Indian Creek Newsletter
November, 2005

Towanda Library News (on the web at **towandalibrary.org**)

Hurricane Horror: Aftermath of Katrina and Rita   *Mon., Nov. 7th 7-8pm*
Illinois Farm Bureau photographer Ken Kashian will present a slideshow on the hurricane-ravished agriculture industry in Louisiana. Ken will show the impact on the dairy, poultry, fishing, timber and cattle industries.

Tips for helping new and at-risk readers   *Tues., Nov. 8th 7-8pm*
ISU Reading Professor Rochelle Wardell will provide tips to aid your child in reading and reading comprehension. The program will consist of a lecture, a video that shows how to tutor your emerging reader, and a question-and-answer period.

Internet Provider Forum   *Tues., Nov. 15 from 7-8pm*
Learn how to choose internet service at an informational meeting on Internet providers in the Cooksville-Towanda area, with representatives from Frontier Communications (dial-up and DSL), DTN Speednet (broadband) and MediaCom (cable).

The Christmas Letter: How to write a letter your family and friends can't wait to read
Mon., Nov. 28th 7-8pm
Do you dislike receiving Christmas letters that consist of out-and-out bragging and not-too-subtle insinuations of "how I'm keeping up with the Joneses"? Do you vow to never write a letter like that but secretly envy the ease of writing one letter to everyone who is important to you? Mary Williams, library director, will teach you how to communicate events in your annual Christmas letter in a sharing rather than bragging manner.

Teen movie nights   *3rd Friday of the month, 6pm (11/18, 12/16, 1/20)*
For students 7th grade & up. Registration is helpful but not required. Movies are carefully selected and will be G, PG or PG13.

Holiday Family Movies   *(no registration is necessary)*
Thurs., Nov. 17, 6 pm-7:30pm: ***"A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving"*** movie and craft.
Thurs., Dec. 15, 6-7:30pm: ***"How the Grinch Stole Christmas"*** movie and craft.
Sat., Dec. 17: 1pm: ***"Prancer"***
Wed. Dec. 28, 1pm: *"The Princess Bride"*

Update of the Cambodia Library Project
The library is 20% of the way to reaching its goal of $2,000 to help build a library in Cambodia! If everyone in our library district donated $1.00, the goal would be met in no time! Won't you please stop by the library and drop off some spare change for this wonderful project? An anonymous donor will match your donation. For more information on this project, visit **www.roomtoread.org**.

Register for any of these programs by stopping by or calling the library at 728-2176.

Indian Creek Fall Work Day - Phase 1
October 15, 2005

Text by Jim Russell

On a beautiful Fall day, October 15th, eight neighborhood volunteers Sue Arnold, Dennis Maze, Jim Russell, Mike Cunningham, Jim Kellenberger, Brian Krause, Herb Todd, and Helen Mogill tackled the first phase of the planned nature area restoration project.

At the main entrance to the Nature Area non-native and invasive species were removed. Overcrowded saplings, shrubs and brush were cleared. Herbicide was applied to the cut stumps to prevent re-growth. The trees that were designated to remain could now been seen clearly and some of them were trimmed for appearance. In addition, the creek edge was cleared along this area to provide a nice view of the creek from the road and from the Nature Area entrance. Several loads of cut material were moved to a new (and now very large) brush pile in the open meadow in the center of the Nature Area. (See the web version of this newsletter at **http://www.frontiernet.net/~tmogill/icreek/home.htm** for more work day photos and for a new page with invasive plants photos and removal treatments.)

Many thanks to all who helped make such a dramatic difference in appearance of the Indian Creek Nature Area entrance. And, a special thanks to Helen Mogill who also brought donuts and drinks just when we were all in need of a break!

Phase 2 is planned for **Saturday, November 12 at 9:00.** Our target area includes several large red oak trees. We will be clearing the area around these trees out to their drip edges to bring in more light, to reduce competition for any red oak samplings that are present and to encourage new ones to sprout. As a bonus, people who walk the trails will be able to completely see and fully appreciate these magnificent trees.

Welcome New Neighbors!

Nathan and Cindy Dutch have moved into the Keen's house at 23 Candle Ridge on Friday, October 14th from Lafayette, Indiana. They have two children who are all grown up and a beloved dog Sherman.   Sherman is a 100 lb Red Doberman Pincher who loves children, walks in the park and doggie treats. The Dutches look forward to meeting all of their fellow Indian Creekers and to contributing to our community.

Flu and Pneumonia Shots

The McLean County Health Department is dispensing flu and pneumonia shots for those over 50 at community clinics during the month of November. Residents under the age of 50 with a chronic disease such as heart, lung or kidney disease; anemia; asthma; or immune system disorder need a signed physician's statement identifying the chronic disease and the recommendation for the flu and/or pneumonia vaccine must be presented at the time vaccination.

Influenza vaccinations are covered under Medicare Part B. Medicare will also pay for pneumonia vaccines for those who have Plan B coverage and who have not received the vaccine in the past. Persons with Medicare coverage must bring their Medicare card at the time of the appointment for billing purposes. A fee of $30 for the flu vaccine and $40 for the pneumonia vaccine will be requested from individuals who do not have Medicare coverage. Persons with HMO-type health coverage should contact their health insurance company to determine which providers are covered under their plan.
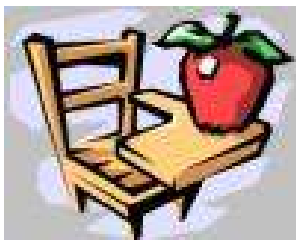
Appointments must be scheduled to receive a flu or pneumonia shot through the McLean County Health Department. Call **309-888-5397** for an appointment at one of the following clinics:

- Nov. 7, Monday – Heyworth Christian Church, 308 N Vine, Heyworth
- Nov. 9, Wednesday – Miller Part Pavilion, 1020 S. Morris, Bloomington
- Nov. 10, Thursday – LeRoy Water Tower Place, 212 E. Pine, LeRoy
- Nov. 16, Wednesday – Lexington Community Center, 207 W Main St, Lexington
- Nov. 17, Thursday – Saybrook-Cheny Grove Township Hall, 120 State St, Saybrook
- Nov. 18, Friday – Normal Township Senior Program Community Center 1 Normal Plaza, Normal
- Nov. 19, Tuesday – Calvary United Methodist Church, 1700 N. Towanda Rd, Normal

Towanda Elementary PTO News

By Martha Rients

Towanda PTO is still recycling cell phones, PDA's and ink cartridges. Donations can be dropped off at 36 Candle Ridge Rd or the School.

Towanda PTO also offers Scrip. Please consider your holiday shopping needs and support our school through your purchase of gift cards from the Towanda PTO. A complete list of available merchants can be seen at glscrip.com. For more information contact Martha Rients, Fundraising Chairperson @ 728-2178 or Amy Kinsella, Scrip Coordinator @ 728-2000.

Thanks to the many Indian Creek Neighbors who supported the Kathryn Beich Fundraising Sale recently completed by Towanda Elementary PTO. Our Students sold just over $14,000 in Kathryn Beich Products! The profits from this sale will go toward the continuing support PTO provides to the teachers and students at our school.   THANKS NEIGHBORS!!!

Tree Trimming

Justin Kellenberger has a new tree trimming & removal business. He has done several yards at Indian Creek.

Kellenberger Tree Service
PH: 309-532-2111
Call Justin anytime for an estimate.

Sightings

I regret that I can't remember who sent me this wonderful photo of a raccoon taking a snooze earlier this fall. Thank you, whoever you are!

This photo has been added to the Wild Animals of Indian Creek web page. I would be happy to acknowledge the photographer if you send me your name!

Siesta Time

Jim Russell has taken some wonderful photos of fungi that he has found in or near the Indian Creek Nature area, including interesting one that is found mostly in grassy areas or long trails in the woods in late summer through early fall. See the Indian Creek web site for more

Shaggy Mane Fungus

Flushing

A resident asked: "Could we maybe have a reminder of the scheduled day of the month for hydrant flushing. I know I can no longer remember which day it is."

Answer: Suspended sediment or particulate matter is material that naturally exists in the Indian Creek well water. It concentrates and settles at low points in the system. We usually flush the system on the **3rd Thursday of each month** to correct this problem. If the 3rd Thursday is missed, then the system is flushed on the 4th Thursday.

Sediment is stirred up by an increase in the velocity of the water through system. This can happen due to flushing or peak temporary demands on the system. That is why this seems to be an intermittent problem.

The best action for someone to take to clear increased sediment in their water is to run an outside hose until the water clears up. Keep in mind that if the dirty water has already made it into the house, it may be in the water heater and take a day or two to clear up.

New at the Indian Creek Web Page

http://www.frontiernet.net/~tmogill/icreek/home.htm

New: Fungi of Indian Creek, with many photos by Jim Russel
      Invasive plants of Indian Creek, with eradication treatments provided by Sue Arnold.

Additional: Photos on the **Pets** and **Wild Animals** web pages.

The web site also has information and photos about subdivision covenants, phone numbers, the nature area, native trees, wild flowers, birds, and animals, links to area web sites of interest, and much more!

If you have trouble remembering the web site name, you can always find it by searching for 'Indian Creek Mogill' in Google. It should be the first thing that pops up in the list.

If you have information or photos for either the web site or for the newsletter, email me, Helen Mogill, at **hmogill@frontiernet.net** or call me at 728-2048. If you would like to be notified of upcoming newsletters or other subdivision events, send me your email address.

Indian Creek (by street numbers)