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ON THE COVER

Called Oak Creek's "hidden gem," the Market Place Village on the City's far east side offers a delightful mix of specialty shops and service businesses (see pg. 14). *Photo by Saturn Lounge Photography*

O A K C R E E K

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.

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Magazine Design/Production: Caprile Marketing/Design

The next issue of the *Oak Creek Current* will publish February 15. For information about advertising in futures issues of the magazine, please email info@oakcreekmagazine.com or call (414) 962-7002.



OAKCREEK
— WISCONSIN —

Message from Mayor Scaffidi: Exciting Year Comes to a Close in Oak Creek

As we get closer to the end of the year, and spending time with family and friends celebrating the holidays, it's a good time to reflect on some of the exciting things that happened in Oak Creek this year.



The month of May saw the announcement of the new IKEA store, which will be located just off the I-94 exit at Drexel Avenue. The store, the first of its kind in Wisconsin, will begin construction in 2017, with an opening in summer 2018. It will eventually employ more than 250 people, and will be called IKEA Oak

Creek. It's sure to be a popular shopping destination for all of Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

In October, our new City Civic Center celebrated its one-year anniversary. The building, that houses our City Hall and Library and features an iconic 92-ft.-tall clock tower, proudly stands above the new public square to the north. This will be the eventual home of an ice skating rink, summer concerts, farmers markets and more. The Library has already seen a three-fold increase in usage, with an expanded lineup of both children's and adult events.

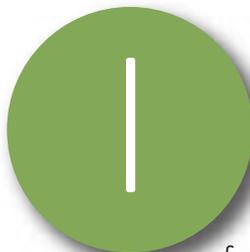
This fall, we've seen many of the Main Street shops and restaurants open up, including the popular Bel Air Cantina and Chocolate Factory restaurants, as well as Roots Salon and Performance Running Outfitters. New stores will continue to open through the winter, giving our residents many dining and shopping options.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

– Mayor Steve



OAKVIEW BUSINESS PARK, LAKE VISTA DEVELOPMENT EXEMPLIFY WISPARK'S COMMITMENT TO OAK CREEK



If you want to see a successful and mutually beneficial public/private partnership, look no further than Oak Creek where Wispark LLC and the City have been working together to bring new business and family-supporting jobs to the community for many years. A prime manifestation of that partnership is OakView Business Park, a 169-acre business park south of West Oakwood Rd. and west of South Howell Ave.

The property had previously been owned by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District which had planned to use it for a landfill to accept sludge from its wastewater treatment plans. Those plans changed when the district began to convert its sludge into Milorganite, a lawn fertilizer.

When Wispark's parent company, WEC Energy Group, was developing its plan to add new power generation to meet the growing demand for electricity, it worked closely with Oak Creek government officials to pave the way to add new generating units to the company's 1,100-acre site in Oak Creek.

The agreement reached by the City and the company called for the company to invest \$20 million in the City, using shareholder dollars for the investment. The development of a business park, to attract entities that would bring jobs and a larger local tax base to the city, was part of WEC's three-point investment plan. The other pieces of the plan included the development of the former Delphi Manufacturing site at Drexel and Howell Avenues into the rapidly expanding Drexel

Town Square, and redevelopment of Oak Creek's lakefront.

When MMSD deemed it no longer needed the land at Oakwood and Howell, a land swap ensued. First, the City purchased the land for \$5.4 million and then sold to Wispark for the same amount. A total of 225 acres was purchased by the City. The City retained 36 acres for a conservation easement while the Oak Creek-Franklin School District purchased 50 acres for a future school site. Subsequently, Wispark purchased those 50 acres from the School District when the District decided to expand the high school adjacent to the existing school.

The City created a TIF district (tax incremental financing) to pay for site improvements – streets, sewers and other utilities to serve the business park. With the

Photos by Saturn Lounge Photography

TIF, the increased property taxes generated by the business park are used to repay the debt. Once the debt is paid off, property taxes going forward will then be available to the City's general fund and the other taxing entities.

With the economic downturn of 2008 behind them, Wispark and its development partners began to generate interest in the business park. Two tenants – Stella and Chewy's and Ad Tech Medical – were the first two to acquire land and build in OakView Business Park. Stella and Chewy's manufactures and distributes high-end, high-quality pet food. The company's 164,000 sq.-ft. facility is built on an 18-acre site. Stella and Chewy's relocated to OakView in 2015.

Ad Tech Medical's 35,000-sq. ft. building on a 5-acre parcel is currently under construction. Ad Tech Medical manufactures surgical medical devices. The company anticipates occupancy by spring 2017. Just recently, the Dickman Companies acquired 8.5 acres of land in OakView Business Park for development of a 130,000-sq.-ft. spec light industrial building. OakView Business Park can be accessed from either Oakwood Road on the northern border of the property or Howell Avenue on the east.

Jerry Franke, president of Wispark, notes "the location of OakView Business Park with easy access to the I-94 corridor and the variety of available parcels makes this park extremely attractive." Parcels are available in sizes ranging from 3 to 25 acres.

Lake Vista Park – A Vision Becomes Reality

In 2012, Wispark bought an 80-acre parcel on the City's eastern border along Lake Michigan. This was the former Peter Cooper manufacturing plant property that sits just south of MMSD's South Shore wastewater treatment plant. The City then purchased

the eastern 30 acres and has already begun remediating this eastern portion for eventual reuse as publicly accessible land along the bluff-top.

A little further to the south, the City is well underway on its plans to develop the former DuPont and EPEC properties just north of Milwaukee County's Bender Park. For years Oak Creek had wanted to redevelop this former industrial-use land. Former City Administrator Jerry Peterson and former City Attorney Larry Haskin led a team of key City staff, elected officials and select consultants through a long and complex effort working with the land owners and Wispark to gain approvals from the various regulatory agencies.

That long-term vision is taking shape now with the Lake Vista redevelopment project. The redevelopment includes a new main lakefront access road, a scenic parkway road traversing the bluff-top site, a unique park and public space with extensive trails, and land slated for mixed-use development. The site capitalizes on the City's location on Lake Michigan's western shore and is another example of the public/private partnership between Oak Creek and Wispark.

In 2014, the Oak Creek Common Council approved spending \$14.6 million on the Lake Vista redevelopment project. Along with \$3.7 million in grants, the funds are coming from payments by WEC Energy Group shareholders as part of the power plant expansion agreement.

The biggest expense was \$7 million for new roads to create better access to the Lake Vista parcels. That includes an extension of S. 5th Ave., from E. Ryan Road southwest to the intersection of Highway 32 and Highway 100. A new road, Lake Vista Drive, has been built eastward from the intersection of S. 5th and E. American Avenues before turning south to intersect E. Ryan Road, near the entrance to Bender Park.

Lake Vista Park will be unlike any of the City's other two dozen parks, according to City Engineer Mike Simmons and Zoning Administrator Pete Wagner.

Under the steady project management of City Planner Kari Papelbon and Zoning Administrator Wagner, City staff worked with a cross-section of parties including a design consultant, citizens and City officials to develop a consensus plan for Lake Vista Park. Some features of the park will include:

- Two blinds for the public to use to observe migratory birds.
- A pavilion that can accommodate 50 to 60 people, and up to 120 when utilizing roll-up doors open to an outdoor patio area.
- Picnic areas with unique sail-like shade structures.
- Undulating terrain to break up what was once a flat section of land.
- Winding switchback trail that leads from the bluff top down to the lake, with bluff shelters.
- A scenic parking overlook accessed from the road.
- Paths that will link to area hiking and biking trails.
- Playgrounds with traditional as well as unique equipment, such as a zip line.
- Adventure area with tree stumps and other natural objects that will encourage children to use their imagination as they play.

City officials sought the input of Edgewood Elementary School children, kindergarten through 5th grade, to suggest the kinds of playground equipment they'd like in Lake Vista Park. The zip line was one of those ideas.

The playground and pavilion overlook a large grassy open space to the east. That space can be used for casual games of football, soccer or similar sports. However, the space will not be "striped" or set up as typical athletic fields.

Construction of the \$5.9 million park and all of its amenities began in October and is expected to be completed in late 2017.



City Administrator Andrew Vickers



Police Chief Steve Anderson



OAK CREEK WELCOMES NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND POLICE CHIEF



The City of Oak Creek is pleased to introduce a new city administrator to the community, while also announcing the appointment of a new police chief.

New City Administrator Named

Andrew Vickers was recently named as the new city administrator for the City of Oak Creek, hired to fill the vacancy created when Gerald Peterson retired in October. Vickers previously served as the village administrator for the Green Bay suburb of Hobart, where he worked for the past 8 years.

Vickers highlighted his immediate goals for his transition in a recent interview. "I'm excited to immerse myself in my new position, and get to know the community's values, strengths and of course, the challenges that lay ahead," Vickers says. "I'm joining a terrific organization with a very talented staff and dedicated group of public officials. They've laid the groundwork for the future, and have already propelled Oak Creek to a standard of excellence that's almost unrivaled in Wisconsin. I look forward to seeing what's next for the City!"

Vickers and his wife, Erica, have two young children and will be moving into Oak Creek during his transition. With a master's degree in public administration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Vickers brings a strong municipal background to his new role in Oak Creek, with a specialization in budgeting and economic development. Vickers notes that the Village of Hobart has seen a similar rise in economic development opportunities, and Vickers has

overseen that process both in his duties as village administrator and also in his service on the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce.

Early in his career, Vickers worked in the greater Milwaukee area as an assistant to the city administrator in Wauwatosa, and as a management assistant in the City of Bayside. His in-depth knowledge of budgeting best practices recently received recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), as Hobart was presented with three awards for public sector financial transparency.

When he is not in the office, Vickers enjoys playing softball and hockey, as well as spending time with his family. "We decided Oak Creek was the best place for our family to be, and we're excited to meet the community and to get started on the next phase of our life," says Vickers.

City Appoints New Police Chief

Steve Anderson was recently appointed the new chief of police by the City of Oak Creek Police and Fire Commission. His ceremonial swearing-in took place on October 19, with friends, family and colleagues present.

Chief Anderson comes to the position with more than 25 years with the Oak Creek Police Department. He began as a patrol officer with the department in 1991 and progressed in his career to the ranks of sergeant, detective, lieutenant and captain. He has also spent more than 10 years on Oak Creek's Emergency Response Unit (SWAT team). Most recently, he served as acting chief upon the retirement of former Police Chief John Edwards.



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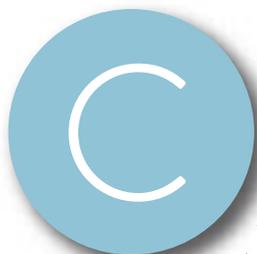


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NEW WATER PARTNERSHIP TO YIELD REDUCED WATER RATES



Customers of the City of Oak Creek's Water & Sewer Utility should see water rates drop by about 20% in coming years, under a potential agreement to sell water to the City of Waukesha. In addition, the City of Oak Creek will receive payments – similar to property taxes – due to the new infrastructure that will be built in the City.

These substantial financial benefits for Oak Creek are still several years away. In June, Waukesha received unanimous approval from the eight Great Lakes governors to use and return Lake Michigan water, but additional permits and construction could take as many as five more years.

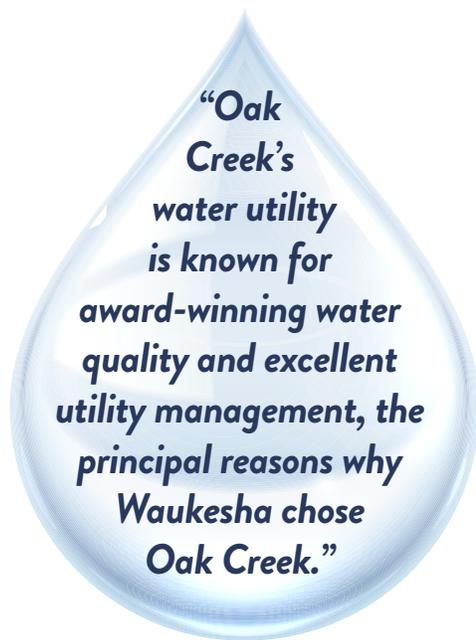
Oak Creek signed a letter of intent with Waukesha in 2012 to negotiate to supply water. The details of the actual agreement, including the method of setting rates, are being negotiated now between the two cities. It is expected that the final agreement should be completed around the start of the new year.

Oak Creek's water utility is known for award-winning water quality and excellent utility management, the principal reasons why Waukesha chose Oak Creek.

Regional Cooperation Benefits Both Cities

The negotiations between Oak Creek and Waukesha demonstrate the benefits of regional cooperation, and the agreement to help Waukesha meet its water supply need will provide savings for Oak Creek ratepayers and substantial new revenues for the City.

For Waukesha, the proposed deal will bring a safe and reliable source of drinking water for its residents and businesses. Southeastern Wisconsin will benefit from the creation of many jobs that will be created during several years of construction. The project will also provide significant environmental benefits to the Root River and to regional groundwater.



Waukesha Will Have No Impact on Lake Michigan Water Levels

Waukesha falls outside of the surface divide that separates the Lake Michigan water basin from the Mississippi River basin. For that reason, under a law known as the Great Lakes Compact, Waukesha needed approval from all eight Great Lakes governors – with input from two Canadian premiers – to use Lake Michigan water. Only communities in counties that straddle that divide are eligible to apply for lake

water. One of the key protections of the Great Lakes Compact is the requirement that the water be returned to the lakes after use and treatment.

In Waukesha's case, the amount that will be supplied by Oak Creek is less than 1/1,000,000th of 1% of Great Lakes water. However, nearly all of the water used will be returned to Lake Michigan via the Root River, a tributary of the lake, resulting in no measurable impact on Lake Michigan water levels.

Switching to lake water will also increase the amount of groundwater in the Lake Michigan basin. Presently, deep aquifer wells are hydrologically connected to groundwater in the Lake Michigan watershed, and the current discharge is to the Mississippi basin. Waukesha's switch to lake water with return flow results in a net increase of water in the Lake Michigan watershed of more than a half billion gallons of water per year.

Return Flow Water Will Improve the Root River

The return flow water will be treated at Waukesha's wastewater treatment plant with high levels of treatment that are used by only a handful of communities in the state. Upon return to the river, the newly treated water will lower the river's concentration of phosphorus.

The added water will also improve the river in other ways. Due to development, the Root River has very little flow during the warmer months of the year, making it difficult for fish like salmon and trout to pass. For decades, state and regional planners have explored ways to add flow to the river, but found it too expensive.

Waukesha's return flow water will add that to flow, improving the fishery, benefitting a state fish egg collection facility and expanding angling opportunities.

Although the additional clean water will help during dry periods, some questions have been raised about the impacts on the Root River of return flow during flood events. For example, during a 100-year flood event, the increase in water depth from Waukesha's return flow would be less than 1/8 inch. During the June 2008 flood, it would have been too small to even measure.

Overflows are not a concern. Waukesha does not have combined sanitary and storm sewers. Even in the unlikely event of an overflow in Waukesha, the system has been designed so that all overflow would stay in the Mississippi River Basin. It could not get to the pumps and pipes that lead to the Root River or to Lake Michigan.

Waukesha Has No Reasonable Alternative to a Lake Water Supply

One of the other requirements of the Compact is that a community in a straddling county must show there is no reasonable alternative to using and returning Great Lakes water. Waukesha's drinking water is known to be contaminated with naturally occurring radium, a carcinogen, at levels that exceed federal standards. They are under a court order to come into compliance. Additionally, long-term use of their drinking water supply is also environmentally unsustainable.

After examining the facts of Waukesha's case, the Great Lakes governors and premiers concluded that the deep aquifer "is not a safe or sustainable source of water" for Waukesha. Due to Waukesha's location near to environmentally sensitive areas, adding more shallow wells would have "significant adverse impacts to hundreds of acres of wetlands" and lakes, they found. The process included six years of review by the State of Wisconsin, as well as the other Great Lakes states and provinces.

Waukesha Sets a Very Limited Precedent

Waukesha is the first "community in a straddling county" to be approved to borrow and return Great Lakes water since the Compact was first approved in 2008. (The City of New Berlin was approved in 2009, but the city itself straddles the surface divide, so it did not need approval from the other states and did not need to prove need under the Compact.)

The intense scrutiny of Waukesha's application and the requirement to recycle the water back to the Great Lakes ensures that the integrity of the lakes will be protected. Going forward, the project will provide safe, sustainable drinking water for families and employers in Waukesha, while providing substantial financial benefits for ratepayers and taxpayers in Oak Creek.



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Oak Creek high schooler
Sam Konieczny

LIBRARY BENEFITS FROM EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

In the early stages of the project, Sam and Library staff had several conversations about what his project might look like.

Library staff, who had seen similar exhibits at other children’s venues, suggested a giant Lite Brite®, and Sam took the idea and ran with it. In addition, Sam also proposed purchasing a 65-inch interactive touch screen display and mini-computer to supplement another of the interactive areas, as well as building two wooden chess tables, one for each floor of the Library.

In order to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouts program, a scout must demonstrate leadership of others in his performance of a project that benefits the community. In fulfilling this requirement, Sam’s project took the commitment of not only himself and his family, but many other volunteers. Over the course of his 15-month journey, Sam was able to raise more than \$8,000 to fund the project, and he recruited and managed a team of 55 volunteers. In addition to his own 300+ hours of labor on the project, his volunteers committed an additional 860 hours to bring his ideas to life.

Since its installation, Library patrons and staff love interacting with the giant illuminated peg board and chess tables. The quality of Sam’s work rivals that of any professional woodworker and will stand up to the rigorous play from the youngest members of our community. Since the August 2016 installation, the children’s department has become an art studio of sorts, as children and adults diligently create original light-up designs. Library staff is currently working with Sam to identify and install new educational and recreational apps for kids to use on the giant touch screen tablet. If you have a great website or app that you would like us to consider, let us know online at surveymonkey.com/r/ocplapps.

As a community gathering place, the Library is excited to foster partnerships with local residents and organizations, like the Boy Scouts of America, to enrich the patron learning experience at the Library. Interested in learning more about partnerships or donor opportunities at the Oak Creek Public Library? Contact Administrative Support Assistant Jo Ann Allain at allainj@oakcreekwi.org for more information.



When Oak Creek High School sophomore Sam Konieczny approached Library Director Jill Lininger in May 2015 about completing his Eagle Scout project at the Oak Creek Public Library, she

was excited to use the opportunity to further enhance the new facility.

“The Library had identified spaces in the children’s department to install interactive exhibits. Budget issues sidetracked that plan, but the spaces still existed, so when Sam approached me about doing his Eagle Scout project at the Library, he and I quickly decided it was meant to be,” Lininger says.

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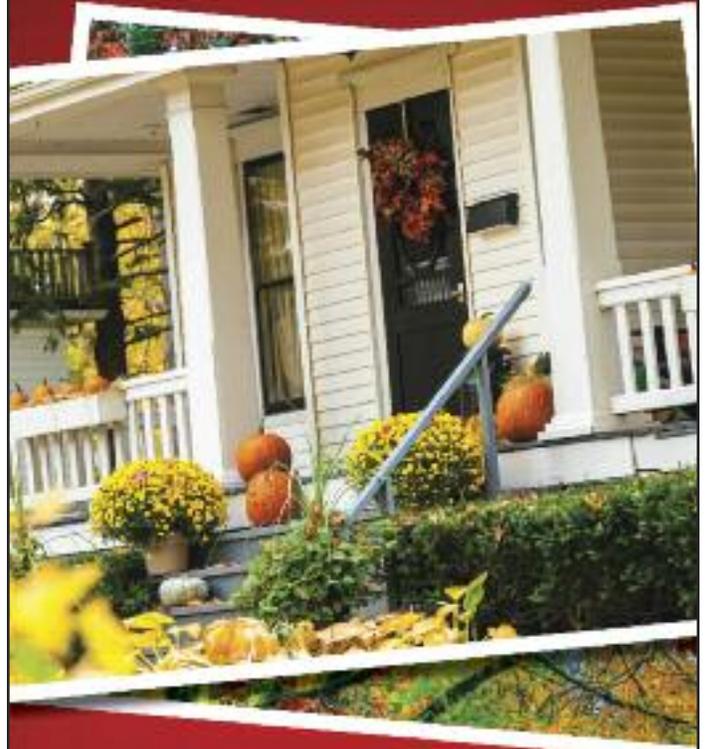
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CITY HIGHLIGHTS



Christmas Tree Lightings

Residents of our community can enjoy two Christmas Tree lighting ceremonies this holiday season.

The Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave., will host its traditional tree-lighting ceremony from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, November 27. After Santa arrives by fire truck, he and one young resident will flip the switch to light up the tree in the courtyard. Afterwards, guests are invited inside for pictures with Santa, cookies and milk, and live entertainment.

On Saturday, December 3, a Christmas tree will be illuminated at 6 p.m. at the Town Square, 361 W. Town Square Way. A 26-ft.-tall Spruce tree was donated by an Oak Creek resident to celebrate the first Drexel Town Square holiday season.

Holiday Giving Tree

The Oak Creek Celebrations Commission is inviting residents to visit the Civic Center, 8041 S. 6th St. from Nov. 28 to Dec. 14 for its Giving Tree campaign. Spread some holiday cheer by taking one or more tags off of the decorated trees in the lobby, and purchasing new gifts for the individuals described on the tags. Unwrapped gifts can be returned to the Library's first floor Information Desk by December 14.

Gifts collected for children will be distributed to recipients by the Family Living Center and the Salvation Army.

Additionally, packages containing food for a holiday meal, as well as personal care items, will be presented to area seniors in need through the Family Living Center's Senior Stock Box program.

The Giving Tree campaign is an easy way to brighten someone's holiday experience this year!

Holiday Train Passes Through Drexel Town Square

On Monday, December 5, stop by the Oak Creek Public Library to warm up with hot chocolate and candy canes before heading out to Emerald Preserve for prime viewing as the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train rolls past. This festively lit train will be traveling from Sturtevant to Milwaukee between 6:05-6:50 p.m.

Attendees are encouraged to bring healthy, non-perishable, food to donate to the Hunger Task Force during the event.

New Online Mapping Tool Launched

The City of Oak Creek has recently launched a new online Geographic Information System (GIS) web application, that will allow users to easily search for and view location-based information such as zoning, land values and aerial photography from the comfort of their home, computer or mobile device.

The new online GIS mapping application can be accessed by visiting oakcreek.ags.ruekert-mielke.com. The application will work in multiple web browsers including Internet Explorer, Google Chrome and Safari. It is also mobile device friendly and can be accessed using Windows, Android and Apple devices.

Doing Business in Oak Creek

The City of Oak Creek has a new business-focused website connecting Oak Creek developers with important digital business resources. Exclusive content includes a behind-the-scenes video with IKEA executives as well as video content spotlighting local and national Oak Creek businesses such as Eder Flag, Nucor and Black Bear Bottling Group.

"This website is one more way for us to connect with potential Oak Creek business owners," says Oak Creek Mayor Steve Scaffidi. "I expect it to help business decision-makers realize what makes Oak Creek such a great place to do business."

Visit the website at businessinoakcreek.com.



Landscape Award Winners Announced

In August, the City's Landscape and Beautification Committee selected the winners of the 2016 Oak Creek Landscaping Awards. Business winners included both Meijer, 171 W. Town Square Way, and The Cellar Pub and Grill, 812 W. Oakwood Rd. Four residential winners, nominated by other residents and reviewed by the committee, were also chosen.

The judging was based on factors related to the appearance and landscaping features of the yards. Winners were awarded a gift certificate from Tehan Greenhouses, an award statue and a yard sign. Look for the signs as you travel around the City!



Above: Roots Salon is one of the new businesses at the Forge and Flare development.

Left: BelAir's General Manager Richard Ojeda (holding menu) discusses menu items with staff.

WELCOME NEW OAK CREEK BUSINESSES!

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7955 S. Main St. • (414) 216-9211
forwarddental.com

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RELLA BY CINDY
8310 S. 27th St. • (414) 416-5195
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ROOTS SALON
7959 S. Main St. • (844) 550-0761
myrootssalon.com

STARBUCKS
600 W. Drexel Ave., Suite 100
starbucks.com

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Jan Massie is the owner of Just 4 Ewe, a fiber arts studio.



Dr. Ronald Lange D.D.S. (far right) was one of the first owners at Market Place Village. He is shown here with Dr. Steven McEwan (far left) and Office Manager Ellen Kiery.

Photos by Saturn Lounge Photography

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: MARKET PLACE VILLAGE ARTISAN SHOPPING VILLAGE ONE OF CITY'S BEST-KEPT SECRETS



Today's buzz words in the real estate market are "mixed-used developments," and we need not look any farther than the new apartments under construction at Drexel Town Square to find a perfect example. Ground-level businesses are topped off by comfortable living spaces, creating a convenient lifestyle for tenants, while at the same time creating a vibrant destination for shoppers.

For Oak Creek, however, the "mixed-use development" concept is not new. In the late 1970s the City had already demonstrated its forward thinking with the construction of the Market Place Village at Puetz Road and Highway 32. This interesting shopping development on the City's east side became both the home and business address of a variety of local artisans and entrepreneurs. And the Village's cozy "Door County" feel, warm setting and charming appeal continue to make it a unique shopping destination even to this day.

It all started back in 1976 when construction of Market Place Village began. By 1978 business owners were moving into their own distinctive buildings with retail on the ground level and living quarters above.

The buildings were constructed in threes, and were sold as condominium properties. Even today, some of the original businesses still call it home.

According to Dr. Ronald Lange, D.D.S., who owns Market Place Dental and was one of the original owners at Market Place Village, "We have been fortunate to run our business here for the past 38 years. Starting out with owning one building, we bought more property as the business grew, and today we own a set of three buildings that now share the same interior."

Rick Cartwright of Potters Field Stoneware, and another original owner, explains that Market Place Village was way ahead of its time. "This property is such a little gem in the community," says Cartwright. "My wife Lisa and I have lived here more than 30 years, raising our two children and enjoying an artist's lifestyle of living where you work. We love the unique concept that Market Place offers!" he adds.

While Dr. Lange no longer lives above his business, he has appreciated the warmth and sense of community that Market Place has offered over the years. "We feel safe, we know our neighbors and we have enjoyed the patient relationships that we have developed over the years, now seeing the children and even grandchildren of our original patients," Lange explains.

Other business owners agree that the Market Place Village offers a rich, "homey" feel for business owners and customers alike. Jan Massie, who owns the Just 4 Ewe fiber studio and lives upstairs of her eclectic shop, confesses that she has enjoyed every minute of her 10+ year tenure as a Market Place Village owner. "We have such an amazing mix of businesses and services here, it makes for a great place to wake up every morning, and a wonderful shopping experience for our patrons," Massie admits.



So what kind of businesses will you find today at the Market Place Village? With almost 20 businesses to choose from, you can take your pick from service businesses such as a travel agent, realtor, insurance broker, photographer and driving instruction. There is also a hair salon, dentist, massage therapist and a professional seamstress who specializes in wedding gown

alterations. And with the holidays fast approaching, shoppers can choose from an assortment of handmade gifts from a pottery studio, jeweler, antique shop, encouragement gift shop and a floral shop that specializes in popular, lifelike floral arrangements.



Custom-made jewelry can be found at C3 Designs.

Since the owners at Market Place Village still maintain a condominium status, a condo association is in place to represent their interests and help market the complex. According to Jason Packer, president of the Market Place Association, "My wife Melissa and I appreciate this unique setting and being able to live where we work," he says. Their business, Crown Creative, offers handmade jewelry,



One-of-a-kind treasures can be found at Crown Creative.

gifts and one-of-a-kinds, as well as art supplies – plus offering their studio space for various art-themed classes.

"We are eager to let the entire Oak Creek community know what a fabulous place this is to shop!" he says. "And to reinforce the "shop local" concept that is so important to us as business owners."

Linda Dlugi, who owns Decorative Touch Florals and Gifts, says her customers are like family after being in business for 12 years at Market Place Village. "I have many long-standing customers who appreciate this quaint little shopping district. It is so enjoyable to do business here," she says.

You can even stop at the Market Place Cafe, at the south end of the complex, to fuel your shopping experience. Even though the Cafe is not an official part of the condominium association, serious shopping always requires a place to relax with your favorite beverage, snack or meal. The Cafe also offers catering and a rental space for larger parties.

To keep that "shop local" concept alive this holiday season, be sure to include Market Place Village on your list of preferred Oak Creek destinations, and meet the friendly shop owners who welcome your visit. Because each distinctive shop is individually owned, it is best to call in advance for individual business hours.



Maria Lopez welcomes you to her shop, Maria's Gift, that sells encouragement gifts.

MARKET PLACE VILLAGE BUSINESSES

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• Cinderella's Threads 414-430-4203

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• Crown Creative 414-301-5518

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• Decorative Touch Unique Floral and Gift Shop 414-764-5390

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• Fotografy by Ricki 414-499-0457

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• Fuzzy Walls Studio 585-203-4851

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• Just 4 Ewe Fiber Studio/Gallery 414-209-4080

just4ewe.com
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• Lynne's Scizzory 414-769-5966

lynnesscizzory.com

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• Maria's Gift 414-379-1226

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• Market Place Cafe 414-762-6222

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• Market Place Dental 414-764-2110

marketplacental.net

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• Massage Therapy & Bodywork by Kimberly M. Schiesel 414-530-0429

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Area residents can receive college credits for their previous educational and work experiences through MATC's Credit for Prior Learning and Experience (CPLÉ) program, which provides students a range of options to earn college credit for what they already know. Students can demonstrate college-level knowledge and competencies from examination and portfolio to workforce and military experience. Here are some questions you can ask yourself to determine if you can take advantage of MATC's CPLÉ program:

Do you have five or more years of experience that resulted in considerable technical skill or knowledge?

Do you have classroom experiences that did not result in college credit?

Have you received volunteer, work, military or other training that may be applied to learning credit?

Do you have experiences that resulted in special recognition, licenses, awards and publications?

Is your knowledge and/or skill current?

Can your knowledge and/or skill be measured?

In your previous work have you been exposed to a broad range of experiences?

Do you have applicable knowledge and skills for a certificate or degree program at MATC?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may be a candidate for MATC's CPLÉ program. Visit matc.edu/student/resources/cple/index.cfm for more information.

Members of Class of 2017 Can Apply for MATC Promise

Current high school seniors who live in the MATC district or attend high school in the MATC district can apply for the MATC Promise, the program that pays tuition and fees for five consecutive semesters (not including summer) for eligible students. Eligibility criteria has been revised for 2017 and a student must have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$4,500 or lower. A student's EFC is an index number of how

much financial aid the student is eligible to receive; it is not the amount of money a student will have to pay for college, nor is it the amount of federal student aid a student will receive.

Learn more at matc.edu/promise.

Changes Made to Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the application students must complete to apply for federal student aid, which can be used to attend an eligible college or university, including Milwaukee Area Technical College. Federal student aid includes federal Pell Grants, student loans and work-study opportunities.

In addition to determining eligibility for federal student aid, many states, private organizations, colleges and universities rely on information from the FAFSA to determine a student's eligibility for other sources of aid. Visit fafsa.ed.gov/ for more information and to start the application process. MATC's federal code is 003866.



Dr. Mark Felsheim

MATC OAK CREEK CAMPUS FACTS

6665 S. Howell Ave. • 414-571-4500 matc.edu

Dr. Mark Felsheim, Vice President

- 90% of associate degree graduates are employed within six months after graduation and earn an average annual salary of \$36,570.
- 91% of technical diploma graduates are employed within six months after graduation and earn an average annual salary of \$30,760.
- 99% of MATC graduates work in the greater Milwaukee area.



Above and right: Hundreds of high school students toured the Energy Conservation and Advanced Manufacturing (ECAM) Center at MATC's Oak Creek Campus to learn about manufacturing academic programs and careers. Dubbed the "Heavy Metal Tour," the event gave students hands-on experience in several manufacturing disciplines including welding and computer numeric control (CNC) machining. The event was organized by MATC, the South Suburban Chamber of Commerce, and local manufacturers.



Below: The Oak Creek Campus, located at 6665 S. Howell St., is home to the college's Fashion/Retail Marketing associate degree and Fashion Marketing Specialist technical diploma programs.



Left: MATC's Diesel and Powertrain Servicing program is based at the Oak Creek Campus.



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FORGE & FLARE APARTMENTS NOW OPEN AT DREXEL TOWN SQUARE



The Forge & Flare luxury apartments at Drexel Town Square, developed by WiRED Properties and Phelan Development, are now leasing, delivering an urban living experience in the heart of Oak Creek's new downtown. The apartments stand on the former site of AC Delco/Delphi – in the footprint of a 1-million-sq. ft. building that once employed thousands of people who manufactured components for the automotive industry as well as the Apollo space program.

The Forge & Flare buildings straddle Oak Creek's new Main Street, and are also home to many new retail and restaurants options on the first floor. Local restaurants like Bel Air Cantina, Pizza Man, and the Chocolate Factory offer a unique dining experience in the newly created walkable downtown, with large outdoor dining areas and architecture designed to excite the eyes as well as the taste buds. Retailers like GiGi's Cupcakes, Performance Running Outfitters, Roots Salon, Forward Dental and others promise to deliver services you would expect to find in a typical downtown environment.

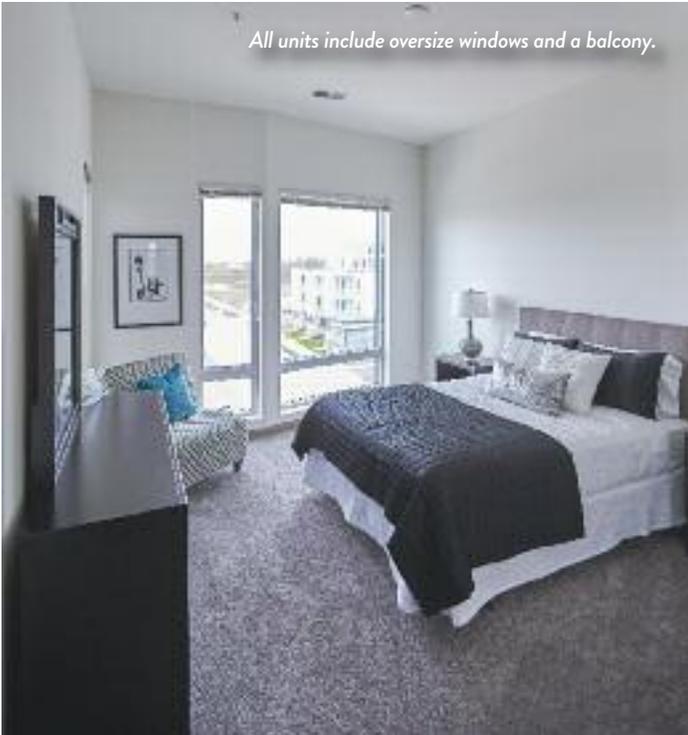
While Drexel Town Square is decidedly modern and new, Forge & Flare's distinctive hammer and forge logo recalls the rich history of the site. Using images obtained from General Motor's archives,

historical images adorn the interiors and lobbies of the buildings, capturing men and women working on the assembly line, or photos of the Apollo rocket program. This wonderful tribute to the past is just one of many features at Drexel Town Square that honors the history of the site, while creating a vibrant new, mixed-used identity.

WiRED Properties and Phelan Development are ready to deliver on their vision for the newest community at Drexel Town Square. Along with 62 apartments, the development is now open for tours – with the first building already leased. Eat, drink, shop – and visit your next home. Attend an Open House by checking the website for dates at forgeandflareapartments.com. Or call (414) 255-3580 or email info@forgeandflareapartments.com.



All units include oversize windows and a balcony.



New businesses like The Chocolate Factory and Roots Salon continue to open at the mixed-use Forge & Flare development.

Photos by Saturn Lounge Photography

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Valentine Coffee Company will open in early 2017 at Emerald Row.

BUILDING ON OUR MOMENTUM

Emerald Row To Expand in 2017



Set on the west side of Oak Creek's new downtown, Emerald Row is a 167-unit, luxury multifamily project that anchors a major portion of the Drexel Town Square redevelopment located at Howell and Drexel Avenues. Designed by Milwaukee-based architecture firm, Rinka Chung, Emerald Row will pioneer apartment design for years to come with its distinctively urban styling and amenities.

The project consists of one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, and features a concierge, club room area, fitness center, zero-entry swimming pool and three separate theater rooms. Leasing has been met with an unprecedented rate of demand, largely due to the fact that Oak Creek has not seen new multifamily construction in more than 20 years. Families, young professionals and empty nesters alike are moving in troves to be a part of the one-off community found at Drexel Town Square.

Through a creative combination of uses, the City of Oak Creek and the private sector were able to create a uniquely urban environment in a suburban market. By blending the best of retail, commercial, civic and residential space, Oak Creek can finally say it has a downtown where people can live, work and play.

Emerald Row is excited to announce its partnership with Valentine Coffee Company, which will open its second bricks-and-mortar store in early 2017. Located on the Town Square, the shop is sure to be a major draw for residents and coffee enthusiasts alike, as the popular brand continues to expand its presence in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Barrett Lo Visionary Development, the venture behind Emerald Row, recently closed on a \$1.25 million, seven-acre tract of land, and the last remaining parcel in Drexel Town Square. The company has a busy year ahead as Phase II of the project is slated to begin construction in 2017, bringing an additional 240 units to the neighborhood. Following the completion of those apartments, developer Rick Barrett will build an additional 250 units on the land he recently acquired, bringing the project total to 657.

Emerald Row would like to thank the City of Oak Creek for its leadership, our devoted staff for their hard work, and finally, our fantastic residents who now call Oak Creek home. See you in 2017!

For more information on Emerald Row, please call (414) 622-000 or visit emeraldrow.com.

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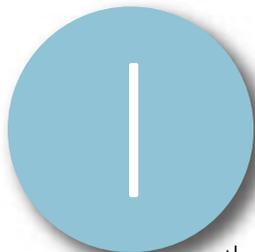
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The ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Forest Ridge Elementary School.



FACILITIES REFERENDUM UPDATE



In the fall of 2014, residents of the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District approved a facilities referendum of \$59,095,000 to address student enrollment growth and facility needs as the next step in the District’s Master Plan.

Oak Creek High School, as well as five of the District’s elementary grade levels, were over student capacity with additional enrollment projected in the next five years.

The referendum authorized the District to borrow funds not to exceed \$59,095,000 to construct a new elementary school for grades 4K-5th on District-owned land located at Drexel Avenue and 20th Street, and a new 9th Grade Center on District-owned land next to the existing high school.

9th Grade Center

Construction of the 9th Grade Center started in January 2016 and will be completed in August 2017 to welcome new incoming freshman for the 2017-2018 school year. The new 192,798-sq.-ft., two-story secondary school building is designed to serve up to 1,000 students. The proposed addition is part of the District’s Master Plan to address long range facility needs required to address potential enrollment growth in the School District. The floor plans include basic core academic classrooms and additional flexible spaces to accommodate collaboration and to create opportunities for future growth.

“We’re excited about using the collaborative spaces to extend the classroom space, enhance collaboration, and foster increased student engagement,” says 9th Grade Associate Principal Christopher Weiss. A gym with one main basketball court and two secondary courts including bleachers will be provided. A dedicated cafeteria area will be serviced by the existing high school in the form of a warming kitchen. The addition will be connected to the existing high school by a covered walkway.

At this time construction at the 9th Grade Center includes the installation of all exterior windows, metal panels and interior metal stud installation for the science, social studies and math classrooms. Installation of the interior drywall for the school offices, media center, art, band and English classrooms is occurring. The construction crews continue to put in place the interior concrete masonry unit walls in the cafeteria along with mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection rough-ins. All paving, curb and gutters for the parking lot are expected to be complete prior to the start of winter. The roof is complete, along with interior concrete masonry unit walls in the science, social studies, and math classrooms.

Forest Ridge Elementary

The new Forest Ridge Elementary School welcomed its new students and staff on September 6, 2016. The school building is organized into “neighborhoods,” grouping similar grade level classrooms around multipurpose, flexible learning spaces for small

and large group collaboration. There are so many favorite spaces at Forest Ridge. Students enjoy working in classrooms and multipurpose areas that provide flexible use spaces. "Our Media Center is the centerpiece of our building and educational program. The Media Center has reading areas with modular seating as well as tables with chairs and stools that students move around freely," says Forest Ridge Principal, Ed Mittag. By using elements from nature to inspire the design, the school building itself becomes a fun, playful, and educational environment which will allow students to thrive! The staff and students love their new school. Forest Ridge Elementary was completed five weeks ahead of schedule and within the original budget.



Exterior work continues on the 9th Grade Center.

The OCFJSD Tax Rate Will Decrease This Year

The Board of Education set the tax levy at \$26,916,645 in the City of Oak Creek and \$5,748,697 for the City of Franklin. The Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District tax rate will decrease by 88 cents from \$9.81 per \$1,000 of equalized value in 2015-16 to \$8.93 this year – a decrease of 5.15%.

The voter-approved debt (please see the Facilities Referendum Update article on opposite page) accounts for an approximate .74% increase while the tax levy for operations decreased approximately 6.65%. This is in part the result of the certified state equalization aid of \$33,164,088.



School Board members and District administrators toured the new 9th Grade Center.



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STUDENTS SHARE MEMORABLE SCHOOL CAREER MOMENTS

T

he Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District updated the mission statement to start the 2016-17 school year. The new mission statement: **Working together to engage, challenge and inspire every student every day**, was the center of this year's opening

day assembly, an assembly for all District employees held at the start of each school year. This year, three students were selected to serve as the keynote speakers and share their voices in front of all 690 District employees at the assembly. After all, there's no better way to inspire educators and School District personnel than through real Oak Creek-Franklin stories told by Oak Creek-Franklin students.

Each student shared an inspiring story about a time in his or her life when a teacher or other adult in the school really had an impact and made a difference in their life. You could see the District's mission statement come to life as each student shared what had engaged, challenged and inspired them throughout their school career.

The following excerpts were taken from each of the student speeches at the opening day assembly.

Oak Creek High School senior Zac shared his appreciation for having opportunities to gain real-world experiences in his business classes, including creating and recording a radio ad campaign. "Mr. Burden is one of the Business Education teachers at Oak Creek High School. I had the privilege of being in his sales and advertising class and his advanced marketing class. These have been the best classes I have ever taken. Mr. Burden inspired me to consider business as my future career, but more importantly, he has inspired me to be a better leader for people that I work with.

First, Mr. Burden treated us with the same respect that he wanted in return. For example, he always talked to us like adults, and asked for our opinions and input in how to accomplish tasks. Second, Mr. Burden used teaching methods that really helped students

understand the lessons, such as hands-on projects and interesting case studies. He never assigned "busy work" or made unmanageable deadlines that didn't make sense. Sometimes he even asked the students how to best structure the lesson plan.

"Mr. Burden used teaching methods that really helped students understand the lessons, such as hands-on projects and interesting case studies."

Finally, Mr. Burden took the time to build a relationship with each student. I knew I could ask any question, get help anytime I needed it or get a few words of encouragement. During a project where the class helped advertise the Knights Blue Raspberry Lemonade soda he provided us with a lot of opportunities and encouragement to run a business. He asked me, knowing I love to public speak, to be a part of the project where we had a taste-test session at the Taste of Oak Creek and be a part of a real-life radio ad. I was able to participate in both experiences because Mr. Burden took the time to get to know what my strengths were and how I could best contribute to the team."

Michaela, a freshman at Oak Creek High School, shared how her elementary custodian always made her feel like she had a friend at school. She also talked about her eighth grade language arts teacher, Mrs. Shaw.

“Most years in middle school, I had been extremely confused and lost about what was going on academically. That all changed on the first day of 8th grade, when I was dreading my second period that was language arts. I heard the teacher was harsh and gave a lot of homework. When the second period rolled around, I walked in my new language arts classroom and was pleasantly surprised to find the room had a cozy feeling. There were bean bags, carpets and comfy chairs. Once the bell rang, the teacher said she was going to give us all names. I thought to myself, ‘What? Wasn’t she given a class roster? This lady must be crazy.’ Then, she got out a baby book and as promised, named us all based on her first impression. She then introduced herself as Mrs. Shaw. I will always remember this day because she made me feel like I was the only person in the room, not that I was part of large group of students. She connected with her students and made us laugh. Mrs. Shaw impacted my life in a variety of ways. Thanks to her, I am a much more confident writer than ever before.”

Eighth grader Sophia shared how her 7th grade science teacher

ignited her passion for science and encouraged all teachers to find what sparks the curiosity and wonder in their students.

“One of the teachers that really opened a door for me was my 6th grade science teacher Mrs. Pratt. Until I reached 6th grade, science wasn’t really something that excited me. I knew I wanted to be a pediatrician, so I would have to learn to love science sooner or later, but I couldn’t find anything that really made me love it.

During one of our first days in science class, Mrs. Pratt lit a lab table on fire. I was truly shocked and was attracted to learn how in the world this was possible. However, when you have a question in Mrs. Pratt’s science class there is no way that she will tell you what the answer is. Your curiosity must guide you to the solutions, and it eventually did. Of course, in the situation that we really struggle she would guide us, but only enough so that something clicks. This is a skill that I will use throughout my life. Whenever I’m faced with a question, I know that curiosity will eventually guide me, and that giving up is simply not an option.”

These messages proved to be a powerful way to engage, challenge and inspire School District staff at the start of the new school year. The speeches given by these three exemplary students have also been turned into a series of videos that will be available to view on the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District website (ocfsd.org).

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ASPIRE PROGRAM: A SOLID START AND END TO EACH SCHOOL DAY

Before the school day begins and after the school day is done, each elementary school continues to bustle with children learning and growing. The After School Program for Involvement, Recreation and Enrichment (ASPIRE) offers care for children outside the school day at each of the District's elementary schools. The morning program offers a warm greeting, breakfast and time to play with friends. The after-school program provides children an opportunity to socialize with classmates, have quiet time for homework, enjoy some extra time outdoors, play games, and share a hearty snack.

The program serves 475 children in 7 elementary schools. Students enrolled in ASPIRE are cared for by a team of program supervisors, school-day aides, traveling staff and high school student employees. Oak Creek High School Renaissance volunteers offer help during homework time. Students also enjoy visits from high school student organizations and teams. Program staff share a great range of experience and take pride in offering a caring environment for children. Taher, the District food service, provides quality breakfasts and after-school snacks.

The fall season peaks feelings of thanks and gratitude. Students in the Forest Ridge ASPIRE program were asked to share one thing for which they were most thankful. While a few shared names of pets, a favorite food or free time activity, most shared thankfulness for family and friends.

While there is no substitute for a caring family and the support of friends, the ASPIRE program offers children a safe and happy place to start and end their day.



KEEPING ACTIVE

• **Basketball Open Gym** is available on Saturdays from 6-8 p.m. at East Middle School now until February 25.

• **Volleyball Open Gym** is held on Saturdays from 6-8 p.m. at West Middle School from March 4-April 8.

Children under the age of 10 are asked to attend with a parent. A fee of \$2/person is taken at the door. Facilities will be closed for the upcoming holiday breaks: Saturday, November 26 and December 24 and 31.

• **Open Swim** is available on Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. at the Oak Creek High School pool. **Teen and Adult Lap Swim** is also offered at the pool on Monday-Thursday evenings from 8-9 p.m.

Guests are to enter door #21 on the east side of the building. A fee of \$2/person is taken at the door. Sessions run through December 17 and return January 16.

Practice some basketball skills during Open Gym at East Middle School – or take advantage of Open Swim at the high school pool.



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—PRWEB; November 18, 2015

"The style of the recipes encourages you to believe that even if you've never cooked your own dinner from scratch... you can do this... sets novice baker/cooker up for success, which will encourage future attempts at cooking..."
—Amazon Review by Kat K

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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Fast Facts About the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District

Food Service
Approximately 17,300 school lunches are served each week.

Technology
There are over 5,500 computers in Oak Creek-Franklin schools.

Transportation
School buses travel 3,801 miles per day, operating 190 routes for the district.

Home Languages
There are approximately 450 students who speak over 40 different languages at home.

Course Offerings
There are over 200 different courses offered at Oak Creek High School.

- Approximately 17,300 school lunches are served each week.
- Oak Creek-Franklin school buses travel 3,801 miles per day operating 190 routes for the District.
- There are approximately 450 students who speak more than 40 different languages at home.
- There are more than 200 different courses offered at Oak Creek High School.
- There are more than 5,500 computers in Oak Creek-Franklin schools.

The Knight Construction crew celebrated the groundbreaking of the site of the 2016-17 house, located on E. Ash Court in Oak Creek. 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.



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

- Visit the District website: ocfsd.org
- “Like” us on Facebook at facebook.com/ocfsd
- “Follow” us on Twitter @OCFSD
- Visit the District blog Knight Vision at knightvisionocfsd.blogspot.com



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As we prepare to welcome the holidays to the community, we remember all the great reasons we love to live and work in Oak Creek! Our City is on the move with new development, super events, terrific shopping options and award-winning food and beverage choices. Help spread the word about our incredible community!

- 1. The Market Place Village is a unique destination on the east side of the city at Puetz Rd. and Highway 32. An eclectic mix of boutiques (shown here a variety of stoneware from Potters Field) and service businesses welcome your visit. Read more on page 14.
- 2. Brian Kramp (right) of Fox 6 Real Milwaukee interviews Oak Creek Mayor Steve Scaffidi.
- 3. A recent “shred day” in September attracted Oak Creek residents to safely dispose of confidential records.
- 4. Construction work continues on the new 9th Grade Center (at Puetz Road and Howell Ave.) due to open for the 2017-18 school year (see page 26).
- 5. Another Market Place business, SEWcials, specializes in wedding dress alterations and redesign. Suzanne Todd is one of the owners who lives above her shop.
- 6. The new apartments at Forge & Flare in Drexel Town Square offer convenient living in the City’s “new downtown.”



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

7. Congratulations to the Oak Creek High School Marching Knights on their third straight WSMA AAAA State Championship!
8. Students enjoy their time after school while participating in the School District's ASPIRE program. Read more on page 30. **9.** The City was recently featured on the WKLH morning show. Left to right: Dorene Michaels, Dave Luzak, Gino Salomone and Katrina Cravy. **10.** Students in the School District's Knight Construction program participate in the groundbreaking of the new 2016-17 home (see page 32). **11.** Phase II of the Emerald Row development will soon begin. Read more on page 22.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2016

- **Wed., Nov. 23: Evening of Blessings, 4-7 p.m.** Free Thanksgiving dinner at Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Gather with family and friends to celebrate the start of the holiday season. Call the Center at 414.768.5840 for details.
- **Thur.-Fri., Nov. 24-25: City Offices and Library Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**
- **Sun., Nov. 27: Community Christmas Tree Lighting, 5 to 7 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Visit with Santa, free gift bags for the kids! Musical entertainment and free holiday refreshments.
- **Sat., Nov. 26: 21st Annual Holiday Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. More than 50 exhibitors with free admission and parking.
- **Mon., Nov. 28: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** at Meadowview Elementary School, 10420 S. McGraw Dr.
- **Mon., Nov. 28: Holiday "Giving Tree" event begins** Oak Creek Civic Center, 8040 S. 6th St. Christmas trees will be set up and tagged throughout the Civic Center. Stop in to pick up a tag and help fulfill Christmas wishes.

DECEMBER 2016

- **Thur., Dec. 1: Winter Parking Rules Begin** Visit the City website at oakcreekwi.org for details.
- **Thur., Dec. 1: Waterstone Bank presents a Free Movie Night, 6:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Featuring the Disney smash hit "Finding Dory." Doors open at 6 p.m. Free Christmas cookies for the first 100 guests.



- **Sat., Dec. 3: Drexel Town Square Christmas Tree Lighting, 6 p.m.** Town Square, 361 W. Town Square Way. Join Mayor Scaffidi for the lighting of the first Town Square Christmas tree.
- **Sun., Dec. 4: Breakfast with Santa, 10 a.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast while listening to holiday music.

Santa will have a special gift bag for every child in attendance. Call the Center at 414.768.5840 for ticket info or visit occenter.com.

- **Mon., Dec. 5: Canadian Pacific Holiday Train Viewing Party, 5:30-8 p.m.** Bring a non-perishable item to donate to local families in need, return your Giving Tree items, and enjoy hot chocolate and candy canes at the Library. Then grab your flashlight and enjoy Emerald Preserve as you wait for the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train to roll through Oak Creek, as it travels from Sturtevant to Milwaukee between 6:05-6:50 p.m.

- **Wed., Dec. 7: Holiday Planning and Stress Management Workshop, 4:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Civic Center Multi-Purpose Room, 8040 S. 6th St. Registration required – visit oakcreeklibrary.org.
- **Sat., Dec. 11: Breakfast with Santa December, 10 a.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. (See the event listed on December 4.) Call the Center at 414.768.5840 for ticket info or visit occenter.com.
- **Mon., Dec. 12: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** at Deerfield Elementary School, 3871 E. Bluestem Dr.
- **Tue., Dec. 15: Meet the Mayor, 4-5:45 p.m.** McDonald's, 8800 S. Howell Ave. Mayor Scaffidi conducts an informal listening session with residents.
- **Mon., Dec. 19: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** at Deerfield Elementary School, 3871 E. Bluestem Dr.
- **Fri.-Mon., Dec. 23-26: City Offices and Library Closed for Christmas Holiday**
- **Fri.-Sat., Dec. 30-31: City Offices and Library Closed for New Year's Eve Holiday**

JANUARY 2017

- **Mon., Jan. 2: City Offices and Library Closed for New Year's Day Holiday**
- **Tue., Jan. 10: Meet the Mayor, 4-5:45 p.m.** Civic Center Delphi Room, 8040 S. 6th Street. Mayor Scaffidi conducts an informal listening session with residents.
- **Sat., Jan. 14: District Festival of Bands (grades 5-12), 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.** at Oak Creek High School, 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Thur., Jan. 19: Festival of Choirs 7 p.m.** at Oak Creek High School, 340 E. Puetz Rd.

FEBRUARY 2017

- **Mon., Feb. 13: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** at Cedar Hills Elementary School, 2225 E. Sycamore Ave.
- **Tue., Feb. 14: Meet the Mayor, 4-5:45 p.m.** Location to be announced. Please visit facebook.com/cityof oakcreek for details. Mayor Scaffidi conducts an informal listening session with residents.
- **Fri.-Sat., Feb. 17-18: Winter Festival** Town Square, 361 W. Town Square Way. Visit oakcreekwi.org.
- **Tues., Feb. 21: Spring Primary Election**
- **Thur., Feb. 23-Sat., Feb 25: Oak Creek High School Musical, 7 p.m.** 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Sun. Feb. 26: Oak Creek High School Musical, 2 p.m.** 340 E. Puetz Rd.
- **Mon., Feb. 27: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** at Cedar Hills Elementary School, 2225 E. Sycamore Ave.

MARCH 2017

- **Thur., Mar. 9: Oak Creek-Franklin Foundation for Education's Taste of Oak Creek-Franklin**

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