

# EDGERTON REPORTER

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## NEWS

# Home for the Holidays Parade



Photos by Nicole Hamm

By Amy Trees  
Special to The Reporter

Edgerton celebrated its fifth annual Home for the Holiday's parade last Saturday evening. Jenny Salvo, co-host to Wendy Loveland, estimates parade attendance at 800 people. She says estimates were based off how many bags of popcorn were distributed by the Edgerton High School Interact Club, which was 500. Salvo's role with the event includes coordinating parade entries and making sure everyone gets to the Depot for the tree lighting ceremony.

Free hot chocolate is usually served after the parade, but was not available this year because of the pandemic. Extra precautions were taken with the popcorn with packages being sealed. There were 28 parade

participants. The first place trophy was awarded to Tom and Chris Klubertanz for the "Letters from Home" float, which had a military theme. Second place winner was Sara's Health and Fitness and third place went to Renegade 4-H.

Mayor Chris Lund introduced the grand marshals and hosted the tree lighting ceremony, which is in its sixth year. The winner for the Flip the Switch contest went to Jase Weber. It was uncertain what grade Weber is in.

Salvo says that the committee is always looking for ways to expand the after-Thanksgiving event in the future to make the event better each year.

For more information on the Home for the Holidays parade or Central Park's Lights in the Park, contact edgertonhomefortheholidays@yahoo.com.

## Social Justice Edgerton opens dialogue on racial equality

By Tristan McGough  
Special to The Reporter

An informative and interactive meeting on Critical Race Theory (CRT) was sponsored by Social Justice Edgerton at The Edgerton Public Library on Nov. 11.

People packed the Large Meeting Room, most arriving before the 6:30 p.m. start time to meet Political Science Professor Ron Watson and Provost Eric Boynton, both from Beloit College and speaking on the topic "What is CRT and What is It Not?"

The obvious camaraderie enjoyed by the two men as they sat together and shared stories made a discussion about the complicated and universal problem of racism look easy, at least relatively, since each man exchanged poignant personal experiences that evoked pathos balanced by dispassionate reason.

Clearly, these two had long ago paved an interactive, respectful way for rational discourse over, above, and beyond the fray of emotional clutter. In so doing they were able to present a sensitive and clear view of the history which established institutions that fostered a framework for discriminatory perspectives and, consequently, biased policies and practices that favored perceived White persons at the expense of other non-White minorities, in particular, Blacks.

"But what does it mean to be 'Black?'" Watson asked.

He offered several examples

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## NEWS

# Edgerton vets peel potatoes for Edgerton Outreach community Thanksgiving meal

By Amy Trees  
Special to The Reporter

From peeling potatoes in the military to peeling them for a cause, the Edgerton Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Honor Guard volunteered their time on Thanksgiving Eve at St. John's Lutheran Church in an effort to assist Edgerton Community Outreach (ECO) with its annual community holiday meal.

The idea was conceived by Fred Falk, contact person for VFW, who said he thought it would be a fun project because it tied in with the veterans' kitchen duty experience. "The last time some of these vets peeled potatoes was for Uncle Sam during basic training," said Falk.

The volunteer crew of eight veterans and seven other community members peeled approximately 300 pounds of potatoes. Terry Heller, a retired nurse of 38 years, said that he was in need of something to do and learned about the volunteer opportunity from Martha Yagel, a member at St. John's. Other volunteers include Sharon Fox from The Chapel in Milton and Bette Schieldt from Emmaus, who both helped cut up the potatoes after they were peeled.

ECO has prepared fresh-cooked homestyle Thanksgiving meals since 2003 and provided catered meals prior to 2002. "We're very appreciative for the donations that make this meal possible," says Sarah Williams, Executive Director for ECO. The meals have been delivery-only since the pandemic began. This year ECO delivered 450 meals and provided 60 meals to volunteers.

Thanksgiving meals include turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, green bean casserole, fruit, dinner rolls and dessert. The organization's goal is to share the holiday with everyone in the community,



Members of the Edgerton VFW and VFW Honor guard peel potatoes for the Outreach Thanksgiving meal program. The last time some of these vets peeled potatoes was for "Uncle Sam" during basic training. A total of 300 pounds of potatoes were peeled, but not all by the vets.

Left to right: Gary Ralston, Civilian, Bill Maves, Marine, San Diego, CA, 1966, Sam Wilcox, Army, Fort Campbell KY, 1969, Dan Rosenbaum, Air Force, Lackland, TX, 1979, Fred Falk, Army, Fort Mc Clellan, AL, 1980, Bob Tschanz, Navy, Great Lakes, IL, 1966, Roger Oren, Army, Fort Carson, CO, 1966, Larry Burns, Army, Fort Knox, KY, 1969, Bert DeRemer, Army, Fort Knox, KY, 1962.

Photo submitted



Sharon Fox cuts potatoes peeled by the Edgerton Veterans of Foreign Wars and Honor Guard for ECO's Thanksgiving Day community meal.

Photo submitted



Bette Schieldt cuts potatoes peeled by the Edgerton Veterans of Foreign Wars and Honor Guard.

Photo submitted

so there's no income restrictions to those wanting to partake.

According to Williams, the meals are provided by ECO,

and St. John's lends out its kitchen for food preparation and cooking. ECO posted on their Facebook page that the ovens were started at 2 a.m.

on Thanksgiving Day.

For Christmas Eve, ECO will be providing a ham meal that includes cheesy potatoes, green bean

casserole, dinner rolls and a Heath bar dessert. This meal is delivery-only and can be ordered by calling Edgerton Outreach at 608-884-9593.

## Contact Us

21 N. Henry St., Edgerton, WI 53534  
608-884-3367  
info@edgertonreporter.com  
facebook.com/EdgertonReporter

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