



INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

January 2018

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Annual Meeting
Monday March 5 at 7 pm
Towanda Community Center

New Indian Creek Board Member Needed

With 10 years on the Indian Creek board, Bob Hancock will be stepping down as Water Chairman until a replacement can be found. Bob just felt it was time for someone else to take on the duties of Water Chairman. Also, you do not need to be a retired person to hold this position. Some duties of Water Chairman are not limited to, but include the following:

- 1) Become familiar with aspects of the Indian Creek water system. You do not need to be an expert.
- 2) Work with Certified Water Operator and be proactive on maintenance to ensure a continuous water supply is available to the Indian Creek Subdivision.
- 3) Complete Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) forms on a timely basis. Some forms require a check from the treasurer.
- 4) Receive copies of JULIE dig requests for Indian Creek Subdivision.
- 5) Be available to answer questions from the homeowners of Indian Creek, potential buyers and realtors.
- 6) Be available for board or annual meetings.
- 7) In case of water outage, communicate often by email, text, phone, and signage at each of the entrances. Essentially, try to keep people informed.

If you are interested in this position, please contact one of the board members.

Towanda Scouts 62nd Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

The Towanda Scouts 62nd Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be Saturday February 10th at Towanda Grade School. They will be serving all of the pancakes and sausage you can eat from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm. Come hungry!

If you are interested in placing an advance meat order the deadline is February 1st. Attached is an order form. You can either email your order, drop it off at Read's Sporting goods or call 309-728-2384. Thank you for your support.



2018 Advance Meat Order Towanda Scouting Organization

~Pick Up Meat Orders~
Friday, February 9th, 3-6 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building or,
Saturday, February 10th, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Towanda Grade School.

PLEASE BRING YELLOW COPY WHEN PICKING UP YOUR ORDER!
Questions? Call Mike & Linda Potts 728-2384

Country Store will have a limited supply of additional meat, etc.,
beginning at 8:00 a.m. Saturday on a first come, first serve basis.

Place Your Order Today ~ The Deadline is JANUARY 29, 2018

WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE	Pounds	Price	Total
BULK SAUSAGE (2# increments) Packaged ONLY in 2# packages.		\$3.50/lb.	\$
LINK SAUSAGE Packaged in 5# packages.		\$3.50/lb.	
BACK RIBS Packaged in 5# packages.		\$3.50/lb.	
COUNTRY STYLE BACON Packaged in 1# packages.		\$5.00/lb.	
ITALIAN SAUSAGE			
ITALIAN BULK (2# increments) Packaged ONLY in 2# packages.		\$3.50/lb.	
ITALIAN LINK Packaged in 5# packages.		\$3.50/lb.	
CHICKEN BREASTS			
BONELESS/SKINLESS Packaged in 5# packages.		\$4.00/lb.	
		TOTAL	\$

ORDER TAKEN BY: _____ DATE _____

PHONE: _____ Paid Not Paid

NAME: _____



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake

It has been awhile since we have had what some call, an old fashioned winter. Just some reminders. If you have a limb that has been damaged by heavy snow, wind, or ice, it should be cut off to protect the bark from tearing. When tree branches are covered with heavy snow, gently lift the branch up to knock the snow off. If you try to shake it off, the pressure could break the branch. If the branches are covered with ice, it is best to let the ice melt naturally.

You could use, sand, wood ashes, bird seed or sawdust to give traction on icy paths. Avoid using salt as it could damage the concrete, grass, or plants. Some of the other ice melt products could be safer.

If blooms on the Amaryllis are drying up, cut them off as low as you can. Set the plant in a bright sunny window to allow the leaves to develop fully. Keep the soil evenly moist, but not soggy. After the danger of frost has past, you can place it outside. Then in the fall, bring it inside and let it rest. Then later you could try to get it to bloom again.

If your plants are real close to the cold window, you could place a piece of cardboard between the plant and window at night, when it is colder. Be sure to protect plants or floral arrangements when taking them from the store to home. Never let them sit in the car while you finish shopping. A few seconds of freezing air can damage or kill them.

The seed catalogs are arriving in the mail and the seed racks are showing up in the stores. It is time to think spring. We still have some cold days ahead of us, which gives us time to get prepared for gardening.

Get out that list you made earlier of places where a plant, (tree, shrub, annual, perennial, or vegetable) needs to be replaced, added, removed or thinned. Next you can go thru the catalogs, write down the plant, catalog and page number of plants that you would like to put in the spots.

When choosing a plant, most important is the right zone number for our area. McLean County is in zone 5 or 5B. The zone number tells you how much cold the plant can survive. If the number is higher than zone 5, like 6-9, it might not survive our cold winters. If it was in a container, you would need to take it inside for the winter and then move it outside after danger of frost has past. It would be OK if the zone number was lower for our cold.

The next thing to check is how tall and wide the tree or shrub will be when full grown. They are kind of like puppies, they do grow up, and sometimes larger than you expected. When planting a tree or shrub, you want it at least 1/2 the width of a mature tree and as far from a building or another tree or shrub, so it can't brush against the building. Another thing to watch for is if it needs sun or shade.

These warm, sunny days make us want to get out in the yard and do something. I think most of us are ready to get outside and get some fresh air. Now is a good time to pick up the trash that has blown in.

It is time to prune the grapes. They produce on new wood, so you can cut them back a lot. It's also time to prune fruit trees. Cut out any broken branches and any that are crossing another branch. You can get a better look at the branches without the leaves. Also cut off any water sprouts, those are branches that are near the trunk that grow straight up.

It is too early to remove any mulch, we still have another month of winter.

When cleaning up the yard, don't be too neat. Leave something for the birds. They will need some small sticks and grass for their nest. Some birds also use leaves to line their nest, and some also use the dandelion seeds for their lining.

Leave the leaves that have blown up around the shrubs. They are protecting the roots, plus some insects have laid eggs on them. When the eggs hatch, they will be food for the birds. Birds eat the seed we put out, but they also need the insects and larvae for protein.

If your lawn mower or tiller needs some repair, call before the shop gets too busy to do it. Also don't forget to sharpen the mower blades.

Check to see if the frost has caused heaving of some perennials. Freezing and thawing can push some plants up, such as strawberries and coral bells. Push the plant back into the soil and provide extra mulch to prevent it from happening again.

Library News

Preschool Story Hour every Wednesday @ 10:30: Enjoy stories, crafts, and pre-literacy activities such as finger plays, singing, educational games, and acting-out stories. Younger siblings welcome in play areas or on a lap!

Bulldog Book Club on February 14 @ 2:30: Each "Late Start" Wednesday of the school year youth in 4th & 5th grade discuss the Caudill nominated books. Sessions are now led by Karen Bersche. Registration is now closed and there is a waiting list.

LEGO Builders Club on February 26* @ 2:30: Third Monday of each month during the school year - youth in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade take on literacy-based LEGO challenges taught by April Fisher. Pre-register today at the library! **Note date change this month due to school holiday.*

Tuesday Tunes on February 27 @ 2:30: This group meets at 2:30 on the 4th Tuesday of each month during the school year. Kindergarten, First, and Second graders sing, dance, play musical instruments, and enjoy other toe-tapping activities taught by Developing Melodies. Pre-register today at library!

Crochet/Knit/Fibers Group: Every Tuesday @ 5:00 to 6:30. New members are always welcome. Questions are cheerfully answered.

Towanda Reads Adult Book Discussions: Join the book discussion whenever a title interests you. Newcomers are always welcome! The group meets the second Tuesday of even-numbered months. Future selections are on the library website. February 13 the group discusses "Originals" by Adam Grant and/or books about HYGGE.

Appy Hours @ the Library each Tuesday from 5:00 to 6:00: Bring your e-readers or other electronic devices and your questions to “Appy Hour”. Enjoy a one-on-one session to learn about the library’s online resources – such as Worldbook Encyclopedia Online and/or Tumblebooks animated books for young children. Learn how to borrow free e-books from our library. You may even request a short demonstration of how to use the library’s online catalog, RSACat, to order materials from our library and the 200 surrounding libraries.

Weather-Related Closings: This library typically closes on days that McLean Unit #5 schools declare a snow day closing. There may be exceptions when roads are cleared by 1:00. Check the library’s Facebook page and website for closing posts.

Thank You to: The Michael Collins Foundation for your support of our library.

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



The Ecology Action Center and Illinois Wesleyan University Wellness Program
Invite Exhibitors to Participate in the

2018 Illinois Sustainable Living and Wellness Expo

Central Illinois’ premier green event, the Illinois Sustainable Living and Wellness Expo (ISLWE) will return on to the Illinois Wesleyan Shirk Center on Saturday, April 7, 2018. Sponsored by the Illinois Wesleyan University Wellness Program and the Ecology Action Center, the Expo is free and open to the public and features healthy and sustainable living information and interactive displays from nearly one hundred exhibitors.

Early-bird exhibitor registration is now open!

If your business or organization works to support, promote and advance sustainable and healthy living in our communities, you should be an exhibitor. We welcome back previous exhibitors and encourage new participants to join us this year.

For more information, contact the Ecology Action Center at (309) 454-3169 x.15 or visit islwe.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.

Towanda Busy Bees

The Towanda Busy Bees 4-H club meeting was held on Tuesday, January 16th. The program was a nature craft where the members used their imaginations to create a variety of creatures from pine cones, cloves, cinnamon sticks, cotton, bay leaves, peppercorns. Creatures created included owls, cats, a peacock, a fairy, a fish and a squirrel. The club will hold its next regular meeting February 20th, 6:30 pm at the Towanda Community Building. The program for February is Tie puppets.

Towanda 4-H is open to all youth ages 8-18. A Cloverbud club is also available for 5-7 year olds. For more information about 4-H contact Martha Rients at 309-728-2178.



Home & Community Education

Towanda HCE will meet Monday, February 12, 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The program, **Fish Facts** will be presented by Valerie Dotson. Hostesses are Jeanie Wager and Connie Carstens. For more information, call Robin Pearson, 815-579-1650. Many of our members are planning on going to the Membership/Friendship Tea on Sat, Feb 17, 2-4 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, guests are welcome. Tickets are HCE member \$5, Non HCE member, \$3. Program will be "Victorian Valentine Traditions" by the Tea Ladies. RSVP for ticket to Cindy Kelley, 309-663-4796 by Feb 3.

Other February county HCE activities include: Mon, Feb 12, 1-4 p.m., "**Whatchamacalit**" **Bag Workshop**-Extension Office, bring sewing machine, zipper foot if you can, rsvp/fees/whole supply list- Lynda, 309-532-1961; Mon, Feb 19, 9-3 **Community service Day**: Hats, scarves, mittens & eye glass cases or project of your choice, come and go as needed, bring sack lunch or go out to eat, 826-9559; also on Feb 19, 2-3:30, **Read & Share the book "The Woman in Cabin 10"** by Ruth Ware, Extension Office-LaVonne, 309-661-6391; Tuesday, Feb 27, 1-3 pm-program open to the public will present "**Making Your Dollars Stretch**" at the Farm Bureau Auditorium (2243 Westgate Dr), Blm, free program, more info at 309-728-2784.



Happy Valentines Day !!!

February Calendar

Sat.Feb.10 – Scouting Organization Pancake & Sausage Breakfast – School – 8-2
Wed.Feb.14 – Valentine’s Day
Wed.Feb.14 – Unit 5 - 1-Hr late start
Mon.Feb.19 – Presidents Day - Unit 5 - no school
Tue.Feb.20 – Unit 5 - Institute - no school
Mon.Feb.26 – 4th of July Planning – Community Building – 6:30 p.m.



Looking ahead.....

Towanda Area Garage Sales will be held in conjunction with the Red Carpet Corridor Festival (May 5-6, 2018). Sales will be advertised for Thursday-Sunday, May 3-6. Details coming in future newsletters.

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:

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.

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.

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).

Need help taking care of your pet while you are away? Call Bailee Harmon at (309) 530-5360. "I love animals and have been volunteering at the Humane Society for almost six months. I would love to help take care of your animals".

Justin Schwamberger, 17 years old, is available for helping with lawn care, snow removal, and help around the home. Call 728-2857.