 2016-17 school year.*



# FOREST RIDGE BECOMES CITY'S 7th ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Final preparations are underway as Forest Ridge Elementary prepares to welcome students for the 2016-2017 school year! "The staff and I are very excited to not just start a new school year but to open up a brand new school," says Ed Mittag, principal of Forest

Ridge Elementary. The new school, located at Drexel Ave. and 20th St., will be the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District's seventh elementary school.

Forest Ridge Elementary School was designed with input from a visionary team of individuals consisting of elementary teachers from throughout the District and District administrators. This group worked with the architectural team to inform and shape the way the new school will serve students today – and in the future. The school building is organized into "neighborhoods," grouping similar grade level classrooms around multipurpose, flexible learning spaces for small and large group collaboration.

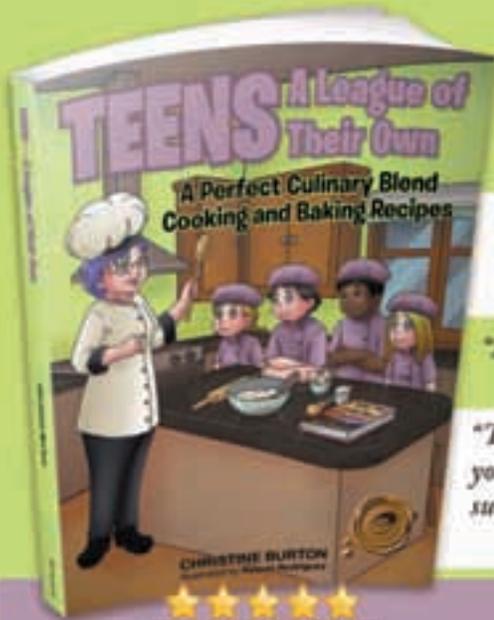
The design theme, a tree changing throughout the seasons, emphasizes the school's identity as Forest Ridge. Each neighborhood represents a season: winter, spring, summer and fall. The design is

enhanced by color and theme, with forest graphics on the corridor walls. The media center is perched high in the tree canopy and has leaves floating overhead to help the students feel like they are among the trees in the forest. By using elements from nature to inspire the design, the school building itself becomes a fun, playful and educational environment that will allow students to thrive!

The 80,817-square-foot, two-story elementary school is designed to serve 500 students in grades 4K-5. The plan allows for three classrooms per grade level. Grade levels are grouped together to form three individual learning neighborhoods. Additional flexible spaces are incorporated in the neighborhood design to accommodate collaboration and to create opportunities for future growth. A gym with one main basketball court and two secondary basketball hoops will be provided. A dedicated cafeteria area will be served by the existing high school in the form of a warming kitchen.

Site design includes the separation of parent and bus traffic, as well as on-site visitor and staff parking. Hard and soft playground areas will be included for both older and younger children.

We look forward to celebrating the opening of this handsome new school!



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—Amazon Review by Kat K



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Christine Burton, born and raised in Southeastern Wisconsin, is an Oak Creek resident with a doctorate degree in naturopathy. While assisting students in grades K-12 she became aware of the students' needs to cook and bake and helped them to achieve higher levels of culinary knowledge.



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Photography by John O'Hara.



## HIGH SCHOOLERS BUILD HOUSE FROM GROUND UP



*Members of the Knight Construction class that built the 2015-16 home.*



What started out as an empty plot of land is now a completed residential home ready for another family to join the Oak Creek community. During the 2015-2016 school year, high school students enrolled in the Knight Construction program built this home from the ground up. Knight Construction is a course offered at Oak Creek High School where students can earn two credits while gaining exposure to various types of trades and learning applicable job skills that will prepare them for a career in the construction industry.

"I wasn't sure which trade I wanted to pursue prior to enrolling in the Knight Construction program. This program allowed me to find my calling in life and gave me the confidence in myself to go and do it," says Justin Torzala, a 2016 OCHS graduate who is now working as an electrical pre-apprentice through Local 494, and is employed at a local electric company.

Throughout the construction process, the students worked hand-in-hand with a variety of local vendors and craftsmen, getting hands-on experience with everything from shingling, plumbing and electrical, to HVAC, drywall and painting. "The outpouring of support Knight Construction has received from the community is

far beyond anything I could have imagined. We are truly grateful for the community's support and for all of the contractors who generously gave their time to work to with our students," says Matt Lonergan, the program leader and technology and engineering teacher at Oak Creek High School.

Aside from the actual construction of the home, the Knight Construction students also completed First Aid/CPR training, OSHA-10, Asbestos training, Forklift training, Lead Safe Renovator training, CDL training and Flagging training, giving the students an even greater head start to a successful future. Several of the Knight Construction students plan on pursuing careers in the trades after graduation. "I would highly recommend the program to other students who know that college isn't for them. The program could help them discover something that they love doing, and that they can make a living doing," Torzala continues.

The 1,700 sq. ft. ranch style home was completed in May and was sold over the summer. "The students gained an incredible amount of experience and are very proud of their work. Knight Construction is an excellent example of the unique opportunities available to the students at Oak Creek High School," Lonergan continues.

The Knight Construction program will continue in the new school year. The 2016-2017 house will be built on East Ash Court in Oak Creek.



Greeting guests at the Open House.



Showing off the details of the newly built home.



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# WELCOME TO THE NEW 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Message from Dr. Tim Culver, OCFJSD Superintendent

T

he Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District will begin the new school year with some highly visible and very important changes to better serve our communities' children. Perhaps most visible is the opening of Forest Ridge Elementary School (see article on page 4). This is fulfillment of the promise made to the electors who voted in 2014 to fund this building designed to serve up to 500 students, thereby reducing the severe overcrowding of our other six elementary schools in our growing communities. This project was completed on time and under budget, and on August 29 will be officially dedicated to serve this communities' children for the next century. In 2017, we look forward to also saying this about our new 9th grade center presently under construction at the corner of Puetz and Howell.

Less visible initially, but with the very important purpose of driving improvements in our children's learning, and therefore affecting our future, is our new strategic plan.

It starts with this renewed mission statement, our purpose and work with children:

**Working together to engage, challenge and inspire every student every day.**

- We engage our students with exceptional learning experiences and caring support.
- We challenge our students to set and achieve ever higher goals.
- We inspire our students to think critically, collaborate, communicate and create.

The desired result of this work has been refocused in this way – our new vision statement:

## **Building Successful Futures Together**

- Every student graduates prepared to excel at his/her school or career of choice with academic skills, as well as the ability to effectively communicate, collaborate, create and think critically.
- Every student graduates with necessary civic, global and digital skills capable of participating safely, ethically and productively in a profoundly different future.

In pursuit of this vision, we are setting goals and focusing on continuous improvement, aiming to transform a very good school district to greatness. This summer we have been creating District Improvement Plans, Department Improvement Plans, and School Improvement Plans aligned with the new vision and goals. We are beginning an ambitious journey to increase student achievement and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our schools. Stay tuned.

You will notice that in both new statements the word together is featured. This is because we believe education must be a partnership among the community, parents, students and school personnel. Students and schools are only successful with the support of all members of a community. It takes more than a village; it takes whole communities to educate our children. We need everyone involved. After all, it isn't just their tomorrows that are at stake – it's ours, as well.

We thank our families, students, staff, businesses, partners and the entire community for their continued support. That is how successful futures are built.

Sincerely,  
Tim Culver-Superintendent



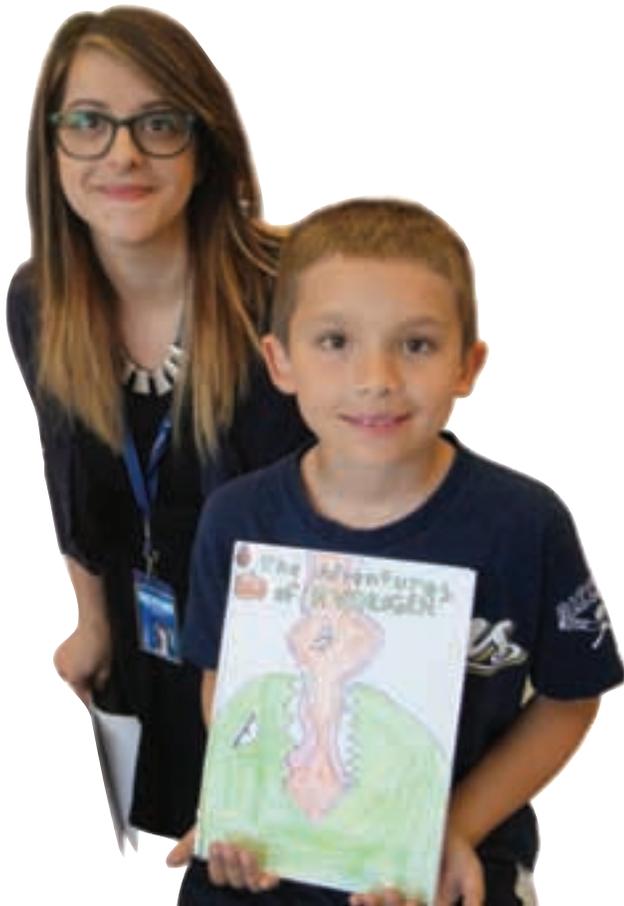
## STUDENTS AND STAFF MAKE THEIR MARK ON THE 9th GRADE CENTER

Students and families of the Class of 2021 and Oak Creek High School staff signed one of the steel beams for the 9th Grade Center. Members of the School Board, Representative Rodriguez and Alderman Guzikowski also took part in the celebration and signed the beam.

## STAY CONNECTED

There are a variety of ways community members can stay in touch with Oak Creek-Franklin public schools:

- Visit the District website: [ocfsd.org](http://ocfsd.org)
- “Like” us on Facebook at [facebook.com/ocfsd](https://facebook.com/ocfsd)
- “Follow” us on Twitter @OCFSD
- Visit the District blog Knight Vision at [knightvisionocfjds.blogspot.com](http://knightvisionocfjds.blogspot.com)



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# STAY FIT, HAVE FUN THIS FALL

## OCFJSD OFFERS A VARIETY OF YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Check out our FALL 2016 YOUTH PROGRAMS catalog at [ocfsd.org](http://ocfsd.org).



Fall is a great time to set goals for a new season. If your goal includes learning to swim, getting fit, helping your child learn to swim or refine his/her swimming skills, OC Aquatics is here to help. The Oak Creek High School pool hosts the high school Swim and Dive teams as well as community programs offered through OC Aquatics. Fall program registration opens September 1 with lessons beginning the week of September 19.

Swimming for Safety is designed for beginning swimmers and includes parent and child classes as well as leveled swimming. Group and Recreational Swim Club has been developed for swimmers wanting to build their skills moving into competitive swim opportunities. Teen and Adult Learn to Swim and Lap Swim offerings will now be complemented by "Aqua Fit" offered Saturday mornings from 8-9 a.m.

Open Swim is offered Saturdays 1-3 p.m. beginning September 10. OC Aquatics also offers Birthday Parties on Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. Families interested in hosting their next birthday party at the pool should contact the Youth Programs Office for reservation details.

Mark your calendars for a new family offering this December. "DIVE IN Movie & Family Nights" will be held on Wednesday, December 14 and Wednesday, December 21, 6:30-9 p.m. in the high school pool. These free events are designed to float away

holiday stress and allow you to jump in to family fun. All Aquatic patrons are asked to enter door #21 on the east side of the high school.

Interested in more information on any of these offerings? Look for the Fall 2016 Youth Programs catalog available at each school in the District, the Oak Creek Community Center, City Hall and the Oak Creek-Franklin School District Office. Check us out online at [ocfsd.org](http://ocfsd.org), then select "Youth Programs" for more information.





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Girl Scouts Career Day



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Girl Scouts participated in the first CampHERO in July.



Milwaukee Area Technical College is committed to working with area residents to help them discover their career passion. With more than 200 associate degree, technical diploma, certificate and apprenticeship offerings, the state's largest technical college offers multiple paths to success and satisfaction.

MATC is uniquely positioned to connect students with careers in industries that drive the economic prosperity of southeastern Wisconsin. Through practical, hands-on education, MATC prepares graduates for "middle-skill jobs," which require more than a high school diploma but not a four-year degree. The National Skills Coalition projects 51% of Wisconsin's job openings from 2010-2020 will require middle skills. Middle-skill jobs are recognized as vital to a thriving regional and national economy.

Each associate degree and technical diploma program has an Advisory Committee, comprised of local industry representatives, which helps ensure MATC's curriculum prepares graduates to successfully enter the workforce. The college also works closely with business leaders to forecast emerging industry trends, further ensuring that the college's graduates are well educated and career

ready. MATC also offers programs for incumbent workers to upgrade their skills through customized training, coordinated by the College's Workforce Solutions Office.

The college's Pathways Project is a series of integrated programs and services designed to develop students' core academic, technical and employability skills. Relationships with area school districts, particularly those in southern Milwaukee County, have been strengthened and the number of high school articulation agreements, through which high school students earn college credits, has increased.

To prepare today's middle and high school students for the jobs of tomorrow, MATC faculty and staff host a number of opportunities for young people to explore careers. The college has forged a close relationship with the Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast, resulting in the annual Career Day, at which Girl Scouts learned about nontraditional careers for women, including firefighting, carpentry, automotive technology and welding. In July 2016, MATC, the Girl Scouts and the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission collaborated on the region's first CampHERO, where young women received hands-on experience in protective services careers.

The Heavy Metal Tour is an annual opportunity for high school students to learn about manufacturing careers. A joint effort with



High schoolers participate in the annual Heavy Metal Tour.



Girl Scouts participate in CampHERO.

## Visit [matc.edu](http://matc.edu)



Dr. Mark Felsheim



**MATC Oak Creek Campus Facts**  
**6665 S. Howell Ave. • 414-571-4500 • [matc.edu](http://matc.edu)**  
**Dr. Mark Felsheim, Vice President**

- 91% of associate degree graduates are employed within six months after graduation and earn an average annual salary of \$36,890.
- 86% of technical diploma graduates are employed within six months after graduation and earn an average annual salary of \$31,350.
- 92% of MATC graduates live and work in Wisconsin, most in the greater Milwaukee area.

the South Suburban Chamber of Commerce and local employers, the event provides background on the education and training needed for local in-demand, high-growth careers.

More than 700 juniors from Greendale, Greenfield and Whitnall High Schools visited the Oak Creek Campus last February and participated in a wide variety of practical career exploration activities. Members of the MATC recruitment team joined Oak Creek Campus faculty and staff to discuss fast-growing industry sectors that have opportunities for career advancement.

Are you or someone you know looking to learn about careers that are in-demand in Milwaukee and Wisconsin? Call MATC and we'll schedule a campus visit for you and talk about how we can help you meet your educational and career goals!

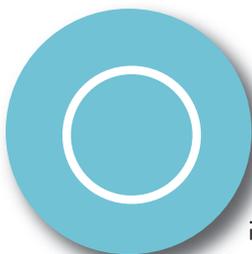


Left: MATC students participated in Oak Creek's 4th of July parade.

Lake Vista Park offers spectacular views of Lake Michigan.



# NEW OAK CREEK PARKS OFFER MORE RECREATIONAL OPTIONS



Oak Creek is redefining what community is all about. We've added a significant amount of public green space, providing new recreational opportunities for our residents.

In the last issue of the *Oak Creek Current*, we introduced you to Emerald Preserve, Oak Creek's newest park. We are also excited to show

our residents two areas that historically did not have public access, until now. Adding to the great mix of regional and community parks, like Bender and Miller, we're building a new City park on our lakefront – Lake Vista Park – and we've rededicated Mardeand Park, located in our OakView Business Park.



## LAKE VISTA PARK

We've begun the process of providing public access to the land along the top of the bluffs on the eastern edge of Oak

Creek along Lake Michigan, which has been closed off to the public for more than 80 years. Many of the companies that were located there in the past have recently worked with city, state and federal agencies to clean up these polluted properties, and in the next few years the 5th Avenue extension will make Lake Vista Park more accessible to everyone.

This park will feature all kinds of activities for young and old, with

a newly opened lake drive leading to spectacular views of Lake Michigan. Proposed for the park are open play fields, walking trails, several overlook points and a public shelter. Two playgrounds geared toward different age groups are also planned for the park – both featuring innovative play equipment. Each of the playground areas will have musical instruments tuned to work in harmony when played together, and different age-appropriate climbing structures. All climbing structures will be on a rubberized surface that mimics the pattern of a river with sandbanks. A nature playground may be added in the future.

Lake Vista Park will have large natural areas with native plantings rather than traditional mowed turf grass, reducing maintenance costs. In addition to providing habitat, food and nesting places for birds and butterflies, the native plant roots will go deep into the ground, so the natural prairies can survive drought and other extreme weather conditions. These deep roots will also allow rainwater to infiltrate into the soil more easily, helping to replenish groundwater. The plants can thrive under a variety of conditions without requiring irrigation or manual watering to bloom and flourish.

## MARDEAND PARK

Mardeand Park, a public park donated to the City in 1982 by Dr. and Mrs. Frederick





A new road winds through Lake Vista Park.

Hofmeister, is now part of the OakView Business Park on the south side of the City. Mardeand Park's unique name is derived from MARvin DEan ArsAND — the name of the Oak Creek resident who formerly owned the land and used it for cattle farming. Until recently, access to this beautiful natural area was extremely limited.

With the addition of the OakView Business Park infrastructure, including the construction of an Oak Leaf Trail bike path connection, this park is now easily accessible to the public. As originally established, Mardeand Park will be left mostly in its natural state, with the addition of a maintained open area at the front of the park, containing picnic tables for public use. In the future, a natural path will be added to allow easier access to the wooded areas of the park. Mardeand Park will remain a handsome place for Oak Creek residents to enjoy the beauty of nature!

*Emerald Preserve in Drexel Town Square was featured in the June issue of the Oak Creek Current magazine.*



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Mayor Steve Scaffidi with retiring Oak Creek Police Chief John Edwards.

## OAK CREEK POLICE CHIEF RETIRES AFTER 31 YEARS

P

olice Chief John Edwards retired as Chief of Oak Creek Police on Friday, July 22, in a ceremony at the Oak Creek Community Center. His career, which spanned 31 years serving the City of Oak Creek, began on March 25, 1985, when he was sworn in as an officer. He had served as Police Chief since his appointment in February of 2011, and led the agency during the response and recovery from the Sikh Temple shooting in August of 2012.

Some of his significant achievements include a 1989 commendation for heroism for his actions taken after being shot by an escaped bank robber from Indianapolis, Ind. Chief Edwards pursued the subject and his accomplice until other officers arrived and the suspects were apprehended. After recovering from his injuries, he returned to the department, receiving the Distinguished Service award from the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers Association.

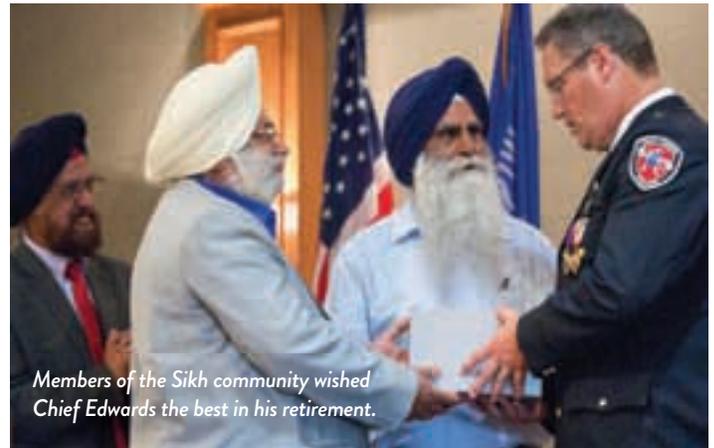
He also received numerous letters of commendation during his career, and was one of the founding members of the Oak Creek Police Department Emergency Response Unit (ERU-SWAT) as an operator and team leader. Additionally, he received the Award of Excellence for his outstanding leadership during the Sikh Temple shooting. His ability to work effectively with the families of the victims of the shooting and his willingness to bring the greater community together has been seen as a national example for community-oriented policing. The wounding of Lieutenant Brian Murphy had a profound impact on the Department, and Chief Edwards skillfully handled the aftermath, bringing his department and the community closer together.

In a letter sent to the Chief honoring him on his retirement day, President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle expressed their personal thanks for his service to our City and our nation.

“Through acts of everyday selflessness and in moments of extraordinary tragedy, you have been driven by a profound commitment to those around you. The spirit that has guided you, of shared purpose and shared sacrifice – borne out of a dedication to making our Nation’s promise real in the lives of all – reflects the resilience and grace of the Oak Creek community and our country. Your example reminds us that we find that strength by coming

together as one people and seeing ourselves in one another,” they wrote.

Chief Edwards’ commitment to emergency response training is one of several reasons why the Oak Creek Police Department is considered one of the leading police organizations in the state and country. He successfully advocated for a full-time training officer within the department, which has saved the police department significant dollars in overtime costs.



Members of the Sikh community wished Chief Edwards the best in his retirement.

Chief Edwards’ leadership has set an example for police departments around the country. His communication skills, his commitment to training, and his tremendous organizational expertise have set the course for the department many years into the future. As Chief Edwards reflected on his career at his retirement ceremony, he addressed his staff for the final time, offering them his words of advice.

“Leadership you cannot find in a book. You cannot go to the library, pull out a book and say, ‘I’m going to be a leader like this.’ Leadership finds you. It finds you over your career, and it’s all based on what you do . . . which is why I always say, ‘Work hard and you can’t be ignored.’ That is my edict.”

In a final tribute to their retiring Chief, the Oak Creek police officers in attendance honored him with a final salute, a tradition for all retiring Oak Creek police personnel. We wish Chief Edwards the very best in the years ahead as he begins a new chapter in his life.

# CITY HIGHLIGHTS



## Oak Creek's Local Military Heroes Honored

The City of Oak Creek is proud to recognize the brave men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces through its new Military Banner Program. Located around the public square, these banners are designed to encourage our community to honor the military personnel that call Oak Creek their hometown. The banners display the official military photo of the service person, as well as his/her name, rank and branch.

Banners will be on display until Labor Day when they'll be taken down and presented to the honorees or their families by Mayor Scaffidi at the Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony.

If you or a family member would like to be considered for next year's banner program, please download an application at [oakcreekwi.org/militarybanner](http://oakcreekwi.org/militarybanner), or contact City Clerk Catherine Roeske at (414) 766-7023 for more information.

## City Meetings Now Live Streamed

Oak Creek Common Council and Plan Commission meetings are now streamed live on the City website at [oakcreekwi.org/live](http://oakcreekwi.org/live).

The live stream is available when the meetings are in open session. After the meeting, the live stream will go offline. However, archived meetings will appear in the Government TV section of the City's website the following day.

Meeting agendas and minutes of current and past meetings are also available for download on the website.

## Citizen Request for Action

Have you noticed a street light that's out? Or a sidewalk in need of some repair?

The City recently launched Citizen's Request for Action (CRA) as a new tool for residents to request a number of City services. This online application is easy to use, and allows the resident to track the progress of his/her request.

Please visit [oakcreekwi.org/cra-request](http://oakcreekwi.org/cra-request) to create a request for service. Any questions or comments regarding the CRA may be emailed directly to Ted Johnson-Director of Streets, Parks & Forestry, at [tejohnson@oakcreekwi.org](mailto:tejohnson@oakcreekwi.org).

## Looking for the Perfect Oak Creek Holiday Tree

The City of Oak Creek is now accepting nominations for the 2016 holiday tree to be placed in the new Town Square. Residents and property owners – both business and private – are welcome to submit nominations through October 31.

To be eligible, a tree must exhibit the following characteristics:

- 20- to 35-foot tall evergreen
- Be clear of any utility lines or other interfering safety concerns
- Be generally accessible for large equipment
- Have a pleasing form: uniformly branched, free of deadwood and generally healthy

Trees will be judged and selected by the City Forestry Division. The tree chosen for this year's holiday display will be cut down by Forestry staff.

Residents wishing to nominate a tree can contact City Forestry directly at (414) 570-5685 or [rlane@oakcreekwi.org](mailto:rlane@oakcreekwi.org). Emailed photographs of the tree and surrounding landscape are welcomed.

## New Splash Pad Promotes Summer Fun

The Drexel Town Square mixed-use development boasts a little something for everyone – including children! In June, just in time for the summer heat, the City opened a splash pad on the west side of the Town Square, much to the delight of families in Oak Creek. This fun community amenity is open seasonally from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. When not splashing around, visitors can enjoy seating areas around the perimeter of the splash pad, and get out of the sun with the newly installed shade structures.





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*This colorful locomotive stands at the entrance to the Youth Services Department of the Oak Creek Public Library.*

## READING RAILROAD WELCOMES GUESTS TO OAK CREEK LIBRARY

One of the first things you'll notice when you visit the Oak Creek Public Library is the large locomotive marking the entrance to the Youth Services Department. At 48-feet long, this colorful train is difficult to miss!

The train is composed of an engine, boxcar and caboose and includes built-in bookshelves, a 50" digital display and two self-service computers for patrons to check out their own library materials. Patrons of all ages can interact with the three train cars; imagining themselves as train engineers, walking through the boxcar or cozying up with a good book in the caboose.

Milwaukee's Flux Design took the design concepts of Oak Creek residents Ryan Lampe and Matt Lininger, and created the interactive Reading Railroad. Flux Design was also responsible for the design and fabrication of the unique industrial-style details of Oak Creek's Water Street Brewery. The locomotive was manufactured in their shop and assembled in the Library over the course of several days in May. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held by Library staff in June to celebrate the installation.

The idea for this unique gateway to the children's area came early in the design process for the new Library, when the

community requested that a signature art piece be included in the new space. After touring other area libraries, the building committee knew that they wanted something unique, but cohesive with the rest of the Library. Drawing from the new Civic Center's proximity to the airport, Interstate, railroad and Lake Michigan, a travel theme was selected for the Youth Services Department, and the idea for a functional, interactive Reading Railroad soon followed.

"Travel captured our imagination, because with books you can go anywhere. You can explore planet earth, venture to the depths of the ocean, travel in outer space, travel back or forward in time," says building committee member and former Oak Creek Fire Chief Jerry Hammernik.

Oak Creek Library Director Jill Lininger explains how the idea moved forward from there. "After coming up with a basic concept, we searched not only Wisconsin, but the United States looking for an artist or designer that could bring our ideas to life. As it turns out, the talent that we needed was right here in Oak Creek."

Jill's husband, Matt, an engineer by trade, sketched out the rough design for the locomotive. Building committee member Ryan Lampe used his engineering and architectural background to turn that concept into a three-dimensional model, which Flux



An original sketch of the Reading Railroad was first drawn up before creating a 3-D model.

Design brought to life. According to Flux Design’s Design/Build Specialist Mira Rychner, “It’s awesome to work on a project that highlights learning and promotes community involvement, especially with children.”

Now located next to the grand spiral staircase, the rail cars provide a natural entryway to the children’s library, without physically separating it from the open floor plan, just as the committee had envisioned.

Visitors to the Library, both children and adults, love the addition of the train. Jerry Hammernik sums it up perfectly, “Now when any child enters the Library, he or she sees a train that is a gateway to a world of adventure and a lifetime of learning.”

Visit the Library soon and discover Oak Creek’s very own Reading Railroad yourself!

**LIBRARY HOURS: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. • Sunday Closed**

*Top left inset photo: Flux Design staff Mira Rychner works on the train wheels prior to installation. Flux Design of Milwaukee was founded by MIAD graduate Jeremy Shamrowicz. The firm has worked on more than 100 bars and restaurants throughout the Midwest, including Water Street Brewery, as well other corporate projects for SnapOn Tools, GE Medical, MasterLock and others.*



SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2016



## 2016 Greater Milwaukee Fire & Police Expo

The Milwaukee Area Technical College-South Campus will host the 2016 Greater Milwaukee Fire & Police Expo on Saturday, September 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at its South Campus, 6665 S. Howell Ave. in Oak Creek. This free expo, open to the public, will feature antique and modern fire trucks, demonstrations, a flea market for vendors, fire truck rides, law enforcement displays, and food/beverages for sale.

A special ceremony will be held commemorating the 15th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks and honoring those firefighters, law enforcement officers and first responders that died that day.

Don’t miss this family-friendly event – and be sure to bring your cameras!

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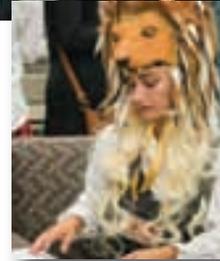
# HOGWARTS REUNION AT OAK CREEK LIBRARY



It was “wands at the ready” for the 155 participants of the July 30 Hogwarts’ Reunion at the Oak Creek Public Library. Harry Potter aficionados from throughout the Milwaukee area came together to celebrate “The Boy Who Lived” and the release of the eighth book in the Harry Potter series.

The evening was filled with tarot card readings, trivia, crafts, baking demonstrations, a video booth, plenty of tasty treats and much more. The evening’s entertainment was donated by local vendors and run with the help of more than two dozen volunteers.

Proceeds from ticket sales and donations benefit the Oak Creek Public Library Foundation. For more information about the Foundation or to make a donation visit [supportoclub.org](http://supportoclub.org).



For us, making the world a more beautiful place starts right at home.



Stay tuned, as PPG's COLORFUL COMMUNITIES™ team works with local volunteers to preserve and revitalize a local landmark. Through this project we are proud to help The American Legion Post 434 ensure that the hall will help create future memories for our community for years to come.





Oak Creek's Recreation Department offers an abundance of trips and classes for the 50+ population.



# OAK CREEK RECREATION DEPARTMENT TAILORS PROGRAMS TO THOSE 50+



As our City continues to grow, the Oak Creek Recreation Department is constantly welcoming new citizens to its programs. We strive to meet the recreational needs of our new community members. Plus, we continue to offer quality programming for those who have lived in the

community for many years, and continue to contribute to the Oak Creek experience well into their adulthood and retirement.

In an effort to serve the social, intellectual and fitness needs of these community members, Oak Creek Recreation would like to highlight the various programs that are especially tailored to our 50+ population.

One of the privileges of being a member of the 50+ community is the freedom to enjoy social activities. The City offers various recreational programs that allow our participants to actively engage with others. From gardening clubs, card socials and trips to casinos, theatres and riverwalks, Oak Creek Recreation encourages its 50+ community to not only enjoy each other's company, but also the sights, attractions, history and outdoor events of Oak Creek, the greater Milwaukee area and beyond. Come join us for luncheons, day and night trips, plays, cruises and more, as the Oak Creek 50+ community enjoys a day in the sun or night out on the town.

*“From Yoga and Tai Chi to Zumba and strength training, Oak Creek Recreation offers the community multiple ways to get fit, stay in shape and have fun – all at the same time!”*

Oak Creek Recreation also strives to provide more than leisure activities. In an effort to enhance the lives of our 50+ community, Oak Creek Recreation offers classes to help develop and stimulate the creative and cognitive aspects of life. Through our programs, one can learn how to blow glass, paint, sculpt and create jewelry. If designing and creating are not for you, Oak Creek Recreation shares resources with other City departments to offer classes that specifically develop skill sets such as computing, photography and healthcare.

While relaxation and recreation are enjoyable, Oak Creek Recreation recognizes the need to develop the whole person through its programming. After their minds have been enriched and entertained, the City's 50+ community members also have the opportunity to take programs that focus on the body, providing opportunities to strengthen their lives through physical activity and exercise. From Yoga and Tai Chi to Zumba and strength training, Oak Creek Recreation offers its community multiple ways to get fit, stay in shape and have fun – all at the same time! Whether one chooses to dance, lift or strike a pose, Oak Creek Recreation has a class that will allow its community to stay healthy and fit.

Fall, winter, spring, or summer . . . whether you are a new or lifetime 50+ resident of Oak Creek, the City's Recreation Department has a program that will get you out of your seat and out on the town!



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: EDER FLAG MANUFACTURING COMPANY PROUDLY MADE IN AMERICA



Eder Flag Manufacturing Company on Rawson Avenue is not only the largest manufacturer of flags and flagpoles in the U.S., but is also one of Oak Creek's oldest businesses with a history dating back more than 100 years. Founded as Eder Manufacturing Co. in 1887 by seven brothers

from the Eder family, the company originally produced pillows, felt pennants, rag dolls and hunting jackets.

These humble beginnings served as a springboard for the flag-making business which was launched and incorporated in 1903. During the Great Depression, a small staff of highly skilled sewers at Eder Flag began to handcraft U.S. flags, working in a plant filled with yards and yards of hand-cut red, white and blue cotton and silk material.

Over time, as Eder Flag added to its product line with many different types of flags, flagpoles and accessories, the company built its reputation as a provider of quality materials, superior craftsmanship and excellent customer service. Along the

way, Morris Eder, one of the seven original founders, shared his passion for the flag-making business with his son, Eugene. Not surprisingly, it was Eugene who acquired Eder Flag Manufacturing Co. in 1957 after he had served a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy on the USS Bronstein during World War II, and earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He proudly led the growing business for more than 50 years. In 1979, the company moved from Downtown Milwaukee to Oak Creek.

Even though Eugene Eder's business practices were quiet and unassuming, his personality was larger than life. This helped him to attract and grow a solid, long-tenured team of dedicated employees. It was – and still is today – not uncommon for employees to stay with the company for 15, 20 and sometimes even 30 years.

The Oak Creek facility eventually grew to capacity, and led to expansion to neighboring warehouses and production facilities. A distribution center in Orlando, Florida, was added to better serve customers in the southeast.

Chief Operating Officer Jodi Goglio points out how Eder purchased surrounding land in Oak Creek in order to expand, and

how he “always treated staff with the utmost respect, recognizing the value of every employee, no matter what their position.”

“Mr. Eder was a visionary,” Goglio says. “He was always thinking ahead for ways to grow the company, while still maintaining its quality standards.”

Indeed, Eder Flag Manufacturing Company has stood the test of time for more than three generations. In 2008 when Eugene Eder passed away, the company was left in a trust, now managed by Goglio and Chief Financial Officer Tim Ksobiech. Goglio has worked for the



*Welding a flagpole in the Oak Creek plant.*



company for more than 28 years (starting in the office in high school).

Today, Eder Flag serves more than five thousand wholesale customers and sells more than 20,000 different products. According to Goglio, Eder Flag's staff is comprised of a wide cross section of ethnic diversity. "We're proud to hire people from many ethnic backgrounds, and there are currently seven languages spoken in our plant including Spanish, Serbian, Albanian and Hmong," she explains. "Our employees are the lifeblood of the organization and we work together as a team to produce the very best possible products," Goglio adds. The company continually recognizes its staff in a number of ways, including Employee Appreciation Days that are held several times a year. Staff receive a complimentary lunch, enjoy entertainment and raffle prizes, and this year receive an afternoon off work with pay.

Aside from the manufacturing of U.S. flags, Eder Flag also manufactures military flags, religious flags, state flags, college/ university flags, and celebratory and specialty flags. The company also produces flags for other countries throughout the world and offers a variety of accessories, including brackets, flagpole holders, lapel pins, decals and embroidered patches.

"If you ask anyone in America where they want their U.S. flag produced, they will say the "United States, of course," Goglio states with a smile.

Eder Flag has been headquartered in Oak Creek for almost 40 years, and plans to keep it that way. "We settled our roots in Oak Creek in the late 1970s and absolutely love it here," explains Goglio. "Mr. Eder strategically chose this location with company and community growth in mind, including easy access to the highway, a safe and beautiful community, a pool of hardworking individuals that apply for positions, and local government and businesses with whom to build positive, long-term relationships."

"I cannot overstate how proud we are to continue Mr. Eder's legacy," she shares. "It is an honor to continue to weave rich history into our future while advancing the company."

Thanks to Eder Flag Manufacturing for its long-term commitment to the City of Oak Creek. To purchase an Eder-manufactured flag or flagpole, please visit The Flag Center at 7020 S. 13th St. in Oak Creek (414-856-0040).

**Eder Flag Manufacturing Company, Inc.**  
1000 W. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek  
414-764-3522 • [ederflag.com](http://ederflag.com)

*Chief Executive Officer Jodi Goglio (right) chats with an Eder Flag employee in the company's Oak Creek manufacturing plant.*



## REMEMBER THE GRAND OLD FLAG

### Did You Know?

During this very important election year, as well as the year in which we commemorate the 15th anniversary of the tragic September 11 events, we thought it appropriate to spotlight not only Eder Flag's history, but the history of the flag itself:

**June 14, 1777:** The Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act stating, "Resolved, that the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation." In 1949, President Harry S. Truman officially named June 14 Flag Day in commemoration of this event.

**June 24, 1912:** For the first time, flags became standardized with specific proportions and the arrangement of the stars into six rows of eight each according to an executive order from President Taft.

**August 21, 1959:** An executive order from President Eisenhower resulted in the stars being arranged in nine rows staggered horizontally and 11 rows staggered vertically.

*Visit the Eder Flag Manufacturing Company's website to learn more about flag etiquette, including how to display the flag and how to dispose of worn flags.*



# FORGE & FLARE BLENDS HISTORIC SITE WITH CONTEMPORARY URBAN LIVING



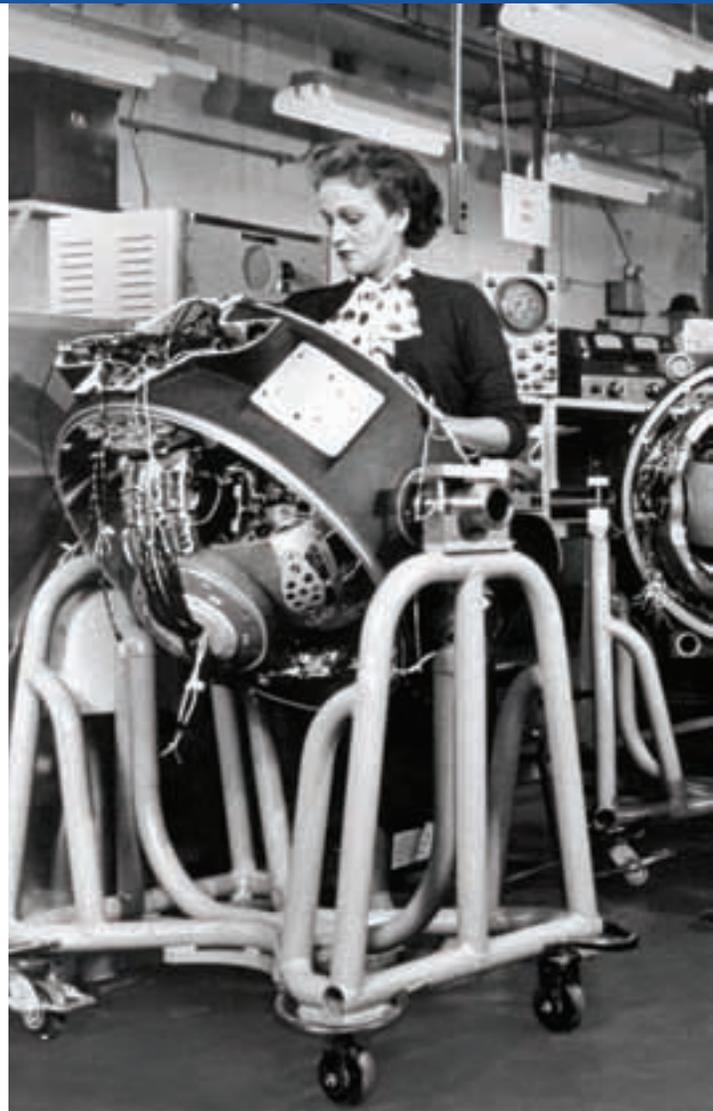
Without a doubt, The Forge & Flare luxury apartments at Drexel Town Square, developed by WiRED Properties and Phelan Development, offer an incredible contemporary urban living experience.

But part of their charm actually lies in the site's rich past. The apartments stand on the former site of AC

Delco/Delphi – once a vibrant, vital place of manufacturing and industry for decades. AC Delco/Delphi employed thousands of people who produced a multitude of “things that mattered” – things like components for the automotive history and for the Apollo space program, spark plugs, catalytic converters and more.

These manufacturing facilities played a profound role in Oak Creek's development and the people that worked there helped to build the City into what it is today. Although the people may be gone, the apartment's development team wanted to honor their hard work by somehow including them in this new apartment community. When they considered names for the new buildings, the site's history dominated their thoughts. And while Drexel Town Square is decidedly modern and new, the team wanted to tie in its history with a hammer and forge graphic as its logo. Hence, Forge & Flare emerged as a distinctively different way of drawing on a rich history.

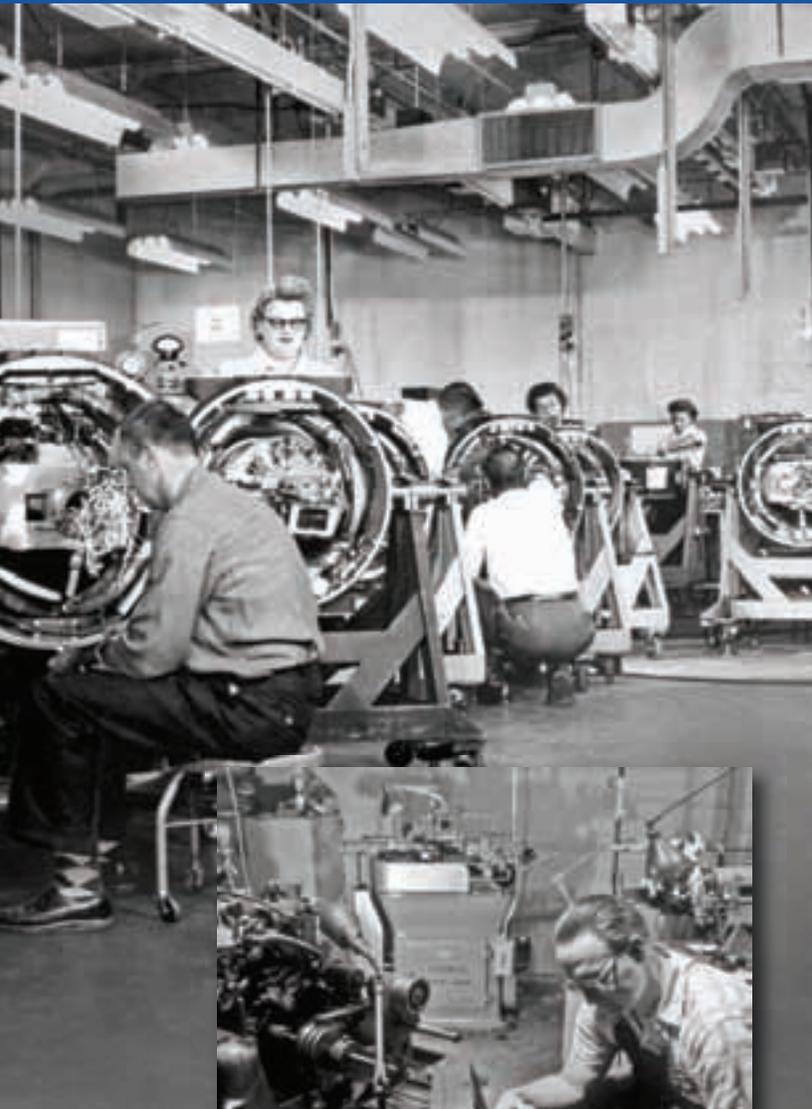
The Forge & Flare development team took it a step further and scoured GM's photo archives. They found a stack of historical images that captured life in the old facilities and purchased the rights to 13 of those images. The images are incredible – men and women working on the assembly line and at their desks – laboratory shots even evoke visions of mad scientists. Plus, photos of the 25 millionth catalytic converter to come off the line and a statue of the Apollo rocket man. These amazing photos (see examples on the opposite page) are incorporated into the interior design of the buildings. The apartment lobbies will feature large format graphics of these historic images, along with large photos on display in the elevator lobbies.



WiRED Properties and Phelan Development are ready to deliver on their vision for a new community at Drexel Town Square. Along with 62 apartments, the development will include BelAir Cantina, Pizza Man, The Chocolate Factory, Forward Dental, Performance Running Outfitters and other retailers, all racing toward their grand openings this fall.

The Forge apartments are now open for tours and will be ready for occupancy September 1. Eat, drink, shop and visit your next home. Attend an Open House by checking the website for dates at [forgeandflareapartments.com](http://forgeandflareapartments.com). Or call (414) 255-3580 or email [info@forgeandflareapartments.com](mailto:info@forgeandflareapartments.com).





## A RICH HISTORY

With a company history of more than 60 years, the Oak Creek plants that had served as manufacturing sites for Delco Electronics and then Delphi Electronics & Safety were completely shuttered at the end of 2008. The closing marked the end of a long and proud era for the men and women who worked there, one that ranged from providing the electronics that controlled airplane and automobile systems – to developing and manufacturing military armament used around the world – to helping put men on the moon. The last product made at the site was an automotive component that rolled off a Delphi-E&S line September 5, 2008.

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Sun. 3-9 p.m.





# NEW DIGS IN THE OC!

## Emerald Row Moves In the First Drexel Town Square Residents



Move ins have begun at Emerald Row! Developed by Barrett Lo Visionary Development, Emerald Row welcomed its first tenants at the beginning of August in what was a bit of a mad dash as dozens of families moved in at once. Now that the dust has settled, these first Drexel Town Square residents can start to experience their new and vibrant neighborhood.

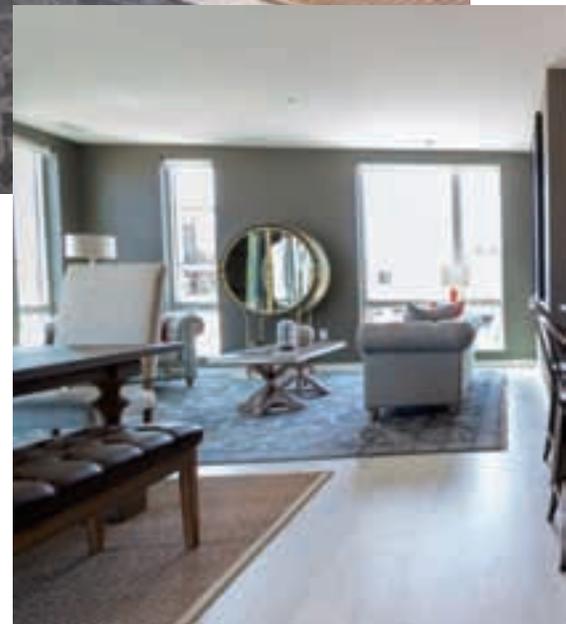
Today you will see neighbors walking their dogs, runners using the Emerald Preserve trails and children running through the Town Square splash pad as their parents watch the workers wrap up the last few exterior details. By October you will see the second phase of Emerald Row completed, and more 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartment homes will be ready for occupancy. Late summer will also bring in new restaurants and businesses, as well as the completion of the other mixed-use development, Forge & Flare.

In talking with new residents, it seems as though there are a lot of folks moving here because of the fantastic proximity to the

lakefront, parks, freeway, local jobs, airport and nearby urban centers like Milwaukee and Chicago. It's evident that they've all found this quaint urban center a great place to experience the ease of suburban life, while all their favorite spots are within walking distance.

According to new resident and dog owner Michelle, "I moved to Emerald Row because of the location. Everything is right within walking distance, including a beautiful park and the Library. And I LOVE the Library. Plus, it's only a short drive to the airport, downtown Milwaukee and Lake Michigan."

We couldn't agree more! The traditional row house apartments that comprise Emerald Row feature a multitude of lifestyle amenities including underground parking and an outdoor pool (opening summer 2017). To find out more about these 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom luxury homes, visit [emeraldrow.com](http://emeraldrow.com) and schedule a personal tour.





# emerald row OAK CREEK



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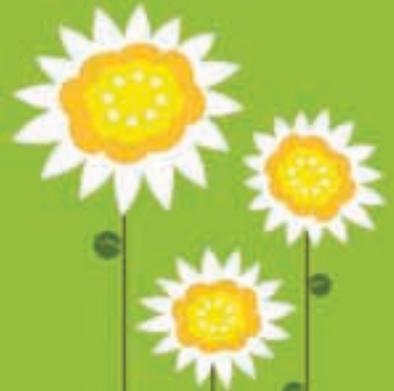
6462 S. 27th St. inside *First to Save*

8770 S. Howell Ave. inside *First to Save*

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**MONDAY • VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY Noon - 6 pm**

Inside Stage		Outside Stage	
<b>FRIDAY, SEPT. 2 - Senior Day</b>		<b>FRIDAY, SEPT. 2</b>	
12:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Mike Schneider DDO	3 pm - 7:30 pm	Element 12
4 pm - 7 pm	Jerry & Nora	8 pm - 12 am	Bella Casa
8 pm - 12 am	Whiskey Hollies	<b>SATURDAY, SEPT. 3</b>	
<b>SATURDAY, SEPT. 3</b>		12 pm - 2:30 pm	Generation Z
11 am - 2:30 pm	Children's Activities (Classes: face painting & balloon art)	3 pm - 7 pm	Jackie Brown
11 am - 2:30 pm	Horse Exhibit	6:30 pm - 8 pm	Brew City Wrestlers (special stage)
3:30 pm - 7 pm	TBA	8 pm - 12 am	The Straight Men
7:30 pm - 11:30 pm	SABVets Encore	<b>SUNDAY, SEPT. 4</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, SEPT. 4</b>		10 am - 7 pm	Car Show (upper parking lot)
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Pedals Mass	12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Eric Diamond
11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Mike Schneider DDO	2 pm - 4 pm	Room to Move
2 pm - 6 pm	Steve Meisner Band	4 pm - 5:30 pm	Wood Carving Auction
6:15 pm - 7:30 pm	Mike Hobbs	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Room to Shred
8 pm - 12 am	The Big Idea	8 pm - 12 am	The Crisis
<b>MONDAY, SEPT. 5</b>		<b>MONDAY, SEPT. 5</b>	
12:30 pm - 3 pm	Group Therapy	12 pm - 3:30 pm	Rustic Nylon Band
3 pm - 7 pm	Jon Gochl	4 pm - 9 pm	Edie Delle

**Discount Carnival Ride Tickets**  
Available until 8 pm Sept. 2nd at these Oak Creek & Franklin Locations:  
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*No advance ride tickets will be sold during the festival!* \$2.00 = 1 Ticket = 1 Ride (purchase 4 tickets min.)

**3 ARM BAND DAYS:** Sat., Sept. 3rd & Sun., Sept. 4th - 1 to 11 pm and Mon., Sept. 5th - 1 to 8 pm

\$20.00 = 1 Arm Band Coupon in advance of festival - Each Coupon is Good for 1 Day Only (holders at Carnival Ticket Booth)

O A K C R E E K

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**CURRENT**

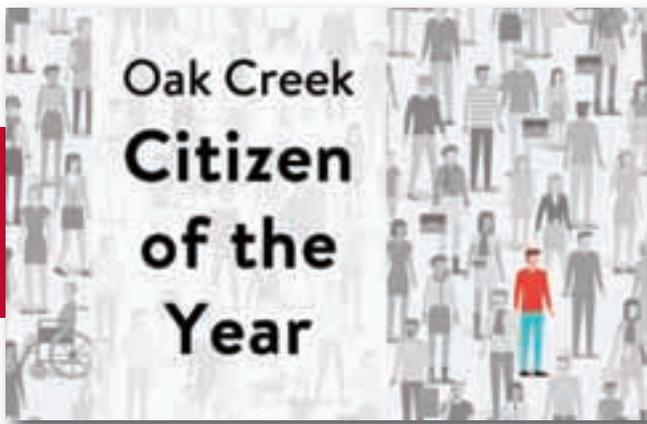
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# Make Your Nomination for Oak Creek's Citizen of the Year

The Oak Creek Citizen of the Year program began in 1960 with the mission of encouraging citizen participation and volunteering in the support of local organizations, groups, individuals and the general community.

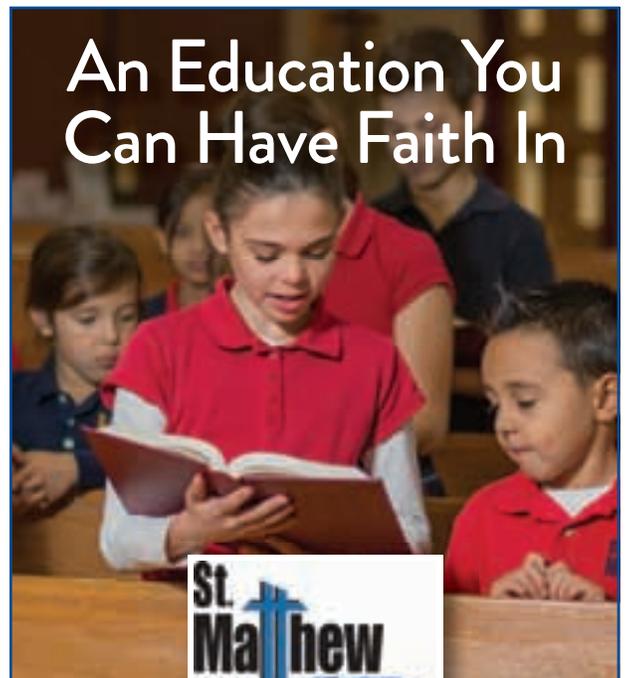
The individual, individuals or group nominated for the Oak Creek Citizen of the Year Award should be active in one of more of the following categories: civic, social, welfare, education or city advancement. Activities to be considered can include volunteer efforts or significant achievements by the nominee.

On an annual basis, the Oak Creek Citizen of the Year committee:

- Recognizes those individuals who have made significant contributions to the social, civic, educational and welfare advancement of the City of Oak Creek.
  - Recognizes two graduating Oak Creek High School students who have at least 500 hours of community service and awards them the Citizen of the Year Community Service Award.
- The 2016 Citizen of the Year nomination process will begin in October. If you are interested in nominating someone or want more information about the program, please email the committee at [OakCreekCoY@gmail.com](mailto:OakCreekCoY@gmail.com).

## CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

1960 Erwin Baetke	1988 William Krueck
1961 Art Abendschein	1989 Art Olson
1962 Herbert Lampe	1990 George Abendschein Jr.
1963 Elroy C. Honadel	1991 Jerry Ashbaugh
1964 Cathryne Scherbarth	1992 James Potter
1965 Joe Kender	1993 Rosemary Czarnecki
1966 Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Honadel	1994 Irv Smith
1967 Jack Haueter	1995 Floyd Leonard
1968 Ralph Nevling	1996 John Rupcich
1969 Richard Scholl	1997 Lawrence Prochnow
1970 Evelyn Elmer	1998 Mike Richmond
1981 Leroy & Beulah Meyer	1999 Larry Haskin
1972 Harold Schmidt	2000 Fred Siepert
1973 Henry Mahr	2001 Wally Dickmann
1974 Elsie Wohlust	2002 John Grahovac
1975 Leo Goebel	2003 Alan Hobbs
1976 Arlene & Tom Rosandich	2004 Lamar Buchholz
1977 Don Ashbaugh	2005 Mike Swerdlow
1978 Eileen Hobbs	2006 Scott & Tina Koenig
1979 Joe & Marian Gries	2007 Dan Jakubczyk
1980 Harold Foley	2008 Joshua Knight
1981 Dave Ulrich	2009 Steve Scaffidi
1982 Edgar Boers	2010 Amy Duchac
1983 Sharon Armstrong	2011 Frank Carini
1984 Richard Hay	2012 Rich Duchniak
1985 Jerry Anstett	2013 Brian Murphy & Sam Lenda
1986 Stacia & Robert Johnson	2014 Ed Siira
1987 James Rogowski	2015 Jeff Sageser



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*The two Oak Creek Expansion units at the north end of the site went into service in 2010 and 2011, respectively. They are among the cleanest and most efficient coal-fueled power plants in the U.S. and are part of the company's \$7.8 billion investment in necessary infrastructure upgrades.*



## LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP DELIVERS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RESULTS



EC Energy Group, parent company of Wispark LLC, and the City of Oak Creek have enjoyed a positive relationship for decades. In fact, WEC Energy Group subsidiary Wisconsin Electric Power Co. (now doing business as We Energies) has been part of the community since the utility's first generating units were built at the Oak Creek site in the 1950s.

The Oak Creek generating site occupies 1,100 acres of land on the shore of Lake Michigan, on the southeastern corner of Oak Creek. The site straddles the Milwaukee/Racine County line. Wisconsin Electric placed its first 120-megawatt generating unit in service at Oak Creek Power Plant in 1953. Seven more units were completed through 1968. The first four generating units built at the site were retired in the 1980s. Four units continue to operate at the original site; two new units were added in 2010 and 2011, respectively. All of the generating units are coal-fueled and feature modern environmental controls.

By the late 1990s, demand for electricity had been growing steadily across the country and especially in the Midwest. The increased demand, plus some aging generating units, compelled Wisconsin Electric and its parent company to plan for future growth.

Subsequently, the company's Power the Future initiative was unveiled. The plan called for the construction of new generating

units and the retirement of older, less-efficient units. The plan also included environmental upgrades at its existing units, as well as the addition of renewable energy to its operating portfolio.

From 2000 to 2003, company officials worked with Oak Creek elected officials and staff to reach a mutually beneficial agreement for the addition of two new generating units at the Oak Creek site. The units adopted the latest technology for efficiency and environmentally responsible operation.

The agreement inked by the City of Oak Creek and WEC Energy Group called for the company to invest \$20 million in the City. This \$20 million would come from WEC shareholders, not We Energies customers.

City officials envisioned a bright future for Oak Creek. They were particularly impressed with Wispark's LakeView Corporate Park, in Pleasant Prairie, Wis. Oak Creek wanted to emulate the LakeView model to bring jobs and tax dollars to the City. Officials were poised to grow beyond its bedroom community status to a thriving, growing City with a unique identity.

Wispark President Jerry Franke worked closely with City leaders, including now retired City Attorney Larry Haskin, to plan for Oak Creek's future. A true partnership was forming. An agreement was reached between the City and the company before Wisconsin Electric filed its request for a conditional use permit with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, one of the many steps involved in building the new generating units.

Left: A \$750 million project to add advanced air quality control systems (AQCS) significantly upgraded existing environmental controls on the older units at the Oak Creek site.



Looking north to south, We Energies operates six generating units at the 1,100-acre Oak Creek site.

### The City and Wispark agreed on a three-point master plan for Oak Creek's future.

#### The plan included:

1. Develop land at the southwest corner of Oakwood and Howell Avenues for a business park. The land initially was owned by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District (MMSD). Wispark purchased the land and subsequently developed OakView Business Park. Stella & Chewy's, a manufacturer and distributor of high-quality pet food, is the first tenant to locate at OakView. A second leasee is Ad-Tech Medical. That building is under construction. Ad Tech manufactures surgical medical devices.
2. Develop Oak Creek's lakefront between the MMSD plant on the north and the Oak Creek power plant site on the south. Once a former industrial property, the blighted area will be redeveloped as a park with walking trails providing outstanding views of Lake Michigan. Work on this site has not yet started.
3. The third – and without a doubt – most visible point in the plan is the mixed-use development at the corners of South Howell and West Drexel Avenues called Drexel Town Square, located on the former site of the Delphi plant. Wispark and its development partners have transformed the 85-acre site into a place to live, dine, shop and conduct business. The site includes the City of Oak Creek's new Main Street, with its Civic Center – City Hall and Public Library – as well as a variety of retailers, high-end apartments, medical center and hotel (visit DrexelTownSquare.com).

"Our joint efforts led to the creation of a mutually beneficial public/private partnership to eliminate blight, create tax base and generate thousands of jobs," says Franke of Drexel Town Square's success.

"All three of the projects undertaken as a result of the PTF commitment were complex and very expensive," Franke explains. "Without the partnership with the City, we would not have been able to accomplish this plan," he says.

Another example of the partnership that has been mutually beneficial is the expansion of the high school adjacent to its current location. Previously, the School District had planned to build a more costly, separate building on a parcel distant from the school's current spot. The change in plans was achieved through a three-way land swap between the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, City of Oak Creek and Wispark.

"Throughout the years, we've appreciated the opportunity to work with the City of Oak Creek to achieve mutually beneficial goals and we look forward to a long and prosperous future as Oak Creek continues to grow," concludes Franke.

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## WELCOME TO FALL IN OAK CREEK, WISCONSIN!

As the seasons change to the cooler fall months, we remember all the great summer events and activities in Oak Creek. Check out our calendar on page 39 for a detailed list of exciting things to do in the months ahead: rummage sales, football games, health seminars, shred day, trick or treating and more. There's always something happening in Oak Creek!

**1 and 2.** The annual Oak Creek 4th of July celebration is always a popular event in the City, with our residents eager to demonstrate their patriotism. **3.** The MATC Oak Creek Campus recently staged a CampHERO event in partnership with the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission. Young women received hands-on experience in protective services careers to help them decide on future careers (see pg. 12). **4 and 5.** Oak Creek went to the dogs this summer during "Dog Day at Drexel," an interactive event that catered to the dogs in the community. The event featured Pier Pups Canine Dock Jumping, dog-related vendors and other fun, dog-themed activities! **6.** The new splash pad in Drexel Town Square (directly opposite the Civic Center) is getting a lot of use this summer to the delight of Oak Creek children. **7.** Stella & Chewy's, a manufacturer of high-quality pet food, is the first tenant in OakView Business Park. Read more on page 32 about the longstanding



# E C I T Y O F O A K C R E E K

partnership between Wispark LLC and the City of Oak Creek that includes a master plan for development. **8** Eder Flag Manufacturing Company has called Oak Creek home for decades. Read more about Eder Flag's rich and fascinating history on page 24. **9** Congratulations to Oak Creek High School's Class of 2016! The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2016 was held on June 4 at Miller Park. **10 and 11** National Night Out promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to prevent crime and make Oak Creek a safer place to live. This national event, on the first Tuesday of August, is celebrated by communities in all 50 states.





# WISPARK

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To learn more about OakView Business Park, go to [wispark.com](http://wispark.com)

To learn more about Drexel Town Square, go to [drexeltownsquare.com](http://drexeltownsquare.com)

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## AUGUST

- **Thur., Aug. 25: Oak Creek Varsity Football Home Game vs. Mukwonago** 7 p.m. at Knights Stadium, 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Sat., Aug. 27: Outdoor Rummage** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Visit [occenter.com](http://occenter.com) for details.
- **Mon., Aug. 29: MATC Fall Semester Begins** Skip the long lines and register NOW! Registration Office open M, W, F 8 a.m.-4 p.m., T & Th 8 a.m.-6 p.m., 6665 S. Howell Ave. Call (414) 571-4500.
- **Mon., Aug. 29: Forest Ridge Elementary School Ribbon Cutting** 5:30 p.m. at South 20th St. and West Drexel Ave.

## SEPTEMBER

- **Fri., Sept. 2: Oak Creek Varsity Football Home Game** 7 p.m. at Knights Stadium, 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Fri., Sept. 2-Mon., Sept. 5: Oak Creek Lionsfest** American Legion Post grounds, 9327 S. Shepard Ave. Free admission and parking. Visit [oakcreeklionsfestival.com](http://oakcreeklionsfestival.com) (see pg. 30).
- **Mon., Sept. 5: Labor Day** City offices and Library closed.
- **Tue., Sept. 6: First Day of School for OC-F Joint School District**
- **Thur., Sept. 8: Oak Creek Health Department Stepping On Program Begins** This Fall-Prevention workshop meets for seven consecutive Thursdays. For more information, call the Health Department at (414) 766-7950.
- **Thur., Sept. 8: Oak Creek Lions Blood Drive** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. For more information, contact Peter at [phillinghouse@wi.rr.com](mailto:phillinghouse@wi.rr.com).
- **Sat., Sept. 10: Greater Milwaukee Fire & Police Expo** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at MATC Oak Creek campus, 6665 S. Howell Ave. Free expo featuring antique and modern fire trucks, demonstrations, displays and food/beverages for sale (see pg. 21).
- **Sat., Sept. 10: Outdoor Rummage** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Visit [occenter.com](http://occenter.com) for details.
- **Sun., Sept. 11: 13th Annual Pig and Chicken Roast** 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Henry Miller Park, 315 E. Groveland Dr. Visit [oakcreekwi.org/communityevents](http://oakcreekwi.org/communityevents) for details.
- **Tue., Sept. 13: Meet the Mayor** 4-6 p.m. Location to be announced. Mayor Scaffidi conducts an informal listening session with residents. Visit [facebook.com/cityof oakcreek](http://facebook.com/cityof oakcreek) for details.
- **Sun., Sept. 18: Oak Creek Lions Club "Paws on the Pavement" Dog Walk Fundraiser** 10 a.m. American Legion Grounds, 9327 S. Shepard Ave. Visit [pawsonthepavement.com](http://pawsonthepavement.com) for details.
- **Fri., Sept. 23: Oak Creek Varsity Football Home Game (Homecoming)** 7 p.m. at Knights Stadium, 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Sat., Sept. 24: Outdoor Rummage** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Visit [occenter.com](http://occenter.com) for details.
- **Sat., Sept. 24: Shred Day** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Oak Creek Street Department, 800 W. Puetz Rd. Bring your sensitive and private documents for FREE, secure destruction provided by Shred-It. Limit of 6 boxes per vehicle.

## OCTOBER

- **Sat., Oct. 1: Inspiration Wellness Group One-Year Anniversary Open House** 1-3 p.m. 6420A S. Howell Ave. Free, all invited.
- **Tue., Oct. 4: Third Annual Oak Creek Health Fair** 1-5 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. More than 30 vendors providing health screenings and giveaways and sharing community resources. Free admission, but donation of non-perishable food items appreciated.
- **Thur., Oct. 6: Aurora Healthcare and Oak Creek Health Department "Healthy Living Series"** at 6 p.m. Topic to be covered: hand surgery. Visit [oakcreekwi.org](http://oakcreekwi.org) for more information.
- **Thur.-Fri., Oct. 6-7: Voter Registration Drive** 12-3 p.m. at Oak Creek Civic Center, 8040 S. 6th St. For more information, visit [myvotewi.org](http://myvotewi.org) or contact the City Clerk's Office at (414) 766-7000.
- **Fri., Oct. 7: Oak Creek Varsity Football Home Game** 7 p.m. at Knights Stadium, 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Sat., Oct. 8: Outdoor Rummage** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Visit [occenter.com](http://occenter.com) for details.
- **Tue., Oct. 11: Meet the Mayor** 4-6 p.m. in the Civic Center Multipurpose Room, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Mayor Scaffidi conducts an informal listening session with residents. Please visit [facebook.com/cityof oakcreek](http://facebook.com/cityof oakcreek).
- **Tue., Oct. 11: Prevention of Falls Health Class** 6-7 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Presented by Froedert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. To register, call (800) 272-3666 or visit [froedert.com/classes](http://froedert.com/classes).
- **Wed., Oct. 12: "Six Seconds in August" Book Signing** 6-7:30 p.m. in the Civic Center Multipurpose Room, 8040 S. 6th St. Mayor Scaffidi will sign copies of his book, with all proceeds going to the Oak Creek Library Foundation.
- **Thur., Oct. 20: "Healthy Living Series" Presented by Aurora and the Oak Creek Health Department** 6 p.m. Topic to be covered: alcohol and other drugs. Visit [oakcreekwi.org](http://oakcreekwi.org).
- **Mon., Oct. 24-Fri., Nov. 4: Early Voting for Fall General Election** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (until 5 p.m. on Nov. 4). Civic Center Multipurpose Room. Visit [oakcreekwi.org/your-government/elections/](http://oakcreekwi.org/your-government/elections/) for voting information and a sample ballot.
- **Fri., Oct. 28: Dream Drawing** with \$50,000 in cash prizes, to benefit the Oak Creek Community Center. Tickets available starting Aug. 29 (\$50 each or 4 for \$100).
- **Mon., Oct. 31: Citywide Trick or Treat** 5-7 p.m.
- **Mon., Oct. 31: Halloween Safe Site** 5-7 p.m. Oak Creek Historical Society, corner of 15th and Forest Hill. Kids can trick or treat from museum to museum while learning the history of our City.

## NOVEMBER

- **Tue., Nov. 8: Fall General Election** Polls open 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
- **Sat., Nov. 12: Veterans Day Ceremony** 9 a.m. Fire Station #3, 7000 S. 6th St. Military banners will also be presented to those active military members who were featured in the Town Square over the summer.
- **Tue., Nov. 15: Meet the Mayor** 4-6 p.m. Location to be announced.

## CITY OF OAK CREEK

8040 S. 6th St.

Oak Creek, WI 53154

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