

TOWANDA TIMES

NOVEMBER 2026

MAYOR MINUTE

Always give without remembering and always receive without forgetting. – Brian Tracy

The village is working on end of year documents and then will discuss next year's plans and distribute information as necessary. We are making plans for items within the community being worked on this upcoming year.

Although the Centennial for Route 66 is passing, many communities are still preparing for some upcoming events and collaborations for the following year. There was great success in sharing between communities and within communities. There are always opportunities to contribute to the community, if you wish to reach out and want to participate, we would love to share the experience with you.

We see you as a community cleaning up your areas to prepare for the next seasons on the way, You Are Appreciated. The village is finishing up some clean up and preparing as well.

Remember if you need that last-minute brush removed, get it placed out front and we are here to help. Now would be a great time before the weather changes and different tasks are at hand. Also thank you for how well the dumpster collection went this year.

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

Towanda 4-H Club will be meeting on Sunday, November 1 at 1:00 PM at the Towanda Community Center. We will be learning about parliamentary procedure and electing our Vice President and Secretary. Lily M and Cami K will be our pledge leaders. Members may bring canned food items to contribute to the county food drive at the Recognition of Excellence event. 4-H is open to youth ages 8-18 and Cloverbuds is open to youth ages 5-7 (by September 1). We hope to see the Towanda 4-H Members and anyone interested on November 1!

Reporter, Maddie Green

4TH OF JULY

Join us for planning our 2027 event!

Our next meeting is Monday, January 25 at the Community Building @ 6:30 pm. Questions can be directed to: towandajuly4th@gmail.com

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

As part of the Towanda community, when a loved one passes away that resides in Towanda, you can contact the Funeral Committee to help with the funeral reception. This is a time-honored tradition made possible only through the kindness and support of our wonderful residents. The Funeral Committee kindly asks the family for a donation to help support the next family who experiences a loss. The committee takes care of setting up, cleaning up, and serving the meal to the grieving family. They provide the main dish, paper supplies, drinks, and tableware. To complete the meal, they reach out to members of the community to contribute side dishes and desserts.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? We keep a list of volunteers and their phone numbers. When the need arises, you will receive a phone call asking if you can provide a dish/dessert, it's that simple. Please consider signing up to help this great cause and to keep the tradition going. If you are interested in helping or need these services for your loved one, call/text Tammy Pate (309) 826-8776 or Janet Collins (309) 706-3390 for more information.

Our Towanda residents are more than neighbors, they are a caring community, always willing to come together and lift one another up in times of need.

HCE

(Towanda Home and Community Education)

Towanda HCE invites YOU to their November meeting on Monday, November 9, 6:30 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The program will be "History of the US Flag" given by Pat Pulokas. The minor lesson is on the study of "Caribbean Islands/Dominican Republic: Government and Flag." The collection for the Ministry & More will be lotion, razors, shave cream for men or women, and can be brought to this meeting.

McLean County HCE has these program to share with all HCE members and the general public. A Cultural Enrichment event will be held Nov. 12 for a Holiday Cookie Exchange. Recipe and RSVP or more info: text Ruth, [309-287-8214](tel:309-287-8214). November 24, 12:30 pm will be a program on "History of Handbags" presented by Paula Miller, held at Farm Bureau Auditorium, [309-824-2784](tel:309-824-2784). The Community Service for November will be kits for strip flannel blankets, made for the children at Home Sweet Home Mission; to receive these kits to make up, [309-531-2183](tel:309-531-2183). Questions? Contact the number listed for the individual event.

Towanda HCE will be highlighting October is HCE Month in McLean County, with a display at the Towanda Library and Hudson Library starting later in October and into November to showcase their HCE activities in 2026-2027. See information and join us for interesting programs and good fellowship. For more information contact Cindy, [309-824-4797](tel:309-824-4797).

TOWANDA AMERICAN LEGION

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

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION, we are looking for new members!

Are you a Veteran, son of a Veteran, or would like to be in the Auxiliary? Being a Legion member does not dictate your volunteerism, YOU DO! We have members who donate their time when they are available. The commitment is totally up to you! If we do not expand our memberships, we will not be able to continue our breakfasts, dinners, and assistance that we provide our community and Veterans. Please keep the Towanda American Legion going!

Contact towandalegion@gmail.com for more information and questions.

Legion monthly meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Towanda Legion. Our next meeting is November 19, 2026.

RENTALS: The legion is a great place to rent for your events!

Text Sharon Engel 309/531-8898 or Email us: towandalegion@gmail.com

~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

HALLOWEEN: Saturday, 10/31 @ 5-8:00 p.m.

Pizza, drink, tricks & treats!

BREAKFAST: Saturday, 11/7 @ 8-10:30 a.m.

sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs,
pancakes, hash browns, drink \$12

\$ Portion of proceeds to Suicide Prevention/Awareness

DINNER: Friday, 11/20 @ 5-7:00 p.m.

Choice of vegetable beef soup, chili, or chili mac
grilled cheese, dessert & drink \$12

BREAKFAST with SANTA: Saturday, 12/12 @ 8-10:30 a.m.

pancakes, sausage & drink

Free, donations welcomed

DINNER: No dinner in December

TOWANDA BP

It is that time of year again!

We will be raising money from September 1st until October 31st for St. Jude Children's Research. Be sure to stop by before noon on Halloween to see how this year's costume turns out.

TOWANDA DISTRICT LIBRARY



Fall into fun this November with exciting events for all ages at the library! Join us for a cozy **Fall Gnome Adult Craft Night** on November 3rd, explore Iceland during our **Homeschool Event** on November 16th, or dive into a great read with **TBR Book Club** on November 17th! Don't forget our weekly **Wednesday and Friday Storytimes** at **10:30 AM** for our youngest readers!



Holiday Reminder: The library will be closed November 24th–28th for Thanksgiving and will reopen Monday, November 30th.

We're thankful for our wonderful library community and look forward to seeing you this November. **Happy**

Thanksgiving! 🍁

NOVEMBER AT THE LIBRARY!

MONDAY <u>11/16 @ 2:00 PM</u> HOMESCHOOL EVENT: EXPLORING ICELAND!	TUESDAY <u>11/3 @ 5:30 PM</u> ADULT CRAFT: FALL GNOMES! <u>11/17 @ 5:30 PM</u> TBR BOOK CLUB	THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 24TH- 28TH FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY AND WILL REOPEN NOVEMBER 30TH
WEDNESDAY STORYTIMES @ 10:30 AM!	FRIDAY STORYTIMES @ 10:30 AM!	

Happy Thanksgiving!

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 HISTORICAL WALKWAY

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. This year 2026, is 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 LION'S CLUB

The Towanda Lions Club, Towanda IL, is a group committed to using our time, energy, and compassion to improve lives in our town.

- National service is focused on eye and hearing health,
- Local service is focused on our community and our elementary school.

If you're looking for a way to get involved, give back, and have fun doing it - we are looking for new ideas, new members, forming new friendships. Contact Bob Hancock at 309-282-1801 or email oldcars@frontiernet.net.

TOWANDA ROUTE 66 PARKWAY

Please consider purchasing our Deadman's Curve and Route 66 centennial t-shirts to support our Route 66 Parkway. The shirts are available in assorted colors and sizes and can be viewed and purchased at the McLean County Museum of History in downtown Bloomington throughout the year and at Ryburn Place located at 305 Pine Street in Normal located along Old Route 66 from March-December. Rapid Rocky's BP gas station has magnets, buttons, and postcards showing Dead Man's Curve and scenes of the parkway available for your purchase. All proceeds go towards the maintenance of our beautiful parkway. The 4.1-mile Towanda Parkway is an accredited Level I Arboretum with nearly 400 trees planted over the past 25 years. This is the only known arboretum along the entire length of the 2,448 miles of Route 66. Contact Fred Walk at fwalk@frontiernet.net for additional information about the merchandise and to make a tax-free donation. Our Parkway is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity. Come on out to experience our piece of the Mother Road.

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA CLERK

If your trash and/or recycle bin lid is damaged, please contact the Village Clerk 309/728-2811 or clerk@villageoftowanda.org

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA SAFETY/ORDINANCE

- **Golf Carts AND Utility Vehicles:** It is **MANDATORY** per the village ordinance to have your golf cart &/or utility vehicle registered with The Village of Towanda. Please email: safety@villageoftowanda.org to set up an appointment.
- **Mowing:** Please keep your grass and weeds at a respectable length. The Village of Towanda Ordinance states 8" tall. As a reminder, ***please keep grass out of the street for everyone's safety.***
- **Dog Waste:** Please pick up dog waste! There are receptacles that the Village of Towanda has provided. This includes along Route 66 pathway. Thank you!

VILLAGE OF TOWANDA WATER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The Annual Drinking Water Report is posted on the Village Bulletin Board inside the Community Building.

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.

NOVEMBER 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 -4-H @ 2:00pm CB	2 -Village Board Meet @ 7:00 CB	3 -Garbage	4 -TFD Officer Meeting 6:30pm	5	6	7 -Legion Breakfast 8-10:30am
8	9 -HCE @ 6:30 pm CB	10 -Garbage	11 Veteran's Day -Recycle -TFD Regular Meeting 6:30pm	12 -Lion's Club @ Fire Dept 6:30pm	13	14
15 -Water Bills Due	16	17 -Garbage	18 -TFD EMS Train 6:30pm	19 -Legion Meet 7:00pm	20 -Legion Chili Dinner 5-7pm	21
22	23	24 -Garbage	25 -Recycle -TFD Regular Meeting 6:30pm	26 <i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>	27	28
29	30 -TFD Work Night 6:30pm					

**All information for the DECEMBER 2026 Newsletter is due NOVEMBER 20,
please send to: news@villageoftowanda.org**

Village Contact Information

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: Evan Thomas zoning@villageoftowanda.org 309/275-0717
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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DO YOU KNOW??

- *When are dumpsters? *What do I do if my garbage can is damaged? *What activities are happening? *What does the Funeral Committee do?**
- *What clubs/committees can I join?**
- How can I help my community?**

Read all about it in the Towanda Times NEWSLETTER!

