

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

February 2011

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

Contact us by email at [indiancreeknews@hotmail.com](mailto:indiancreeknews@hotmail.com)

## Towanda HCE

The **Towanda HCE** will be meeting at the Towanda Community Building on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm. Leatha Poshard and Charlene McCarthy are hostesses. The program will be Spend Smart/Save Smart. The Fact Find will be on "Food Storage, How long can you safely keep food items." We want to welcome new member Karen Bersche to the group.

There will be a county HCE event, a "**Membership Tea**" on Saturday, February 12, 2-4 pm at the Extension Auditorium at 402 N. Hershey Rd., Bloomington. Charlotte Talkington will speak on "A Life Long Affair With an International Singer". She will talk about the Singer Sewing Machine.

The County HCE is also sponsoring a **Spring Trip** to the Federal Reserve and the Chicago Board of Trade on Wednesday, April 6. HCE Members cost is \$84; Non Members/\$89. For more details about this trip contact Connie Lindenbaum at [jlind@a5.com](mailto:jlind@a5.com) or Jane Wood at 309-473-2844.

For more details about these programs, contact Robin Pearson, 815-579-1650 or Cindy Kelley, 309-663-4796.



This is the Towanda HCE members at their "snowmen" meeting where we bring lots of "snowmen" to show off.

Members are L-R:

Cindy Kelley, Dorothy Jones, Sandy Whalen, LaVonne Cunningham, Debbie Kinsella, Rose Remschner, Robin Pearson, Jeanie Wager, Clara Lehan, Kathleen Emery, Helen Guth, Joanne Steinberg, and Pat Pulokas.

## Towanda Lions Ham & Bean Dinner

Friday, March 11, 2011 / Towanda Community Building / 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Cost \$4 per person - in advance - \$5 at door (no exceptions for under 12)

Menu:

- Ham & Beans
- Corn Bread
- Coffee & Juice
- Condiments
- Desert - pie/cake
- Hot Dogs, Chips & Bun (for kids)

Contact a Towanda Lions Club member for tickets. In the Indian Creek neighborhood, you can contact Bill Priess, Louie Blank, Fred Walk, or Bob Hancock.

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## Towanda Girl Scouts

The Annual Girl Scout Bake Sale will be held during the Towanda Boy Scout Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, Saturday, February 12 at Towanda School. Our booth will be open from 8:00 am – Noon. Baked Good donations needed: Cookies, Pies, Cakes, Snack Mixes, Breads, Candy or Cupcakes. Please have your items individually wrapped to sell and make sure that you leave your name with a Girl Scout or Leader so that we can send you a thank you. We will put prices on all donations. The money that is raised from our bake sale will be used for our annual "Towanda Girl Scout Mom and Me Overnight." Please contact Becky Domkuski (728-2964 or [domkuski@mchsi.com](mailto:domkuski@mchsi.com)) or Malisa Kraft (825-1235) with any questions.

It's Girl Scout Cookie time! The Girl Scout Cookie Program gives girls the opportunity to use leadership skills, to earn money for their team and to support their council and community. Cookies available this year: Thanks-A-Lot, Shout Outs!, Lemonades, Shortbread, Thin Mints, Peanut Butter Patties, Caramel deLites and Peanut Butter Sandwich. Each box is \$3.50. Buy an extra box or two for the troops - our Girl Scouts are participating in Operation Cookie Share. Your support is appreciated! For more information, contact leaders Malisa Kraft at 825-1235 or Becky Domkuski at 728-2964. Cookies are on sale through **February 6**.



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## Towanda Area Historical Society

We hope that you plan to attend the **Sunday, February 27 event from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Community Building**. The program, "That's the Way it Was in Towanda - Part II" will feature local farm-related folks who will share their experiences, memories and stories in an informal setting. Active and retired farmers, anyone interested in agribusiness ~ and their families ~ are encouraged to attend and participate in the program.

On display will be photos, small farm tools and other items related to our agricultural heritage. We welcome items that anyone would like to bring with them.

Free refreshments will be provided by the youth of the Towanda Baptist Church. Open to the public - Please plan to join us!

Questions? please call Gail Ann Briggs, 728-2187 or [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net)

### Unit 5 Schools

Wed.Feb.9 - Late Start

Mon.Feb.21 - President's Day (no school)

Tue.Feb.22 - School Improvement Day (no school for students)



## Ecology Action Center Announces Radon Awareness Program

The Ecology Action Center is excited to become the home of the McLean County Radon Awareness Program thanks to a recently awarded USEPA State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) administered through the Illinois Emergency Radon Agency (IEMA). Under this new program area, EAC will facilitate awareness of Radon and promote home testing and mitigation. Radon is an odorless, tasteless, colorless, naturally occurring radioactive gas that enters homes through the soil. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer, after smoking. "We encourage all homeowners to test for the presence of radon in their home, even if they have a mitigation system in place. January is Radon Action Month; this means that if you haven't recently tested your home for radon it is time to take action" states Ruth Ann Lipic, EAC's Radon Program Coordinator. Easy to use radon test kits are available for purchase by area residents for \$10.00 at the Ecology Action Center or via the EAC website at [www.ecologyactioncenter.org](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org). The EPA's action level is 4 pCi/L; if a home tests above this level, mitigation is recommended. For questions and concerns about radon contact Ruth Ann Lipic at the Ecology Action Center at (309) 454-3169 or [rlipic@ecologyactioncenter.org](mailto:rlipic@ecologyactioncenter.org).

The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit walk-in information and environmental education center with a mission to inspire and assist residents of McLean County in creating, strengthening, and preserving a healthy environment.

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## Classifieds

### **For Hire:**

McKenzie Hayes, 15, will babysit

### **Free:**

A set of Britannica Encyclopedias published in 1986, including the macropedias books and guides. Thirty books in total! If interested, contact Tish Hamblen at 728-2981.

Ink cartridge to give away. Canon #8 with four colors. If interested, contact Linda Garbe at 728-2236 or online at [ltgarbe@frontiernet.net](mailto:ltgarbe@frontiernet.net)



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## Friends of the Library

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library is March 12th. The group will attend the *Tale of Two Cities* presentation by Scott Altman. A discussion of *Rocket Boys* will take place at a local eatery before the group attends the Altman program at Heartland College at 7 p.m.

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## ICWHA News



Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association  
Minutes of Annual Meeting  
January 19, 2011

The Annual Meeting of the Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association was held Wednesday, January 19, 2011, at 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. Board members and homeowners introduced themselves.

Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting were read and adopted.

Dave Schulthes provided the treasurer's report. As of 12.31.10, the balance in our accounts totals \$45,077. This money is invested in Certificates of Deposit; we're receiving slightly less than 1% interest. In 2010, our expenses for mowing, electricity, and chemicals for water treatment have increased in price. We are on track to have enough funds to paint the tower again in approximately 2019. The cost to repaint at that time is expected to be approximately \$100,000.

Bob Hancock provided the water report. Bob stated that our water use is typically 20,000 gallons per day. In the summer is peak use at 50,000 gallons per day. Indian Creek received a commendation in 2010 for perfect compliance with water guidelines and laws. Bob shared that we still flush our hydrants regularly (as often as weekly in good weather).

Jim Russell gave the groundskeeper report. There will be spring and fall work days in 2011. Dates were not announced yet. On behalf of residents, Jim expressed appreciation for the continued efforts of Jim Kellenberger and Bob Hancock. Jim and Bob have put in significant time and effort to maintain the tractor, which experienced somewhat heavy use in 2010. Thanks also went to Larry Meyer and Jim Russell for mowing in the common areas.

There was no report from the VP/Secretary. President requested to know of any new business to discuss. One homeowner stated that the newsletter is now being handled by a consortium of volunteers—Tish Hamblen, Nicole Hartman, and Kathy Dumler. Thanks to Helen Mogill for her work on the Indian Creek website! Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm.

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# Towanda Library

## E-Books and Audio Books

Did you receive an e-book reader such as a Nook or a Sony Reader for a Christmas gift? Do you wish to borrow free e-books? The Towanda District library is pleased to announce that beginning in May you will be able to download e-books through the Alliance Digital Media Library link on our website: [www.towandalibrary.org](http://www.towandalibrary.org). Audio books are also available on the site. The Amazon Kindle is not compatible with this service, however.

## Go Green @ your library

As part of the Illinois Library Association's *Go Green* grant project, Robin and Randy Pearson attended a day-long training session at the Field Museum in Chicago on behalf of the Towanda Library. Subsequently, Towanda District Library is hosting a series of *Go Green* presentations for the public throughout the next year.

### Go Green @ your library Workshops

February 23 @ 5:30 - Quilting to Re-Use Treasured Fabric  
May 18 @ 5:30 - Master Gardener on Veggie Gardening  
August 17 @ 5:30 - Ecology Action Center Offers Tips  
September 7 @ 5:30 - Dig Into Composting

## Story Hours

Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

### February

February 7 .....Let's Make Shadows  
February 14 .....Valentine's Day  
February 21 .....President's Day  
February 28.....Terrific Teeth

### March

March 7 .....Umbrellas  
March 14 .....Lady Shamrock  
March 21 .....Think Spring!  
March 28 .....Kites

## Travelogue of Scotland

Monday, February 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Jim Ferrier, experienced travel coordinator, offers us his *favorite* travel program. Ideal for those planning a trip to the British Isles, as well as for the armchair traveler and especially for those of Celtic descent!...like Jim!

## Quilting to Re-Use Fabric

Wednesday, February 23 at 5:30 p.m.

Love it again! This time in a whole new form. Do you have vintage clothing or fabrics that mean something special to you? Would you like to re-use them in a quilt? Sue Keeran will help you re-imagine the fabric woven into something that offers you continued comfort and warmth...and memories!

## April Is Financial Literacy Month

Money Smart Week: April 2-9, 2011

Free Financial Seminars for everyone!



Money Smart Week® is coming soon, and you should make plans now to take part in this week-long series of free financial programming and seminars. Towanda District Library will host three separate financial literacy events on Monday, April 4th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Attend one or all three!

### Join Us Monday, April 4th from 4 to 7 p.m.

4-5 o'clock -- Slow Cookers, an Easy Inexpensive Method of Cooking

5-6 o'clock -- Important Papers: organize your financial affairs

6-7 o'clock -- Gardening is Healthy for You and Your Pocketbook

©Money Smart Week is a registered service mark of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

We will host a NOOK E-READER demonstration by Barnes and Noble one Monday in February or March. Watch for the date posted on our website soon. [towandalibrary.org](http://towandalibrary.org).

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## Towanda Busy Bees

### Meeting Notes

by Reporter Jacob Bonner

On Tuesday, January 18th, the Towanda Busy Bees held their monthly meeting at the Towanda Community Building. President Taylor Morris called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Craig Morris led the Pledge of Allegiance and Logan Bonner led the 4-H Pledge. The roll call topic this month was favorite winter activities. During the business portion of the meeting, Craig Morris gave the treasurers report. Anna Dickerson gave the secretary's report. In old business it was reported that the club had a cookie baking day and donated the cookies to the Salvation Army. The club also rang bells for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign at the Kroger on College Avenue. The Busy Bees collected hats and mittens at the Towanda Library for donation in December also. In new business the club heard about an opportunity called SIT (Students Involved in Technology) that will take place at Heartland Community College in February. Grace Reints gave a talk on Food Pantries. A game to promote awareness of Food Pantry Items was led by Logan Bonner. Refreshments were provided by the Bonner Family

The Towanda Busy Bees meet the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is on Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Membership is open to boys and girls ages 8-18—or Cloverbuds between the ages of 5-7 --everyone is welcome. Please contact Tom and Janet Morris at 664-0360 with questions.

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## Towanda American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday February 6th 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. Carryouts are available.

There will be a pork chop dinner on Friday February 18th from 5:30-7:30. Dinner will include pork chop sandwich, green beans, au gratin potatoes, drink and dessert. Carryouts are available.

The dinner is a week later than usual due to the Scouts Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Saturday February 12th. they will be serving all the pancakes & sausage you can eat from 8am-2pm at the Towanda Grade School. If you are interested in placing an advance meat order, call Mike or Linda at 309-728-2384.

Thanks to your donations, we have a box ready to be shipped to a service person over seas, but we need a name. If you know of anyone overseas, please send me their address and we'll get this box shipped out to them. Thank you for your continued support of the Legion and our troops.