

WINTER 2021-2022

O A K C R E E K

CURRENT

M A G A Z I N E



**OC Lions Club Chosen
As "Citizen of the Year"**

**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT
Master Lock Celebrates
100 Years of Business**

**New Performing Arts
& Education Center
Announces New Season**



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ON THE COVER

Forest Ridge Elementary School students in Ms. Schmidt’s class show off the books they’re reading right now!

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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The next issue of the *Oak Creek Current* will publish March 15, 2022. For information about advertising in future issues of the magazine, please email info@oakcreekmagazine.com, visit oakcreekmagazine.com or call (414) 215-7999.

oakcreekmagazine.com

From Dan Bukiewicz, Mayor-City of Oak Creek

The Arts Are Alive in Oak Creek

Dear Oak Creek Residents,

The presence of the arts is just one indicator of a healthy and vibrant community. Public art has the ability to give a city a unique identity and a sense of pride for those that live there. Art can even bring people together, strengthening a community and increasing civic engagement.



Oak Creek has spent many decades evolving into what it is today, and it has been exciting to watch it “grow up.” Drexel Town Square and IKEA have helped us to be recognized as an exciting place to visit. While we have this regional interest, we are turning some of our attention toward building an arts community that can further our image as a choice tourism destination, while at the same time creating a unique sense of place in Oak Creek for all of us living and doing business in here. We strive to celebrate our “vibrancy” by establishing and evolving our community’s “vibe.”

In early October, the community celebrated the opening of the Oak Creek Performing Arts & Education Center – OCPAEC (see pg. 6). This stunning new venue will serve not only the arts in our schools, with musical, dance and theatre performances, but will bring our community together for a variety of programming. The first Performing Arts Concert Series has been launched, with some great entertainment scheduled. To learn more about the OCPAEC, or to explore the upcoming entertainment schedule, visit oakcreekpaec.com.

As part of the City of Oak Creek’s 2020-2022 Strategic Action Plan, the City is embarking on the exploration of public art initiatives. A group of City staff is currently working through a public art planning process with a mission to outline a vision and goals for public art in our community, identify key opportunities for projects and initiatives, and define procedures for decision-making and oversight.

For a public art initiative to be successful, we need involvement from our residents and business community every step of the way! As we begin these efforts, we ask all residents to complete a short and engaging questionnaire about their thoughts and feelings about public art. Please take a few moments of your day to help get this program off the ground by answering the survey and getting involved in future steps of this important initiative. To take the survey and learn more about Oak Creek’s public art program going forward, visit oakcreekwi.gov/publicart (see pg. 30).

Wishing you all the best for a happy and healthy holiday season!
– Mayor Dan Bukiewicz

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Introducing the New Oak Creek Performing Arts & Education Center



On Thursday, Oct. 7, the Oak Creek Performing Arts and Education Center (OCPAEC) was officially open, welcoming Oak Creek-Franklin School District staff, students and community members inside, many for the first time.

In 2018, the Oak Creek community supported a referendum making the OCPAEC a reality. This 1,000 seat, multi-purpose facility, serves the Oak Creek-Franklin Joint School District and the surrounding communities by showcasing student performances, offering educational opportunities, providing rental options and spotlighting world-renowned entertainment.

The ribbon cutting ceremony kicked off with a special musical performance by 7th Minors, an Oak Creek High School jazz group, followed by welcome addresses from Lyn Hulgan, director of the OCPAEC, OCFSD Superintendent Dan Unertl and OCFSD School Board President Frank Carini.

“For many of you here today, this moment has been a very long time in coming,” President Carini told the crowd. “Thank you for your steadfast belief in our school and our mission. This building would not be a reality if it weren’t for the support of our community.”

“As you’ve heard first-hand here today, we have incredibly talented students in our District – from 8 to 18 years old – and now we have a place where they can showcase that talent community-wide,” added Superintendent Unertl.

In addition to the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the OCPAEC also celebrated its first major donation. Martin Law Office, S.C. generously donated \$300,000 to the new OCPAEC. The funds

will be used to purchase a digital display sign near the parking lot entrance to the OCPAEC, as well as help offset the building operating costs and long-term needs of the OCPAEC over a 20-year period, including heating, cooling, repairs and maintenance.

The OCPAEC kicked off the very first performing arts concert series with Hotel California, “A Salute to the Eagles,” on November 13. The band rocked the stage with America’s songbook of Eagle classics, including “Life in the Fast Lane,” “Peaceful Easy Feeling” and of course, “Hotel California.”

Next up is “Crazy for You,” a hilarious musical featuring the iconic music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin from Dec. 10-12, and presented by the Oak Creek High School Theatre. A zany rich-boy-meets-hometown-girl romantic comedy, “Crazy for You” tells the story of New York banker, Bobby Child, who is sent to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose on a rundown theatre. In Deadrock, Bobby falls for Polly Baker, the theatre owner’s daughter – but Polly takes an instant dislike to the city slicker. Through a cunning, razzmatazz and hilarious case of mistaken identity, Bobby vows to win Polly’s heart and save the theatre. \$10 reserved seating. \$7 OCHS students, with ID. Add \$5 at the door.

The Oak Creek Performing Arts & Education Center is located east of Oak Creek High School at 340 E. Puetz Road in Oak Creek. Contact Director Lynnette Hulgan at L.Hulgan@ocfsd.org. Visit the OCPAEC website at oakcreekpaec.com for additional information about the facility and to learn about rental opportunities.

Tickets are available at oakcreekpaec.com/tickets or by calling 706-550-1416. Service fees apply to all ticket orders.

Check out page 7 for a look at the upcoming Performance Art Series. We hope to see you at the next show!

Announcing the New OCPAEC Performing Arts Series

The new season is just beginning! Besides “Crazy for You,” on Dec. 10-12, take part in a high-energy, power-packed feast for your eyes and ears with “Industrial Rhythm” and wrap up the season with the incredible, award-winning voices of “Six Appeal.”

INDUSTRIAL RHYTHM, With Special Guests OCHS Drumline • Friday, January 14, 2022

The OCHS Drumline joins Industrial Rhythm creator, Zolio Ruiz, as he brings this creative masterpiece of electrifying percussion and high-energy dance to the OCPAEC stage. Boasting an incredible resume as a cast member of the off-Broadway show, “Stomp,” musical composer and arranger for the famous Radio City Rockettes, and virtual drummer in the hit video game Rock Band 2, Zolio and his incredible team of performers will leave you awestruck. \$30-40 advance reserved seating, add \$5 at the door.

SIX APPEAL, With Special Guests: OCHS A Cappella Choir Saturday, April 9, 2022

Awarded the prestigious a cappella title as National Harmony Sweepstakes Champions in 2012, followed by winning the world’s largest a cappella competition in Moscow in 2018, “Six Appeal” is an incredible collection of talented performers singing a diverse songbook of today’s hits and yesterday’s classics. \$30-40 advance reserved seating, add \$5 at the door.

Oak Creek Performing Arts Advisory Committee

The success of the very first OCPAEC performing arts concert series is the direct result of the committed group of volunteers dedicated to the promotion of the performing arts within our schools and community. Led by the incredible leadership of Natalie Eiting, and supported by Aaron Johnson, Dawn Marowsky and many others, members of the committee helped select entertainment for the performing arts series, oversaw fundraising efforts and assisted with the promotion and marketing of events. Those interested in joining the committee may learn more at oakcreekpaec.com/opportunities.

Be a Part of the Success

Sponsorships and donations can have an incredible impact on the success of the OCPAEC. Catering, hotel accommodations and performance sponsorships help offset ticket costs to make shows affordable for the community and offer unique educational opportunities for our students. The OCPAEC is very appreciative of the in-kind donations offered by our community partners, including the Branded Steer Wood Grill Rotisserie & Saloon for catering services provided for “Hotel California,” as well as Malicki’s Piggly Wiggly for providing hospitality for the OCPAEC Ribbon Cutting and “Hotel California.” Please contact the OCPAEC for more information on sponsorship opportunities.

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Sat., Apr. 9, 2022 at 7 p.m.
\$30-40 Reserved Seating, \$35-45 Door.

**Featuring special guests:
OCHS Drumline**

**Featuring special guests:
OCHS A Cappella Choir**

Industrial Rhythm creator, Zolio Ruiz, brings this creative masterpiece of electrifying percussion and high-energy dance to the OCPAEC stage. Boasting an incredible resume as cast member of the off-Broadway show, *Stomp*, musical composer and arranger for the famous *Radio City Rockettes* and virtual drummer in the hit video game *Rock Band 2*, Zolio and his incredible team of performers will leave you awestruck.

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PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.OAKCREEKPAEC.COM OR BY PHONE AT **706-550-1416**.



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OCHS senior Fran Aniban poses at her cubicle during her Youth Apprenticeship at Galland Henning Nopak.

Shaping the Workforce: OCFSD Pushes Partnerships To Grow Youth Apprenticeship Program



umbers are Fran Aniban's thing.

So, when the Oak Creek High School senior heard about the opportunity to work in accounting at a local company while earning credits for school she was excited. Then she heard the company was a manufacturer of fluid power and industrial baler equipment and she wasn't so sure.

"To be honest, I didn't even know what those words meant," Aniban joked. "But, I knew getting involved in a youth apprenticeship was a good opportunity for me so I applied, interviewed and got the job!"

Since mid-July, Fran has been working in the accounting department at Galland Henning Nopak (GHN) in Franklin as a youth apprentice. Every day, she works to process invoices, order inventory and updates shipping and receiving materials.

"This experience has helped me learn to communicate with people in a professional setting," Aniban says. "I am not the most outgoing person and working here has really helped me grow."

The Oak Creek-Franklin School District launched its Youth Apprenticeship Program in 1994. The program is part of a statewide School-to-Work initiative. It is designed for high school students to get hands-on learning in an occupational area at a worksite along with classroom instruction. This one-or-two-

year elective program combines academic and technical instruction with mentored, on-the-job learning.

"Students get invaluable hands-on experience," OCHS business and marketing teacher Ricci Huber explains. "They can get their feet wet now and find out what they like, what they don't like, and use that to help shape their future."

OCFSD is part of a consortium with the Cudahy and South Milwaukee School Districts. The goal is to employ 43 youth apprentices every school year. This year, OCFSD celebrates 26 YAs working in fields like architecture and construction, finance, marketing, IT and healthcare.

"There's no better way to get experience," Dawn Snyder, Sales and Product Support Manager and Aniban's mentor at GHN says. "It's so beneficial to work with so many different types of people with different personalities in an office setting before you ever leave high school."

Snyder knows. In fact, 36 years ago, she was right in Aniban's shoes. "I didn't know what I wanted to do and my dad told me to take as many business classes as I could. So, I started with accounting and ended up in the co-op program, which is what we called it back then, working at GHN."

And that's why, several years ago when GHN had to downsize but still needed help, she pushed to start an internship program. "I know how important it was for me. It gave me my career. So,

I had to give back,” Snyder explains. Since then, GHN has employed one youth apprentice every year with hopes to grow the program. Something Huber hopes to do, too.

“Our goal as a business department is to motivate and talk to students and parents about this program and why it is so beneficial,” Huber offers. “Work experience aside, students can earn credit, state certifications and even job offers!” And local businesses benefit as well.

“I have learned so much from my interns over the years,” Snyder says. “While people my age have had to learn on the job, these guys grow up knowing it. We benefit each other and it’s invaluable.”

In June, Aniban will walk across the stage and join the Class of 2022 in turning her tassel – the difference for her is she has hands-on job experience under that cap – and a message for her fellow classmates.

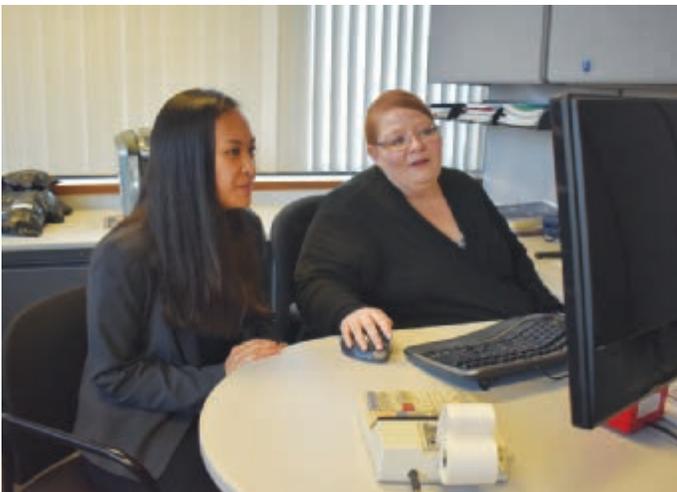
“Just go for it. Find a field you’re interested in and make it work. I am so much more confident in my future because I am a youth apprentice.”

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OCHS senior Fran Aniban works with mentor Dawn Snyder at Galland Henning Nopak.



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School Resource Officer Shawn Lentz talks with West Middle School student Evan Guzman-Godoy in the hallway at school.

MORE THAN JUST AN OFFICER

OCFSD's School Resource Officer Program Aims To Build Relationships, Act as Positive Role Model for Students



ood morning! Happy first day of school. Let's see those excited faces!" says School Resource Officer Shawn Lentz as he greets students during morning drop off.

It's the first day of school at West Middle School. Although it is Officer Lentz third first day, this one feels different.

"I haven't had a normal year yet," Lentz explains. "I started as the SRO in 2019. School closed that March and we started the next school year virtually. So, this year has a special excitement about it."

Officer Lentz is one of three school resource officers in OCFSD. Officers Zach Case, assigned to Oak Creek High School, and Ashley Chapman, assigned to East Middle School, are the District's other two SROs. Together, the three of them work as a team to connect the police department with the schools. SROs are tasked with running education programs, helping ensure a safe school environment, and acting as a positive role model for the students.

"Growing up and going through school, the school resource officer was someone in my life who helped me do well and work hard," remembers Officer Chapman. "In fact, they are the ones who pushed me to go into law enforcement and live out my dream. When I joined the police department in Oak Creek, I wanted to be an SRO so I could be the person I needed when I was a kid – to kids now."

"One of my goals is to have early intervention with high-risk students. Yes, my job is enforcement, but to me it's more about education, building positive relationships and providing resources. We're there to help," Officer Case says.

"Students have an opportunity to interact positively with a police officer and ask questions," Lentz explains. "This builds a relationship with law enforcement that they might not get in the community."



“...to me it's more about education, building positive relationships and providing resources. We're there to help.”

Officer Lentz knows first-hand the importance of positive relationships in school. As a former teacher in a neighboring school district, Lentz saw the impact adults can have on students, good or bad.

“I wanted to make an impact – I wanted to make a difference,” he says. “But, I felt like I wasn’t reaching students the way I wanted to.”

So, he went back to school and from there joined the Police Academy. In 2015, Officer Lentz found himself in the Oak Creek Police Department as a patrol officer. And when the opportunity to become an SRO knocked on his door, he answered right away. “It was great to get the chance to get back into schools, this time with a different perspective and have the opportunity to teach kids again,” he shares.

OCFSD adopted the SRO program in 1999. Last year, they added the safety coordinator position to further develop that partnership between the police department and our schools. Every day Lisa Reid works with schools to ensure their safety and crisis procedures are up to date, their safety plans are in place, and they are keeping up with emergency drills.

“It starts with community pride,” Reid says. “The way our police departments care about our kids is evident. They work as counselors and confidants. They aren’t just there when someone is breaking the law.”

That’s what it’s all about, says Lentz. “There’s a student I know from the middle school. She’s in high school now. And whenever she’s having a bad day, the SRO at the high school knows he can call me and I am happy to come and talk with her.”

“Students are only with us part of their lives and then they are in the community the rest of their lives,” Reid adds. “The interactions they have now can help shape their future.”

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Let Oak Creek Community Education & Recreation Help You Plan What To Do!



Oak Creek Community Education & Recreation (OCR) is the new merged platform for enrichment and recreational programming combining the City of Oak Creek Recreation Department with the Oak Creek-Franklin School District Youth Programs

Department. OCR provides programs and activities for residents at every stage of life. Winter and Spring program registration opens online December 20. Registration forms can be found in the “What To Do?” guide or at the Oak Creek-Franklin School District Office located at 7630 S. 10th St.

Adult Open Activities

Check out our open activities for adults below. The Open Gym Multi-Visit Pass is now available for \$35. Purchase the pass onsite at any Adult Open Gym with cash or check or at the District Office with cash, check or credit card.

Open Walking

Monday-Thursday 6-8 p.m.
at Oak Creek High School
Enter door #21 • \$2 per visit

Open Volleyball

Thursdays 6-8 p.m. at West Middle School
Enter door #7 • \$5 per visit

Open Pickleball

Sundays 4-6 p.m. at West Middle School.
Enter door #7 • \$5 per visit

Open Basketball

Sundays 6:30-8:30 p.m. at West Middle School
Enter door #7 • \$5 per visit

Student Open Gym

Students grades 6-8 Saturdays 6-8 p.m.
at East Middle School
Enter door #7 • \$2 per visit

Student Open Gym

Students grades K-5 Saturdays 6-8 p.m. at Forest Ridge Elementary •
Enter door #6 • \$2 per visit

Forever Young Club

This club is designed for adults 55+. The group meets every Monday for card social and luncheons from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Civic Center Multi-Purpose Room. Lunches are made by Taher food service and available for members at \$3.50; non-members \$4.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

OCR is always looking for reliable staff with a passion for teaching and coaching.

- **Winter/Spring session:** Basketball coaches, building supervisors, timekeepers and scorekeepers are needed
- **Summer Session:** Tennis, golf and running club coaches are needed.

Child care counselors and enrichment programming staff are encouraged to apply year-round.

Email h.ryan@ocfsd.org or apply online on the OCR tab of the Oak Creek-Franklin School District website.

FUN IN 4K AT OAK CREEK-FRANKLIN SCHOOLS

Teachers Bring Unique Curriculum to Classroom To Get Students Excited About Learning



Walk in to Ashlee Harding's 4K class at Shepard Hills Elementary School and it's hard not to smile.

"Okay, friends let's reach for the sky, really tall, now relax," Mrs. Harding tells her students.

"One more time – reach up really high – now, relax!" It's yoga time for these young learners – a new activity Mrs. Harding, a certified yoga teacher, is bringing to her classroom every Friday this school year.

"Yoga and mindfulness are great for the 4K students' focus and attention in the classroom," Harding explains. "I teach the students different ways to use our breath. We do a different breath as we start our day to calm our bodies and get our brains ready to learn. Yoga also cultivates body awareness, improves self-esteem and can reduce stress in our littlest of learners."

Receiving her yoga certification in 2015, Harding has been teaching yoga to adults ever since. Now, she thought, it's time to take it to the classroom. "I use yoga in my everyday life and it has felt very natural to bring it into the classroom," Harding says. And in just a few weeks, she's already seen the impact it can have on her students.

"I have already started to see students use some of the techniques we learn on their own," Harding reports. "And that is so rewarding." Students like Harlow Franz who benefit by building core strength and balance skills. "I like to do the butterfly and the mountain," Franz says. "It makes me feel strong."



"It feels good to move my body," her classmate adds.

Across town at Forest Ridge Elementary School students in Mrs. Flagge's 4K class are working to build skills, too.

"The object of the game is to match the people," Flagge said sitting at a little round table surrounded by two of her students. "You want them to start in the upper left-hand corner to build on reading skills."

Her students are playing a matching game called "Neighbors." The game was entirely created and designed by Flagge. "I wanted to make a game that would appeal to students for letter identification. Instead of just practicing identifying letters, I thought, let's take it a step further and make it more visually fun."

As part of the game students identify different facial features, such as glasses or curly or straight hair, and then match them up with the people on their game board. Being able to point out facial differences helps train their eyes for fine details, Flagge explains. "I like to make things. It's an outlet for me," says Flagge. "I saw a need for it and wanted to help students who aren't connecting with letters and so far, I have seen it working."

4K student Leah Kosikowski sits with fellow student Caiden Bentley playing Neighbors. "It makes you smart in your brain," Kosikowski says confidently as she correctly matches a piece on her board. "It's pretty cool."

But, the real showstopper was finding out that her teacher, Mrs. Flagge, made the game. "She did?!" Kosikowski exclaims. "Wow, she's really smart!"

"I love that I made something that is good for them and has a positive impact on their learning," Flagge adds. A positive impact and a little fun, too!

Above: Students in Mrs. Harding's class at Shepard Hills practice some yoga moves during class as part of new mindfulness curriculum.

Left: Forest Ridge 4K student Leah Kosikowski proudly displays her Neighbors' game board after completing the game with the help of her teacher and game creator, Mrs. Flagge!



SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Save the Dates! 4K and 5K Enrollment

Mark your calendars! 4K and 5K enrollment begins March 14, 2022. If your child will be 4-years-old by Sept. 1, 2022, he or she is eligible for 4K. Learn more about our programs at ocfsd.org/enrollment/4k-5k-enrollment.

Youth Basketball Program Through OCR

Programs open online December 20 and will run January 29-March 19. Pre-registration is required for all and is on a space-available basis.

- **Little Dribblers Bucks Camp** is for players grades 4-10 years. It will be offered at Forest Ridge Elementary Saturday mornings from 8-9 a.m.
- **Basketball FUNdamentals** is for players grades 2-3 combining skill development with some game play on Saturdays.
- **Basketball Recreational League** play will be offered for grades 4-8 with a weeknight practice and Saturday games.
- **Hot Shots!** Designed for Kindergarten-first graders offering skill development sessions Saturday mornings April 2-May 14 (no programs on April 16).

OCHS Celebrates Two Students Recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program

OCHS seniors Tyler Jossart and Evan Klamar are being nationally recognized for their exceptional academic promise as 2022 Commended Students. Although they will not continue in the 2022 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the competition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

“We are so proud of Tyler and Evan for their passion and dedication to their learning,” OCHS Principal Candis Mongan says. “To be recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program is an outstanding accomplishment and is the direct result of the hard work that these students have put in over the course of their high school careers. We know this is only the beginning of great things ahead!”



Evan Klamar



Tyler Jossart

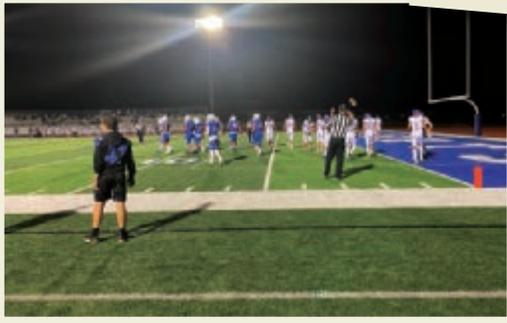
Safety Month

October was Safety Month in OCFSD! Students learned more about school safety, what to do in an emergency and got surprise visits from local law enforcement including Oak Creek firefighters and police officers

Kindergartners at Edgewood Elementary learned all about fire safety, including stop, drop and roll, and what to do in case of an emergency.



Homecoming Highlights



Top left: Congratulations to our 2021 Homecoming King and Queen Zachary Fields and Paige Schremp.

Top middle: OCHS celebrates the 2021 staff Homecoming King and Queen Mr. Charles Kagan and Ms. Rachael Henson.

Top: It was all Knight pride at the OCHS homecoming parade with class floats, performances from the marching band, cheerleaders and dance teams, and lots of candy!

Oak Creek Knights football team ended homecoming week by taking home a win against Indian Trail!

Congratulations to our 2021 Homecoming Best Buddies Isaiah Ragsdale and Shay Picchiottino.



Above: The OCHS seniors went long, stayed strong and sang the victory song over their Powder Puff football win against the class of 2023.

OAK CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

21/22

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN REVIEW

319

CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING

515

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

CERTIFICATIONS EARNED IN 2020-2021

618

BUSINESS STUDENT PARTNERSHIP

GTE INTERVIEW SUMMIT

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 7TH, 2022

618

COLLEGE AND CAREER READY

STUDENTS EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT

25

WORK BASED LEARNING

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN WISCONSIN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

2881

TOTAL CTE COURSES COMPLETED

COURSES COMPLETED IN CTE 2020-2021

WINTER 2021/2022 OAK CREEK CURRENT 15



*JobUp Milwaukee participant
Cyle Kraft is enrolled in
MATC's Chemical Technician
associate degree program.*

MATC CAREERHUB OFFERS THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE

By Alison Henderson



Whether you recently graduated high school or want to learn a new skill 20 years into a career, paving the way to your goals can be a momentous, daunting and sometimes costly endeavor.

But with the CareerHub at Milwaukee Area Technical College's Oak Creek Campus, seekers of all kinds can find the support they need. The CareerHub empowers students to engage in lifelong career development. From exploration conversations, career assessments and resume building to placement in internships and paid positions, the center offers a host of services to undecided students, students considering a program or career change, non-students seeking non-degree courses, and students interested in transfer opportunities. Many benefits and resources are also extended to MATC alumni after they graduate or transfer. The CareerHub offers free services for prospective students, current students and alumni.

"Our goal is to make sure that when you come to the CareerHub, you walk away with clarity," says MATC Career Development

Coach Lia Maxwell, who has been with MATC for 15 years and is a credentialed global career development facilitator.

Coaches Provide Individualized, Tailored Support

The CareerHub team listens to the stories of each visitor to identify the individual needs, ultimate goals and unique plan for achieving those goals. And, Maxwell says, accountability is key in this process.

"It's about having (the student) lead the discussion and having them take ownership, but only after they have all the information they need to make a decision," she says.

Like many at MATC, Maxwell was a first-generation college student who was encouraged by her family to pursue higher education. But as she navigated her pursuits, she says she did so without information or guidance from someone who understood the complexities of the process.

"I wish someone would have had this conversation with me," Maxwell says. "We try to have those hard discussions and explorations early on so you're not surprised by some of the challenges you're going to face."



Visit matc.edu

This helps students avoid accruing additional debt caused by changing trajectory or taking time to explore options. “It’s OK to change your mind,” Maxwell says. “We make sure you have the information to do it successfully.”

New Option: Apply as ‘Undecided’

Students who are unsure about which program they want to study can apply as “undecided” students. The new option offers help in deciding which of MATC’s more than 170 career-ready degree, technical diploma and certificate programs would most interest them.

“We know it can be difficult for students to decide which careers to pursue,” says Sarah Adams, Ph.D., MATC interim vice president of enrollment management. “It’s easy to feel stuck.”

Adams says with assistance from career coaches and workshops, prospective students can find what truly motivates them and learn about MATC’s career-related training that can help them get a start on their futures.

Students interested in this opportunity should visit matc.edu/apply, apply to start a degree or diploma, and list their program as ‘undecided/not sure.’ A career coach will be in touch within one business day, and will share information about career exploration workshops as well as individualized assistance.

MATC Works for Milwaukee’s Workforce

Through local partnerships with hundreds of Milwaukee businesses and organizations, MATC is plugged into the regional workforce as a diverse talent pipeline and economic growth engine.

According to an economic impact report from labor market analytics firm Emsi, one of every 31 jobs in the communities MATC serves are supported by the activity of MATC and its students.

Jenny McGilligan, director of student employment, career and transfer, says MATC seeks to create and deepen relationships with community organizations and employers for early entry into the workforce, and identifying partnerships with those who show a progression from entry-level positions to more family-sustaining positions.



Dr. Mark Felsheim

MATC OAK CREEK CAMPUS
6665 S. Howell Ave.
414.571.4500 • matc.edu
Dr. Mark Felsheim,
Campus Executive Director

MATC partners with employers to ensure graduates have in-demand skills.

“By looking for earlier opportunities where students can begin working in their intended field, they gain valuable experience while skilling up at MATC, which will make them much more competitive once they complete their degree,” McGilligan says, adding that students may be more willing to take early-entry positions and stay with a company if they see a clear pathway for advancement.

JobUp Milwaukee is a new cooperative-education program for MATC students. Partnering with Business Improvement Districts, the JobUp Milwaukee program helps neighborhood residents, students and incumbent workers “job up” into skilled and family-supporting positions while the participants pursue an MATC degree related to that occupation.

Additionally, InternConnect supports experiential learning by encouraging employer internship development and student internship participation through for-credit coursework. Area employers also connect with students and graduates through the Handshake online career platform at matc.joinhandshake.com.

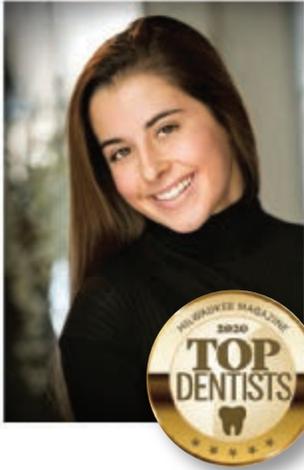
MATC partners with employers to ensure graduates have in-demand skills. “We see the needs of our local workforce and work with partners to look for creative solutions to try to bring talent into their organization earlier via internships, apprenticeships and new co-op opportunities,” McGilligan says.

Learn more about MATC’s CareerHub at matc.edu/careerhub or contact the CareerHub office at (414) 297-6244. Career development coaches like Lia Maxwell are available virtually, by phone or in person at the Oak Creek Campus.



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OPENING THIS CHRISTMAS

Master Lock's headquarters in Oak Creek at 6744 S. Howell Ave.



Master Lock Celebrates 100 Years of Business in 2021



There's a good chance that you own a Master Lock product. Perhaps it's the padlock securing your shed or gate. Maybe it's a cable lock for your bicycle. Or maybe it's the combination padlock you received when you were assigned your first locker in middle school. Offering hundreds of security and safety devices in its product line, Master Lock is recognized worldwide as the authentic, enduring name in security and safety products for home, business and industry.

This year marks the 100-year anniversary of the company, headquartered in Oak Creek, and they have spent the year celebrating by recognizing a full century of achievements, all while looking forward to many more years of success.

Master Lock was founded in 1921 by Harry Soref, a Russian immigrant who earned his living as a traveling locksmith across North America. In an era when locks were either cheaply made and flimsy, or solid steel and costly, Soref came up with a revolutionary idea. Inspired by the stacked metal layers in bank vault doors and battleship construction, he invented and patented the laminated padlock by stamping, stacking and riveting layers of steel together. This design was not only inexpensive to produce, but just

as rugged as the best locks on the market at the time.

When Soref attempted to get established lock manufacturers to consider his novel idea, he was rejected time after time. Undeterred, Soref returned to his Milwaukee home and enlisted close friends Philip Yolles and Samuel Stahl to invest in his idea, and Master Lock was born. Production began in 1924 in a single room of a small commercial building in Milwaukee with only a drill press, grinder, punch press and five employees. Despite the company's humble beginnings, the laminated padlock became an immediate success as soon as it hit the market, and Master Lock began to grow.

During Prohibition in 1928, the federal government placed one of Master Lock's largest orders yet, buying nearly 150,000 padlocks to shut down and secure illegal distilleries and speakeasies. Also contributing to the company's early success was Soref's friendship with the famous magician, Harry Houdini. Company lore suggests that Soref may have even given Houdini a few tips to help with his onstage escape routines!

Despite the company's rapid growth, one thing that remained constant was Master Lock's loyalty to Milwaukee. After outgrowing the Pabst Brewery building, which had extra space thanks to the Prohibition, the company moved to a sprawling factory on Milwaukee's

north side in 1939. Even after multiple expansions, that factory is still in operation today.

The next several decades were spent cultivating the company's commitment to user-led innovation that led to several hallmark product solutions, like the introduction of the resettable combination padlock to its product portfolio in 1982. Innovation aside, Master Lock also made its mark in pop culture and other key moments in American history, including becoming one of the first security brands to branch into television by airing its first TV commercial on the "Tonight Show with Johnny Carson" in 1967 and demonstrating the strength of its padlocks in the famous "Tough Under Fire" commercial during Super Bowl VIII in 1974.

In 2003, Master Lock first moved its headquarters to Oak Creek and then later relocated in 2017, occupying the space that initially held the Midwest Airline offices and then Caterpillar's global mining division on Howell Avenue. Though the company could have moved anywhere, its decision to remain in Oak Creek was strategic.

"We are a global organization with facilities all over the world," states Director of Marketing Justin Matuszek, "but we have great access to talent right here in Oak Creek." In addition to a qualified workforce, the proximity to Mitchell International Airport is an asset to its customers, sales

team and end-users.

Master Lock employs nearly 700 people in the Milwaukee area – with 300 working at headquarters and 400 working at the factory on North 32nd Street. The company has a total of 15 offices across the globe, including offices in North America, Europe, Middle East, Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions.

As Master Lock pays tribute to 100 years in business, it has also reflected on the evolution of the company and its line of security and safety products over time. While the hallmark laminated padlock looks almost the same as it did 100 years ago, it has been improved over time and is still a best seller today. This year, Master Lock released a limited edition 1921D Padlock branded with a commemorative logo incorporating the image of a lion – part of its original brand identity, signifying courage, strength and resilience.

Those three values remain at the core of Master Lock’s mission, even though their products have evolved over time to embrace new technology and in-demand solutions. In 2015, the company launched Bluetooth-enabled padlocks, a reimagined version of its traditional mechanical locks. The Bluetooth-enabled products can be paired with a smartphone, allowing homeowners and businesses to control who has access with a digital permission code. This feature is ideal for homeowners to give limited access to a pet sitter, contractor or cleaning service, for example. Businesses can use the same technology to provide building access to groups of people and easily revoke access when an individual leaves the company. No more keys to collect!

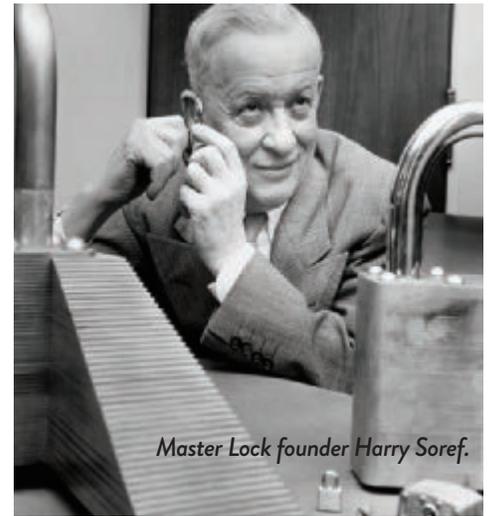
“We are constantly looking to understand what our customers want or need, and finding ways to provide simple solutions to solve



those needs. If it’s introducing new technology, we’ll pursue it. If it’s revamping existing mechanical technology, that’s also a large focus for us,” notes Matuszek.

Along with innovation, community involvement is another vital part of Master Lock’s mission; the company is continually looking for opportunities to use its products and expertise to help others. Following the onset of COVID-19, the company donated 1,200 Bluetooth Lock Boxes – an investment of more than \$300,000 – to help frontline workers safeguard their personal protective equipment (PPE) and essential supplies. Master Lock also regularly participates in back-to-school initiatives, supporting local schools with supplies and locker locks to set students up for a successful school year.

This sense of community involvement paved the way for Master Lock’s Community Champions program, a contest launched in April 2021 as part of its 100-year anniversary to celebrate unsung heroes making an impact where they live, work and play through a global call for online nominations. To help raise awareness for the program, Master Lock teamed up with Green Bay Packers hall-of-famer and fellow community advocate Donald Driver. Driver is well-known for helping others, most notably through his foundation’s work serving underprivileged children and families.

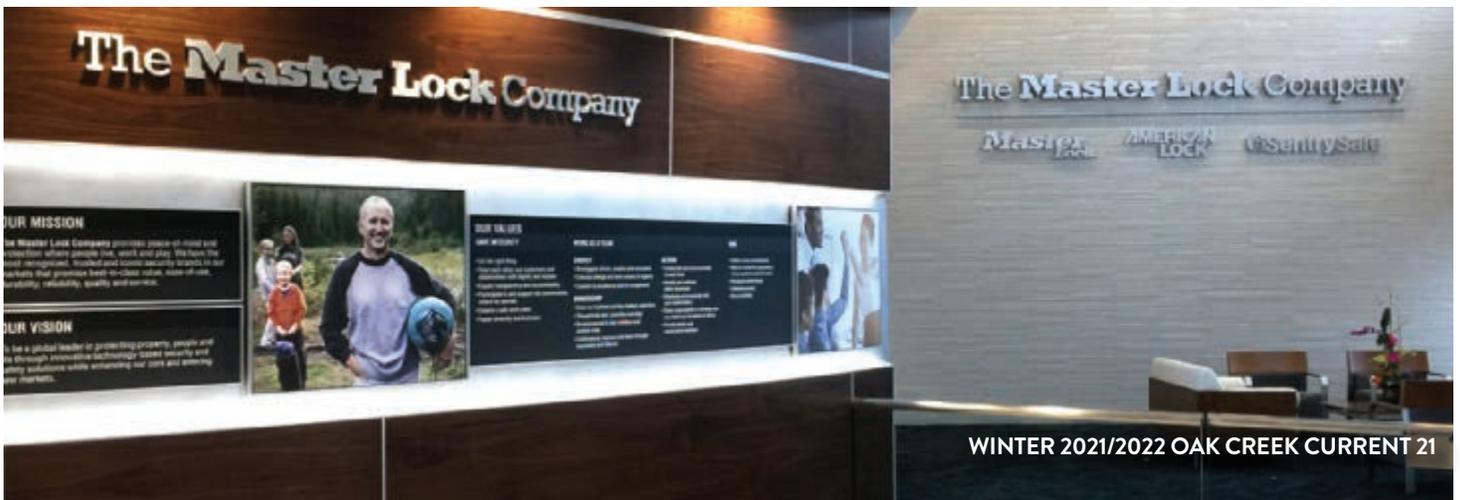


Master Lock founder Harry Soref.

Known for strengthening communities itself, Master Lock named Megan Manigault of Ridgeville, South Carolina, as the contest’s grand prize winner for her work supporting girls and young women affected by sexual abuse, human trafficking, foster care and homelessness. Manigault’s nonprofit I AM VOICES offers various evidence-based therapies and intervention methods to meet the mental, physical and emotional needs of those in her community. Five contest honorees were also named, including Zachery Ramos of Gustine, Calif., Kim Jackson of North Lauderdale, Fla., Rose Eke of Choisy-Le-Roi, France, Anthony Netto of Las Vegas, Nev., and Erica Hall of St. Petersburg, Fla.

During a time when celebrations have been challenging, Master Lock found a way to honor 100 years of its own achievements while recognizing like-minded individuals across the world who are strengthening their communities and securing promising futures for everyone.

To learn more about Oak Creek’s very own The Master Lock Company, including career opportunities and more, please visit masterlock.com.



Community Spotlight: AMERICAN LEGION POST #434 AUXILIARY



What is the American Legion Auxiliary?

It is a volunteer organization, established in 1919, made up of female and male spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and direct and adopted descendants of the members of the American Legion. There are

nearly 10,500 units located all over the world.

Oak Creek American Legion Post 434 Auxiliary has more than 135 members that work side-by-side with the veterans who belong to the American Legion, but their interests have broadened to encompass the entire community.

The Post 434 Auxiliary works tirelessly to improve the lives of our veterans, current serving military and our surrounding community. They do everything from sending care packages to our military serving abroad and making lunches for our veterans, to placing flags on the graves of our deceased veterans. In the community, they organize food and clothing drives and donate funds to Red Cross efforts as well as various other veteran and community programs.

The Auxiliary also raises money with the Poppy Fund. Every year they distribute poppies with a request that the person

receiving the flower donate to support the future of veterans, active military, and their families with medical and financial needs.

The Oak Creek American Legion Post 434 Auxiliary members perform a priceless service to the military veterans of our community, and we want to thank them for their commitment.

If you are interested in learning more about this organization or would like to become an Auxiliary member, please visit the American Legion Post #434 at 9327 S. Shepard Avenue, Oak Creek. You can also support the Auxiliary by stopping at the Legion for a delicious Fish Fry, every Friday from 4 to 8 p.m., September through May!



Oak Creek Water Named Best Tasting in State



Pictured from left to right: Manny Teodoro-UW Madison (taste test judge), Melissa Elliott-past AWWA president, Mike Sullivan-general manager, Mike Robe-plant manager and David La France, CEO of AWWA (taste tester).

The Oak Creek Water Utility can add one more honor to its long list of accomplishments: Best Tasting Water in Wisconsin! On September 22, at the Wisconsin Section of the American Water Works Association conference in Madison, Oak Creek's water won both the best tasting surface water competition, and the best tasting overall Wisconsin water competition for 2021.

In a blind test, a panel of judges evaluated water samples based on color, odor and taste in two categories – surface waters (lakes and rivers) and ground and well waters. Janesville Water Utility claimed the best groundwater competition, but Oak Creek's surface water ultimately reigned supreme in the head-to-head final competition.

"This win is a testament to our great resource; we are fortunate to have Lake Michigan water," says Mike Sullivan, general manager of the Utility.

Oak Creek will go on to compete for best tasting water in America in San Antonio, Texas, in June of 2022.

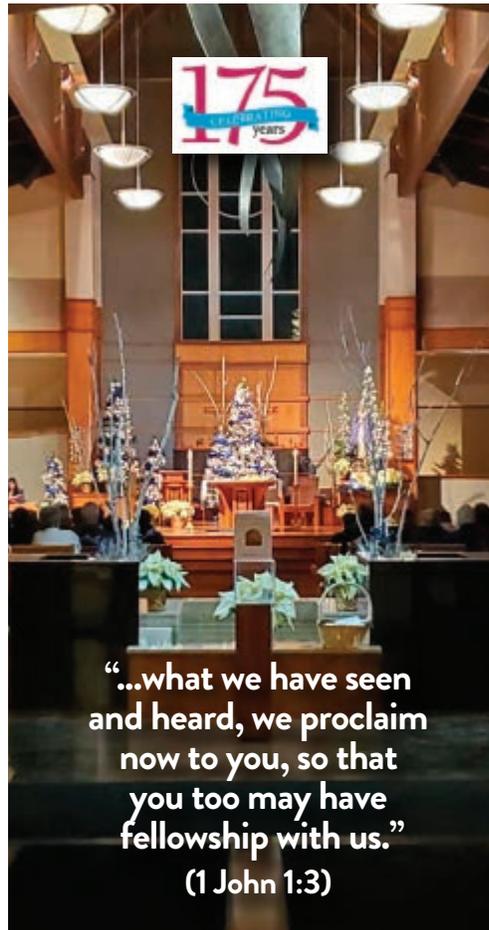
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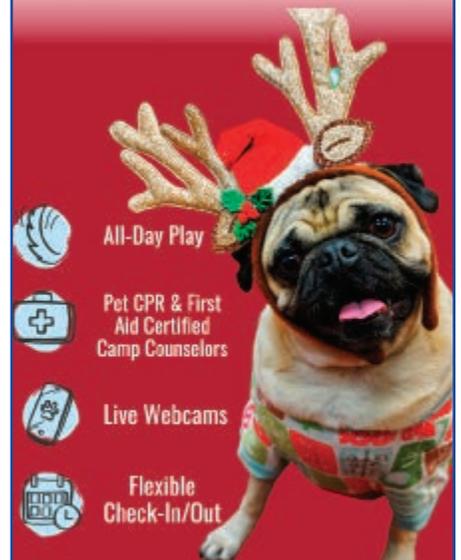
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Starting a Neighborhood Watch in Your Community

By Lisa Wytrykus Kleppek, Oak Creek Police Department



We all want to feel safe in our homes and neighborhoods so we take precautions to keep ourselves protected. Proactive measures like lighting entrances and keeping our doors locked are simple ways we can keep ourselves safe in our homes. But what else can we do?

How can we make sure that if problems occur in our neighborhood, they are quickly and safely resolved? One answer might be a Neighborhood Watch – a simple plan to learn more about your neighbors and your neighborhood and the most effective ways to keep both safe. And with everyday access to social media, electronic messaging and security cameras, it is even easier to achieve!

In spite of the easy access to communication tools, it is often hard to figure out where to start and how much time to invest in establishing a successful Neighborhood Watch. Detailed below is a list of steps that you and your neighborhood can take to organize a successful neighborhood watch.

STARTING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IN 5 EASY STEPS

1) Recruit and Organize Your Neighbors

Maybe it starts with a conversation between you and your next-door neighbor or a group of neighbors standing on the driveway watching kids play. The most important step is the first step – recruiting. Talk with your neighbors and find out if they would like to get involved.

Get basic contact information; name, address, email, phone number and preferred method of contact. Find out what their main concerns in the neighborhood are and when would be a good time for them to meet.

2) Schedule a Meeting with the OCPD Community Resource Bureau

The OCPD Community Resource Bureau has information and resources to help guide you as you create your Neighborhood Watch Program and will meet with you to discuss your plans. These resources include materials, guides, and signs, and having the Community Resource (CR) Coordinator on hand during a one-hour meeting to answer questions from the group. This meeting can be held virtually or in-person. In-person meetings can be held outside (weather permitting), in a local restaurant or meeting place or in a residence. Virtual meetings will be set up by the CR Coordinator and links will be provided to those who sign up.

3) Discuss Community Concerns and Develop a Plan

The community discussion session will give you and your neighbors the opportunity to discuss your concerns and goals for your neighborhood and together, establish an action plan for committing to a stronger, safer neighborhood. Your action plan should have distinct action steps with timeframes and a method to measure results. An example of a concern might be a vacant house in the neighborhood that is overgrown and has become a dumping ground for garbage. An action plan might include contacting the owner (or

holding company) to determine who might be able to provide lawn services and a group of volunteers to provide clean-up of the property. Other concerns might be low lighting, abandoned vehicles, suspicious activity, and trash. All of these concerns can be addressed by residents discussing options and determining the best course of action.

4) Create a Communications Plan

Unlike Neighborhood Watch programs in the past, there are many options for neighbors to stay in touch with one another and relay information privately within a group. Private messaging might include important information about upcoming meetings, block parties and neighborhood services as well as alerts about power outages, suspicious activity or even a lost pet.

- **Nextdoor** A social network that connects neighbors in hundreds of thousands of neighborhoods around the world. In addition to providing information to general areas of a community, the network provides the ability to create private groups for more immediate neighbors.
- **Facebook** Neighbors who have a social media presence on Facebook can create a private Facebook group to share important information.
- **Text Group** Neighbors who are willing to share their cell numbers with their neighbors can create a private texting group to share important neighborhood messages.
- **Email Group** Similar to a text group, email distribution lists can be used to communicate with neighbors.
- **Virtual Meeting Platforms** Neighbors don't even need to meet in person to keep everyone involved. Scheduling a regular (e.g., quarterly or biannually) virtual meeting can keep neighbors in touch and focused on keeping the community safe. Examples of virtual meeting platforms include, but are not limited to, Zoom, Webex, Google Meet and Skype.

5) Take Action and Hold Meetings

Once you have your Neighborhood Watch program in place, it is important to stay involved and hold regular meetings to discuss the resolution of issues and concerns and address new issues that have arisen.

Please visit the Neighborhood Watch section on the Police Department's Community Resources page to get additional information and resources on starting a neighborhood watch. For more great tips on starting a Neighborhood Watch Group, visit the National Neighborhood Watch website at nnw.org/start.

If you are interested in creating a Neighborhood Watch program and would like the Community Resource Coordinator to meet with your group, start by compiling a list of interested neighbors and a couple of meeting date options and contact us to request a meeting. We look forward to helping you keep your neighborhood a safe, inviting place for all!

To contact the Oak Creek Police Department Community Resource Bureau, email pdcommunityresource@oakcreekwi.org or call (414) 766-7624.

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Fire Department Explorer Program Offers Hands-On Experience

OC Fire Department interns are engaged and challenged by the Explorer program, and are also given the skills necessary to be successful in whatever career they choose.

F

For more than 15 years, the Oak Creek Fire Department has sponsored a Fire Explorer program for high school or college students ages 14 through 21. This program provides the participants with the opportunity to explore a career in the fire service by taking part in fire and emergency medical trainings, ride along with the fire department during emergency incidents, and participate in departmental events in the community. Our Explorers not only gain hands-on experience in the fire service, but are also taught the concepts of teamwork, responsibility and community service. Many of our past Explorers have gone on to careers with fire departments in the region, including Mason Barribeau, a former Explorer and Oak Creek H.S. graduate, who was hired by the Oak Creek Fire Department in April 2020.

In 2021, the department expanded its already successful Explorer program to include internship opportunities. The internship program supports those seeking a career in the fire service by providing professional education and increased opportunities for future employment. During the course of the internship, participants will be exposed to the many aspects of being a professional fire fighter. This experience will allow the intern the ability to further prepare for a fire service career by building his/her knowledge and skills and experiencing the daily life of a firefighter by participating as a member of a crew.

The department was excited to name Sophia Waszak as the intern for fall 2021. Sophia, an active Explorer, is a recent graduate of Oak Creek High School, and is currently in the Fire Science program at MATC. Regarding her experience with the Explorer program, Sophia shares, "Being part of the Explorer program has been a positive opportunity to learn new skills and to get a first-hand experience in the field of firefighting. It has also been a big aspect in paving the way for other opportunities and experiences." The

success of the Explorer program starts with its advisors. Led by Lt. Aaron Kolosovsky, the program advisors have strived to manage a program that not only engages and challenges the participants, but also provides them with the skills necessary to be successful in whatever career they choose. Lt. Kolosovsky offered this regarding his experience leading the program, "It has always been very rewarding to watch how the basic training we provide ignites a passion in our Explorers for their service and commitment to others. That is at the core of what the fire service provides to our community, and I am very excited to offer another option to our Explorers to further grow their passion with our new Internship initiative."

The program's success is also rooted in the generous donations of a valued community partner – Air Products. For the last several years, Air Products has generously donated financial support to our Explorer program, allowing us to continue to provide this valuable opportunity for young adults, as well as to expand the program to include internships. The Oak Creek Fire Department is grateful for the support Air Products has provided, and is proud to say that the partnership has helped to foster an interest in emergency services careers for many youths in our area.

The Oak Creek Fire Department's Fire Explorer program has not only been providing young adults with the chance to explore a career in fire service, but has also helped reinforce values such as teamwork, responsibility and community service, all of which are very important regardless of the career choice. The department is hopeful that its new internship program will help prepare young adults as qualified candidates for fire service careers, not only in Oak Creek, but throughout the region.

For more information on the Oak Creek Fire Department's Explorer program, please visit the Fire Department website at ocwi.org/fire or contact Lt. Aaron Kolosovsky at akolosovsky@oakcreekwi.gov.

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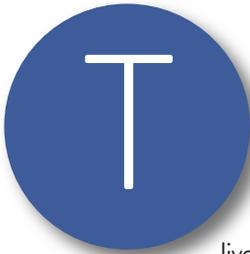
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The OC Lions Club “signature” event each year is Lionsfest, held for 4 days over Labor Day weekend.

OAK CREEK LIONS CLUB CHOSEN “CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”



The annual Citizen of the Year (COY) Award was first presented in the early '60s, recognizing an individual, couple or group that has gone above and beyond to help make the Oak Creek community a better place to live, work and raise a family. The early award recipients were mostly local political figures that helped transform the “town” of Oak Creek to the vibrant “City” of Oak Creek we live in today. Anyone can make a nomination, and they are taken each year. Previous recipients of the COY award then review each application and vote for a winner.

This time, the 2020 Citizen of the Year Award goes to one of the community’s most active and vital community organizations, the Oak Creek Lions Club. This group is primarily known to the public for staging its signature event, Lionsfest, each Labor Day weekend at the American Legion Post #434 grounds. The festival spans four days and includes close to 30 bands performing during the weekend, along with a carnival, car show, craft beer tent, meat raffles and plenty of family-friendly activities. The money raised at LionsFest is invested back into the community and is used to support many charitable donations throughout the year.

The list of donations that are made is quite impressive. For example, the OC Lions have supported OC High School Band scholarships, OC Little League and Youth Baseball, the OC High School Robotics team, the OC Community Center, and the Salvation Army and Hunger Task Force Food Pantries. And the list goes on! In 2019 through the end of 2020, OC Lions Club donations totaled more than \$92,000!

This year, the generous OC Lions added more scholarships to the standard ones they award to graduating OC High School seniors. Four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to special-needs students, and another four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to students who choose to go into various trades after graduation. Larger donations include those made to the OC Public Library along with those supporting the new digital scoreboards at the high school.

The OC Lions have also created a “Leo’s Club” that is comprised of about 50 high school junior and seniors. To prepare these young



The Lions Club was presented with a City proclamation and certificates of appreciation from state officials at the awards ceremony in September.

adults for their lives ahead, they learn the value of donating time and energy to the community, leadership skills and teamwork, with the long-term goal of hoping they become Lions in the future.

The Lions Club boasts a closely knit organization where everyone becomes family as they team up and work toward the common goal of making Oak Creek – and the world – a better place to live. According to Lion Scott Koenig, “We work hard at our fundraisers, but it is all worth it when we can help out in so many different ways in our community.” Koenig also explains how one of the beauties of



A variety of bands perform during the four-day LionsFest event.

the club is there is something for everyone. Large fundraisers or smaller events, cooking breakfast for special-needs kids or testing grade school students' vision every fall – there are so many ways to volunteer and help. You can donate 50 hours per month, or maybe just a few – there is a way for everyone to give back to the community they love!

Many thanks to the Oak Creek Lions Club for its generous spirit and commitment to giving back. Oak Creek is proud to include them as a vital community partner, going back to 1958 (the first LionsFest took place in 1959). Visit oakcreeklions.com to find out more about this amazing 501(c)3 organization. Sign up as a member today and YOU can make a difference as well!

The Oak Creek Lions: WE SERVE.

Police Department Seeks Auxiliary Members

The Oak Creek Police Department Auxiliary Officer Unit is looking to add a few qualified people to its team. The auxiliary unit is an all-volunteer force that assists the Oak Creek Police Department with many critical functions and events. Members regularly assist with Municipal Court on Tuesday evenings and volunteer to staff community events throughout the year. These events include the July Fourth parade and fireworks, National Night Out, LionsFest, Oak Creek High School sporting events, and much more.

Auxiliary members have also been called upon during emergencies, such as natural disasters and other large-scale events, to assist sworn officers. During these events, members are typically assigned duties such as traffic control, community relations or visible foot/vehicle patrols.

Auxiliary members are non-sworn, with no arrest powers, and are never tasked with law enforcement functions such as responding to in-progress crimes, conducting criminal investigations, affecting arrests, or issuing citations.

Auxiliary officers receive police-style uniforms and training, and must commit to attending monthly meetings at the Oak Creek Police Department. Auxiliary officers are expected to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours a year and attend at least 50% of the meetings. Successful applicants must possess a valid, unrestricted Wisconsin driver's license and pass a background investigation.

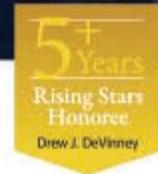
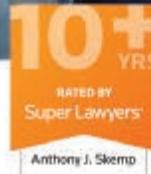
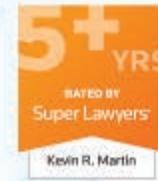
If you would like to give back to your community and become an Oak Creek PD Auxiliary Unit member, please complete the online application by visiting ocwi.org/police. Click on "Community Resources" in the left menu to locate the Auxiliary Police Unit application.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Sgt. Andrew Ahearn at (414)766-7646.



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CITY OF OAK CREEK HIGHLIGHTS

Please Take the Public Art Survey

Earlier this year, City staff began the development of a long-range public art plan for Oak Creek. When complete this plan will help guide the type and location of new public art, and identify funding sources to support these efforts.

The community is invited to take a survey and provide feedback on the priorities that should guide the development of the final public art plan. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the public's priorities when it comes to art in Oak Creek.

The survey asks several questions, including how Oak Creek can benefit from public art, what areas of the city provide the best opportunities for public art, and what kind of public art residents would like to see.

The survey is open through Dec. 31, 2021, and can be found at ocwi.org/publicart.

Stay Up to Date with the Library's e-Newsletter!

Oak Creek Public Library has launched a new e-Newsletter. When you sign up, we'll email you monthly news about our upcoming programs, new books, and other library services. We will also be able to send you important information regarding service changes, building updates, and more.

If you want to be in the loop, please visit oakcreeklibrary.org/enewsletter to subscribe today. Everyone is welcome – you do not have to be a current library card holder or even an Oak Creek resident to subscribe.

Interested in reading previous issues of our e-Newsletter? You can find them all on our website! Browse the entire back-issue archive by visiting oakcreeklibrary.org/enewsletter-archive.

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• **Erica's Hair** • 8663 S. Market Place
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• **Riverside Family Restaurant**
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• **The Soup Market**
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See photos on page 32.



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OUT AND ABOUT IN THE CITY OF OAK CREEK



THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

It's a new season to discover all the great reasons why we LOVE OAK CREEK! As we bid farewell to autumn, we welcome a variety of new businesses, and can indulge in plenty of special events to keep busy. Celebrate the season by checking out the calendar on page 34 for so many things to do and see. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

- 1.** Board & Brush, at 8880 S. Howell Ave., is one of Oak Creek's newest businesses. This is a great DIY spot with more than 400 options to create your own wood sign. Take a class or reserve their entire space for a private party. See pg. 25.
- 2.** It's almost time for SNOW! Look for OCR's What To Do 2022 WinterGuide coming to a mailbox near you next month.
- 3.** Another new OC business is the Riverside Family Restaurant at 2021 W. Ryan Rd.
- 4.** The CAFE event took place at Drexel Town Square the last Saturday of the Farmers Market. This special event (Culture, Art, Food & Entertainment) celebrated the City's ethnic diversity through educational interaction and conversation. Entertainment included dancers performing in their native dress.
- 5.** The Soup Market has made 8880 S. Howell Ave. its new home. The Soup Market is well-known throughout the Milwaukee area for its tasty soups (and chocolate chip cookies!). Check out their daily specials online at soupmarket.com.





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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM EVENT DETAILS OR VISIT
THE CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITES.

NOVEMBER

- **Sun., Nov. 14: Packer Party/Chili Cookoff, Doors open 1:30 p.m., kickoff 3:25 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Raffles, chili tasting. \$5 at the door. Visit occenter.com.
- **Mon., Nov. 15: Fall Clean-Up Begins** No charge for pickup of most items from residential homes and condos that have City-provided garbage and recycling. (There is a small fee for freon appliances and televisions.) Please visit oakcreekwi.org.
- **Sat., Nov. 20: Holiday Craft Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Free parking and entry.
- **Wed., Nov. 24: No School for OCFSD Students**
- **Thur., Nov. 25: 10th Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Turkey Trek, 8-9 a.m.** Emerald Preserve, 8031 S. 6th St. Start your holiday with a walk around the Preserve with Mayor Dan and your friends, family and neighbors! Please bring one or more non-perishable food items to be donated to a local food pantry.
- **Thur.-Fri., Nov. 25-26: City Offices, Library and OCFSD Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday.**
- **Fri.-Sat., Nov. 26-27: Recycling Yard Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**
- **Sun., Nov. 28: Annual Tree Lighting with Santa, 5-8 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Santa arrives on fire truck, turn the switch to light the tree, meet with Santa, good boys and girls will receive a gift bag from him, parents bring your cameras! Visit occenter.com.

DECEMBER

- **Wed., Dec. 1: Winter Parking Rules Begin**
- **Wed., Dec. 1: Light the Square. 6 p.m.** Drexel Town Square. The City's official kick-off to the holiday season! Bring your cameras and dress warm, as this event will be held outdoors. See visitoakcreek.com.
- **Thur., Dec. 2: Oak Creek High School Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4-7:30 p.m.**
- **Sat., Dec. 4.: December Market Craft/Vendor Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Free parking and entry. Visit occenter.com.
- **Fri., Dec. 10-Sat., Dec. 12: "Crazy for You"** A musical for all ages at the new Oak Creek Performing Arts & Education Center. Presented by the Oak Creek High School Theatre, \$10 online or \$16 at the door. Visit ochstheatre.com
- **Wed., Dec. 15: Incorporation Day** Oak Creek became a city 66 years ago on this date.
- **Sun., Dec. 18: Breakfast with Santa, 9-11 a.m.** Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave. Limited tickets available.
- **Thur., Dec. 23-Sat., Dec. 25: City Offices, Library and Recycling Yard Closed for Christmas Holiday**
- **Thur., Dec. 23-Fri., Dec. 31: Winter Break – No School for OCFSD Students**

- **Thur.-Fri., Dec. 30-31: City Offices, Library and Recycling Yard Closed for New Year's Holiday**

JANUARY

- **Sat., Jan. 1: Library and Recycling Yard Closed for New Year's Holiday**
- **Tue., Jan. 4: Resume Building Blocks (Part 1 Goodwill Workshop), 6-7 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Made possible through the Greendale Goodwill Workforce Connection Center. Registration begins Dec. 20. Visit oakcreeklibrary.org to sign up.
- **Wed., Jan. 5: Basic Computer Skills, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon** In this four-week course, learn computer, internet, search tool and email basic concepts. Registration begins Dec. 20. Visit oakcreeklibrary.org to sign up.
- **Fri., Jan. 14: "Industrial Rhythm"** at the new Oak Creek Performing Arts & Education Center. Electrifying percussion and high-energy dance will leave you awestruck. \$30-40 advance reserved seating, add \$5 at the door.
- **Mon., Jan. 17: No School for OCFSD Students**
- **Mon., Jan. 24: No School for OCFSD Students** (Possible Weather Make-Up Day)

FEBRUARY

- **Tue., Feb. 1: Resume Building Blocks (Part 2 Goodwill Workshop), 6-7 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. Made possible through the Greendale Goodwill Workforce Connection Center. Registration begins Dec. 20. Visit oakcreeklibrary.org to sign up.
- **Thur., Feb. 3: Cybersecurity, 6-8:30 p.m.** Oak Creek Public Library, 8040 S. 6th St. This new, four-week course is for people who are ready for the next level of instruction in computer usage. Registration begins Dec. 20. Visit oakcreeklibrary.org to sign up.
- **Wed., Feb. 9: Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:30-7 p.m.**
- **Tue., Feb. 15: Spring Primary Election**
- **Sat., Feb. 19-Sun., Feb 20: "Sally Cotter and the Censored Stone"** A Wizarding World Parody Play for all ages at the new Oak Creek Performing Arts Center. Presented by the Oak Creek High School Theatre, \$10 online or \$16 at the door. Visit ochstheatre.com.
- **Sat., Feb. 19: Olympic Watch Party, TBA at Drexel Town Square** Please see visitoakcreek.com for details.
- **Fri., Feb. 25: No School for OCFSD Students** (Possible Weather Make-Up Day)

MARCH

- **Thur., Mar. 3: Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8 p.m.**
- **Thur., Mar. 10: Oak Creek High School Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4-7:30 p.m.**

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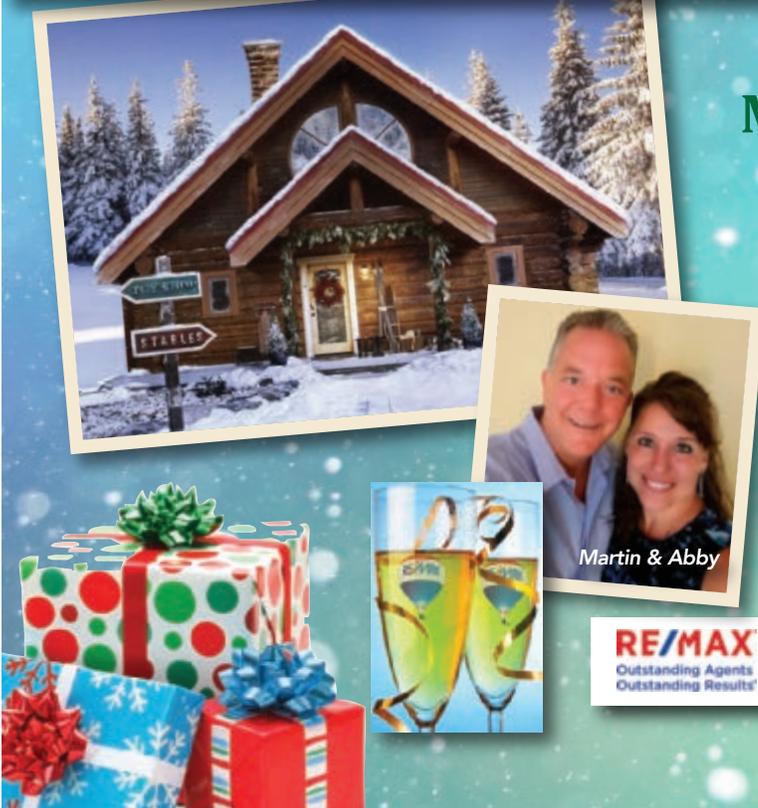
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