



# Edgewater Neighborhood

Neighborhood Newsletter | Winter 2017-2018



## Neighborhood Association Officers

**President & Alderman**  
John Beck 815.289.4787  
[john.beck@rockfordil.gov](mailto: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](mailto:brian.squires@rockfordil.gov)

## A Season of Thankfulness. A Season to Remember.

As we enter the hustle and bustle of another holiday season and the rush that always seems to come as the end of the year approaches, we would like to take a moment for reflection on two fronts.

As you may know, our community suffered the tragic loss of an officer from the Rockford Police Department. Officer Jaimie Cox was killed in the line of duty in the early morning hours of November 5th. The police force and indeed the entire community mourn this loss, and question what more can be done to take on violent crime and its overwhelming effects on our community. We also unite in thankfulness and support for the men and women who put themselves on the line every single day to protect and serve the people of this city. If you are so moved, please consider making a donation at any Alpine Bank location to the Jaimie Cox Memorial Fund.



We also remember the life of Edgewater neighbor John Nelson, who died in August of last year. His legacy and commitment to this city resonate on in many ways, and this month the Swedish Historical Society announced plans to build a playground in his honor in Borgholm, Sweden, which became one of Rockford's Sister Cities in 2002 thanks in large part to John's efforts. If you are interested in learning more or making a donation to help make the playground a reality, please contact Swedish Historical Society Administrator Alix Fox at [alix@swedishhistorical.org](mailto:alix@swedishhistorical.org).

We pause to remember, to mourn, but also to celebrate the lives of these and many others who we have lost but whose memories live on in us. May we all take a moment this holiday season to pause in thanks, to celebrate the joy of life together, to hope for a New Year filled with peace.

All our best to you and yours this holiday season.

—The Edgewater Neighborhood Association Board

## Promote your business to Edgewater neighbors!

Run an ad in the Edgewater newsletter and reach hundreds of neighbors in Edgewater and beyond. E-newsletters are sent to nearly 300 residents and posted on Facebook, NextDoor, and the neighborhood website. Physical newsletters are also mailed to 1200 Edgewater households in the fall.

Full-page ads are \$100, 1/2 page \$50, 1/4 page \$25; proceeds support Edgewater Neighborhood Association. Ad materials (digital PDF, JPEG or PNG files) can be submitted to Jennifer Smith, [jenebuck@gmail.com](mailto:jenebuck@gmail.com). Please contact Jennifer with any questions.





## Edgebrook Events

Don't miss Edgebrook's Holiday Tree Lighting November 17 and Open House, November 18! Learn more at [edgebrookshops.com/events/](http://edgebrookshops.com/events/)



## November 25: Stroll on State

Enjoy the 5th annual Stroll on State! Brought to you by the Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, this family-friendly event kicks off the holiday season with a visit from Santa, tree-lighting and fireworks on the Rock River, ice skating, sleigh rides, holiday shopping, and much, much more. Keep an eye on [gorockford.com](http://gorockford.com) for details as they are announced!

## December 2: Edgewater Luminary Sale & Membership Drive

9am - 4pm on Saturday, December 2, buy your affordably priced bags and candles for this year's Luminaria at Village Green, 2640 N. Main. Bring your own container and also pick up free sand.

During the sale, renew your Edgewater Membership for 2017 or join up for the very first time -- the annually-renewable \$15 per-household membership supports Edgewater events as well as our neighborhood snow plow fund. Payments can be made by cash, check, or card during the sale, by using the form on the outside of this newsletter, or online at [rockfordedgewater.org](http://rockfordedgewater.org)

Interested in helping out with the Luminary sale? Contact John Beck at 815.289.4787 to volunteer!

## December 16: Luminaria Night

Enjoy and participate in an Edgewater tradition: Luminaria Night! Line your walkways with luminaries (white candle-lit bags weighted with sand) at dusk on Saturday, December 16. If you plan to host a holiday party this is a great night to do it! Volunteers will set up and light hundreds of luminaries in common areas such as the Auburn Street Bridge; want to help? Call John Beck at 815.289.4787.



Volunteers load hundreds of luminaries on a trailer, destination Auburn St. Bridge!



## December 20: Edgewater Holiday Party

From 5:30 - 8pm, all Edgewater residents are invited to join the fun and enjoy an evening of delicious food and fellowship with your neighbors at the Rockford Country Club! This year we're mixing things up: instead of seated dinner, we'll have heavy appetizers, games, a visit from Santa, live music, and more! Watch for an invitation in your mail toward the end of November with all the details including when and how to RSVP. The cost will be \$15 for adults, FREE for kids 12 and younger. Please plan to join us!

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## Olympic Tavern Events

The holiday season means a FULL slate of events at Olympic Tavern. Enjoy the Black Friday tradition of enjoying Bourbon County Stout, a Holiday Wine Sampling on Dec. 14, an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party on Dec. 15, and celebrate the Winter Solstice and the darkest night of the year by trying some of the darkest and tastiest beers out there for There Will be Darkness on Dec. 22. As usual there will also be specials on gift cards events throughout the season; visit [theolympictavern.com](http://theolympictavern.com) and their Facebook page for all the details.



## City of Rockford Construction Updates

**North Main Street:** The project is ahead of schedule. Contractors are finishing up asphalt and concrete work south of the railroad tracks and will be complete for November 2017. The north side of the railroad tracks and Riverside Blvd. construction will continue in 2018 and is estimated to be completed in late 2018. Utility burials along Riverside Blvd. will occur over winter and should be complete by March of 2018.

**Alpine Box Culvert (just north of Alpine & Morsay Dr.):** The east half of the box culvert is complete. Traffic has been shifted to the east side of the road. The Contractor is currently working on demolition of the west side of the box culvert. The culvert will be open to 4 full lanes of traffic for the winter driving season. The proposed project complete date is June of 2018.

**Spring Creek:** Spring Creek will be getting paved the full width up to Elder Lane this year, along with the west bound lanes up to Alpine Road. Contractors will be back next spring to finish up the east bound lane and the intersection of Spring Creek and Alpine.

## Leaves and Ice are a Dangerous Combo

Help prevent street flooding and keep our water system free of debris as possible by clearing storm drains and gutters of leaves. Even partially blocked drains can cause problems with fall rains and lead to ice jams in winter.

## Help Keep Edgewater Walkable All Year—Keep Sidewalks Clear!

One of the best things about Edgewater is how walkable it is, for adults, children, and dogs alike! As you complete your fall cleanup, take time to trim bushes and trees that may overhang or block sidewalks, and rake leaves and debris off sidewalks.

When the snow starts to fly, please keep sidewalks as clear of snow and ice as possible. If you live on a corner, do your best to keep the path from the sidewalk to the street clear; this is not always an easy task but your efforts ensure pedestrians and pups have safe passage year round. Thank you!



## Winter Parking & Snow Clearing Reminders

Odd/Even parking is always in effect always during a declared Snow Emergency to assist with snow clearing operations. **Vehicles must be parked on the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses on odd-numbered days and on the side with even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days by 8:00am (for example, on Nov. 9 you'd park on the odd side of the street by 8:00am).**

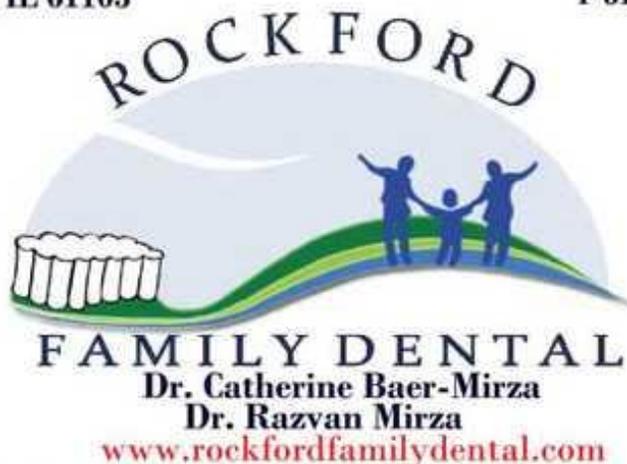
If your street is marked as "No Parking" on one side, a Snow Emergency declaration allows you to park legally in the restricted area during the time the Snow Emergency is in effect. **Do not assume that you can move your car when the street is plowed, it must remain parked appropriately until after the Snow Emergency has been lifted.** Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as it ensures Edgewater streets are thoroughly cleared after every storm. Call the

City's Snow Hotline at 815.987.5771 with any questions.

Edgewater contracts with a private company to have all the alleys in the neighborhood plowed. The contractor is contacted to start plowing the alleys after 2 inches of snow have fallen. The money to pay this contractor comes from Edgewater membership dues as well as additional donations to the snow plow fund. Join us for the Membership Drive on December 2 (see page 2 for more details), use the form on the outside of this newsletter, or visit [rockfordedgewater.org](http://rockfordedgewater.org) to become a member!

2715 N. Main St.  
Rockford, IL 61103

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





Edgewater Neighborhood  
Association  
P.O. Box 515  
Rockford, IL 61105

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## 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](http://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** \_\_\_\_\_

