

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

August 2017

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Summer Watering

During these summer months for any long term watering, please try to adhere to watering on odd/even days based on your street number. Best to water only in the early morning or late evening. Leaving a hose on all day is a waste of water and puts excess strain on the well pump. Thank you!

Local Events

1) McLean County Fair - **August 2-6**

See <http://www.mcleancountyfair.org> for information about ticket prices, special events and everything else you want to know

2) **First Full Day of School for Unit 5 - Wednesday, August 16**

Check out www.unit5.org for information about Registration location, dates and times.

School hours are unchanged from last year. Elementary 7:45-2:30; High schools: 8:30-3:30; Junior high 8:45-3:45.

3) **Solar Eclipse - Monday, August 21**

4) **Annual Towanda Area FALL Garage Sales – Thu-Sat, September 7-9.**

If you'd like to be included on a list of area sales and share in the cost of advertising, please be prompt in providing by **Wed. August 30** the following:

- a) Sale location (cross streets is helpful)
- b) Contact information (phone & email)
- c) Days and times of your sale (it is not necessary to have your sale each day)
- d) 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)
- e) \$7 fee (for Pantagraph ad), checks payable to Gail Ann Briggs.

Please:

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



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake

The hot, sunny days of July encourages us to sit back and enjoy all of our hard work we have put into our gardens. The grass has slowed down growing, even the weeds aren't growing as fast. It is easier to pull the weeds while they are small and don't have a lot of roots yet. You could also water them to make the soil softer to release the roots.

Fertilize your trees, shrubs, and roses by July 15, and don't fertilize again this year, so the new growth will have time to harden off before winter. Also it is time to stop pinching back sedum, mums, and asters so they can develop their blooms.

Be sure to water newly planted trees, shrubs, and perennials weekly, if needed. That will encourage the roots to grow deeper and not dry out so fast. Check whether the soil needs water by probing with your fingers to a depth of 2-3 inches.

Dead head repeat blooming annuals and perennials regularly to keep them looking their best. You can also cut some for indoor use.

Top the water gardens regularly if the levels drop because of evaporation.

Harvest your vegetables and herbs frequently. Picking them encourages the plants to produce more and it decreases insects and disease. Cucumbers and squash have better flavor if picked when 6-8 inches long. If you can't use all of them, share with neighbors or food pantries.

By now, some of the plants in the containers, have gotten long and lanky, especially some petunias. You can cut them back to about 6 inches. They will soon set out new shoots and make the plant more bushy. Remember to fertilize your containers regularly.

You can sow cold season vegetables until the first week in August for a fall garden. You could water the seeds in the evening to keep the soil moist longer so they will germinate faster.

Often the bottom of the first picked tomatoes and peppers has a brown tough skin. That is called blossom-end rot and happens when the soil moisture is uneven. If you place a 2-3 inch layer of mulch around the root area, that will help stop the soil from drying out so fast.

Late July, you can divide and transplant irises. Check to see if any of the rhizome is soft or mushy, if so, cut it off and destroy it. When planting iris, don't plant them too deep or they might not bloom. Let the top of the rhizome remain uncovered.

You can start harvesting your herbs now for drying. Tie several stems together and hang them up side down.

The Japanese beetles are just about all gone, thank goodness. Because last winter was mild and didn't freeze the ground very deep, it didn't kill the larvae. They really like my white peaches, they ate the whole peach, just left the seed. Because of the edible fruit, I couldn't spray the tree or use a systemic. They say that if you plant some garlic among the roses, the Japanese beetles won't bother them.

It is about time for the pretty yellow goldenrod to start to bloom. They produce pollen that is too heavy for the wind to carry, so those aren't guilty of making you sneeze. The blue flowers of the ragweed bloom about the same time. It produces lightweight pollen that the wind *can* carry for miles in all directions. If you can't remove the whole ragweed plant, at least destroy the flower. They can make you sneeze.

Goldenrods provide food and shelter for a lot of butterfly and moth species. Native bees also feed on the plants. Monarch butterflies depend on the goldenrod for nectar to fuel their long migration. Even in the winter, the song birds feed on the seed heads.

To stop the weeds and grass from growing in the cracks of the sidewalk, clip them back and pour boiling water on them. You can also do that on weeds by the dog pen.

Towanda HCE

We wish to thank the Towanda area citizens for showing great support by coming out to the July 3rd Towanda HCE Spaghetti Supper. We served over 300 people. Money earned from this spaghetti supper will go to fund projects of the Towanda area community, McLean County, our McLean County HCE organization projects and even projects that benefit areas around the world. We thank the businesses that helped to defray some expenses: Towanda Evergreen FS, Country Financial, and Towanda Faststop.

Our 99th Annual Meeting on July 11 was well attended by 11 Towanda HCE members and 76 other McLean County HCE members and guests. This kicks off our 100th year. We will be telling you more about the history of Towanda Home Bureau, Home Extension and now called Towanda Home and Community Education. Be watching for history tidbits in upcoming months.

We will next meet Monday, September 11, 7 pm at the Towanda Community Building. More details will be in the September newsletter.



Towanda Busy Bees 4-H

The Towanda Busy Bees 4-H Club is busy getting ready for the McLean County Fair. The McLean County Fair will take place August 2 - 6, 2017. Members will be taking projects in many different areas including: Sewing, Cooking, Cake decorating, Welding, Wood working, Legos, Ceramics, Sheep, Cats, Rabbits and Photography. For more information about 4-H contact Martha Rients 309-728-2178

Towanda 4-H

Towanda 4-H met at the Towanda Community building on July 26 which was Achievement Night. They showed the projects that they intend to take to the 4-H fair. For more information about Towanda 4-H, contact Malisa Kraft at 309-825-1235.

Library News

Library Closing: The library will be closed August 4th and 5th for a thorough cleaning. Books due those days will be given a grace period.

Towanda Reads Adult Book Discussions: "Lilac Girls" by Martha Hall Kelly is the book that will be discussed on August 9th at 5:00 pm. Please note date change for this month only. The group will also select next year's titles at this session.

Solar Eclipse Program: NASA Ambassador, Lee Green of Twin City Amateur Astronomers presents a program - the facts you want to know about the eclipse and how to safely view it. Program is intended for adults and upper-elementary students. Join us at 5:00 pm on Monday, August 14th...just one week prior to the eclipse.

Solar Eclipse Glasses: For sale at the library for \$1.50. Limit 1 per person until after August 14th program.

Adult Summer Reading: Stop in to pick up your reading log which qualifies you for weekly prizes, as well as more prizes on display at the library. This program ends on August 15th.

Towanda Elementary Open House: Our librarians will be there on August 15th with library schedules for the school year.

Library Board Meeting: The board next meets at the library on August 17th. The Budget Hearing is scheduled for 7:00 pm.

Crochet Group: every Tuesday @ 5:00 to 6:30.

Summer Reading Programs: Congratulations to the winners/creators in the MAKER FAIR. Special thanks to FS Fast Stop for donating pizza for the MAKER FAIR Party.

Thanks to these Summer Reading Sponsors: Towanda Ladies Night Out, FS Fast Stop; Cornbelters Baseball Team; Ed Anderson Trucking; Country Financial Agent, Steve Edgecomb; Rader Family Farms; Towanda Parent Organization; Barnes and Noble; Great Harvest Bread Company; KIRK Disposal (Henson Disposal); AVANTI's; HY-VEE; Wal-Mart; Towanda LIONS; Towanda HCE; Bloomington Thunder Hockey, and FRIENDS of Towanda Library.

See all library news at: www.towandalibrary.org and on the library Facebook page

LEGO Club begins on August 21 @ 2:30. Parents must have a registration form on file by August 18 at the library for your child in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade to join. The club meets on the 3rd Monday of the month during this school year.

4th & 5th Grade Book Club begins on August 30 @ 2:30. Parents must have a registration form on file at the library by August 18 for your child to participate. Book Club meets on "Late Start" Wednesdays during the school year.

Towanda American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will not have a breakfast in August.

There will be a ribeye steak dinner on Friday August 18th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include rib eye steak, baked potato, salad, roll, drink and dessert for \$12.

Legion, Sons of the Legion and the Legion Auxiliary will have their regular meeting on Thursday August 17th at 7:00 at the Post. The Legion is available to rent for reunions, parties and meetings. For more information contact Mike Potts at 728-2384 or Tom Wagner at 287-7861.

Classified

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
7 Bent Tree Lane
Call Home - 728-2990
Text or call- 242-1802
Email - oldcars@frontiernet.net
Website - www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock
Pinterest - 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).

Are you looking for someone to watch your pets when you are gone or walk them while you are at work? If so, call Sami Hartman (30 Candle Ridge Road). I am responsible and LOVE pets. I have experience and references. My number is 728-2093.

"Looking for someone to mow your lawn or help with tasks around your house? Need help taking care of your pet while you are away or while you are at work? Call Avery Hartman, 728-2093. I have experience and references.

Need help taking care of your pet while you are away? Call Bailee Harmon at (309) 530-5360. I volunteer at the Humane Society and have experience pet sitting. I love animals and would love to help take care of your pets!"

For Sale:

Generator: Briggs & Stratton 11 HP ELITE Series. Electric Start. 8750 Starting Watts. 6200 Running Watts. \$275. Contact Michael Bielfeldt, 4 Pepper Wood Ct. 309.824.6867 call or text.