

# HOMER



June, 2001

# News & Views

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOMER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

## HOMER AMERICAN LEGION — POST 290 —

*by Chris Reel*

**T**he American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919, and the Homer American Legion Post 290, one of the first in the area, was begun in 1920. The Legion is a community service organization with nearly 3 million members worldwide.

Eligibility requirements are quite specific. One must have served in active duty in the military during times of hostile activity. Exact dates are given for times that qualify. Examples of hostile activity include World Wars I & II, Korean War, Vietnam War and the Gulf War. Both men and women are eligible to join.

Officers of Post 290 are Aaron Ketchum, Post Commander; Sam Shreeves, Senior Vice Commander; Bob Jones, Adjutant; Mike Webb, Chaplain; Doug Driscoll, Finance Officer; and Mike Wakefield, Sergeant at Arms. Next year, Sam Shreeves will be the Post Commander, as the Senior Vice Commander always moves up into the Commander position the following year.

The members of the Legion put on a variety of activities each year. They hold ceremonies on Memorial Day, with a

21-gun salute, and on the Fourth of July. They sponsor steak fries and community dances, and provide fire truck rides at civil events. All of the funds raised from local events, from donations and rental of the back room of the Legion building go back into the community. The Legion donates to the churches, schools and to families in time of need. In addition, Post 290 supports the Veterans Administration Hospital in Danville and maintains the GAR cemetery.

The Legion also sponsors local representatives to Boys State. Ted Williams, a post member who is on the Board of Directors for Boys State, organizes the Boys State participation for the local post.

Post 290 of the American Legion meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion building. In addition to the monthly local meeting, there is a monthly district meeting, and state and national conventions for those who choose to go.

More information about the national American Legion organization may be found on the internet at: <http://www.legion.org/backfact.htm> ■



## HOMER'S 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION



Plan to spend your 4th of July at Homer Park this year. We are planning a full day of fun at the park, with a Parade, Pageant, Game's for the kids, Talent Show, Music, Food from area clubs and Fireworks set to music. Anyone who is interested in participating in the Parade, Pageant or talent Show may fill out one of the application in this *News and Views*. Ribbons and Trophies will be awarded to all winners. If you have any questions you may call Becky Smith (896-2722) or any other CDB member. Any school/town organization wanting to set up a booth for their fundraiser may contact Bonnie Miller (896-2807). Watch the Leader and the Today paper for more information.

# BOARD MEMBERS

## SOUTH HOMER TOWNSHIP BOARD

Meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 202 S. Main St., Homer

- Don Morgan, Supervisor/Treas. . . . . 896-2197
- Katie Woodmansee, Clerk . . . . . 896-2006
- Kenneth MacInnes, Trustee . . . . . 896-2390
- Richard Freeman, Trustee
- Connie Messman, Trustee . . . . . 896-2100
- Cheryl Baird, Trustee . . . . . 896-2008
- Elbert Rogers,  
Road Commissioner . . . . . 896-2831

## HOMER VILLAGE BOARD

Meets the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

- Dave Lucas, Mayor . . . . . 896-2618
- Cindy Pruitt, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2114
- JoAnn Wallace, Village Clerk . . . . . 896-2193
- David Burns, Trustee . . . . . 896-2797
- Joe Humphrey, Trustee . . . . . 896-2597
- Mike Johnson, Trustee . . . . . 896-2228
- Jim Lacey, Trustee . . . . . 896-2365
- Orlena Pruitt, Trustee . . . . . 896-2748
- Lauri Umbarger, Trustee . . . . . 896-2067

## HOMER CHURCHES COOPERATING BOARD

St. Charles, Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Methodist

- Rev. Steve Burwell, President . . . . . 896-2551
- Jim Swathwood, Vice President . . . . . 896-2861
- Gene Ethridge, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2286
- Joan Lane, Secretary . . . . . 896-2717

## HOMER ZONING BOARD

- Barb Gilhaus, President . . . . . 896-2237
- Chuck Benner, Secretary . . . . . 896-2516
- Don Glenn, Zoning Admin. . . . . 896-2776
- Ginny Dillon . . . . . 896-2719
- Mike Flickinger . . . . . 896-2815
- Gene Happ . . . . . 896-2004
- Elizabeth Walton . . . . . 896-2687

## HOMER HOME EXTENSION BOARD

Meets the 3rd Friday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in members' homes.

- Mary Ann Rohl, Co-Chair . . . . . 896-2270
- Virginia Baird, Co-Chair. . . . . 896-2207
- Shirley Miller, Vice Chair . . . . . 896-2340
- Elvira Wakefield, Secretary . . . . . 896-2153
- Lois Hockersmith, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2553

## HOMER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall

- Greg Knott, President . . . . . 896-2348
- Ray Cunningham, Secretary . . . . . 896-2558
- Don Glenn, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2776
- Becky Smith . . . . . 896-2722
- Kevin Knott . . . . . 896-3276
- Bobbi Gordon . . . . . 896-2585

## HOMER YOUTH LEAGUE BOARD

- Dale Katterhenry, President . . . . . 896-2647
- Danny Gordon, Vice President . . . . . 896-2585
- Stephanie Beamer, Secretary . . . . . 896-3800
- Cindy Pruitt, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2114

### Directors

- Cha Hodge, Athletics . . . . . 896-3165
- Rickie Latham, Concessions . . . . . 896-2088
- Kevin Sanderson, Equipment . . . . . 896-2372
- Julie Katterhenry, Fundraising . . . . . 896-2647
- Dennis Birchfield, Grounds . . . . . 896-3214

### Directors-at-Large

- Paul Beamer . . . . . 896-2800
- Marcy Birchfield . . . . . 896-3214
- Terry Graham . . . . . 896-9733
- Andy Wilsey . . . . . 896-2355
- Jim Swathwood . . . . . 896-2861
- Ron & Julie Humphrey . . . . . 896-2679
- Jesse & Tammie Pruitt . . . . . 896-2671
- Tom Wakefield . . . . . 896-2347

## HERITAGE SCHOOL BOARD

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Homer School.

- Jim Fish, President . . . . . 896-2756
- Dave Bosch, Vice President . . . . . 834-3443
- Charles Berry . . . . . 834-3361
- Bruce Block . . . . . 834-3090
- Dale Katterhenry . . . . . 896-2647
- John Lannon . . . . . 684-2728
- Kevin Wright . . . . . 896-2865

## HOMER HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Homer Historical Building

- Becky Smith, President . . . . . 896-2722
- Charlotte Brown, Secretary . . . . . 582-2056
- Pat Butler, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2657
- Bill Butler . . . . . 896-2657
- Tim Kirby . . . . . 896-2323
- Helen Krukewitt . . . . . 896-2198
- Jim Mullis . . . . .
- Molly Shoaf . . . . . 896-2549

## HOMER LIBRARY BOARD

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.


- Sara Essig, President . . . . . 896-2772  
896-2145
- Jeanine Bensken, Vice Pres. . . . . 896-2693
- Linda Pruitt, Secretary . . . . . 896-2742
- Marilyn Collins, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2282
- Gertrude Brown . . . . . 896-2049
- Cindy James . . . . . 896-3014
- Cathy Lance . . . . . 896-2086

## HOMER RECREATION BOARD

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

- Danny Gordon, Chairperson . . . . . 896-2585
- Cindy Pruitt, Treasurer . . . . . 896-2114
- Bobbi Gordon . . . . . 896-2585
- Lynda Umbarger . . . . . 896-2540
- Tiffany Matthis . . . . . 896-2689
- Ryan Byerley . . . . . 896-2026
- Becky Umsted . . . . .
- Heather McAlister . . . . . 896-3044

Everyone is encouraged to attend any of the above meetings. If you would like to list your nonprofit organization members, contact any of the CDB Board Members listed above.



**HOMER News & Views**

Homer News & Views is YOUR newsletter. Its content and value depend upon each resident of the community. If you have anything you would like to contribute, please drop it off at the Homer Country Market or mail to the HCDB, P.O. Box 11, Homer, IL 61849.

Photography by James Alred  
Typesetting & Design by Andrew Shreeves

**NOTICE:** This newsletter is published by the Homer CDB 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. Opinions expressed within are the personal opinions or feelings of the writers and not to be taken as a criticism of anyone.



## FOCUSING ON HOMER'S BUSINESSES

— by Naomi Roberts

# Casey's General Store

**B**ecky Umstead puts a new spin on the old adage, "Service with a Smile." As the manager of Casey's General Store, Umstead believes no one should leave without a smile. Along with that smile, the customer also hears, "Thanks, hon," or "Thanks, sweetie." Umstead is so friendly that some of her customers think her smile carries them through the day. One gentleman said to her, "A day without you is like a day without sunshine." It is very apparent that Umstead loves people and her customers love her. When asked what part of the job she dislikes most, she said, "Nothing. I love my job and the people I work with."

Although Umstead just began as Casey's manager in January, she is no novice to managing a store and employees. For approximately 15 years, she managed Taco Bells in California. It seems her experience has served her well, because Umstead instills her friendly service attitude in her workers. Her 'crew', as she calls them includes Hillary McDuffie, Carol Stone, Anna Morgan, Candy Johnson, Reina Browder, and Doug Fuller. Sometimes scheduling can be a problem, but someone always steps up to help. The crew, although busy all day, has a good time doing their work. They are always upbeat and positive.

In their busy day, there are three rush hours. The six a.m. crowd gets the day off to a start, followed by the seven o'clock rush for those that have to be at work by eight, and then the nine a.m. rush for those who work later, or at home. Of course they have the lunch hour rush from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. each day, and in the evening they serve pizzas from 4:00 to 10:30 p.m. For pizza orders, there is a special phone number, 896-3328. For all other calls, use 896-9700.

Casey's offers a variety of merchandise from household products, toiletries, juices and sodas, to donuts and pizzas, and even gasoline. Vendors take care of restocking the soda, milk, and other juices, whereas Frito-Lay, Hostess, and Butternut keep the snack chips, pies and bread

restocked, but the pizzas and the donuts are made in the store. Reina Browder makes the donuts fresh each day, as well as the lunch sandwiches. All other merchandise sold in the store is ordered weekly from Casey's order book.

If the product suggested by Casey's doesn't sell well, in the locale, then the product is outdated and something else is ordered to replace it. All orders placed through Casey's are delivered by a Casey's truck. Although Umstead is the manager of the store, she has no control over gasoline prices. Her supervisor calls to let her know when to raise or lower the price.

Umstead believes Casey's is a great place to work. Casey's offers a full line of benefits for the employees, from dental and medical care to 401 retirement plans. It is not only a good place to work; it is good for the community. Casey's makes contributions to local events, but you need to put your request in 30 to 60 days in advance of the community event, because it must be approved by the central office. If your group is in need of a donation, see Umstead.

Of if you are in need of a quart of milk, or a loaf of bread, or just a smile to start your day, stop by Casey's General Store at 502 N. Main. Umstead or one of the 'crew' will be happy to help you, and send you on your way with a smile. ■

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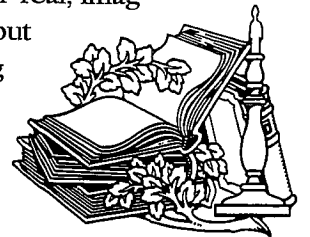
## HOMER LIBRARY NEWS

**H**omer Library — what's in it for you? Well, plenty! The library is a community resource that is available to all residents of Homer, regardless of age or ability to read. We have materials for the very youngest people, such as board books and videos, as well as for people of all ages. What we don't have here can probably be ordered through interlibrary loan from another area library. The library is a great money saver. Instead of buying books, videos and magazines, get them from us at no cost.

Hey, kids! "Feed Your Need to Read," our summer reading program starts June 21 at 1 p.m. We're going to have fun with books and food. The program will continue at 1 p.m. on June 28, July 12, July 19, and end on July 26 at 10 a.m. with a Summer Fun Day. Top readers will get their awards that day. Don't miss out. Call the library at 896-2121 to register.

Five books about Alzheimer's disease have been donated. Some books are written for the care givers and family members. One has been written by a young Alzheimer's patient, and offers insight about what it's like to have Alzheimer's.

Chris' Quick Pick: *Folly* by Laurie R. King. A 52-year-old woman who has suffered tremendous personal loss, and who suffers from monopolar depression, sets out to rebuild a house on a 52 acre island off of Washington state. Are the threats against her real, imagined or both? It sounds corny, but the author builds a convincing story, and paints the setting so well, that the reader might wish he or she could visit that part of the country. ■



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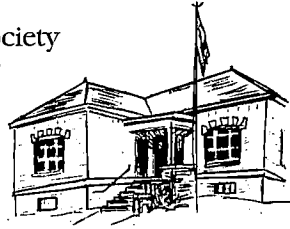
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# HOMER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Homer Historical Society would like to thank all of the people who purchased a flower basket in our last fundraiser. The money will go toward building repairs and putting in a handicap access.



The names of the 1971-1972 Base Ball Team (that was in the last issue of *News and Views*) were: Back Row (Left to Right) Danny Morrison, Steve Kasper, Jerry Lyons, John Dodd, Randy Bennett, Craig Killian and Bobby Clem. Middle Row (Left to Right) Jim Wolf, George Pfaab, Jack Driver, Eric Miller, Richard Bergmeier (the Coach), Ted Tyler, Lyn Umbarger, Gary Cromwell and Danny James. Front Row

(Left to Right) Lee Hockersmith and John Wilson.

Thanks, to all who called me with the names. This is only one of many photos that we need names for. Please stop by the museum and look over other photos. Our Museum is open 2:00-3:30 p.m. every Thursday. You may also stop by at one of our monthly meetings that are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The society is always looking for new members who are interested in helping preserve the Homer community history. For more information, contact Becky Smith at 896-2722 or any other member of the society.

This issues picture is the Morrison Family. Please call or send any information to Becky Smith, 300 East South St., Homer, IL, 61849, 896-2722. ■



# HOMER'S GREATEST GENERATION

## PART VII — CHET SADLER

— by Chris Reel —

Chet Sadler was known in his later years for the cats who adopted him, the tomatoes he grew and gave away, and his love of reading. He loved his neighbors and they loved him. But he was also a career military man who traveled the world, had adventures, and nearly died several times from wounds and disease.

Chet was born on November 22, 1915, in rural Homer to Garnet and Florence Sadler. An uncle got him a tool and die apprenticeship in Muncie, Indiana. Although Chet didn't like the work, he stuck it out for four years, got his journeyman papers, and quit.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corp, as it was called then, on October 17, 1940, and began active duty in early January, 1941. He rode the trolley car to Peoria, from there to St. Louis and ended up at Jefferson Barracks, an infantry post, after a quick stop at Scott Field. There he became acting supply sergeant for a three hundred man company; he earned \$21.00 per month. On the first payday, Major Butler, seeing what Chet was doing and earning, promoted him on the spot to Corporal at \$42.00 per month.

Wanting to be a big hero, Chet said, he transferred to paratrooper training at Fort Benning, Georgia. Conditioning included a 2.5 mile run every morning in the cold. Chet made eight tower jumps, eight uncontrolled jumps, and

six plane jumps. On his first jump at Fort Hood, Texas, he got caught in a dust devil, spun down and landed on his back. His neck didn't break, as was feared, but x-rays showed that it had been broken previously, in a motorcycle



race when he was sixteen or seventeen. That was the end of his career as a paratrooper. He was sent back to Jefferson Barracks.

The buildup of the military was so great that men were hurried through training, and at Jefferson Barracks Chet worked seven days a week. He says they worked until they couldn't stay awake, took a nap, and went back to work, for up to a hundred hours a

week. When troops came in from Fort Devens, Massachusetts, only one size of coveralls was available for them, 42 longs, no matter what size the men wore. The clothes became known as the Devens coveralls. If shoes didn't fit, the men were told the shoes would break in their feet, rather than their feet breaking in the shoes. The massive buildup caused a shortage of uniforms and they had to make do with what was available.

His short stay back at the Jefferson Barracks was followed by a trip to Kessler Field, Mississippi, with the Cavalry. Chet was there when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Not wanting to be a supply sergeant again, he volunteered for aerial gunner school. The demand for gunners was so great, Chet finished only half the course before being sent to England. On his seventh or eighth mission, which was supposed to be a "milk run" to train a new gunner, the plane was hit. Chet was wounded in the wrist and

near the jugular vein. Because there were no hospitals overseas, Chet was sent to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to recover. From there he went to the Rehab Center in Miami. Once he was well enough for full duty, Chet applied for warrant officer. He ended up as a supply officer instead, and served as a supply officer for the rest of his military career.

From Miami, he went to Wisconsin, and then to Greensboro, North Carolina

to prepare for overseas duty. Scarlet fever broke out while he was there. The entire camp was quarantined, and that included Chet, even though he had already had scarlet fever.

Once the quarantine ended, the outfit was shipped to Camp Shanks, New York on the Hudson River in the middle of January, where camp conditions were horrible. Ships were coming in from overseas with damage from the North Atlantic winter weather; one ship had thirty-eight feet of a flight deck ripped off. The Liberty ship Chet sailed out on held about seven thousand troops. Bunks were stacked eight high. The end of one set of bunks collapsed and some sixty men were crushed.

In France, Chet went in through Cherbourg, otherwise known as Camp Lucky Strike. Mud was ankle deep; the men lived in semi-heated tents. Scarlet fever broke out. While Chet was there, word came that men with enough points could get out of the service. Chet called his wife in Georgetown, who encouraged him to get out and come home. He flew back on a B-17 that was returning to the States for an overhaul.

Chet got out of the service in January, 1946. He couldn't find a place to live or a decent job. Veterans had hundred twenty days to reenlist and retain their rank. Chet had been a Master Sergeant. With his wife Faye's approval, he reenlisted in February, 1946, and was shipped directly to Panama. She joined him there on.

When he left Panama, Chet wanted to go anywhere but Texas. So he was sent to San Antonio, Texas, where he stayed for three years. Upon learning that there was an opening in Hawaii for a supply officer, Chet volunteered and was accepted. His wife was able to go with him. Chet's friend, Warrant

Office Blackwell, with whom he had served in the past, helped to secure the position for Chet, and got him a place to live.

After spending a week together in Georgetown, Chet and Faye drove to the west coast in his little '49 Ford, and shipped out to Hawaii. During his tour in Hawaii, Chet spent about three months in Japan during the reconstruction, where he saw some unusual sights. There were two men hauling telephones poles between two bicycles; the back bicycle had a swivel on the handle bars to accommodate turns. Workers had noodle breaks instead of coffee breaks. The noodle vendor carried the noodles in pans stacked ten feet high on a bicycle. Chet made many flights to Japan and Korea; they were long and tiring in the old aircraft in use at the time.

In 1958, Chet transferred to Goose Bay, Labrador, just a few miles south of the tree line. His first winter there, two hundred fifty-two inches of snow fell.

Leaving there in 1961, Chet was based at McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey on an inspection team for the Inspector General's office. They worked all day and flew all night, covering territory from Minneapolis/St. Paul to San Antonio, to Bahrain, Saudi Arabia. On the weekends, they inspected Reserve and National Guard outfits. Chet's work took him all over the world. After working all day, he would write reports while flying somewhere else.

He contracted tuberculosis in 1962 after a trip to Spain and spent fifteen months in the hospital — nine months at the Army hospital in Valley Forge and six months at Scott Air Force Base. While at Valley Forge, he experienced three hemorrhages of the lungs, two while playing golf and one at the bowling alley. Following those episodes, and a total of about eight weeks in intensive care, Chet got rid of his golf clubs and his bowling ball. The tuberculosis and the medication Chet had to take because of it led to a heart attack and diabetes. The diabetes later went away.

When he was well enough to consider a return to active duty, he had to go in front of a board in Washington to get approval. The Air Force would not let Chet go back on active duty. But he only qualified for a ten percent disability, should he choose to retire. If not, he had to go back into the hospital right away. Chet was not able to go back into the hospital, so that was the end of Chet's 25 year military career.

Chet was able to take classes in various places where he was stationed. Before he left the service he completed his college degree at the University of Maryland in Business Administration. Following his retirement, Chet worked at Follett's Bookstore in Urbana for many years. He died on March 21, 2000.

Thanks to Nondus Wakefield, Molly Shoaf and the Homer Historical Society for the interview done with Chet and transcript of that interview. ■

## THANK YOU, MERCHANTS!!

The Homemakers Extension members extend their thanks to the following merchants, who are donating their time to water the planters along Main Street this summer.

**White's Hardware • Driscoll Pharmacy • Dave's Resturant  
First National Bank • Wienke Shoes • Rogers Auction**

*Our thanks to each of you!*

## HOMEMAKER EXTENSION NEWS

**H**ome Extension members spent an "Afternoon in Romania" when they held their annual International luncheon at the home of Mary Ann Rohl. Guest speaker was Andee Chesnut, of Mahomet, who along with her family, has visited the country of Romania. The Chesnuts had been privileged to host two young Romanian gymnasts and an exchange student in their home. It was hard to say good-bye to them as they returned home, and promises were made to visit their country and meet their families.

For three weeks, Andee and family traveled throughout Romania. They found the people to be very friendly, kind and trusting. Andee especially fell in love with the beautiful children, but it was hard to see that many were poor and hungry. Traveling through the mountain villages, they saw shepherds, horse drawn wagons and carts, reminding them of scenes from "Heidi". In some villages, everyone came out to see them, as many had not seen Americans before. The spectacular beauty of the country was contrasted by the poor conditions under which many Romanians live.

Food was very good but very basic, meats, vegetables and bread were the mainstay in many places. There is little medical care, and little industry. However, education is a very high priority in Romania, and the children study long and hard in school, receiving a very good education, but there is little opportunity to use their knowledge. Most take menial



Andee Chesnut displays beautiful hand-embroidered gifts given to her by friends in Romania.

jobs, or leave the country.

After World War II, Romania suffered 40 years of communist rule. It was only in 1989 that they were able to overthrow the Communist Dictator, Ceausescu, and gain freedom. Progress, however, has been slow as the various political parties vie for control.

Andee and family began their Romanian adventure in the capitol city of Bucharest, then traveled north into the mountains, staying in the villages and homes of their young friends. At one point, they stayed three days in a monastery, while a nun cooked for them. Their trip ended at a resort on the Black Sea, where there were more tearful good-byes, and then it was home to the U.S.

Andee lives in Mahomet with her husband, Dave, and daughters Leah and Lindsey. She is the Public Relations Director at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve. The Home Extension members were grateful to her for a most interesting afternoon.

In other Home Extension news, members met in April at the home of Pat Butler for a lesson on "Older can be Better", given by Betty Lacey. In May the group met to plant flowers along Main Street. Bonnie Compton was in charge of this project. In June, the Unit will travel to Brazil, Indiana to meet at the home of former member, Norma Diel. July will be a picnic, August, vacation month, and the new calendar year will begin in September with new officers. ■

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# SUMMER NATURE SCHOOL

## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT



Registration is now being accepted for summer nature school programs held at the Salt Fork River Forest Preserve (Tuesdays), Lake of the Woods County Park (Thursdays), and the Middle Fork River Forest Preserve (Fridays).

Programs are available for children ages 3 to 11. Classes begin the week of July 17th and finish the week of August 21st. All programs are free of charge! Reservations are required. Please phone (217) 896-2455 to register and obtain further information.

### Free Summer Saturdays Special Programs

#### KIDS' FISHING DAY

June 9, 1:30 - 4 p.m.

Salt Fork Forest Preserve

Enjoy Illinois Free Fishing Days (June 8 - 11) By bringing the kids (5 - 12) for a day of fishing at Homer Lake. Members of area fishing clubs will be on site to help kids. Come to the Walnut Hill Shelter. Please bring rod/tackle.

#### FOREST OF FUNGI

June 23, 2 p.m.

Lake of the Woods

Walk through Rayburn-Purnell Woods to locate different types of fungi. Also, we will talk about edible kinds and why they are so important to our environment.

#### RIVER OTTERS

June 30, 2 p.m.

Middle Fork Forest Preserve

Meet at the amphitheater for a brief discussion about these creatures. Then put your knowledge to use by surveying for river otters.

#### WATERFOWL AND THEIR SURROUNDINGS

July 7, 2 p.m.

Middle Fork Forest Preserve, Penfield

Take a Saturday to discover the various types of waterfowl and learn about management

techniques by joining us at the North Waterfowl Management Area. Go north on CR 2700E to 3500N, head west. Area is on north side of road with a large parking lot. For more information call (217) 896-2455

### Environmental Education Naturalist Series

*Elk's Lake Pavilion*

*Lake of the Woods County Park*

*Mahomet, IL 6:30 PM.*

Join area scientists for three evening of nature studies. Registration requested. Must be over 16 years old. (Families with small children are asked to attend Amphitheater or Summer Saturday Programs.)

#### SATURDAY, JULY 28

##### CRITICAL TRENDS

Study Of Illinois Ecosystems Presented by Steve Bailey, Illinois Natural History Survey. Includes an evening bird experience.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

##### ILLINOIS TURKEY

Presented by Patrick Huber, Illinois Natural History Survey. Includes and outdoor radio-telemetry search.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

##### AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF ILLINOIS

Presented by Dan Olson, University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and

Environmental Science. Includes outdoor frog call identification lab.

### Amphitheater Programs

*Middle Fork River Forest Preserve*

*Penfield, IL*

*(Meet at amphitheater) 8:00PM*

#### SATURDAY, JULY 21

##### CREATURES THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT

Come join us for this interesting look at nocturnal animals. We will end the evening with a special night hike.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

##### MOTHS AND BATS: NIGHTTIME VISITORS

Learn about these creatures and attract them into view.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

##### OWL PROWL

Plan to take a walk in the dark to call in owls after a fund evening of owl games and information.

*\*\*All Programs are FREE unless noted. For more information visit [www.ccfpd.org](http://www.ccfpd.org) <<http://www.ccfpd.org/>> or call the Environmental Education Department at (217) 896-2455.*

## HELLO FROM THE HOMER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL!

We want the community to know, "Hey we are here!" And, "What's going on?" The Homer Cooperative Preschool was established in 1974. We've had many different homes over the years. We are currently residing in a room at the Homer United Methodist Church. We are owned and operated by the parents of the children enrolled. Our facility is licensed for sixteen 3-6 year olds. Currently, we are searching for a new director/teacher. Enrollment has begun for fall. (Which is contingent upon finding a teacher.) If anyone is interested in enrolling their child or in the position, please call Tricia (896-3022) or Donna (896-2572). Look for more info in the next *News & Views*.

# HOMER RECREATION BOARD

— by Daniel Gordon —

## A DAY AT THE RACES

**W**elcome to a new era in Homer recreation, the Homer Drag Races. The Recreation Board has built a grass track drag racing facility just east of town on South St. We have developed a race schedule for the 2001 summer and the first race will be on Saturday, June 23rd around noon. We will host four races this summer all to be held on the fourth Saturday of each month of summer. June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, and September 22nd. What kind of vehicles are we going to be drag racing? Great question, we will be racing snowmobiles and ATV's (4-wheelers) in a head to head single elimination race. The track length will be 500 feet from start to finish with about a 700 feet area to slow down in.

Is this dangerous? That's another great question and I would have to say, the most powerful sleds can only get from start to finish in about 6 seconds or 0 to 100 mph in about 6 seconds and that's nothing compared to a jet fighter plane. We will have our finest (the Homer Fire department, police and paramedics) out there to make sure that all goes well and that all safety concerns are met before, during and after the race. There will be top pro's coming from the north to try out our new track so the competition should be excellent. There will be concessions run by local groups like the Lions, the Boy Scouts, The Presbyterian woman's group, and the Historical Society and there will be bathroom facilities as well. We have been hard at work trying to raise the money to develop the track and we might not have raised enough money to buy bleachers so you might want to bring a lawn chair.

Why are we having races in Homer? That is the best question yet. There are many positive things that can come out of the racetrack. For starters, all profits that we make at the racetrack will go to fund recreation in Homer. The potential this has is excellent and it has been a success for several small towns up north. This will also bring in dollars to Homer from out of town that we wouldn't normally get. This will help our business as well as our community clubs such as the Lions and Scouts. The races will also give us some great entertainment while the corn is growing. I hope to see you there.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

**I**f Mike Johnson decides to race this summer in the drag races, I'm sure he would win. How do I know this, because Mike Johnson's sport clubs have won everything else the Recreation Board has put on in the last 12 months? His team won the Softball tournament labor day 2000, and you guessed it Mike Johnson's high flying basketball team won the Homer Recreation men's basketball league. So this begs the question, Mike are you planning to race your sled this summer to win the Triple Crown of Homer Sports? The Men's basketball league finished up a few weeks ago and it was a great season. Thank you to all who participated and helped to run the league. Special thanks to Heritage Jr. High for letting us use your gym. If you would like to participate next year just let us know at the Recreation Board. We plan to start the next season in January and let me tell you it was a lot of fun and I got in a little better shape from running up and down the floor every Sunday. The Third annual Homers Odyssey softball tournament is coming up soon so get your team together and get signed up to play. All you need is five guys and five gals to play. ■

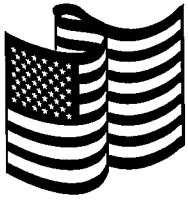
— H O M E R —

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  - Video Rental
  - Film Processing
  - Rug Shampoo Rental
- Friendly Hometown Service

**WE'RE IN YOUR HOMETOWN!**



# HOMER'S 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION



## PARADE ENTRY FORM

HOMER, ILLINOIS  
Wednesday, July 4, 2001 at 9 AM

NAME OR NAME OF ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

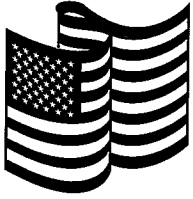
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF UNIT, UNIFORMS, COSTUMES, FLOAT, ETC.: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE DATE: JUNE 18, 2001**

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO: Greg Knotts  
106 West First Street  
Homer, Illinois 61849  
Phone: (217) 896-2722  
E-mail: Gknott63@aol.com

NO ENTRY FEE.  
NO OBSCENE OR PORNOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS.  
LINE-UP WILL BE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING ON W. 2nd STREET (the Homer-Sidney Road).  
**LINE-UP WILL BEGIN AT 8:00 A.M. — PARADE WILL BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.**



# HOMER'S 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION



## TALENT SHOW REGISTRATION FORM

AT THE HOMER PARK  
Corner of Coffeen and Carolina Street  
Wednesday, July 4th, 2001, at 4 PM

NAME OR NAME OF ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK WHICH CATEGORY YOU WILL COMPETE IN:

- Junior (Ages 0-13)    Senior (Ages 14 - 25)    Open (Ages 26 & up)

DESCRIBE YOUR ACT (EXAMPLE: SINGING, INSTRUMENT, SOLO, DANCE, COMEDY, KARAOKE, ETC.) \_\_\_\_\_

ALSO INDICATE THE NAME OF SONG AND IF YOU'LL BE USING ANY SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF YOUR BIOGRAPHY (ACCOMPLISHMENTS, TALENTS, FAMILY): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: A non-refundable \$5.00 application fee per act (limit 2 acts) must accompany this application.**

MAIL REGISTRATIONS FORM AND FEE TO: Becky Smith  
Talent Show Coordinator  
300 East South Street  
Homer, Illinois 61849.  
Phone: (217) 896-2722  
E-mail: msbecky70@hotmail.com

**DEADLINE DATE: JUNE 18, 2001**

THERE IS A 5-MINUTE TIME LIMIT ON EACH ACT.  
PLEASE PLAN TO BE AT THE PARK BY 3:30 PM TO SIGN IN. WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY.



# HOMER'S 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION



## PAGEANT REGISTRATION FORM

AT THE HOMER PARK  
Corner of Coffeen and Carolina Street  
Wednesday, July 4th, 2001, at 10 AM

CHILD'S AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ BOY OR GIRL: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK WHICH CATEGORY YOU WILL COMPETE IN: *(Age goes by what you are on July 4, 2001)*

Babies (Ages 0-23 months)  Tots (Ages 2 - 4)  Junior (Ages 5 - 13)  Junior (Ages 14 - 18)

HAIR COLOR: \_\_\_\_\_ EYES: \_\_\_\_\_

FAVORITE COLOR: \_\_\_\_\_ FAVORITE TOY: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE: \_\_\_\_\_

TALENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ HOBBIES: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INTERESTS: \_\_\_\_\_

FAVORITE SPORTS: \_\_\_\_\_

THREE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE YOU: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGEANTS PREVIOUSLY ENTERED (TITLES, IF ANY): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: A non-refundable \$5.00 application fee must accompany this application.**

MAIL REGISTRATIONS FORM AND FEE TO: Becky Smith, Pageant Coordinator  
300 East South Street, Homer, Illinois 61849.

Phone: (217) 896-2722 or E-mail: msbecky70@hotmail.com

**DEADLINE DATE: JUNE 18, 2001.**

JUDGING: Age 4 & under may be accompanied by one adult on stage. Baby — 4 years will compete first & 5 and up will compete second. Children Under 2 will be judged on overall appearance & facial features. Two and over will be judged on personality, facial features and overall appearance and charm. Time permitting, ages 5 and up MAY be asked an onstage question from their application. All age groups will be judged on their on stage presence.

ATTIRE: Dressy Clothes — Short or long dress (maybe Sunday best or pageant dress). Please arrive DRESSED — areas of competition will not have dressing rooms.

**REGISTRATION: 9:00 - 9:45 AM — PAGEANT: 10:00 AM**

WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY.

# HOMER DIRECTORY

## ATTORNEYS

### Nolan "Bud" Craver

Attorney  
896-2214  
128 S. Main Street  
Homer, IL 61849

### Marilyn K. Lee

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

## AGRICULTURE

### Allerton Supply Company

896-2522  
1043 Cr 2600 E  
Homer, IL 61849

### Cargill Vineyard Seeds

896-2361  
2314 Cr 1050 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Homer Elevator

896-2494  
P.O. Box 138  
Homer, IL 61849

### Pioneer Seed Company

896-2839  
2546 Cr 1050 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Wolf Grain Systems

896-2192  
2761 Cr 1100 N

## AUTOMOTIVE

### Deke Denney Race Cars

Auto, Truck & High Performance  
896-2119  
100 E. First St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Don's Automotive & Towing

896-2817  
202 N. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Forward Motion Drive Train Specialist

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

### Happ Performance Shop

896-2709  
6737 Vermillion W. Rd.  
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

### Burns Computers

Sales, Service, Training  
David Burns  
896-2797  
207 E. First St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Chris' Lawn Service

217-896-2225  
2717 Cr 1250 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### D & D Driveway Seal Coating

896-2162  
9231 Vermillion W. Rd.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Easton Cable Systems

896-2302  
Boring, Backhoe & Trenching  
Ogden, IL 61859

### Ely Furniture & Design

896-2505  
2611 Cr 1025 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Firehouse Auto

Auto Body Repair  
Tom & Tammy Franks  
896-337  
111 N. Main St.  
(old Firestation)  
Homer, IL 61849

### First National Bank of Homer

896-2423  
134 S. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Fish Insurance Agency

896-2214  
P.O. Box 167  
Homer, IL 61849

### Frito Lay

2307 Cr 1050 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### The Gamer's / War Games

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

### Harold's Welding / Fabrication

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

### Homer Auction

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

### Homer Car Wash

110 W. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Jim's Bobcat Service / Jim Lacey

896-2747  
710 S. Church St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Kirby Funeral Home

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

### Pelican Displays / Cabinets & Woodworking

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

### Rocket R & D

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

### Renaissance Studios

896-2763  
502 W. Fourth St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Salt Fork River Preserve

896-2733  
2573 S. Homer Lake Rd.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Southern Ag Equipment, Inc.

Farm Equipment  
896-2442  
2723A Cr 1250 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Testing Components, Inc.

Animals  
896-2649  
10923 Vermillion W. Rd.  
Homer, IL 61849

### This & That

Hrley Rogers  
896-2527  
Homer, IL 61849

### Topline Farm / Horse Boarding

896-2691  
2455 Cr 1050 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Uncle Boonie's Bait Shop

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

### White's Ace Hardware

896-2412  
133 S. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Alan Wienke Auto & Truck Detailing

896-2387  
2599 Cr 700 N  
Homer, IL 61849

### Wolf Realtors

896-2253  
606 W. Third  
Homer, IL 61849

## CHURCHES

### Church of Christ

896-2332  
500 E. Second St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Presbyterian Church

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

### Allen's Meats

896-2532  
2 mi. N of Homer  
on Rt. 49

### Dave's Pizza

896-2123  
123 S. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Homer IGA

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

## ELECTRICAL

### Do-All Electric Company

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

### Don's Electric

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

## GASOLINE

### Casey's

896-  
300 N. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Don's Marathon

896-2817  
202 N. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### United Fuel Company

Don Clem  
896-2344  
310 S. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

## HAIR CARE

### Danny's Barbershop

896-2048  
103 W. First St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Lori's Hairdesign

896-2260  
606 E. First St.  
Homer, IL 61849

## 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

### American Legion Post 290

P.O. Box 134  
Homer, IL 61849

### Homer Masonic Lodge

104 E. Wabash St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Homer Lions Club

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

## PLUMBING & HEATING

### James Plumbing & Heating

896-2256  
208 E. Monroe St.  
Homer, IL 61849

### Matthis Plumbing, Inc.

896-2689  
945 Cr 2800 E  
Homer, IL 61849

### Ray's Plumbing & Heating

896-2222  
P.O. Box 136  
Homer, IL 61849

## STORAGE

### Jeff & Kim Matthis

Indoor Vehicle Storage  
896-2689  
945 Cr 2800 E  
Homer, IL 61849

### Store'n Lok

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

## TREES/NURSERY'S

### Hidden Acres Nursery

896-2738  
202 N. Main St.  
St. Joseph, IL 61873

### Ingram's Nursery & Landscaping

896-2621  
1267 Cr 2500 E  
St. Joseph, IL 61873

### Wilson Farms

896-2160  
2587 Cr 1200 N  
Homer, IL 61849

## UTILITIES:

### CILCO

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

### Homer Village Water Service

896-2521  
101 N. Main St.  
Homer, IL 61849

Please contact Greg Knott at  
896-2348 for any listing changes.

# HOMER HOUSEHOLD

## "Summer Salads"

### TORTELLINI SALAD

1 7-oz pkg. cheese tortellini

½ C Ranch Dressing

¼ C Parmesan cheese

½ t. Italian seasoning

Chopped fresh broccoli, chopped cauliflower and grated carrots combined to make 2 cups

Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain well. Mix dressing, cheese and seasoning. Mix vegetables into pasta and pour dressing over. Toss to mix then cover and refrigerate.

### SNOW WHITE SALAD

Melt 18 large marshmallows in 1 cup of milk, very slowly over low heat or in double boiler. Cool to lukewarm. Mash 8 oz pkg softened cream cheese, and add to milk mixture. Blend well. Let stand till cool. Add 1 can mandarin oranges, drained and 1 small flat can, crushed pineapple drained well. May add ½ c chopped nuts if desired. Pour into 7 x 11 pan. Refrigerate to set.

### OREO SALAD

2 3-oz pkgs lime jello

12 Oreo cookies, crushed fine

1 pkg Dream Whip

1 drop peppermint extract (optional)

Prepare Jello according to pkg directions. Refrigerate for about 1-1½ hours until partly set. Prepare Dream Whip according to pkg directions. Spoon 1½ c Jello into bottom of 9 x 9 pan. Fold Dream Whip into remaining Jello. Layer the jello mixture alternately with the crushed Oreos ending with the Oreos. Refrigerate until all is firm. If adding the extract, add to Dream Whip. ■

## LORI'S HAIRDESIGN

606 E. First St.  
Homer, IL 61849

(217) 896-2260

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## DRISCOLL PHARMACY

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(217) 896-2434

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Hours: Mon-Fri / 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. • Closed Saturday & Sunday



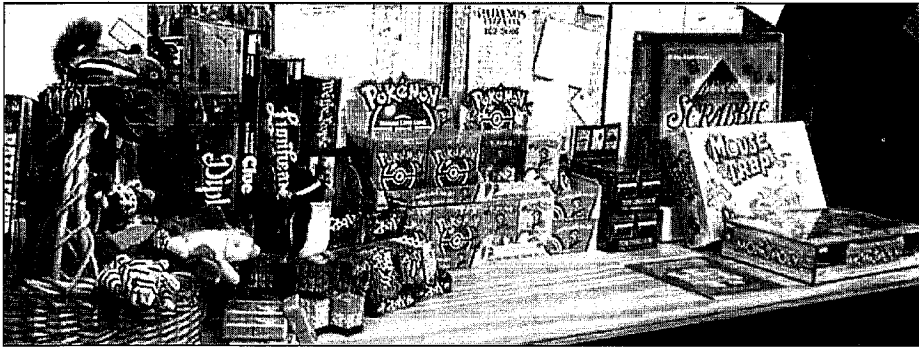
# WHITE'S ACE HARDWARE®

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896-2412

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p.m.

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# FAMILY FUN

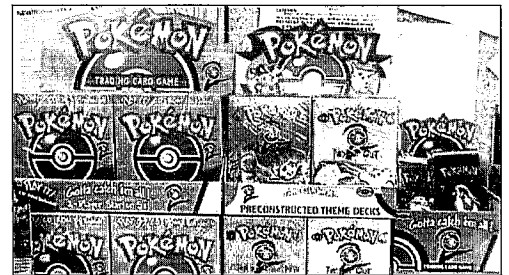
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**Experts agree:**

A family game night is a great way to spend time with the kids. 😊



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# KIRBY

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**896-2323**

TIMOTHY L. KIRBY  
Owner / Director

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