

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

January 2020

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

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

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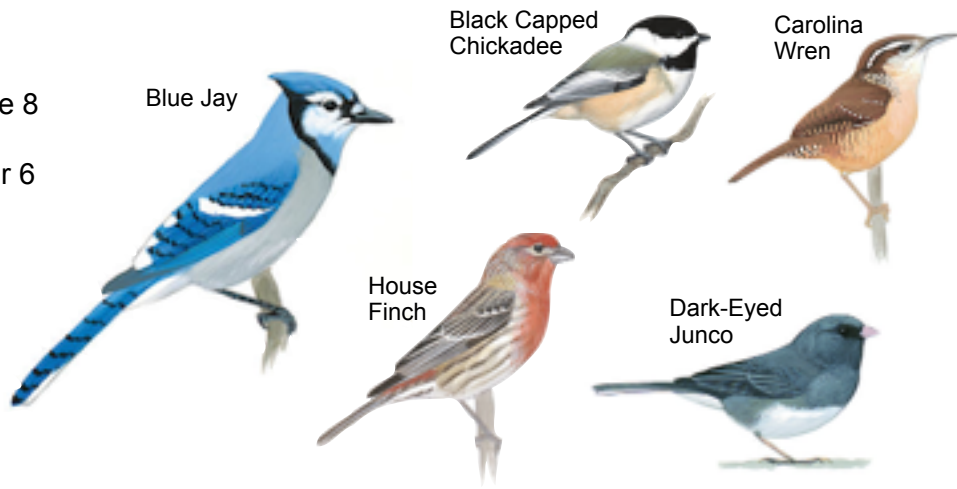
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## National Audubon Society Bird Count at IC for Fall '19

On Saturday, December 14, the National Audubon Society conducted a bird count in our common ground area. We have a wonderful habitat for many bird species and I hope you have spotted some of the birds that were identified below. Take a walk on our trails during the holidays and experience our beautiful habitat.

Fred Walk  
Indian Creek Grounds Chairman

Northern Cardinal 6  
Black-capped chickadee 8  
Tufted Titmouse 4  
Red-bellied woodpecker 6  
Downy woodpecker 8  
Northern flicker 4  
Carolina wren 2  
American goldfinch 2  
House Finch 2  
Blue Jay 6  
Dark-eyed Junco 4  
Barred owl 1



One bird which was conspicuously absent from this years count was the brown creeper, which in years past has always been there. The barred owl was a very nice bonus as were the two Carolina wrens. One member of our group reported seeing a red fox in the common ground area.

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## January Library Announcements

Holiday Closures:  
December 24, 25, 26, 31, and January 1st.

Towanda Knitters and Crochet Group: We welcome this wonderful group at the library every Tuesday at 3pm. They will resume after the holidays starting January 7th.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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## Garden Tips

Now that you have finished digging in the garden you can clean the dried mud off of your garden tools. Also, wipe them with an oily cloth so that they don't rust. Also if you are finished with your mower and other power equipment they should also be winterized. Change the oil and lubricate the moving parts. Either drain the fuel or mix gas stabilizing additive into the gas tank. You could let it run until it is out of gas.

If the ground isn't frozen, water your evergreen trees and shrubs deeply. They lose water through their needles all winter long.

If you have problems with rabbits chewing on shrubs during winter, place a fence around them. Remember when the ground is covered with snow they look for food above ground.

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As I look out my back door, everything looks dead. I have not cut any of the pretty perennials off and the leaves have blown up around them. What I don't see is all of the future insects snuggled under the leaves, tree bark, downed logs, soil, and dried seed heads.

The beetles, spiders, slugs, etc. depending on the ground cover though out the winter. Many small insects go into a hibernation-like state and lay dormant until spring. Moths and others might lay their eggs on the leaves. The leaves fall to the ground and pupate into cocoons, emerging as adults in the spring.

Backyard mammals also tend to hibernate. Chipmunks, voles and other small rodents find space in open logs and cover themselves with plant material. Ground hogs and foxes build burrows and rarely move for months. For some, their body produces a type of anti-freeze to protect them from the freezing cold. Of course, when the snow falls, that also helps to insulate them from the cold.

Let a corner of your yard be as natural as possible so the birds will have some insects to eat next spring. We need the birds and insects.

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If you have received a plant as a gift or purchased one at a store and it is in a foil wrapping, you don't want the plant to be sitting in water. You can remove the foil wrapping, but sometimes that takes away part of the beauty of the plant. Or, you can remove the wrapping, punch holes in the bottom so excess water can drain out. Then replace the wrapping and be sure to place the plant in a saucer to catch the excess water. Don't want to damage the table.

When purchasing de-icing products for sidewalks, use calcium, magnesium, or potassium chloride-based products. They are more friendly to the lawn grass and other plants than the sodium-based ones.

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## Community

### January

- 1 – New Years Day
- 7 – Unit 5 students return to school
- 15 – 1-hr late start in Unit 5
- 20 – Martin Luther King Jr Birthday – no school
- 29 – 1-hr late start in Unit 5

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## Towanda Home and Community

The Towanda Home and Community Education group met on Dec 9 for their potluck Holiday party at the community building. Thirteen members gathered for a gift exchange, good food and great fellowship. Thank you to hostesses Clara Lehan, Karen Wyant, Bev Hornickel and Cindy Kelley.

The Towanda HCE will next meet Monday, January 13, 7:00 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building . This is our annual snowman meeting when members and guests are invited to bring your special "snowmen" items to show and tell about. The program will be "Communicating With Individuals With Dementia" presented by Cherry Trent and Barb Wager. Our minor lesson will be about Irish Immigration to the US. Members are also invited to bring any leftover holiday cookies and candy for refreshments.

Don't miss out on the fun and educational information offered at each of our meetings. Guests are cordially invited to attend. For more information about this meeting or Towanda HCE, contact Cindy Kelley , 309-824-4797.



Standing L-R Jean Chiodo, Barb Wager, Jeanie Wager, Kathleen Emery  
Sitting-Joann Steinberg, Robin Pearson, Candace Thedens



Standing L-R Clara Lehan, Linda Conder, Cindy Kelley  
Sitting- Pat Pulokas, Karen Wyant, Bev Hornickel

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## Towanda Fire News for December, '19



From everyone at TFD we hope you are having a very happy holiday season.

We wrapped up FY19 with the following stats. Out of the 184 total calls ran 109 were EMS, 27 were accidents, 9 were fires, 23 were mutual aid, and 16 were miscellaneous calls. In addition, there were two promotions from the rank of FF to Lieutenant. Just a few notes as we leave you to enjoy the snow outside, remember to be aware of lit candles and keeping flammables away from them. The same goes for space heaters and fireplaces. It is best to cover fireplaces with a fireproof screen to keep children and pets away from the flames. We hope you have enjoy the New Year 2020 and set some great resolutions!

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# 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 - [annettehancock1953@gmail.com](mailto:annettehancock1953@gmail.com)

Website - [www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock](http://www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock)

Pinterest - [www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935](http://www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935)



## For Hire:

Need someone to take care of your pet while you are away, call Bailee Harmon at (309) 530-5360. I have experience with animals at the Humane Society and have been petting sitting for two years. References provided upon request.

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

Lydia Lueschen is available for babysitting. She is 14 years old and has completed a babysitting course along with being CPR certified. Please call or text her mom - Dallas Lueschen- at 309-826-1868.