

# LEXINGTON GRANT

*-Continued from PAGE ONE*  
Other work completed the past month was repairing all broken water lines and sprinklers and setting the automatic timers at the town hall and at Friendship Park. Hess said he would like to install the same type of system at the FEMA park.

In the water department he performed required water tests for total coliform, disinfection byproducts and lead, and according to

analysis, he said all of the results are well within safe and acceptable levels.

Hess said the town used a total of 2,731,929 gallons of water in the month of June, which he says is about average for this time of year according to the last five years records. He has also been studying up on materials to get licensed for public pesticides applicator as well as Small Water System Operator.

## Second Bingo event coming up in Lex

The Bingo committee in Lexington has announced they will be hosting a second Bingo event at the Lexington Fire Hall on July 28 at 6 p.m. A dinner of nachos will be available for purchase. This is a family

event so everyone is invited to attend.

Earnings from the event will go toward playground equipment for a future playground and park in Lexington.

## Gillettes win July yard of the month

By Kay Proctor

July's Yard of the Month goes to Dean Gillette and Penny Wolff-Gillette at 235 W. Willow.

Dean is originally from Damascus and Penny from Oak Grove. Both grew up in large families with very large vegetable gardens, so got their garden training early. Dean became familiar with Heppner from hunting in the area for years and when they decided to move in 2020, they decided this was the place. Penny is retired from heavy equipment operating. Dean works a couple days a week at Heppner Market Fresh Foods and also is a retired commercial plumber.

Their hillside home sits against a dead end street snug against a rocky hillside with basalt terraces on both sides of the property. That's fine with Penny as she collects rocks wherever she travels to use throughout the yard, especially heart shaped rocks.

They have accomplished many projects in just two years, such as extending their lawn, extensive terrace work, clearing, burning, raking and leveling by hand an area for a greenhouse and cold frame. The two also added a large vegetable garden with shade cloth, created a wildflower garden and planted multiple trees including a Japanese maple and quaking aspen. Existing trees and shrubs were trimmed back. Driplines



Dean and Penny Gillette with a cactus full of yellow blooms which came from the garden of Penny's father. -Photos by Kay Proctor.



and soaker hoses are used to keep everything healthy and growing and there are future plans to install underground sprinklers.

To enrich the rocky soil, amendments were added such as mushroom, steer and chicken composts. Dean mows and keeps the weeds down at their place and around the neighborhood.

Penny takes care of the many flower beds. She brought starts and plants

from their previous home including a miniature cattail that is over 30 years old and kept in a container of water. She especially enjoys unique plants such as her hybrid Lily of the Valley that is tall and does not run rampant. Iris, delphinium, hens and chicks are just some of the blends of perennials and annuals she has planted. Mason bee house has attracted occupants.

Dean and Penny's favorite place is their quiet backyard which they can enjoy at night because

of the solar and electrical lighting they put in. They love living in Heppner, walk everywhere and hardly use their car. Their home is shared with Roysten, a three legged dog. Their family includes seven grandchildren and, for now, one "and a half" great grandchildren who don't live in the area...yet.

Yard of the Month is co-sponsored by the Heppner Volunteers, MCGG/Green Feed & Seed Store, and the city of Heppner.

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We want to share your life events!  
Stop in the Heppner Gazette office or email us with details and photos.  
All birth, engagement and wedding announcements are always free!  
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**Watermelon Festival** Irrigon, Oregon July 30, 2022  
Melon Sponsor: Bellinger Farms

**SATURDAY, JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
ALL DAY FESTIVITIES AT The Irrigon Marina Park

**KIDS ACTIVITIES**  
Lots of games (with prizes).  
The National Guard Climbing Wall & More.  
Sheriff Boat Rides  
Face Painting  
Lip Sync Contest  
Teen Dance and light show in the grass 4-Midnight

**FOOD FOOD FOOD**  
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs & French Fries Hosted by Community Women  
Fresh Cut Watermelon & Cantaloupe from Sponsor Bellinger Farms  
Pies & Ice Cream Hosted by Family Worship Center  
BBQ Chicken, Corn, Baked Potatoes & Coleslaw sponsored by NW Metal Fabricators and Hosted by Irrigon High Cheerleaders

**BREAKFAST 6:30-9:30** hosted by: Columbia View Church  
Coffee, Juice, Pancakes, Biscuits & Gravy, Ham, Sausage, and Eggs

**DOWNTOWN PARADE @ 10AM**

**BEER GARDEN 4-8:30PM**

**MAIN-STAGE ENTERTAINMENT**  
Gems & Gents Cheerleading  
Irrigon High Cheerleaders  
Community Lip Sync Contest  
Zach Grooms | Olivia Harms  
The Sky Dogs  
Street Dance with Desert Sounds Entertainment

**ANNUAL CAR SHOW at the PARK**

Sponsors: Umatilla Electric, Tillamook & Calbee American Entertainment Sponsored by: Morrow County Unified Recreation District & Huwe's Rentals  
Melon Sponsor: **Bellinger Farms**

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