

The Heppner Gazette-Times

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Heppner, Oregon 25



Weather

by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Prec.
Tues., May 29	88	50	.01
Wed., May 30	61	35	
Thurs., May 31	62	36	
Fri., June 1	69	49	
Sat., June 2	66	42	
Sun., June 3	70	47	.43
Mon., June 4	59	43	.33

The total precipitation for May was 1.16 inches. Normal is 1.26 inches.

Ione and Heppner graduate seniors



Ione High School graduated seven seniors at commencement ceremonies last Thursday, May 31, 1984. Pictured from

left: Howard Leavitt, Mike Douglas, Darin Padberg, Steve Millman, Scott Barnett, Andy Roberts, and Craig Hams.

Heppner High School graduated 45 seniors at commencement services Friday, June 1.



Carlena Rathbun and Kevin Kenison



Michele Saling and Dean Rill

Maas always had his brand of ministry

If you read the letters to the editor column, have coffee in one of the local coffee shops, or spend much time around downtown Heppner, chances are you have met the Rev. John Maas of the local Lutheran Church.

Maas will be leaving soon to go to the Prinville Lutheran Church. He visited recently about his six and one-half years in Heppner, what it has meant to him, and about his own particular brand of ministry.

While many people shy away from controversy, choosing to remain silent on community issues, Maas is just the opposite, usually jumping feet first into an issue to express his views, and point out injustice where he sees it.

"I like to take sides on an issue," he says flatly. "My family has always been debaters. We would sit around the dinner table and tear an issue apart. We could argue, but it didn't mean we didn't love each other."

He sees a town, a community in the same way. "It comes down to family. If we don't work together and talk things over, we become isolated and scared of each other, and that's not good."

His willingness to speak out has not always been smooth sailing; however, and Maas says, with a hint of a smile, "My wife Judy cringes when she sees me pick up a pen sometimes."

On a personal level the people of this area will remember him for his friendly

smile and pleasant words to those he meets on the street and at clubs and meetings.

"These two congregations (Heppner and Valby Churches) have made me incredibly secure because of their support and caring. With that kind of base to operate from it has allowed me to take some risks and to take some shots."

Those shots also include the emotional hazards of being a minister. "It's not easy to watch someone die," he says. "It's hard to visit someone who is sick. It's hard to understand the old, because I've always been healthy. It's hard to deal with problems in marriage, drinking, abuse. But those things are really the core of what Jesus is called to share; that no matter what the conditions—you deserve to be loved."

He says one of the things which convinces him God is there, is that he can go into these situations and not be destroyed by them.

An accessible minister, Maas says meeting people is a fundamental premise of his ministry. "I didn't start at the beginning and say 'I'm going to be downtown a lot,' but the congregation, in its way, said that's O.K. I do much better when I'm out meeting people. If I sit in the office I get stale."

The son of an aircraft worker, Maas was born in New York and grew up in southern California, where the family moved a lot. "This is the longest I've ever stayed in one place," he says.

Before entering the ministry, Maas served in the Air



The Rev. John Maas

Force, built airplanes and worked for the phone company.

It was a radical religious experience that brought him to the ministry, and though he hesitates to call it a rebirth, it was strong enough that he "could not say no." "I was glad I had that experience, and I was glad it happened because Lutherans are seen as kind of intellectual and hide-bound concerning doctrine. It was a conversion experience.

It was dramatic and abrupt." Heppner and Valby were his first churches and Maas says he and his wife Judy, who teaches school, have felt "incredible affection and acceptance."

"My six and one-half years here has strongly impressed me with being with people, going through events and sharing the good and the bad. That's my validity as a minister, being part of people's lives."

Begin planning for July 7 Saturday Market

Booth space is available for the "Saturday Market" which Heppner merchants are planning for Saturday, July 7. Anyone needing booth space should contact Linda Hutchinson, 676-9001 to arrange for space on Main Street during the market.

Merchants have planned to have their regular sidewalk sale bargains on this day, but want to encourage the whole community to participate.

Main street will be blocked during the day and many people from Lexington and Ione as well as Heppner will be invited to exhibit their work and sell merchandise. Committee members will be contacting area organizations to

Plan for VBS next week

Vacation Bible School offered. The United Methodist, All Saints' Episcopal and Hope Lutheran churches have again combined to offer the community a Vacation Bible School, next week, June 11 through June 15, from 9 a.m. to noon daily. The cost is \$6.00 per child, up to \$18.00 per family with three or more children. The preregistration will be at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 11, at the Methodist Church. School will close at noon, Friday, June 15, with a sack lunch brought from home, held on the lawn of All Saints.

There is still a need for some helpers and at least one teacher. If you would like to help or if you have any questions, please contact the Rev. Ed Watts or Geneva Matthews.

Summer story hour scheduled

During the summer months, children's story hour at the Heppner library will be held only on the last Thursday of each month.

The library will remain open from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays for the convenience of the public.

arrange for "carnival-type booths."

The merchants' goal is to get as many people involved as possible in promoting Heppner. Merchants will advertise the Saturday Market on KUMA radio and in four surrounding area newspapers. They are also having posters printed which will be displayed in Heppner as well as surrounding communities.

Port of Morrow celebrates I-84 interchange opening

The new interchange will eliminate the need to drive chip loaded trucks through Boardman city streets and over the narrow bridge crossing the Union Pacific Railroad tracks at the north end on Main St.



Louis Carlson, Port of Morrow Commission Chairman officially opens new Interchange in traditional ribbon cutting ceremony.

By JUDY MILLER

On a windy Wednesday afternoon, May 30, Port of Morrow Commission Chairman Louis Carlson of Ione snipped the ribbon officially opening the new Port-I84 interchange located a mile east of Boardman.

Leading the list of state and local dignitaries to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony was Representative State Senator Gene Timms from Burns. Timms was appointed to serve out the term of Bob Smith who resigned after being elected to congress in 1982. Currently Timms serves on

the state interim committee on Transportation.

Also attending were Harry Oswald, Oregon State Highway Div. of Pendleton; Mike Gardener, Interchange Project Engineer, Hermiston; and Bob Hector, Regional Highway Engineer from La-Grande. All were instrumental in completion of the interchange project.

Joining the celebration were Kinzua Corp. President Harry Kennison, Kinzua operates the Longview Fiber wood chip plant located at the port.

West and Bill Sharkey and also Port Commissioner Pat Flug.

"Our goal has always been to get traffic off the freeway and into the Port of Morrow," said Carlson in a dedication address which followed at the Dodge City Inn.

Two hundred and fifty trucks per day will now be using Port Industrial Park roads rather than driving through Boardman, Carlson estimated. He also mentioned the new general cargo docking facility under construction at the port. Port of Morrow

hopes to corner the market for containerized cargo now being shipped by rail or truck.

The dock with its planned 33 ton cone crane will be "the best we can afford" said Carlson. Dock completion is expected in four months.

Carlson praised efforts by Port Manager Wayne Schwandt and the State Department of Transportation saying the \$1.6 million interchange is an example of how "things happen when intergovernment agencies cooperate to get things done."



Gathering at interchange dedication celebration are (from left) Port of Morrow Commission Chairman Louis Carlson, Senator Eugene Timms, Port Manager Wayne Schwandt and Boardman City Administrator Larry Dalrymple.