

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

December 2010

On the web at <http://www.frontiernet.net/~indiancreek>

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

School Calendar

Wed. Dec. 22 ~ Unit 5, No School, Winter Break Begins (no walking at NCHS)

Wed. Jan. 5 ~ Unit 5, School Resumes (walking resumes at NCHS)



Towanda Holiday Party

The Village of Towanda Holiday Committee will host our annual Holiday Party on **Friday, December 17 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm** at the Towanda Community Building.

Children preschool - 5th grade are invited to enjoy crafts, games, snacks and a visit from Santa Claus! Parents, please bring your camera for an opportunity to get a picture of your children with Santa.

Indian Creek Neighborhood Coffee

Ruth Parsons has extended an invitation to the Indian Creek neighborhood to join her on Wednesday, December 15, at 10:00am for refreshments and good company at her home at 2 Bent Tree Lane. All Indian Creekers are welcome.

Please let Ruth know if you are planning to come: 728-2768,
parsons@frontiernet.net.



Towanda American Legion Breakfast



Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on **Sunday December 5th from 7:30 to 11:00**. Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, egg casserole, sausage, bacon, hash brown potatoes, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, fruit and drink for \$8. Carry outs are available.

Due to the Christmas holiday, there will not be a dinner in December.

Thank you for your continued support of the Legion and our veterans. We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Towanda Seniors



The Towanda Seniors will meet **December 8th for a Noon Potluck** at the Community Building. Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own table service. The Towanda Grade Schoolers will be performing, weather permitting at 12:30. Helen Guth, Rose Remschner and Beverly Meginnes will be hostesses. There will be a gift exchange for those who wish to participate (Bring a Gift, Get a Gift). If you have any questions please contact Beverly Meginnes at 728-2769.

Indian Creek Fall Work Day

The Indian Creek Fall work day this year was a great success. Our Adopt-A-Highway section of Route 29 from the I-55 overpass to Hudson road was cleaned up. Ten large garbage bags of litter were collected! Thanks to Brian, Kevin and Alicia Krause, Kathleen, Danny and Irena Dumler and Jim Russell for helping make our corner of the planet a cleaner place.



A good start was made on clearing a couple big snags in the creek south of the bridge. A lot of the downed trees across the creek were cut up which will make the snags more likely to break up with the next of our periodic floods. Also, an unused tele-cable conduit was removed from the side of the bridge improving the bridge's appearance. Thanks to Dave McCarty, Jim DeMay, Larry Meyer and Jim Russell for their work on this.

A Spring 2011 work day will be organized in May.

Potential Service

Do you want to recycle but find it a hassle to take your recyclables in to town? I'm trying to gauge the level of interest in the neighborhood for a service I would offer for \$20 per month per household which would involve a monthly pick up your recyclables which must be separated into 1. Mixed glass, metal and plastic containers; 2. Mixed paper and paperboard; 3. Cardboard; 4. Plastic shopping bags. There are more details to be worked if there is sufficient interest in this service. There's no commitment on your part but if you think you might be interested in a service like this please let me know.

Email jmr1234@frontier.com or call 728-8042. Thanks, Jim Russell

Walk Mornings at NCHS

Enjoy a walk without the wind and cold and join the walkers at NCHS (3900 East Raab Rd) between **5:20 and 7:00 a.m. each day that school is in session** (not open on holidays, school breaks, or weekends). Park in the West parking lot, enter the main doors and go to the staff workroom just past the cafeteria on the left. Sign a 2010-11 waiver (once), sign in and sign out each day, pick up 'Community Walker' lanyard in, and enjoy some indoor winter exercise.



Questions? Call Virginia Lowery (728-2686, 825-6341), Sue Sutter (728-2149) or Gail Ann Briggs (728-2187).

Towanda HCE

The Towanda HCE Potluck Holiday Meeting will be **Monday, December 13, 6:30 pm** at the Towanda District Library. Please bring a dish to pass. Table service and drinks will be provided. Bring a gift exchange of "Make it, Bake it, Grow it, Sew it" item or bring a gift for the WJBC Brotherhood Tree. Hostesses are: Robin Pearson, Clara Lehan, Sylvia Gibson (728-2484 for more information or RSVP).

Also all HCE members are invited to attend the Holiday Party presented by the McLean County HCE on **Saturday, December 11, starting at 10:00 am** at the Calvary United Methodist Church in Normal. Tickets are \$5 per ticket and available from Towanda President Cindy Kelley. Hostesses for this event are the Downs and Normal Unit and also sustaining members. There will be make it, take workshops along with entertainment and a soup luncheon.

Remember that the **January 10, 2011** meeting will also feature members' "snowmen". Don't pack it away yet, bring to the meeting. For more information about the Towanda Home and Community Education Unit, please contact president Cindy Kelley, 663-4796.

Library Trustee Election



Three trustee positions will be on the ballot of the Consolidated Election on **April 5, 2011**. Library trustees in Towanda serve 4 year terms. Candidacy packets for Towanda Library District Trustee are currently available at the library. Candidates must be residents and registered voters in Towanda, Money Creek, or Blue Mound Townships within the Towanda Library District.

Indoor Composting – with Worms!

The Ecology Action Center will hold a family-oriented vermicomposting workshop to take place **Thursday, December 2, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.** Vermicomposting, or composting with worms, is an easy way to recycle food scraps into a very usable soil amendment for your lawn, garden, or potted plants. Vermicomposting is a convenient alternative to backyard composting, as it can easily be done in a small space and it works year round, even during the winter.

The workshop will include everything needed to successfully begin vermicomposting - including worms! Various types of compost systems and techniques will be discussed in addition to troubleshooting tips to avoid potential problems. Participants will make and take home a vermicomposting bin ready for use.



Space is limited and pre-registration is required; registration forms are available for download at <http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org> or by stopping by the Ecology Action Center at 202 W. College in Normal. The cost is \$25.00 per family (includes one composter and set of worms) for EAC members and \$35.00 for non-member families. All family members must be at least 5 years old. For more information, contact EAC Assistant Director Kris Hall at (309) 454-3169 or email khall@ecologyactioncenter.org.

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



Library Story Hour Themes for December:

- 12-6 Celebrate Lights
- 12-13 Holiday Season
- 12-20 Festive Trees
- 12-27 Our Hands Can...

Food for Fines

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas the library will accept donations of canned foods for area Food Pantries in lieu of fines on items currently overdue at the library.

DVD Rentals

This is a great time of year for DVD releases! The library adds new DVD's to its collection nearly every week. As always, DVD rental is free at the Towanda Library. All we ask is that you return the DVD's promptly after one week - so that others may enjoy them too.

Borrow Books from 200+ Libraries

One of the privileges of using a library in Illinois is the fact that you may order books online from any of the surrounding libraries and pick up the books at your own home library. From the Towanda Library homepage, simply select the **RSACat** link on the right-hand side of the page. Find the book you want. Place a HOLD (reserve the book). Within a week your book will arrive via free delivery. We will phone you when the book arrives for you. No hassle! No charge!

Movie Nights -- Wii Tournaments

On Tuesday nights during the winter the library offers the latest release movies for viewing in the Story Corner. Thanks to the FRIENDS movie license, the library can show the newest releases of popular movies - sometimes the very day they are released. Join us for movies from 4:00 to 6:00. If you prefer more activity, play Wii for Fwii on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 in the YA section. READ to the Dogs (on Tuesday evenings) will return when warm weather returns.

Friends of the Library

The next FRIENDS meeting will be **Wednesday, December 8 at 6:00pm** at the home of a member. Call the library at 728-2176 for location and directions. Thank you to everyone in the community who purchased fudge from the FRIENDS and who supported the local vendors at the FRIENDS Christmas Tea. All proceeds benefited the library.

TOWANDA READS Book Club

TOWANDA READS meets **Wednesday, December 8 at 7:00pm** at the home of a member. Call the library at 728-2176 for location and directions. The book for December is '**Room**' by Emma Donoghue.

Library Closings

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Years Eve and New Years Day

Weather-related closings will be posted on the library website and WJBC website. Library closings typically coincide with public school closings for inclement weather, but not always. Since library opening and closing times differ from the schools, the library **may** be open when the schools are not, or vice versa.



Linda Garbe is one of 500 artists chosen to exhibit her hand made jewelry at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago. The show is from **Dec. 2 to Dec. 5.**

Linda has created four necklaces called *Jewelry With Stories to Tell* specifically for the show.

The stories and accompanying YouTube videos are:

Standing in the Center of Spring
A Hedge Apple and an Artichoke
Empress of the Night
Flamenco Flats

<http://bit.ly/bygvc5>

<http://bit.ly/e5r4Xd>

<http://bit.ly/eEvNIh>

<http://bit.ly/h0qaol>

Each video has the same introduction which is followed by the story of one of the pieces.

To learn more about the show and the artists exhibiting go to

<http://www.oneofakindshowchicago.com/oakchicago/index.cfm/home/>

If you would like to go to the show, Linda can e-mail you a pass that gets you in for all four days.

Her email is lgarbe@frontiernet.net. See Linda's websites at www.lindagarbe.com and www.garbedesigns.etsy.com

Towanda Fire Department EMT Class

Qualifications: Must be 18 years of age and have a HS Diploma or GED, an IL. Drivers License or state ID, Current CPR-Health care provider or equivalent, Negative TB or CXR, Hepatitis B series, Current DT and MMR, Student Professional & General liability insurance, and pass a background check.

Costs: Course fee: \$525.00, Text and Workbook: \$100.00, MCEMS fee: \$100.00, Background check: \$25.00. Total fees are \$750.00.

Classes are December 7 - February 19 on Tuesdays and Thursdays (6:00pm - 10:00pm) + 5 Saturday classes at the Towanda Fire Department, 203 W Jackson.

For more info you can contact Gary Cornell at cornell632@yahoo.com or 309-242-5768.



Towanda 4-H Club

The Towanda 4-H Club will meet on Friday, December 3rd at the Towanda Community Building. The activities happening will be as follows: A pizza party, decorating and cleaning the community building, and the making of Senior Citizen gifts. The Jr. leader will be Megan Schultz. The Roll Call will be 'What do you like on your pizza?'. Sam Clement will be doing Recreation. Also, the group will be ringing bells for Salvation Army in front of K-mart from about 5:00 to about 8:00.(Note: There will be no Talks or Demonstrations at the moment.) For more information contact Kathy Schultz at 728-2137 or Jeanie Wager at 728-2852.

Notices, Want Ads and Classifieds
please contact us at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com



Larry Meyer - 728-2460

Full size folding **ping pong table**. Free!

Faith Russell - 830-2165 or email fasruss@gmail.com.

Sleeper sofa, queen-size, Thomasville, navy/forest green/cream plaid.
\$100.

Jim Russell - 830-0375 or email jmr1234@frontier.com

Christmas tree, 7 1/2 feet, pre-wired white mini-lights, bought at Jeffery Allen's. \$50.

Weider **weight machine**. Multi-station 320 pound dual stack. Excellent condition. \$100.

McKenzie Hayes, Age 15 - 728-8883

Will do **babysitting**

Towanda Area Historical Society

The next meeting of TAHS is **Tuesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.** at the Community Building (in the Board Room). We will be finalizing plans for Part II of the "Journey into the Past", which will focus on Agriculture, Farms, and Agribusiness.



Ed B. Gatliff farm wagons loaded with corn after being picked and husked, in early 1900's.

Put **Sunday February 27** on your 2011 calendar and plan to join us for the next installment of "That's the Way it Was in Towanda". Farmers, retired farmers, agribusiness folks and their families are especially encouraged to attend and share the stories they've heard, their own experiences, and bring photos and farm tools, etc. to exhibit.

We are reviewing sample history books and plan to invite a publisher(s) to discuss what services they offer and what they charge as we take our next steps in getting our history book into print. Let us know if you'd like to examine the books that we are investigating and/or be involved in any other way.

Meetings are open to the public. Contact Gail Ann Briggs at rgbriggs@frontiernet.net or 728-2187.

Tuition Waiver for Children of Veterans



There is a tuition waiver available for children of Veterans living in Illinois. The waiver may be used for any University of Illinois campus. Up to six waivers per Illinois county are awarded each year, one for each of the following conflicts: World War II, Korean Conflict, Vietnam Conflict, Southwest Asia Conflict, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Students need to apply before **March 1, 2011**. To learn more about this tuition waiver, go to: <http://www.DanRutherford.com>. Any questions can be directed to The Office of Student Financial Aid, Ph: 217-333-0100.
