



# EDGEWATER NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS | FALL 2020



## Neighborhood Association Officers

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Michelle Bowman

### Treasurer

Mark Podemski

### Secretary

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Phyllis Holm

Maren Sanders

Don Schreiner

Bill Simpson

Jennifer Smith

## Community Services Officer

Kyle Parr

779.500.6627

[kyle.parr@rockfordil.gov](mailto:kyle.parr@rockfordil.gov)

12th Ward

Alderman

Ginger Hanley

815.299.8885

[ginger.hanley@rockfordil.gov](mailto:ginger.hanley@rockfordil.gov)

## Song for Autumn

by Mary Oliver

Don't you imagine the leaves dream now  
how comfortable it will be to touch  
the earth instead of the  
nothingness of the air and the endless  
freshets of wind? And don't you think  
the trees, especially those with  
mossy hollows, are beginning to look for  
the fires that will come—six, a dozen—to sleep  
inside their bodies? And don't you hear  
the goldenrod whispering goodbye,  
the everlasting being crowned with the first  
tuffets of snow? The pond  
stiffens and the white field over which  
the fox runs so quickly brings out  
its long blue shadows. The wind wags  
its many tails. And in the evening  
the piled firewood shifts a little,  
longing to be on its way.



While 2020 has certainly not unfolded the way anyone could have expected, there is comfort and even a bit of a relief to be able to count on the familiar signs of the changing of the seasons. And while every season has its perks, Edgewater evolves into a particular state of loveliness in Autumn. We are all hoping for many more days of blue sky, warm sun, and crisp breeze to come before we move into what's next (but let's not think about that yet!).

Autumn brings with it a host of seasonal reminders, and we hope you'll take some time to peruse this newsletter and reacquaint yourself with how to handle all those leaves yet to be raked, among other things. Also find updates from the Edgewater Medical Center and details to help you make your plan to vote! Election Day is November 3, but there's no need to wait — early voting begins this Thursday! Check out page four for more information.

It has been a true disappointment to miss out on many neighborhood traditions this year. But one that will go on as usual is Luminaria on December 19! We hope every neighbor will participate, especially since this year we light up the night in memory of our friend and neighbor, John Beck.

From all of us, have an awesome, abundant, Autumn!

—The Edgewater Neighborhood Association Board



# Edgewater Events & Updates

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## October 21: Monthly Edgewater Association Meeting

We will hold a virtual meeting via Zoom starting at 5:30 p.m. All neighbors are invited to attend. Please email us at [rockfordedgewater@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordedgewater@gmail.com) to RSVP so we can email you the Zoom login details.

## October 31: Halloween

We aren't yet sure what will or will not be recommended in regards to Trick-or-Treating this year. Please keep an eye on Edgewater's Facebook page for more details to come. We do look forward to seeing the Halloween decorations start to pop up around the neighborhood!

## November 18: Monthly Edgewater Association Meeting

We will hold a virtual meeting via Zoom starting at 5:30 p.m. All neighbors are invited to attend. Please email us at [rockfordedgewater@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordedgewater@gmail.com) to RSVP so we can email you the Zoom login details.

## December 5: Luminary Sale and Membership Drive

9am - 3pm on Saturday, December 5, buy your affordably priced bags and candles for this year's Luminaria at Village Green, 2640 N. Main. Bring your own container and you can also pick up free sand.

During the sale, renew your Edgewater Membership for 2021 or join for the very first time -- the annually-renewable \$20 per-household membership supports Edgewater including our neighborhood snow plow fund. Payments can be made by cash, check, or card during the sale, by using the form on the last page of this newsletter, or online at [www.rockfordedgewater.org](http://www.rockfordedgewater.org)

## December 19: Luminaria

Enjoy and participate in an Edgewater tradition: Luminaria Night! Line your walkways with luminaries (white candle-lit bags weighted with sand) at dusk. This will be the first Luminaria since the death of our neighbor, alderman, and friend, John Beck. We anticipate making this year's Luminaria even more brilliant to light the night in his memory; keep an eye out for more details to come.



## You're Retired. Your Money Isn't.

To learn why consolidating your retirement accounts to Edward Jones makes sense, call my office today.



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**Maren M Sanders**  
Financial Advisor

2715 N Main St  
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# Fall Community Events

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## City Markets

City Market continues every Friday through September 25, and North End City Market continues through October 17! The North End City market is located in the parking lot on the southeast corner of the North Main roundabout, 9am-1pm on Saturdays. Visit [rockfordcitymarket.com/northend/](http://rockfordcitymarket.com/northend/) for more information.



## School Day Out Program, Lockwood Park

School's out on the farm! Join in on Wednesday afternoons for animal adventures and exploration of Lockwood's 146 acres of beautiful woods and prairie path. Learn about the world around us and the importance of agriculture. Hands-on lessons will include interaction with horses, ponies and other farm animals. Crafts, games, and songs will add to the fun on the farm.

Appropriate for ages 5-8. Wednesdays, from 11:30-5:30, September 23 & 30; October 7, 14, 21, 28; November 4, 11, 17; December 2, 9, 16, 30. Registration required, visit <https://lockwoodpark.com/school-day-out> for more information and to register.



## Rise and Ride! Every Sunday

Start your Sunday right with a friendly, 7 mile bicycle cruise around Rockford's downtown River District. Meet in front of Rockford Roasting Company (206 N. Main), roll out at 9:30. All are welcome!



## October 4: Mel Anderson Path Slow Roll Bike Ride

Join the fun for a family-friendly, free biking event for all ages on the Mel Anderson Bike Path starting at the Northwest Community Center at 3:00 p.m. Even if you don't ride a bike, come and learn how, and enjoy food and prizes.

## October 11: Head of the Rock Regatta

The YMCA Rowing Crew plays host to the Head of the Rock Regatta October 11. This decades-old race draws more than 2,000 rowers from across the country.

The event is free to spectators, and Edgewater has a front row seat! Bring your blankets and a picnic lunch and enjoy the sights along the river right in our neighborhood!



## Edgebrook Events

Get in the Holiday Spirit with Edgebrook's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Open House! Friday, November 20 from 5:00—6:30 p.m., Mingle with Santa, enjoy holiday carols performed by local choirs, and countdown to the Edgebrook Tree being lit for the first time for the season!

On Saturday, November 21, join in the fun of Edgebrook's Holiday Open House. Shop holiday specials and in-store events. Learn more: [edgebrookshops.com/events/](http://edgebrookshops.com/events/)



## November 28: Stroll on State

November 28th, enjoy the 8th annual Stroll on State! Although the event may look a little different this year, plans are well underway to provide the fun holiday kickoff that's truly become an annual tradition. Keep an eye on the [Stroll on State webpage](#) for more details as they are available!



# Election Day is November 3!

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## Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Make your Voting Plan today!

There are many races and important issues on the ballot this November. There are also many ways for you to cast your ballot, so whether you prefer to vote by mail, vote early in person, or wait until Election Day and visit your official polling place, **make a plan now to make sure your voice and your vote are a part of this election!**

**GET REGISTERED:** Not sure if you're registered? Check your status here: <https://ova.elections.il.gov/RegistrationLookup.aspx>  
Need to register? Residents within the City of Rockford may register online (must have an Illinois state ID or drivers license) at <https://ova.elections.il.gov/> OR register in person at the Rockford Board of Elections, 301 S 6th Street. Visit <https://voterockford.com/for-voters/how-to-register> to view more details including required identification. People who register on or after October 7 are considered "Grace Period Registrants", which means you must register AND cast your ballot in the same visit.

**VOTE BY MAIL:** Vote by mail ballots will begin to be mailed September 24, 2020. You may have already received an application to request a Vote by Mail ballot. If you have not, you may complete an online application or find a printable, mailable form to request a ballot by mail at <https://voterockford.com/for-voters/vote-by-mail>. No ballots will be mailed after October 29, 2020. All ballots sent by mail must be postmarked by midnight on Election Day (November 3rd), but it is recommended that ballots be mailed at least seven days prior to the election.

**IN PERSON EARLY VOTING:** In person early voting begins September 24, 2020. Registered voters in the city of Rockford may vote early at two locations:

Rockford Board of Elections, 301 S 6th Street  
Mondays thru Fridays, Sept. 24—Oct. 16, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Saturdays Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m.—Noon  
Mondays thru Fridays Oct. 19—Nov. 2, 8:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.  
Saturdays Oct. 24 and Oct. 31, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Sundays, October 25 and November 1, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 412 N Church Street (enter via Park Street entrance):  
Monday, October 19—Monday, November 2  
Mondays thru Fridays, 8:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.  
Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

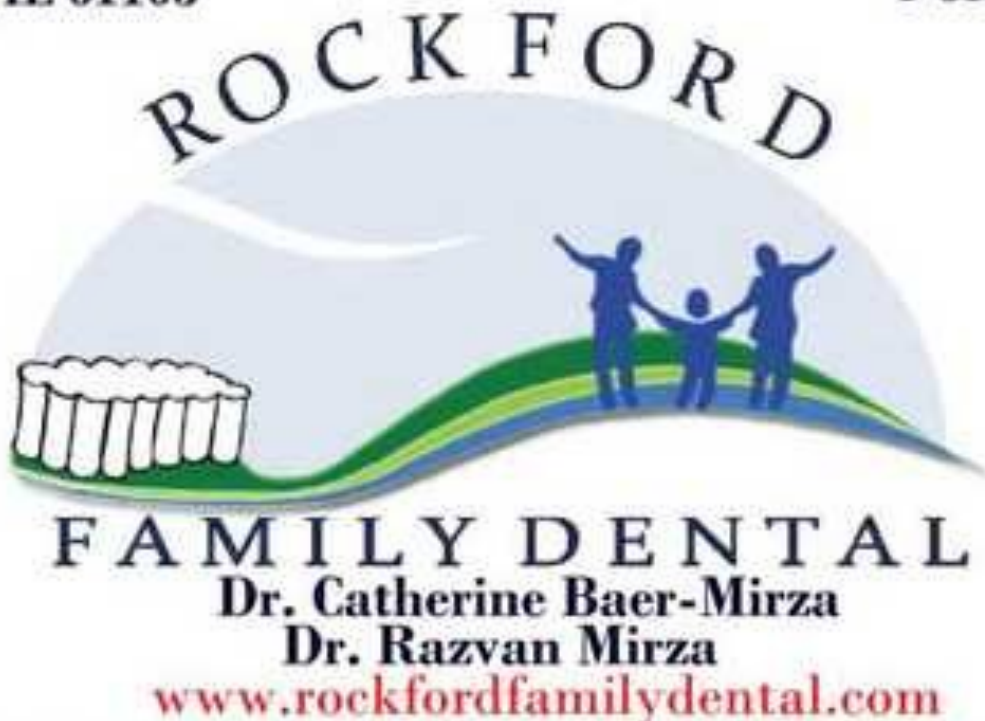
**IN PERSON ELECTION DAY VOTING:** Election Day, November 3, voters must cast their ballot at their designated polling place, between 6:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m. Find your polling place by entering your address at <https://voterockford.com/for-voters/polling-place>  
This webpage will also let you know your district for various races that may be appearing on the ballot this fall.

Find much more information to help prepare for this election, including a sample ballot, at <https://voterockford.com>



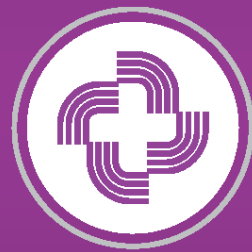
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Rockford, IL 61103

P 815-964-8713  
F 815-964-3719





# GROWING FOR THE EDGEWATER COMMUNITY



At Swedes we understand you  
and are here for you.  
Because after all, we're close like family  
which is why we're growing  
for the community!



**Edgewater Medical Center** is a beautiful facility  
providing primary care, obstetrics and so much more.

We're here to serve the Edgewater community.

## PROVIDERS:

Philip Carlson-Dexter, MD  
Beth Christiansen, APRN  
Precious Gaddis, MD  
Sarah Guffey, APRN  
Mohammed Khan, MD  
Rose Stocker, DO

For more information or to find  
a doctor that's right for you, visit  
[SwedishAmerican.org](http://SwedishAmerican.org) or call Edgewater  
Medical Center at (779) 696-5000.

**SWEDISHAMERICAN**  
A DIVISION OF UW HEALTH

## SwedishAmerican Welcomes New Providers to Edgewater Medical Center

SwedishAmerican recently welcomed two new providers to its Edgewater Medical Center.

OB/GYN Dr. Precious Gaddis and family physician Dr. Philip Carlson-Dexter started in August and are both accepting new patients at the clinic located at 2909 N. Main Street that opened earlier this year.

Dr. Gaddis received her medical degree from University of Illinois-Rockford and completed her residency at Medical College of Wisconsin-affiliated hospitals. Originally from Chicago, Dr. Gaddis is a member of the American Medical Association, Student National Medical Association and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Her medical interests include Fitness/Exercise, Gynecology, Mother/Baby Care, Obstetrics/Prenatal Care, Women's Health and Women and Children.

"I pursued a career in medicine because of my passion for science and people," Dr. Gaddis said. "I also wanted to help people and have a positive impact on the community I serve."

"Teamwork is my philosophy. I strive to provide well-rounded care to patients, being an active listener and paying attention to details to understand the issue at hand in order to come up with the best solution, and treating every patient interaction as a partnership allows me and my patients to tackle the issue and create lasting results."

Dr. Carlson-Dexter received his medical degree and completed his residency with University of Illinois Chicago Rockford. Originally from Tremont, Ill., he is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Association of American Medical Colleges, American Society of Addiction Medicine and the Illinois State Medical Society.

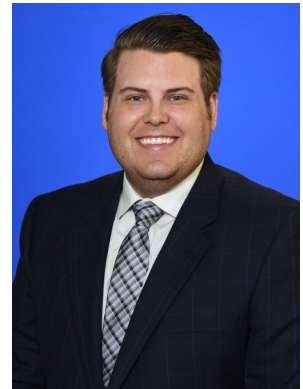
Dr. Carlson-Dexter's medical interests include Back Pain, Bariatrics/Obesity, Cardiac Health, Chronic Disease Management, Disease Prevention, Diabetes Management, Foot Care, Gastrointestinal Disorders, Geriatric Medicine, Gynecology, Headaches/Migraines, Health and Wellness, Mental Health/Psychological Care, Mother/Baby Care, Nutrition, Obstetrics/Prenatal Care, Pain Management, Patient Education, Pediatric Care, Preventive Medicine, Weight Loss, Women's Health, and Women & Children.

"My philosophy of care is simple - work as a team with my patients to help them live the healthiest and happiest lives possible," Dr. Carlson-Dexter said. "I consider myself a lifelong learner, and this is vital to being a good doctor. I work hard to apply the most current medical knowledge to care for my patients. This does not mean prescribing the newest pills or surgeries to solve problems, it means helping a patient understand all the options and working together to choose what will be the best fit for them."

**For more information or to schedule an appointment with Dr. Gaddis or Dr. Carlson-Dexter, please call Edgewater Medical Center at 779-696-5000.**




**Dr. Precious Gaddis**  
OB/GYN



**Dr. Philip Carlson-Dexter**  
Family Physician



## Remember the 3 W's



**WEAR  
A MASK**



**WASH  
YOUR HANDS**



**WATCH  
YOUR DISTANCE**



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

CS19747-B 08/31/2020





## Yard Refuse Pickup Reminders

Yard refuse pickup continues through the end of November (and may be extended into December, depending on Fall weather), and occurs on the same day your trash is picked up. Refuse including leaves, grass, and sticks should be placed in compostable brown paper yard waste bags or in garbage cans that are clearly marked with an "X" on all sides. Branches may be no more than 4 inches in diameter, should be trimmed to 4 feet in length, no bundle of branches or yard waste bag or can should weigh more than 50 pounds.

**Reminder:** Bagged trash and yard refuse should not be placed in the street for pickup but up on the right of way or driveway so street sweepers can get closer to the curb. Sweeping crews do not come back to sweep an area that was missed because of improperly placed garbage receptacles or parked cars.

## Storm Drains

Street sweepers will help clear debris from our streets, but you can help ensure our water system remains efficient and free from excessive yard waste and trash by taking an extra look at any storm drains in the street along your property.

Even partially blocked storm drains can cause major flooding problems during Fall rains. While you're out doing that Fall yard cleanup take a moment to clear a storm drain!



## Street Sweeping, Hydrant Flushing

City-wide street sweeping commenced in mid-September. The city is divided into 23 zones which indicate the order in which locations will be swept — 1-2 zones are cleared each week. Weather and other factors impact the speed at which sweeping will occur.

**Regardless of the timing of the official sweep by the City, it is illegal to blow, rake, or sweep yard refuse into the street.** This is not only unsightly but also clogs gutters, storm drains, and puts unnecessary debris into our water system.

This fall, Edgewater will get "spot-flushing" only for the hydrants that need flushing, as determined by the water division, and as such no definitive schedule can be provided.



## For Housing News, Visit: [Edgewater-Homes.com](http://Edgewater-Homes.com)



**Dickerson  
& Nieman**  
REALTORS

**Keith Kelly**  
815-509-3655

[keithk@dickersonnieman.com](mailto:keithk@dickersonnieman.com)

## HELPFUL NUMBERS:

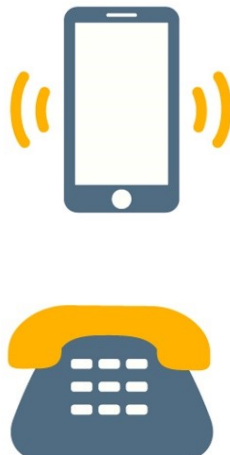
GRAFFITI HOTLINE: 779-348-7261

NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARDS  
HOTLINE: 779-348-7395

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY  
NUMBER: 815-966-2900

WINNEBAGO COUNTY ANIMAL  
CONTROL: 815-319-4100

[Sign up for the City of Rockford  
Community Email Newsletter!](#)



## Take it Slow for Safe, Pleasant Streets

Edgewater's streets and sidewalks are busy year-round with walkers, strollers, pets, and kids. This school year, with many more children attending school from home, there are many more kids out and about even during weekdays. Please, drive slowly and watch for kids, pets, and anyone on foot or bike.

Edgewater is not alone in this scenario: every neighborhood in Rockford deserves to have safe, quiet streets. Even as the weather turns colder, driving with the expectation that you will come across someone on foot or bike can help make our city safer and more pleasant. Thank you!



## 12 Fall Home Maintenance Tips

Get your furnace cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified technician.

Check your roof for damage, missing slates, or any leaks.

Clean debris and leaves out from gutters.

Position all downspouts away from the home's foundation.

Reduce your electrical outlets potential fire hazards, such as frayed wires or overloading sockets.

Have your chimney cleaned and maintained annually by a professional.

Insulate water pipes in areas exposed to cold temperatures.

Remove lint from the dryer after each use, and clean dust from underneath and behind the appliance.

Ensure smoke detectors are working, changing their batteries as needed.

Eliminate any draughts that may be in the house.

Keep a fire extinguisher accessible.



## Submit your Edgewater photos and show off the best views from our neighborhood!

We need your help! We're looking to expand our collection of Edgewater photos, taken by Edgewater neighbors, showing off all the things you love about our neighborhood. Submissions will be used in future newsletters, on Facebook, and on our website. Photos from all seasons welcome! Email your photos (JPG or PNG, please) to [rockfordedgewater@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordedgewater@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Please Note:** by submitting a photo, you give us permission to use it as described above, and also indicate that any people in the photos have given permission to be featured on those platforms, too. We reserve the right to crop/edit photos. Submission does not guarantee that a photo will be used.



## Promote your business to Edgewater neighbors!

Run an ad in the Edgewater newsletter and reach hundreds of neighbors in Edgewater and beyond! Digital newsletters are emailed to over 400 residents and posted on Facebook, NextDoor, and the neighborhood website. Physical newsletters are also mailed to 1200 Edgewater households in the fall. All proceeds support the Edgewater Neighborhood Association. Ad materials (PDF, JPG or PNG files) can be submitted to [rockfordedgewater@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordedgewater@gmail.com). Please contact us with any questions!



**PRICING: Digital (spring, summer, fall)** -- Full-page ads are \$100, 1/2 page \$50, 1/4 page \$25, business card size \$20.

**Print (winter)** — Full-page ads are \$140, 1/2 page \$75, 1/4 page \$40, business card size \$30.

## 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 \$20 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 to:

Edgewater Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 515  
Rockford, IL 61105

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Used for Edgewater mailings)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Used for Edgewater information only)

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(Receive updates from our Alderman and Neighborhood Association President, John Beck)

Membership Dues **\$20**

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

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Checks may be made out to Edgewater Neighborhood Association. Prefer to pay by card?

Pay online at [www.rockfordedgewater.org](http://www.rockfordedgewater.org)!