

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

September 2018

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

Contact us by email at [indiancreeknews@hotmail.com](mailto:indiancreeknews@hotmail.com)

## 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.

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

## Annual Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales

**REMINDER** - Area Fall Garage Sales - will be held **Thursday-Saturday, 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 **Wednesday, August 29** – the following: **a)** Sale location (cross streets are 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), and **e)** \$7 fee (for Pantagraph ad), checks payable to Gail Ann Briggs.

## Calendar

Thu-Sat, Sep. 6-8 ~ Garage sales

Unit 5 Schools ~ (Thu.Aug.16 – students started school)

Wed.Aug.29 – 1-hr Late Start

Mon.Sep.3 ~ Labor Day – No school

Wed.Sep.12 – 1-hr Late Start

Tue.Sep.19 – \*1st day to circulate nominating petitions for the Unit 5 Board of Education

Fri.Sep.21 – NCWHS Homecoming

Sat.Sep.22 – Blood Drive at Towanda Fire Dept.

Wed.Sep.26 – 1-hr Late Start

Looking ahead: Fri.Oct.5 –

NCHS Homecoming

\*Unit 5 voters will elect six (6)

to the Board of Education on

Tue.Apr.2, 2019.



## Towanda Fire News for September



We have one event that can go on the calendar in addition to our usual meetings. We have a blood drive on September 22nd from 8 to Noon.

"It's harvest season! Please be aware of slow moving vehicles. Because farm equipment is large, take extra precautions when driving behind and potentially passing the equipment on the roadways. Be cognizant of vehicles entering and exiting field entrances as the entrances are unmarked and sometimes hidden. Mark your calendars for our blood drive 8 to 12 on September 22nd. In the month of July, we had 9 medical calls and 5 fire calls putting the total at 84 calls."



## Permanent Outdoor Recycling Arrives in Downtown Bloomington

Increased recycling options are now available to local residents and visitors to Downtown Bloomington. Funding awarded to the Ecology Action Center through an Illinois Prairie Foundation Grant – *IPCF Annual Campaign Fund Green Endowment* allowed for the installation of four permanent recycling receptacles in the downtown Bloomington commercial district. The EAC's partner on this project, the City of Bloomington Public Works Department, provided a match for the grant funding.

A common understanding in waste management is that increasing the convenience of recycling increases participation. In April, the Ecology Action Center received full funding for a recycling initiative to address existing gaps in waste recovery services in the community; a free recycling cart program for low-income households in Normal launched in June. In Bloomington, grant funding is increasing recycling access in the public downtown area. Downtown visitors can now more easily divert recyclable materials away from the landfill. The four recycling receptacles accept common recyclable items that are currently accepted in Bloomington's and Normal's single-stream curbside recycling programs.

In addition to Bloomington-Normal residents, thousands of visitors passing through downtown Bloomington annually will have access to the recycling receptacles conveniently located at the four corners of the McLean County Museum of History. This includes, but is not limited to, those attending the Downtown Bloomington Farmer's Market and other seasonal events throughout the year. Combined, these events drew nearly 90,000 visitors in 2017.

The arrival of the first of the recycling receptacles has already sparked interest in adding even more - local businesses or individuals who wish to sponsor additional downtown recycling receptacles can learn more at [ecologyactioncenter.org/recycledowntown](http://ecologyactioncenter.org/recycledowntown).

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 4-H

The Towanda Busy Bees 4-H club will meet on September 18, 2018, 6:30 pm at the Towanda Community Building. This will be the first meeting of the new 4-H year. Come see what interesting things the club will be doing in 2018-19. Guests and new members are always welcome. 4-H is open to all youth ages 8 to 18. Contact Martha Rients, 728-2178 for more information.



---

## Garden Tips

by Helen Leake



For years, we got along fine with glass, cotton, silk, wool, wood, etc., then plastic came along. What a change, you look around your home and garden and it is surprising how many things contain plastic, some you never thought of. Like everything else, it has its advantages and disadvantages. It is great, drop it and it does not break. It is light weight, it can be clear, washes easy and it is warm and can be soft. It can be used in so many ways.

The clear plastic water bottles take a lot of petroleum to make and lot of gas and oil for the trucks to deliver it. I agree, that plastic bottle of water is handy. Open it, drink it and toss it. However, it is not cheap and if you freeze the water bottle or leave it in a hot car, it will draw chemicals out of the plastic and into the water.

When the bottle is empty, remove the lid, let the inside dry and recycle it. Then next winter when you wear that warm, soft fleece jacket, you are using the bottle again. When you wash that jacket, small pieces, small enough to pass thru the washing machine filter, will end up in the rivers and ocean. The plastic bags, bottles, Q tips, etc. end up in the ocean and wash up on the beach as trash. Also moving along with the tide, **plastic breaks down into less than a quarter inch size pieces called micro-plastic. The micro-plastic are just the right size to enter the ocean food sources and eventually find it's way to our dinner plates as fish and wildlife eat the micro-plastic which can cause health problems.**

Plastic is everywhere in our kitchen but also the waste basket, the furniture covers, our clothing, the wood deck, cigarette butts, etc. If you ever have even the smallest fire in your home, get outside and call 911. The smoke is very deadly. **Try to use as little plastic as possible and recycle what you do. It does not break down in the landfill for many, many years.**



The daylight hours are getting shorter, telling us that colder weather is on the way. It is time to stop the amount of fertilizer applications. The trees, shrubs and perennials need time to harden off before winter.

As the summer crops begin to fail, remove the spent foliage quickly so diseases don't move in. If your perennials are spreading out too much or they have died out in the center, it is time to divide them. After you have replanted them, treat them the same as a new plant, and water deeply.

It is getting to be the time of year that we will be doing some digging in our yard. Don't forget to call Julie, phone 811, a few days before you plan to dig. There are a lot of utility wires and pipes buried under ground and you don't want to cut or damage any of them. There is no charge for them to come, but they do need a couple of days to be able to work you into their schedule.

Some of the tree leaves are beginning to fall. Instead of bagging them for the garbage pickup, run the lawn mower over them to break them up. They will break down into good, cheap fertilizer.

Order your spring blooming bulbs now while the supply is good. It is too early to plant them, but they won't ship them until it is time to plant. If you purchase them at the store, place them in a cool dark place until the ground cools so they don't start to grow.



The last few years, we have had a lot of severe changes in the weather. We have had much colder than usual, more milder than usual, drier than usual and more wet than usual. The trees, shrubs, and perennials are showing their stress from it all. They can take some real cold if it arrives slowly, but last spring we had a very sudden severe drop in temperature that killed most of the fruit trees blossoms and added more stress to all of the plants. The blossoms were not visible, but they were growing inside the stem. A lot of them said, I've had it and died.

The damage from drought and other stress usually progress slowly, but there are things we need to watch and do to try to save the trees, shrubs and perennials. Watch for curling, browning of the leaves, premature dropping of leaves or dried needles. The stress can show on young and semi-mature trees, but it can also severely effect large mature trees. Long term stress can weaken the trees and make them a prime target for insects and diseases.

You can water trees with a soaker hose, drip irrigation, watering bags or a 5 gallon bucket with a small hole in the bottom. A 5 gallon size container grown tree will need 5-10 gallons of water a week when there is no rain. If possible, saturate the ground to a 2 foot depth once a week. Water in the same spot every week. Water near the drip line where most of the feeder roots are instead of right at the trunk. Water until the first hard freeze, especially the trees with needles, which lose moisture thru the needles during the windy winter.

Keep a 2-4 inch layer of mulch around the base of the tree and keep the mulch 4 inches back from the trunk. Avoid pruning, which adds stress to an already stressed tree. Also don't fertilize trees or lawn during droughts.



Labor Day seems to tell us that summer is leaving and winter is on the way. Time to start getting the lawn ready for winter.

If you are transplanting any perennials, try to do it in September so the new plant can get settled and prepared for frozen soil. Wait until the trees and shrubs have gone into dormancy to do the pruning. With the leaves off, it will be easier to see the tree branches that need to be removed. Don't remove more than 1/3 of the branches at a time to prevent shock.

Now is the ideal time to spread grass seed. The soil is still warm and after a rain or being watered, the seed should germinate. Cover with a light layer of clean straw to help hold in the moisture. Keep the soil moist. After the grass comes up, leave the straw on to help hold the moisture and shade the roots. When the new grass looks like it should be mowed, go ahead and mow with the rest of the lawn.

Unless you have a lot of brown patches where the grubs have been eating the roots, don't put down grub control. It will also kill the earthworms and other good bugs in the soil. To check for grubs cut a 1 foot square of grass on 3 sides. Pull the sod up and count the grubs. If there are 8 -10 or more grubs, then you can treat it. Otherwise, save your time and money.

You can cut off the peonies and destroy the stems. Do not put them in the compost pile. If they had any disease, that could continue to grow in the compost pile. Continue watering during the hot, dry weather.

---

## Towanda Library

Our library is pleased to announce we are developing a new website and in the process of updating our facility and collection.

Congratulations to our amazing Summer Readers! This was our largest program to date. This year's program increased what our children, teens, and adults read by 302% compared to last year! We thoroughly enjoyed and are proud of all of our children, teen, and adult participants. A special thank you to Mrs. Oberts, Ms. Hailey, and all of our volunteers for running a fantastic Summer Reading Program.

Read to Dogs is back! This is the marvelous program that allows your children to read aloud to their certified canine friends. The program will be Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30. Pre-registration is required for your child's 15 minute individualized appointment. Please call the Towanda District Library at (309) 728-2176 to make a "reading reservation". During your child's first visit, a parent/guardian will be asked to complete a brief information form. 2018 Fall Dates: September 4, 11, 18, 25 and October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

It's time for Bulldog Builders' Lego Club! This is for registered 3rd-5th grade students. It is limited to 25 participants. They will be instructed through building activities that are connected through stories and literacy. The club will be held on Mondays from 2:30-3:30. Registration begins Monday, August 20th. Registration forms will be distributed at school and posted online. 2018 Fall Dates: September 17, 24 and October 1, 15, 22.

Bulldog Book Club for 4th and 5th grade students will begin in late fall. Additional information and registration forms will be shared with Towanda Elementary teachers and students, as well as posted online.

Towanda Reads Book Discussion Group is selecting titles for next year on Tuesday September 4th. We are always looking for new members. Please come and help us select the titles that we will be reading. The fall discussion dates will be Tuesday evenings from 5:00-6:00; October 9th and December 11th.

---

## Towanda HCE

Towanda Home and Community Education will be meeting for the first meeting of the 2018-2019 year on Monday, September 10, 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The lesson, "70 Years of Bake-Offs" will be presented by Cindy Kelley. The Fact Find will be: "ILLINOIS Counties in IAHCE District 5: Ford and Vermilion counties. The hostesses will be Cindy Kelley and Linda Conder. Please contact Cindy, 309-824-4797 for more information about Towanda HCE. Guests are cordially welcome.

County HCE activities include a "Play Day" on Monday, Sep 10, 9a.m.- 12noon, at the Farm Bureau, 2242 Westgate Drive, Bloomington. HCE Community Service Day is on September 17, 9am-2pm and free. The projects they will work on are soldier xmas stockings, and figit blankets. Bring a sewing machine if you have one. Come and go as you are able and sewers and non-sewers are welcome; Call Karen Crull, 309-826-9559 with any questions. McLean Co HCE will hold the Attic Treasures and Bake Sale on Saturday, Oct 20, 8am-2pm at Trinity Lutheran Church Gym, 801 S. Madison St., Bloomington. Bring your priced sale items to Trinity Lutheran Church GYM on Friday, Oct 19, 11a-4p. Mark your calendars for this huge sale.



## Surprise Guest

Look who showed up for dinner at the Fred Walk household! He was hoping for a hot dog.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:oldcars@frontiernet.net)  
Website - [www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock](http://www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock)  
Pinterest - [www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935](http://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".