

WINTER 2019/2020

O A K C R E E K

CURRENT

M A G A Z I N E

GETTING
READY
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS
IN
OAK CREEK

- CENSUS 2020
NEEDS YOUR HELP
- SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITY
IMPROVEMENTS
- THE SKY'S THE
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ON THE COVER

The holidays are almost here – and Oak Creek has plenty of fun activities planned to celebrate the season! See pg. 29 for some of our favorites, and also pg. 34 for the Community Calendar. Turkey Trek at Emerald Preserve, tree lightings, Breakfast with Santa, Winterfest and more offer plenty to do to stay active during the winter months!

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, and is mailed for free to all households and businesses in the City. 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 the MATC-Oak Creek campus. The magazine also receives funding from local advertisers.

This publication is guided by a professional advisory committee comprised of representatives from the City, the School District, and residents and business owners. Please email all inquiries/suggestions to info@oakcreekmagazine.com.

CITY OF OAK CREEK



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(414) 766-7000 • oakcreekwi.org

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oakcreekmagazine.com

From Dan Bukiewicz-Oak Creek Mayor

Holiday Greetings!



As we begin to look forward to 2020, it is only appropriate we look back at all that 2019 has brought to Oak Creek. As a City, we again saw tremendous growth in many areas. The construction of two new single-family residential developments, East Brook Preserve and the second phase of Glen Crossing, are well underway, with another planned along Howell Ave. Multi-family developments also remained in demand with the construction of Parterre at Emerald Row in Drexel Town Square, and Orchard Hills on 27th Street. Developers are also looking at other appropriate sites for another development in 2020.

In the commercial, business, and manufacturing development areas, Oak Creek continued to pace Milwaukee County in 2019. Some of the world's most renowned companies in their industries, such as Amazon, Astronautics, and Zünd will soon call Oak Creek their home. Old friends such as Arena Americas and Stella and Chewy enlarged their footprints in Oak Creek. The city also welcomed a variety of other new businesses in 2019, as well - First Watch, MACs and Agave Blu Cantina restaurants, The Waters of Oak Creek, Oak Park Place, Diesel Barbershop, and Stanton Optical, to name a few.

With this development cycle has also come an unprecedented number of improvements to our roads, sewers and bridges. Many of these projects were completed to replace worn out infrastructure, while others were needed for the safety and future growth of the area served by them. Not all of the projects are under Oak Creek's jurisdiction; many are the County's or State's. In any case, these investments to our infrastructure will benefit Oak Creek and put us in a far better position for years to come. While the inconvenience of the construction can be measured in months, the improvements will be felt for decades.

As a community, this year brought us many occasions to come together to celebrate living in Oak Creek, with events like the Farmers Market, our Beer Gardens and the annual Fourth of July Celebration. These events play a vital role in bringing us together as a City, providing the opportunity to connect with neighbors, make new friends and, most importantly, to discover we have far more in common than simply being an Oak Creek resident.

Oak Creek celebrated being featured on the television programs "Discover Wisconsin" and "Around the Corner with John McGivern." On both shows, I was asked what makes Oak Creek so special, and my answer is always the same: the people. In Oak Creek, we genuinely care about our neighbors, our schools and our City. We have accomplished many things in Oak Creek, all done with the end goal to improve the quality of life for not just a few, but everyone who lives here.

In closing, I want to thank all employees who do a fantastic job every day to keep Oak Creek moving and growing, our Common Council for their vision and dedication to our City's comprehensive plan, and the residents of Oak Creek for permitting me the honor of representing our City.

I wish you all excellent health, happiness and prosperity in 2020.

Dan Bukiewicz- Mayor, City of Oak Creek

Seasons

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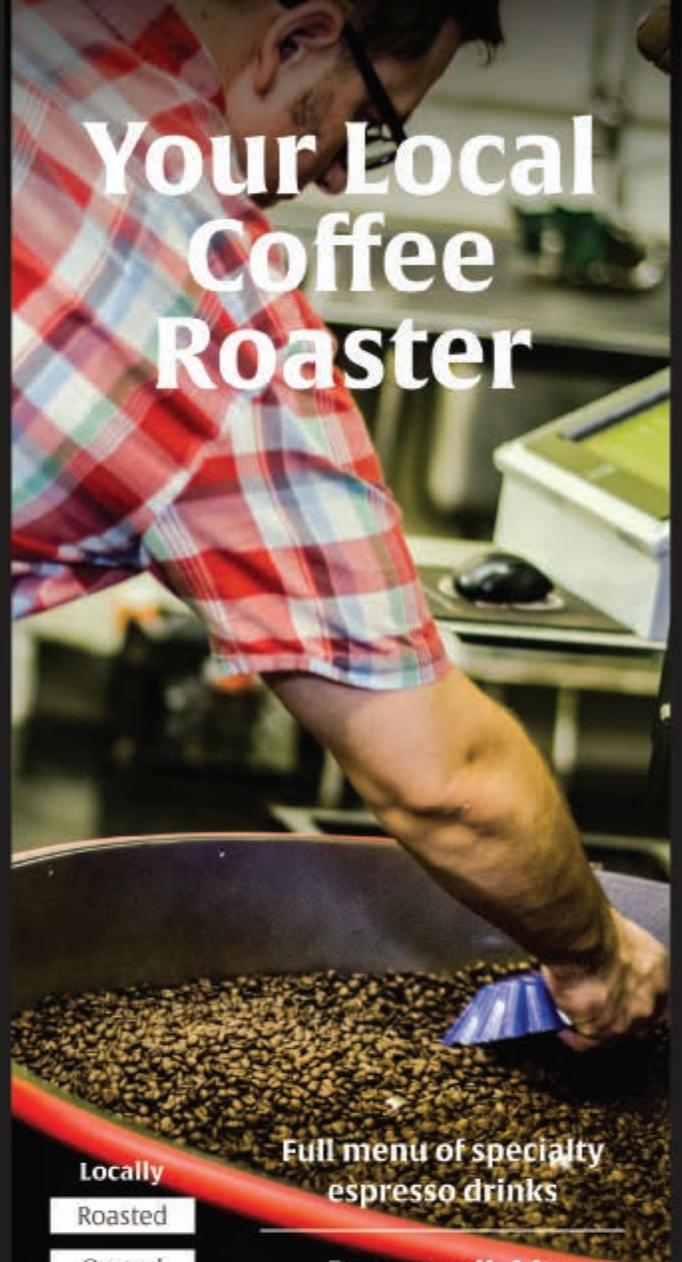
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1:1 TECHNOLOGY EXTENDS LEARNING BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY

Students Now Use School-Issued Chromebooks at Home



Technology increases at the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District with the expansion of the 1:1 Technology Initiative. 1:1 Technology (pronounced one to one) is an initiative where the ratio of students to computers is one to one.

At the start of the 2019-2020 school year, the District's 1:1 Technology Initiative, which was implemented at the 9th Grade Center and Empower Academy last school year, expanded to include grades eight and ten. Now, each student in grades eight through ten and Empower Academy has a student-issued Chromebook to use at school and at home.

"With our 1:1 Technology Initiative, students are able to take their District-owned device home, giving them 24/7 access to technology and the ability to extend learning beyond the school day," says Director of Information Technology Chris Bennin.

Research has shown that a well-conceived program for giving all students access to technology has a positive impact on student achievement. This effect is compounded when paired with other high-impact teaching and learning strategies. Teachers at the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District increasingly use Google Classroom and other technologies to enhance student engagement.

Students who do not have a student-issued device still have access to classroom sets of Chromebooks at school. "Every Oak Creek-Franklin student has access to a device during the school day," Bennin shares. Bennin and his team of four technicians manage all of the District's devices. That's about one technician for every 1,340 students, one technician for every 1,860 devices. The 1:1 Technology Initiative puts technology in the hands of students who may not

otherwise have access to a computer at home. It also helps to teach students how to be "responsible digital citizens." Digital citizenship prepares students for a society full of technology by teaching students appropriate use of technology and the internet, including the use of email, cyberbullying, copyright, and digital footprints.

Keeping Kids Safe

With increased access to technology comes an increase in security and monitoring. Since 2015, the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District has been using a powerful content filter called GoGuardian.

Designed specifically for school environments, GoGuardian monitors and tracks all internet activity by students and staff in real-time and blocks websites with inappropriate content. Teachers can view their students' computer screens at all times, which helps to keep students on task and focused. On 1:1 devices, the monitoring continues when students bring their devices home, giving parents peace of mind.

The District also uses Gaggle, a high-level search engine that scans school-issued Gmail and Google Drive accounts for any inappropriate content. School principals and District administrators are notified of any inappropriate content, and if an imminent threat to student safety is detected, notification is also sent directly to the Oak Creek Police Department.

The 1:1 Technology Initiative aligns with the District's vision of "graduating students prepared to excel at their choice of college or career with academic skills, as well as the ability to effectively communicate, collaborate, create and think critically. Students will also graduate with the necessary civic, global and digital skills capable of participating safely, ethically and productively in a profoundly different future."





Cedar Hills Elementary Earns National Blue Ribbon Award

The Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District is proud to announce Cedar Hills Elementary has been named a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Cedar Hills is one of eight schools in the state and 362 in the nation to earn this prestigious recognition.

Presented annually by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools across the country for demonstrating overall academic excellence or making substantial progress in closing student achievement gaps. Cedar Hills earned this award as an Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School.

“We celebrate diversity at Cedar Hills,” Principal Keith Ruffolo shares. “We live and breathe our school vision statement, ‘You Belong Here,’ which reflects the care and compassion for students and families and has set a strong foundation for learning,” Ruffolo adds.

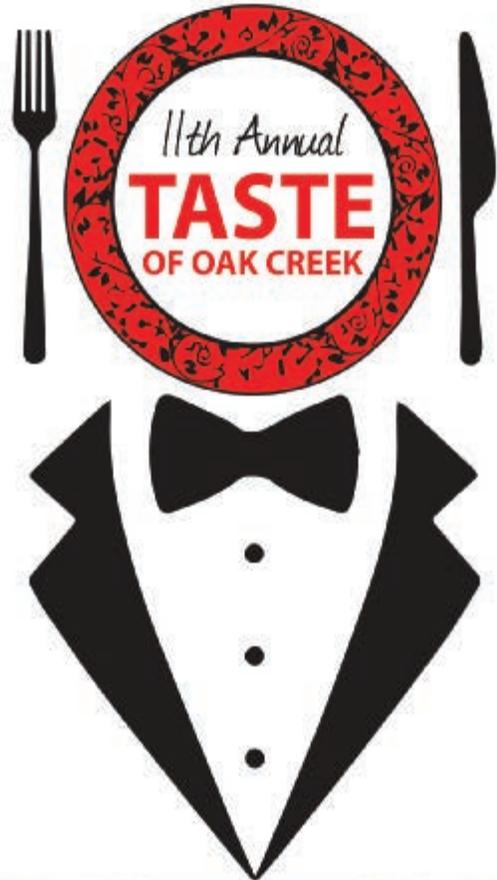
Cedar Hills achieved a perfect score in closing achievement gaps in English Language Arts and a nearly perfect score in mathematics on their school report card released by the Department of Public Instruction. “Our entire staff is extremely dedicated to meeting students where they are at and providing the proper supports to move them forward in their learning,” Ruffolo says.

“It fills all of us here in Oak Creek/Franklin with immense pride to have Cedar Hills Elementary earn this extremely high honor,” says Dan Unertl, superintendent of the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District. “This national recognition is a true testament to the dedication of our hardworking faculty and staff, the outstanding leadership of Principal Ruffolo, our supportive families, dedicated School Board, exceptional community, and our amazing students.”

The U.S. Department of Education will honor all 2019 National Blue Ribbon Schools at an awards ceremony on November 14-15 in Washington, D.C. For more information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools program and the schools receiving the 2019 designation, visit <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.

RESERVE THE DATE

February 27, 2020
5 - 8 pm
Oak Creek Community Center



Benefiting the Oak Creek-Franklin
Foundation for Education

Tickets available February 1, 2020
at the Oak Creek Community Center and the
Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District Office

Interested Vendors may contact
Heather Ryan
h.ryan@ocfsd.org





KNIGHTS GIVE BACK DURING TRIP TO PERU

In June 2019, after three flights totaling 18 hours of travel, 25 high school Spanish students and four adults from Oak Creek, Wisconsin, arrived in Lima, Peru. The trip was an opportunity for students to experience Peruvian culture, practice Spanish, and help create a special garden for the girls of the Sacred Valley Project.

The Sacred Valley Project, which operates solely on donations and volunteers, provides schooling and housing for girls ages 11-18 from surrounding rural mountain communities. In Peru, indigenous communities are scattered throughout the Andes Mountains. The closest school to the villages in the mountains can be a three-to-four-hour walk. Many girls experience violence and encounter dangerous situations on the long journey to and from school. Without the Sacred Valley Project, many of these girls would not be able to attend school.

With pickaxes and shovels in hand, the high school students got to work, creating a vegetable garden for the dormitory. “In five hours, we made more than 300 mud bricks,” recalls senior Lauryn Fowle. “We had an assembly line going: pickaxing the ground, shoveling dirt, shifting dirt and making mud bricks,” senior Emma McCoy adds. The vegetable garden will be a sustainable food source for the girls who live in the dorm. The girls will take part in growing and preparing their food every day. The mud bricks were used as the edges of the garden as well as to create a wall around the premises.

“I am really proud of the students,” says Spanish teacher Susan Tucknott. “They really ‘dug-in’ and asked a lot of questions, and I think they got more out of the trip because of it,” Tucknott continues.

The group had a chance to talk with some of the girls at a festival in their home village. “Students were able to talk with the girls from the school, and they realized these are kids just like them, although they don’t have immediate access to education,” Tucknott shares.

While on the trip, the group immersed themselves in Peruvian culture, creating native art, exploring the Pisac market, tasting local delicacies and visiting Machu Picchu. “I loved learning the history of Machu Picchu. It was breathtaking, and I was speechless the whole time we were there,” high school senior Halley Grams recalls.

The trip was full of unforgettable experiences, but the most impactful part of the trip was the garden the group helped build for



Left: A group of 25 high school Spanish students visited Peru in June to help create a garden for a girls' school in the Andes mountains.



the girls. "Education is a privilege. When you think about what the girls go through and the challenges they face to get to school, you realize how lucky we are here to have immediate access to education," McCoy says.

Thanks to the hard work of the group, there will always be a part of Oak Creek in Peru, and Peru will always have a place in the hearts of the students and adults who participated in the trip.



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SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The Oak Creek Fire Department visited all seven Oak Creek-Franklin elementary schools to teach students in grades kindergarten through third about fire prevention and safety. Thank you, OCFD!

INCOMING FRESHMEN

Oak Creek High School is hosting an Open House for incoming freshmen (current 8th grade students) on Thursday, January 9, 2020, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the 9th Grade Center, located at the Oak Creek High School campus. During the Open House, guests can tour the building and meet members of the high school staff.

STAY CONNECTED

To keep up to date with our quality schools and their success stories, special events and more, you have a variety of communication choices. Please check in with us often!

- Visit our website ocfsd.org
- Join our community email list ocfsd.org/email
- “Like” us on Facebook
- “Follow” us on Twitter @OCFSD
- View the OCHS Knights athletic calendar ocfsd.org/go-knights



SAVE THESE DATES! 4K and 5K Enrollment for 2020-2021

It's almost time to enroll the next class of future Knights. Enrollment week for the District's 4K and 5K programs will take place on Monday, March 16-Friday, March 20, at the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District Office, located at 7630 S. 10th Street in Oak Creek. For more information visit ocfsd.org/enroll4K.

HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

The OC Knights captured a Homecoming win against Racine Park on Friday, October 4. Way to go, Knights! Congratulations to our 2019 Homecoming Court and all of our Homecoming Kings and Queens.



Best Buddies King and Queen Marc Westemeier and Hailey Stier.



Teachers at the 9th Grade Center represent their favorite super heroes during Homecoming Spirit Week.



Students show off their “fashion disasters” during Homecoming Spirit Week



Homecoming King and Queen Lucas Gallet and Isabel Fleischmann.



OC cheerleaders get ready to show their spirit during the big game.



Staff Homecoming King and Queen Mr. Majors and Principal Mongan.



OAK CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

18/19

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN REVIEW



CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

215 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

289 CERTIFICATIONS EARNED IN 2018-2019

CTE INTERVIEW SUMMIT

360 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING
37 BUSINESS PARTNERS

COLLEGE AND CAREER READY

451 STUDENTS EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT

714 TOTAL COLLEGE CREDITS EARNED

WORK BASED LEARNING

18 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN WISCONSIN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

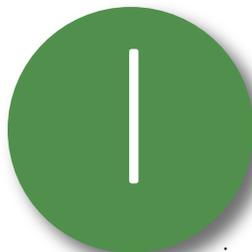

TOTAL CTE COURSES COMPLETED

2,919 COURSES COMPLETED IN CTE 2018-2019



The new scoreboard and sod were installed on the softball field just in time before the first snowfall. The School District invested in some fake plastic coyotes to help keep the geese off the sod!

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS ABOUND IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM



It has been a busy fall for construction at the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, with numerous projects continuing Districtwide to help us build successful futures. The most visible work this fall includes new gymnasiums at three of our elementary schools and athletic projects at East Middle School and Oak Creek High School. Below is a deeper dive into what's going on around the District.

Edgewood, Meadowview and Shepard Hills Elementary Schools gym additions are progressing. Exterior brick work is wrapping up at Edgewood and Meadowview, which allows the mechanical and electrical work to be done and prepares for interior finishes in these new spaces. The gym addition at Shepard Hills is also underway, with foundations in the ground and walls starting to go up.

By Fall 2020, all three of these schools will have separate gymnasiums and cafeterias to accommodate the scheduling needs for lunch and physical education classes, as well as literacy and math blocks. These separated spaces allow for uninterrupted academics and improved physical education for all our students.

East Middle School and Oak Creek High School athletic projects are well underway, with the bulk of the work completed this fall. Loads of dirt have been moved, large retention ponds are dug and parking lots are ready to be paved at East and OCHS.

the concession stand and dugouts are up, allowing the interior work to proceed. Bleachers at the Varsity baseball and Varsity softball fields are



Putting up the fencing around the athletic field at East Middle School.

being installed, and sod and cool-season grass seed were installed in mid-October to take advantage of moderate temperatures and help get fields established before winter – and ready for use next spring.

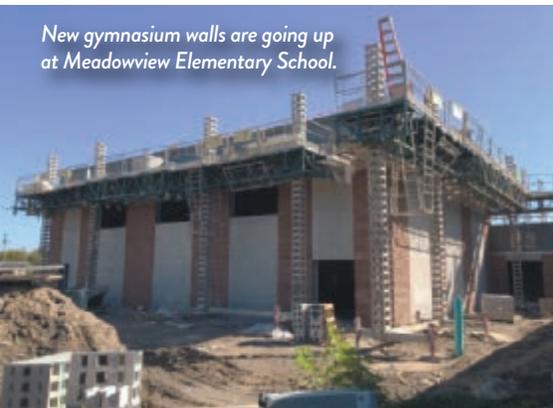
Construction of the new competition soccer field on the high school campus has begun and is expected to be complete by fall 2020 – lights and all.

LED lighting upgrades continue across the District to increase energy efficiency and help save on energy costs for the District. LED updates are 100% complete at Deerfield, Edgewood and Meadowview Elementary Schools, and 95% finished at East Middle School. Next on the list for lighting upgrades is the high school, which is scheduled to begin in January 2020.

Planning for next summer's construction work has already begun. To view the design and construction schedule for Districtwide projects, visit ocfsd.org/referendum. The District website provides a project timeline for each phase of work and which schools are up next for construction (including school renderings or site plans, where applicable).

Some of the projects next in line include:

- Oak Creek High School is in the design phase, with construction scheduled to begin in summer 2020. This construction project includes the highly anticipated Performing Arts Education Center and improved technical education wing at OCHS.
- The Carollton and Cedar Hills Elementary Schools gym additions are also in the design phase and scheduled to begin construction next summer as well.



New gymnasium walls are going up at Meadowview Elementary School.

Since most of the underground work is complete and ballfield fences have been installed at East Middle School, the above-ground work is now in the works. Roofs and walls for



Register Online
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The "What To Do?" Activity Guides contain information about regular programming including sports camps, instructional programs, child care and other fun activities. Activity Guides may be found in any School Office, OC Library, District Office, Oak Creek Community Center, or online at www.ocfsd.org/youth-programs.



Saturday Evenings \$2.00 per person or Season Pass* for \$40

East Middle School

(Grades 6 and Up)
6pm - 8pm

Forest Ridge School

(Grades K - 5)
6pm - 8pm



*Season Pass allows one person to participate every open gym (6 - 8pm) through May 30. There are some dates that there will be NO open gym. Please look at our website for details.



Schools Day Out 2019 - 2020 School Year

Open to all K - 8th Grade Students

Schools Day Out offered on:

Wednesday, November 27

Friday, January 24

Monday, January 27

Friday February 14

Friday April 10

Monday, April 13

Pre-registration is required (3 days prior)

\$40 per day

Coming Soon: Winter/Spring Basketball for Grades K - 8

Boys and Girls Grades K - 1 (Hot Shots! Clinic)

Boys and Girls Grades 2 - 3 (FUNdamentals)

Girls Grades 4 - 5 (League Play)

Boys Grades 4 - 8 (League Play)

REGISTRATION FOR ALL WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS NOVEMBER 25

SPRING BREAK CAMP "IT'S MY PARTY" 2020 March 23 - 27

Join our Camp OC/ ASPIRE Staff for our "It's My Party" Spring Break Camp March 23 - 27. We will have a dance party, gaming day, field trips, indoor bowling tournament, board game tournament and a pool party at OCHS pool. Registration opens January 3, 2020. Check website for details.

Aquatics Open Swim/ Laps

Open Swim
\$2.00 per person

Saturdays 11am - 1pm

Lap Swim
\$1.00 per person

Mondays - Thursdays 8pm - 9pm

Saturday Mornings 8am - 9am

Saturday Birthday Parties

Looking for a fun and exciting way to celebrate your child's birthday? Let Youth Programs help you out! Call (414) 768 - 6166 or visit our website for details. Only \$100 for up to 20 people.

Forest Ridge School

Grades K - 5
Saturday
4pm - 6pm

East Middle School

Grades 6 and Up
Saturday
4pm - 6pm

Oak Creek High School Pool

Saturday
11am - 1pm

A brighter performance starts back stage



As part of PPG's Colorful Communities' initiative, our PPG team and local union 781 IUPAT D.C. 7 helped restore the rehearsal studio of the Marcus Performing Arts Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The local community can attest to the value of this studio and are proud to see the unified effort of many to make the project possible.



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NEW YEAR!**

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OAK CREEK AMERICAN LEGION POST 434

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THE SKY'S THE LIMIT AT MATC AVIATION CENTER

By Alison Henderson



itchell International Airport passers-by may remember that the F-4 Phantom fighter jet was displayed on College Avenue for decades, but fewer may know of the instructional aviation center just down the road from the jet's original location.

The Milwaukee Area Technical College Aviation Center at 422 E. College Ave. is a facility for aspiring aviation mechanics to get hands-on experience with aircraft – including a helicopter – and propellers, engines and more.



MATC's Aviation Technician program is a two-year technical diploma certified by the Federal Aviation Administration that qualifies students to maintain aircraft electrical, instrument and power control systems. The program teaches everything from physics and FAA regulations to airframe and powerplant maintenance.

It's one of the few aircraft maintenance programs offered in Wisconsin, according to student-turned-instructor Doug Golden, who has been teaching aviation program courses since 2006.

Golden said whether it's a student fresh out of high school who wants to work in the aviation world or a retiree who owns a plane and wants to work on its mechanics, this program offers the knowledge and experience to do that.

"You become a jack of all trades," says MATC student Consuelo Rivera. "You know about upholstery, welding, painting. You learn all these different things and really develop a skill." She adds that her instructors have opened her eyes to the opportunities this program provides.

The employment rate for MATC's recent Aviation Technician graduates is 100%. From working on single-engine aircraft or being employed by major airlines, to building engines for General Electric or even NASA, Golden notes it is a great time to be in the field. He says sometimes students are recruited while in the program and have jobs available for them right after their graduation.

Second-year student Brent Lang has always had a love of aviation. It may be a family trait since his grandfather owned a plane and had a commercial pilot's license. After 13 years in the U.S. Army, including 10 years as a hydraulic aircraft mechanic, the younger Lang also obtained a commercial license. He says that in addition to the interactive, hands-on learning, he appreciates the accessibility and the real-world knowledge the MATC instructors bring to the classroom.

"They break it down to where anybody coming from any background would be able to understand the material and apply it," Lang says. "It's a great program and more people should be doing it."

To learn more about MATC's Aviation Technician-Airframe technical diploma, Aviation Technician-Powerplant technical diploma and Aviation Maintenance-General certificate programs, see matc.edu/tas or call the Oak Creek Campus at (414) 571-4500.

Student-turned-instructor Doug Golden has been teaching aviation program courses at MATC since 2006.





Dr. Mark Felsheim

Visit matc.edu

MATC OAK CREEK CAMPUS
6665 S. Howell Ave.
(414) 571-4500 • matc.edu
Dr. Mark Felsheim, Campus
Executive Director



In an innovative program funded through a Southwest Airlines Charitable Grant, high school students are taking college-level aviation courses. Their work has included a trip to Mitchell International Airport to see the Southwest Airlines Operations, and another trip to the MATC Aviation Center. This program helps students from The Lynde and Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School get real-world experience in an in-demand career.





OAK CREEK
— WISCONSIN —

OAK CREEK FIRE CHIEF RETIRES AFTER 40 YEARS

confusion and disbelief. “It was a turning point for the department,” Rosandich points out. Training and response protocols were implemented shortly after.

Rosandich and others from the Oak Creek Fire Department were also on-scene for one of the worst aviation disasters in Wisconsin history, the crash of Midwest Express Flight 105 on September 6, 1985. Over the years that followed, Rosandich responded to or commanded many more major incidents in Oak Creek, including the Peter Cooper factory building fire, an explosion at the PPG plant, and a fire in the coal-handling silo at the WE Energies power plant. Mutual aid response brought Rosandich and the department outside City limits to the Patrick Cudahy meatpacking plant fire in 2009 and the 2013 Echo Lake farm fire in Burlington – a pair which he, with his usual good-natured sense of humor, refers to as the “bacon-and-eggs fires.”

A bit of lighthearted mischief, as it turns out, is foundational to Rosandich’s leadership style. He credits local car dealer and long-time friend Craig Lucas for inspiring that approach. “Craig always stressed the importance of not only getting the job done, but having a little fun while doing it,” he notes. “It’s good to hear a little levity in the firehouse, because this job is otherwise so serious.”

Fostering a sense of family in the department is something that Rosandich also strongly believes in, and his investment is apparent. In high school, Rosandich was influenced by cross-country coach Mike Richmond, who once advised his team never to laugh at others for how slowly they were running, because they were undoubtedly doing their best. From that point on, Rosandich and his teammates made a point of cheering on those runners struggling to cross the finish line. In the firehouse, he continued the practice by encouraging and supporting his fellow firefighters. The fact that he has been called “coach” by many in the department demonstrates that his leadership has inspired and guided others to follow suit.

Working his way up the ladder, Rosandich was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief in 1998, Acting Fire Chief in 2011 and Fire Chief in 2012. His mettle and hometown devotion played a central role during the Sikh Temple shooting in 2012, where he and high school classmates Police Chief John Edwards and Mayor Steve Scaffidi found themselves in the international spotlight. Their longstanding friendship served to provide necessary and familiar support while they, as City leaders, navigated an unthinkable tragedy in their hometown.

Before wrapping up his long and successful career with the Oak



W

hen Chief Tom Rosandich retired from the Oak Creek Fire Department in October, he did so with almost 41 years of service to the City, the longest tenure of anyone in the department. By his calculations, he has worked alongside nearly 80 percent of all of the City’s fire service personnel. Considering that 285 individuals have served the department – which began as a volunteer organization in 1935 and became a full-time department in 1960 – that statistic is impressive.

Rosandich, a lifelong Oak Creek resident, began his career with the department in 1979 as an auxiliary, on-call firefighter fresh out of MATC’s firefighting training program. Becoming a firefighter was not his first choice of careers; he had initially wanted to study architecture. When he watched a family member struggle to find work in that field, however, he began to rethink his plans. A friend suggested firefighting as a more certain career path and the rest, as they say, is history.

Oak Creek has experienced a fair number of notable and large-scale emergencies over the years, and Rosandich has been on-duty for many of them. In 1985, shortly after he was appointed to a full-time firefighter position, Rosandich was the first incident commander in Oak Creek to call for the newly established Flight for Life helicopter at the scene of an accident involving a pedestrian on I-94. The Flight for Life program was so new, he recalls, that when he requested the Milwaukee County Sheriff’s Office shut down the interstate so the helicopter could land, the idea was met with both



Business Spotlight: Aim Transfer & Storage

INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



Most of the time we don't give a second thought to how the multitude of products we use daily arrive at our favorite supermarkets, restaurants, and retail stores. The trucking industry plays a critical role in that process, enabling raw materials and finished consumer goods to move from manufacturers to distributors to retailers, where they eventually come into our lives.

Oak Creek-based Aim Transfer & Storage is, among other things, an intermodal transportation company that prides itself on providing a full suite of top-tier trucking-related services to its customers. But to call them merely a trucking company doesn't begin to scratch the surface of what they do, and more importantly, what they bring to Oak Creek and the surrounding region. The company's mission to "develop long term relationships with customers through innovative solutions and high-quality transportation services" extends to the full spectrum of third-party logistics and demonstrates that establishing trusted relationships is the foundation of their business.

Chris Winkler, president of Aim, founded the company on little more than experience and relationships, something he has never taken for granted. In 2002, after 15 years with a large local transportation company, working up the ranks from driver to upper management, Winkler found himself without a job – the fallout of a change in company leadership and direction. Undeterred, he worked for six months with another domestic intermodal company based out

of Chicago, when he realized that he didn't want to build up a company that wasn't his own.

He took his dilemma to the people he trusted the most: his family. Over a pizza lunch, Winkler, his brother Gary, and their wives discussed the situation at length, when Gary stated, "Let's make a business plan and figure out what it will take to get you going." Despite having numerous connections and a stellar reputation in the industry, everything Winkler knew – from driving and warehousing to safety and human resources – was stored in his head, and picked up through experience. Undaunted, Gary picked up the cardboard circle that their pizza had rested on, flipped it over, and began to sketch out a business plan.

Together they made a list of everything they'd need to get started: drivers, insurance, bonds, interchange agreements, and most importantly, a fleet of trucks. Winkler knew he was capable of pulling together most everything, relying on the connections he had spent the first part of his career building. Airoldi Brothers, a truck-leasing company headquartered in Oak Creek, stepped up by giving Winkler five semi tractors to get the company started. With a long repayment window, this lease gave Winkler enough time to build a customer base and launch the business, which he did on January 1, 2004. Winkler will never forget the kindness of the Airoldi family and others who went out on a limb for him as he built his own company from scratch, and continually looks for ways to pay it forward.

Aim grew rapidly, forcing Winkler to occupy several locations

Aim's diverse and expansive menu of services covers nearly every aspect of the intermodal transportation industry.

before settling into its current 10th Street headquarters in 2007. Their warehousing and distribution operations, all critical to the flexibility and success of the business, have driven them to expand their footprint to three additional warehouse facilities, two in Oak Creek and one in Green Bay, with plans to add another large warehouse soon. Despite acquiring five other smaller transport and warehousing companies, and always being on the lookout to expand further, Winkler has no desire to have a terminal outside of Wisconsin. He believes in staying in Wisconsin to support the state's economy and provide service to other local businesses.

Aim's diverse and expansive menu of services covers nearly every aspect of the intermodal transportation industry, not to mention their expedited, truckload, and less-than-truckload services. Their drivers, both company and independent contractors, and a fleet of approximately 175 trucks, move freight between regional air and rail hubs. Aim is a Customs and Border Patrol-certified Container Freight Station (CFS), giving them the ability to group or separate freight, while under the bonds of customs. They also specialize in the storage and hauling of hazardous materials, and are bonded to access the tarmac of Mitchell Airport to pick up organs for transplant.

With more than 450,000 sq. ft. of warehouse space, the company offers its customers storage and distribution services, something many local businesses take advantage of, to focus solely on their core functions. Aim also provides full-service on-site and mobile truck and trailer maintenance, nationwide freight brokering, and training to other companies so that they can effectively run their own warehouses. Aim has even been involved in the technology side of trucking, partnering with a software developer to create a cloud-based credentialing platform, eliminating the need for drivers to carry physical copies of required paperwork. Providing a multitude of services allows Aim to be a very agile operation, flexible under all economic conditions.

Winkler is always looking for ways to make his company better from all angles. He is currently actively involved in re-establishing an intermodal cargo terminal at the Port of Milwaukee. Milwaukee's terminal closed in 2012, forcing the transfer of international cargo containers between rail and truck to take place at the next closest terminal in Chicago. At present, half of the company's runs are to the state of Illinois. If Milwaukee's port reopened, Winkler asserts that the company would be able to provide better service and save a considerable amount of money for its customers. It's just another way that Aim can build better relationships with its customers, while supporting its home state.

Aim's support of the community, however, does not end with its customers. Winkler's

motto of "Family First" is expansive. While all five of his children work for the company in some capacity, his efforts to build up the business are not only to support his family's future, but the future, well-being and safety of his employees, who he considers an extended family. But it doesn't end there.

After raising his children in Oak Creek, and now watching several grandchildren attend Oak Creek schools, Winkler makes it a point to invest in the community's youth. Aim donates the use of their warehouse for the annual Girl Scout cookie distribution, and store the Oak Creek Youth Football League's equipment in the off season. They are also heavily involved in the Round Table Robotics program, providing transport for the team's award-winning robot. "Aim Transfer has helped every time we've asked for community support," says Jack Marshall, mentor to the Round Table Robotics team. "They never say no. They're a huge asset to the youth programs in our community," Marshall adds.

Aim has also been an active partner in the School District's Career and Technical Education program, preparing students for the workforce. Participating in the annual MFG Day, they give students a behind-the-scenes look at their operations, and the array of employment positions that Aim offers. "Not every kid wants to go to college or join the military, and that's okay," Winkler states. "We show them they've got other options." Speaking of options, Aim strives to provide post-military options to veterans. "We always want to support our troops," says Winkler. "Veterans are some of the most valuable members of our team."

For more information about careers at Aim Transfer & Storage, please visit aimtransfer.com.

Aim Transfer & Storage
7774 S. 10th St. • (414) 762-7769
info@aimtransfer.com
aimtransfer.com



The Adopt-a-Book Program at the Oak Creek Public Library is the perfect way to spread some cheer this holiday season.

ADOPT A BOOK THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By Rachel Rose, Librarian



Why do people love books? Is it because when we read them we get lost in their stories, our imaginations set loose as we turn each page? Or is it because reading offers us a way not only to unwind but to take in all sorts of information, learn new things, and expand our minds? We can read to our children as a way of

increasing literacy and spending time together, read to each other to bond through discussion, and read to the masses to spread messages and make connections. Whatever your reasons for picking up a book, libraries are some of the best places to find those special stories. But what about sharing them?

Introduced in 2018, Oak Creek Library's Adopt-a-Book program is a great way to encourage reading and access to information across every age group and interest. By donating a set amount to 'adopt' a single book, a few books, or even an entire shelf, patrons can directly impact the community by helping to expand the library's collection. Items may be requested as fiction or non-fiction as regular, large print, and audiobook format in almost every subject area under the sun. For those more invested in other types of media, movies and CDs can be adopted in a similar way.

Past participants have celebrated all kinds of events and milestones for themselves and their honorees. If your 10-year-old daughter is obsessed with the planets of our solar system and has a birthday party right around the corner, why not adopt a children's book about outer space in her name so that other children her age can learn about our galaxy? If you want to commemorate your parents' 30-year anniversary, you could choose to adopt one book for every decade they have been together. Honor the passing of a loved one by requesting fiction from their favorite genre – Adopt-a-Book presents countless opportunities.

Thanksgiving and the winter holidays are fast approaching, so now is the perfect time to plan ahead for the gift-giving season. This program works for family members, friends and others who

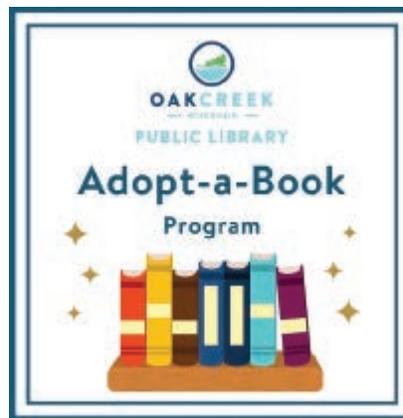
have influenced your life. Everyone has had at least one amazing teacher, professor or guidance counselor; you might consider adopting a book in whatever subject area where yours helped you flourish. If you are looking for a way to inspire interest in a particular topic for a peer or co-worker, dedicating a book or movie in their name will likely capture their attention.

With a clear vision of enriching lives by supporting lifelong learning, the Oak Creek Public Library does its best to build a vast collection for its patrons – and it isn't the only one. Other libraries, including the famous Smithsonian Library and many others throughout the country, have found that Adopt-a-Book enhances their holdings in areas both universal and niche. Every gift the Oak Creek Public Library receives touches the lives of those who live in the county, and positively impacts future generations to come. Whether you choose to give a one-of-a-kind gift to someone you know, decide to mark a special occasion, or wish to contribute to the collection's general development for all to enjoy, all patrons of the Library benefit, as do those in the broader community.

Every item purchased through this program receives a book plate with the donor's/honoree's name and a brief inscription related to the occasion depending upon personal preference. What's more, donations to the Oak Creek Public Library are tax-deductible.

To participate in the Adopt-a-Book program, please visit oakcreeklibrary.org/adopt-a-book for more information and to access the 'Adopt a Book' form. The printed form and a check can then be made out and returned to: Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St., Oak Creek, WI 53154

Additional questions or comments? Email the Oak Creek Public Library at library@oakcreekwi.org, call (414) 766-7900, or talk to staff in person at any service desk. The Library appreciates every donor's generosity and ongoing support. You can help others fall into a story by adopting a book today!





OAK CREEK APPOINTS NEW FIRE CHIEF

The City of Oak Creek is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael A. Kressuk, Jr. to the position of City of Oak Creek Fire Chief.

Kressuk comes to the position with more than 25 years with the Oak Creek Fire Department. He began as a line fire fighter in November of 1993. Working his way up the ranks, he has been assistant chief of administration since October of 2012. With the retirement of former fire chief Tom Rosandich, Kressuk had been acting fire chief since October 5.

At the culmination of the interview process, the Oak Creek Police and Fire Commission appointed Kressuk on October 30.

“All the candidates were well qualified, which speaks highly of the depth of leadership in the command staff and the strength of the established succession plan,” states Commission President Scott Koenig. “We are highly confident that Chief Kressuk will exhibit strong leadership, mentor future leaders, and enhance the already superior reputation of the Oak Creek Fire Department. The quality of our Fire Department is a significant reason why Oak Creek is such a desired place to live and work.”

Kressuk is grateful for the chance to lead the department. “I’m thankful for this opportunity – it will be an honor to serve this community,” says Kressuk. “Oak Creek has incredibly talented fire fighters and staff who provide excellent service to the City, it will be truly exciting to serve as their chief.”

We extend congratulations to the new Oak Creek Fire Chief, Michael A. Kressuk, Jr.

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD & MODEL EAST BROOKE PRESERVE OF OAK CREEK



Only a Few Lots Remaining in Phase One & Phase Two is Now Available!

- 72-lot neighborhood near Ryan Rd & Nicholson Rd
- Many lots w/exposures, open space & pond views
- Home & lot packages from the \$400's
- Oak Creek-Franklin School District



\$5,000 Lot Discount on Phase 1 & \$3,000 Lot Discount on Phase 2 For a Limited Time Only

Visit our Model on Saturdays & Sundays

Visit korndoerferhomes.com for open house hours.

I-94/I-41 exit WI-100/Ryan Road. Follow Ryan Road East to Nicholson Rd. Left on Nicholson Road. Left on Maple View Drive. Right on Arbor Creek Drive to Model on the Left.



KIM MAKSIMIK

New Home Consultant

262-344-3273

kimm@korndoerferhomes.com



WINTER BREWS FEST

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4-7 p.m. Craft beer and cider tasting • Free pint glass

8 p.m.-12 midnight Music by Mt. Olive

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occenter.com • (414) 768-5840

Visit occenter.com for all the latest information on event dates and times!

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING GOING ON AT THE OC CENTER!



TIPS FOR SENIOR SAFETY

By Lisa Wytrykus Kleppek,
Oak Creek Police
Department Community
Resource Coordinator

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Whether you are a senior living in the residential neighborhood where you raised your children, or a resident living in one of our many senior communities, Oak Creek offers many opportunities for shopping, worship, recreation and social activities. While enjoying these activities, it is important to remember that being aware of your surroundings and taking safety precautions will minimize your chance of becoming a victim.

GOING OUT

Whether you are shopping, visiting the doctor or having coffee with friends there are simple steps you can take to protect yourself.

- Don't carry large amounts of cash and leave unneeded credit cards at home.
- Avoid solo trips if possible – make plans to join a neighbor or friend on a trip to the store or to a community event.
- Arrange for Direct Deposit and Online Bill Pay to better secure your money – contact your financial institution about helping you with this process.
- When driving, keep your doors locked and always lock your door immediately upon entering your vehicle.

AT HOME

Feeling safe at home is important for all residents but especially for seniors who may be living alone for the first time.

- Don't open doors for unexpected people.
- Always ask for identification from anyone who is unfamiliar (even an expected utility serviceperson should present an ID.)
- Never let someone into your home whom you do not know.
- If you live in a single-family home, ask a trusted friend or family member to check your home's exterior for potential security issues (e.g., non-locking windows, dark areas outside) and arrange for them to be fixed.

FRAUD PREVENTION

Attempted identity theft and fraud have become all too common

and seniors, unfortunately are often easy targets for these thefts. Protect yourself from theft and scams by following a few simple rules.

- If an offer (e.g., prize, sales pitch, repair offer) sounds too good to be true, it probably is – always ask to see something in writing.
 - Never give your credit card number or social security number or bank number over the phone, especially if they are calling you to report that you won something or owe something.
 - Don't give out details (e.g., grandson's name) that could be used to convince you to give someone money.
 - Don't give money to charities that are unfamiliar to you.
 - Don't allow people to do work that you did not ask for (e.g., workmen offer to seal your driveway or trim branches).
 - Report any scams to the Better Business Bureau or the police.
 - Don't carry your social security card with you or put the number on anything.
 - Shred important documents or ask a trusted person to shred them for you.
 - Monitor your bank statements and report suspicious transactions.
 - Keep important papers and medications locked up (especially when having visitors).
 - Do not use simple passwords (mother's maiden name, etc.)
 - Regularly request a free credit report. Your financial institution or credit card company may offer this, but you can request a free report once a year from each of the three main national credit agencies.
 - Equifax 1-800-525-6285 • equifax.com
 - Experian 1-888-397-3742 • experian.com
 - Trans Union 1-800-680-7289 • transunion.com
- The Oak Creek Police Department's Community Resource Bureau offers free senior safety talks for our residents. These talks address many of the subjects discussed in this article as well as other prevention strategies and when to alert authorities.

If you would like the Community Resource coordinator to speak to your group on Senior Safety, please contact PDCommunityresource@oakcreekwi.org or call (414) 766-7624.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL

Books signed by Author Christine Burton! \$35.00
(Free shipping & handling) Holiday Special for Mail-In Orders Only

Total books: _____ @ \$35.00 each

Total cost: \$ _____

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

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Cashier's Check or Credit Card Accepted

(circle which one)



Card number: _____

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Name on card: _____

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Remit to: C & B Books - Christine Burton
P.O. Box 348
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

Cashier's checks made out to: C & B Books; Christine Burton

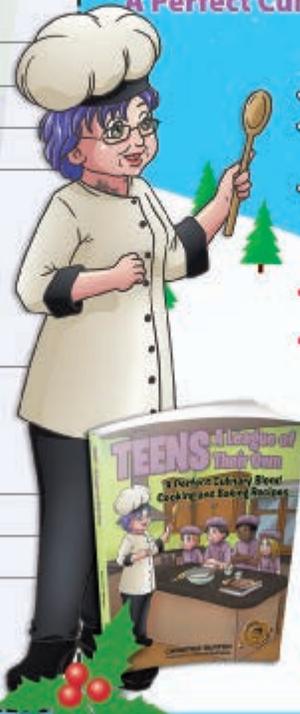
SEASON'S GREETINGS! HOLIDAY EXCLUSIVE

Best Cookbook of the Season!

TEENS A League of Their Own

A Perfect Culinary Blend Cooking and Baking Recipes

By Author Christine Burton



- Great chefs start by cooking and baking at home
- Decorate the holidays with the perfect gift —200 full color recipes
- Recipes are written for beginner level cooks/bakers with adult appetites

• A unique and creative cookbook for teens

• Teens are encouraged to use recipes as a base to start. To make changes and use substitutions to form their own styles and tasting profiles— "creating new recipes"

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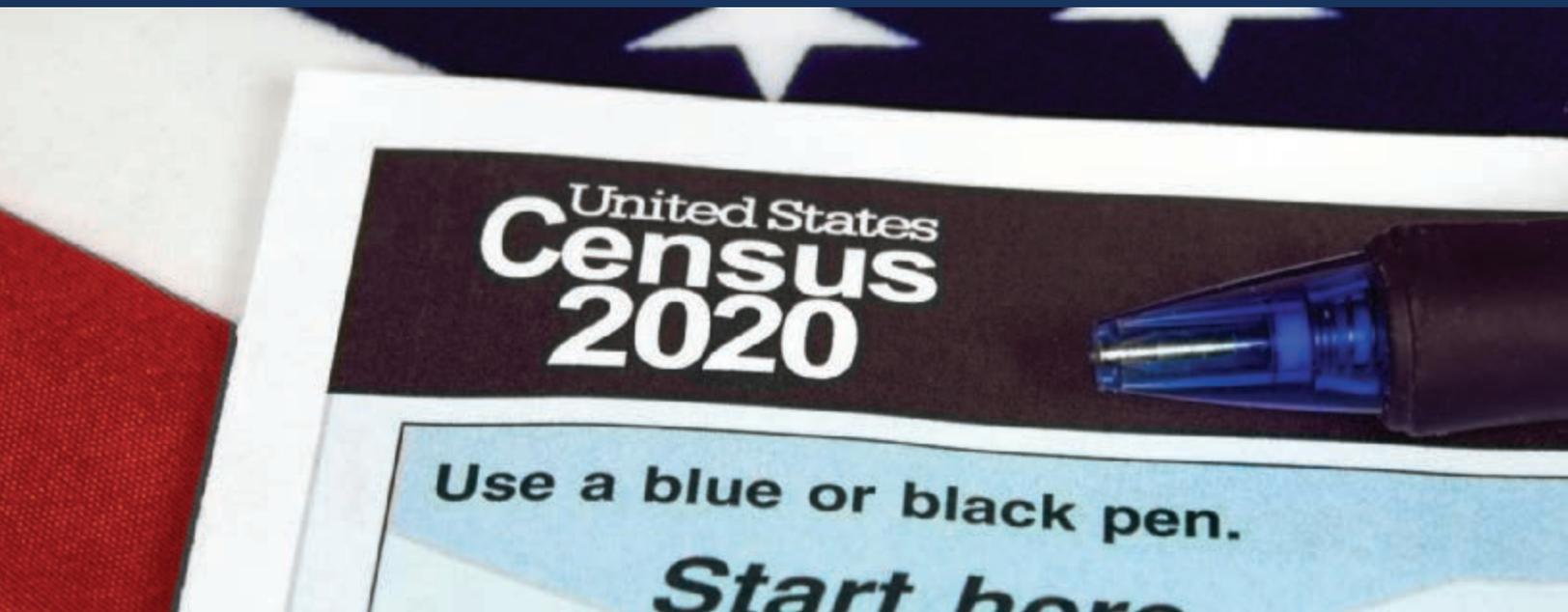
In the 40 years I've lived in the area, I've had the pleasure of helping investors work toward their financial goals. And now, with Schwab, I have more ways to help than ever before. So stop by the office and let's discuss how we can help you and your family.

Nick Drenzek
Oak Creek Independent Branch
7940 S. 6th Street, Suite 105
(414) 219-1982
schwab.com/oakcreek



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CENSUS 2020 NEEDS YOUR HELP

Every 10 years, as mandated by the Constitution, the U.S. government is required to count the number of people living in the United States and its territories. Early next year, you will be asked to participate in the 2020 Census by counting everyone who lives in your home as of April 1. Households will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone, answering a few simple questions such as age, sex and number of individuals, including children, who live in your home.

You might be surprised to learn that the generalized statistical data gathered by the census serves several vital functions that affect not only the country as a whole, but your state and local community, as well. Census responses are used to redraw congressional, state and local legislative districts based on shifts in population. Census data is also used to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. Redistricting and reapportionment are done to ensure fair representation by all citizens in Congress.

Additionally, the distribution of almost \$700 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities such as Oak Creek, is based on census data. In 2016, Wisconsin received more than \$12 billion through 55 federal programs guided by data derived from the 2010 Census – money that is spent on schools, roads, public works, and many other programs vital to our community.

Once published, Census data is used for many other essential functions. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency-preparedness initiatives. Businesses use data to decide

where to locate in order to create jobs, while real estate developers utilize it for building new homes and revitalizing neighborhoods. Even average residents can use the census to support community initiatives that involve legislation, quality-of-life issues and consumer advocacy.

The City of Oak Creek, the Oak Creek Public Library and the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District, along with other community organizations, are committed to the 2020 Census campaign. In early March, all residents will receive an invitation, by mail, to respond online to the 2020 Census. Participation in the census is mandatory, and more importantly, a fundamental part of your civic duty. We ask that all residents of Oak Creek take a few minutes to complete the census; being counted makes a difference to the future of our community!

For more information about the 2020 Census, follow @uscensusbureau on social media, or visit the U.S. Census Bureau's website at census.gov.

In advance of the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people for temporary jobs across the country. These positions provide the opportunity to earn some extra income while helping your community achieve a complete census count.

For more information on census jobs, call 1-800-JOB-2020 or visit 2020census.gov/en/jobs.

Participation in the census is mandatory, and more importantly, a fundamental part of your civic duty.

Welcome to These Oak Creek businesses!

STOP IN, SAY HELLO AND WELCOME THEM TO OUR CITY



Left: Angelic Roots and its beautiful display of crystals can be found at 8628 S. Market Place.

Above: Oak Park Place is a new senior living community on Rawson Avenue.



Below: The new Diesel Barbershop features a fun decor and free games to play.



Above: Connect Cell, Inc. has relocated to 7836 S. Howell Ave., just three doors down from their prior location.



ANGELIC ROOTS, LLC

8628 S. Market Pl.
(414) 304-5184
angelicroots.com

OAK PARK PLACE

1980 W. Rawson Ave.
(414) 574-4500
oakparkplace.com

SPECTRUM

500 W. Drexel Ave., #100
(888) 406-7063
spectrum.com

CALIBER COLLISION CENTERS

161 W. Marquette Ave.
(414) 570-1993
calibercollision.com

PURE BARRE

120 W. Town Square Way, Suite 400
(414) 215-9120
purebarre.com

STATE FARM INSURANCE – KEVIN GRALL, AGENT

7003 S. Howell Ave., Suite 1200
(414) 762-3300
kevingrall.com

CROISSANT, ETC.

7195 S. 1st St.
(414) 421-5226
croissantetc.com

RENEW MEDICAL AESTHETICS

8648 S. Market Pl.
(414) 310-6541
renewwi.com

WEST GROVE CLINIC

6419 S. Howell Ave.
(414) 810-4844
westgroveclinic.com

DIESEL BARBERSHOP

120 W. Town Square Way, Suite 300
(414) 676-2669
dieselbarbershop.com

SHISH KABOB

6508 S. 27th St., Suite 3
(414) 761-0425

CITY OF OAK CREEK HIGHLIGHTS



COFFEE WITH A COP

Among the many community outreach programs offered by the Oak Creek Police Department, Coffee with a Cop is an opportunity for Oak Creek residents to interact with their local police officers in a casual, stress-free environment. Most recently hosted by the Howell Avenue Starbucks, Oak Creek Police Department officers met with residents over a complimentary cup of coffee. Some of our residents wanted to discuss a specific community concern while others were just looking for a little friendly conversation. Our officers and residents enjoyed this simple act of enjoying a cup of coffee and getting to know one another.

Future Coffee with a Cop events are tentatively scheduled for Winter 2019/2020. Please see the Oak Creek Police Department Community Resource page at oakcreekwi.org/government/departments/police/community-resources/coffee-with-a-cop for more information about dates and locations.

CITY RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

The City of Oak Creek recently earned the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the 2019 Adopted Budget. This is the second consecutive year the City has been awarded this honor.

To receive the budget award, a governing body must meet nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines assess how well the budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and a communications device. After the adoption of the Strategic Action Plan in 2019, improvements were made to the budget document which serves as the City's financial blueprint, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to financial transparency.

The GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is considered the gold standard for local government budgeting practices, and we are pleased to receive this recognition once again.



AUTHOR FEST BRINGS BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS FOR SIGNINGS AND SALES

The Oak Creek Public Library is set to hold its 3rd annual Author Fest on November 23 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Civic Center. Attending patrons can get a jump on their holiday shopping and discover new authors from Oak Creek, southeast Wisconsin and beyond. Meet a variety of local authors as they showcase their diverse collection of work. Do you need to find unique gifts for family or friends? Books will be available for purchase and signing! Available titles suit all age levels and a variety of interests.

Visit oakcreeklibrary.org/events for more information and a full list of attending authors. All ages are welcome to attend this event. Children under 12 must be accompanied

by an adult at all Library programs. Registration is not required. For more information, visit OCPL in person at 8040 S. 6th St., email library@oakcreekwi.org, or call (414) 766-7900.



COMMUNITY SEED SWAP AND GARDENING FAIR

The Oak Creek Public Library and Recreation Department are hosting a free Community Seed Swap and Gardening Fair at the Civic Center on January 18, 2020 from 10-2 p.m. We invite you to bring seeds to exchange with other community gardeners, or simply come for the presentations and fun!

Milwaukee County Parks horticulturist, Peggy Gibbs-Zautke, will start off the event with a talk about, "How To Attract Pollinators with Herbs," beginning at 10 a.m. Brooke Gilley, from the Wehr Nature Center, will present "Gardening for Hummingbirds and Butterflies" at 11:30 a.m. This event will also include kids' crafts and coloring.

Additionally, the Recreation Department will offer workshops for a modest fee, and pre-registration. More information about the following workshops will be available in the upcoming *Winter/Spring 2020 Acorn City Newsletter and Recreation Guide*:

- How To Press Flowers and Use Them in Crafts with Donna Rautio. Participants will learn techniques for their own craft projects, and will complete a bookmark made with pressed flowers.
- Decorate an Insect House
- Flower Pot Decorating for Kids: Children will make two small flowerpots to bring home!

We would like to thank Meijer for helping to sponsor this event, which is free for people of all ages.



SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER

Ring in the holiday season with two worthwhile initiatives brought to you by the Oak Creek Celebrations Commission. Spread holiday cheer with Stockings for Seniors and Cookies for Canines and Felines, held November 18 through December 13.

Stockings for Seniors: Oak Creek residents can stop by the Civic Center during normal business hours to pick up a stocking to be filled for a local senior citizen this holiday season. Purchase any or all of the suggested items listed inside. Once filled, stockings can be dropped off at the Oak Creek Library's first floor circulation desk. All stockings will be delivered to senior citizens residing at Booth Manor and Country View Senior Living Centers of Oak Creek on Friday, December 13.

Cookies for Canines and Felines: Help the Oak Creek Celebrations Commission spread holiday cheer to our furry friends this holiday season. We will be collecting non-refrigerated dog and cat treats for the Humane Society. Items can be dropped off at Oak Creek's Civic Center. Just look for the donation containers located in the atrium. For more information about this event, please go to visitoakcreek.com.

DREXEL TOWN SQUARE HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND CRAFT FAIR

The Oak Creek Celebrations Commission Tree Lighting festivities kick off at 5:30 p.m. in Drexel Town Square, on Wednesday, December 4. The official lighting of the tree will take place at approximately 5:45 p.m. We will have light refreshments, holiday performances and an opportunity for the whole family to take a photo with our guest character. Please bring your cameras and don't forget to dress warm – this part of the event will be held outside! Festivities last until 7:30 p.m.

New for 2019, and just in time for St. Nick, is our Christmas craft fair. Stop inside City Hall on Wednesday, December 4, between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. for those last-minute gifts. Purchase a gift from our crafters and get it wrapped for free! Artists and crafters interested in participating at this event should inquire at visitoakcreek.com for more information.

WARM UP WITH WINTERFEST 2020

When winter is upon us, the warm and sunny days of summer, complete with outdoor community events, are a hazy memory. But there's no reason why we can't bundle up for some mid-winter fun at the third annual Oak Creek Winterfest, scheduled for Saturday, February 15, in Drexel Town Square from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

This free, family-friendly community event will once again feature ice-carving demonstrations brought to you by Art Below Zero, as well as carriage rides, live music and a winter market. Make plans to layer on your cold-weather gear and help us celebrate winter in Oak Creek!

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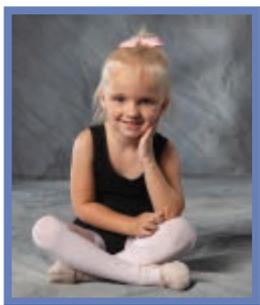
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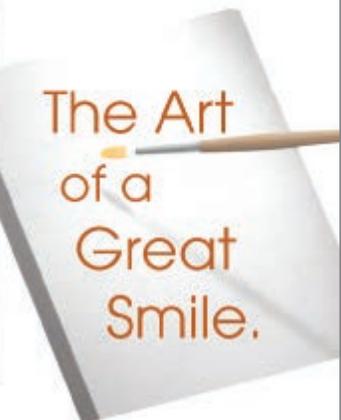
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Drexel Town Square Health Center

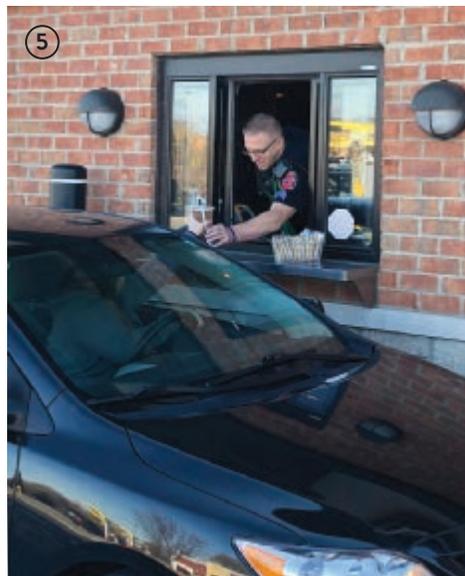
OUT AND ABOUT IN THE CITY OF OAK CREEK



HERE COME THE HOLIDAYS!

We are already preparing for the holiday season, and it just doesn't get any better than the events we look forward to in Oak Creek! See the Community Calendar on page 34 and read more about the City's upcoming winter festivities on page 29. The City of Oak Creek is the place to be in any season!

1. Did you meet Liahona, the llama, from GEE Funny Farm, at the Fall Festival at Drexel Town Square in October? **2.** Or, perhaps you took a ride on a beautiful autumn day during the event? **3.** The Oak Creek High School Dance Team is ready to celebrate Homecoming. See more photos on page 10. **4.** Looking ahead to this season's festivities, be sure to save the date for Winterfest on Saturday, February 15. **5.** Coffee with a Cop, hosted by the Howell Avenue Starbucks, brought Oak Creek police officers together with Oak Creek residents for friendly conversation and a complimentary cup of coffee (see page 28). **6.** Sneak Peek at Oak Creek this fall provided insider tours of a variety of City's businesses, some never before shown to the public. Here we see a tour of the beer-making operation at Water Street Brewery.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM EVENT DETAILS.

NOVEMBER

- **Sat., Nov. 23: Craft Fair, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Great gifts for the holidays. Open to the public.
- **Sat., Nov. 23: Author Fest, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Meet local authors as they showcase their work. Books available for purchase and signing. Free and open to the public. Visit oakcreeklibrary.com/events for details.
- **Sun., Nov. 24: OCHS One Act Performance, 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.**
- **Mon., Nov. 25: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Thur., Nov. 28: 8th Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Turkey Trek, 8-9 a.m.** Emerald Preserve, 8031 S. 6th St. Walk around the Preserve with Mayor Dan, and your friends! Please bring one or more non-perishable food items to be donated to a local food pantry.
- **Wed.-Fri., Nov. 27-29: Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**
- **Thur.-Fri., Nov. 28-29: City Offices, Recycling Yard and Library Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**

DECEMBER

- **Sun., Dec. 1: Winter Parking Rules Begin.** Visit oakcreekwi.org.
- **Sun., Dec. 1: Free Community Tree Lighting, 5 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Santa arrives at 5:15 p.m. Then move inside for cookies, hot chocolate, take your picture with the reindeers, write Santa a letter, gift bags for kids (while they last).
- **Wed., Dec. 4: Holiday Tree Lighting, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Drexel Town Square, 361 W. Town Square Way. Bring the whole family to the Town Square to enjoy hot refreshments, caroling, and of course, the lighting of the tree! New this year: a craft fair, perfect for your holiday shopping!
- **Sun., Dec. 8: Breakfast with Santa, 10 a.m.-Noon** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Kids under 3 free, 4-10 years \$6. All others \$12. Tickets must be purchased in advance.
- **Mon., Dec. 9: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Tue., Dec. 10: Family Fun Night: Superhero Training, 6:30- 7:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Undergo superhero training. Costumes are encouraged. Visit oakcreeklibrary.com/events.
- **Sun., Dec. 15: Incorporation Day** Oak Creek became a City 64 years ago on this date!
- **Sun., Dec. 15: Breakfast with Santa, 10 a.m.-Noon** Oak Creek Community Center (see Dec. 8 listing).
- **Mon., Dec. 16: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Mon., Dec. 23-Wed., Jan. 1: Winter Break – No School**
- **Tue.-Wed., Dec. 24-25: City Offices and Library Closed for Christmas Holiday**
- **Tue., Dec. 31: City Offices and Library Closed for New Year's Holiday**

JANUARY

- **Wed., Jan. 1: City Offices and Library Closed for New Year's Holiday**
- **Thur., Jan. 2: Schools Reopen After Winter Break**
- **Wed., Jan. 8: Musical Sing-Along Nights, 6-8 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Sing along to some of the most well-known movie musicals. Subs, chips/popcorn and beverages provided.
- **Thur., Jan. 9: OCHS Open House for Incoming Freshmen, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**
- **Mon., Jan. 13: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.

- **Tue., Jan. 14: Family Fun Night – LEGO Night, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. A night of creative building and engineering challenges.
- **Sat., Jan 18: Community Seed Swap and Garden Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.** Oak Creek Library Multi-Purpose Room, 8040 S. 6th St. Bring seeds to exchange with other community gardeners (see pg. 28).
- **Fri., Jan. 24: No School for Students - Inservice**
- **Sat., Jan. 25: Winter Brews Fest** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. 4-7 p.m. Craft beer and cider tasting. Free pint glass. 8 p.m.-12 midnight music by Mt. Olive. Raffles. Food for purchase. Cash bar. Admission \$25 in advance, \$40 at the door (see pg. 23).
- **Mon., Jan. 27: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Mon., Jan 27: No School for Students - Inservice**

FEBRUARY

- **Sat., Feb. 1: Bridal Expo, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Meet with a variety of vendors to plan your special event. Open to the public.
- **Wed., Feb. 5: Musical Sing-Along Nights, 6-8 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. (See Jan. 8 listing.)
- **Fri., Feb. 7: Ladies Night Out, 7-10 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Meet with more than 40 vendors for shopping and adult beverages. Open to the public.
- **Mon., Feb. 10: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Tue., Feb. 11: Family Fun Night – STEAM Night, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Come as a family and enjoy some STEM-related games.
- **Thurs., Feb. 13: Triple-P Positive Parenting Program Discussion Group, 5:45-7:45 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. The first in a series of three parenting help groups with tips, videos and open discussion.
- **Fri., Feb 14: No School for Students - Inservice**
- **Sat., Feb 15: Oak Creek High School Winter Formal Dance, 7 p.m.**
- **Sat., Feb. 15: Oak Creek Winterfest, 10 a.m.4 p.m. Town Square, 361 W. Town Square Way.** This free community event features ice-carving demonstrations, carriage rides, live music, a winter market and more! See visitoakcreek.com for details.
- **Sun., Feb. 16: Dancing to the Music of Steve Meisner, doors open at noon, show from 1-4 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. \$5 at the door.
- **Tue., Feb. 18: Spring Primary Election**
- **Mon., Feb. 24: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m.** City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Thur., Feb. 27: Taste of Oak Creek, 5-8 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. (see pg. 7).
- **Fri., Feb. 28-Sun., Mar. 1: Oak Creek High School Musical** Friday and Saturday 7 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.
- **Sat., Feb. 29: Home and Garden Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Open to the public.

MARCH

- **Thur., Mar. 5: Oak Creek High School Spring Jazz Knight, 7 p.m.**
- **Fri., Mar. 6-Sun., Mar. 8: OCHS Musical Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. and Sunday 2 p.m.**
- **Sat., Mar. 7: Spring Craft Market, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Call for details.



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