

Indian Creek Newsletter

September, 2008

on the web at <http://www.frontiernet.net/~indiancreek>
compiled by Helen Mogill, hmogill@frontiernet.net, 728-2048

Wednesday Morning Coffee

Kay Liebenow would like to invite any Indian Creek residents who are home during the day to a neighborhood get-together on **Wednesday, September 24, 10:00am**. Everyone is welcome – male, female, retired, or younger. Please let Kay know if you are planning to come: 728-2427, KayLiebenow@hotmail.com. Kay lives at 33 Candle Ridge. The hope is that we can make this a monthly get-together.



Welcome New Neighbor



Please welcome David Johnson, who has moved to the Smalley house at 35 Candle Ridge with his long time friend, Sheree McArdeLL. They moved from Pontiac, Illinois because of their home flooding there last January. David is a Client Service Rep for Unisys Corp doing computer service around central Illinois. Sheree is a homemaker. David tells us, "Indian Creek is an ideal location and we enjoy the outdoors and wildlife in the area. Hobbies include gardening and movies. Look forward to meeting the new neighbors."



New Water Chairman



We are delighted to announce that Bob Hancock has agreed to be the ICWHA Water Chair, effective August 15. If you see him, please thank Bob for volunteering for this valuable service to our community.

The information from the TriCountry letter you received in the mail is now on the IC website water page: <http://www.frontiernet.net/~indiancreek/icwater.htm>. Note that you still call the **JULIE** number (800-892-0123) if you are planning any digging. JULIE will notify TriCounty. No one needs to call TriCounty, ever, unless they want to have the water lines mapped between the shut-off and their home, which would be a private service done at the homeowner's expense.

If you have any questions about this or any other water issues, please contact Bob Hancock or any other board member. Board members are:

Brian Krause – President
Dave Schulthes – Treasurer
Jim Russell – Grounds Chair

Barb Ulbrich – VP/Secretary
Bob Hancock - Water Chair

Towanda Area Historical Society

by Gail Ann Briggs



TAHS is holding a fundraiser in conjunction with the Barn Keepers (<http://www.barnkeepers.org/>) group's 'self-guided' tour of local old barns being held **Saturday, September 13, 9:00am - 4:00pm**. The tour will include the Sullivan's Barn at Duncan Manor.

Tickets are \$15/carload and can be purchased locally from the Village Clerk and at the Library. They will also be available **between 9:00 am - 2:00pm** at the Legion Building on the day of the tour, where maps of the locations of the barns on the tour list will also be picked up, as well as coffee and/or lunch.

Volunteers are needed to help secure supplies, contact people, make coffee and/or Sloppy Joes, serve food, and clean up. To volunteer, please call Gail Ann Briggs at 728-2187 or by email to rgbriggs@frontiernet.net. Thanks and THANKS!

Duncan Manor T-shirts are still available - at the Library, and at the Barn Keepers tour. Get a memento of this historical site now; shirt sizes and colors are limited. Price is reduced to \$10.



American Legion Meals

The Towanda American Legion will have a **BREAKFAST** on Sunday, **September 7, from 7:00am to 10:00am**. Breakfast will include eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, fresh fruit and drink for \$7. The public is invited



The Towanda American Legion will have a **PORK CHOP DINNER** on **Friday September 12 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm**. Dinner will include a pork chop sandwich, green beans, fries, apple sauce, drink and dessert for \$7. The public is invited and carry outs are available.



Classifieds

Free:

Linda Garbe, 728-2236, email: ltgarbe@frontiernet.net
Iris bulbs – lavender in color to give away

For Sale:

Towanda District Library, e-mail: towandalib@yahoo.com
or call 728-2176

- metal computer desk,
- 8 stackable children's chairs
- 4 armchairs with gray upholstery.



Towanda Area Garage Sales



The Annual Fall Garage sales will be held **Thursday, September 18 – Saturday, September 20**. Information about your sale (times, location, items you have to sell) and your contact information are due to Gail Ann Briggs, along with \$7 advertising fee by **Monday, September 8**, to be included on the map.

Mail to 112 Hunt St. Emailed information will receive a reply: rqbriggs@frontiernet.net

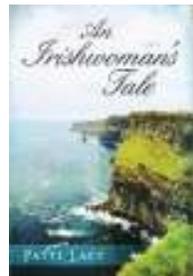


Towanda Library News

(on the web at <http://towandalibrary.org>)

Book Signing at the Library, Tuesday, September 9, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Celtic music will play as this local author from Normal signs copies of her new book: ***An Irishwoman's Tale***, the story of a woman's quest to calm her childhood voices. at the library. At 6:30pm the McNulty Irish Dancers will perform. The students, ages 9 through 15, will perform jigs and reels wearing authentic costumes.



Friends of the Library, Wednesday, September 10, at 6:00pm

Following a highly successful summer fundraiser, the Friends will meet to discuss how they can further support the mission of the Towanda District Library. The new laminator, purchased by the Friends, will be on display. All are welcome.

Towanda Reads, Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00pm

The next meeting of the Towanda Reads book club will be Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00pm at the library. Refreshments will be served.

The book to be discussed, ***Little Heathens: High Spirits and Hard Times on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression*** by Mildred Armstrong Kalish, is a much-acclaimed book about growing up in rural Iowa during the days of the Great Depression. It seems that everyone has a family story to tell of survival during the 1930's. This book makes it clear that fond memories remain - even after difficult times. All are welcome to join the discussion group. Share your memories!

Preschool Story Hour: each week starting Wednesday, September 17, 11:00am

Weekly Story Hours will introduce your child to the "joy of reading." Youth Services Librarian Sharon Ryan will share songs, crafts, finger-plays, and stories that build listening skills. For children ages 3 through 5.



Parking

Parking may be at a premium at the library on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Redbird Readers, Illinois State University students who pair one-on-one with elementary students for reading adventures, will be holding classes in the library then. When parking on the east side of Taylor Street, please be courteous to the library neighbors' yards.

Corn in the Bean Fields

When we first moved to central Illinois back in 1964, Tim and I were captivated by something we'd never heard of, called **'bean walking.'** When our children became teenagers, bean walking was a way for them to earn some summer spending money. For those of you who weren't around farming before 1996, 'bean walking' meant walking through the rows of soy bean fields pulling and cutting out the weeds.

After genetically altered 'Roundup Ready' soy beans became commercially available in 1996, no-till farming became possible and soy bean fields were now growing without weeds. Farmers could use the herbicide Roundup to kill the weeds but not harm the soy beans. The use of Roundup did not increase yield, but did cut expenses by allowing no-till farming and eliminating the necessity to 'walk the beans'.

So Tim and I were puzzled this year to notice many bean fields with corn stocks sticking up here and there. A query to a farmer friend revealed that the planting of genetically altered 'Roundup Ready' corn has become more popular – so now the farmers are faced with the situation of corn unaffected by the herbicide sprayed on the soy bean fields. One has to question the wisdom of engineering two crops that are commonly rotated to be resistant to the same herbicide. Our farmer friend told us the corn is not a problem if there is not too much of it – but what does the future bode?



Photo taken August, 2008 in the field across
The road from the Indian Creek Subdivision



JWP Audubon Talks



These talks will be held in C101 of the Center for Natural Science (CNS), 201 Beecher St. Illinois Wesleyan University.

Dr. Jeff Klemens will present a talk ***"Inventing New Modes of Conservation, Research, and Education in a Costa Rican Wildland"*** on **Thursday, September 18, at 7:00pm.** Jeff has spent 10 years conducting research and taking American college students on field ecology courses in Costa Rica.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz will present ***"Forever Wild: A Multi-media Celebration of Wilderness"*** on **Tuesday, September 23, at 7:00pm.** The show combines photography, poetry, stories and live music to inspire and motivate the audience to help preserve our last wild places.



Towanda Elementary School Renovation



Want to see your tax dollars at work.....visit the school and see the renovation work that was completed over the summer!!

Free-4-All

The Ecology Action Center will again host the semi-annual FREE-4-ALL from **9:00am – 1:00pm on Saturday, September 13** under the pavilion at Anderson Park. We encourage people to bring your used, in good condition, unwanted items and take what others have brought. You do not have to bring things to take things and you do not have to take things to be allowed to bring things. This is all about keeping good stuff out of the landfill.



This free event is open to all and conducted in a similar manner to the Freecycle website (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/McFreecycle>). No firearms, food or beverages, or pets. No pick ups or deliveries, you must be able to bring or take the things on your own. If you have any questions, please call the Ecology Action Center at 454-3169.



Kickapoo Indian Exhibit



Kickapoo Chief

An exhibit, *The Unconquerable: Photos and History of the Kickapoo Indians*, is on display at the McLean County Museum of History through **June 6, 2009**. The Kickapoo once lived right here in Indian Creek. The last Kickapoo left the area in the 1830's.

The Museum's newsletter states that the exhibit "features photos commissioned by early museum curator Milo Custer during his 1906 visit to the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas. ... Artifacts uncovered during archaeological digs are also shown in the exhibit which explores the history of the Kickapoo Indians – their movements across the prairie, their lifeways, their interactions with early settlers, and their forced removal to reservations west of the Mississippi River."



Towanda 4-H Club Wiener Roast



The Towanda 4-H Club will begin their new club year with a family wiener roast on **Sunday, September 21, at 4:00pm** at the Boyd Wesley Park. Families are to bring their own table service and a dish to pass. Drinks, hot dogs and buns will be furnished by the club.

Congratulations to all the members for their great achievements at the McLean County Fair and also to our club which received an A Rating for their club exhibit at the fair.

At the family wiener roast, members will vote on what project area they want to study this year.

4-H is open to Boys and Girls ages 8 to 18 by September 1 and Cloverbuds are for boys and girls ages 5 to 7 by September 1. Anyone interested in joining may contact Kathy Schultz at 728-2137 or Jeanie Wager at 728-2852 for more information.

Busy-Bee 4-H Kick Off and Cookout



The September kick off meeting of the Busy-Bee 4-H club will be held on **Tuesday, September 16, at 6:00pm** at the home of Tom and Janet Morris 3102 Eagle Crest Rd. Bloomington. The club would like to invite any potential new members to join us at this time. We will also be having a cookout and you just need to bring a dish to share and table service.

For any questions call Tom or Janet Morris at 309-664-0360 or Phil and Leann Korty at 309-663-8014.



VFW Post 462

The next VFW meeting will be **Sunday, September 14 at 6:00pm** at the Community Building.

With the Area Garage Sales coming up, keep in mind that if you have some gently used men's clothes, consider donating them to the VFW. For more information, call Tom Wagner at 728-2451 for pick up, or drop them off at the community building.



THCE News

by Pat Pulokas, 728-2118; palp@mchsi.com



The Towanda Home and Community Education (HCE) will meet on **Monday, September 8 at 7:00pm** at the Towanda Community Building. Robin Bagwell, McLean County Educator and Program Coordinator of Nutrition/Family, will be presenting out program on "Farmers Markets. The Fact Find "History of Farmer's Markets" will be handed out. Hostess will be Cindy Kelley, 663-4796 and can answer questions about Towanda HCE.

Other September programs and workshops include:

- Read & Share, **September 15, 6:30pm - 8:00pm**, Extension Office, 402 N. Hershey Rd (Book-*The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson);
- "What's New on the Market" presented by Bergners, and "Going Green" by Deana Belz, Ecology Action Center - **September 22, 1:00pm - 3:00pm** at the Extension Office in Bloomington. For more information about these programs, contact U of I Extension, McLean County at 663-8306.



Please Drive Carefully

Another resident has asked that we drivers all SLOW DOWN!!! She reminds us, "Kids are getting on the bus, grown-ups are walking/running, people are going for bike rides etc. It is a beautiful neighborhood and people should be safe when out enjoying it....sometimes people are way too careless in their vehicles. "