

The header image features a close-up of an American flag's stars and stripes on the left, transitioning into a vibrant display of colorful fireworks exploding against a dark night sky on the right.

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

July 2014

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

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."

Towanda HCE Spaghetti Supper July 3

The Towanda HCE will be holding their 21st annual SPAGHETTI SUPPER on Thursday, July 3 at the Towanda Community Building. Serving times are 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets are available from Cindy Kelley, 663-4796 or Pat Pulokas, 309-728-2118. Prices are 8 yrs & older-\$6; 2-7 yrs-\$4; under 2 yrs are FREE. Spaghetti, bread and salad are by Avanti's and there are homemade desserts and drinks. Walk ins are welcome and carry out is available. Come enjoy the food and preview the Towanda Flea Market.

Indian Creek Subdivision Tractor

Recently, the subdivision tractor was experiencing problems with the ability to continue to run after starting. After some frustrating analysis, we traced it back to the engine not getting sufficient fuel. We finally drained all of the fuel and removed the fuel shut-off valve. What we found was a stick in the bottom of the tank and some traces of bark lodged in the fuel valve. Now either some kids were playing or perhaps more likely someone was using a farmers trick and used a stick to determine the fuel level. We think the fuel gauge is working now; however, the fuel tank should always be full. If you find the need to check the fuel level, please use a flashlight or something more substantial than a stick. A broom stick would be an ideal gauge. Remember once done using the tractor, please fill it up.

Also, volunteers (age 18 or above) are needed to mow the trails and wooded area with the subdivision tractor. If you are unfamiliar with running a small diesel tractor, please call Bob Hancock @ 309-728-2990 for instructions.

Nature's Debris

If you have tree limbs, bushes, compost, etc., recycle these items with other debris deep into the woods. Please do not deposit these items in the baseball/soccer field area.



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 at: [Visit Marilyn's site](#)

American Legion

The Legion is going to take the month of July off. There will not be a breakfast or a dinner. There will be a regular meeting on Thursday July 17th.

Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales

The Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales are planned for Thu-Sat, September 4-6, 2014. Information will be due to Gail Ann Briggs by Wed. August 27.



46th ANNUAL

Towanda 4th of JULY CELEBRATION – 2014

Towanda, Illinois 61776

Website: <http://towandajuly4.com>

(Exit 171 - on I-55; 7 miles North-East of Bloomington)

Thursday, July 3, 2014

4:30 – 7:00 pm Spaghetti Dinner Community Building
8:00 – 11:00 pm Community Dance South Park
Music by "Sweetwater"
Food Concession by Fire Dep't

Friday, July 4, 2014

All Day Flea Market North & South Parks
All Day Food Concessions Community Bldg
And Parks
8:45-9:30 am Parade Lineup School
10:00 am Parade 'Steps Off'

Saturday, July 5, 2014

6:00 pm Games (free) School Grounds
Dusk Fireworks

Thursday, July 3

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Serving spaghetti, salad, and bread prepared by Avanti's with homemade dessert and beverage at the Community Building ~ 4:30 – 7:00 pm. Carry Outs are available.

Tickets are \$6/adult; \$4/child 9 & younger (both advance & at the door); available from members - or call

Pat Pulokas ~ 728-2118, Cindy Kelley ~ 663-4796

COMMUNITY DANCE

The dance is from 8:00 – 11:00 pm with music provided by "Sweetwater" and is FREE ~ donations accepted. Fire Dep't will sell hot dogs, walking tacos, chips & drinks. Bring lawn chairs.

Friday, July 4

FLEA MARKET

The Flea Market will be held all day in North and South Parks. Furniture, primitives, bottles, coins, art glass, china, pressed and cut glass, jewelry, brass and copper, handcrafted items, books, clocks, antiques, collectibles; many booths will have LOTS of items for sale.

Free admission; dealer space reserved @ \$40/space.

Linda Potts ~ 728-2384

4th of JULY PARADE ~ 2014

"Towanda Honors Our Families"

8:45 am Registration and line up at Towanda School
9:45 am Grand Marshal Award for the float that best represents the parade theme.
10:00 am Parade 'steps off' from the school

Parade Route: Adams & East St go West; Jefferson turn North; Washington go East; Madison turn South; Monroe go East; at Taylor go South; exit at Hely & school grounds.

Participants: Grand Marshal Mardell McLeese; Tin Lizzies; Community Band; Calliope; elected dignitaries and candidates; floats; Towanda's volunteer firemen; antique cars, tractors, other vehicles, bicyclers & walkers.

Local flag bearers will be able to carry the U.S. flags in the parade! Plan to be a part of this spectacular and breathtaking unit!

Older youth and adults are urged to **call to sign up** (the route is hilly and about 1 mile long) ~ only 50 flags are available for carrying in the parade.

Speed Check-in and FLAGS for those who are pre-registered. No fee to participate; but **donations** are appreciated.
Gail Ann Briggs ~ 728-2187

FOOD CONCESSIONS

Towanda Scouts ~ pork chop and BBQ sandwiches, hot dogs, chips, desserts, and drinks, at the Community Bldg.
Other items ~ will be available from vendors in both parks: fried vegetables, ribbon potatoes, tenderloins, corn dogs, elephant ears, shake-ups, Kettle Corn, & more!

Saturday, July 5

"OLDE TYME" GAMES

FREE games especially for children, will be supervised by Towanda's Volunteer Firemen, beginning about 6:00 pm at the school grounds.

FIREWORKS ~ at Dusk !!

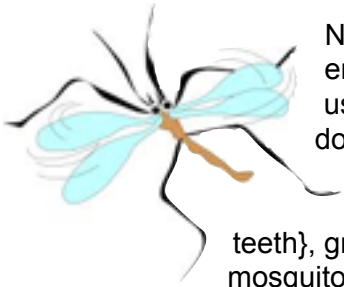
The fireworks will be set off from the Towanda Township Building about .8 miles East of Towanda on 1900 North Road. The display will be clearly visible from town.

Plan NOW to join us in Towanda for the Annual 4th of July Celebration ~ July 3, 4, and 5, 2014



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener



Now that we don't have the cold and ice to deal with when we go outside to enjoy the fresh air and tidy up the lawn, the mosquitoes are out to feed on us. DEET has been around for some time to use as a repellent, however it does have some restrictions.. A few years ago some new, less restricted products came on the market. One contains Picaridin, which repels mosquitoes, chiggers, no-see-ums {those little black insects with sharp teeth}, gnats and fleas. Another one in a tube is Lemon Eucalyptus that repels mosquitoes and deer ticks. Herbal Armor is a natural insect repellent containing a mixture of oils. As always read and follow the directions on the container. I have used all three and they worked. You need to deadhead your flowers to encourage additional blooming, reduce reseeding and to reduce disease. Later in the summer you can let some go to seed to feed the birds.

Watch the roses for black spot fungal disease. Remove and destroy any infected leaves. You can use fungicide spray if needed.

Remove any stagnant water to avoid a place for mosquitoes to lay eggs and hatch. Check the flower pot trays, gutters, birdbath, etc. Check your flowers in baskets and pots. They may need watering daily.. If the humidity is low and it is windy, they could need to be checked more than once a day.



We have been hearing a lot about the loss of the honey bees and other pollinators. About 75% of all the fruits, nuts, and vegetables that we eat in this country need to be pollinated by bees. Hummingbirds, butterflies, and moths also help pollinate, but there are some plants that only honey bees can pollinate. The honey bee goes from one plant to another, gathering pollen to take back to the hive to make the good-tasting honey. It is busy working, if you come up on one, slowly back away and it won't bother you.

Another popular bee is the black and yellow striped bumblebee. It usually is not aggressive, but they may be attracted to bright colored clothing. They perform buzz pollination by quickly and repeatedly vibrate their muscles while in the flower, shaking more pollen free. Again slowly back away and do not swat at them. That makes them mad and they will sting you.

Since all types of bees are sensitive to chemicals, it is important that we give them sources of pesticide-free water and mud. They all need water to drink and some types use mud to make their home.

Try to use plants that do not require regular spraying or dusting. Try not to use anything stronger than insecticidal soap to control pests. If you must use chemicals, apply them before dawn or after sunset when the bees are not active, and keep the spray off of the flowers.

Also try to have flowers available all season. The crocus and dandelions start early, so they can get food when the temperature starts to climb. The native bees are busy making our garden more productive, so we can help them by giving them a healthy environment and share our garden with them.



If your mums, asters, phlox, bee-balm and sedum usually gets tall and falls over when they bloom, now is the time to cut them back and shape them. Do so before July 4. It will look like you are removing the flower buds, but the plant will send up new stems and the plant will be prettier when it blooms in the fall and not fall over.

You can trim the pine candles [new growth] to reduce the size of your trees or shrubs.

Now is the time to watch for bag worms, on junipers, arborvitae and spruce. The sparrows like to eat them. They need to be sprayed with Bt while they are out of the bag feeding. They are much easier to kill while they are small.

It is time to stop harvesting the asparagus. Let the new stalks develop and absorb nutrients from the sun to produce next years crop. You can also fertilize it now or cover with organic mulch.

After the non-everbearing strawberries have stopped producing, mow above the crowns, fertilize and water them.

Healthy turf grass can out-compete with weeds. Remove as many of the weeds as you can by pulling them. If you must use chemicals, apply it only to the weeds. Chemical herbicides can disrupt the balance of soil microbes and are not necessary to have a healthy lawn.

Creeping Charlie is growing fast with the rains. You can pull the long runners now. That will prevent them from sending new shoots into the soil to spread the plant.



Japanese beetles usually start to emerge around the end of June. Insect development and activity depends on the degree days. Because of the cooler spring they could be late this year. Phil Nixon, University of Illinois, says research has shown that Japanese beetle grubs do not migrate deeper than 11 inches into the soil for the winter. Last winter in central Illinois, the ground froze down 15 inches. Also they die if the soil temperature reaches 15 degrees F or if they are subjected to freezing temperatures for more than 2 months. This last winter was not kind to the Japanese beetle larvae.

For 4 - 6 weeks, the beetles will feed on plants and mate. A single female can lay 40 - 60 eggs.. She prefers to lay eggs in soft, moist soil. It is suggested that you do not water the lawn during that time. They need about 11 inches of water for the eggs to hatch. In about 2 weeks, they will hatch and the young grubs will feed on grass roots.

The beetles feed on the leaf tissue and leave the veins alone. That is why you see the lacy, skeletonized look. The leaves will turn brown and fall off. It does not kill the trees or plants. The beetles move to another location every 3 days, so trying to control the grubs does not reduce the number of beetles.

Start watching for them and the morning or evening is the best time to catch them. Hold a small container of soapy water under them. Touch it's back and it will fold its legs and fall into the water and drown.

Putting a trap out could attract more beetles, because they put out an odor as they eat, telling the other beetles there is food. They might also stop and eat along the way to the trap.

Do not use a systemic on the trees or plants, because that could kill the pollinators.



The peonies have finished their bloom time, so now is the time to spruce them up. Take hold of the spent flower head and cut about 6 - 8 inches off. Place the part cut off in the compost pile. That will improve the look of the plant. Do not cut the leaf stems off until September, they are storing energy now for next years flowers. You should also cut the old flower stems from the tree peonies. That way the tree peony can save it's energy for next years flowers and the shrub will be more attractive. Also cut the

old flower stem from the iris.

If you plan to fertilize your roses, shrubs, or trees, do so before July 15. When you fertilize a plant, it usually sends up some new shoots. Those new shoots need time to grow and harden off before winter.

Continue harvesting your vegetables so they will continue producing. Your cucumbers and zucchini will have better flavor if picked when about 6 - 7 inches long.

Continue dead heading repeat blooming annuals and perennials regularly to keep them looking their best.

Remember to water deeply and only as needed. You want the roots to grow deep so they can be more drought resistant.

You might need to top up your water garden if the level drops because of evaporation.

Towanda Busy Bees 4-H

June has been a busy month for the Towanda Busy Bees 4H club. The club toured the Ropp Jersey farm North of Normal on June 3rd. The members enjoyed seeing and petting the young calves and even got to see milking in progress. Following a tour of the farm, fresh ice cream was enjoyed by all.

The Towanda Busy Bees 4H club and the Towanda HCE held an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, June 24th. They would like all of the donors who came and made this drive a success! Over 38 donors signed up to donate blood!

In July the Towanda Busy Bees will be holding a regular meeting at the Towanda Community Building on July 15th at 6:30 pm. It will be project night. Members will be bringing completed projects for the 4H fair to share and also have time to ask for help with any projects they have questions about. New members and visitors are always welcome at the meetings for more information contact: Martha Rients (309) 728-2178

Towanda 4-H

Our next monthly meeting is set for Tuesday, July 22nd at 6:30 pm. Our meeting will be our Achievement Night, where the members can display their projects that are being shown at the McLean County Fair. We will also have talks and demonstrations for any member that still needs to complete their requirement for the year.

Refreshments served by Towanda 4-H.

Classified

For Sale:

Sofa, 84" from non smoking home. Excellent condition. Hunter Green, Burgundy, Tan and Cream plaid with two matching pillows. \$200. This is a Smith Brothers sofa made in Berne, IN. Contact Judy Schulthes, 728-2927



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Pet accessories: carpeted cat tower \$50, pet carrier \$20, pet bed \$5, litter box and 2 bags of liners \$5

Contact Jim Russell / 830-0375 / jmr1234@frontier.com

Business:

The Pampered Chef:

Need any Pampered Chef products or want a catalog, call Annette Hancock at home 728-2990 or mobile 309-242-1802. The July Host Special is 60% off any one item in the catalog. How about a Girl's Night Out Dessert Party!

SHOP ONLINE ANYTIME at my website! <http://new.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock> or email me at oldcars@frontiernet.net.



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

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

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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!

Library News



Paws to Read – Youth Summer Reading Program

July 7 @ 5:00 & July 9 @ 10:30: Earth's Best Friend: The Ecology Action Center presentation - Fighting the Garbage Monster. Make pet toys out of items you find around your house!

July 14 @ 5:00 & July 16 @ 10:30: Wolves Howling at the Moon: Aaaaahh Ooooooh! Local artist, Aaron Yount, talks about his wolf art and about wolves' lives in the wild.

July 21 @ 5:00 & July 23 @ 10:30: Paws to Read Pizza Party: Eat a little pizza while you prove what you learned about taking care of pets and books in a jeopardy game! Learn how to make shadow puppets. Play *Animal Cracker Charades*. Win Prizes!

Youth Weekly Reading Logs Qualify You for Prizes at the end of the program.

Read to Dogs - Tuesday Evenings @ 5:00 to 6:30: Call library to pre-register

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Paws to Read – Adult Summer Reading Program

Ecology Action Center: Monday, July 7 @ 5:30pm & Wednesday, July 9 @ 11:00am: Learn more about living green and the environment!

Aaron Yount: Monday, July 14 @ 5:30pm & Wednesday, July 16 @ 11:00am: Local artist speaks about his art and his time in a wolf habitat. Displays of his art/photos.

Pet Open Mike Night: Tuesday, July 22 @ 5:00pm: Share your favorite pet stories with your neighbors!

Adults read to earn tickets for chance @ Grand Prizes of KINDLE Fire or Tastefully Simple Samplers

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TOWANDA READS Book Discussion on Tuesday, July 8 @ 5:00 pm: We invite all interested adults to join the discussion of *One Summer* by Bill Bryson on Tuesday, July 8th at 5 pm at the library. "Bryson's thesis is simple - America in the summer of 1927 may not have realized it, but it was taking its first steps as a world leader - in aviation, in economics, in the arts, in sports, and in technology."