

The Heppner Gazette-Times

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Weather by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip.
Tues., July 24	94	63	
Wed., July 25	94	54	
Thurs., July 26	90	54	
Fri., July 27	90	51	
Sat., July 28	89	54	Trace
Sun., July 29	92	57	
Mon., July 30	94	58	

300 attend celebration

More centennial stories and photos, page 4

Lexington observes county centennial



Local band entertains during Centennial Celebration at Lexington Saturday.

The first community celebration of Morrow County's 100th birthday in Lexington on Saturday, July 28, brought out a good crowd. Delpha Jones, chairman of the Centennial Committee greeted the crowd in the name of the committee, the County Court, and the city of Lexington. In an area of gaily colored flags, straw bales, picnic tables and a hay wagon for the band and speakers, Chairman Jones called for ten children volunteers to release the helium-filled balloons which started the day with a "bang."

"The day was a fun-filled time from the time it started until a thunder lightning and rain storm stopped everything at 11 p.m.," said Chairman Jones. Some of the activities included for the children were a peanut race, a balloon race, a coin search, apple bobbing, and a frog race.

The dunk tank drew many good laughs from the crowd as dignitaries and children were plunged into the refreshing water.

Country-style music provided by local musicians accompanied the many festivities. The crowd received a special treat when Roy Quackenbush and Harley Sager entertained from the hay wagon.

The Rebekahs served over 100 chicken dinners at the Lodge Hall. Bingo, a dart game, concessions, free lemonade and cookies, garage sales, and flea market stands were some of the other activities of the day. The Garden Bugs dedicated Friendship Park at 4 p.m. just after the tour bus of senior citizens arrived from the north end of the county.

"The highlight of the afternoon," says Chairman Jones, "was the

drawing for the lawnmower donated by Morrow County Grain Growers." Scott (Denny) McMillan was the lucky winner drawn by Lexington Mayor John Ripple.

Dancing began following the drawing and the entire day was "kept peaceful and quiet" by Mar-

shall Earl (Papineau), who, along with his wife Charlene were in western costumes. Other western and centennial costumes were evident in the crowd which was estimated to reach nearly 300 before the festivities ended.

The committee in charge of the

day was Ray Papineau, Linda Jones, and Shirley McCarl. They were working, greeting people, and helping to entertain. "This was indeed a great day, and it is impossible to name all the fine people helping all day long," concluded Chairman Jones.

The next community centennial celebration scheduled during the Morrow County Centennial year is to be included at the August 25 Watermelon Festival in Irrigon. Centennial Committee Chairman Jones reminds communities that the celebrations are judged by a committee and a plaque will be awarded to the community which is considered to have best carried out the Centennial theme.

Centennial Buttons are on sale for \$1 from Barbara Bloodworth, Ruth McCabe, Delpha Jones, Del's Market, V & G Tavern, Bristow's Market, the Gazette-Times, Peterson's Jewelers, and Irrigon City Hall.

Heppner-Morrow Chamber of Commerce President Harley Sager says that he is still seeking volunteers to organize a celebration in Heppner.

Ceremonies officially open Friendship Park



Kathy Tellechea (left) and Lois Allyn

By DELPHA JONES

Friendship Park was dedicated at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28 during the Morrow County Centennial Celebration held at Lexington.

Lois Allyn spoke of the building of the park, and thanked all for their work, time and money. She men-

tioned the people who had given so much, especially Bob Taylor and John Tellechea for the time they spent helping with the project.

Kathy Tellechea, president of the Lexington Garden Bugs told of some of the work and thanked everyone who had helped. She welcomed everyone to use the park for picnics, barbecues, and just relaxing. The Garden Club would appreciate park users' help in placing their refuse in the garbage receptacles and in keeping dogs out of the park area.

Lexington Mayor John Ripple cut the ribbon which officially opened the park and Allyn and Tellechea removed the drape from the sign, designed and made by Donna Bergstrom, proclaiming, "Friendship Park."

Children invited to VBS

The Lollipop Dragon invites all children aged four through fourth grade to come visit him and his friend, the King of Tumtum at Vacation Bible School at the First Christian Church in Heppner, Aug-

ust 6-10 from 9-11:45 a.m.

Children will study the parables and other Bible stories, play games, do crafts, and sing songs centered on the theme, "Jesus is My Answer."

No registration fee will be charged. Further information is available by calling 676-9209.

Wheat harvest underway in Morrow Co.



Wheat field on fire near Heppner Monday afternoon

Grain harvest is progressing well and in full swing in the north Lexington and north Lone areas says Larry Mills, manager of Morrow County Grain Growers. One or two farmers in the north Lexington area report having finished while farmers are

just getting started in the Heppner-Ruggs areas.

This year's yields are well above average, Mills says for both wheat and barley. He says that some farmers have reported yields of 50 plus bushels to the acre for wheat and one and one-quarter to one and one-half tons per acre for barley.

The quality of this year's crop is better than last year's crop which received some damage by a hot spell over the 1983 Memorial Day weekend. Overall yields are probably a little better, too, Mills continued. The good crop can be attributed to ideal weather conditions with good moisture, and no extreme hot weather until the grain was already ripening at the lower elevations.

Although there were a few disease problems this year, the problems were minimal and in isolated areas. Any effects on the yield of the crop says Bob Costa of the Morrow County Extension Service would probably only show up at the higher elevations where the hot early July weather may have also been damaging.

Along with the good yields and warm good-for-harvest weather come the inevitable field fires. The Gazette-Times has received reports of two fires in the area during the past week.

Saturday, July 28, a fire started from a truck at the Social Ridge area wheat ranch of L.E. Ruhl.

After airplanes from Lexington airport began spraying retardant on the fire, all that remained to do was to go around the edges and stop the fire said a spokesperson for the Ruhls.

Monday, July 30, about 5 p.m., a fire started near a truck owned by M.G. Ranches. The truck had been sitting in the same place for quite a while and no one was near it when the fire started, reported Mike Gray, who was custom-cutting wheat owned by Terry Thompson of Heppner. Some stubble in the Thompson field burned before the fire jumped the fence and burned an undetermined number of acres of wheat in an adjacent field owned by Dexter Miles.

Three firetrucks, a pumper from Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, numerous ranchers, two of Mel Boyer's airplanes, and a pickup with a pumper and a tanker truck from Morrow County Grain Growers responded to the fire. Heppner Fire Chief Forrie Burkenbine said "we had quite a bit of help, but we needed it." The fire was extinguished in about one and one-half hours.

Gazette-Times names winners



From left: Sandy Holtz, editor; David Sykes, publisher; and Eileen Saling, office manager display cake during Monday's open house

Monday, July 30, the Heppner Gazette-Times held an Open House in celebration of the newspaper's 100th anniversary.

During the day people were invited to come in and have cake, coffee

and punch and to sign up for the drawing for a grand prize of \$100 worth of free printing and two prizes of one lifetime subscription each to the Heppner Gazette-Times.

The drawing was held at 5 p.m. Winners of the lifetime subscriptions were Scott (Denny) McMillan and Cara Costa. The grand prize winner was Betty Bunch.

Work begins at site of future Post Office



Work began Tuesday, July 31 on Heppner's Main Street at the site of the future Heppner Post Office. It has been reported that the building is expected to be completed in October, although the Heppner Investors who own the property and who will own the building have not yet announced the name of the contractor. Awarding of the contract is pending final approval by the federal government.