

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

### **HCE News**

The Towanda Home and Community Education group will not be meeting on their usual meeting day in June. We are trying to plan a June outing somewhere but haven't made the arrangements yet. However, we want you to look forward to when we start up in the fall and attend our September meeting which may be a different night due to the Labor Day Holiday. More about that later in the summer.

We also invite you to come to our money-making event, a **Drive Thru Pick Up Meal: Saturday, July 3**, **4:30-6:30 pm at the Towanda Community Building, driving through the Parking lot.** You would drive one way into the parking lot and follow directions. You would leave the parking lot in the opposite direction out of the parking lot. The bagged meal will be ½ Avanti Gondola, Chips and Homemade Treat at \$6 each. No tickets will be sold in advance. Questions may be directed to Cindy Kelley at 309-824-4797. Proceeds from this money maker will help pay for our many community service projects that benefit Towanda and McLean County. We appreciate your support. Remember that the Towanda Fireworks will be at dusk on Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> as well! See you then!

### **IC Annual Meeting**

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting for the Indian Creek Homeowners and Water Association. This meeting was originally scheduled for March 2021 but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are glad we are finally able to have this meeting, which is scheduled as follows:

- What: ICHWA Annual Meeting
- Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2021
- Time: 7:00 p.m.
- Where: Towanda Community Building

The meeting agenda and related information will be sent prior to the meeting.

### **Covenants - Outside Trailers**

Please be aware that the Indian Creek Covenants specify that trailers (and boats on trailers) should not be left outside on residential property. It is understood that occasionally these items might be outside for brief periods of time. Thanks for your cooperation and your adherence to the covenants.

#### Excerpt from Covenants:

#### ARTICLE V: USE RESTRICTIONS

(e) No trailer of any sort shall be stored upon the premises unless same is completely stored within an enclosed structure.

# Towanda Library

### Get Ready, Get Set, and Go... TO OUR LIBRARY!

GREEN is excited to welcome members of the community back inside the library beginning Monday, June 7 at 10:00 am! The Board of Trustees, including the Library Director, will be monitoring recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois Library Association to finalize safety procedures prior to reopening.\*



**DLVC** Is exhausted from the library's Interior renovations—and he knows it's been a bummer being unable to browse. The other colors are rallying to make the library vibrant, organized, and safe before reopening the doors **Monday, June 7** at 10:00 am. **RED** is here to offer reassurances: **Phone and curbside services will continue** throughout the summer! The RSAcat mobile app will remain available 24/7 to reserve items for curbside pick-up or for "Grab & Go" visits inside the library. Materials are currently being sanitized and checked in the **same day** they are returned.

#### PURPLE

Is pleased to announce the library's **Summer Hours**, which begin **Monday**, **June 7**:

- M: 10:00 am 3:00 pm
- T: 2:00 6:00 pm
- W: 2:00 6:00 pm
- R: 10:00 am 3:00 pm
- F: 10:00 am 2:00 pm

S: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Closed Sundays



Each crayon graphic, created by author/illustrator Oliver Jeffers, is part of the 2021 Summer Reading Program theme, **"Reading Colors Your World!"** 

#### Towanda District Library's vision for this program includes: <sup>5</sup> Creating a welcoming and safe environment for regular visits;

- Connecting patrons of all ages with new and familiar resources; and
- Collaborating with parents/guardians to encourage their child/ren's reading throughout the summer.

visits; GRAY is grateful directions to register for T.D.L.'s Summer Reading Program are explained in the next section!

#### IREAD

**BLACK** is blocking off times for library visits and Summer Reading Log check-ins. Registration opens by phone and in-person **Monday**, **June 7** at **10:00 am**. Families are encouraged to plan/prioritize their first, second, and third choices. The day/time selected upon registration will remain the same **every week** between June 14 – July 30. Reservations will be taken on a **first-come, first-served** basis.

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
10:00 am	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	10:00 am	10:00 am
10:30 am	2:30 pm	2:30 pm	10:30 am	10:30 am
11:00 am	3:00 pm	3:00 pm	11:00 am	11:00 am
11:30 am	3:30 pm	3:30 pm	11:30 am	11:30 am
1:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	1:00 pm	
1:30 pm	4:30 pm	4:30 pm	1:30 pm	
2:00 pm	5:00 pm	5:00 pm	2:00 pm	
2:30 pm	5:30 pm	5:30 pm	2:30 pm	

- Priority registration will be given to Towanda's patrons and Towanda Elementary School students.
- The number of families per time slot will be determined in response to the State's guidelines and the square footage of the library. By scheduling appointments, T.D.L. hopes to minimize "wait times" to enter the library. Thank yov, in advance, for your flexibility!

ORANGE-ya glad to know we have hundreds of new books ready for our Bulldogs to discover this summer?!? The library's tween/teen

collection has also been

updated and expanded!

YELLOW is cautiously listing the safety procedures planned to welcome patrons inside the library beginning Monday, June 7 at 10:00 am.

These procedures are subject to change in response to national, state, and local mandates and/or recommendations.



Masks are required to wear when children are present at the library, regardless of vaccination status.



Children ages 2 – 11 are required to wear masks at all times within the library.



"Grab & Go" visits inside the library should be kept to **30 minutes**. Capacity limits may require waiting to enter the building.

Capacity limits may change according to state/local guidelines. Updated details will be posted on the website, Facebook page, and with signs on the front door.

Public computers will be available for patron use, and sanitation materials will be provided. At this time, the children's Play Area will not be accessible.

Towanda District Library • (309) 728-2176 • www.towandalibrary.org • Explore. Share. Read. Discover.

# **Towanda HCE**

**Drive Thru Pick Up Meal** 

Saturday, July 3, 2021

# <u>4:30 – 6:30 p.m.</u>

Towanda Community Building

Parking Lot – Follow 1-way signs & Directions

All Bagged Meals contain:

<sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>2</sub> Avanti's Gondola, Chips, Homemade Treat \$6.00



# Towanda Fireworks at Dusk on July 3, 2021

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT TOWANDA HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION** 

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS**

Cindy - 309 824 4797

# Indian Creek's Mighty Oaks

We are so fortunate to live in a wooded area with a variety of trees, including: maple, hackberry, sycamore, hedge, elm, ash, walnut, cherry, and oak. The oaks are not only among the biggest but also, most likely, the oldest.

During May, I undertook a mission to find the largest of the Indian Creek oaks. I measured over 50 of them, on the common land and in residents' yards. The largest tree, so far, is on IC common ground to the south and east of the water tower (you would have to hike back from the water tower to see it). It has a circumference of 14 ft. A more visible tree, and the second largest so far, is the Dumler Oak (25 Candle Ridge) which has a circumference of 13' 8". Coming in third is the Miller Oak (2 Bent Tree - next to their garage), with a circumference of 13' 5". The Kellenberger Oak (27 Candle Ridge – next to Jim's workshop) and the Kaufman Oak (4 Eastwood – in the front yard) both measure close to 13'. If you have an oak tree(s) you would like measured and added to the IC inventory of oaks, email me at gbeneze@frontiernet.net

While it is easy to measure the circumference of a tree, it is more challenging to estimate the age. The most accurate method to determine age is to cut the tree down and count the growth rings – however this is not in the tree's best interest. Another accurate method is to take a plug from the tree's trunk and count the rings, but this creates a hole that can be an entrance for insects and disease to attack the tree. A good alternative is the growth factor method which provides a good estimate of the approximate age of the tree without doing any harm.

To use the growth factor method, start by measuring the circumference of the tree at chest height (4.5 ft). Divide the circumference by Pi (3.1416) to determine the tree's diameter. Multiple the diameter by a growth factor. Purdue University (and others) use 5 for white oaks/bur oaks and 4 for red oaks. Urban trees and forest trees grow at different rates due to soil conditions, forest density, soil, and urban stress, so age estimates are only an approximation.

Using the growth factor method, our largest oak tree, the Watertower Oak, is 268 years old! It started growing during the Colonial period of our nation's history! Indian Creek has at least 25 oaks that are over 100 years old, and at least a dozen that are over 200 years old.

On your next walk, take a moment to admire these magnificent old oaks that grace our yards and woods.



Our biggest oak tree, the Water tower Oak, at 14 ft circumference



### **Gardening Tips**

Now is the time to remove the spent flowers from your spring-blooming bulbs. That way the plant can send its energy to storing food for the next year's bloom instead of forming a seed. Don't remove the foliage until it ripens. The daffodil leaves will break down on their own. The tulip leaves will turn brown and you will need to cut them off.

If you over-wintered annuals or tropicals, such as hibiscus, Gardena, Mandevilla, and geraniums, you can clean them up, prune them, and fertilize them. Wait until the night temperatures reach at least 50 degrees to place them outside.

Pinch the azaleas and rhododendron blossoms as they fade. Fertilize them, using acid-loving fertilizer. Early May is the best time to watch your pines for caterpillar-like sawfly larvae that like to eat on new

shoots. They seem to really like the Scotch pine and Mugo pine. You can spray them with seven.

When the lilacs are in bloom, we almost always have cold rain. That is also the time to spray the whitebark birch for borers if you have them.

When the bridal wreath is in bloom, check the euonymus and pines for scale crawlers. Again, you can spray with seven.

In late May, the pine needle scale and oyster shell crawlers will be active. You can control them by circling the stems with inverted black tape.

When the insects are young and are out eating is the best time to control them. When they go back into their shell, the pesticide cannot soak thru their cover and kill them.

Spot spray the dandelions and other broadleaf plants when you want to control them. That way you won't kill so many good insects and you will have a healthier lawn. Also, there won't be so many contaminated dead insects for the birds to eat and make them sick and die.

A lot of the Creeping Charlie stems are standing and blooming now. They will soon fall over and everywhere there is a leaf from the stem when that touches the soil, it will start a new plant. You can prevent Charlie from spreading by pulling those tall stems now. Also, as the plant sends out new shoots later, the same thing will happen.

When the radishes, beets, and carrots get big enough to thin out, you can use a small pair of scissors to cut off the plants you want to remove. That way you will not disturb the roots of the plant you want to save.

When the chrysanthemums, phlox, asters, bee balm, and sedum reach about 6-7 inches tall, you can pinch them back about an inch. Continue pinching back thru June. That way you can shape the plant and have a more attractive plant. You won't have the long stems that fall over.

Now is the time to prune the lilacs and other spring-blooming shrubs. That way the shrub can start preparing for next year's flowers.

We are seeing more and more container gardens, everywhere from small containers up to a raised bed, which is good.

For one thing, the soil in containers is different than in the soil in the ground garden. the potting mix used in the containers makes a difference in how fast the soil will dry out. It should contain some perlite or compost, to loosen the soil so the excess water can drain away.

Also, the type of containers makes a difference in how fast the soil will dry out. Containers made of clay or unglazed ceramic will dry out much faster than plastic or glazed pots. Always be sure there is a hole in the

bottom for the excess water can drain out. The smaller amount of soil will dry out much faster than a large amount of soil.

There are containers that have a reservoir in the bottom to help keep the soil moist. It doesn't hurt to check the containers daily to make sure the plants are hydrated. Adding some mulch to the top of the container will help reduce evaporation.

Once peat moss, which is in a lot of potting mixes, dries out, it takes time to rehydrate. If that happens, place a saucer under the pot and leave water in it.

Don't forget to fertilize your containers regularly so you can have beautiful plants.

Helen J. Leake



### Spring 2021 Indian Creek Bird Count

The yellow-rumped warbler

On May 8 three members of the local Audubon Society spent 1 hour and 55 minutes conducting their spring Indian Creek bird count. Below are the results showing sightings of 42 different species with the yellow-rumped warbler seen most frequently and the turkey vulture coming in a close second. The number preceding the identified bird indicates the number of sightings. Many of these birds are migrating north for the summer months and will return later this fall when heading south for the winter months. Our common ground environment provides an excellent habitat for the many birds and other wildlife in our community.

Fred Walk IC Grounds Chair

- 1 Great Blue Herron
- 13 Turkey Vulture
- 2 Red-Tailed Haw
- 4 Red-Bellied Woodpecker
- 6 Downey Woodpecker
- 1 Hairy Woodpecker
- 1 Least Flycatcher
- 6 Great Crested Flycatcher

- 1 Yellow-Throated Vireo
- 1 Red-Eyed Vireo
- 5 Blue Jay
- 10 Black-Capped Chickadee
- 1 Tufted Titmouse
- 1 Tree Swallow
- 1 Ruby-Crowned Kinglet
- 1 Red-Breasted Nuthatch
- 4 White-Breasted Nuthatch
- 4 Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
- 11 House Wren
- 4 European Starling
- 4 Gray Catbird
- 5 American Robin
- 2 American Goldfinch
- 3 Eastern Towhee
- 1 Baltimore Oriole
- 6 Brown-Headed Cowbird
- 1 Golden Winged Warbler
- 1 Black-and-White Warbler
- 1 Orange Crowned Warbler
- 6 Nashville Warbler
- 1 American Redstart
- 4 Northern Parula
- 1 Yellow Warbler
- 1 Chestnut-Sided Warbler
- 3 Palm Warbler
- 15 Yellow-Rumped Warbler
- 5 Black-Throated Green Warbler
- 1 Summer Tanager
- 1 Scarlet Tanager
- 9 Northern Cardinal
- 1 Rose-Breasted Grosbeak
- 6 Indigo Bunting

### 2021 Indian Creek Work Day

On May 1 twenty Indian Creek volunteers participated in our continuing efforts to eradicate the invasive honeysuckle species. A cadre of hardworking residents worked additional days throughout May to remove more of the honeysuckle bush. Major headway has been made over the past several years to keep our common grounds cleared of this vegetation. This plant is one of the first to leaf out in the spring and the last to lose its leaves in the fall thus preventing sunlight from penetrating the ground and choking off growth of beneficial plants and grasses. You might think this is a desirable plant with its white flowers and pleasant smell in the spring and pretty red berries in the fall. The berries are essentially like candy to birds with no nutritional value as they spread the seeds over our common ground area.



If you have these plants on your property (see photo below) please help in preventing its spread by cutting them off near the ground and applying a chemical such as Tordon to prevent the plant from regrowing. Please contact me with any questions about removing the honeysuckle bush.



Fred Walk

IC Grounds Chair

# 2021 IC Work Day (Part Deux)

During April and May hardworking and dedicated Indian Creek residents spent many hours cleaning up tree limbs that had fallen on the trails during the January ice storm. Numerous trees were trimmed and the trails were restored and are now accessible for your enjoyment. Wood chips (supplied to us at no charge by local tree services) were spread along barren sections of the trails helping to reduce the spread of weeds and reduce the amount of mowing along the paths.

Fred Walk IC Grounds Chair









# Water Hydrant Flushing Schedule - 2021

The six water hydrants located in Indian Creek subdivision will be flushed on the dates listed below. Water hydrants are flushed in order to reduce the build-up of sediments in our water system. This is an important process for improving water quality. Our water operator will flush one hydrant at a time and allow it to run for 10-15 minutes (the next in line hydrant is opened concurrently for a brief period to keep water flowing through the system). Water pressure in our system's lines is maintained by the 35,000 gallons of water in our tower, however, pressure in home lines will be reduced during flushing much like when multiple faucets are opened in your homes. Flushing the hydrants will also stir up sediments so please follow the procedures listed below:

- Do not run water during the flushing time period.
- Following flushing, run water through faucets until clear. We recommend this be done by-passing any treatment/filtering system in your home because of the increased sediment stirred up during the flushing process.

Please mark your calendars with the dates listed below. Flushing will be done between 5:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. weather permitting. Hydrants will not be flushed in freezing conditions or other inclement weather.

	Wednesday, September 22
Monday, June 28	Saturday, October 23
Monday, July 26	No flushing in November
Monday, August 23	Wednesday, December 22

### Summer Lawn Watering

Please follow our recommended summer watering schedule by only watering on even or odd days corresponding to your street address number and limit watering to 3-4 hours. This will help ensure our well pump can replace water being used in our tower. Summer water usage typically is much higher than the rest of the year and can strain our water system capabilities.

### Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

A copy of our 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) to the EPA will be mailed to each residence along with the July billing notice and has been added to our website at www.indiancreeksubdivision.org/icwater1.htm

Jim Larson – ICHWA Water Chairperson

# **Local Photos**

An Indian Creek neighbor, Jim Kellenberger had an opportunity to photograph a turkey in his backyard and snap a photo of some squirrels trying to get the corn in his oak tree.





### 53rd ANNUAL Towanda 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY CELEBRATION – 2021

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

### At a glance~...

Saturday, July 3, 2021

4:30-7:00 pm HCE Supper to go! Community Building

Dusk Fireworks

#### Sunday, July 4, 2021

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	

Saturday, July 3

#### HCE SUPPER TO GO!

Follow Signs for the drive-thru, serving Gondola's prepared by Avanti's with homemade dessert and beverage at the Community Building, 4:30 – 7:00 pm. Tickets are available both in advance and at the event; **Cindy Kelley** at <u>ckek71@frontier.com</u>, **824-4797**.

#### **FIREWORKS**

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

#### **HONORARY SPOTLIGHT**

**Alexander Manufacturing** will be recognized for their generous contributions to our Community. Alexander's is a long time Towanda area business that has donated promotional items to all the parade participants for almost 40 years. Over the years, the engraved pens have become a collector's item. Our heartfelt thanks to Alexander Manufacturing for their continuous support of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Activities in Towanda! Towanda, Illinois 61776

(Exit 171 - on I-55; 7 miles North-East of Bloomington)

#### Sunday, 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 pork chop, hot dogs, and all the trimmings at the Community Bldg. Several other vendors and food trucks are available in both parks.

#### PARADE

### "Fireworks \* Family \* Freedom"

9:00 am	Registration and line up at Towanda School
9:30 am	Grand Marshal Award presented to the Pre-
	REGISTERED float that best represents the
	parade theme.
10.00 am	Parado 'stops off' from the school

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 Hely and the school grounds.

**Participants:** We will be honoring Laura Durflinger Egbers posthumously. She will be represented by her loving family. Joining them are: Tin Lizzies, Calliope, elected dignitaries and candidates, local celebrities, floats, Towanda's volunteer firemen, antique cars, tractors, other vehicles, bicyclers, walkers and more!

**<u>50 Flags</u>**: Want to participate? Join us in the spirit of the Towanda 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and carry a flag through the gentle course of our one-mile route. Or sign up to ride the Trolly! Only 50 flags are available. **Contact Amy Witzig! 309 261-1360**.

#### No fee to participate: But donations are appreciated.

Virginia Lowery, <u>vlowery1@hotmail.com</u> (309) 825-6341 Amy Witzig, amy.witzig@gmail.com (309) 261-1360

### Towanda Fire Dept.



# **Heat Illness Prevention**



#### What IS Heat Illness?

Your body normally cools itself by sweating. During hot weather, especially when it is very humid, sweating just isn't enough to cool you off. Your body temperature can rise to dangerous levels and you can develop a heat illness.

Heat-related illnesses include:

#### **Heat Stroke**

A life-threatening illness in which body temperature may rise above 106° F in minutes. Symptoms include dry skin, a rapid, strong pulse, dizziness, nausea, and confusion. If you see any of these signs, get medical help right away.

#### Heat Exhaustion

An illness that can happen after several days of exposure to high temperatures and not enough fluids. Symptoms include heavy sweating, rapid breathing, and a fast, weak pulse. If it is not treated, it can turn into heat stroke.

#### **Heat Cramps**

Muscle pains or spasms that happen during heavy exercise. You usually get them in your abdomen, arms, or legs.

#### Remember these three simple words: Water, Rest, and Shade

- Drink water every 15 minutes, even if you are not thirsty.
- Rest in the shade to cool down.

- Wear a hat and light-colored clothing.
- Learn the signs of heat illness and what to do in an emergency.
- Keep an eye on fellow workers and students

If you have any questions regarding the Towanda Fire Department or would like some information in becoming a firefighter, please contact Chief Lueschen at 309.728.2353 or email: towandachief@gmail.com

### Towanda 4-H

The Towanda 4-H Club will meet June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Towanda Community Building. Fair books will be passed out to families and information on fair registration will be given. Talks and demonstrations will be given by members. Our community service project for May was weeding our flower garden by Boyd Wesley Park. Our May speaker was a dietitian from Carle Bromen Hospital. She informed our members about the various jobs in this field as well as the education needed to become a dietitian. For more information contact Scott Clement at 309 275-5910 or Jeanie Wager at 309 728-2852

### **Towanda Area History**

For a few years now, the Towanda Area History link on our IC home page has been pointing to an out-ofdate site. Thanks to Amy Oberts and the Towanda library that link is now fixed. Here's a little on what it is about:

The Towanda District Library and the Towanda Area Historical Society collaborated on this project to digitize and make available Towanda area historical and cultural materials from the collection of the Towanda Area Historical Society. The focus of the digital collection is in these areas: historical buildings and homes; Towanda's Main Street through the years; early rural schools of the Towanda area; oral and written family and personal stories. The collection contains: photographs; maps; family and person written histories; newspaper clippings; organization and business histories; postcards and more.

To visit the TAH site just click on "Towanda Area History" from the Indian Creek Subdivision website home page.

Ron Metz - IC website/newsletter

# CLASSIFIED

### **Businesses:**



John Hermann Financial Advisor The Greater Illinois Financial Group

Prudential Advisors 1907 Jumer Dr, Suite D, Bloomington, IL 61704 T 309 808-5212 F 309 808-5230 C 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 - <u>www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock</u> Pinterest Recipes - <u>www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935</u>





### For Hire:

Bailee Harmon is available to pet sit, babysit, and to do other household chores such as water plants/flowers and cleaning. Please contact Bailee at (309) 530-8279 or her mom, Hallie Harmon at (309)530-5360

Aubrey Thomas is available for childcare and pet care. She has taken the Safe Sitter course and is experienced with taking care of several animals. Aubrey will be a Sophomore at NCHS in the fall. Please call or text her at 309-532-7522.

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.

Jenacys Masters, 16, a Junior at NCHS is interested in doing any odd jobs to earn money for a car. Preferably in the Towanda area. She is offering dog walking/pet sitting, babysitting, running errands, or any other "teenager" type jobs. Please contact her at 813-943-2085. Cherish Pedraza 13 Bent Tree Ln.