

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

April 2013

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org>

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association Minutes for the Annual Meeting

March 20, 2013



The annual meeting of the Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association was held Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Towanda Library. The Community Building was under renovation and unavailable. The date of the annual meeting was changed to March, to be in compliance with the association bylaws. Board President Brian Krause opened the meeting and board members and homeowners introduced themselves.

Minutes of the 2012 annual meeting were read by Secretary Barbara Ulbrich and adopted.

Treasurer Dave Schulthes provided the Treasurer's Report. The Association had funds in the amount of \$61,713 at end of 2012. As of the end of February 2013, we have ~\$67,000. We switched to a new "locate" vendor (USIC) and this achieved cost savings. There were 20-30 locates in 2012. Thanks to President Brian Krause for finding the new locate vendor.

Homeowners discussed raising our quarterly assessment. In 2007, the association raised assessment from \$75/quarter to \$100/quarter. Unfortunately, since ~2008, the interest rates have been extremely low due to the recession. Currently we make almost no interest (.35%) on our CDs. The water tower will need to be painted in 2017; painting is estimated to cost about \$100K. Concern was raised that there could be unforeseen costs and a large assessment would be very undesirable. Small increases every 2-3 years are preferable. Our total income is about \$35K per year, and our expenses are about \$26-27K/per year. The Board will continue to evaluate our finances; an increase may be warranted in 2014.

The liability insurance claim against the Association out of the 2007 water tower incident settled this month. Two painters had gotten chlorine burns while painting the tower interior. The two sued the Association and also filed work comp claims. OSHA fined the painting company. There is no conclusive evidence of what caused this incident, which occurred while the painters had control of the workplace. The Association's liability premium hasn't increased.

Water Chair Bob Hancock provided the Water Report: Last year, there were no water interruptions, but we had to repair the heater and replace the chlorine pump. Because we need to ensure we learn of a power outage or low pressure as quickly as possible, we installed a unit that sends alert messages via email and cell to Bob, Board members, and Frank Cottrell.

Homeowners asked Bob if we did a good job of conserving last year during drought. Unfortunately we did not. Normally, homeowners use 500K-700K gallons per month. In July, 2012 homeowners used 1,072,700 gallons in a single month. We will include a message in our April statement about

water usage. In addition, a question was posed whether a group of homeowners should be formed, to reach out to those who seem to ignore our subdivision's water use guidelines.

Secretary Barbara Ulbrich gave a short report. She thanked Kathy Dumler and Nicole Hartman for their work on the newsletter and website. Also thanks to Helen Mogill, for her founding work on the site!

New business: Fred Walk may be interested in serving as Grounds Chair, but would like another individual to serve as co-chair with him. It was noted that there is a beaver infestation. Questions were raised on how to address this; and also how to address a dam that has built up behind the Liebenow home.

Respectfully submitted,
By Barbara Ulbrich, Secretary

Election – Tue. Apr. 9

Unit 5 Board of Education

Three (3) to be elected - Candidates in ballot order:

John Puzauskas (incumbent)
Glenn Block (resides in Lamplighter)
Meta Mickens-Baker (incumbent)
William Todd Ferguson
Randall Merker
Rebecca Ferrara
Steven Zimmerman



Towanda Lions Club Ham & Bean Dinner



Friday, April 12, 2013 - at the Towanda Community Building
Serving from 4:30 - 7:00 pm
Tickets: \$6 in advance or at the door
Children 12 & under - \$3

Menu

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| - Ham & Beans | - Condiments |
| - Corn Bread | - Dessert - Pie/Cake |
| - Coffee & Juice | - Hot Dogs, Chips (for kids) |

Safety for Walkers

If you are walking at night, please remember to wear reflective clothing in the neighborhood. Without it you are hard to see with no street lights.



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener



We are seeing more robins now, so it won't be long until more of the pretty song birds start to appear. Birds take care of them-selves, but we need to care for where they live.

If you have bird houses, it is time to do their spring house cleaning. Also if it needs repair, do that before they start building their nest. If you don't have a bird house, now might be the time to get one. Or I have seen directions on how to make a bird house in many magazines or you can always go on line.

Besides having a place for a nest, they also need a bird bath, not only to take a bath, but most important to get a drink of water. It is time to scrub out last years bird bath and give them some fresh water to drink. Locate it in a place near a tree or shrub so they can quickly find shelter.

Last, but not least, they need food. There are many kinds of bird feeders available. Just decide what kind of birds you have or want to attract, and keep feed in it at all times. Again, the feeder needs to be kept free of wet or spoiled feed. The birds will still eat the insects when the feeder is out and they also feed the insects to their young. They use a lot of energy while building a nest and feeding their young.

We need birds to keep the systems in balance. They help pollinate plants and disperse the seeds. Some seeds need to go thru the birds stomach before they will germinate. Birds also help clean up road kill and other carcasses, and they return nutrients back to the earth. We also enjoy watching them and hearing their enjoyable singing.

Helen J. Leake
McLean County Master Gardener



Towanda 4-H

The Towanda 4-H will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd, at 6:30pm at the Towanda Community Building. We will be talking about working out and will do a workout. The demonstrations will be given by Joseph Anderson, Sam Clements, Anne Simpson and Arianna Sheltons. And talks will be given by Katie Sandage, David Salegna, Madison Kraft and Michelle Greenweld. Recreation will be provided by Emma Feit.

The Towanda 4-H is open to boys and girls from ages 8 - 18 by September 1st. Clover Buds are for kids ages 5 - 7. For more information, contact Kathy Schultz at 728-2137 or Jeanie Wager at 728-2852.



Towanda Area Spring Garage Sales



Want to share advertising cost (and benefit from a 'built-in' crowd)? Plan to hold your sale during the Rte 66 Red Carpet Corridor Event. This year's dates are May 2-5 (Thursday-Sunday).

To be included on the list of area sales, please provide by Wednesday, April 24: 1) Sale location, 2) Contact information [phone, email], 3) Days and times of your sale [you do not need to have your sale each day], 4) List of items [include as much as you like, in priority order, and depending on space available, they will be listed on the flyer and by category in the Pantagraph ad], 5) \$7 fee [for flyers, Pantagraph ads], checks payable to Gail Ann Briggs

Email info to rgriggs@frontiernet.net (preferred) or send to 112 Hunt St; Towanda IL 61776 Call (728-2187) with questions.

Anyone with specific items they particularly want to sell may want to take out an individual ad as well.

Towanda American Legion

Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday April 7th from 7:30 – 11:00. Breakfast includes eggs, egg casserole, sausage, bacon, hash browns, pancakes, French toast, fresh fruit, biscuits and gravy, juice, milk and coffee for \$8.

There will be a pork chop dinner on Friday April 19th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include a pork chop sandwich, French fries, green beans, dessert and drink for \$9. Please note the dinner will be a week later this month due to the Lions Club Ham and Bean dinner on the 12th.

All dinners are open to the public. Carry outs are available. Thank you for supporting our troops and Veteran's.



Towanda HCE



Towanda Home and Community Education Unit will next meet on Monday, April 8, 2013 at 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The topic of study will be "Beverages, Empty Calories or Not?" The Herb Fact Find will be Fennel Seed. Hostesses will be Leatha Poshard, Cindy Jacobs and Dorothy Brickey.

Other April HCE activities include:

Apr 8, 9 am-Study natural plantings to attract birds, 309-242-6187;

Apr 15- 9 am-12 noon, Quilt for Kids, 309-533-1135; 1 pm-Little Dresses for Africa, 309-533-1135.

These programs are held at McLean County Extension Auditorium, 402 N Hershey, Bloomington and are open to the public. Guests are cordially welcome to the Towanda Unit meeting and all McLean County HCE Programs. Call Cindy, 663-4796 or Robin, 815-579-1650 for more information.

McLean County Association for Home & Community Education Presents

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Are YOU ready?



Chasing4Life.org photo

www.Chasing4Life.org

Eddy Weiss is a disaster preparedness expert and educator. He is the founder of Chasing4Life, an internationally known organization involved in training, teaching and disaster response.

Saturday, May 4, 2013

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

INTERSTATE CENTER

McLean County Fair Site
1106 Interstate Drive
Bloomington, IL

FREE ADMISSION

Speaker: Eddy Weiss

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Eddy's dynamic, no-nonsense presentation will help prepare you for EIGHT important seconds of your life.

LEARN ABOUT:

- What is happening around the country
- How your family can be better prepared
- What should be in a home disaster kit
- Listen to stories from a storm chaser

FIRE EXTINGUISHER PROGRAM 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

PUPPET SHOW 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

(Both Presented by Captain Brad McCollum of Bloomington Fire Department)

SEE and EXPERIENCE:

American Red Cross Vehicles ~ Helicopter ~ Storm Chaser Vehicle ~ Ambulance

Police Car ~ Command Post ~ Survive Alive House ~ Medical Tent ~ Fire Truck
Local Responder Booths and Displays ~ Information booths
Children's Games & Activities ~ Door Prizes

LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Questions: Kathleen-309-728-2784 or ksemery@frontiernet.net

Library News

Money Smart Week Events

April 20 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Youth Program - Does Money Grow on Trees? It's never too early to learn about money. Join this story time with take home items from PNC Bank and Country Financial. For preschool to 6th grade.

April 22 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Should you Donate? Avoiding Phone and Mail Requests from Charities Tips to help you identify if a specific charity meets your criteria for giving.

April 22 from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

Landscape Maintenance on a Dime Learn about tree, shrub, and turf maintenance. Should you do the work yourself or hire it done?

The TOWANDA READS Book Discussion Group is open to the public and meets from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Towanda District Library:

May 14: Fall of Giants by Ken Follett

July 9: Winter of the World by Ken Follett

September 10: Running the Rift by Naomi Benaron

Knit/Crochet Necklace Workshop

April 23 @ 5:00 p.m. (Every Tuesday Yarn Group @ 5:00)

If this is as popular as last month's scarf workshop, you'll want to sign up early! We can accept the first 25 who register. The \$5 fee includes the yarn and instructions. Yes, it's the same instructor!

April Events @ the library

Appy Hour: Every Monday evening 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

We have new apps! We will show you in less than 20 minutes how to download books from our free e-book collection onto your favorite mobile device. Borrow these books for 2 weeks.

Read 2 Dogs: Every Tuesday evening 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Please phone 728-2176 to pre-register your child for this.

April Story Hours @ the library

Story, craft, and snack from 10:30 to 11:30 Wednesday a.m.

April 3 – The Beauty of Spring: Flowers dancing in your artwork.

April 10 – Bumblebees: Buzzing and singing about flower lovers.

April 17 - National Library Week: Read about "Community Helpers."

April 24 - Money Smart Week: Listen to "Dollars and Sense" story.

National Library Week April 14-20

April 17 & 18 @ 2:00: Let us tell you about the library that lies beyond the walls of 301 South Taylor Street. See a big screen demonstration of our library's online catalog, online encyclopedia, and free e-book collection. Our library is far more than your eye can see on the shelves! Add your personal comment about your library to the bulletin board or the library's Facebook page this week. Chocolate kisses to all visitors who do – compliments of Towanda District Library FRIENDS.

Library Website: www.towandalibrary.org

Classified



For Hire:

Lauren Smith, age 13 and Myles Smith, age 14 will provide child care and pet care - call 728-2930

Grace Rients and Emma Rients will babysit for you! Both would be willing to babysit while you run errands, mow the lawn or have a date night. Both are certified by the Red Cross and have CPR training too! Grace and Emma

Rients are also experienced pet caretakers. Please call them at 728-2178. In addition to dogs, we have experience with hermit crabs, hamsters and rabbits too!

For sale:

Rodney and Joni Brittain have some items to sell:

Kitchen table and four chairs: 150.00

Baldwin Piano: 100.00

Foosball Table: 75.00

Claw Foot Cast Iron bathtub: 50.00

Contact us at 728-2758.

