



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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Homeowners and Water Association Annual Meeting

The Indian Creek Homeowners and Water Association annual meeting will be held Wednesday March 4th, 7 pm at the Towanda Community Center.

Please plan to attend. We will be discussing an increase to our water bills to meet our water system needs as well as an increase to our annual assessment to meet our grounds needs and other subdivision maintenance and business needs. A professional engineer from the Farnsworth Engineering Firm will be attending the meeting to provide information about the water tower and our water system.

An agenda along with additional information will be provided about two weeks prior to the meeting.

Look forward to seeing you then.

TFD News

Each year, the president of the United States declares March as "Red Cross Month." The month is used as a chance to honor and celebrate those who help fulfill the Red Cross' mission. If you would like to join their mission you can donate, give blood, volunteer or take a class. To learn more visit their website at www.redcross.org

Our department has been keeping busy re-certifying CPR and agility training. It is important for our members to be capable on scene so they can provide the best possible care to our community. We ran six medical and six fire calls putting the total for the fiscal year at 20 calls.

Indian Creek Important Phone Numbers

The non-emergency fire or rescue number has been updated to 309-888-5030 which is the number for the McLean County Sheriff Dispatch Center. This number has also been changed on the IC website. You should use this number instead of 911 for non-emergency calls.

Towanda HCE News

The Towanda Home and Community Education group will be meeting Tuesday, March 9, 7:00 pm at the Towanda Community Building. Pat Pulokas will present the program, "Eggs from Farm to Fork". The Minor Lesson is on French Immigration. Hostesses are Jean Chiodo and Cindy Kelley.

Some Towanda HCE members will be included in McLean County HCE traveling to Effingham for the IAHCE Annual Conference on March 10-12 at the Thelma Keller Convention Center. The theme is "Power of the Past - Beacon to the Future." Some members are also attending the Super Saturday Lesson Presentation of three Lessons: "Energy Efficiency is Smart", "Bees & Pollinators", "Mason Jars for Decorating through the Year" on Saturday, March 14. Guests are welcome to attend.

Any questions regarding Towanda HCE or McLean County HCE please contact Cindy Kelley, 309-824-4797.

Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship

The Towanda Lions Club is sponsoring the Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$750 for a current-year high school senior or a currently enrolled college student who has a Towanda, IL mailing address. This is a one-time scholarship which is not open to renewal. Past applicants who were not chosen may apply again if they are still undergraduates in college.

The Towanda Lions Club website provides further details plus is an avenue for submitting applications: <https://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/towandail>

Calendar

Please encourage residents to come out to VOTE on March 17th. We will be doing Same Day Registration at the polls.

Thursday-Saturday, April 30-May 2 ~ Towanda Area Garage Sales – details next month (April issue) along with information about the Route 66 Red Carpet Corridor event.

Unit 5

- Kindergarten registration is **Tuesday, March 10**. Information is on Unit 5 website - <https://www.unit5.org/Page/1>

[McLean County Unit 5 / Homepage](#)

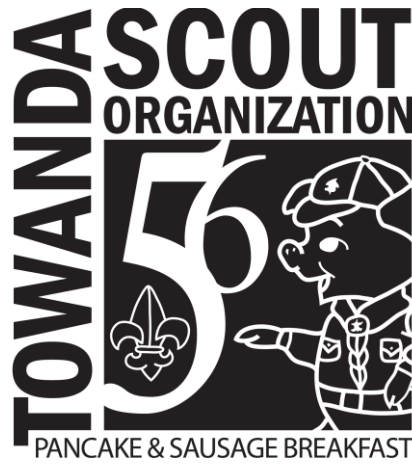
MY STOP . My Stop is a web-based application available to all Unit 5 parents to access live bus GPS information using a smartphone, tablet or computer and securely view the current location of their child's bus on routes.

www.unit5.org

- Spring break week is March 23-27

Towanda 4-H

Towanda 4-H will be having a meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020 at 6:30 pm inside the Towanda community center. There will be a speaker from Master Gardener who will be talking about summer garden planning. There will be talks and demonstrations by members.



It Takes a Village~

The Towanda Scouting Organization would like to thank the community for their support at our annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast. We could not do it without the support from our Community.

Whether you helped with setup, cooked and served pancakes and sausage, helped in the dining room, worked at the Country Store, handed out meat orders or helped with clean up, your help was greatly appreciated.

And most importantly are the 1,000 people who attended the breakfast and/or ordered meat. Without their support, there wouldn't be a breakfast!

With your help the Towanda Scouts will be able to take part in the many activities that Scouting offers. ***"Thank you from the Troop!"***

The Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast is a treasured TRADITION that the Village of Towanda has enjoyed for 65 years!

We say, "THANK YOU VILLAGE!"

**Towanda Scouting Organization
Pancake & Sausage Committee**

Towanda American Legion

Saint Patrick's Day Dinner

Tuesday, March 17th

4:30 – 7:30 pm

Dinner includes: Corned Beef,

**Cabbage, New Potatoes, Carrots, Rye Bread, Dessert and
Drink.**



\$10

**Public Invited
Carry Outs Available**

Towanda Library

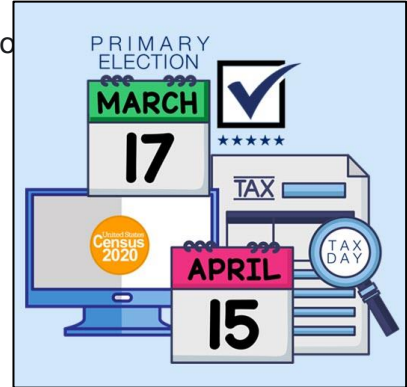
Newsletter Blurbs

February 21, 2020

Resources to Promote Active Citizenship

We are entering a busy season of opportunities and responsibilities related to making our community better and supporting our country. Towanda District Library provides access to important information, and we offer helpful resources to make these processes easy to manage. Our friendly staff can assist you in locating tax forms and provide information regarding the 2020 Census. Members of the community can use the library's computers to complete the census online, as well as to verify voter registration. We look forward to supporting you and our community!

- ✓ March 12 – April 30: Census 2020
- ✓ March 17: Illinois General Primary Election
- ✓ April 1: Preferred submission date for census responses
- ✓ April 15: Tax Day



“Read to Dogs” Resumes!

You're invited to make a “reading reservation” today! Towanda District Library is pleased to offer “Read to Dogs,” a free, fun, and flexible way for children to practice reading aloud to certified canine friends. Parents/Guardians are invited to call T.D.L. at (309) 728-2176 to schedule 15-minute appointments on Tuesday evenings between 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Spring 2020 dates include March 3, 10, 17, 31; April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5 and 12. Children do not have to be able to attend every session, but regular participation is encouraged!



Spring Story Time Series

Towanda District Library is pleased to announce the dates and themes of our upcoming Story Time series. Toddlers and caregivers are invited to attend Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am, from April 22 – May 20, to enjoy engaging stories and activities! Advance registration is not required, and families from Towanda *and* surrounding communities are welcome. We hope you'll consider joining us for five Wednesdays of wonder and fun!

- ★ April 22: “L” is for Library (Celebrating National Library Week)
- ★ April 29: Singing in the Rain! (Spring-Themed Meeting)
- ★ May 6: Rainbow Reading (Colorful Activities & Vibrant Books)
- ★ May 13: The Art of Reading (Creative Crafts & Stories)
- ★ May 20: “C” is for Caterpillar (Closing Meeting)



Crochet & Knitting Club

Are you looking for a place to keep warm, while also learning something new and creative? Join one of our “Crochet and Knitting Club” gatherings on Tuesday afternoons at Towanda District Library. Registration is not required, and crafters of all skill levels are welcome! Questions and sharing are encouraged, and Susie Shoemaker is the group's cheerful coordinator. Meetings typically begin at 3:00 pm, and all are welcome!





Gardening Tips

The daylight hours are getting longer and the house plants will soon be waking up from their winter rest. Just like the furniture collects dust, so do the plant's leaves. Using a wet paper towel or cloth, hold your hand under the leaf and gently wipe the top off.

While you are cleaning the plants, check for insects. If you notice the leaves or the table has something sticky on it, you have a problem. If there are little green insects on the tender tips of the plant, it could be aphids. Ladybugs like to eat them. If the plant was outside, a strong blast of water would knock them off, If inside, spray with insecticidal soap.

If you see what looks like little pieces of cotton, it could be mealy bugs. You can dip a cotton ball in alcohol and dab on them or spray with insecticidal soap.

Another common insect is scale. It is usually found on the trunk of the plant and looks like brown circles. You can scrap them off or better to spray it with insecticidal soap.

Once you have a problem with the insects, you should spray every 5-7 days for 4 weeks. The first time you spray to kill the original insects. The next time you spray to kill the eggs that have hatched and you want to kill them before they get old enough to lay eggs, Then spray again to just be sure that you got all of them.

It is the middle of February and the plants are starting to show some new growth, so it is time to start fertilizing again. As always, follow the directions on the container.

In the last few years, we have seen a big drop in the number of birds that we see. In the spring, we used to see a big flock of robins, now we only see a few. Birds are an important part of the ecosystem. The ecosystem is a system made up of a community of animals, plants, insects, bacteria and the environment with which its integrated. It is important to protect each link in the chain to help the other links.

It is believed that the overuse of pesticides could be a big danger to the birds. Birds need to eat and feed their young insects. When they eat insects that have died from pesticides, the pesticide can build up in their bodies and make them sick and die.

Most of the insects are good bugs because they will eat or destroy other insects or like the pollinators that have a job to do. The spider spins a web to catch its food and the hummingbird uses the web to wrap around its nest to hold it together when it stretches as the babies grow. They also used the dandelion seeds to line their nest. Dandelions have pretty flowers and they provide food in early spring when the honeybees first come out and their roots go deep into the ground to break up the soil.

People are finding out the grain seed that has been coated before planting can make the birds sick and die when they eat it off of the ground.

As always follow the directions on the container when using pesticides.

As I am writing this the ground is covered with snow, but I know that spring is on the way. The daylight hours are getting longer, the birds are singing in the morning and the lilac leaf buds are getting pretty green.

It is time to make sure that you have everything ready if you plan to start your own seeds. If not, you have time to clean your containers with one part bleach and nine parts water. Check your light bulbs. You can use shop lights instead of expensive grow light bulbs. Just be sure to keep them the right distance from the plants. Follow the directions on the seed packet as to when to start them.

Also, check your garden tools to see if they need to be cleaned, repaired or replaced. Every time that you use your pruners, they seem to collect some sticky stuff that collects on the blades. You can take the pruners apart to give them a good cleaning. Just put the parts in a row so you can remember how to put them back together. If the nuts have rusted, place the blade end in a glass of vinegar to remove the rust. Clean the pruners well with soap and warm water. Dry them good and wipe the blade with a rag with WD40.

Also, sharpen the blades to your pruners and loppers. Clean and sharpen the trowel and spades. Clean sharp tools are much easier to use than dull ones with caked-on mud.

Also, get your mower to the shop for checkup and blades sharpened.

The bright sunny days make us want to get out in the yard and get busy. It is too early to uncover anything now because we can still have some cold winter days.

It is time to prune the grapes. Remember, they bloom and bare on new wood. Also, check frost heaving perennials like strawberries and corral bells. You might need to push them back down into the soil and add more mulch over them.

Check your tubers and bulbs that you stored for over the winter to see if any have started to sprout. If they have you can pot them and keep them in a bright sunny location and plant them outside after the danger of frost has passed.

Dormant soil spray breaks the life cycle of insects without the use of pesticides. You can use it on many ornamental and fruit trees. Use it before the leaf comes out and when the temperature is above 40 degrees. As always, follow the directions on the container.

It is time to start your tuberous begonias. It is also time to prune the fruit trees. Be sure to sterilize the tools after each cut so that you don't spread disease.

Get your cold frame ready and you can plant a row of lettuce for early garden-fresh greens. If you add some compost to the cold frame, it could add some heat as it breaks down.

You can rejuvenate shrubs now such as spiraea, honeysuckle, and privet by cutting the stems down to 4-6 inches from the ground.

Helen J. Leake
Master Gardener Alumna

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Businesses:



John Hermann

Financial Professional Associate
Greater Illinois Financial Group

Prudential Advisors

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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

Call Home - 728-2990

Text or call- 242-1802

Website - www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock

Pinterest Recipes - www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935



For Hire:

Need someone to take care of your pet while your away, call Bailee Harmon at (309) 530-5360. I have experience with animals at the Humane Society and have been pet 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.