

# TOWANDA TIMES

## APRIL 2026

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### MAYOR MINUTE

"The quality of your life will be determined by the quality of your contribution. When you work to improve the lives of others, your life improves automatically." ~Kurek Ashley

A quick reminder to summarize a few Ordinances that multiply as the weather gets better, so all can help each other within the beautiful community around you.

Solicitation individuals have begun communicating within the village. There is no challenge, if done correctly, both parties agree to communicate and the permit process required to solicit within the village is followed. This permit is to be carried, during the process. To help this process work, if you are approached, please ask to see the permit to ensure people are doing the right thing, let them know this rule exists and contact someone to help us be aware and able to help follow up.

The Village of Towanda Ordinance requires residents within the village to 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. Don't blow grass clipping onto the road.

All refuse containers shall be stored on the premises of the owner or other persons utilizing the Village refuse collection service and shall be screened to prevent their being viewed from the Street.

Next month we are looking forward to bringing to light some of the exciting events that are coming to the community as we celebrate 250 years of America and 100 years of Route 66.

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**

The Towanda 4-H will meet April 12, 2026 at 2:00pm at Miller Park. We will have an educational program and tour of the zoo. Any 4-Her who wants to carpool please meet at 1:15 at the Towanda Community Building. April 15, 2026 is the last day to add projects for this coming year. For more information contact Jeanie Wager at 309 830-8706 or Carrie Green at 309 846-7888.

## **4TH OF JULY**

Our next meeting is Monday, April 27, 2026 @ 6:30 pm at the Community Building.

Questions can be directed to: towandajuly4th@gmail.com

~2026 Towanda 4th of July TWO DAY EVENT!~ July 3 & 4

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VENDORS!** Please email towandajuly4th@gmail.com for more information. Vendors can sign-up for one OR two days.

## **FUNERAL COMMITTEE**

The Funeral Committee hosts receptions for our Village residents. We can take care of place settings, drinks, centerpieces, tablecloths, main dish, desserts, side dishes, and other requests.

Thank you to all those on the call list that continue to support this tradition. Also, we are looking for volunteers for our "call list" for desserts and side dish donations. Contact Tammy Pate (309) 826-8776 or Janet Collins (309) 706-3390 for more information.

## **HCE**

(Towanda Home and Community Education)

The Towanda Home and Community Education (HCE) group will meet on Monday April 13, 2026, 6:30 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building. The program, "**Enjoying Gardening as We Age**" will be given by Sandy Whalen. Our country of study lesson this month is "**Caribbean Islands/Dominican Republic - People, Demographics and Culture**". The April community outreach project for the Humane Society of Central Illinois is 30 gal or larger garbage bags and for May is paper towels or bleach. These products can be brought to the monthly meetings.

**McLean County HCE April programs are open to the public. Call the number to RSVP and for more info about these programs.**

- **Read & Share** - Monday, April 20, 2-3:30 p.m. We will be discussing the book, *The Woman They Could Not Silence* by Kate Moore, meeting at the McLean County Extension Office, 1615 Commerce Parkway, Bloomington. LaVonne- 309-825-6558
- **Community Service Day** - Tuesday, April 21, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. McLean County Extension Office, 1615 Commerce Parkway, Bloomington. We will work on Clothing Protectors for dementia patients. We can use sewers and non-sewers. Work on focus project or bring your own projects. Come and go as you are able. For more information: Betty, 309-531-2183
- **Cultural Enrichment Activity:** Amish Trip/Tour to Arthur, IL on Thursday, April 23,. We will carpool to tour the Illinois Amish Heritage Center, followed by group lunch at Yoder's Kitchen. We will end by shopping at local Arthur shops on your own with your carpool. For more information and RSVP: Donna- 309-309-829-2537.
- **Local Leader Lesson Program:** Monday, April 28, 12:30-1:30 p.m. "Weathering the Storm" by Sara Attig, Family Life Educator, UI Extension will be giving the program. Free and open to the public. McLean County Farm Bureau, 2242 Westgate Dr, Bloomington.

HCE programs are interesting, informative and usually involves laughter and fun. Check out these interesting programs offered each month. Look at the HCE Website, [www.mcleanhce.org](http://www.mcleanhce.org) or the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/McLean-County-Association-for-Home-and-Community-Education](https://www.facebook.com/McLean-County-Association-for-Home-and-Community-Education).

Join us for lifelong learning. 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 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. **Our next meeting is April 16, 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

### **~ APRIL DINING @ the Legion ~**

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 4/4/26 @ 8-10:30 a.m.**

sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs,  
pancakes, hash browns, drink \$14

*\$ Portion of proceeds to American Lung Association*

**DINNER: Friday, 4/17/26 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

pork chop, bun, french fries, green beans, dessert  
& drink \$13

### **(NEW) ~ SPRING & SUMMER 2026 MENU ~**

**Saturday, May 2 & Sunday, May 3** visit us for  
breakfast and lunch for Red Carpet Corridor at the  
corner of Route 66 by BP!

*\$ Portion of proceeds will go to Susan G. Komen/Breast Cancer*

**DINNER: Friday, 5/15/26 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

fish, fries, cole slaw, dessert & drink \$14

**BREAKFAST: NO BREAKFAST IN JUNE**

**DINNER: Friday, 6/19/26 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

pork chop, bun, cheesy potatoes, baked beans,  
dessert & drink \$14

*\$ Portion of proceeds to Parkinson's Foundation*

**BREAKFAST: SUNDAY (day change), 7/5/26 @ 8-10:30 a.m.**

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

**DINNER: Friday, 7/17/26 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

cheeseburger (hamburger), fries, pasta salad,  
dessert & drink \$14

**BREAKFAST: Saturday, 8/1/26 @ 8-10:30 a.m.**

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

**DINNER: Friday, 8/21/26 @ 5-7:00 p.m.**

pork chop, bun, fries, green beans, dessert  
& drink \$14

**All meals subject to change without notice.**

**~Carry out available~**

***Thank you for your continued support!***

**207 Hely Street, Towanda**

**TOWANDA AMERICAN LEGION**  
*now accepting donations for the*  
**McLean County Veteran’s Affairs Pantry, Bloomington, IL**

**Please bring donations to any of our breakfasts, dinners, or meetings.**  
**The Legion will distribute donations to the pantry. List will be updated as needed.**

**HYGIENE**

|                |           |                |            |                   |            |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| toothbrushes   | deodorant | shave cream    | toothpaste | body wash         | body wipes |
| 3-blade razors | shampoo   | hand sanitizer | bar soap   | Tylenol/Ibuprofen | tissues    |

**HOUSEHOLD**

|              |           |              |              |                  |              |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| toilet paper | dish soap | AA batteries | paper towels | detergent (pods) | dryer sheets |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|

**CLEANING SUPPLIES**

|                |                 |         |                      |             |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|
| basic cleaning | cleaning sprays | sponges | anti-bacterial wipes | room sprays |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|

**FOOD**

microwave popcorn

**TOWANDA DISTRICT LIBRARY**



Spring has arrived, and we’ve packed April with fun, creativity, and plenty of opportunities to connect! Our weekly storytimes continue at 10:30 AM on Wednesdays and Fridays, featuring themes like rainbows, oceans, and even “raining cats & dogs!” Little ones won’t want to miss our Easter-themed storytimes and a special Easter Egg Hunt on April 3rd.

For adults, join us on April 7th at 5:30 PM for a relaxing evening of creativity with our DIY Flower Bouquet craft, or stop by our Book Club meeting on April 21st. Feeling a little adventurous? Our “Worst Book Club in the World” returns on April 30th at 5:30 PM—come ready to laugh, rant, and bond over hilariously bad books!

We’re also excited to host a Homeschool Event: Invisible Ink on April 27th at 2:00 PM, perfect for curious minds who love hands-on learning.

Please note the library will be closed on Saturday, April 4th in observance of the Easter holiday. We can’t wait to see you at the library this month—whether you’re crafting, reading, learning, or just stopping in to say hello! 🌻

**TOWANDA DISTRICT LIBRARY**

**APRIL CALENDAR**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Monday</b><br/>Hours: 10-4</p> <p>April 27<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm-<br/>Homeschool Event-<br/>Invisible Ink!</p>           | <p><b>Tuesday</b><br/>Hours: 1-7</p> <p>April 7<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm - Adult<br/>Craft- DIY Flower<br/>Bouquet</p> <p>April 21<sup>st</sup> 5:30 pm - Book<br/>Club Meeting</p>   | <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/>Hours: 10-4</p> <p>Storytimes at 10:30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> - Easter Bunny</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> - Rainbows</li> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> - Ocean</li> <li>• 22<sup>nd</sup> - Raining Cats &amp; Dogs</li> <li>• 29<sup>th</sup> - Yoga</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Thursday</b><br/>Hours: 1-7</p> <p>April 30<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm - The<br/>Worst Book Club in the<br/>World Meeting</p> | <p><b>Friday</b><br/>Hours: 10-4</p> <p>Storytimes at 10:30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> - Easter Egg Hunt</li> <li>• 10<sup>th</sup> - Rainbows</li> <li>• 17<sup>th</sup> - Ocean</li> <li>• 24<sup>th</sup> - Raining Cats &amp; Dogs</li> </ul> | <p><b>Saturday</b><br/>Hours: 10-2</p> <p><b>THE LIBRARY IS CLOSED<br/>APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> IN<br/>OBSERVATION OF THE<br/>EASTER HOLIDAY</b></p>   |

## **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 100<sup>th</sup> 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**

**\*\*Lion's Club will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10 AM on 4th of April.\*\***

We would like to thank all those who have kept the Caring Cupboard stocked during this past year. It is definitely being used and has helped several families this year.

Please consider joining our club. We meet the second Thursday of each month @ 6:30 at the Towanda Fire Department. Contact Bob Hancock at (309) 282-1801 or email oldcars@frontiernet.net

## **TOWANDA ROUTE 66 PARKWAY**

Please consider purchasing a t-shirt or sweatshirt to support our Route 66 Parkway. Short and long sleeve t-shirts and sweatshirts are available in an assortment of colors and sizes. They 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. 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.

## **VILLAGE OF TOWANDA CLERK**

Dumpsters will be available April 8-15, 2026 at the Maintenance Shed on W. Washington.

## **VILLAGE OF TOWANDA SAFETY/ORDINANCE**

**Golf Carts: \*\* CURRENT GOLF CART STICKERS EXPIRE MARCH 2026 \*\***

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

Please email: safety@villageoftowanda.org to set up an appointment.

**REMINDER: You MUST have a drivers license to operate a golf cart. In addition, carts must be equipped with lights and turn signals. Rules of the Road apply to golf carts as well. )**

**Garage Sales:** Looking for those interested in having a garage sale to set a date possibly in May. Please contact safety@villageoftowanda.org

## **VILLAGE OF TOWANDA WATER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

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

## **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.

| APRIL 2026                             |  |                              |   |  |                                      |   |
|--|--|------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| SUNDAY                                 | MONDAY   | TUESDAY                      | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY                               | SATURDAY  |
|  |  |                              | 1<br>-Recycle<br>-TFD Officer Meeting 6:30pm                                      | 2  | 3                                    | 4<br>-Lion's Easter Egg Hunt 8-11am CB<br>-Legion Breakfast 8-10:30am |
| 5<br>HappyEaster!                      | 6<br>-Towanda Board Meet 7:00pm CB                       | 7<br>-Garbage                | 8<br>-TFD Regular Meeting 6:30pm<br>-Dumpsters                                    | 9<br>-Lion's Club @ Fire Dept 6:30pm<br>-Dumpsters | 10<br>-Dumpsters                     | 11<br>-Dumpsters  |
| 12<br>-4-H @ Miller Park<br>-Dumpsters | 13<br>-Towanda HCE 6:30pm CB<br>-Dumpsters               | 14<br>-Garbage<br>-Dumpsters | 15 Tax Day<br>-Recycle<br>-TFD EMS Train 6:30pm<br>-Water Bills Due<br>-Dumpsters | 16<br>-Legion Meet 7:00pm                          | 17<br>-Legion Pork Chop Dinner 5-7pm | 18  |
| 19                                     | 20   | 21<br>-Garbage               | 22<br>-TFD Regular Meeting @ 6:30pm   | 23   | 24                                   | 25  |
| 26                                     | 27<br>-TFD Work Night 6:30pm<br>-4th July Meet 6:30pm CB | 28<br>-Garbage               | 29<br>-Recycle  | 30   |                                      |   |

All information for the MAY 2026 Newsletter is due APRIL 20, please send to: [news@villageoftowanda.org](mailto:news@villageoftowanda.org)

#### Village Contact Information

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Mayor: Don Williams<br>mayor@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/275-0435                 | Village Clerk: Lula Zimmerman<br>clerk@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/728-2811 | Village Treasurer: Bonnie Smith<br>treasurer@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/728-2811 |
| Community Building: Deb Kinsella<br>calendar@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/275-9857 | Water: Scott Flack<br>water@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/750-0486            | Zoning: Evan Thomas<br>zoning@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/275-0717                |
| Safety/Ordinance: Tammy Pate<br>safety@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/826-8776       | Parks: Janet Collins<br>parks@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/706-3390          | Streets: Gary Smith<br>streets@villageoftowanda.org<br>309/275-7123               |

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

Village of Towanda  
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*Happy Easter, Happy Spring, Happy Everything*

Did you hear the news?  
Read all about it in the Towanda Times NEWSLETTER!