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**This colorful collage** shows many fun-filled events of Freedom Fest '08.

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# Pendleton readies for Freedom Fest

PENDLETON — This community's June 27 Freedom Fest is expected to continue a fun, family tradition with a patriotic theme featuring music by Rendition, children's games, bingo, great food including Hevy Mann's famous funnel cakes, a bake sale and a spectacular fireworks display that rivals any in the area.

Pendleton Administrator Teri Sloan began the celebration in 1990 — the town's Bicentennial. Budget strains unfortunately prevented the town from continuing this project after 2003. To keep this wonderful tradition alive, in 2004 Fred Hamilton and Rick Moore of Pendleton Home Builders decided to take it on. They planned, organized and secured sponsorships from interested community members.

There is no admission charge for the 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. event, but attendees are urged to keep in mind the event is now a fundraiser for Veterans Park. Although there will be lots of free activities, there will be a charge for food, bingo, the inflatable children's toys, dunking booth and merchandise. The Pendleton Recreation Association will be asking for a donation for special parking inside the fenced in area.

Last year the festival raised enough money to complete Trotter's Trail and to begin a fund for the Veterans Memorial. This year the main concentration will be on the monies needed for the ball fields. The master plan for the park calls for the fields to be turned to allow for an additional field. The estimated cost for the work to be done on the first field is $200,000. The town of Pendleton also will be applying for possible grant money.

Outside vendors must be Freedom Fest Sponsors donating $100 or more to the event as well as 10 percent of their profits. They must also be a member of our Friends of the Park organization and must be approved by the Freedom Fest Committee.

The American Legion Post 113 and its Auxiliary along with Boy Scout Troop 94 have an impressive opening ceremony planned that will begin at 5:30 p.m. The Pendleton Elks Lodge will be manning the gates.

Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. No pets, alcohol, tobacco or coolers will be allowed inside the park area.