



# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

April 2025

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

Contact us by email at [indiancreeknews1@gmail.com](mailto:indiancreeknews1@gmail.com)

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## ICWA Annual Meeting Minutes

**Indian Creek Homeowners and Water Association - Annual Meeting 2025**  
**Monday, March 3, 2025. 7 p.m. Towanda Community Center**

President - Barb Leathers  
VP/Secretary - Barbara Ulbrich (Interim)  
Treasurer - Dave Schulthes  
Water Chair - Jim Larson  
Grounds Chair - Fred Walk (Interim)  
Newsletter - Ron Metz/Kathy Dumler

Welcome and Introduction - Barb Leathers. New and old residents alike were welcomed.

Minutes of 2024 Annual Meeting - Read by Barbara Ulbrich. Motion made to adopt, it was seconded and approved.

### Standing Reports

**A. Insurance Report** - Barb Leathers, President. Barb shared that the Association carries both property and liability insurance. Several items are covered under the policy including the water tower, the building, our equipment including the tractor among other things. We increased coverage on the chemical building.

Barb indicated all board members are volunteers. The Water chair post is up for election this year. Fred Walk and Barbara Ulbrich are serving in an interim capacity. If someone would like to serve, please let one of the Board members know.

Barb also discussed the proposed minor change to harmonize the bylaws with the covenants; we will vote on this and other things at the end of the meeting.

**B. Finance Report.** Dave Schulthes, Treasurer.

Dave provided a recap of financial results for 2024 and year to date through February 2025.

### 2024 Financial Review

The Water Fund ended 2024 with \$139,500 down from \$157,000 the prior year.

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Large expenses were for final work on the grounds around the tower and work on the well pipe and pump.

The Homeowners Fund (Grounds/Annual Assessment) ended 2024 with \$1,800.

### 2025 Financial Review through February

As of the end of February, 2025, the Water Fund had \$154,000. The Homeowners Fund balance (Grounds/Annual Assessment) at the end of February was \$591.

The Homeowner's Fund has broken even the last two years and recommended an increase in the Homeowners Fund assessment to be voted on later in the meeting.

### **C. Water Report** - Jim Larson, Chair

#### Water System Projects:

Jim discussed the water system projects which were completed during the past two years – construction of the chemical building, the refurbishing of the water tower including structural repairs, improvements to the water tower parking area and driveway and replacement of the well pump and drop pipe. We have also upgraded the electrical system in the water tower and added a backup generator hookup. There is a backup generator hookup at the well head.

The chemical building and water tower projects should have useful lives of 20-25 years. The well pump is anticipated to last 10-15 years. We tested the well capacity when the pump was replaced and confirmed we still have a strong water source.

Jim discussed plans to replace the main water pipes and valves inside the water tower. This equipment is over 40 years old and had a significant leak a couple of years ago. This work is under contract and is estimated to cost \$11 thousand. We plan to have this completed by early spring.

Corn Belt Electric has indicated their willingness to replace the power line to the well head. This line currently runs from near the water tower, through the woods and under the creek to the well head. Plans are to relocate this line from near the bridge, along the gravel road to the well head. We have not been provided with information when this might be scheduled.

The remaining significant capital project for the water system under consideration is drilling a backup well. In June 2020, the Illinois EPA issued a "Critical Review Determination" on our water system because we lacked a backup water source. This action was taken on other water suppliers in similar situations. There is no enforcement action at this time, however, this issue comes up whenever the Illinois EPA performs a review of our water system. In 2020 our engineering firm estimated the cost of a backup well to be about \$185 thousand. Jim discussed a possible timeline for this project and financing options. The Board would like to have the funds necessary to do this project in 3-5 years. Implementing a special assessment to build sufficient funds was discussed. A \$1,000 assessment per residence spread over 2 to 4 years was used as an example. No decision was reached at this meeting. A question was raised if the \$1,000 assessment was the total amount or the proposed amount per year; Jim replied it was the total amount (e.g. if spread over 4 years, then \$250 per year).

Special thanks to Dave Schulthes for the financial reporting and planning that played a key role in our being able to complete these projects. Also a big "thank you" to Brett Lueschen, our water operator and fellow Indian Creek resident, for the key role he played in getting these projects

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completed and establishing strong relationships with our vendors as well as the great job he does maintaining our water system including quickly responding to emergency situations.

#### Illinois EPA Five Year Survey Report:

Every five years the Illinois EPA performs a survey/audit of our water system. The following “findings” were reported and have all been addressed.

- Add a casing vent to the wellhead.
- Wire a backup generator connection to the water tower and chemical building (the wellhead already had a connection).
- Install a liquid spill barrier in the chemical building.
- Make minor changes to our water testing and reporting procedures.

#### Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP):

ICHWA was required to complete a SWPP at the direction of the EPA in 2024. Previously only larger water suppliers were required to complete this report. A copy has been posted to the “Water” section of the Indian Creek website.

Included as an attachment to the SWPP is a report prepared by the Illinois EPA – “SWPP Fact Sheet”. This report documents information compiled by the Illinois EPA about our water system. We have submitted some updates to this report, but have not received a revised copy.

The purpose of the report is to require water providers to document potential sources of water contamination impacting their water sources and implement mitigation plans. The Illinois EPA has not identified any potential water contamination issues impacting our water source. The regulation has significant reporting requirements including a description of our water source, copies of past water testing results and commitments to monitor our water system.

The Illinois EPA will issue a formal review of our report, however, we have heard they have a very large backlog of reports to review. We have not received any comments from the Illinois EPA at this time.

#### Importance of calling JULIE:

- Call JULIE before digging (1-800-892-0123) to have utility lines marked
- Immediately report to an ICHWA Board member and the utilities’ location service company (USIC @ 1-800-778-9140) if any utilities are damaged.

Maps of the subdivision water supply system are posted in the “Water” section of the Indian Creek website under “Water System Maps Including Water Shutoff Locations”. Water distribution lines (plastic pipes) are shown and each lot’s water shutoff valve is indicated by an “S” on the maps.

#### **D. Grounds Report** - Fred Walk, Interim Grounds Chair

Fred gave an overview of the condition of the Indian Creek common grounds. We have 54.3 acres of common ground, with 1.5-2 miles of maintained trails.

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The ash borers killed many ash trees over the past few years. Many were cut down that were in danger of falling over the bridge road. We also lost many very large hackberry trees that had to be cut up and removed from the trails. Fred noted that we have tree service vendors that deliver mulch/chips that are spread along the trail and in muddy areas. The mulch/chip pile is located beyond the open soccer field area along with firewood that is available to residents for their use.

As a reminder, the burn pile was relocated. The pile is burned down once or twice per year. It's only for small branches and not for construction type material. Do NOT bring leaves, grasses, dead plantings and shrub clippings to the pile. Do not bring items to the pile when the ground is wet and soft as this causes ruts and your vehicle getting stuck in the mud.

The Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative has been very successful. We've now planted over 350 saplings - oaks, sycamore, redbud, coffee trees, pecan, hickory. The initiative was started during the spring of 2022 and we have a survival rate of well over 50%! When we put out a call for folks to donate to this initiative, we collected \$3,920. It's been used to pay for saplings, fencing, rebar, posts, etc. We still have \$1238 to continue to plant more trees.

The Audubon Society regularly conducts bird counts in our subdivision. The Audubon members are amazed at our common ground habitat and the diversity of birds they find.

Tractor maintenance and repair – Over the past year we have made major repairs on the tractor. Following are some of the repairs that were done by replacing the following items: the entire wiring system (harness), alternator, fuel injector and lines, hydraulic hoses, hydraulic cylinder, and hydraulic pump shaft. A big thanks to Keith Whittum, Jim Kellenberger, Rod Hinderliter and Fred Walk for all their time, efforts and expertise. Outsourcing this work to professional mechanics would have cost homeowners at least \$4,000. The tractor should be available for use by the end of March.

Mowing costs \$3800 per year. Our vendor is Advantage Lawn and Landscaping. They mow at least 20 times per season - the open field, lanes, water tower, area and ditches. We receive a 5% discount by paying for the season up front.

The grounds portion of the insurance premium has increased, along with other costs to maintain the grounds. Fred shared that we need a \$5 per quarter increase to cover this; i.e. from \$40 to \$45 dollars.

Greg Beneze then shared that he has been the coordinator for trash pickup along the 2 mile stretch of county road 1900 (McLean County Road 29) bordering Indian Creek for several years. He is now seeking a replacement. The pickup is held 2-4 times per year; between April 1 and November 1. It's ideal if 8 people volunteer per pickup session. Volunteers are required to sign a liability waiver required by McLean County prior to participating. If interested, please let Greg know.

#### **E. Newsletter Report - Ron Metz and Kathy Dumler**

Ron reported that we renewed our website hosting. Each renewal phase is \$600 for 3 years. We are considering switching from Microsoft Outlook; there are issues with sending mass emails. There would be no cost issues if we switched, for example, to Gmail. Ron will research this matter.

#### **F. Action Items**

Approval of 2024 Minutes: motion made, seconded, and carried in a unanimous vote of the residents attending.

Election of Board Members: Jim Larson was nominated for another 3 year term; motion was made, seconded, and carried in a unanimous vote of the residents attending.

Bylaws change: motion made to amend "Fees" section: *Any unpaid balance of 90 days will be subject to 8% interest penalty and a lien may be filed against the property if necessary.* Motion was seconded and carried in a unanimous vote.

Grounds portion of Assessment: Per the covenants, the grounds portion of the Assessment may be voted on by the Board at the Annual Meeting; it was moved to increase from \$40 to \$45 per quarter, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**G. Adjournment** – a motion to adjourn was presented, seconded and unanimously approved.

## Towanda Library

Spring is in full bloom at Towanda District Library, and we have a month packed with exciting events for all ages! Bring the kids to our weekly **Storytime** sessions every Wednesday and Friday at 10:30 AM, featuring fun themes like *Rain Makes Flowers*, *Earth Day*, and *Hello Moon*!

Adults can enjoy creative and educational evenings, including **Make Your Own Bath Salts** (April 1st at 5:30 PM) and **Unraveling the Mysteries of Facebook Marketplace** (April 22nd at 5:30 PM).

Book lovers, don't miss our **Book Club Meeting** on April 15th!

Looking for family fun? Join us for an **Easter Egg Hunt** on April 12th at 11:00 AM and a **Rock Painting Party** on April 26th at 11:00 AM! Stop by, get involved, and make the most of this spring season!

## APRIL 2025 Towanda District Library APRIL 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>April 14th at 2:00 pm</u> Mysteries of India Homeschool Event  <b>OPEN 10-4</b>	<u>April 1st at 5:30 pm</u> Make your own bath salts Adult Craft Night  <u>April 8th at 2:30 pm</u> Lego Club  <u>April 15th at 5:30 pm</u> Book Club Meeting  <u>April 22nd at 5:30 pm</u> Unravelling the Mysteries of Facebook Marketplace  <b>OPEN 1-7</b>	<u>April 2nd at 10:30 am</u> Birds Storytime <u>April 9th at 10:30 am</u> Rain Makes Flowers Storytime <u>April 16th at 10:30 am</u> Jump up! Storytime <u>April 23rd at 10:30 am</u> Earth Day Storytime <u>April 30th at 10:30 am</u> Hello Moon! Storytime  <b>OPEN 10-4</b>	<b>OPEN 1-7</b>	<u>April 4th at 10:30 am</u> Birds Storytime <u>April 11th at 10:30 am</u> Rain Makes Flowers Storytime <u>April 18th at 10:30 am</u> Jump up! Storytime <u>April 25th at 10:30 am</u> Earth Day Storytime <u>May 2nd at 10:30 am</u> Hello Moon! Storytime  <b>OPEN 10-4</b>	<u>April 12th at 11:00 am</u> Easter Egg Hunt!  <u>April 26th at 11:00 am</u> Rock Painting Party!  <b>OPEN 10-2</b>



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# Roadside Litter Pickup

## Look out litter – we are coming for you!

The volunteer form for this event is on the website, (<https://indiancreeksubdivision.org/volunteering/Litter-Patrol-Waiver.pdf>) so individuals who want to help can print and complete and bring with them to the litter pickup event. This form stays the same year to year. I will have blank forms with me to be filled out if the person has not previously completed the waiver.

Our first litter pickup will be Saturday, April 12 at 10 AM. We will pick up roadside litter along the 2 miles of County Road 29 that leads from I-55 to our subdivision. This usually takes about 1 hour.

If you are interested in helping, please meet at the intersection of CR 29 and 2100N, next to Reeve's storage building. The only thing you will need to bring are gloves. I will bring trash bags and safety vests.

Please contact Greg Beneze (309-846-2741) if you have any questions. If the weather doesn't cooperate on April 12, our rain date is April 26 at 10AM.

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## Towanda HCE

**Towanda Home & Community Education** group will meet on **Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm** at the Towanda Community Building. The program, "The Color Purple (color between red and blue)," will be presented by Linda Conder. The minor lesson is the People & Demographics of South Africa. The **HCE** Community Service project for the Humane Society for April is 80 gallon or larger garbage bags that you may bring to the meeting. For more information about the April meeting, contact Cindy, 309-824-4797.

**HCE** is hoping you'll shop at Fannie May Candy Shop at the Shoppes of College Hills, on **Friday, April 4, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.** when **HCE** members will be manning an information table and giving you details about how your purchase will benefit **HCE** at no cost to the customer. We encourage you to purchase for Easter and all your special events to benefit our organization.

The April **HCE** Cultural Enrichment day will be a day trip on **Thursday, April 10** to Fairbury for shopping and eating out at Lost in Time Restaurant at **11a.m.** Contact Candace Thedens, 309-824-2346 for more information or to RSVP. Shopping and carpooling is on your own.

The **HCE** Community Service group will meet on **Tuesday, April 15, 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at the Farm Bureau auditorium, 2242 Westgate Dr, Bloomington. The April project will be making adult clothing protectors (bibs). Sewers and non-sewers are welcome. We need many people to complete the numerous worthwhile projects we work on. For more information, contact Betty, 309-531-2183.

Contact Cindy, 309-824-4797 with any questions or more information about **HCE** and our many educational and community service activities.

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## Water Hydrant Flushing Schedule – 2025

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.**

Monday, March 31	Monday, August 25
Monday, April 28	Monday, September 29
Monday, May 26	Monday, October 27
Monday, June 30	Monday, November 24
Monday, July 28	Monday, December 29

Jim Larson – ICHWA Water Chairperson

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## Towanda Area Garage Sales

**SPRING GARAGE SALES** will be held in conjunction with the Red Carpet Corridor event weekend. Please let me know your plans to have a sale to be held anytime between Thursday, May 1 and Sunday, May 4. Email [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net) ~ text (309) 824-1649, ~ USPS, Gail Ann Briggs 112 Hunt Street, Towanda.

**The following requested information is due not later than April 23 to be included on the flyer:**

1) sale location on a map ~ 2) days and times of your sale ~ 3) list of items (include as much as you like, in priority order, and as much as possible will be included on the flyer). Thank you!

The communities in the section of Route 66 between Joliet and Bloomington will be sharing publicity in the Red Carpet Corridor communications, and we expect this will bring lots of shoppers to Towanda sales.

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# Towanda American Legion

207 Hely Street, Towanda

## **BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

**8:00-11:00 am**

Sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, drink \$10  
Come dine-in with us or carry-out!

~THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!~

[towandalegion@gmail.com](mailto:towandalegion@gmail.com)

& find us on facebook

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### **Beautify McLean County with Trash Collection Volunteer Days**

Come celebrate Earth Month with the Ecology Action Center (EAC) by removing litter from McLean County, helping beautify the natural environment. Volunteers are invited to join the EAC and partners on April 5 and April 26 for hands-on opportunities that will make a lasting impact on local spaces. Learn more and sign up at [ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering](http://ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering).

The Bring it Back to Normal Clean Up Day at the Illinois State University (ISU) Farm will be occurring on Saturday, April 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is a collaboration between the EAC, the Town of Normal, and ISU. Volunteers will help clean up litter at the ISU Farm in Lexington, Illinois. The ISU Farm is where all yard waste from the Town of Normal is composted. Thus, any trash put in with yard waste can contaminate the compost and blow into surrounding farms. Participants will help to remove this trash from the fields using provided trash grabbers, gloves, and bags. Registration is required for all volunteers and can be found at [ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering](http://ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering). This event is open to all ISU students, faculty, and staff as well as community members. All participants will receive transportation to and from the farm, as well as lunch. The rain date for this event is April 12.

The EAC is partnering with Friends of the Constitution Trail for the annual Earth Day Sugar Creek Clean Up. Volunteers will clear trash and debris out of Constitution Trail from Chateau west to Audubon Gardens on Saturday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Trash bags, grabbers, and gloves will be provided. Registration is required for all volunteers and can be found at [ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering](http://ecologyactioncenter.org/volunteering). This event is open to individuals, families with children above 12 years old, and groups looking to support a cleaner and greener McLean County.

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.



## Ecology Action Center Announcement: 2025 Tree Corps Planting Season Begins

The Ecology Action Center (EAC) successfully planted over 30,000 trees in the past three years due to the strong financial and volunteer support from the Bloomington- Normal and McLean County community. In order to reach the annual goal of planting 10,000 more trees in 2025, the EAC is seeking contributions of time and financial resources through their website at [Tree-Corps.org](https://Tree-Corps.org).

Trees reduce air pollution, sequester carbon emissions, create critical wildlife and pollinator habitat, cool summer temperatures in urban areas, and help protect local watersheds. The Tree Corps is an initiative led by the EAC with many community partners with the goal to plant at least 10,000 trees annually in the McLean County area. Where possible, trees are planted in urban areas in order to increase “tree equity”, that is, putting trees where they are needed the most for air quality improvement and other benefits for public health and quality of life.

For spring 2025, the EAC has planned several projects in order to reach the 10,000 tree goal:

- Illinois Department of Transportation along the Market Street Interchange
- Illinois Department of Transportation along the Veterans Parkway Interchange
- Comlara Park
- Lake Bloomington

Donations and volunteers are needed to make this effort a success. Online donation and volunteer signup are available at [Tree-Corps.org](https://Tree-Corps.org). More details available by calling 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.



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# Towanda American Legion

207 Hely St., Towanda

## SPRING/SUMMER 2025 Menu

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**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 4/5/25 @ 8-11 a.m.**

Sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, and drink \$9

**DINNER: Friday, 4/11/25 @ 5 - 7 p.m.**

Fish, french fries, baked beans, dessert and drink \$12

Kids: hot dog, french fries, dessert & drink \$5

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 5/10/25 @ 8-11 a.m.**

sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, drink \$9

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER

**DINNER: Friday, 5/23/25 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

Pork chop, french fries, pasta salad, roll, dessert & drink \$10

Kids: hot dog, french fries, dessert & drink \$5

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 6/7/25 @ 8-11 a.m.**

Sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, and drink \$9

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO PARKINSON'S

**DINNER: Friday, 6/13/25 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

Steak, salad, baked potato, green beans, roll, dessert, and drink \$18 or 2/\$30

kids: hot dog, chips, dessert & drink \$5

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 7/12/25 @ 8-11 a.m.**

Sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, drink \$9

**DINNER: Friday, 7/18/25 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

Burger OR (2) brats, french fries, baked beans, dessert, and drink \$9 (Additional patty or brat \$2 ea.)

Kids: hot dog, french fries, dessert & drink \$5

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 8/2/25 @ 8-11 a.m.**

Sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, drink \$9

**DINNER: Friday, 8/22/25 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

Pork chop, french fries, baked beans, roll, dessert & drink \$10

Kids: hot dog, french fries, dessert & drink \$5

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All meals subject to change without notice. Carry out available.

Thank you for your support in 2024, we couldn't do it without you! Hope to see you all in 2025!

email: towandalegion@gmail.com — Find us on Facebook!

*Thank you for your continued support!*

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# Classified

## Businesses:



Markie Proesel - Independent Consultant  
7 Candle Ridge Rd Towanda, IL 61776  
(309) 212 4359

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



**John Hermann**  
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The Greater Illinois Financial Group  
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### Jerrod Ingram

Real Estate Agent - eXp Realty

- Thinking about selling your house?
- Considering buying a house?
- Contact me today!
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**exp**  
REALTY

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**norwex**  
Independent Consultant

## For Hire:

Caden Lueschen is available for lawn care. Caden can be contacted through his dad, Brett Lueschen, at (309) 728-2353.

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

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 attending Heartland beginning in Fall 2023. Please call or text her at 309-532-7522. References available.

Jaeden Proesel - Age 16 is willing to do odd jobs such as dog walking, pet sitting, lawn care, etc. Please reach out! 309-310-7470

Millie Harmon is available for both pet sitting and babysitting. Millie has experience pet sitting, is a member of the Junior Zoo Keepers at Miller Park zoo, and is part of the equestrian team at Lone Ridge Farm. Millie has completed a safe sitters course and enjoys being with children. She can be reached at 309-665-9053 (Millie) or 309-530-5360 (parent).