



## 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 [kbanks@edgertonks.org](mailto:kbanks@edgertonks.org) and it may be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

### Question:

*Do you know the story behind the "Scott's Block" inscription on one of the brick buildings on the north side of Nelson Street in downtown Edgerton?*

Answer on back.

## Annual Halloween Party Happening, With A Few Changes

Mark your calendars for a spooky Halloween Party in Downtown Edgerton on October 25!

This year, instead of an indoor event, the Frontier Days Committee is hosting the party along Nelson Street and in The Greenspace in downtown. The costumed fun begins at 4:00 p.m.

Dress up for a socially-distanced Halloween party and costume contest! There will be hotdogs, chips and drinks served by the Frontier Days Committee members.

The City of Edgerton does not regulate Halloween activities, however, we do encourage residents to consider guidance from the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, as well as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

### MASKS RECOMMENDED

Don't forget to wear a mask during all of your Halloween activities, including the Halloween Party. The CDC says a costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.

Do NOT wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask this year.

If you may have COVID-19 or if you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, the CDC states that you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters. Check out the CDC's website for more tips for celebrating safely.

## Holiday Tree Decorating Contest Returns

Reserve your tree now! Edgerton's annual tree decorating contest is back. The cost is \$40 per tree. All the money raised goes to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund, which helps support members of our community in their time of need.



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- Water, Wastewater Rate Changes Approved
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- JCFD #1: Home Fire Safety

## Important Upcoming Meetings:

City Council Meeting and Capital Improvement Project Work Session:  
Thursday, October 8

Planning Commission Meeting:  
Tuesday, October 13

Public Safety Town Hall:  
Tuesday, October 20

City Council Meeting and Codes Enforcement Work Session:  
Thursday, October 22

## Community Events and Activities:

Red Cross Blood Drive at City Hall:  
Friday, October 16

Annual Halloween Party:  
Sunday, October 25



## Johnson County Sheriff's Office: Complete the 9 P.M. Routine



The Johnson County Sheriff's Office encourages citizens to be proactive in keeping their personal belongings safe. Originally launched by the Pasco County (FL) Sheriff's Office, the 9PM Routine is a public safety campaign aimed at promoting crime prevention strategies to reduce and prevent thefts from vehicles and homes. It encourages residents to conduct security checks in their homes and vehicles each evening to ensure their property is secure. Participating is simple! Set a reminder and at 9 P.M. each evening, ensure the following tasks have been completed:

- Vehicles, residences, garages, windows, gates, sheds have been locked
- Exterior lights, security cameras, alarm systems have been activated
- Valuables from vehicles (including keys), yards, patios have been brought inside

The Sheriff's Office proactively patrols our neighborhoods to identify and prevent criminal activity. The department's efforts are enhanced by the active involvement of residents. When you, as residents, call to report suspicious activity, you aid not only the police, but help make your neighborhood a safer place to live and work.

Suspicious activity is an occurrence that is out of place in your neighborhood. Factors such as race, ethnicity, national origin, or religious affiliation alone are not suspicious. We ask the public to report only suspicious behavior and situations rather than beliefs, thoughts, ideas, or expressions.

Residents observing suspicious activity should contact the Sheriff's Office at 913-782-0720 or dial 9-1-1 in an emergency.

## From Your Friends at FD #1: Fire Safety for Homeowners and Renters



Do you have smoke alarms in your house? Make sure you have one on every level, both inside and outside sleeping areas. Test smoke alarms regularly and change them out every 10 years.

Children are sometimes curious about fire. If you have children in your home, lock up any items that can start a fire, like matches, lighters, and cigarettes. Make sure children cannot reach candles. Don't forget to blow out all candles when leaving the room or going to bed.

Do you have a fire escape plan? Make sure it shows two ways out of every room. Practice the plan with your family twice a year.

In the kitchen, make sure you stay in the room when frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food. Keep pot handles turned toward the back of the stove.

With electrical items and appliances, keep cords in good condition, not broken or cut. Clean out your dryer lint after every load. Check that your plug outlets are safe and not warm when you touch them.

If there is a fire, you may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home. Talk about what you should do to be safe. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do if there is a fire.

## Edgerton Food Pantry



The Edgerton Community Food Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 17. 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.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, the Food Pantry is looking for donations of canned yams and cranberry sauce. The food pantry is available to everyone in the USD 231 school district. It's open every third Saturday of the month at 308 E Hulett, at the corner of 4th and Hulett.

## Red Cross Blood Drive To Be Held

With many colleges and universities canceling their fall blood drives, the Red Cross estimates that they will be 4,000 units of blood short in the month of October.



Help out your neighbors by signing up for the Edgerton Community Blood Drive on October 16th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Community Hall. All donors will receive a free COVID 19 antibody test. The Red Cross follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and volunteer donors are the only source of blood for those in need.

You must make an appointment by calling 1-800-733-2767 or by going to [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) and enter Edgerton.

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## Recycle Right: A Simple Guide

The City's waste removal provider, Gardner Disposal, offers recycling to every resident. There is no limit to the amount of recycling that you can put out every week, but if you consistently find yourself with an overflowing bin, you can request an extra recycling cart from City Hall for an additional \$1 per month.

But what can you recycle? Here are a few tips:

- All items must be loose, so do not put your recycling in any type of plastic bag.
- No cellophane or bubble wrap, hoses, wires, chains or electronics.
- No plastic kiddie pools or plastic planters.
- Only put clean bottles, cans, paper and cardboard in your bin. Contaminated loads are rejected and end up in the landfill instead.
- Do NOT put items with food waste or bottles with liquid inside in your bin. This includes greasy pizza boxes and half empty water bottles.
- Glass bottles cannot be recycled curbside. You'll need to take them to a purple Ripple Glass bin

## October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

At the next City Council meeting, Mayor Roberts will issue a proclamation declaring October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, part of a campaign to increase awareness of the disease. One in 8 women will develop breast cancer at some time in her life. According to the American Cancer Society, when breast cancer is detected early, and is in the localized stage, the 5-year relative survival rate is 99%. Early detection includes doing monthly breast self-exams and scheduling regular clinical breast exams and mammograms. Although you cannot prevent cancer, some habits that can help reduce your risk are:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Stay physically active
- Eat fruits and vegetables
- Do not smoke
- Limit alcohol consumption



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment offers free or low-cost breast or cervical cancer screening. To find out if you qualify, call 1 (877) 277-1368. If you qualify you will receive an enrollment number and be referred to a health care provider.

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## City Council Approves Utility Rate Changes for 2021

During their meeting on September 24, the Edgerton City Council approved new water and wastewater rates for 2021. The typical Edgerton customer that uses 3,000 gallons of water per month will see their bills rise by \$1.50 per month, which is less than a cup of coffee, a gallon of gas, or a candy bar.



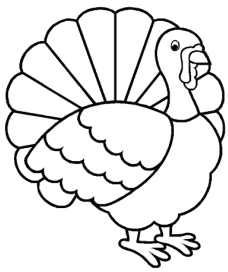
The City of Edgerton utility rates are lower than other surrounding cities in the region, including Gardner, Spring Hill, and Paola. City staff regularly compares water and wastewater rates to neighboring communities as part of the annual presentation to the City Council.

"We strive to deliver high quality water and wastewater services to our residents," says City Administrator Beth Linn. "By approving small rate increases like this, we can continue that service without laying a heavy burden on our taxpayers in the future."

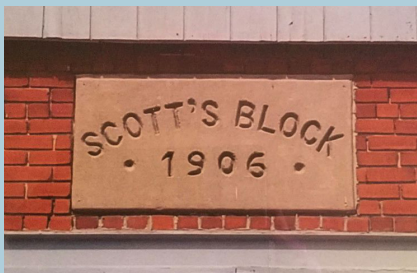
Utility rates will change beginning January 1, 2021.

## Thanksgiving Drawing Contest

With Thanksgiving coming up next month, we want to see what you are thankful for. 2020 has been a challenging year, but let's focus on the positive. Maybe you've gotten to spend more time with your family or learned a new skill during some of your downtime, or maybe you're just grateful for the nice fall weather. Whatever it is, draw us a picture of it below and turn in your drawing to City Hall. The winner will receive their choice of a pumpkin or apple pie and their artwork will be featured in November's City Newsletter!

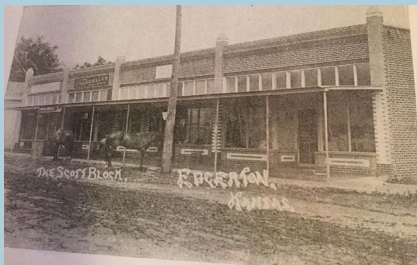


### A: Edgepert Answer



George W. Scott was one of the first residents and business owners in Edgerton. He was born in 1850 in St. Louis, and came to this area in 1870. He married Hester Sutton, of Gardner, in 1872, and they went on to have five children.

Scott's first business in Edgerton was a drug store, and he later owned a grain and lumber business. Around 1900, he sold the lumber yard, and started a loan and brokerage business. He also owned nearly an entire block of buildings downtown that were destroyed by fire in 1906. He immediately replaced them with a row of brick buildings that remain to this day. The new brickwork was personalized with a concrete nameplate inscribed, "Scott's Block 1906", which is still clearly visible today.



Scott lent his money and influence toward local causes he believed worthy. He was a generous supporter of the Presbyterian Church and also gave freely to the other local churches as well. He served several terms as Edgerton mayor and councilman, and was an active member of the Edgerton Palestine Lodge. He also assisted many Edgerton residents in acquiring a home or business.

Scott passed away on November 30, 1920, at the age of 70, and is buried in the Edgerton Cemetery. At the time of his death, the Edgerton Journal newspaper eulogized Scott as an "honest and fair dealing man" who lived an exemplary and very helpful and useful life.

George W. Scott played a very important and influential role in Edgerton's history, and will forever be remembered and honored in this community that was his home for so many years.