

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

September 2014

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

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202 W. College Avenue  
Normal, Illinois 61761-2552

[www.ecologyactioncenter.org](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org)  
Phone: 309-454-3169

## Freecycle Free-For-All

The Ecology Action Center announces the semi-annual Freecycle Free-For-All on Saturday, September 6 from 9 am – noon at Anderson Park in Normal. This is a Freecycle event open to the public where unwanted household items may be given away or obtained for free. Ultimately, the goal is to prevent useable items from ending up in the landfill.

The rules are simple – individuals may bring used, unwanted items in good condition and take what others have brought. One does not have to bring items to take items, nor take items to bring items. All items must be small enough to be easily carried; large furniture or appliances are not accepted. Additionally, no firearms, animals, foods, medicines or other consumables are permitted. Items will be accepted for donation from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. only.

More details are available at [www.ecologyactioncenter.org](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org) or by calling (309) 454-3169.

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## Green Drinks Environmental Networking Event

Green Drinks is an informal, social networking group for people working on or interested in environmental issues. Green Drinks groups meet in over 500 cities across the globe. The groups have no political affiliation and generally no agenda. They serve as a forum for environmental professionals and other community members to meet, socialize and share ideas. The Ecology Action Center holds Green Drinks in Bloomington-Normal on the first Tuesday of every month. The September Green Drinks will take place Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Medici and will feature a presentation by Vasudha Pinnamaraju, Executive Director of the McLean County Regional Planning Commission on the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan and the “Bring it On Bloomington” campaign. The public is invited to attend Green Drinks; the group meets at Medici in Uptown Normal, in the small private room to the left of the lobby. For more information on Green Drinks, contact Michael Brown at the Ecology Action Center at (309) 454-3169 x.11 or [mbrown@ecologyactioncenter.org](mailto:mbrown@ecologyactioncenter.org).

The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental agency with a mission to inspire and assist residents of McLean County in creating, strengthening and preserving a healthy environment. The EAC acts as a central resource for environmental education, information, outreach, and technical assistance in McLean County.

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# Towanda Lions, Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship

The Towanda Lions Club is pleased to announce that the scholarship amount for 2014 is **\$1000.00**. See guidelines below for specifics.

## Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship

The Towanda Lions Club is sponsoring a **\$1000.00** scholarship for a 2014 High School college bound senior and/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 2014 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, 2014.

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."

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## Calendar

9/1 (Mon) Labor Day

9/2 (Tue) Unit 5 No school for students (Teacher Institute)

9/4-6 (Thu-Sat) Towanda Area Garage Sales in Indian Creek, Lamplighter and Village – see flyer that is available at Kick's, FS Station, Library and Village Office, for locations, times and items for sale

9/10 (Wed) Unit 5 / 1 hr LATE Start

9/24 (Wed) Unit 5 / 1 hr LATE Start

9/26 (Fri) NC West HS Homecoming

9/29 (Mon) 6:30 p.m. ~ 4<sup>th</sup> July Planning Committee 2014 Wrap Up meeting at the Community Building

October 10, 2014 ~ (Fri) NCHS Homecoming

An updated Towanda Area Organizations Directory is in progress. Please provide changes to Gail Ann Briggs at [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net) or 728-2187. The current Directory is on the bulletin boards at the post office and library. It is also on the village website [http://villageoftowanda.org/index\\_files/AreaDirectory.pdf](http://villageoftowanda.org/index_files/AreaDirectory.pdf)



## CaringBridge Site for Marilyn Blank

Marilyn Blank is undergoing treatment for acute leukemia and thoughts and prayers of support are welcomed at her CaringBridge site. Also at that site, updates are posted almost daily. The site can be found by clicking on: Visit Marilyn's site

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## Women of Faith

"Join Cross Pointe Church of God for a LIVE world-wide simulcast in November 7 & 8 as we bring Women of Faith to you right here in Bloomington/Normal. Enjoy this day-and-a-half experience that will take women on a journey From Survival to Revival. Friday night begins with music, laughter, and grace as walls come down and women awaken to what God has in store. On Saturday, Bible teaching and personal stories speak to heartfelt needs, transitioning lives and sparking change that spreads to communities, churches, families, and friends. Registration begins September 2. Go to [www.cpcog.org](http://www.cpcog.org) to sign up. Space is limited. You can also contact Nicole Hartman, [colehartman@hotmail.com](mailto:colehartman@hotmail.com) if you have any additional questions."

Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will earn a good reputation. ~Proverbs 3:3-4

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## Towanda American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday September 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 September 12th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include pork chop sandwich, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, dessert and drink for \$9.

All dinners are open to the public. Carry outs are available. Thank you for your continued support of the Legion and our Veterans.

Legion, Sons of the Legion and the Legion Auxiliary will have their regular meeting on Thursday September 18th at 7:00 at the Post. The Legion is available for rent for reunions, parties and meeting. For more information contact Mike Potts at 728-2384 or Tom Wagner at 287-7861.

Hope everyone has noticed how nice the ramp at the Legion looks. Several people took advantage of it at the last dinner. The Legion appreciates all of the financial support from the community. We are still short of our goal and continue to accept donations for this project.



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## Garden Tips

by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener

Now is the ideal time to divide or transplant the iris, if needed. It is a plant that never goes dormant. Dig the whole plant up and check the rhizomes to see if it is soft and mushy. If it is, cut off the bad part and replant the good in a different spot. Dip your tool in bleach water between cuts so you do not spread any disease. Cut the green leaves back to about 6 inches.

You can cut out and destroy the old fruiting raspberry canes after they have finished producing. The canes that came up this year can be cut back to about 3-4 feet to produce next years fruit.

The tomatoes have been slow to ripen this year. The soil stayed cool much later this year, so the plants were slower growing. Tomatoes like warm weather. The cool evenings have slowed the ripening.

Blossom-end rot of tomatoes and peppers occurs when the soil moisture is uneven. When the soil is dry, the roots are unable to absorb the calcium in the soil. Water the plant from the bottom and apply a 2-3 inch layer of mulch around the plant can help to prevent the problem. The mulch will also prevent rain drops from bouncing back up to the plant leaves and prevent more disease problems.

Continue dead-heading flowers, unless you want the seed heads for the birds. The birds are starting to store fat for their fall migrating trip. They also need water to drink and bathe in.

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Today, as we walk into any store that sells flowers, we see the attractive, thick, glossy leafed plant that has an arching spray of flowers. It would be a Phalaenopsis orchid. At one time they were expensive, but now they are more affordable. They also have a wide variety of pretty colors.

They are not as hard to raise as once believed. Most places start them in Redwood or fir bark. They originated in areas growing on rocks or limbs of trees. Some places use Canadian peat moss in the potting material. With peat, you need to use caution in watering. If it is too wet, the roots can rot, if too dry, the roots will dry and die. You will find the roots growing over the top of the pot seeking air.

Most orchids prefer high humidity more than water. The saturated bark mulch is able to provide humidity better than peat moss and you get better bark saturation with a drink of room temperature water coming out of a kitchen faucet, according to David Robson, Extension Specialist for University of Illinois, than using ice cubes. Sit the pot on a tray of marbles, keep the water to the top, but not over the rocks. Another way for moisture is to spray the leaves and roots with water almost daily. You should still keep the bark wet by watering it when the pot is light weight. If you have several plants together, place a tray of water among them. The flowers will last longer than other orchids, about 3 months. After the flowers fade and the stem is still green, cut the stem off above a point where the first flower bloomed, and another branch will grow out. Or you can leave the stem and more flowers will appear.

Place your orchid plant outdoors in the shade in the summer. It will enjoy the cool evenings and the morning dew.

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It is the middle of August and time to start preparing the garden for winter. One of the first things to do, is to stop fertilizing the trees, shrubs and perennials. We don't want them to send up new shoots. The new shoots might not have time to harden off to withstand the cold winter.

You should water the newly planted perennials, shrubs and trees deeply, so the roots can grow deep for the winter. They don't need deep watering more than once a week.

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Remove and destroy any diseased plants. Also remove any wormy or diseased fruit that falls to the ground. That will prevent a mess and prevent the worms from returning to next years fruit.

Do you have dry spots in your lawn and you think it is caused by grubs? Cut out a one foot square place on 3 sides in the lawn. Pull the grass back. If you can count 10 or more grubs, you need to treat the lawn for grubs. If there are less than 10, it is best to leave them. They are loosening the soil. Also if you spray to kill the grubs, you will also kill the earthworms and other "good stuff" in the soil.

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We have been hearing about the loss of so many Ash trees, dying from Emerald Ash borer, and keep worrying about the ones we have. If your tree looks healthy, but you still worry about it being infected, you should look for decline in the upper part of the tree. Also watch for young sprouts at the base of the tree and watch for D shaped holes in the bark. they will be hard to see, because they are only about the size of a BB. If the bark on the trunk is splitting, lift it and look underneath. S-shaped tunnels could indicate EAB. If so, you need to treat it once a year or call an arborist to see what your options are. If you don't see any of these signs, enjoy your beautiful tree.

We are seeing the pretty colored mums in the stores. When choosing one, try to get one with a few open flowers and a lot of unopened ones. It will last longer than the ones that the flowers are all open.

It is time for you to cut off the stems of the peonies. Cut them to the ground and put them in the garbage or burn them. Do not leave them on the ground, because they could leave disease in the soil. You can also fertilize them with a mulch. Do not cut off the tree peony. The leaves will fall off later.

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## Fannie Livingston

Long time Towanda resident Fannie Livingston celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 10, 2014. In recognition of this milestone the community is collecting donations to plant a tree in her honor. If you would like to contribute, please send your donations to: Fannie Livingston's Centenarian Tree Fund

c/o Virginia Lowery  
101 Miriam Way  
Towanda, IL 61776

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## Watering

Any long term watering, please observe the odd/even days based off your postal number. Long term watering is defined as no more than a couple of hours at a time and best done in the early morning or late evening hours.

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## Towanda HCE



The Towanda unit of the Association for Home and Community Education will meet on Monday, September 8, at 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. Cindy Kelley will give the program on "The importance of Garlic in our diets." Refreshments are served and the public is invited to attend our meeting. Cindy Kelley and Bev Hornickel are hostesses.

Other McLean County HCE activities open to the public include: Sep 8- 9a-12n, Scarf Making Workshop (choose knit, crochet or sewn fleece scarf), Edna C 309-662-5520 for details and sign up; Card Making Workshop on Sep 9, 9-12n at Miller Park Pavilion- Free, Barb, 309-242-6187; Sep 15, 9a-12n- Comfort Quilts Workshop, Free and no supplies needed, Eileen, 309-533-1135; Sep 15, 1-4p- Scarf, hat or gloves for McLean County Children workshop, Barb, 309-242-6187; Sep 15, 2-3:30p- Read & Share the book, *The Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty, LaVonne, 309-661-6391; Sep 22, 1-3p, Jenna Smith will give a free program on Cooking With Fresh Garden Vegetables, Joann, 309-310-9205. All programs are held at the McLean County Extension Auditorium, 402 N Hershey Rd, Bloomington unless stated otherwise. Call the person listed after the activity for more information. McLean County HCE will have a baked goods food booth at the Downs Village Market on Wednesday, Sep 10, 4-6p.m.

We welcome guests to attend any of these programs. The Towanda HCE usually meets on the second Monday evening of the month, 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building, September through June. If interested in more information about Towanda HCE or this meeting and program, contact Cindy, 309-663-4796 or Robin Pearson, 815-579-1650.

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## St. Mary's Chili Cook Off and Fall Festival

The St. Mary's Chili Cook Off and Fall Festival will be held on October 25, 2014 at the McLean County Fairgrounds from 11:00 to 4:00. There will be games for kids, prizes, entertainment (Patrick Campbell, Hispanic Dancers, Cloggers, and more) and chili tasting!

If you wish to attend, please contact the Mason Family at 846-2002 for tickets. Tickets cost \$5.00

If you wish to participate by entering a fabulous chili, please contact St. Mary's School at 309-828-5954. Cash prizes awarded for the top 3 chili's! First place chili is \$500!

The St. Mary's 5K Chili Crusade and Fun Run will be held on October 26, 2014. This is a run/walk held along the constitution trail in scenic downtown Bloomington. Follow the link for additional details and registration form: <http://stmarysschool.net/images/index/5KRaceForm.pdf>

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## Towanda Busy Bees

The Towanda Busy Bees will kick off the 2014-15 4H year with a meeting on [September 16th at 6:30 pm](#) at the Towanda Community Building. The focus for the club this year is Home and Family. 4H is open to all youth ages 8 through 18 by [September 1, 2014](#). Clover buds is available for children 5 to 7 and meets at the same time as the 4H club. Towanda Busy Bees meets nearly every 3rd Tuesday of the month and is open to new members. For more information contact :Martha Rients at [728-2178](tel:728-2178) or [Hrients@frontiernet.net](mailto:Hrients@frontiernet.net).

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# Classified

## Business:

### The Pampered Chef

September starts with lots of new products and new Fall catalogs. I have lots of new Pampered Chef recipes for your own cooking show. Contact Annette Hancock today to plan your Fall party!

Call Home - 728-2990

Text Cell - 309-242-1802

Email - [oldcars@frontiernet.net](mailto:oldcars@frontiernet.net)

Website - <http://new.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock>



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## For Sale:

1908 Chicago Cottage pump organ with mirrored top section, 3 legged stool and original introductory play book. In mostly working condition. \$400. Picture available on request or can be seen at 1 Bent Tree Lane.

Jim Russell  
830-0375  
[jmr1234@frontier.com](mailto:jmr1234@frontier.com)

## For Hire:

Tom Sennett, the owner of the local LintFighters, is a Town of Normal firefighter. His number is 309-532-0995, and his website is [www.lintfighters.com](http://www.lintfighters.com). He charged me \$85 for cleaning the lint out of the dryer (there was a lot!) and the dryer vent, using his own vacuum which has hepa filters on it. In order to clean the dryer, he had to take the bottom panel off of it. Before he cleaned everything, my dryer had an airflow of 8.4 and after he cleaned it, it was 28.9! He said everyone should have it done, even if your dryer vent is short, because fires start in the lint that is caught in the dryer.

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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!

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# Library News

## LIBRARY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 15th

### MARK 75 YEARS FOR LIBRARY -- 25 YEARS FOR BUILDING

The Towanda District Library invites you to attend a celebration that recognizes the people behind the history of our community's library. Stories of *"The People Who Made It Happen: The History of the Towanda Library"* will be presented by Linda Garbe at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Seventy-five years ago - during the Great Depression - Towanda's library was established with three-years-worth of start-up money from the WPA.

Twenty-five years ago — Board members Jack Jenkins, Henry Thomassen, Mary Merritt, Carol Miller, Emerson Guth, Wilma Stevens, and Otlie Womack — made the dream of a new library building come true when the current library building opened. The building was partially grant funded.

The library's Anniversary Celebration will include refreshments and an historic photo display. We will document the event – to leave a record for those celebrating the 100th Anniversary of our local library.

### PLEASE HELP US GATHER HISTORY

We are asking former Library Board Members and librarians to stop at the library for a quick photo and to fill out a form about their library remembrances and their role in its history. We are creating a PowerPoint of all who helped shape this library's history.

Please pass the word to others who may have moved from the community. We want to include anyone who was part of the library's history. We have already heard from the children of Henry Thommasen.

**ARTIST/VENDOR FAIR FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPERS** is sponsored by FRIENDS of the LIBRARY on Saturday, November 1 from 10:00 to 2:00 at the library. Purchase gifts while supporting local businesses and simultaneously supporting the local library. Refreshments are served. Door prizes are provided by each vendor/artist.

**TOWANDA READS** meets the 2nd Tuesday of alternate months from 5:00 to 6:30 pm at the library. See upcoming books on the library website. On Tuesday, September 9th you are invited to join the discussion about *Empire Girls* by Suzanne Hayes and Loretta Nyhan.

**Bulldog Book Club for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders** meets the second Wednesday of each month (except October) — right after school. See the full book club schedule on the library website. Emphasis of the book club is to read the Rebecca Caudill Award nominees — chosen by Illinois teachers and librarians as the best reads for children in 4th through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The first session is September 10<sup>th</sup>!

**Preschool Story Hours** are Wednesdays @ 10:30 am: The new curriculum for our weekly Story Hours is called the *Very Ready Reader Program*. This research-based age-appropriate curriculum is filled with activities that foster child brain development.

Ms. Tommie and Ms. Sam will present and model effective early literacy techniques. Parents will receive materials that help them support the work of the librarians at home.

Some of the most valuable aspects of Story Hours are the social interactions among the children and parents involved. The first session this fall is September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The program is open to preschoolers as soon as they turn three. Younger brothers and sisters attend and enjoy the separate play area during the structured activities for the preschoolers. Parents visit or



browse and enjoy coffee. Join the fun! September Story Hours focus on building and enjoying friendships.

**Girls and Guys Nights Out:** Fourth and Fifth Graders are invited to special activity evenings at the library. Students are escorted to the library by library staff at 3:30 and must be picked up by 4:30. Girls will make melted crayon art at a session that begins right after school on Wednesday,

October 1. Guys will create mini-robots on Thursday, October 2. Parental permission forms must be on file at the library prior to the event.

**Read to Dogs** - Tuesday Evenings @ 5:30 to 6:30: An added attraction this year – besides reading for 15 minutes to a dog, the librarian will read aloud one of the Rebecca Caudill Award Books about Zasha a World War II dog. This is one way for elementary students to read another award-winning book – without ever turning a page! Besides, it's more fun to read with a group! Sessions run October 7 to November 18. Call to reserve a spot.

## ISU Autumnal Festival

**Saturday,  
September 27**

The ISU Horticultural Center has just one fundraiser per year and this is it. It's a most worthy cause.

If you haven't been to the center, this is a great chance to preview the delights, wonder and beauty of what comes out of the earth. It's also a great family day with lots of activities. Also, there are opportunities to showcase your creative talents by entering an original scarecrow designed by you! Or maybe your talents lie in assembling plants/flowers in a pot. Email 'indiancreeknews' for information on entries.



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY HORTICULTURE CENTER PRESENTS

# AUTUMNAL FESTIVAL 2014

**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**  
Off Raab Road, across from Heartland Community College, in Normal

Travel the gardens with this year's theme,  
**AROUND THE WORLD WITH 80 PLANTS**  
Learn about the plants that have influenced human history.

**ACTIVITIES**  
Scavenger hunt, ISU service dogs, Corn maze, Hay rides,  
Scarecrows on parade, Flower pot silent auction

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**  
**9 a.m. - noon**  
Children's Discovery Museum, Ecology Action Center,  
McLean County 4-H, Normal Public Library, University of Illinois Extension  
McLean County Master Gardeners

**FOR SALE**  
Pumpkins, cornstalks, mums, gourds

**FOOD**  
Cucurbit Café, Oogies and Nacho Mama's food trucks

**ENTRY FEE**  
13 and up: \$5 • 3-12: \$3 • 2 and under: free  
Some activities are subject to small fees,  
including hay rides (\$1).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Contact Jessica Chambers at [Horticulture@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:Horticulture@IllinoisState.edu),  
(309) 438-5654, or (309) 438-3496; or visit  
[Horticulture.IllinoisState.edu](http://Horticulture.IllinoisState.edu).

 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Illinois State University

If you need a special accommodation to fully participate in this program/event, please contact the Horticulture Center at (309) 438-3496. Please allow sufficient time to arrange the accommodation.

The Department of Agriculture is one of eight departments and schools within the College of Applied Science and Technology at Illinois State University.  
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