



Are you an Edgepert?



Each month we'll share interesting and fun facts about Edgerton. If you have a surprising fact to share about living in Edgerton or about the City's history, submit it to aclower@edgertonks.org and it may be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

Question:

Do you know what the steel cage at the city lake is?

Answer on back.

Recovery from COVID-19

Edgerton Neighbors,

Once again, our City is pulling together. We've seen evidence of that outside Edgerton Elementary, as families write messages of support in chalk on the sidewalks, in the pictures and drawings hung up on windows and doors, and in the donations to the Edgerton Food Pantry to help our neighbors in need. Now we're moving to the next phase: restarting.



As the economy begins to reopen this month, please continue to be proactive about your health. County leaders urge residents to continue frequent hand washing, maintain a minimum of 6-foot physical distance and wear a barrier mask when unable to social distance. We urge you to follow that guidance.

The financial impact of the economic shutdown to the City remains to be seen. We're expecting Edgerton's portion of the county's sales tax to be down drastically, but that money won't be remitted for at least another month. We expect that LPKC businesses will continue to fulfill their Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreements. If the PILOT is not paid, their tax abatements can be revoked. This gives us a small measure of security during these uncertain times. LPKC and the intermodal are essential, making sure that our stores and homes receive the items we need.

We know we will weather this storm and look forward to the day that we can come back together as a community. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy. We cannot predict what the future holds, but I know that whatever happens we will remain #EdgertonStrong.

-Mayor Donald Roberts



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Important Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Commission Meeting-
CANCELED:

Tuesday, May 12

City Council Meeting:

Thursday, May 14

City Council Meeting:

Thursday, May 28

Parks & Recreation Events and Activities:

All Parks and Recreation Events have been canceled through the end of May.

Senior Lunch and BINGO and all Community Hall rentals have also been canceled through May.

Work To Begin on 56 Hwy Trail

Pedestrian traffic along 56 Highway has increased significantly over the last few years, but construction on a new paved trail should begin soon, creating a safe pathway for pedestrians and cyclists.

The City Council recently approved a cooperative purchasing agreement with Johnson County from Max Rieke Bros. and Updike Paving Corp to begin work on Phase I of the new asphalt trail, which will run from 1st Street to Edgerton Elementary School Drive. Last September, the City requested bids on the trail project, but the bids came back higher than expected, so council members directed staff to look into other options. This new cooperative purchasing agreement with Johnson County Parks and Recreation helped defray some of the costs.

Public Works Director Dan Merkh says, "We're excited to be able to improve safety and walkability like the citizens of Edgerton want and deserve."

Dirt Work Underway on New TA Express

Construction crews are moving dirt at the site of the new TA Express going in along the east side of Homestead Lane at I-35. A formal groundbreaking should be held once some of the restrictions on public gatherings have been lifted. Plans call for the new \$12 million TA Express travel center to be finished before the end of 2020. The project includes a convenience store with quick-serve food, truck wash, and TA service center. "We feel this is going to be the catalyst for future development for the Homestead Lane corridor," says ElevateEdgerton! President James Oltman. "The future is bright in Edgerton!"



From Your Friends at Fire District #1: Smoke Alarm Safety

Does your home have at least one smoke alarm in each bedroom, near all sleeping areas, and on every level of the home, including the basement? Do you know which type of smoke alarms are installed in your home? Do you know how old your smoke alarms are? Do you test your smoke alarms each month? If you answered no to any of those questions, you should review these tips:



- Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms should be interconnected, so that when one alarm sounds, they all do.
- There are two different types of smoke alarms: ionization and photoelectric. An ionization alarm is typically more responsive to a flaming fire, such as a pan fire. A photoelectric alarm is typically more

responsive to a smoldering fire, as might occur where a lighted cigarette is dropped on a sofa. Wireless interconnection of smoke alarms is also available. A licensed electrician may need to replace existing hard-wired smoke alarms with those capable of wireless interconnection.

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- Replace all smoke alarms, including those that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly when tested.
- Smoke alarms should be tested monthly using the test button; everyone in the home should know the sound of the alarm.
- Whatever type of smoke alarms you choose, make sure they bear the mark of a recognized testing laboratory.

If you have any questions, please call the Fire Department at 913-764-7635.

City Wide Clean-Up To Be Held May 16

The Annual Edgerton City Wide Clean-up is set for May 16. Now is the time to clean out your basement, the garage, your cabinets, and that junk drawer that is overflowing. Crews from Gardner Disposal will be coming down your street on Saturday, May 16. Please make sure everything is on the curb by 7 a.m.

These items are allowed:

- Non-CFC appliances - washers, dryers, water heaters
- Furniture
- Carpet cut up into 4' rolls
- Construction debris
- Televisions

Smaller items must be bagged or contained for easy pick-up. Any small items that are not contained will not be collected.

Please move vehicles or anything that may block the trucks and crews from your curbside. Items will not be collected from trailers or pick-up truck beds.

Hazardous household items, like paint, chemicals and oil, will **not** be collected. Those can be recycled at the Johnson County Hazardous Waste Disposal in Olathe by appointment only. Call 913-715-6907 for details.

Glass should be recycled at the Ripple Glass collection bins at the Price Chopper in Gardner or the Baldwin City Market.

The brush pile at Edgerton Public Works will also be open for yard debris drop-off from 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. No plastic bags are allowed.

You can also drop off other items at the city's Public Works Facility at 700 E. Nelson Street from 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. Charges may apply. See details below:

- Tires: \$3 per tire for 16" or smaller tires; \$5 per tire for 17" and 22" tires; \$25 for tractor/equipment tires
- Appliances with CFCs: Freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners
- Oil and batteries



Frontier Days Canceled for 2020

The Frontier Days Committee has announced that the annual festival is canceled for this summer. President Glyn Powers says the cancellation is due to an inability to meet on a regular basis. "The spring is critical for our planning. The virus really just hit at the wrong time," Powers says. "We know people are going to be disappointed. We're disappointed. But we want Frontier Days to be the best event possible, not something hastily thrown together."

Now, they are turning their attention to the 50th anniversary celebration next year.

"We'll be back better than ever with excellent performances, great food and exciting carnival rides for the whole family," he says. "Watch for details throughout the coming year. Our 50th year will be the best yet."

The committee is looking for more volunteers to help plan and run events for the golden anniversary celebration. If you'd like to help, contact City Hall. The 50th Annual Frontier Days will be held June 18-19, 2021.



Frontier Days 2019



2020 Public Service Recognition and Public Works Weeks

The first full week of May is Public Service Recognition Week, when we say thank you to all of our friends and neighbors who work for federal, state, county and local governments. To mark the occasion, residents are invited to take part in our City Trivia game. It's available online at edgertonks.org.

May 17-23 is National Public Works Week. Edgerton has some of the best Public Works employees in the metro. They make sure our streets and parks are maintained and clean. To say thank you for all of their hard work, we have a coloring page available at edgertonks.org that we invite everyone to decorate. We'll put all of the pages on display for our crews.

Residents are also invited to participate in a photo contest for Public Works Week. Kids and adults can dress up like public works employees. Post your pictures on Facebook with the hashtag #EdgertonPublicWorksWeek.

Edgerton Summer Kick-Off Postponed

The Summer Kick-off Block Party, normally held the last Friday in May has been postponed. The event, which includes the first downtown movie night in the greenspace, may be rescheduled for later in the year.

"Many families look forward to this every year, but with the uncertainty surrounding public gatherings we cannot schedule the block party right now," says City Administrator Beth Linn. "We hope to reschedule while the weather is still nice, but we'll have to wait until we have more information from state and county health officials."

No dates have been set yet, but the City will release more information in the coming months. Continue to watch this newsletter, edgertonks.org, and the City's Facebook page for details.

Edgerton Food Pantry



The Edgerton Community Food Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 16.

Volunteers will bring food out to those in need. Everyone is asked to enter the gravel parking lot off of 4th street and wait to be directed to turn west onto Hulett. They will stop in front of the pantry going west and have their bags put directly into their car.

A: Edgepert Answer



The structure on a bluff at the southern end of the city lake is the old Edgerton city jail cell, manufactured in 1902. It was actually used to house prisoners in the early 1900's.

The City of Edgerton purchased it from the Pauly Jail Company in June of 1902 for \$92.15. The dimensions of the cell is 5 feet x 6.5 feet x 6.5 feet. It has two metal bunk beds on one side, and those can be lowered or raised. At the front of the cage, at the bottom of the cell door, is about an 8 inch opening that was used to slide the prisoner's food to them inside the cell. It is officially known as a "lattice steel cage".

When the jail cell was actually being used in Edgerton, it was not located at the lake, but instead was located in the downtown area. The jail cell had gotten lost at some point in later years, but in June of 1993, Edgerton icon Ray Braun located the jail in Fort Scott, KS and bought it for \$300, transported it back to Edgerton, and donated it to the City of Edgerton. Raymond F. Braun's name is inscribed on a small plaque on the front of the jail honoring his gracious gift to the community that he dearly loved, along with some historical information about the jail.

The jail cell was placed on a cement slab at Edgerton Lake shortly after Mr. Braun donated it to the city. When it was actually utilized as a jail many years ago, it was not painted silver as it appears today, but was originally rust colored.

So please take the opportunity to visit the old city jail cell to enjoy and view an important piece of Edgerton history!

