

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

August 2018

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org> Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com



YOUNG AT HEART DAY

At the McLean County Fair & 4-H Show

Interstate Center - West of Bloomington off Rt. 9

Thursday August 2, 2018

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Senior day at the fair features....

- **Free gate admission until noon** (includes parking) for those age 60 and over!
- **Educational Booths of organizations serving seniors**
 - **Musical Entertainment**
- **Refreshments & Door Prizes throughout the morning**

Young at Heart Day Committee:

Cindy Kelley, Donna LaMar, Kathleen Emery, Judy Mohr
Kathryn McNeely, Becky Toohill, Pat Pulokas, Joann Hart

Young at Heart Day is presented by



McLean County Association for
Home and Community Education

1615 Commerce Parkway, Bloomington, IL 61704

Co-chairmen:
Donna LaMar
309-829-2537
Cindy Kelley
309-824-4797

Towanda HCE

Towanda HCE wishes to thank Towanda residents and friends for coming out to the spaghetti supper on July 3. We also enjoyed walking in the parade on July 4 with our McLean County HCE float. What a crowd there was and very hot. The float was in 3 parades that day. Our 100th Annual Meeting of McLean County HCE held on July 10 is now history. It was a wonderful day with many interesting displays and celebration. We look forward to the 101th year which for Towanda HCE starts on Monday, Sep 10, 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. We'll be giving you more information in August. Save the date!

Report of 100th Annual Meeting of McLean County Association for Home & Community Education 100 Years Of Purple Passion

What a glorious day it was. So many exhibits to view, old time cars to see. Pretty purple passion showed all over the room with the energy of 100 years brought to life when we held our annual meeting, There was an interesting program by Don Meyer with a special reading by Linda Garbe. The 2018-2019 board officers were installed by IAHCCE president Jane Chapman. There were many distinguished guests. A proclamation was read by legislator, Dan Brady. Following a delicious lunch served at the table, there was a Hat Style Show, organized by Donna LaMar with members modeling hats AND a bit of entertainment as well. We have much to be proud of. We encourage you to participate as we enter the 101st year of our organization.

New Website: www.mcleanhce.org Same address, but a work in progress

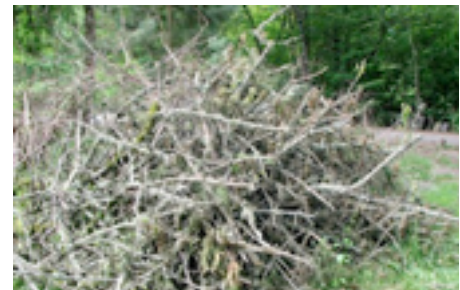
Towanda Fire News for June



"Exciting News! The department has received a grant from the Illinois State Fire Marshal Office in the amount of \$15,388.00 to buy new thermal imaging cameras. The new TICS will replace older models on the trucks to provide accurate temperature readings on the fire ground. We also would like to welcome Joseph Leman, Matt Gillan, Logan Fults, and John Grussing to the department. It is important to get new people on the department who are eager to answer the call when needed. Over the month of June we responded to 4 fire and 11 medical calls putting the year to date total at 70."

Brush Pile

If you have brush you've cut from your yard, be sure to use the Indian Creek brush pile, not resident's personal burn piles. No logs or large branches, please.





The Shines for McLean County Residents and Business Owners with New Solar Bloomington–Normal 2.0 Program

Soon, the electricity that powers Dr. Stephen Pilcher’s Bloomington Primary Care offices will come from the sun. That is because he has just signed a contract to install solar through Solar Bloomington Normal 2.0, a solar group-purchasing program for homeowners, renters, farmers and commercial property owners in McLean County.

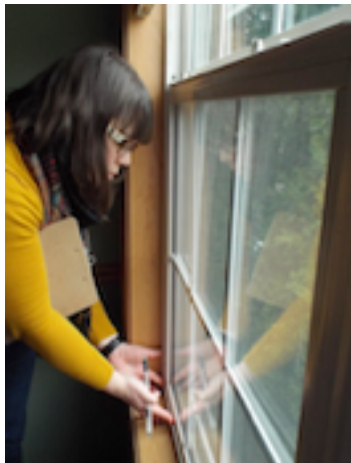
“There has never been a better time to do the right thing and go Solar in Illinois,” said Dr. Pilcher. “With falling solar panel prices, the ability to roll the meter backward (net metering), and heavy federal/state incentives; the economics are in place for Illinois to make the leap and invest in Solar. Plus, it is the right thing to do!”



Thanks in part to Dr. Pilcher’s participation, the Solar Bloomington Normal 2.0 program has achieved its first program benchmark, triggering a deeper discount for everyone who goes solar through the program.

“The program has built-in benchmarks for extra savings at 50, 150, 250, and 350 kilowatts of capacity, and every time we reach one of them the price comes down a little more for everyone,” said Larissa Armstrong, Assistant Director of the Ecology Action Center (EAC). “These additional savings, combined with lower costs and a number of other available incentives, help people decide to go solar now, rather than wait until next year or even later.”

The EAC of Normal, IL, and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) are administering Solar Bloomington-Normal 2.0 for the second time in McLean County. The program helps home, business, and farm owners throughout McLean County lower their electricity bills by making solar more accessible and affordable through the power of volume purchasing.



“The 2016 program was a big success, and we are excited to offer it again. We have expanded the program this year, and are also offering complimentary energy audits through the EAC’s BN Energy Bright Program for all Solar Bloomington-Normal 2.0 participants. It is a great opportunity for our community to learn more about their own energy use, and to make easy investments in energy savings through increased efficiency and solar!”, said Armstrong.

Active community education about the benefits of solar is the core of the group buy program. Navigating the solar market can be intimidating and create barriers for solar adoption. MREA and the EAC provide free information sessions to community members to answer any and all questions about installing solar.

“The first step to participate in the program and ultimately decide whether to go solar is to attend a Solar Power Hour,” said Peter Murphy, Solar Program Manager for the MREA. “The presentation provides the kind of information on solar that could take an individual days or weeks to research otherwise.”

The program’s website, SolarBloomingtonNormal.com, provides a full list of Power Hour dates, time, locations, and includes a sign-up form that area residents can fill out for program updates, Solar Power Hour announcements, or for an estimate. The Solar Bloomington-Normal program enables residents to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve local energy security through the generation of renewable energy while simultaneously conserving energy and reducing long-term energy costs at their homes or businesses.

For more information about the group buy and to sign up for updates, visit solarbloomingtonnormal.com.

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.

The MREA was incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit shortly after the first Energy Fair in 1990. MREA’s mission is to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable living through education and demonstration. To learn more, call 715-592-6595 or visit www.midwestrenew.org.

Annual Towanda Area FALL Garage Sales

Will be held Thu-Sat, September 6-8. 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 29 – 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)...you'll get a reply that I received it, or *Send to 112 Hunt St; Towanda IL 61776; or *Call (728-2187). Anyone with items they particularly want to sell may want to take out an individual ad as well.

Unit 5

First Full Day of School for Unit 5 students will be Thursday, 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.



Calendar

Thu.Aug.16 – Unit 5 Students First Day of School (full day of attendance)
Wed.Aug.29 – Unit 5 1-hour Late Start



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake



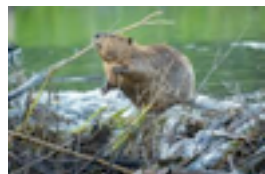
Earlier in the season with the cloudy, rainy days, it was ideal for mildew spores to develop. Now some of the peony leaves are covered with powdery mildew. If you have powdery mildew on your peonies, cut them back to 2-3 inches now. Either burn or put the stems in the garbage. Do not put them in the compost pile. You need to get rid of the mildew spores.

You need to fertilize your containers regularly to keep them blooming and looking nice. You can add 1/4 dose of fertilizer in your water weekly. Also keep the spent flowers removed, so they don't go to seed. If you want to save the seeds for next year, wait until late summer to allow the seeds to form. You can continue fertilizing the roses until August 15. When you fertilize or prune shrubs or perennials, they tend to send up new shoots. You want the new shoots to have time to mature enough to survive the winter. Stop fertilizing trees and shrubs now.

You can harvest the onions and garlic after the tops have dried and fallen over naturally. Spread them out on a screen in the shade for several days to let them dry before putting them into storage. Use the damaged ones first. You can also harvest your herbs for drying. You can remove the old canes on the non-ever bearing raspberries after they have finished producing. Then they can use their energy on developing for next year.

Water newly planted trees and shrubs weekly. The ones transplanted from pots may need to be watered almost daily so they can develop strong feeder roots.

Now is the ideal time to divide or transplant the iris. Remove any of the corm that is soft or dead. Iris don't like real rich soil and don't plant them too deep, they like shallow roots.



We used to see a lot of beaver dams, but they have slowly disappeared. The dams would flood fields in unwanted places. Also their pelts, their processed fur, could be sold for good money. Later, scientists learned that the beavers serve an important place in the ecosystem. Every creature in the ecosystem has its' advantages and disadvantages, but we need all of them to make the system work properly.

Beavers have sharp teeth, webbed feet, and rudder-like tails so they can build dams to turn free-flowing creeks into fertile wetlands to support creatures from salmon to moose. Scientists have learned that beaver-built water features help address environmental problems, such as drought, pollution, biodiversity loss and climate change.

Every year, american farmers and home owners use millions of tons of synthetic fertilizers. When those chemical runoffs reach the sea, they cause low oxygen "dead zone". By trapping runoff near the source, the beaver ponds could prevent such disasters. Research discovered that beavers could help cut pollution.

Wetlands are important; the beaver dams can broaden the streams and raise water tables. In some regions, they support a large percent of species. As the climate warms, instead of snow in the

higher elevations, they get rain, which quickly runs off to the ocean. If they had snow in the mountains, it could slowly melt in the summer and give them water. Some places have relocated beavers to public land, where their ponds can capture rainfall and keep the streams full.

The weight of the beaver ponds forces water into the ground, recharging the aquifers that we deplete at record pace.

It has been estimated that the ponds hold up to 10 times as much water below ground as above. Just like trees absorb carbon from the atmosphere, beavers trap carbon in the form of organic sediment that settles in the bottom of their ponds. Beaver ponds also help furnish a habitat for birds.

IC Neighbor Performs Good Deed

"My cat goes outside in the yard and sometimes outside of the yard and unfortunately he sustained a laceration on his ear. I was putting medicine on it but it wasn't really healing up very well. Before I was able to tend to it properly, somebody in our neighborhood tended to it for me. Someone shaved his ear and really cleaned it up, put medicine on him and it looked really nice! Dennis Marcel, (the cat) and I are very grateful. Dennis is a very, very loving kitty, so I'm sure he's made friends around the neighborhood. I want to say '*Thank You*' to whoever is responsible, and it warms my heart that someone loves my kitty like I do."

Chad and Diana Durbin

Towanda Library

The library will be closed August 9, 10, and 11 for maintenance. Program registration for fall begins on August 20th.

Extended Lawn Watering

Just a reminder that we need to continue with odd/even days for extended lawn watering based on your street address. It is best to water in the early morning or late afternoon/evening hours. Also, only water for 3-4 hours at a time. Running a sprinkler all day or night is not good for your lawn, generally wastes water through evaporation, and puts extra run time on the well pump.

If you have questions about these restrictions, please contact Bob Hancock, Water Chairman at 309-728-2990 or email, oldcars@frontiernet.net.

Classified

Businesses:

**John Hermann**

Financial Professional Associate
Greater Illinois Financial Group

Prudential Advisors

1907 Jumer Drive, Suite D, Bloomington, IL 61704
Tel 309 808-5212 Fax 309 808-5230 Cell 309 287-5972
john.hermann@prudential.com

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).

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.