

Indian Creek Newsletter

July 2019

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Towanda HCE News

The Towanda HCE Unit had 9 members and one guest go on a June Outing to Eureka College to visit the Ronald Reagan Museum & Peace Garden. We ate at the Chanticleer Restaurant and stopped at Uncle Bob's Ice Cream for ice cream before heading for home.

Towanda HCE looks forward to your presence at their 26th annual July 3rd Spaghetti Supper. Tickets prices: Adult/\$7; Child 2-7yr/\$4; Under 2/Free. If any questions, Cindy at 309-824-4797. Join us for good food. Spaghetti, bread & salad from Avanti's; Homemade desserts and drinks. Towanda Unit will join McLean County HCE by participating in a float at the July 4th parade. See you there.



Museum entrance plaque group: Clara, Linda, Cindy, Kathleen, Joann, Jeanie, Austin, Sandy, Pat

Peace Garden: Joann, Clara, Katheen, Linda, Austin, Sandy, Jeanie, Cindy, Pat

Grp. Eating at the Chanticleer Restaurant in Eureka

Water System Information

A copy of our annual Consumer Confidence Report to the EPA has been added to our website at www.indiancreeksubdivision.org

Summer lawn watering - We've had a lot of rain so far this year, but just a reminder for the rest of the summer please follow our recommended procedure for extended lawn watering based on your street address watering on odd/even days. Please also limit watering to 3-4 hours at a time.

Hydrant flushing - hydrant flushing will continue during the summer and fall on Thursday's from approximately 9:00 through 11:00 a.m. You will experience low water pressure during this time and water discoloration following the flushing due to sediment being stirred up. We are not able to flush in the winter due to freezing.

Legion News

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday July 7th from 8:00 – 11:00. Breakfast includes eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, pancakes, French toast, fresh fruit, biscuits and gravy, juice, milk and coffee.

The American Legion will have a pork chop dinner on Friday July 19th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include pork chop sandwich, French fries, green beans, applesauce, dessert and drink for \$9. All dinners are open to the public. Carry outs are available. Thank you for your continued support of the Legion and our Veterans.

The Legion is available for rent for reunions, parties and meeting. For more information contact Mike Potts at 728-2384 or Tom Wagner at 287-7861.

Towanda 4th of July Parade

Spring has sprung, and the Towanda Fourth of July event committee is in full swing as we prepare for our annual celebration. We are proud of this event that is a hallmark to our small-town year after year. On **July 4, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**, the parade will kick off. We hope you will join us to carry a flag in honor of the birth of our country and to celebrate the 51st anniversary of our parade.

Our theme this year is “A Family Tradition”. Maybe you have a friend or family member that would be interested in walking with you. We are encouraging our walkers to invite someone new this year, to walk with a flag, too.

If you are able to join us, **reply in a separate email, with your name, cell phone, and email, to Amy Witzig (amy.witzig@gmail.com), on or before May 31, 2019** confirming your availability. We will provide the flag. Once you have replied, we will email you, closer to date, with line up details. We realize, just as we are dedicated to our parade, you are dedicated to your profession, and you may not be able to attend this event on such a busy holiday. We thank you for your consideration.

We are so humbled by the community’s interest and popularity in our event for the last 51 years. We are enthusiastic about you joining us for this special day.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and dedication.

Regards,

Virginia Lowery and Amy Witzig
Parade Committee Co-Chairs

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Amy Witzig

309.261.1360



51st ANNUAL Towanda 4th of JULY CELEBRATION – 2019

Website: <http://towandajuly4.com>
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/Towanda4thOfJulyCelebration/>

Towanda, Illinois 61776
(Box 171 - on I-55; 7 miles North-East of Bloomington)

At a glance...

Tuesday, July 2, 2019		
Dusk	Fireworks	
Wednesday, July 3, 2019		
4:30-7:00 pm	Spaghetti Dinner	Community Building
8:00-11:00 pm	Community Dance	South Park
Thursday, July 4, 2019		
All Day	Flea Market	North & South Parks
All Day	Food Concessions	Community Bldg And Both Parks
9:00-9:30 am	Parade Lineup	School
10:00 am	Parade	

Tuesday, July 2

FIREWORKS

Light up your evening with fireworks set off from the Towanda Township Building, east of Towanda. Parking and vendors available at the school. Come and watch an awesome display to kickoff this year's 4th of July Celebration.

Wednesday, 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 out available. Tickets are \$7/adult; \$4/child 2-7; under 2 - FREE (both advance and at the door); Cindy Kelley at ckak71@frontier.com, 663-4796.

COMMUNITY DANCE

Come shake your stars & stripes at the FREE dance in South Park from 8:00-11:00 pm. Donations appreciated. Music by "Sweetwater." Bring lawn chairs.

HONORARY SPOTLIGHT

Scotty & Jodi of Kiek's Bar & Grill will be recognized for their generous contributions to our Community. We appreciate the opportunity and convenience of having a place like Kiek's to socialize and grab some great food.

Thursday, 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; and much, much more! Free admission; dealer space reserved @ \$40/space. Linda Potts at (309) 728-2384.

FOOD CONCESSIONS

We are the land of the free and full bellies! Towanda Scouts will be serving park chop, BBQ sandwiches, hot dogs, and all the trimmings at the Community Bldg. Several other vendors and food trucks available in both parks.

PARADE

"Towanda on the 4th ~

A Family Tradition"

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

Parade route: Adams & East Streets go West; Jefferson turn North; Washington go East; Madison turn South; Monroe go East; at Taylor go South; exit at Hwy and the school grounds.

Participants: Grand Marshals are longtime residents Sue & Deane Sutter. Joining them and their family are: Tin Lizzies, Calliope, elected dignitaries and candidates, floats, Towanda's volunteer firemen, antique cars, tractors, other vehicles, bicyclers & walkers.

50 Flags: Want to participate? Join us in the spirit of the Towanda 4th of July Parade and carry a flag through the gentle course of our one-mile route. Only 50 flags are available. Contact Amy Witzig!

No fee to participate; But donations are appreciated.

—————For More Information —————

Virginia Lowery, vicwary1@hotmail.com (309) 825-6341
Amy Witzig, amy.witzig@gmail.com (309) 261-1360

FIREWORKS ~ Tuesday, July 2nd ~ at Dusk!!



Gardening Tips

We have had a lot of rain this year and the grass and weeds have really been growing fast. Some places tell you to cut the grass back to 2 inches tall and some say to cut it back to 3-4 inches. Every time that you cut the blades back, it is a shock to the plant, but with the help from the sun, they do recover quickly. I have seen some cut back to about 1 inch. That is not healthy for the plant.

When the grass blade is left at about 2-3 1/2 inches tall, it has more blade space to absorb nutrients from the sun. It also shades the soil to help keep the roots cooler. It also helps the soil to hold moisture longer, that helps it stay green longer during a summer hot spell. The longer blades also make it harder for the weed seeds that the wind blows in and the birds drop to reach the soil and germinate.

I think that it looks nicer at the higher length and it is softer to walk on. It also looks better. As the petals fall off of the peonies, cut that stalk way back. The plant can use its energy to store more energy for next years flowers. Also, it will make a more attractive plant. Now is the time to plant pumpkin seed for Halloween harvest. Watch for euonymus scale crawlers now. This is the best time for control while they are young.

It seems like if we are going to garden, we need to use mulch. The most popular type is organic mulch which could be wood chips, cocoa bean hulls dried grass, leaves, peat moss, aged manure, etc. If you have dogs in your yard, it is best not to use the cocoa hulls, because they could make a dog sick, you do not need to put down a liner before applying organic mulch. In time, it will break down into good soil. The freezing and thawing will push the liner up and it becomes unattractive.

The most popular inorganic mulch is different shapes and colors of rocks. It is best to put down a liner before putting down the rocks. That will help prevent the rocks from pushing down into the soil. One disadvantage of using stones is that they do hold the cold and heat longer than the organic.

Mulch is usually applied 2-4 inches deep, depending on if it is a tree or plant. If you are topping off last years mulch, including its depth. Air and rain need to get thru. Be sure to keep the mulch back 1-2 inches from the plant. If the mulch is touching the tree trunk, it could cause disease and damage the tree.

Sometimes mold or mildew will appear in the wood mulch. Just use a rake to stir it up. The air will stop the mold.

The last part of June is the time to stop harvesting asparagus. It is also the time to fertilize it and let the tops go to seed. The birds will like using it for shelter.

Rhubarb is a heavy feeder therefore it would like to have some fertilizer. Be sure to water it after feeding it to push the fertilizer down into the ground so the roots can absorb it. Do not get the fertilizer on the part that you eat.

If you have had a problem with bagworms, now is the time they are out feeding. As soon as they hatch they will start feeding and building their protective case. Once they move into the case it is very hard to kill them. "Spray with *Barcellus Thuringensis*. Better known as BT.

We have been noticing that some sycamore trees have been very slow to leaf out. This year has been severe for sycamore anthracnose. It is a fungal disease that happens a lot in the spring and depends on the weather. The disease likes cool wet weather like what we have been having. There should be more leaves come out once the weather improves. There is not much the homeowner can do about it.

All the rain we have been having this spring has certainly helped the weeds grow. With it raining almost every day, there isn't much time to apply herbicide, and you don't have time to cut the weeds off.

Every time you use chemical, you should read and understand the directions on the container. Improper spraying can damage or even kill the plant. If you notice curled or cupped leaves, twisted or flattened stems and discoloration, it could be herbicide damage, insect damage, disease or drought. If you notice curled or cupped leaves, twisted, or flattened stems and discoloration, it could be herbicide damage, insect damage, disease or drought.

To apply herbicide safely, check the wind speed before you start. If the wind is blowing 5 mph, or more, it is too windy. The drift from the spray can blow onto the plants you want to save. Another important thing to check is the temperature. If it is 85 degrees or more, do not spray. The herbicide could vaporize and move quickly to plants that you want to save.

Depending on the amount of damage, some might survive with extra water and fertilizer. To be safe always follow the directions on the container. If you are using a company to spray for you, you do have the right to tell them not to spray right then because it is too windy, too hot or going to rain very soon.

Helen J. Leake

Fireflies

I recently walked down the bridge road to see the fireflies. This was an incredible experience seeing thousands of fireflies blinking in the woods and along the road. The fireflies are in their glory and there are so many!

The best time to see them is around 9:30 after darkness has set in.

Fred Walk

Towanda Website

The Towanda website needs to be updated with current information about organizations, schools, etc. as it is woefully out-of-date. If anyone who have affiliations with organizations please provide current information to Terri Hayes she'd really appreciate getting it.

Thanks!!

Gail

Towanda Library

Summer is here and summer reading is in full swing! Several of you have stopped in to see the new improvements. Our new shelving is here and we have more on the way. As you can see, we are excited to spread out. We will be painting, constructing new furniture, and shifting books around the library to utilize our new space. Our goal is to make the library as inclusive, inviting, comfortable, educational, informational, and cutting edge as possible. Please contact the library or email me directly; director@towandalibrary.org if there is a particular book, movie, music cd, or audio book that you would like us to acquire. In between projects we are hoping to plan a few special events. We will keep you posted through the Indian Creek Newsletter, our website, and Facebook page. We will be launching a new website in 2019. While we anticipate it to be visually pleasing, it will also be highly functional and much more user friendly for our patrons. We will hold programs to navigate the new site once it goes live. We will offer programs in 2019 that will explore our new digital services and offerings.

Knitters and Crochet Group: We are happy to welcome Knitters and Crochet group every Tuesday afternoon. Come join us!

Towanda Reads Book Discussion Group: We are reading “Where the Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens. Copies are available at the library. All are welcome to join us to discuss this title at 5pm on Tuesday July 9th.

For more information about this month’s title: <https://www.deliaowens.com/book-clubs>

Summer Reading Program!

Towanda 4-H

The Towanda 4-H Club will have their achievement meeting Monday July 22, 2019, at the Towanda Community Building at 6:30. Members are to bring their fair projects for show and tell. School supplies should also be brought for our community service project. Questions about the McLean County Fair will be answered by our leaders. For more information call Scott Clement 275-5910 or Jeanie Wager 728-2852

Christy Malinowski

Towanda Busy Bees

The Towanda Busy Bees 4-H Club and the Towanda HCE would like to thank the Towanda Community for supporting the Blood Drive in June. There were 24 pints collected at the drive! The Towanda Busy Bees regular meeting will take place on Tuesday July 16th at 6:30pm at the Towanda Community Building. For more information about 4-H contact Martha Rients 309-728-2178



ecologyactioncenter.org

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release: June 17, 2019

Contact: Larissa Armstrong (309) 454-3169 x15

Beekeeping and Organic Alternatives to Chemicals Featured on 17th Annual Yard Smart Garden Walk

The Ecology Action Center invites local residents to attend its 17th annual Yard Smart Garden Walk on Saturday, June 29, 2019 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. This free event features beautiful, functional gardens in our community that protect the environment, create healthy and inviting spaces for people and animals, and use little or no synthetic chemicals. Registration is required, and attendees will receive information on the starting point prior to the event. The EAC encourages participants to carpool to the meet-up point and during the walk to reduce pollution and conserve energy.

This year's walk features three family gardens incorporating native plants into their landscapes, ponds to attract wildlife, beehives, and a wooded area restoration. It also features a church food forest for congregants to enjoy and religious education classes to use as a teaching tool, and their memorial garden established using layered composting. After the garden walk, attendees are invited to stay for lunch from Green Top Grocery, a McLean County Freecycle exchange of plants and garden tools, and a presentation about organic garden care products and how to use them by Bill Inks, the new owner of AB Hatchery in Bloomington.

The Yard Smart Garden Walk is free and open to the public; however, a \$5 donation to offset the cost of lunch is requested. Participants should bring their own reusable water bottles. Registration is available online at ecologyactioncenter.org or over the phone at 309-454-3169 x.15; please register by June 24.

The Ecology Action Center's Yard Smart program encourages local gardeners to reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, conserve natural resources such as water and fossil fuels, and make room for wildlife in their yards. Yard Smart Certification recognizes the efforts of people using ecologically sustainable practices to maintain their yards, acknowledging their lawn, garden, and landscaping decisions affect the health of the entire community. More information on the Yard Smart program as well as a set of free resource fact sheets is available at yardsmart.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.

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PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Michael Brown, (309) 454-3169 x.11
For immediate release: June 17, 2019

Ecology Action Center launches HHW Fund Campaign for a fall 2019 McLean County Household Hazardous Waste Collection; private donations needed to reach goal

With early support from numerous local partners and sponsors, the Ecology Action Center (EAC) is optimistic about a local hazardous waste collection in the near future. Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB), Compeer Financial, Rivian Automotive, Republic Services, Henson Disposal and Recycling, and Area Disposal Services have all pledged their support for the tentative fall 2019 McLean County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event. These entities join the City of Bloomington, McLean County, and the Town of Normal as part of a unique public-private partnership led by the EAC.

"We are one of only a handful of Illinois communities stepping up to provide for HHW collection in the absence of reliable Illinois EPA funding and the only community anywhere that I am aware of that provides this service through a combination of public and private funding," said Michael Brown, Executive Director of the Ecology Action Center. "We encourage all local residents to donate to the McLean County HHW Fund and support this important effort."

As the solid waste agency for McLean County, Bloomington, and Normal, the EAC is responsible for coordinating Household Hazardous Waste Collection for the community. However, the traditional funding for these events through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has become very irregular and infrequent. The McLean County HHW Fund was created to meet the need and has provided for three successful local HHW collections and nearly 75,000 gallons of hazardous wastes collected for safe disposal.

The EAC has set a fund raising goal for the 2017 HHW Fund of \$35,000 to allow for a growing awareness of the need for proper hazardous waste disposal and related increases in attendance at the fall HHW collection. The EAC asks local residents to make tax-deductible donations at HHWmclean.org; businesses interested in sponsorship opportunities can contact Michael Brown at mbrown@ecologyactioncenter.org or 309-454-3169 x.11.

Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes pollutes local water supplies and the environment. Whether it is thrown out with regular trash going to a municipal waste landfill, dumped illegally down the drain, storm sewer, or in a ditch, these actions compromise the safety of drinking water thereby threatening the health and well-being of area residents.

More information on hazardous waste disposal and nonhazardous waste disposal are available at HHWmclean.org or by calling 309-454-3169. Free resources include a notification email list for HHW updates, instructions on disposal of nonhazardous latex paint, suggestions on alternative (non-hazardous) products, and information on the EAC's Yard Smart program, promoting sustainable landscaping and gardening with less synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental agency with a mission to inspire and assist local residents 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.



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Pampered Chef features Cooking Shows, Catalog Parties, Freezer Meal Workshops, Bridal Showers & Fundraisers!

Contact your local Indian Creek consultant for these events.

Annette Hancock

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Pinterest Recipes - www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935



For Free:

We have a Baldwin piano from the 1970's we would like to give away. Donating to a church or personal use is fine. Contact-309-660-1680.

309-660-1680

For Hire:

Need help taking care of your pet while your 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".

Brenna Schwamberger is available for babysitting. She will be a sophomore next year at NCHS and has completed her Red Cross Babysitting class. You can contact her at 728-2857 (h) or (309) 824-1410 (c).

Are you looking for someone to take care of your pets or children? Do you need someone to do housework or cleaning so weekends can be spent relaxing? Call me, Aubrey Thomas, and I will help you out! I will be a freshman at NCHS in the fall. I love animals of all kinds. I have completed the Safe Sitter course and will make sure I watch your children carefully. Mother makes sure I get plenty of opportunities to practice my cleaning skills. I can be reached at 309-728-2246 (home) or 309-532-7466. Reasonable rates!