



# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2016

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

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

### **WATER**

Mark it on your calendar or electronic device, but weather permitting; we will start flushing the hydrants between 9-11 a.m. each Thursday, starting March 31st. Please plan accordingly for your morning showers, washing machine, and water softener cycle or outside watering. While you can use water during these times, you will notice a sudden drop in water pressure and perhaps an infiltration of brownish water through your system.

Thank you!

Bob Hancock  
Water Chairperson

### **Towanda HCE**

The Towanda HCE will be meeting on Monday, April 11, 7 pm at the Towanda Community Building. The program will be "Hold that thought" presented by Pat Pulokas. The gardening fact find will be, "Expect any kind of weather". Hostesses are Sharon Joplin and Linda Conder.

Other activities you might be interested in include HCE Read & Share the book, *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova on Monday, Apr 18, 2-3:30 pm, Extension Office, 1615 Commerce Parkway, Bloomington. Also on Monday, Apr 18, 9am-4pm is the Community Service Day at the Farm Bureau Auditorium, off W Market St near Interstate Center. People are invited to participate in making seat belt covers, walker bags, or any project they want to bring to work on. Lunch break is 12-1 so bring a lunch or go out for lunch and come and go as you are able to participate.

Towanda HCE meets on the second Monday night of the month, September through May and we also have sponsored the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Spaghetti Supper at the Towanda Community Building since 1993. Join us for interesting programs and good fellowship. Call Cindy, 309-663-4796 or Robin, 815-579-1650 for more information about this meeting or Towanda Home Community Education. Guests are always welcome at all events and meetings.

# Gardening Tips

by Helen Leake



Spring is officially here, the grass will soon need to be mowed and the robins have arrived.

You can apply pre-emergent for crab grass control when the forsythias show color. Pre-emergent prevents weed seeds from germination and growing. If you have sowed any seed that you want to grow, do not apply pre-emergent to that area.

It is too early to apply weed killer now as the weeds must be actively growing to be able to absorb it. It is best to apply something containing dicamba to Creeping Charlie when it is blooming. The Easter Lily's are in the store. When purchasing them try to find one that still has some buds not open yet. You can enjoy the plant longer. When you get the plant home, carefully pinch the stem with the pollen off. If you drop any pollen on your clothes or tablecloth, do not brush it off, it could leave stain on your clothes or table cloth, carefully lift it off with sticky tape. When each flower fades, cut it off. Keep the soil moist, and when all the flowers have faded, you can plant it outside in full sun after the danger of frost has passed. It is a perennial, but it has not been out in the cold.

You can bring branches of pussy willow and forsythias in, place them in containers of warm water and they will soon open.

Plant bare root shrubs and trees. They are cheaper and have a larger root system than balled and burlap. They can start growing quicker. Soak the roots in a bucket of water over night to give them a good drink of water.

The spring blooming flowers are really growing and the grass is growing, getting rid of the dull winter color. It is tempting to get outside and clean off all of the plants. Keep some cover handy because we can still have some cold nights. If the plants are up and growing, they should be able to withstand a cold spell.

Mid-American Gardeners, Thursday on WILL, said to clean off the asparagus and apply organic mulch. They are heavy feeders and that will also help cut back on the weeds and grass. Do not use chemicals on the asparagus patch.

You can start your seeds for broccoli, lettuce, cabbage and Brussels sprouts indoors. Be sure to use clean containers and starting soil, garden soil is too heavy.

If you haven't cut your ornamental grass, you want to cut it before the new grass comes up. An easy way to cut it is to tie a rope around it, and use a saw to cut it. You can also divide it once it comes up.

Now that we are spending more time out in the yard, we need to be aware of the chemicals we are using. We have all heard of 2,4-D or 2,4-dichlorophenorgacdetic acid, they say if you cannot pronounce it, don't use it. It is one of the most used herbicide in the world. We hear of Agent Orange, it was developed during World War II, mostly to destroy the enemy's rice crops. Despite its history it has long been seen as safe for consumer use.

It is found in many "weed and feed" products. At first, the impact on humans seemed mild, skin and eye irritations, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, stiffness in arms and leg and many lawn care companies dismissed the health concerns.

Although the EPA said there wasn't enough evidence to classify 2,4-D as a carcinogen, the growing body of research has linked it to a variety of cancers. In 1986, National Cancer Institute {NCI} study found farmers exposed to 2,4-D for 20 or more days a year had a six fold higher risk of developing non Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Another study showed dogs were twice as likely to contract lymphoma if their owners used 2,4-D on the lawn. People also track it into the homes, by dogs, cats and kids and then young children play on the floor and pick up the chemical.

Herbicides kill weeds like clover. Clover pulls nitrogen out of the air and fixes it into the soil so chemical companies replace nitrogen with synthetic nitrogen that you have to pay for. Synthetic fertilizer are water soluble, so a lot runs off the lawn when it rains and doused with chemicals, the algae grows and as they decay and die, they suck most of the oxygen out of rivers, lakes and bays that lead to dead zones where neither fish nor plants can live. The algae not only remove oxygen, it also releases a toxin, domoic acid that hurts the sea lions.

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Helen J. Leake

## **Towanda 4H**

Towanda Busy Bees 4H will meet on Tuesday, April 19th at the Towanda Community Building 6:30 pm The club will be holding a multifamily garage sale and bake at 36 Candle Ridge Rd to benefit the 4H club activities during Towanda area garage sales May 6 - 7. Donations are being accepted for the sale. Contact Martha Rients for more information. 728-2178

## **Towanda Lions Club**

Ham & Bean Dinner  
Friday, April 15, 2016 from 4:30 - 7:00  
Towanda Community Building

\$6 at Door, \$5 in advance  
11 and under - free with paying adult

Includes Ham & Beans, Cornbread, Drink & Dessert  
or Hot Dogs, Chips, Drink, & Dessert

## **Calendar**

Tue. Apr. 5 -- Indian Creek Annual Meeting, 7 pm.

Fri. Apr. 15 – Annual Lions Club Ham & Bean Dinner, Community Building

Mon. Apr. 18 – Unit 5 No School for Students

Mon. Apr. 25 – 4<sup>th</sup> July Planning, Community Building 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Apr. 27 – Area Garage Sale information due.

## Annual Spring Towanda Area Garage Sales

Want to share advertising cost (and benefit from a 'built-in' crowd)? Plan to hold your sale during the Rt. 66 Red Carpet Corridor Event. This year's sales dates are May 5-8 (Thursday-Sunday).

To be included on the list of area sales, please provide ~ by **Wednesday, April 27**:

- 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

Please email sale information to [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net) (preferred) or

- Send to 112 Hunt St; Towanda IL 61776
- Call (728-2187) with questions.

You'll get a response by email when I have your information!

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

## Towanda Library

**Indian Creek Annual Meeting: Tuesday, April 5th at 7 pm** -- This meeting is for residents of Indian Creek subdivision.

**Preschool Story Hours: Every Wednesday at 10:30 am** -- April 6 - Spring; April 13 - Seeds; April 20 - Caterpillars and Butterflies; April 27 - Hats.

**National Library Week: April 10 to 16** -- Enjoy a "Fine Free Week" during this week that is dedicated to celebrating the contributions of our nation's libraries and to promote library use and support. Anyone who has returned all of their items may ask to have their fines forgiven.

**Towanda Reads Book Discussion: Tuesday, April 12** – “What She Left Behind” by Ellen Marie Wiseman, is a novel that brings together the strengths and suffering of two young women born more than 60 years apart. Book discussions are held at the library at 5:00 pm on the first Tuesday of alternate months. The public is invited to join the discussions whenever a book selection peaks your interest. The “social experience” of sharing a book with others who have read it brings another level of enjoyment and understanding to your reading.

**Bulldog Book Club: Wednesday, April 13** – Watch the movie HUGO and compare it to the graphic novel. Remember – pick up the children at 5:30 for this session only.

**Money Smart Kids: Saturday, April 23 at 10 am** -- Country Financial sponsors this Story Hour for grade-school aged children. Money games, photos of your face in a million-dollar bill, and refreshments are included with the story sharing.

**Money Smart Week: Monday, April 25** -- Jenna Smith, Nutrition and Wellness Educator, will present a Money Smart Week class at Towanda District Library. Learn what ingredients lend themselves to simple preparation, watch cooking demonstrations, and sample foods. Take home budget-friendly recipes. We invite you to attend -- Cutting Meal Time Prep and Costs Using Five Ingredients or Less at 3:00 pm.

**Bulldog Book Club: Wednesday, April 27** – Discuss “Chains” by Laurie Anderson. Special guest will introduce the group to more graphic novels – all about robots.

**Read to Dogs: Every Tuesday Evening in April** – Make a 15-minute appointment between 5:30 and 6:30 for your young reader to have the full attention of a therapy dog and its handler. This “reading practice” with a cuddly friend improves reading skills and helps satisfy that desire for a pet for a child who may not currently own a dog of his/her own. All of our participating dogs are as friendly as they are calm.

**Crochet and Chat: Every Tuesday Evening** – From 5:00 to 7:00 pm our group of crocheters is led by Susie Shoemaker and Chery Shipley.--

Karen Stott Bersche, Director  
Towanda District Library  
301 S. Taylor St  
Towanda, IL 61776-7582  
Phone: (309) 728-2176 Fax: (309) 728-2139  
<http://www.towandalibrary.org>  
Email: [director@towandalibrary.org](mailto:director@towandalibrary.org)

## CLASSIFIED



Couch for sale. Sage green Broyhill. \$200. Ph 728-2991.

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We are selling our Adirondack furniture. Three piece set. Two chairs and a loveseat along with cushions. Wooden and painted dark red. Never been outside. Great condition. \$450 or BO Kim Bertsche

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2011 Red Mini Cooper  
2 door hatchback, very good condition inside and out.  
Automatic transmission, many features  
80,600 miles  
\$9,200.00  
309-838-1948  
Barb O'Connor #9 Bent Tree Lane

### Businesses:

Pampered Chef features Cooking Shows, Catalog Parties, Freezer Meal Workshops, Bridal Showers & Fundraisers!  
Contact your local Indian Creek consultant for these events.

Annette Hancock  
Call Home - 728-2990  
Text or call- 309-242-1802  
Email - [oldcars@frontiernet.net](mailto:oldcars@frontiernet.net)  
Website - [www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock](http://www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock)  
Pinterest Recipes - [www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935](http://www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935)



**For Hire:**

Do you need a babysitter? Do you need your house cleaned? Or, just an extra set of hands to help out around the house? Anna Kraft is willing to help! She is a sophomore at NCHS and can be contacted at 728-8088 (home) or (309) 830-7721 (cell).

The Schwamberger boys, Jairon 17 and Justin 15, are available for snow removal services or as maintenance helpers. Call 728-2857

If you need help with snow removal on your driveway or sidewalk, call Joe and Chet Kaufmann at 309-728-8095

Lauren and Myles Smith will provide child care and pet care - call 728-2930