

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

August 2013

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org> Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Water News

"With the summer temperatures rising, it is important that we conserve on our water use.

Our average water use is around **500,000** gallons per month; however, last year at this time we used over **1,000,000** gallons of water. The extra running time is hard on the pump and could ultimately impact our water table level. Effective immediately, please restrict any long term watering to odd/even days based on your street number.

Long term watering is defined as watering a couple of hours at a time. Residents with automatic sprinkler systems should make sure their sprinklers are programmed for the time limit/ days. Exception to odd/even days would be recently planted items; however, restrict watering to morning or late evening. Running a sprinkler all day/night or watering so long that water collects in the ditches is not good for your lawn or the Indian Creek water system.

The Indian Creek board members appreciate your cooperation."

August News

Unit 5 Student Registration Information – can be found at <http://www.unit5.org/>

Tue.Aug.20 – First day of school for Unit 5 – This is a FULL day for students (not a half day)

Tue.Aug.20 – Information for the Area Directory is due. (see information elsewhere in newsletter)

Wed.Aug.28 – Garage Sale Information is due. (see information elsewhere in newsletter)

American Legion

The American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday August 4th 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 August 9th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include a pork chop sandwich, au gratin potatoes, baked beans, dessert and drink for \$9.

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



Towanda Lions Club Scholarship Offering

The Towanda Lions Club is pleased to announce that the scholarship amount for 2013 has been raised to \$1000.00. See guidelines below for specifics.

Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship

The Towanda Lions Club is sponsoring a **\$1000.00** scholarship for a 2013 High School graduate or currently enrolled college student attending classes full time from the Towanda area. This is a one-time scholarship not open to renewal.

Applicants for this scholarship must meet the following criteria:

1. The applicant must have a Towanda mailing residence address.
2. Average grade of C verified by a high school transcript.
3. In 250 words or less, submit a letter of application containing a brief biographical profile which includes your college plans, school activities, community service activities and work history. Indicate your plans for using the scholarship money and why you are deserving of the award.
4. Submit 2 letters of recommendation: one from a teacher, counselor or administrator, and one from a non-relative in the Towanda area.
5. Submit a copy of your fall 2013 class schedule of the college/university you will be attending.
6. Letter of application, recommendations, transcript, and class schedule must be received by the Scholarship Committee Chairman by September 15, 2013.

Mail to: Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship
c/o Mr. Robert Hancock
7 Bent Tree Lane
Towanda, Illinois 61776

The Towanda Lions Club committee will review all applications and select one scholarship winner. All applicants will be notified by mail of the committee's choice. This scholarship is offered in memory of Steve Liebenow, a long-time Lions Club member, educator, and community leader."

Busy Bees 4H

The Towanda Busy Bees 4H Club had a field trip to Artful Designs in July. Several members painted ceramics for the fair. It was a lot of fun to see the pieces, colors and designs created.



Members of the club are now busily preparing for the 4H fair which will be held July 31 through August 4th. Members are entering projects in sewing, cooking, baking, visual arts, rabbits, aerospace, shooting sports, electricity, woodworking and dairy to name a few. Be sure to stop by the 4H building at the fair to check out all of their hard work.

The August meeting will be a celebration of the clubs accomplishments this year at Grady's Family Fun Park on August 11^h at 1:00 pm.

The September meeting will be the beginning of the 2013-2014 4H year. The Club typically meets on the Third Tuesday of each month at the Towanda Community Building. 4H members are 8 years through 18 years old and Cloverbuds are 5 years through 8 years old. New members are always welcome. For Information Contact: Martha Rients 728-2178 or email: hrients@frontiernet.net

Annual Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales

Are you planning to hold a garage sale this fall? This year's dates are September 5-7 (Thursday-Saturday)

To be included on the list of area sales, please provide, by **Wednesday, August 28** the following:

- Sale location
- Contact information (phone, email)
- Days and times of your sale (you do not need to have your sale each day)
- 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)
- \$7 fee (for flyers, Pantagraph ads), checks payable to Gail Ann Briggs



Email info to rbriggs@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 HCE



The Towanda HCE July 3rd Spaghetti Supper was a huge success on a beautiful July 3rd evening. Everyone seemed to enjoy the new community building and we served around 300 people who came to our 20th annual spaghetti supper. Thank you for supporting our organization. We use our profits to fund our many service projects and to better our knowledge of important topics in our ever changing world. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 9 at 7pm at the Towanda Community Building. More details to follow in next months' newsletter.

Towanda 4-H

The Towanda 4-H met on Thursday, July 18th, to share fair projects and to answer last minute questions related to the McLean County Fair. Good Luck to everyone!



We will meet again in August to finish up our fair records. We will also have a pool party at the Lexington pool on Sunday, August 11th to celebrate the end of another great year.

The Towanda 4-H is open to boys and girls from 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.



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener



You can prune your pines now that the new growth is finished growing and is still tender. The new growth is called a "candle". Each candle can be cut back by 1/2 - 2/3 to encourage bushier growth.

Watch your roses for black spot fungal disease. Remove any infected leaves, including the ones that have fallen to the ground. Either burn them or put them in the garbage, not the compost pile. You can spray the plants with a fungicide. You can fertilize the roses until mid August. When

you fertilize them, they tend to send up new growth. The new growth needs to be able to mature enough to withstand the cold winter.

It is time to stop harvesting the asparagus, and then you can fertilize it. Leave the tops stand for shelter for the wildlife.

Thin the apples so the fruits are about 7 - 9 inches apart. That way the tree can produce larger apples and it won't use so much energy that it will not be able to produce any fruit next year. You also might need to prop the branches on the apple and peach trees to help support the heavy weight of the fruit.

Be sure to remove any stagnant water to prevent the mosquitos from hatching. Check the flower pots, gutters and birdbaths.



We hear about mosquitoes passing West Nile disease. Another disease spread by insects is Lyme disease. It is a bacterial disease spread by deer ticks, which are common in the Midwest. The disease was first diagnosed in Lyme, Conn, in 1975, therefore they named it Lyme disease.

The ticks like wooded areas and tall grass. They sit and wait for a warm body to come along to attack, such as deer, mice, cats, dogs and people. Not all ticks carry the disease, but we do need to take the risk seriously. The longer the tick is attached, the greater the risk of infection. The tick needs a full meal of blood before the bacteria can be released. That could take about 48 hours. Just be sure to check yourself after returning from an area that could have ticks.

Wear long sleeves, long pants, shoes and socks, hat and gloves. For years DEET was used as a repellent, now there are safer repellents, such as Oil of lemon eucalytus, picardin, and herbal mixtures.. As always, follow the directions on the container.



Around dusk, during June and July, we see the flashing lights in the lawn and fields, and remember as a child trying to catch them. There are about 150 species of the firefly, some have their own distinctive flash rate. The flash rate changes with the temperature, often it doubles from 55 degrees to 75 degrees.

Fireflies all look alike to us, but it is important for the male and female to be of the some species to produce a viable larvae. The rate of flashing is a signal as to who is who. The flightless female stays down near the base of the blade of grass and watches the bright flash from the male. When the female sees one she likes, she will flash back. Now you know why there are flashing lights on a warm summer evening.



Watching the birds can be relaxing and entertaining. It isn't hard to welcome the birds to your home. The two most important things they need are food and shelter. They also enjoy a bird bath to get a drink and take a bath. They like the bird feeder, but they prefer it not be out in the open yard. They want a tree or shrub nearby to fly to in case that big bad bird, hawk, cat, or any other critter comes along. The more protection, the better. That gives them more space to roam. A yard full of trees, shrubs and plants

will draw the birds.

They are looking for food, but insects and tempting berries and fruit all top the list. Seed comes last to attract the birds. They also like trees that have fruit to eat all winter.

Most homeowners want a very neat garden, but the birds like it when you let the leaves collect under the shrubs. It is a good place for them to scratch around and find the delicious insects. It will also give them a place to linger and find a place to build a nest. Only about 5 percent of the insects we see are bad ones. If we don't use a lot of chemical sprays, that will mean a lot more food for the birds, and provide enjoyment for homeowners watching the birds.

The birds will say thank you!



We love our beautiful, nice, green, weedless and insect free lawn. But that comes at a cost. A 25 X 40 lawn can drink about 10,000 gallon of water in a summer. Also 70 million pounds of pesticides are applied each year. That is about 10 times more than what is used in farming. And the farmers get blamed for using so much pesticide. The toxic run off gets into the ground water and

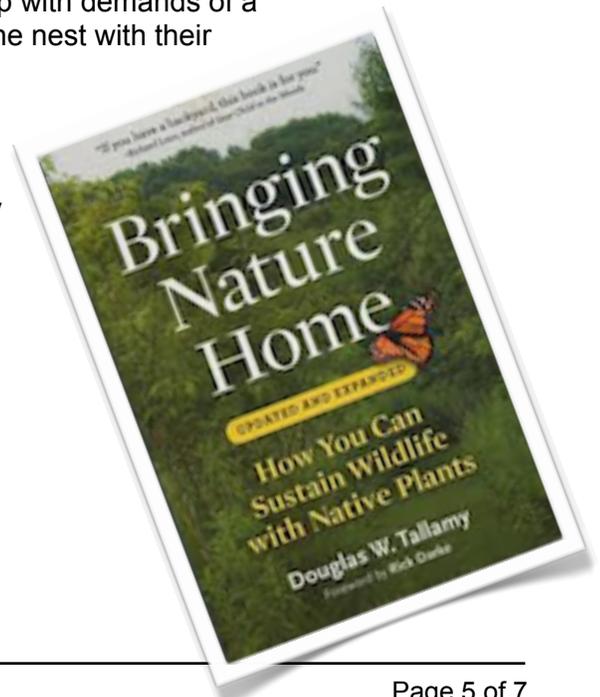
threatens the wildlife and human health. By replacing some of the turf grass with trees, shrubs and flowers, we can provide the birds and other wildlife with food, clean water, shelter, and a place to nest.

Doug Tallamy, an entomology professor in Delaware, noticed that over 90 percent of birds raised their young on insects; mostly caterpillars. They are rich in fat and protein, and caterpillars are essential for a mother bird to use to keep up with demands of a hungry family. Keep in mind the pictures of baby birds in the nest with their mouths wide open waiting for food.

In Tallamy's research, (from his book: 'Bringing Nature Home') he discovered the Carolina chickadee takes 390 - 570 caterpillars a day to feed a growing clutch of 4 - 6 chickadees a day. In the 16 days they are in the nest, they can use more than 9,000 caterpillars.

We know sparrows like to feed their family young bagworms, and robins use earthworms to feed their family. When you spray the lawn, remember you might be killing dinner for the pretty birds.

Some of those insects are doing more good than harm.



Classified



For Sale:

Epson Stylus NX300/305 Series Printer: Our old printer is looking for a new home. It does color printing, copying, scanning, and faxing. From the start it has been very noisy when it prints. We have had it for several years and from time-to-time there will be a white streak across the lines of type. When that happens there is a simple procedure to clean the printer heads. So it has a few quirks, but it works. I have the Quick Guide that came with it and 10 ink cartridges. The 10 individual ink cartridges are worth over \$140, but it can all be yours for \$50.

Call Linda Garbe 728-2236

Computer Ink Cartridges: Canon ChromaLife 100 box of four ink tanks. Number on the box is 8. Package has never been opened. A \$60 value for \$30.

Call Linda Garbe 728-2236.

Several Items For Sale:

- 1) 76-Key Electric Yamaha YPP-50 Keyboard with foot pedal, Great Condition, \$75;
- 2) Folding Medieval Wood Castle. Includes 6 Schleich 7 Knights, 1 Schleich Horse and 1 Schleich Dragon, \$60;
- 3) PlayStation 2 Games: Ratchet & Clank: Going Commando, Curious George, Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2005, The Bible Game, \$5.00 each; PlayStation 2 8 MG memory cards (2 available), \$5 each;
- 4) 25-inch Samsung TV, Excellent Condition, \$60;
- 5) Signing Time DVDs: Everyday Signs, Playtime Signs, The Great Outdoors, Leah's Farm, Zoo Train, \$3 each;
- 6) Leap Frog DVDs: Math Circus, Letter Factory, Talking Word Factory, \$3 each;
- 7) Maclaren Stroller, Navy, Excellent Condition/Like New. Folds Compact and pushes easily even with 5 year old child. Reclines 1 position and has small basket underneath, \$50.
- 8) Girl's Clothes Size 7/8 (Children's Place, Crazy 8, and Target; summer and winter dresses/jeans/flannel shirts/skirts/flannel pajamas), Excellent Condition, priced \$3-\$10 each or all for \$40.

If interested, please call Jeremy or Angela Thomas at 728-2246.

For Hire:

Are you going on vacation this summer? Joe Kaufmann would be happy to mow your lawn while you're gone. A great job for a great price! Call him at 728-8095

Lauren and Myles Smith, 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!

Greater Towanda Area Directory

(of Organizations & Groups)

Some changes have occurred since the last update (including additions & deletions) –
See http://villageoftowanda.org/index_files/AreaDirectory.pdf

Please help us know about the governmental body, service groups, youth and adult organizations, etc. to which you belong.

Information about the meeting schedule (day/month, times, location), and person(s) who can be contacted for more details is requested by **Tuesday, August 20.**

Please email to rgbriggs@frontiernet.net (preferred) or
Send to 112 Hunt St; Towanda IL 61776, or
Call (728-2187)

(Names of people and contact information will NOT be published unless approved personally by the listed person).

Thank you for helping us with this community awareness project!!

Towanda Library News

Barn Quilts on Thursday, August 8th @ 4 – 5 p.m. This program directs you to works of art - on area barns. Learn how to take a self-guided tour or just enjoy this slide show of local barns. Barn Quilts reflect the heritage of our area. Some are dedicated to the memory of loved ones.

Library @ Towanda Elementary Open House on Monday, August 19th – Learn about a joint grant involving the school and TDL. It is called – “Building Collections to Make Connections: Creating a Community of Writers through Reading.” The Illinois State Library awarded the grant to our library.

Tech a la Carte Each Monday at 5 p.m. Library staff will demonstrate our e-book collection or our new Windows 8 Touch-screen computers. You order – we deliver! Because class sizes are small, you may ask your questions and have them individually answered.

FRIENDS Meeting on Tuesday, August 13 @ 6 p.m. Planning for the year's Book Club selections and the November Artist/Vendor Fair.