

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

October 2011

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Fall Work Day

The Indian Creek work day is a tradition we've had for many years and is a great opportunity for residents to contribute to the maintenance of the beautiful neighborhood we all enjoy. I would like to gauge the level of interest in having a work day on October 15th and/or 29th and solicit your ideas for what to accomplish. Two possibilities are:

- Highway clean up – As part of the Adopt-A-Highway program, Indian Creek is responsible for litter clean up along Route 29 from the I-55 overpass to Hudson Road. At least 4 volunteers are needed to accomplish this. Safety vests and trash bags are provided.
- Creek clean up – With the creek so low this time of year it would be a good time to cut trees that have fallen over the creek. The goal is to prevent large snags from building up which leads to erosion of the banks.

Please email jmr1234@frontier.com or call 728-8042 to let me know that you are interested in helping out and if you have additional work day ideas. Also let me know the date which work best for you.

Thank you,

Jim Russell, 1 Bent Tree Lane, Homeowners/Grounds Chair

Leaf and Landscape Waste Burning at Indian Creek



The controversial topic of leaf and landscape waste burning comes up at almost every Homeowners Association meeting. Some residents strongly oppose burning and others just as strongly want to be able to burn. There is no ruling to ban leaf and landscape waste burning. However, it is hoped that residents will follow these guidelines if they choose to burn. These guidelines are intended to help Indian Creek neighbors maintain our healthy, friendly, neighborly atmosphere for everyone.

- Be aware that many people find the smoke and smell of leaf burning to be noxious and intolerable. They can not enjoy being in their own yard or having their windows open when burning is going on.

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- Be aware that smoke is a serious health hazard for those with asthma, emphysema, heart and other cardio/vascular conditions. We don't know the health conditions of our neighbors.

If you do decide to burn:

- Never leave a fire untended. What may seem like a safe fire can quickly get out of control in dry or windy conditions.
- Only burn when wind conditions will not carry smoke, embers or ash onto a neighbor's property.
- Only burn dry material. Trying to burn wet leaves and grass smells especially bad and creates large amounts of smoke.
- Keep the fire small and hot and when you're done put it out completely. Letting a fire smolder for hours is not acceptable.
- Consider mulching and/or composting. Burning releases carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide directly into the atmosphere. Mulching and/or composting will sequester those greenhouse gases in the soil and in other plants.

From the Illinois EPA website:

- Smoke from burning leaves, grass, brush, and most plants contains high concentrations of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and photochemically reactive chemicals, some of which are known carcinogens and some that contribute to smog formation.
- Carbon monoxide can bind with hemoglobin in the blood to reduce oxygen flow. Particulate matter can become embedded in lung tissue. The burning of leaves releases the photochemically reactive chemical, benzo(a)pyrene, known to cause cancer in animals and which has been linked as the major factor in lung cancer caused by smoking.

There are two neighborhood wood and landscape waste piles in the Indian Creek nature area. One of those is burned occasionally and the other is a non-burn pile. Residents are welcome to use these piles for their wood and landscape waste.

Contact any board member if you have questions or concerns about these guidelines.



Towanda Fire Department Chili Supper

The Towanda Fire Department will be hosting a chili supper/raffle dinner October 22 from 4-7 at the fire station. chili ,hotdog, dessert,and a drink for \$6.00 (all you can eat chili). Door prizes and raffle prizes. Tickets available at the door. For more info call Tom Wagner @287-7861 or e-mail wagbo1019@hotmail.com

Meet Baby Durham

Lila Grace Durham
Born September 9th, 2011
7lbs 10oz
20inches

"David and Jenna would love to introduce you,
feel free to stop by and meet her next month."

Towanda American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday October 2nd 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 steak, shrimp or steak/shrimp combo dinner on Friday October 14th from 5:30 to 7:30. Dinner will include rib eye steak, shrimp or combo, baked potato, salad, roll, dessert and drink for \$10. Carryouts are available.

We are continuing to collect donations for our troops overseas. If you know of a service person you would like to receive a package, please let us know.

Thanks again for your support of the Legion and our troops.

Calendar Items

Mon.Oct.10 – Columbus Day / no school for Unit 5 students

Wed.Oct.12 - Late Start for Unit 5 students ~ school will start one hour later

Fri.Oct.14 – NC West HS Homecoming / early dismissal for Unit 5 students
(HS @ 12:40 // JHS @ 1:15 // Elem @ 1:45) Parade begins at 2:15

Fri.Oct.21 – Unit 5 Parent-Teacher conferences / no school for students

Tue.Oct.25 – Towanda Area Historical Society / 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building – The public is invited to join in the discussion concerning the history book and planning for upcoming events.

Wed.Oct.26 - Late Start for Unit 5 students ~ school will start one hour later

Classified



For Hire:

Grace Rients , age 15 and Emma Rients age 13 will babysit
Phone # 728-2178

Towanda HCE

The Towanda Home and Community Education group will meet on Monday, October 10, 7:00 pm at the Towanda Community Building. Hostesses for the evening are Cherry Trent and Lu Payton. The program for the evening is *The Fingers of McLean County Extension* and *History of HCE*. October is Home and Community Education Month and visitors are sincerely welcomed to attend informative “**EDUCATIONAL**” programs presented each month mixed with fun and friendship. Contact Robin Pearson, 815 579 1650 for more information about Towanda HCE.

McLean County HCE presents the following events:

- **Landscaping Tour and Information at Greiders Landscaping** at Towanda Barnes Rd and GE Rd on Monday, October 10. Please RSVP by Monday October 3 by calling Karen, 309 724- 8461. This event is Free and open to all with reservation (to provide adequate materials).
- **Quilt for Kids Program** will have their 5th workshop on Monday, October 24, 1-4 pm. Quilt tops are made and then sent to neonatal units at hospitals throughout Illinois. Quilts have to be made from 100% cotton including the material, thread and padding. Material must be new, never washed fabric. You may bring your own material or just come and help to make quilt tops. No RSVP is required but for more information, contact Eileen, 309 533 1135. This project is for adults, young people, 4-Hers, teachers etc. Come enjoy some “quilting time”. No experience is necessary.

Money Making events to help defray expenses in sending soldier overseas, care and cookie boxes include:

- **Christmas in October HCE Holiday Sale at the U of I Extension Auditorium, 402 N. Hershey, Bloomington held Tuesday, Oct. 4, 3-7 p.m., and Wednesday, October 5, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.** There will enormous amounts of holiday ornaments, decorations, greenery, along with “HINTS” AND “APRONS” BOOKS for sale. Come and SHOP to help out our soldier projects.
- Saturday, October 22, the McLean Co. HCE will have a food booth at the Bloomington Farmers Market at Bloomington Downtown Square.
- November 11 & 12 is Bergner’s Community Days, first time ever a 2-day event. Donate \$5 to purchase a booklet available from **Cindy Kelley, 663 4796** and the total \$5 is for McLean County HCE to keep. Included in the booklet are \$200 and more in exclusive booklet offers, plus a \$10 off coupon on a purchase of \$10 or more (some restrictions apply).

OPERATION SANTA (Christmas Stockings)

McLean County HCE is helping to collect 25,000 stockings for the soldiers. So far we have collected 2500. Items (travel size) to put in the stockings are also being collected and include:

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| - Individual serving cold drink packets | - Hot chocolate | - Breath mints |
| - Individual tissue packets/Wipes | - Bags of beef jerky | - Chewing gum |
| - Money for Postage | - Instant soup | - Dental floss |
| - White or black athletic socks -NOT dress socks | - Granola bars | - Toothbrush/paste |
| - Cards and letters of support | - Hand sanitizer | |

Items and stockings need to be at the University of Illinois Extension Office, 402 N. Hershey, Bloomington by NOVEMBER 1.

Operation Santa is one of several projects under the auspices of Citizen Support for America's Military. Citizen SAM provides various forms of troop support throughout the year. For Stockings, it is suggested that people use cotton prints of Christmas, patriotic, sports or cartoons. Keep stockings bright and cheerful. The top of the stockings cannot be thick as they need to be stapled together to hold the items in the stocking while shipping. Please no glitter.

Stuffing items: (All items must be travel size)

shampoo, pocket tissues, lotion, individual drink packages, bags of beef jerky, instant soup, granola bars, chewing gum, breath mints, lip balm, black athletic socks (not dress socks), wipes, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, travel toothpaste, dental floss.

NO soap, conditioner, chocolate, tea, glass, aerosol, or full size of peanut butter products.



St. Mary's Parish and School 3rd annual Chili Cook Off

1) Calling all Chili Lovers! St. Mary's Parish and School is hosting it's 3rd annual Chili Cook Off on October 22nd, at the McLean County Fair Grounds, West Expo Bldg.

The festivities start at 11:00 and run until 5:00. Cost is \$5.00 for adults and kids 13 and under are FREE, with an adult.

Live entertainment presented by: ReZound, Patrick Campbell, and Chris and Joe from Bottle of Justice.

For the children, there will be plenty of kids games, balloon animals, and face painting, and a bounce house. For the adults, there will be a beer wagon.

Good food, good music, good fun!

2) Calling all RUNNERS, and WALKERS!

Join us for the 5K Chili Crusade! Sunday October 23rd! This race is sponsored by St. Mary's School and Parish and runs through historic Bloomington. This is a fun course with A LOT of crowd support! Each runner/walker will receive a goody bag as well as a great technical t-shirt. Runners and volunteers AND family members will receive food after the race too! All this for \$20!!! What a deal. Come join us! Go to www.stmarysschool.net for a registration form.

Towanda Library

WoolyWarm@yourlibrary:

Knitting Techniques on Wednesday, October 12th at 5:30

Valerie Phare Smith will kick off a fall series of programs at the library entitled "WoolyWarm@your library" -- which highlight the art of woolen creations. Bring a project you're working on right now...or bring your questions about a project you may wish to tackle...or just bring a pair of needles and some yarn (we'll know you are just a beginner). Valerie is a veteran at teaching knitting at all levels. She will have samples of her work for you to admire or aspire to making. When knitters get together ideas flow!

Fiber Art - "Alpaca Style" on Wednesday, November 2nd at 5:30

Stan and Janetta Bauer, who raise alpacas on their farm near Ellsworth, are craftsmen of beautiful one-of-a-kind wool scarves, hats, pins, and jewelry. Children and adults alike will be fascinated to hear about the process that takes the alpaca fiber from shearing, through dying, to spun wool and finally to works of art. Enjoy this free program and see a display of items that will be available at the Artists/Vendor Fair on November 5th.

Christmas Tea and Vendor Fair -- Saturday, November 5th

The FRIENDS of the Library host their 2nd Annual Christmas Tea and Artist/Vendor Fair in the library for your early holiday shopping convenience. Sip tea or coffee while eating homemade cookies and shopping. Select from fiber art created by Stan and Janetta Bauer, Pampered Chef kitchen gifts, homemade fabric NOOK and Kindle covers, Usbourne Books, plus many more items. Watch the library website - where a full list of vendors will be listed. The FRIENDS will be selling fudge again this year - for delivery Thanksgiving week.

Community Halloween Party (*at the library*):

Thursday, October 27th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The traditional "Candy Corn BINGO" ... plenty of games....costume contest... a few spooky but not-too-scary stories...plus refreshments courtesy of the FRIENDS of the Library. Prizes courtesy of the Village of Towanda. Join the fun!

Story Hour -- Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

October 3	Colors
October 10	Fall Discovery Walk
October 17	Scare Crows
October 24	Pumpkins
October 31	Halloween Stories





Welcome to Two New Neighbors!

Sean and I moved into our new home at 4 Fox Creek on August 5. We looked for a new home for almost a year before we were blessed to have the opportunity to move into Indian Creek Subdivision. We moved from the east side of Bloomington and we were searching for something a little more out of town and a bigger yard for our children to enjoy. We have two little girls, Bailee who is 5 years old and attends kindergarten at Towanda Elementary and Millie who is fifteen months. We have one dog, Jersey. She is a ten year old American Eskimo.

Sean works at State Farm and I work two days a week at Agape Counseling. We are both originally from Pittsburgh, PA and are avid Pittsburgh Steelers fans! We have lived in the Bloomington/Normal area for eleven years.

We are really enjoying the neighborhood and it has been great meeting everyone. Bailee has really enjoyed getting to know the other kids in the neighborhood and has been so excited to have kids to play with everyday! Thanks to everyone who has stopped in to introduce themselves and who have allowed Bailee to come to their house to play!

Sean & Hallie Harmon

Names: Jeremy and Angela Thomas (2 Timbercreek Court)

Children's Names: Preston (Age 8, 3rd grade) and Aubrey (Age 6, 1st grade)

Jeremy grew up in Kewanee, IL and Angela grew up in Heyworth, IL. Prior to moving here in June, we lived in Lexington, IL. We were looking to move because we had outgrown our 1200 square foot home with 2 kids and a dog. We fell in love with the Indian Creek subdivision years ago but at that time saw it as just a dream. We wanted to continue to live in a small town with a good school. We have gotten so much more with Indian Creek. We love the peacefulness of the subdivision and the kind neighbors.

Jeremy works at the Illinois Regional State Farm Office in Life Company and Angela is a school psychologist who works as a Special Needs Coordinator at Pontiac Township High School. Preston loves any kind of sport and playing chess. Aubrey can hula hoop like nobody's business and is our animal lover.

Transitioning Joyfully: Preparing Now for Fossil Fuel Decline

Presented by Ruah Swennerfelt, Normal Public Library, October 3, 7:00PM



Sponsored by Vision 2020, a B-N Transition group
Contact: Carolyn Treadway, 309-451-4503



Ruah Swennerfelt, a long-time peace, justice, and environmental activist, will be speaking about the exciting world-wide Transition Movement. She has recently returned from Europe where she visited many Transition Initiatives in nine countries and permaculture activities in Israel. She also attended Transition conferences in the France and the UK. See her blog:

www.transitionvision.wordpress.com. Also see: www.transitionus.org and www.transitionnetwork.org.

As head of Quaker Earthcare Witness for 16 years, Ruah gave talks, led workshops, and wrote articles about the many environmental crises facing our times. For the past 20 years she has lived off-grid in a solar electric home in rural Vermont where she and her husband grow their own food and try to live simply, with joy. Several years ago she co-founded Transition Charlotte, where she lives.

A Transition Initiative (which could be a town, university, neighborhood, etc.) is a community-led response to the pressures of climate change, fossil fuel depletion and economic contraction. It begins when a small group comes together with shared concerns. Thousands of initiatives around the world have started their journey to answer this crucial question: how can we make our community stronger, happier, and more resilient as we deal with the impacts of peak oil and economic contraction, while at the same time urgently reducing CO2 emissions? People recognize that:

- * Learning to use less energy is imperative and inevitable because of fossil fuel depletion and our changing climate, but provides new opportunity if we plan for it, while posing a threat if we simply wait for it to happen to us.
- * We were very creative and clever while using increasingly large amounts of energy and we will need to be equally creative and clever as we learn to live with decreasing levels.
- * Our communities currently lack local resilience to withstand some of the disruptions that will accompany climate change and unplanned energy descent.
- * We have to work together, starting now, rather than waiting for leadership from the government or "someone else".
- * This transition has to happen at an inner personal level as well as at an external community level.
- * Even as we recognize the ecological limits of our biosphere, by unleashing the collective genius of our communities we **can** proactively design our own energy descent and build ways of living that are more connected and more fulfilling.

Come learn how we can co-create our response to the challenges of our day right here in Bloomington- Normal! For more information on this event, call (309) 454-3169.

BARN-a-FAIR

Sunday, Oct. 23 • 12pm-4pm

Enjoy a fun day in the country! \$1 per car

18808 N. 2000E. Rd., Towanda, IL 61776

Scott Hagan: www.Barnartist.com

Barn Quilt on Barn



Barn art at the farm was recently featured in the Pantagraph. Come out and see the restoration, barn quilts, and Scott Hagan's barn art for yourself! Let's pack the place!

Some great vendors and exhibits:

- * yummy food
- * antique tractors, wagon, more...
- * farm market, pumpkins/produce
- * alpacas; yarn spinning
- * baked goods
- * small flea market
- * barnyard sale
- * Rt 66 T-shirts & memorabilia
- * handmade jewelry
- * photography
- * 50/50 raffle
- * music
- * quilts and artwork
- * cheese
- * wine tasting?
- * want to do a booth??



Use GPS, follow the signs. Follow arrows on the map. Ask at "Fast Stop" station!

For vendor or general info, Contact Jo Morrison:

drjmj2323@yahoo.com or (309) 830-5358