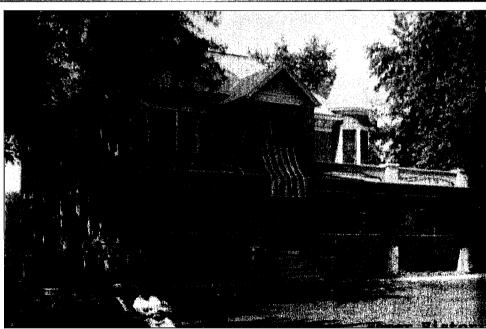
A PUBLICATION OF THE HOMER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Nineteenth Century Housewalk

— Added Attraction —

his grand home of 12 rooms was built sometime before 1892, exact date unknown. Several small rooms at the upstairs back were servants' quarters and led down to the kitchen. A unique water system allowed water to be pumped to the attic to a large holding tank, where it was warmed for use in the house. The only known early residents were a Joseph Thomas, and later the Porter family. The house features a grand staircase, and two ornate fireplaces, leaded glass, and stained glass windows.

For the housewalk, the parlour will be decorated by *Calico Heart* of St. Joseph, the music room by *Pine Acres* of Homer, and the stair, foyer and dining room by *Main Street Florist* of Homer. The Historical Society will have a computerized showing of old Homer homes in the library of the house, along with a large picture of the house as it looked in early days. The library will be decorated by



"The Castle" 304 East First Street, Homer, Illinois

Pine Acres. Fresh greenery for the doors will be provided by *Wilson Farms* and Bruce and Jan Miller of *Miller Aquatics*. All decorations will be for sale. Please park in back of the house, and follow sidewalk to the east entrance. The front entrance will not be open. Hours will be from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Free Admission

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896-2099, term expires 12/31/98

Pat Varvel

896-2392, term expires 5/31/00

Norma Diel

896-2737, term expires 6/30/99

Tom Cottrell

term expires 11/1/01

Don Glenn 896-2776, term expires 5/31/00

Kelly Vetter

896-2224, term expires 1/1/01

Dave Reel

term expires 11/1/01



Homer News & Views is your newsletter. Its content and value depend upon each resident of the Community. We are depending upon you for the content of this newsletter. What this newsletter becomes is up to each of you. We need your help! If you have anything you would like to contribute, please drop it off at the Homer IGA or mail to the HCDB, P.O. Box 74, Homer, IL 61849.

Notice: This newsletter is published by the Homer Community Development Board to report items of interest to the citizens of Homer. The information included is intended to be accurate, but should not be relied upon for legal or official purposes.

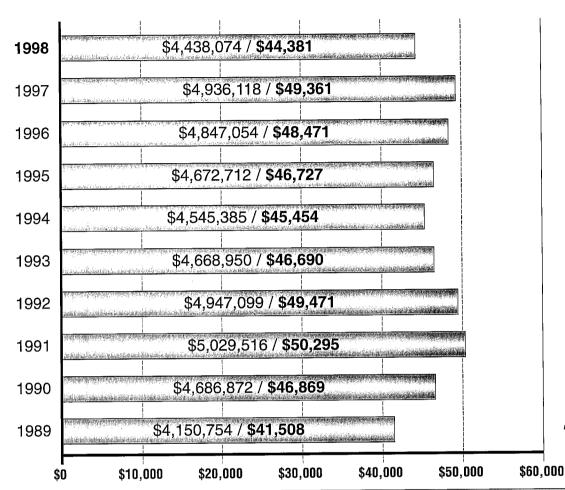
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Our Share





Among the sources of revenue available to municipalities is the return of their share of collected State of Illinois sales tax - which amounts to one percent (1%) of the municipality's gross taxable retail sales. Graphed to the right is the taxable retail sales within the Village of Homer for the past ten years and the portion of sales taxes returned to the village by the State of Illinois.

Shopping locally pays!

Numbers above represent: Taxable Retail sales \$7 HOMER'S SHARE

MARQUEE SIGN KEEPERS

If you have a message to post on the Homer Lions Club Marquee for events, please telephone the Lions Members listed below with the information. If the listed persons responsible for posting and removal of messages during the month shown are unavailable, please contact K.C. Jones, sign chairman, at 896-2763.

Sign keepers for December 1998 are D. Hodgson, 582-2315 and K. Krukewitt, 896-2195

Sign keepers for January 1999 are K. Jones, 896-2064 and M. Baird 896-2008 Pon't Miss the Second Annual

"Christmas at Home"

Housewalk Saturday, December 5, 1998

Many homes open, their families bidding you welcome

Meals, refreshments and numerous activities

Be sure to pick up your brochure and map at area businesses.

Come out and enjoy the warmth from a wonderful day of festivities

Homer American Legion Auxilfary News

Homer Unit #290

embers reported 35 volunteer hours for the month of October. One member donated blood. The blood center is in need of blood, so please take time to donate!

We honored the teachers at the Homer Building during American Education Week, November 15th through 21st, with donuts.

Evelyn Cope reported \$1,354.65 credit at Danville Veterans Hospital so far this year. They are in need of winter clothes, sweaters, sweatshirts, sweat suits, shoes (size 10 and up), and nonalcoholic toilet articles. Please contact Evelyn if you have any items that you wish to donate.

The unit made donations to Homer Brownie Troop, Fisher House, and the Homer Food Pantry (in memory of departed member, Phyllis Stevens).

We voted to participate with the ESDA on the storm shelter. Lauri Umbarger will chair this committee and contact members when needed.

We voted to sponsor along with the Legion and possibly the S.A.L. the New Years Eve Party. Committee members are: Cathy Lance, Chair; Donna Little, Chris Jones and Mary Jane Burton.

The unit will once again be sponsoring the Angel Tree for the Heritage School District. Trees will be located at the post offices in Allerton & Broadlands, White's Ace Hardware, and Don's Marathon. We will also have a tree located at the post home during the Christmas Walk on Dec. 5th. Anyone wishing to make a donation, should contact Chris Jones or Lauri Umbarger.

Cathy Lance, Children and Youth Chair, reported that she distributed Safe Halloween brochures to the K- 2 classes in Homer and K-1st in Broadlands.

Lauri Umbarger, Education Chair, reported that she has received the scholarship information. She will take to the Heritage High School. The unit made a donation to the Education Fund so that we could sponsor any applicants,

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should we have any. She also reported that we served 44 at the Phyllis Stevens' funeral dinner. Thanks to all who donated!

Lori Rushing, Girls State Chair, reported that Illini Girls State will once again be held at Eastern Illinois University - June 20-26th. Information will be going out to the high school soon.

Deb Happ, Jr. Activities Chair, reported that the junior members decorated for the Halloween Party. She is working with the Juniors to plan a special program to be presented at the Homer Elementary School by the Junior members in the Spring. She is also in need of a jigsaw puzzle with a flag prominently displayed to be used with the Juniors. Please contact her if you have one that she could borrow.

Susan Burton, Membership Chair, reported that we only have 59 members that have paid their dues. If you have not paid yours, you will be receiving a reminder. Please pay your dues to Susan ASAP!

Past President's Parley Chair, Chris Jones, reported that the department is in need of donations for their nurses scholarship program. The unit purchased the PPP raffle tickets as well as made a donation to the PPP Nurses Scholarship Program.

December is a busy month for our unit. At our December meeting, each member is asked to bring one dozen cookies or candy and a Christmas card to be divided up for cookie plates for Sr. Citizens, shut-ins and service people from the Homer area. Each member is also asked to bring a gift for the Danville VA Hospital. Please wrap the gift and on a tag on the outside, please tell what the item is and how much it was. We receive credit for these items. We also voted to have each member bring a nonperishable item to be donated to the Homer Food Pantry as they are in need of food, especially during the holiday season! Please search your cabinets to see if there is anything that you could live without to help those that are less fortunate than we are!

Deb Happ, Donna Little and Lauri Umbarger will be doing a newsletter to members to keep them apprised on what is happening, for those who cannot or do not attend!

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Home 896-2689

Homer Library News

Are you ready for Christmas? We're ready to help. Check out our Christmas books - recipes, craft instructions, decorating and gift ideas. Try a Christmas novel from our display. In the hustle and bustle of the day, take a few minutes for a cup of coffee or hot tea and a good book to help you relax and contemplate the season. What is the meaning of Christmas, anyway?

As part of the continuing education program your librarians participate in, Sheri Burns has attended a three-session course in storytelling at the University of Illinois with Janice Del Negro, a well-known storyteller. Watch for details of programs that Sheri has planned for the new year.

Chris's Quick Pick — Cordelia Underwood by Van Reid. This is a "charming book," as one patron recently described it. Set in turn of the century coastal Maine, Cordelia sets out to view her inheritance of wilderness land and solve a family riddle, along the way encountering the Pickwickian Tobias Walton, three hapless bachelors, buried treasure and those who would steal it, and romance, but not with whom she expected it.

Many thanks to all of you who have donated books and magazines in the past year. We have added many of them to our collection. Some of your donations were sold at our book sale, helping to fund our children's programming.

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Nolan "Bud" Cravber

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Marilyn K. Lee

Attorney 896-2379 999CR, 2500E Homer, IL 61849

AGRICULTURAL

Allerton Supply Company 896-2522

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Homer Elevator 896-2494

P.O. Box 138 Homer, IL 61849

Pioneer Seed Company, 896-2839

2546 C.R. 1050 N. Homer, IL 61849

Vineyard Seed Company 896-2361

2314 C.R. 1050 N. Homer, IL 61849

Wolf Grain Systems 896-2192 2761 C.R. 1100 N. Homer, IL 61849

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Forward Motion Drive Train Specialist

896-2635 305 N. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

Happ Performance Shop 896-2709

6737 Vermillion West Road, Homer, IL 61849

Homer Automotive 896-2028

302 S. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

BUSINESS/OTHER

Jim Bell/T-Shirt Printing 896-2018

P.O. Box 104 Homer, IL 61849

Cilco

896-2628 P.O. Box 109 Homer, IL 61849

HOMER DIRECTORY

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Easton Cable Systems 896-2302

Boring, Backhoe & Trenching Ogden, IL 61859

Ely Furniture & Design 896-2505

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896-2145 500 W. Fourth St. Homer, IL 61849

Harold's Welding/Fabrication

896-2512 203 S. Main Street Homer, IL 61849

Homer Auction

896-2262 112 S. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

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110 W. Main Street Homer, IL 61849

Jim's Bobcat Service/Jim Lacey

896-2747 710 S. Church Homer, IL 61849

Kirby Funeral Home

896-2323 708 S. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

Main Street Flower Shop 896-2379

403 S. Main Homer, IL 61849

Miller Aquatics/Health Club 896-2744

P.O. Box 33 Homer, IL 61849

P & P Floors & Sanding 896-2669

2512 Homer Lake Road Homer, IL 61849

Pelican Displays / Cabinets & Woodworking

896-2628 209 W. Crittenden St. Homer, IL 61849

Rocket R & D

896-3041 207 N. Main Street Homer, IL 61849

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CHURCHES

Church of Christ 896-2332

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Presbyterian Church 896-2533

896-2533 201 N. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

896-2021 110 S. East St. Homer, IL 61849

United Methodist Church

896-2038 301 S. Main St. Homer, IL 61849

FOOD

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Dave's Pizza 896-2123

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Homer IGA 896-2411 103 S. West St. Homer, IL 61849

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Do-All Electric Company

896-2619 402 W. First St. Homer, IL 61849

Dons' Electric

896-2197 210 N. Ellen St. Homer, IL 61849

GASOLINE

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United Fuel Company

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Lori's Hairdesign

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HEALTH CARE

Driscoll Pharmacy 896-2434 131 S. Main St.

Homer, IL 61849

Dr. Mahindra Patel Medical Clinic 896-2491 210 N. Main St., Homer. IL 61849

ORGANIZATIONS

Homer Masonic Lodge

104 E. Wabash St. Homer, IL 61849

Homer Lions Club

c/o Secretary 604 W. 3rd St. Homer, IL 61849

American Legion Post 290 P.O. Box 134 Homer, IL

PLUMBING & HEATING

James Plumbing & Heating 896-2256

208 E. Monroe St. Homer, IL 61849

Matthis Plumbing, Inc. 896-2689

945 C.R. 2800 E. Homer, IL 61849

Wakefield Plumbing and Heating 896-2222

Homer, IL 61849

P.O. Box 136

Jeff & Kim Matthis

Indoor Vehicle Storage 896-2689 945 C.R. 2800 E. Homer, IL 61849

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Landscaping 896-2621 1267 C.R. 2500 E.

St. Joseph, IL 61873 **Wilson Farms** 896-2160 2587 C.R. 1200 N. Homer. IL 61849

Please contact
Kim Matthis at 896-2689
with changes, deletions
or additions to this
directory.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN HOMER

Farmer's Table Restaurant, \$75,000. Jim Clingan Auction & Realty, Inc. 469-2500.

Dr. Mark Faught's Dental office building, 840 sq ft, brick, central air, 2 1/2 lots, adjacent to school. \$39,000. Wolf Real Estate. 896-2253.

The Bait Barn, 1.8 acres, 5 bedroom, 2700 square feet, brick building, central air, 2 car attached garage, 1200 sq ft barn, 900 sq ft concrete floor shed. \$135,000. Wolf Real Estate. 896-2253.

The Card Shop, 105 S. Main St., \$6,500. Janet Driver 896-2617

Homer Car Wash, 110 N. Main St., \$20,000. Wolf Real Estate 896-2253

Fave's Fashions, 109 S. Main Street, 1817 square feet \$39,900. Century 21 Real Estate

If you would like to list a business or building for sale in Homer, please contact Kim Matthis at 896-2689 or Stan



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Homer Church News

HOMER CHURCHES COOPERATING

It's election time! The Homer Churches Cooperating at its November 9th meeting recently elected officers for 1999. Serving as president is David Burns, vice-president is J.L. Penfold, treasurer is Betty Taylor and secretary is Jackie Sturdyvin.

HOMER CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Homer Church of Christ held two special conferences last month, "Re-tooling The Church For The Next Millennium" and "The Dangers of the New Age Movement".

God continues to move in so many awesome ways. The month of December we have some special Christmas services you are invited to attend.

First, a special Christmas cantata entitled "A Family Christmas" will be presented on Saturday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m. The choir this year is made up of all age groups, from Kindergarten students through senior citizens. So whatever your age - you'll enjoy this special evening. You are invited to attend a Social Hour at 6:00 p.m. where punch and cookies will be served prior to the cantata.

Secondly, on December 24th at 8:00 p.m. we will have our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. The whole community is encouraged to attend and to enjoy this special time of the year as we celebrate Jesus' birth.

We offer contemporary praise music, children's church, an exciting youth ministry for all ages and more. If you are looking for a church home, be our guests this Sunday. Bible Study every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Celebration at 10:30 a.m. Call our church office at 896-2332 if you need more information.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On Saturday, November 14th we gathered at the church to select Bibles and related books to be sent to several countries in Africa. These are surplus for us and it is hoped they will be of help there. The Cub Scouts have been using our basement for their meetings. On December 5th the Cub Scouts and the Boys Scouts will host a hospitality center here... stop by. The Community Thanksgiving service was held at St. Charles. On November 28th, we decorated the church for Advent and Christmas. Holy Communion was celebrated November 29th, the first Sunday of Advent. A number of our people helped in the Christmas at Home event on December 5th. A candlelight service will be held on Christmas Eve... the community is welcome.

ATTENTION ALL BUSINESSES

Homer IGA has donated \$50.00 to the Food Pantry for much needed food.

WE CHALLENGE

ALL HOMER BUSINESSES TO MEET OR BEAT OUR DONATION!

HOMER CHURCHES COOPERATING APPOINTS NEW COORDINATOR

The Homer Churches Cooperating recently accepted the resignation of Betty Taylor as the Food Pantry Coordinator. Betty had served as coordinator for the past 11 years when the Food Panty was first established. Bill Mullins has been appointed the new coordinator for the Homer Churches Cooperating Food Pantry.

We thank Betty for the many years of commitment and hard work and also thank Bill for the future work in the food pantry and his assurance of a job well done.

Homer Peace Meal

Thanks to everyone for their support during our Chili-Bingo dinner. Thank you to all those who donated food and their time. Thanks also to those businesses who donated door prizes and thanks to all those who came for dinner and bingo. Thanks again to all!

As you might already know, Sidney now has a full time Peace Meal program. This means we will be losing some very loyal patrons. We wish Sidney the best of luck.

Now more than ever, we need the support of our Homer seniors to keep the program in Homer alive. Our participation has grown in the past six months. We need to keep up the good work. If you have never been to Peace Meal, now is a great time to try it. If you haven't been in awhile, come back for a visit. We are open Monday through Friday. We serve lunch at 11:30 a.m. The program is open to all seniors age 60 and over. There is a \$2 donation for each meal. Don't get cabin fever this winter, come up to the village hall for a good hot lunch and visit with friends old and new. Home delivered meals are also available to those who qualify. If you are interested or just want more information, please call Sharon Jeffers at 896-2121 or 896-2668. Reservations need to be made before noon the previous day.





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Pentium II 350 MHz (100 Mhz Bus), 6.4 GB Western Digital Hard Drive, 32 Speed CD Rom, 1.44mb Floppy Drive, PC100 64mb SDRAM, AGP 4mb Video Card, Creative Labs AWE64 Sound Card, US Robotics 56K Phone Modem, Microsoft Intellimouse PS2, Microsoft Natural Keyboard,

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Prices are subject to change

Rocket R&D

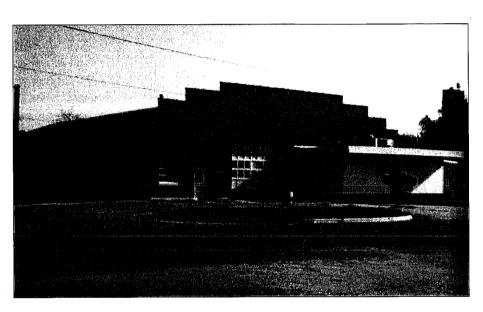
ocket R & D, located at 209 N. Main is owned and operated by J.R. Buck. J.R.'s business is not a walk-in retail business, but a manufacturer of rockets which are sold through their catalog. The rockets are based on missiles made by the government and some missiles are even painted, or have decals to make them resemble the real thing. The rockets are constructed of a crafted, paper tube, resembling a heavy duty cardboard, with a smaller tube inside which is the motor mount. At the tip of the tube is a plastic nose cone and at the tail are plywood fins for guidance. There are also centering rings to center the motor tube. J.R.'s business sells everything but the motor and nothing Rocket R & D sells is haz-

ardous. "These rockets are not like bottle rockets commonly found on the fourth of July," J.R. stresses. "You don't light a fuse to launch the rocket. A motor launches the rocket, and the rocketeer is well away from the rocket when it lifts off from its launch pad."

Rockets can be small or as large as 18 feet in length. They can travel as many as 14,000 miles into the atmosphere before a parachute opens and sends them back to earth. J.R. feels that in a few years amateur rocketeers will be able to launch into orbit.

Rocketry is a sophisticated hobby, mainly for adults, but J.R. suspects most adults were hooked as teenagers, probably watching small missile launches in Boy Scouts.

Rocket R & D is the third largest rocket business in the nation. J.R. fills orders from all over the country. For a minimal fee of \$3.00, you can obtain one of her catalogs. J.R. says you can put your name and address, along with your check or cash in the box on the north side of the building and she will send you a catalog. She specializes in rocket kits, but also does custom orders.



J.R. is a member of a rocket club, and each year Rocket R & D sponsors a rocket launch in Danville. They just finished Danville 98 and look forward to Danville 99, which is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of Halloween. If you want to see a rocket launch before then, and learn first hand what Rocket R & D does, you can go to the Tuscola airport. Twice a month, even in cold weather, they launch rockets. Call Rocket R & D for dates and times.

On a side note, J.R. is looking for a friendly farmer who would allow her use of his farmland for a rocket launch. She has insurance, so the farmer's property would be insured if damaged, but in all the years of launching rockets, she has yet to have any damage occur. She also believes in the old adage that "When you borrow something, you should return it in as good or better condition than it was when you borrowed it."

All of you adults who are feeling bored and need something new and different to do, check out Rocket R & D's web page: www.rocketrd.com, or give J.R. a call at 896-3041. I'm sure she can get you started in the great hobby of rocketry.

Hømer Household

BY NORMA DIEL

Christmas Ribbon Salad

2 (3 oz.) packages of lime gelatin

8 oz. package of cream cheese

5 cups hot water

1 lg. can crushed pineapple

4 cups cold water

1 cup whipping cream or cool whip (8 oz.)

1 (3 oz.) package of lemon gelatin

1 cup mayonnaise

1/2 cup min. marshmallows

2 (3 oz.) packages of cherry gelatin

1 cup pineapple juice

Dissolve lime gelatin in 2 cups hot water Add 2 cups cold water. Pour into 9 X 15" pan. Chill until partly set. Dissolve lemon gelatin in 1 cup hot water. Ad marshmallows and stir to melt. Remove from heat and add 1 cup drained pineapple juice and cream cheese. Beat until well blended and stir in pineapple. Cool. Fold in whipped cream and mayonnaise. Chill until thickened. Pour in layer over lime gelatin. Chill until almost set. Dissolve cherry Jell-O in 2 cups hot water. Add 2 cups cold water. Chill until syrupy. Pour over pineapple layer. Chill until firm.

Easy Pecan Pie

1 package Butterscotch flavor instant pie filling

1 cup dark corn syrup

3/4 cup evaporated milk

1 egg slightly beaten

1 cup chopped pecans

1 unbaked 8" pie shell

Blend pudding mix with corn syrup. Gradually add evaporated milk and egg, blending well Add pecans and pour into pie shell. Bake at 375 degrees until top is firm and just begins to crack, about 45 minutes. Garnish with Cool Whip and additional pecans if desired.

Correction for Homer Household, October Issue.

Under the CHICKEN AND DRESSING CASSEROLE recipe, directions should have read:

"Mix 1-8 ox package of Stove Top chicken flavor stuffing and 1/2 c melted butter and 1 CUP HOT CHICKEN BROTH together."

The chicken broth was inadvertently omitted from the recipe.

Vinegar Pie

(Requested by a reader)

2 cups boiling water

3 eggs

1/4 cup vinegar

1 teas. lemon flavoring

1 cup sugar

1/3 teas, salt

3 tbsp. flour

3 tbsp. sugar

Beat egg yolks until thick. Add 1 cup sugar, flour and salt. Mix thoroughly. Add boiling water slowly, stirring constantly. Add vinegar. Cook over hot water until thick and smooth. Add flavoring. Pour into baked pastry shell. Cover with meringue made of egg whites and 3 tbsp. sugar. Bake in slow oven (325°) 20 minutes.

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"Splinters" from the board

—by STAN CATO, HCDB PRESIDENT

s another year draws to a close, I would like the residents of the Homer community to be aware of the people on the Community Development board and realize that this is a volunteer organization. These people work many hours and attend meetings faithfully once a month in your best interests. They are trying to make a better place for all of us to live and work. As president, I try to thank these people as much as possible, but a thank you from a resident would mean a lot, so if you see one of the members of this board, please extend a *thank you* to them for a job well done.

Now on to the business at hand — accomplishments for 1998 and goals for 1999. We have just added two new members to the board and would like to extend a hearty welcome to Tom Cottrell and Dave Reel as new members with fresh ideas. If anyone is interested in being the Secretary or Treasurer for the CDB, please contact any CDB member.

Brochures are being printed for community charitable contributions as a memorial and will be placed at the Kirby Funeral Home.

The village board passed a handicap accessable ordinance and are now enforced in front of the post office and the bank. Thanks to the village board for their quick response to this much needed ordinance.

A job bulletin board has been produced and placed in the village hall by board member Kelly Vetter. This board is to be used by local businesses in hopes of employing local people for local jobs.

We just finished the Realtor's brochure and it will be distributed to Realtor's and the board of Realtor's to be given to people looking to relocate. Thanks to board member Don Glenn for his work on this project.

Goals for 1999 are as follows:

- · Downtown renovation and addition of new businesses
- Working with the town board in establishing a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district.
- Improve activities for Homer youth.
- Involvement of town residents on board committees.
- · Work on the possibility of a farmers' market.
- Investigate possibilities of a bike path to Homer Lake.

The CDB meets the second Monday of each month and all residents are encouraged to attend.

The deadline to submit information for the February News & Views is January 10th. You may drop off your information at the Homer IGA, mail to the CDB, P.O. Box 74, Homer, IL 61849, or email "kim_matthis@rsmi.com"

The CDB would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Homer Homemakers Extension News

omer Homemakers Extension held a craft day on November 6th at the City Building. The day was spent making handkerchief dolls and making pictures using a "Scratch Art" technique. A Christmas tree was decorated to place in the "Christmas Tree Lane" display for the December 5th "Christmas at Home" celebration. Shirley Miller gave the lesson "Character Counts!" Co-hostesses were Betty Lacey and Lois Hockersmith.

In January the meeting will be at Norma Diel's home, with Bonnie Baird as co-hostess. The lesson will be "New Look at Diabetes Diets." Anyone is welcome to attend Home Extension meetings at any time.

We hope you are making plans to attend the "Christmas at Home" celebration on Saturday, December 5th. It promises to be a fun day and a full day of events, something for everyone. Get your ticket for the housewalk at the City Building, merchants or houses on the walk. Come and enjoy the day. Merry Christmas!

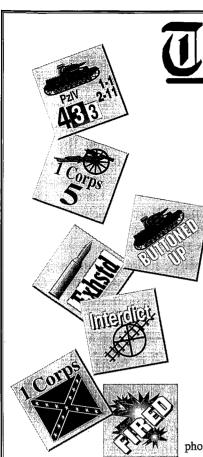
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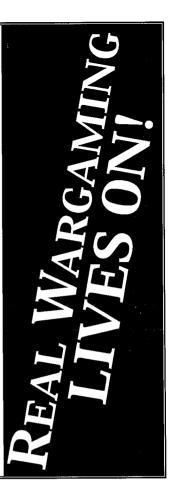
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