

BESSIE WETZELL
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Gazette times

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VOL. 111 NO. 26 8 Pages Wednesday, July 1, 1992 Morrow County Heppner, Oregon

Lightning storms cause over 15 fires

The Morrow County Sheriff's office received over 15 reports of lightning caused grass fires between June 24 and 29.

Fires were reported in Heppner, Ione, Lexington, Condon, Blalock Road near Arlington,

Spray, Boardman, Cecil, John Day River, Scotch Canyon and the Army Depot.

Heppner Fire Chief Forrie Burkenbine said that the volunteer fire department put out three fires between Heppner and

Clark's Canyon Saturday night, June 27, and the rain put out several more. He said the department was out around three hours. He had no estimate of how much area burned or the amount of damage.



Heavy rains caused flash flooding on Black Horse Canyon Sunday evening in Lexington.

One bridge and several roads in the area were washed out. Road crews were called out to block off Black Horse Canyon Road. There were no injuries reported.

M.C. Arts and Crafts donates to kids summer program



Pauline Matheny (left) presents Gladys Drake with check for \$200 for children's summer program.

The Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts group donated \$200 to help fund the summer recreation program for area children.

Local artists will also participate as teachers for the program. Sandra VanLiew will demonstrate weaving, Carol Atherly will teach painting, Ron Forrar, working with clay and Cindy Sumner, movement.

At the group's meeting held June 22 at Kate's Pizza, Ruth Nutting and Beulah Ogletree were elected chairpersons of the building display at the Morrow

County Fair. Peggy DeZoete and Mary Ella Moyer will be assistants.

Members voted to cancel July and August meetings and resume on the fourth Monday of September.

The Harvest Festival of the Arts will be held on Nov. 6 and 7. Kathy Ferge will coordinate the event again this year and the Morrow County Museum and Heppner Elementary will again sponsor a display. Locations and times for festival events will be announced later.

Cause of fire undetermined

The cause of a grass fire that burned over 800 acres near Heppner on June 4 is "officially undetermined," said Heppner Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine.

Burkenbine said that officials will not investigate the fire further.

Antique aircraft group plans fly-in at Lexington airport

Between 40 and 50 antique planes will arrive at the Lexington Airport for a fly-in on July 10. The fly-in is part of the "Oregon Air Tour '92," sponsored by the Oregon Antique and Classic Aircraft Club. The community is invited to view the planes at the airport.

Local coordinator John Boyer said that around 75 people will fly in between 2 and 3 p.m. and will spend the night in the area. They will leave the next morning at 10 a.m. for Hood River. Boyer said that some of the people will stay at the local motel, while some will camp out at the airport and other locations. A tour of the Oregon Trail may be offered but otherwise the pilots are on their own for meals and other activities, he said.

LaRue's lead Fourth of July parade

By Anne Morter

Activities get underway this Friday evening to kick off Ione's annual gala Fourth of July celebration. "The Biggest Celebration in the Littlest Town Around" will start with a three-on-three basketball tournament and the opening rounds of the Ken Snider Memorial Tennis Tournament on Friday night. On Saturday, a full slate of events is scheduled to take place providing fun and plenty of good eating for the entire family.

One of the big attractions is always the parade and this year should be no exception. Grand marshals for this year's events are Del and Linda LaRue, 21-year residents of Ione and active supporters of the town and its youth.

Del has been in the teaching profession for 31 years and has also been active in coaching. He has been the head basketball coach for all of his 21 years at Ione plus 18 years of assistant football coaching and various stints as head baseball, and head track. He has also coached pee wee basketball for 21 years. In community activities, he has served on the Ione TV Board for six years and is currently president, as well as serving for the past two years on the Ione United Church of Christ Council.

Upon arriving in Ione, Linda got involved with 4-H, first with an outdoor cooking club for 21 boys and later with a horse club. She drove school bus before securing a part time job at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, and continued to do both until she went into a full-time position at



Linda and Del LaRue

the bank. Even when working full-time, she still found time to drive activity bus for a few years. She has worked at the Bank of Eastern Oregon for a total of 18 years, the last 11 being fulltime.

She has been active in city government, sitting on the council two different times and serving as mayor for seven years.

She also taught Sunday school and served on the United Church of Christ Council.

She was active in a philanthropic Sorority, which later became the Extension Club, serving as an officer at the local and state levels. She has been active in the Cardinal Club and served as the boys basketball scorekeeper for the last 16 years, missing only five or six games despite her busy schedule.

The LaRues have three grown children, Robin, Shawn and Michelle, and four grandsons.

Fires double yearly average

Tom Jones, assistant fire management officer with the U.S. Forest Service, Heppner Ranger District, said that between Friday, June 26 and Tuesday, June 30, the district responded to 14 fires.

Jones said that most were spot, with the largest consuming 10 acres. Damage was "insignificant" he said, even on the 10-acre fire, which consisted of grass and pine.

One hundred people from the district and 10 from the Ukiah district responded to the fires, along with two engines from Ukiah and two from Walla Walla. The wildland fire four wheel rigs carry 200 gallons of water.

Jones said that so far this year the district has responded to around 30 fires. The high number of fires is unusual, he said, because the yearly average is usually around 25. Fires don't usually begin until the end of July, he added.

The district has also responded to almost 100 fires on land surrounding the district. The district has a cooperative agreement with the Oregon State Department of Forestry and landowners with property adjacent to the district pay a fire suppression tax for fire control.

The upcoming forecast is more favorable, said Jones, with damp conditions, lower temperatures and higher humidity.

Ione Fourth of July

"The Biggest Celebration in the Littlest Town Around"

Friday, July 3, 1992

6 p.m. 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament-Ione High School. Contact Greg Rietmann at 422-7243.

Ken Snider Memorial Tennis Tournament-Ione High School, Contact Betty Gray at 989-8161

Saturday, July 4, 1992

9 a.m. Tennis tournament continues
11 a.m. Parade-Main Street; activities in city park immediately following parade. Food booths open (cookies, hot dogs, elephant ears, drinks, hamburgers, snow cones, root beer floats) face painting.

12-4 p.m. Pie & Coffee-St. Williams Catholic Church

12:00 Horseshoe Tournament, sign up early at pits. Contact Jim Boor. Chalk Drawing Contest, Catholic Church sidewalk. Fly Bye sometime during day.

1 p.m. Volleyball Tournament, Ione City Park, Contact Barbara Peterson at 422-7047. Frog Jumping Contest, Ione City Park. (frogs provided)

2 p.m. Children's games, City Park (straw money pile, baseball throw, 3 legged race, sack race, etc.). Historical Tour of Ione, Load at City Park.

2:30 p.m. Cow Chip Contest, Football Field (chips provided). Winetasting, Woolery House.

Bingo, Legion Hall

1-5 p.m. Free Swimming, Ione High School

2-5 p.m. Tug-of-war, Ione Rural Fire District, Main Street.

3 p.m. Dunk Tank, Ione City Park

4 p.m. Historical Tour of Ione, meet at City Park

Afternoon Beer Garden, across from Post Office

5:30 p.m. Bed Races, Ione Ball Field, Contact Marv Padberg. Softball, Ione Ball Field, Bring your gear.

6 p.m. Chicken Dinner by Ione Cardinal Club, School Cafeteria. Adults \$5.00, ages 6-12 \$2.50, five and under free. Menu: chicken, hot dogs, coleslaw, French bread, baked beans, ice cream bars, drinks.

7 p.m. 234th Army band Oregon National Guard-40 piece full concert band, school ball field

Dusk Fireworks, immediately following the fireworks will be a dance at the Legion Hall until 2 a.m. Music by 1 4 NI (previously The Jim Ackley Band) 13 & over \$2.50 12 & under free



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