

Edgewater Neighborhood

Neighborhood Newsletter | Summer 2017



Neighborhood Association Officers

President & Alderman
John Beck 815.289.4787
john.beck@rockfordil.gov

Vice President
Michelle Bowman

Treasurer
Michael Goddard

Secretary
B.J. Alexis

Board Members

Barb Berman
Dick Berman
Phyllis Holm
Kim Millhorn
Mark Podemski
Lucretia Ristin
Bill Simpson
Jennifer Smith
Drew Williams

Community Services Officer

Brian Squires
779.500.6676
brian.squires@rockfordil.gov

It's Summer! Get out there and have a blast!

Those long, sunny days and warm evenings are great for relaxing — but who has time to relax when there is so much to do during a Rockford summer? Take a look at page three for information about a variety of events and happenings right in our neck of the woods.

And don't forget to join us on Tuesday, July 4, for the holiday festivities at Oxford Park! A family-friendly event that includes a kid's bike parade, face painting, snacks and beverages for sale, and a fireworks display provided by the Rockford Country Club! All activities are held at Oxford Park. Snacks and activities begin at 5:30, bike parade at 6:30, and fireworks at dusk. Kids of all ages are invited to decorate your bikes and join the parade; all participants receive a goodie bag and are entered for great door prizes.



We are very excited to announce that Big Mama House Food and Catering will be on hand for the 4th of July with their food truck, selling hot dogs, brats, and burgers! The Edgewater Neighborhood Association will still sell beverages and snacks, and this year we're renting a second cotton candy machine to make sure no children get away without sticky fingers :) :)

We are very grateful to the Rockford Country Club for continuing to provide the fireworks, Olympic Tavern for providing tables, coolers, and other supplies, and to our wonderful Alderman John Beck for providing logistical support like the all-important port-o-potties.

As usual there will not be a neighborhood association meeting held in July. We'll start up again with the regular 3rd Wednesday monthly meetings on August 16 — remember, all neighbors are warmly invited to attend. 5:30pm, Rockford Country Club.

Have a wonderful summer, and we hope to see you on the 4th or out and about in beautiful Edgewater!

—The Edgewater Neighborhood Association Board

The West Side Show Room to bring Original Theater to the North End

It was a pleasure to welcome Mike Werckle, President and Artistic Director of The West Side Show Room, to the Association meeting in May. Mike had asked to speak at the meeting about the WSSR and their plans for their new location at North Main and Auburn. Currently they are completing renovations to the inside of one of the storefronts in the strip on the southwest corner of the roundabout, and hope to open this fall or winter. Currently, WSSR is planning a Rockford New Play Festival which will feature live readings of plays written by residents from the Rockford area. This event will be held on August 24 at 7pm, at Mendelssohn Performing Arts Center.

We are so pleased to welcome WSSR to the North End and anticipate the additional vibrancy that having a live theater in our corner of town will bring! Learn more about The West Side Showroom at www.thewestsideshowroom.com



A few friendly reminders to help keep your Home Sweet Home safe this summer

Our Community Services Officer gave us a few reminders about ways to discourage criminal activity.

- Most of the non domestic-related burglaries that occur in our neighborhood occur when a car or garage door is accidentally left unlocked. Double check that entrances are secure and help your neighbors stay safe, too — if someone inadvertently leaves a garage door open, give them a call!
- If you have outside lights, turn them on at night. A well-lit street and well-lit entrances are major deterrents. Also, keeping bushes, shrubs, and trees trimmed around the perimeter of your house leaves fewer places for someone to hide or be obscured from street view.
- With increasing amounts of shopping done online, there are also increases in packages being stolen off porches. If you have a neighbor who is home during the day, you might ask if they can keep an eye out for the delivery.
- If you see activity that seems suspicious, do not hesitate to call it in to the non-emergency line: (815) 966-2900. Every police officer that visits our neighborhood meetings stresses this point and encourages residents to not feel they are being a bother for calling in something that “may be nothing”.



One of the best things about Edgewater and one reason that we have very low relative incidents of crime is that there are so many people enjoying our neighborhood by foot and by bike. **“Eyes on the street” can be one of the most effective deterrents against criminal activity.** Keeping our neighborhood friendly for people walking with kids or dogs, pushing strollers, or enjoying a leisurely bike ride sends a clear message about who these streets are for — for our neighbors to enjoy!

With this in mind, please help keep Edgewater walkable and bikeable:

- Keep sidewalks clear from overgrown grass, shrubs, and trees.
- Don't park your car in a way that blocks the sidewalk or crosswalks.
- Keep an eye out for pedestrians and cyclists when driving through the neighborhood.

And above all, get out and enjoy the neighborhood yourself! Meet some new neighbors, linger on a front porch, take a different route and discover a new street. See you out and about this summer!



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Michelle R Bowman

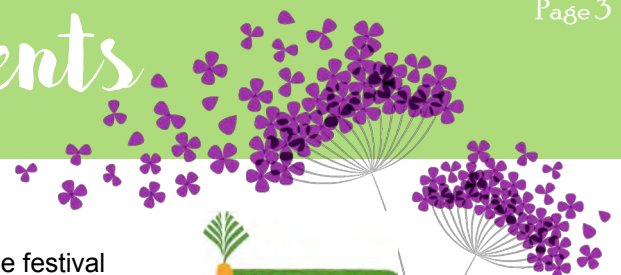
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Summer Community Events



Winnebago Buy Local "Totally Local" Ice Cream Social!

On "Sundae" July 16, enjoy delicious Dairy Haus ice cream, root beer floats by Prairie Street Brewhouse, and lots of family fun! Hosted by Winnebago Buy Local. Just \$5, from 1-4pm at the Lombardi Club, 209 Olive Street.



Tour de North End

Rockford's original bike festival and neighborhood ride returns for its SIXTH year on July 22! Hosted by Olympic Tavern and featuring many North End businesses, this is right in our backyard and you do NOT want to miss out.

www.tourdenorthend.com

North End City Market

Parking lot on the southeast corner of the North Main roundabout, 9am-1pm on Saturdays until October 28. Visit <http://www.rockfordcitymarket.com/northend/> for more information!

Edgebrook Events



Rockford's longest running farmers market is open every Wednesday from 9a—1p until October 25 in the parking lot at Edgebrook Shops, 1639 N Alpine Road. And on select Fridays throughout the summer, enjoy live music outside the Edgebrook Mary's Market! Learn more at <http://edgebrookshops.com/events/>



City Market

Located at the intersection of Water St and Market St in downtown Rockford from 3:30-8:30pm on until September 30. Visit www.rockfordcitymarket.com/ for more information!



Tuesday Evenings in the Gardens

Live music on Tuesday evenings in the grounds of Anderson Japanese Gardens. Learn more at <http://www.andersongardens.org/tuesday-evening-gardens-2017/>

Japanese Summer Festival

A Celebration of Traditional Cultural Arts, Saturday, August 19 & Sunday, August 20. The Japanese Summer Festival features exhibits, demonstrations and unique performances that appeal to all age groups and helps foster a better understanding of the Japanese culture. Learn more at <http://www.andersongardens.org/japanese-summer-festival-2017/>



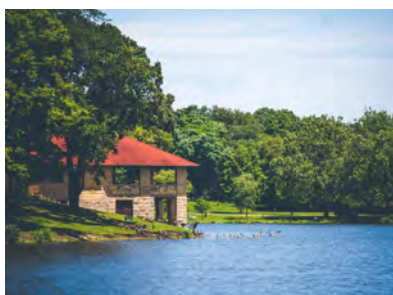
Sinnissippi Music Shell

Free live performances on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00pm, through August 3. Sinnissippi Park Music Shell is located at 1401 N. Second St. Learn more at www.rockfordparkdistrict.org



Tunes on the Terrace

Free concerts featuring local musicians on the outdoor terrace at Nicholas Conservatory. Held Wednesday nights during the summer from 5-7pm. Don't forget your lawn chair! Visit www.nicholasconservatory.com/tunes-on-the-terrace/ for more information.



Levings Showcase

Live music, Sunday evenings throughout the summer. Located at Levings Lake, 1420 S. Pierpont Ave. Visit www.rockfordparkdistrict.org for more information!



Art in the Parks

A two-mile, one-hour tour along the Rock River Rec path introducing residents to public art along the path. Departs every Thursday from mid-June through mid-August at 11am (weather permitting) from the lobby of Nicholas Conservatory. Learn more and reserve a spot by calling 815.987.8858.

We enjoyed one of the first beautiful spring days during the Easter Egg Hunt! The new photo setup was a big hit, as was the visit from Rockford Police Officers (pictured on front page).

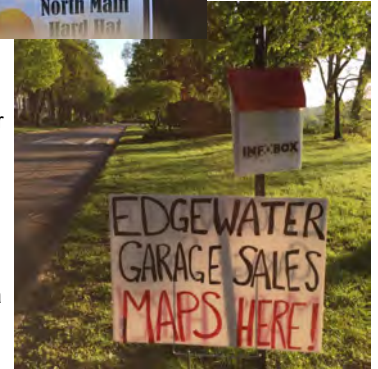


Board members BJ and Jennifer manned the table at the Hard Hat Hoopla event! Thanks to the Olympic Tavern for hosting and congratulations to the neighbors who won awesome prizes, and thanks to everyone for supporting North Main businesses!



Edgewater neighbors donated over 600 pounds of clothing and household items to Goodwill during the Spring Donation Drive! We plan to hold another Donation Drive in concert with the fall neighborhood cleanup day.

The day of the Edgewater Neighborhood Garage Sale was another beauty. We distributed nearly 250 physical maps for our neighborhood sales and also provided a digital version of the map this year!



Become a Member of the Edgewater Neighborhood Association!

The Edgewater Neighborhood Association was established in 1979 to create a greater sense of community and provide resources that help keep Edgewater a beautiful, safe, and inviting place to live. Your annually-renewable \$15 Membership fee supports:

- ⊗ Seasonal Neighborhood Activities including the Easter Egg Hunt, Annual Garage Sale, 4th of July Festivities in Oxford Park, and Luminaria (including Luminaries placed in public places like the Auburn Street Bridge).
- ⊗ Snow Plow Fund: The City does not plow Edgewater's many alleys, so as a neighborhood we pool our resources and contract with a plow service to keep those alleys clear all winter long.
- ⊗ Watering planters on Auburn Street and the north side of Auburn Street Bridge.
- ⊗ Postage for neighborhood mailings and printing of those mailings, as well as signs advertising neighborhood activities.

Thank you for your Membership and for helping Edgewater continue to be the vibrant, unique neighborhood we can be proud to call home!



Please mail your completed form with check (made out to Edgewater Neighborhood Association) to:



Edgewater Neighborhood Association
PO Box 515
Rockford, IL 61105

Prefer to pay by card?
Pay online with PayPal at www.rockfordedgewater.org!

Name _____

Address _____
(Used for Edgewater mailings)

Phone _____
(Used for Edgewater information only)

Email _____
(Receive updates from our Alderman and Association President, John Beck)

Membership Dues **\$15**

Additional Donation _____
(to support snow removal and other neighborhood activities)

TOTAL _____