

TOWANDA TIMES

June 2025

MAYOR MINUTE

People coming together as a Community can make Amazing things happen.

The Village will be hosting with the McLean County Health Department's Mobile Health Clinic a scheduled stop in the community at the Towanda Community Building **Friday, July 18th – 10:AM to 2:00 PM.**

They will be offering FREE A1C checks, Blood Pressure Screenings, and BMI Assessments. Time permitting, they will also offer Car Seat Safety Checks.

The village is also working on other items we can bring to the community this summer.

The village has received some inquiries regarding the use and non-use of the garbage service provided within the community. The village has a garbage contract to service the community. This contract means the village is responsible for servicing the village as a whole and pays for this service as such, refuse collection is then passed through to all the residents of the village and the surrounding community we are currently servicing.

Per Ordinance; *Refuse collection fees shall be included with the Village water bill to each water user monthly at the same time as the Village water bill is sent out. Owners or occupants of premises which do not use Village water shall be billed monthly by separate billing for the appropriate refuse fees for their premises.*

As stated in the last newsletter, it's that time of year again with weather, residents will be out enjoying time outdoors within the community.

Please remember our Ordinances that are designed to help the Village be a place those who live here can enjoy.

The Village of Towanda Ordinance requires residents within the village shall cut grass and weeds on your property at all such times as necessary so that such grass, plants and weeds shall not exceed 8 inches in height.

Also, warmer weather means more motorcycles on the road. According to Illinois law, it is illegal to blow grass clipping onto the road. "If it didn't grow there don't let it blow there".

As always, if there are any questions regarding the village events, any general village questions, comments or concerns within the community...

Feel free to contact me personally or attend a Board Meeting for anything you would like to be addressed.

Don Williams
mayor@villageoftowanda.org
309/275-0435

4-H

Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 3rd at the Towanda Community Building at 5:30 p.m. We will talk about signing up for projects for the 4-H Fair.

At our May meeting, members participated in two community service projects. One was stuffing dog beds for a local rescue and the other was cleaning up the park in Towanda as a "4-H Trash Bash" community service project.

For more information contact Carrie Vogel 309-825-6248 or Jeanie Wager 309-728-2852.

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

The Funeral Committee hosts after-funeral gatherings for our Village residents. Please let us know if we can be of help. Also, we are looking for volunteers for our "call list" for food donations. Contact Tammy Pate call/text (309) 826-8776 or Janet Collins (309) 706-3390. Help us keep this tradition going for our residents!

HCE

(Towanda Home and Community Education)

The Towanda HCE Unit members are looking forward to their HCE June Outing on Thursday, June 12 when we are going to go to the Peoria Heights area for the day. We will meet to carpool together at Normal West High School in their southeast corner parking lot (closest to Parkside St) at 9am. Our first stop is to tour Trefzgers Bakery in Peoria Heights, then having lunch at the Hearth Restaurant Peoria Heights, and ending the afternoon with a tour & visit to Leaves and Beans in Peoria. For more information and to RSVP by Monday, June 9th: Cindy Kelley, 309-824-4797.

McLean County HCE has many upcoming events. We will have HCE bake sale booths at: Downs Village Farmers Market (in Dooley Park this year), 4-6pm, on Wednesdays June 4 and Sept 10; Bloomington Farmers Market on the square on Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 12noon; and September 25-26 at the Attic Treasures and Bake Sale at the Interstate Center, Bloomington. HCE also will have their Community Service day on Tuesday, June 17, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McLean County Farm Bureau, where they will be making walker bags and adult bibs.

The McLean County Home and Community Education is once again sponsoring the Young At Heart Day at the McLean County Fair on Thursday, July 24, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There will be more information in next month's newsletter. Save the date!

4th JULY

UPDATE Fireworks, Parades, Flea Markets, and MORE!

The 4th is quickly approaching, and the plans are underway for the July 4th Celebration. Before the 4th, we are working hard to raise extra funds to offset the increased costs of the **FIREWORKS**.

Donations are needed to cover the main expenses of the day's activities, and the **FIREWORKS** are the largest expense and enjoyed by everyone! The Parade has expenses to cover, as well as the port-a-pots, security, insurance, promotion and supplies....and the list goes on!

**PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE
ACTIVITIES IN TOWANDA ON THE 3rd and 4th! WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

Fireworks as usual will be held at dark on July 3. The school grounds are a great place to watch and there will be concessions set up a few hours before the fireworks begin.

HCE will host their annual Spaghetti Supper at the Community Building on Thursday, July 3rd from 4:30 – 6:30. Adults \$10/Child \$5, kids under 2 FREE. Additional information is available from Cindy Kelley 309 824-4797.

Kicks will once again host the July 3rd band. SWEETWATER will be playing from 5:30 – 8:30 pm. No cover charge, just good music, good friends, good food and cold drinks!

The Flea Market will be set up in the Parks as usual, **vendors welcome!** Contact Tammy Pate with questions. 309 826-8776 or towandajuly4th@gmail.com.

The Parade Theme this year is, “Let Freedom Ring.” All Parade questions can be directed to Virginia Lowery at the contact info below! **FLOAT ENTRIES** must be pre-registered to qualify for judging!

The **Parade** will step off at 10 am sharp from the School grounds. The **Parade Marshal** will be **Gregg Egbers**.

Jeanie Wager and the Towanda 4-H Club will be this year’s Spotlight winner. We look forward to recognizing our current and past members and leaders. Contact **Jeanie Wager** to help! 309 728-2852. **“COME SHARE THE FUN!”**

Once again, we will honor our veterans on the **Veteran’s Tram**. We will have the **50 Flags** available and looking for **Volunteers to Carry a Flag**.

Please contact Virginia Lowery at the info below to **sign up to save a seat on the Tram or carry one of the 50 Flags**. You can also bring your own flag and walk with the group.

If you would like to make a donation to the July 4th Celebration, checks can be sent to:

July 4th Celebration * 101 Miriam Way * Towanda, IL 61776
Virginia Lowery * vlowery1@hotmail.com * 309 825-6341

Checks and Cash Donations can also be deposited at the **Community Building**, with the Clerk or dropped in the mail slot on the front of the building. **All donations are appreciated!**

~ “Let Freedom Ring” ~

TOWANDA AMERICAN LEGION

Thank you to those that support us, greatly appreciated!
email: towandalegion@gmail.com and find us on facebook

NEW MEMBERS: *We are looking for members!* Are you a Veteran, son of a Veteran, or would like to be in the Auxiliary? Join us for our monthly meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Towanda Legion.

RENTALS: The legion is a great place to rent for your events!
Text Sharon Engel 309/531-8898 or Email us: towandalegion@gmail.com

NEXT EVENT:

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

~ **SPRING/SUMMER 2025 MENU** ~

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 each
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

All meals subject to change without notice.

Carry out available.

207 Hely Street, Towanda

TOWANDA HISTORICAL WALKWAY

Troop #56 is proud to add three new bricks to the Walkway in honor of William (2021), Emerson (2023) and Oliver (2025) Weber for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Their father, Dan Weber will be installing the Eagle Bricks soon. In addition to these three bricks, the **Paul & Pat Pulokas Family** brick will be installed as well as a brick **"In Memory of Our Scouting Friend, Bill Keefe."**

If anyone is interested in purchasing a Memorial or Historical brick for their family or friends, please contact Virginia Lowery @ 309 825-6341 or vlowery1@hotmail.com. The bricks are \$50 each with up to three lines of print, 16 spaces per line. Feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Next year will be the 100th anniversary of Route 66~ It's a good time to leave your "footprint" along old 66! Order your brick today!!!

"Towanda is a great little place to call HOME!"

TOWANDA ROUTE 66 PARKWAY

Please consider purchasing a t-shirt or sweatshirt to support our Route 66 Parkway. Short and long sleeve t-shirts are available in an assortment of colors and can be viewed and purchased at Rayburn Place located at 305 Pine Street in Normal located along Old Route 66. All proceeds go towards the maintenance of our beautiful Parkway. Contact Fred Walk at fwalk@frontiernet.net for additional information about the shirts and for donating to the Parkway.

TOWANDA FIRE DEPARTMENT (TFD)

Come see us on the 1st (Officers Meeting), 2nd (Regular Meeting), 3rd (EMS Training), or 4th (Regular Meeting), Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Or join us on the last Monday of the month at 6:30 pm (Work Night/Business Meeting). Members of the Towanda Fire Department would like to thank the citizens of the Fire Protection District for their continued support.

TOWANDA LION'S CLUB

Caring Cupboard is in need of donations. This is the time of the year where some families need just a little extra help with food and necessities.

Towanda Lion's Club sponsors the Caring Cupboard which is located at the rear of the Community Building just south of the parking lot. This is a self-serve cupboard open 24 hours a day providing non-perishable foods, personal care products, and paper products for anyone in need. NO GLASS ITEMS PLEASE. You can leave items or take what you need. However, please do not leave any items outside of the cupboard. Take a blessing when you need one, give a blessing when you can, but above all be blessed.

Please consider joining our club! We are looking for new ideas, younger members, and forming new friendships. Contact Bob Hancock at (309) 282-1801 or email oldcars@frontiernet.net

TOWANDA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please see insert.

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA CLERK

The Village Office will be closed June 10-13.

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA SAFETY

The Village of Towanda Golf Cart & Utility Vehicle Ordinance *requires* registration.

REGISTRATION OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025 @ COMMUNITY BUILDING PARKING LOT

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Please email: safety@villageoftowanda.org with questions or to set-up a appointment.

You will need:

- golf cart/utility vehicle (needed for inspection)
- driver's license
- current insurance info

Fees:

\$25 one-time application fee (not needed if you paid last year)

\$50 yearly permit fee per vehicle

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA WATER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The annual water report is posted on the Village Bulletin Board.

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA WATER/GARBAGE

You will have to create a new login and password to pay online for the new system. If there are any questions, you can call the clerk's office at 309-728-2811 option 1.

If you would like your water/garbage bill via email, please send the Clerk your email address at: clerk@villageoftowanda.org. You can also pay online, there is a \$1.75 processing fee or 2%.

Just a friendly reminder, water rates will go up with the May Read Date and June 15th Due Date.

WEDNESDAY WEEDERS ~ Route 66 Parkway

This is a group of volunteers who maintain the gardens on Route 66 Parkway. WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE HELP! The time commitment is one hour or less per Wednesday morning during the growing season. No green thumbs required! Contact Carol Myers (309) 533-0412.

JUNE 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Towanda Board Meet 7:00pm CB	3 Garbage 4-H 5:30pm CB	4 TFD Officer Meeting 6:30pm	5 Lion's Club Meet TFD 7:00pm	6	7 Legion Breakfast 8-11am
8	9 Towanda HCE 6:30pm CB	10 Garbage	11 Recycle TFD Regular Meeting 6:30pm	12	13 Legion Steak Dinner 5-7pm	14
15 Water Bills Due	16	17 Garbage	18 TFD EMS Train 6:30 pm	19 Legion Meet 7:00pm	20	21
22	23 TFD Work Night 6:30pm 4th July 6:30pm CB Golf Cart Regs 5-6pm CB lot	24 Garbage	25 Recycle TFD Regular Meeting 6:30pm	26	27	28
29	30					

**All information for the AUGUST 2025 Newsletter is due JULY 20, please send to:
news@villageoftowanda.org**

Village Contact Information

Acting Mayor: Don Williams mayor@villageoftowanda.org 309/275-0435	Village Clerk: Lula Zimmerman clerk@villageoftowanda.org 309/728-2811	Village Treasurer: Bonnie Smith treasurer@villageoftowanda.org 309/728-2811
Community Building: Deb Kinsella calendar@villageoftowanda.org 309/275-9857	Water: Scott Flack water@villageoftowanda.org 309/750-0486	Zoning: Don Williams zoning@villageoftowanda.org 309/275-0435
Safety/Ordinance: Tammy Pate safety@villageoftowanda.org 309/826-8776	Parks: Janet Collins parks@villageoftowanda.org 309/706-3390	Streets: Gary Smith streets@villageoftowanda.org 309/275-7123

The Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

**Village of Towanda
P.O. Box 213
Towanda, IL 61776**

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**~ “Let Freedom Ring” ~
Towanda 4th of July Celebration
July 3 & 4, 2025**