Indian Creek Newsletter

October 2014

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

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Towanda American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday October 5th 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 dinner on Friday October 10th from 5:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include fish, French fries, roll, coleslaw, 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.

Legion, Sons of the Legion and the Legion Auxiliary will have their regular meeting on Thursday October 16th at 7:00 at the Post. 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.

St. Mary's Chili Cook Off and Fall Festival

The St. Mary's Chili Cook Off and Fall Festival will be held on October 25, 2014 at the McLean County Fairgrounds from 11:00 to 4:00. There will be games for kids, prizes, entertainment (Patrick Campbell, Hispanic Dancers, Cloggers, and more) and chili tasting!

If you wish to attend, please contact the Mason Family at 846-2002 for tickets. Tickets cost \$5.00

If you wish to participate by entering a fabulous chili, please contact St. Mary's School at 309-828-5954. Cash prizes awarded for the top 3 chili's! First place chili is \$500!

The St. Mary's 5K Chili Crusade and Fun Run will be held on October 26, 2014. This is a run/walk held along the constitution trail in scenic downtown Bloomington. Follow the link for additional details and registration form: http://stmarysschool.net/images/index/5KRaceForm.pdf

Local Calendar Dates

Wed.Oct.8 – Unit 5 / 1-hr late start

Fri.Oct.10 – NCHS Homecoming Game

Mon.Oct.13 - Unit 5 - Columbus Day / no school

Wed.Oct.22 – Unit 5 / 1-hr late start

Fri.Oct.24 – Parent-Teacher Conferences / no school for students

Fri.Oct.31 – Halloween / Trick & Treat

November 4th is an election day. Make sure you are registered so you can vote!



by Helen Leake - McLean County Master Gardener

Now is the time to plant the tree or shrub that you have been wanting. The garden centers have marked the price down so they don't have to care for them over the winter. Also the trees or shrubs will be able to spend their energy toward growing a good root system, since the above ground part is going dormant.

When you plant the trees, remember to keep the root flair above ground. Dig the hole 3 times as wide as the root ball. If you are using a machine to dig the tree and plant it in a machine dug hole, use a garden rake to break up the sides of the hole. That way, the tender new roots won't meet a "brick wall" while they are growing outward. Apply a couple of inches of wood mulch to the surface to help hold moisture. After the ground freezes, you can apply a couple more inches of wood mulch to prevent the freezing and thawing of the soil. Be sure to keep the mulch back a couple of inches from the tree trunk. It needs to be able to breathe, Also it prevents the mice and voles that live in the mulch from having the tree trunk so handy for dinner.

The leaves are starting to fall. Instead of raking and removing them, run the mower over them and break them up. The earthworms will eat them and release their castings into the soil to feed the grass roots. The earthworms also loosen the soil as they move around, so the rain water can soak in easier.

Labor Day is the beginning of the turf-grass-care season. Everyone likes a pretty green lawn that is free of weeds. That is next to impossible unless you spend a lot of time and money. It has been said "The more you do to the lawn, the more you need to do". That doesn't mean to do nothing. One thing we talk about is de-thatching, if you have more than an inch of thatch, you should rent a machine that pulls plugs out. Thatch is caused by excess fertilizing, poor mowing practice, over watering and over use of chemicals. Some thatch is good.

September is the ideal time to fertilize, if needed. If you let the clippings remain on the lawn when you mow, that will return enough nitrogen to the grass.

When mowing your lawn, leave the grass 2 1/2 - 3 inches tall, some leave it 4 inches tall. The taller blades will shade the soil to keep the roots cooler and help prevent the soil from drying out so fast. It will also help prevent the weed seeds from reaching the soil to germinate. The thatch also helps cool the soil, slows drying and stops weed seeds from germinating.

When we spray the lawn with chemicals to kill the grubs, we also kill the earthworms, grubs and other insects in the soil. A few grubs are good because they help the earthworms clean up the dead roots and also help aerate the soil, loosening it so rain and air can get down to the grass roots.

If you just have a few weeds, it is better to spot spray, instead of spraying the whole yard. It is also less stress on the turf grass and better for the environment. Never spray just before a rain. The chemicals need time to work before being washed off. Also be sure to follow the directions on the container.



Towanda HCE



The Towanda HCE will meet for their monthly meeting on Monday, October 13, 7p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The program, "Cooking with fresh vegetables" will be given by Joyce Theobald. The fact find on the sunflower will be presented by Leatha Poshard. Hostesses, Debbie Kinsella and Dorothy Jones will be welcoming you and your guests to this meeting. Call Cindy Kelley,

309-663-4796 for more information about this meeting.

Other activities we will participate in will be a Dump Cooking class on Oct 13, 1-4pm at Extension Office, 402 N. Hershey, Bloomington. Call Edna, 662-5520 to RSVP and fees by Oct 9. All supplies will be provided. International Study of Germany will take place on Thursday, Oct 16, 6-9 pm, at Extension Office. RSVP if possible by Oct 9 to Karen, 828-9559. Towanda Unit will be bringing one of the foods to be tasted. Joyce and Bob Bishop will be speaking of their many trips to Germany. Everyone is invited to attend this interesting study of Germany and taste many varied foods. All HCE activities are open to the public.

Towanda HCE will have a display at the Towanda Library during HCE month to showcase the many programs HCE will be having during the year. All are invited to attend any of our unit meetings or any workshops or meetings in the county. Call Robin Pearson, 815-579-1650 for information about the Towanda HCE Unit.



CaringBridge Site for Marilyn Blank

Marilyn Blank is undergoing treatment for acute leukemia and thoughts and prayers of support are welcomed at her CaringBridge site. Also at that site, updates are posted almost daily. The site can be found by clicking on: Visit Marilyn's site

Classified

Business:

The Pampered Chef

October brings beautiful color to our area and a change to fall recipes. Contact Annette Hancock to plan your Fall party to celebrate the season with neighbors & friends!

Time to start your holiday shopping and your own wish list of Pampered Chef products. Visit her booth at the Holiday Vendor Show at the Towanda Library on November 1st.



Call Home - 728-2990
Text Cell - 309-242-1802
Email - oldcars@frontiernet.net
Website - http://new.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock

Needed:

Laundry detergent caps (lids) and styrofoam egg containers. Charlie's preschool is looking for these to use in activities. If you have any I can come and get them or they can dropped off at Nicole Hartman's house (30 Candle Ridge). Colehartman@hotmail.com or 728-2093.

For Hire:

Tom Sennett, the owner of the local LintFighters, is a Town of Normal firefighter. His number is 309-532-0995, and his website is www.lintfighters.com. He charged me \$85 for cleaning the lint out of the dryer (there was a lot!) and the dryer vent, using his own vacuum which has hepa filters on it. In order to clean the dryer, he had to take the bottom panel off of it. Before he cleaned everything, my dryer had an airflow of 8.4 and after he cleaned it, it was 28.9! He said everyone should have it done, even if your dryer vent is short, because fires start in the lint that is caught in the dryer.

Are you going on vacation this summer? Joe Kaufmann would be happy to mow your lawn while you're gone. A great job for a great price! Call him at 728-8095

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 Busy Bees

The Towanda Busy Bees will meet on October 21st at 6:30 pm for a Fall Family Potluck at the Towanda Community Building. 4H is open to all youth ages 8 to 18 by September 1st of 2014. Cloverbuds is available for children ages 5 to 7. New members and visitors are always welcome. For more information contact: Martha Rients 728-2178.

Library News

Story Hours at 10:30 each Wednesday Morning:

October 1 – Scarecrow Puppet Play in the Puppet Theater

October 8 – Pumpkin Harvest

October 15 – Make An Indian Corn Door Decoration

October 22 – Apples and Apple Seeds

October 29 – A Fall Harvest of Shapes

Is Your Yard Ready for a Polar Vortex? (If we get one this winter) -- Hear tips for preparing your yard for winter. See photos of one-of-a-kind perennials. Randy Pearson will also offer advice on winter composting at this October 23rd workshop at 4:30.

4th & 5th Grade Girl's Night Out on October 1 – Melted Crayon Art. Parents must sign permission slip before September 30th for this after-school event.

4th & 5th Grade Guy's Night Out on October 2 – Make a Mini-Robot! Parents must sign permission slip before September 30th for this after-school event.

Fourth Annual Artist/Vendor Christmas Sale on Saturday November 1, 2014 @ Towanda

District Library -- Sponsored by FRIENDS of Towanda District Library. Do your holiday shopping – while supporting your library and local artists/vendors.

Read to Dogs - Tuesday Evenings @ 5:30 to 6:30 in October and November for Elementary Students. Pre-register for your 15-minute appointment of one-on-one time with a certified therapy dog and its owner. Parents' signatures required for participants. Read-Aloud Time at 6:00 – listen to the librarian read you a chapter-book dog story – Saving Zasha, a Caudill Award nominee.

25th Anniversary of Library BUILDING

Saturday, November 15 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Presentation by Linda Garbe at 1:30

The People Who Made It Happen: History of Towanda's Library
Refreshments
Photo Display