



INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

October 2013

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com



Got Hazardous Waste? One-day Collection Event October 5

Local residents will have their only opportunity this year within central Illinois to dispose of oil-based paints, harsh household cleaners, yard care chemicals, mercury thermometers, and other household hazardous waste items on October 5 at the Ecology Action Center's (EAC) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection. With funding from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, EAC is able to provide this service for the second year in a row. Mitsubishi Motors North America has generously provided usage of their parking lots to accommodate the event. Residents may enter the event via the main entrance at 100 N. Mitsubishi Motorway in Normal from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The 2013 event will be held at the new and larger location with a bigger crew of hazardous waste technicians to better accommodate the significant demand for properly disposing HHW. The unprecedented turnout in 2012 readily demonstrates the need for more frequent HHW collection after a five-year hiatus due to funding cutbacks.

State regulations require that only residential HHW can be collected – no business or commercially generated wastes may be accepted. For an efficient event, and to minimize wait times, we encourage residents to follow these guidelines:

- **Items that will be accepted** include oil-based paints, household batteries, paint thinners, used motor oil, herbicides, drain cleaners, insecticides, lawn chemicals, pesticides, solvents, old gasoline, antifreeze, pool chemicals, hobby chemicals, cleaning products, aerosol paints and pesticides, mercury, fluorescent lamp bulbs, double bagged and wetted asbestos, old and outdated medicines and pharmaceuticals, and electronics.
- **Items that will *not* be accepted** include agricultural chemicals, propane tanks, business/commercial sector wastes, smoke detectors, explosives, farm machinery oil, fireworks, fire extinguishers, lead acid batteries, institutional wastes, medical wastes, sharps, needles and potentially infectious medical wastes.
- **Latex paint is not hazardous** and may be disposed of in household trash once it has been completely dried to a solid. This is easily accomplished by pouring the latex paint onto several layers of newspaper or other disposable material in an appropriate amount and letting it air dry. Once it is dry and solidified it may be safely and legally thrown in the trash. This technique is only applicable to latex



paints; oil paints are always considered hazardous and should be used up for their intended purpose or disposed of at a HHW event.

- Materials should be kept in original labeled packaging and containers - **do not mix materials together.**
- To reduce excessive traffic and waiting time at the event, residents are strongly encouraged to **work with their neighbors and friends, especially in helping the elderly**, to bring HHW materials from multiple households in one vehicle.
- Materials will only be accepted during event hours – **dumping of materials before or after the event is illegal.**
- **Be patient.** Collecting HHW takes time...it is hazardous material.
- Volunteers are needed to help with traffic control at the event – please sign up at www.ecologyactioncenter.org.

Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes pollutes our local water supplies and 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 and threatens the health and well-being of area residents. The Ecology Action Center, a local leader in recycling and solid waste management efforts, receives inquiries daily from concerned residents who wish to dispose of materials properly. HHW collection events are the primary means for safe disposal of many of these materials.

Ecology Action Center Announces Organic Wine Fundraiser at Station 220



The Ecology Action Center invites area residents to attend the eighth annual Sustainable Gourmet on Thursday, October 17, at 5:30 p.m. This popular fundraiser for the EAC features artisanal local hors d'oeuvres, a tasting of organic wines, and a silent auction with fabulous sustainable items from local businesses and organizations.

This year the event will be held at Station 220 at 220 E. Front Street in Bloomington, the home of the farm to fork creations of Epiphany Farms Enterprise. WGLT is generously sponsoring the fundraiser, all proceeds of which benefit the Ecology Action Center and its important environmental education efforts. Tickets are \$40 and are available online or at the Ecology Action Center at 202 W. College Avenue during regular business hours

(Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.).

Tickets must be purchased in advance; the ticket sales deadline is October 14 or when tickets are sold out, whichever comes first. This event has sold out the past three years in a row. Tickets are available online at www.ecologyactioncenter.org.

For more information, contact the Ecology Action Center at (309) 454-3169.

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 American Legion



The American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday October 6th from 7:30 – 11:00. Breakfast includes eggs, egg casserole, sausage, bacon, hash browns, pancakes, French toast, fresh fruit, biscuits and gravy, juice, milk and coffee for \$8.

There will be a fish or shrimp dinner on Friday October 11th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include fish or shrimp, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, roll, dessert and drink for \$9.

All dinners are open to the public. Carry outs are available. Thank you for supporting our troops and Veteran's.

Towanda HCE

The Towanda Unit of Home and Community Education will be meeting on Monday, October 14, 7 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The Program "Managing a Gluten Free Diet" will be given by LaVonne Cunningham. The Fact Find on Cinnamon will be presented by Karen Bersche. Members and guests will answer the question "Have you had something gluten-free that you really enjoyed?" The Fact Find on Cinnamon will be given by Karen Bersche. Hostesses are Pat Pulokas and Karen Bersche.

October is Home and Community Education Month and the Towanda Unit will be leaving food goodies at the grain elevator during the month AND will also have a sewing bee to make comfy floor pillows for the library.

Other programs HCE members and guests may attend include:

Oct 8: 9-12n, Card Making, 309-242-6187;

Oct 10: 6-9p.m., International Study of South Africa- food, customs and geography;

Oct 14: 1-4, Halloween Food Treats (of Chex Mix, Peanut Butter Fudge, No Bake Cookie, and Stained Glass windows) Workshop (reservation and \$5 or \$7 fee deadline is Oct 7, 309-533-1135; you bring no supplies);

Oct 21: 9-noon, Comfort Quilts(309-533-1135); 1-4 p.m., Childrens Dresses and Shorts (309-242-6187).

There will be a special program on Oct 28: 1-3p.m. "Grab and Go Book" will be presented by Sonja Reece to learn of organizing records and emergency family book; this free class, 309-310-9205.

All the county HCE programs are held at Evergreen FS Auditorium, 402 N. Hershey Rd, Bloomington and are open to the public.

Towanda Busy Bees

Towanda Busy Bees News: The Towanda Busy Bees 4H club will hold their October meeting at the Towanda Community Building on Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30 pm. The program for the meeting will be: A Vine Through Time. For more information please contact Martha Rients@ 728-2178



Garden Tips

by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener



Fall is the ideal time to plant a tree, its roots will have time to become established before the hot summer months. Trees can increase the value and beauty of your property. They also help clean the air by removing harmful gases, dust and pollen. Through their photosynthesis, they reduce carbon dioxide and release needed oxygen.. One acre of trees can produce enough oxygen for 18 people every day.

If trees are well placed, they can save energy for heating and cooling. Evergreen trees planted on the north will help break the cold winter wind. Deciduous trees, [lose their leaves in the fall] planted on the west will shade the roof and walls in the summer and let the sun shine on them in the winter. Before you dig, be sure to call JULIE to locate the buried utility locations.

When you decide what kind of tree you want, check the mature size, width and height. You don't want the grown tree to be too close to buildings or utility lines. You don't want it to block traffic signs or view, block windows, shade the garden, or roots damage foundation or sidewalks. It can shade the AC unit to increase efficiency.

When you are ready to plant, dig the hole 3 times the width of the ball or bare roots. The trunk flare is where the roots spread at the base of the tree. Only make the hole deep enough so the flare will be partly visible after the tree is planted. If planting a container tree, you may have to remove some soil to find the flare.

Be sure the tree is straight up and down when you start to fill in the soil. Research has shown that trees will establish more quickly and develop a better trunk and root system, if they are not staked. If vandalism or windy conditions are concerns, use 2 stakes. Remove the stakes after 1 year.

Place 2 - 4 inches, of organic mulch over the entire area of loosened soil. Leave 1 inch between the mulch and the trunk. Wait until roots are established to fertilize. Proper watering is important. Check weekly.

The gray, football shaped, paper nest that we see hanging in a tree or shrub is the home for the bald faced hornet. The nest will die off during the winter. New nests are started in the summer after the mated female has spent the winter under the loose tree bark. Hornets will sting to defend their nest, but if they are looking for food, they don't usually sting. However, if the nest is near a doorway or heavily used area, it should be removed for safety reasons. Control should be done at dusk or during the night when most of the hornets will be inside the nest. Use wasp spray so you can keep some distance away and wear protective clothing.

Although these hornets will sting, they are beneficial insects. They feed flies, and other insects to their young and pollinate plants while gathering nectar to feed themselves. When doing lawn work, stay at least 3 - 4 feet away and do it in the late evening when the hornets are less active.

Some people bring the hornet nest indoors for decorations. If you are planning to bring the nest inside, do not spray insecticide on it. After several hard freezes, you can clip the branch and use it for hanging. Place the nest in the oven at 150 degrees for 30 minutes or place it in the deep freezer for a week,

Nests located in the ground are usually yellow jackets. You should also wait until late evening to spray them, when they are less active.

It is time to start the dormant period for your amaryllis. Place it in a cool, dark location and let it dry so the foliage will drop off. It should be kept dormant until early December. Then repot and water, keeping the soil moist.



For years, when the leaves would fall from the trees, we would rake them into a pile and the kids would have fun playing in them. Then we had to rake them into a pile again, before we could burn them. The kids had fun playing outside and we adults got exercise and fresh air. We also added smoke that caused misery for people with health problems. If we used the leaf blower, it made a lot of noise.

A simple way to solve that is, after the leaves fall and have time to dry, use your mower and shred the leaves and leave them on the lawn. Depending on the kind of trees and the number of trees, you might have to mulch pretty often.

The smaller pieces of leaves will decompose and the earthworms will also eat them. When the worms are moving around, they will loosen the soil and their waste will return rich nutrients to the soil. By leaving the grass clippings when you mow and mulching the leaves, your turf grass will receive enough trace elements so that you do not need to add synthetic fertilizer and the soil texture will improve.

It is good to leave the leaves that collect around perennials and under the shrubs. That will help prevent sudden changes in temperature of the soil and the leaves will break down and return to the soil. You can also work the leaves into the garden soil. Next spring the soil will work up much easier.

It is time to plant your garlic now.

Jack Frost will soon be paying a visit. In some ways we look forward to his visit, because he does away with some of the insects. I don't like those tiny black insects that sure can bite. They also like to be on the white clothes hanging on the clothes line. Those insects are called no-see-ums and you can use an insect repellent containing Picardin to help you.

Some of the annual plants we have been enjoying in the garden can be brought inside to enjoy over the winter. Geraniums can be overwintered as an actively growing plant or as a dormant one. The active one will need bright light. You can also take cuttings and root them in sand or potting mix. Cover with clear plastic bag for a greenhouse effect. Impatiens can be potted and brought in, they like indirect light, and you can take cuttings to propagate in late winter.

Some other easy plants to save are the coleus and the begonia. They can also be enjoyed during the winter and then take cuttings to start new plants for summer planting. Save some money. That cute little sweet potato vine in those little 4 inch pots that grew to be a big pretty plant. When you are clearing out that pot, don't be surprised to find a sweet potato tuber in the soil. You can treat it like a dahlia, cut the stem off and place the tuber in peat moss. You can start it in a pot in late winter so it will be ready to use next spring. The tubers are edible, but they do not taste good. Also think about the chemicals that had been used to make the pretty vine.

Towanda 4-H

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 1st - 6:30pm at the Towanda Community building. Our club will be planning events and our yearly activities, for the 2013-2014 year.

The 4-H club has a range of ages that can join - Cloverbuds are kids 5 (by September 1st) to 8 years old, and members 8 (by September 1st) to 18 years old.

If you need more information contact Kathy Schultz at 309-728-2137 or Jeanie Wager at 309-728-2852

We welcome all new members, and look forward to seeing you!

Area Photos

These photos submitted by Becky Emery and her son Chad were taken as they walked along Route 66 in Towanda. Beautiful!



Classified

FREE Charcoal grill - smaller barrel shaped, used just a few times.
Call Larry - 728-2460

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FREE magazines - Southern Living, Better Homes & Gardens, Food Network and Real Simple. Most are 2012, but there are some 2011 and 2013. These magazines are in "like new" condition, however, there may be a page missing from a few. From a non-smoking home. Please call 728-2927.

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For Sale:



2004 Toyota Solara (Camry) V6 SE, 100,000 miles, excellent condition, new timing belt, well maintained, driven by a grandmother. \$7,300. Contact [309-728-2768](tel:309-728-2768) and ask for Ron".

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The NCHS Sophomore Class Board is selling \$20.00 coupon books with \$4500 worth of savings. There are 36 area businesses participating as well as locations in Peoria and surrounding communities. If you would like a book please contact Emma Rients, Jairon Schwamburger, Kalee Sulzburger or Samantha Rudin. Thank you!

For Hire:

Lauren and Myles Smith, will provide child care and pet care - call 728-2930

Grace Rients and Emma Rients will babysit for you! Both would be willing to babysit while you run errands, mow the lawn or have a date night. Both are certified by the Red Cross and have CPR training too! Grace and Emma Rients are also experienced pet caretakers. Please call them at 728-2178. In addition to dogs, we have experience with hermit crabs, hamsters and rabbits too!

Towanda Library

October Story Hours at 10:30 Wednesday mornings

- October 2 Red, Red Apples
- October 9 Apple Trees
- October 16 Five Little Pumpkins
- October 23 Pumpkin' Making
- October 30 Monster Mash Dancing – Wear Your Costume

Little brothers and sisters gather in the library “play areas” while big brothers and sisters hear stories and make crafts. Moms are invited to socialize and/or have a cup of coffee. All ages share snacks before checking out their favorite books and DVD's.

Annual Halloween Party – Thursday, October 24 from 5 to 7 pm Candy Corn Bingo, games, spooky stories, prizes, and treats. New Costume Contest categories – best home-made, best purchased, best combo, and best book character.

Adults Reading Kids Stuff – Parent Book Discussion of New Homework Items: Mondays October 21 and 28 @ 4:00 pm at the library. Parents will check-out and read one book purchased by the \$2,500 library grant. Then each parent will share with the others. Learn about several books that may be used for your child's homework assignments – while reading only one.

4th & 5th Grade Book Club on Wednesdays October 9th and 23rd at 4:00 pm: Children who have valid parent permission forms on file at the library prior to October 8th will walk directly to the library after school for a lively discussion of *How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous!* Snacks of skeleton bones dipped in chocolate will be served.

Right Brain Retreat on Wednesdays October 2, 9, and 16 @ 6:00 pm: Escape the world of work responsibilities and spend time exploring your creative side. Whether you are an artist or an accountant, you will enjoy a break from being logical and sticking to the established structure. Linda Garbe will be your creative catalyst as you explore the question: *Was I ever....am I now....can I be more creative?* Come re-claim your right brain.

- Session 1: Define Creativity
- Session 2: Develop Metaphor Muscle
- Session 3: Make a Plan for Using Creativity

Hour and a half sessions meet three consecutive Wednesdays. There will be a list of questions participants need to answer before the first session and homework between sessions. Cost \$25. Register by calling 309-728-2176.

Library Board Meeting: Meeting date is Tuesday, October 22nd at 7 pm at the library.

Family Reading Night on Thursday, November 21: Families are invited for refreshments served by the Library FRIENDS - right after school. Children who have seen other family members reading this fall will award their “Reading Role Models” with a *Caught Reading* sticker and have their photos taken for display at the library.

Third Annual Artist/Vendor Fair – Sponsored by FRIENDS of the Library on Saturday, November 2nd from 10:00 to 2:00 – Browse for holiday gifts as you enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, along with a sweet treat home-made by the FRIENDS. Local artists and vendors offer jewelry and hand-crafted items, along with cookware, cleaning supplies, books, candles, Tupperware, monogrammed bags, and more. Proceeds benefit the library and support local artists and vendors.

GREATER TOWANDA AREA DIRECTORY

August 31, 2013

GOVERNMENT

POST OFFICE 728.2132
Officer-in-Charge: Suzy Foltz
Lobby: Mon.-Sat. 6:30 am - 7:00 pm
Window: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-11:30 & 1:30-3:30
Saturday 8:30-10:30

DISTRICT LIBRARY 728.2176
Director Karen Stott Bersche
Monday & Wednesday 10:00 - 7:00
Tuesday 1:00-7:00
Thursday & Friday 1:00-5:00
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00

DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD
President Letisha Hamblen 728.2981
3rd Tuesday ea month
Library 7:00 pm

TOWNSHIP BOARD - Towanda 728.2633
Supervisor Mark Kraft 728.2692
2nd Tuesday ea month
Township Building 7:00 pm

Township Roads - Towanda
Commissioner Mike Fish 275.5289

TOWNSHIP BOARD - Money Creek
Supervisor Brian Cox 865.8633
2nd Monday ea month
Township Building 7:00 pm

Township Roads - Money Creek
Commissioner Scot Grunion 275.7914

VILLAGE of TOWANDA 728.2811
Village Office: Mon-Fri 9:00-12:00
Clerk Becky Domkusi
Maintenance Building 728.2800
ESDA Director Tom Wagner 287.7861
Mayor Tom Wagner 287.7861
3rd Monday ea month
Community Building 7:00 pm

SERVICE

FUNERAL MEALS ~ Sharon Arteman 728.2169

**NOTARY, HOLIDAY PARTY, and
TOWANDA NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE**
Clerk Becky Domkusi 728.2811

AREA GARAGE SALES Coordinator
Gail Ann Briggs 728.2187

GARBAGE SERVICE & RECYCLING
Casal & Sons Disposal 242.9001

INDIAN CREEK Association
President Brian Krause 728.5567
Newsletter ~ indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

LAMPLIGHTER Association
President ~ Glenn Block 728.2393
Newsletter ~ Gail Ann Briggs 728.2187
gbriggs@frontiernet.net

VOTER DEPUTY REGISTRARS
Library 728.2176

YOUTH

BSA ORGANIZATION #56
Troop Committee
Chairman Bob Briggs 728.2187
Pancake & Sausage Supper
Chairman Mike Potts 728.2384
2nd Saturday in February

BOY SCOUTS - Troop 56
Scoutmaster Mickey Lang 728.8830
Each Monday: year round
Wesley Cabin 7:00 pm

CUB SCOUTS - Pack 56
Cubmaster
4th Tuesday: school year
School 6:00 pm

GIRL SCOUTS
Contact Mary Wagoner 728.8827

BUSY BEES 4-H CLUB
Leader: Martha Rients 728.2178
3rd Tuesday: Sep-Aug
CB 7:00 pm

TOWANDA 4-H CLUB
Leader: Kathy Schultz 728.2137
Clover Buds: Jeanie Wager 728.2852
1st Tuesday: Sep-July
CB 6:30 pm

GROUPS / ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN LEGION Post 931
Commander Tom Wagner 287.7861
3rd Thursday ea month
Legion Hall 7:00 pm

LEGION AUXILIARY Unit 931
President Debbie Kinsella 728.2216
3rd Thursday ea month
Legion Hall 7:00 pm

SONS OF THE LEGION
President Paul Dabbs 376.3351
3rd Thursday ea month
Legion Hall 7:00 pm

First BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Adam Wilson 531.4794
Sunday School 9:30 am
Church 10:30 am

4th of JULY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Committee ~ Deb Kinsella 728.2216
Flea Market ~ Linda Potts 728.2384
Parade ~ Gail Ann Briggs 728.2187
4th Monday: Jan-July & Sept.
CB 7:00 pm

COFFEE GROUP
Jim Arteman 728.2169

FRIENDS of ROUTE 66 - TOWANDA
Fred Walk 728.2188
Carol & Rick Myers 728.2749

FRIENDS of the LIBRARY / Book Club
Contact Library 728.2176

HISTORICAL SOCIETY (TAHS)
President Gail Ann Briggs 728.2187
4th Tuesday Jan-Oct
CB 7:00 pm

HOME/COMMUNITY EDUCATION (HCE)
President Cindy Kelley 663.4796
2nd Monday: Sept-May
CB (usually) 7:00 pm

LADIES NIGHT OUT GROUP
Contact Carol Myers 728.2749
1st Thursday: Sep-Jun. 6:00 pm

LIONS CLUB
President Dick Jurgens 728.2194
2nd Thursday ea month
CB / TBA 6:30 pm

RED CARPET CORRIDOR GROUP
Contact Sharon Arteman 728.2169

SENIOR CITIZENS Group (Lunch Potluck)
Contact Beverly Meginnes 728.2769
2nd Wednesday, CB 12:00 N

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEP'T and POLICE
Emergency 911
Fire Dep't Office (non-emergency) ~ 728.2121
Fire Chief: Brett Lueschen 728.2353
Asst Chief: Jeff Showalter 981.4871
2nd & 4th Wed. ea month
Officers: 1st Wed. ea month
EMT Squad: 3rd Wed. ea month
Fire Station, all meetings 7:00 pm
Sheriff's Office (non-emergency) 888.5034

FIRE DISTRICT TRUSTEES
President Larry Sands 728.2726
1st Thursday ea month
Fire Station 7:00 pm

UNIT 5 SCHOOLS

TOWANDA ELEMENTARY 557.4426
Principal Scott Vogel
PTO Pres. Nicole Mackinson 830.8619
PTO / Open Meetings 7:00 pm
1st Monday usually: Sept-May

Evans Junior High School 557.4406
Normal Community High School 557.4401

BOARD of EDUCATION 557.4400
2nd & 4th Wednesday ea month
1809 W Hovey, NL 7:00 pm
Website: www.unit5.org

Information / Corrections: Ph/Fax - 728.2187
e-mail - gbriggs@frontiernet.net - 8.31.13