

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. (Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10.)

Support for Jean Brazell

To the Editor:

To the residents of Lexington:

In Jan 2003 Jean (Brazell) was elected by the council to do the new water project and help with the new storage building. These projects were completed and on time to earn the grant money to pay for them. Both projects were done with lots of volunteer time. Both the Brazells took time away from regular jobs to work with the Port of Morrow on the water project. The Brazells worked with the following people who built the storage building, Rusty Britt, Bob Montgomery, Larry Kennedy, Kenny Eckman, Mike Alldritt, John Steagall, Bob Steagall (use of his tractor), and Jim Nelson, project manager.

Jean has helped each year with the annual bake sale, yard sales, scrap metal drive, and other fundraisers, with other residents, these monies support the fire department.

Jean is currently working on the state required Water Emergency Plan, by mapping water lines and shut-off valves. When the city has water line breaks they call on Jean or Al, often because few have taken the time to learn the system and they are available.

She has been very reliable person to help with the city recorder duties and

computer problems, as she knows the system. Every time a recorder quit, she had to do the billings as well as train them.

She has taken the time to go to state water meetings with the city maintenance employee and to educate herself in water testing and running of the city well functions. Whenever we lost a maintenance man, she was able to monitor the water system.

Jean types up reports and sends them out to Lexington residents, keeping them informed of city projects and maintenance, if allowed by the council.

Jean Brazell has not cost the city thousands of dollars, as was reported. It takes more than one person to approve the expenditures. At the council meetings she is the only council member that the city attorney and state engineers can converse with to get things accomplished. The state and business contractors seek Jean out; she does not solicit their calls.

Jean is a good councilor. She works for the good of the town, and is an asset to the community. We urge your support for her.

(s) Beverly Steagall, Lexington

(s) Lorrene Montgomery, Lexington

Boardman Garden Club meets Oct 15

Boardman Garden Club will host the Blue Mountain Garden Club District fall board meeting, Saturday, October 15, at Greenfield Grange Hall in Boardman.

Fall arrangements may be checked in between 9-10 a.m. during social hour.

The meeting will begin promptly at 10 a.m. with District Director Bertha Keith presiding. The luncheon will cost \$6.50. There will be a country store and treasure chest. Visitors are welcome. The Grange Hall is a pink building that

sets next to the water tower on First Street in Boardman.

For more information call Boardman Garden Club President Connie Rodriguez, 481-3177 after 3 p.m., or Jane Dean, 481-5223.

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HEPPNER BOOSTER CLUB STEAK FEED and AUCTION



Saturday, October 15th
Heppner Elks Club
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Auction: 8:00 p.m.

Dinner cost is \$10 each
Advance tickets may be purchased at Heppner Hardware and Hollomon's

Dinner will be Barbecued New York Steak prepared by Lee Ansolegui, Mike Proctor & Crew; Baked Potato; Salads; Bread and Dessert

Auctioneer Ken Grieb will preside over the main auction; there will also be a silent auction with many items up for bid

Raffle tickets may also be purchased at Heppner Hardware, MCGG, and Hollomon's. Tickets are 6 for \$5, 15 for \$10 and 40 for \$20.

A few items to be auctioned include Jimmy Buffet tickets, a Black Hills Gold ring, rocking chairs, 20 hrs. of child care, Italian supper for 8, Oregon Zoo tickets, Motorcross gear and much more!

A complete list of auction and raffle items can be found on www.heppner.net

Child care will be provided by the Shamrockettes starting at 5:30 p.m. to the end of the auction. Donations accepted.

Issues clarified

To the Editor:

Dear Citizens of Lexington: Jean Brazell, Ron McDowell and I were elected to the council in Nov. 2002 to begin our terms on the council in January 2003. There was \$39,400 in grants waiting to be used by the town on water related projects and \$3,000 plus for a storage building. Jean Brazell was elected to take on the water projects and I was to take on the storage-building project. (January 13, 2003, minutes)

As it happened my mother became very ill and after getting everything ordered and ready for the Town volunteers to work on, I had to leave town. Al Brazell volunteered to keep the project going and Jean saw to it that the hours were kept for Workman's Comp, etc. After I got back I took the project back over. As far as I know, Jean Brazell had nothing to do with any overages, nor did she cause any overages to the expense of the building. The council approved any expenses related to the project.

Jean was instrumental in getting all of the water projects completed by the dates the grants were due. One was March 31, one May 31, and two by June 30, 2003, or the town would

have lost the money. She gave regular reports and when things took a change, the council was approached and made the decisions. The \$10,000 in question was actually paid by the grantee; so they were well aware of the use of the money.

Surveys were done of all of the land that was going to be used for projects. The land above Clay Street had notes by the surveyor that two homes had been built on part of town property. The cemetery well land had no notations by the surveyor. None of us were aware that the deed held farming rights by the past owner of the property. When that was discovered, it was I who contacted the owner of the farming rights and made a deal to bring back to council as the property needed to be fenced. One of the grants was allowed to be switched for that purpose as the airport reservoir and well had issues that needed to be resolved before wasting money on fencing it. There was not enough time to get those issues resolved before the grant came up. Jean did not remove any equipment, the owner did. As far as I know, she did not accuse the farmer of trespassing.

(s) Jim Nelson
Lexington

Asbestos banned in 37 countries - but not the U.S.

To the Editor:

The United States is supposed to be one of the most powerful and technologically advanced countries in the world. Yet, there are 37 countries that are more advanced than us. They have totally and completely banned all forms of asbestos while we have not. A few of the countries that have banned asbestos products are the United Kingdom, European Accession Countries, Czech Republic and Hungary. Clearly they are not controlled by special interest groups such as "The Fortune 500 Companies".

Instead of banning asbestos, we have a Bailout Bill, Senate 852. The manufacturers and our Senate have been threatening to pass this bill for two years stringing along the asbestos victims and putting all claims in limbo while asbestos victims are dying. In the meantime, some Senators are racking up large contributions for

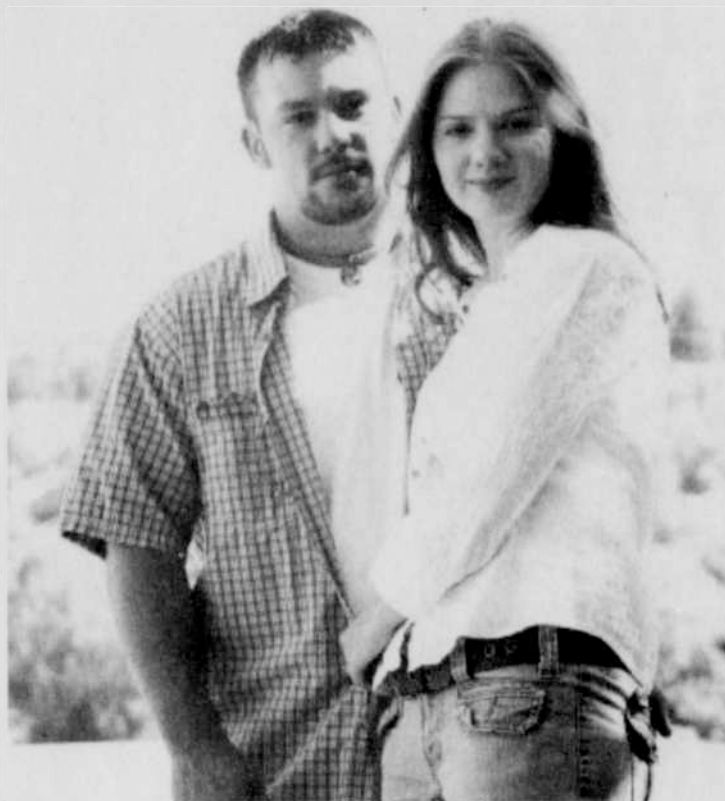
political favors. The manufacturers are earning interest on the money they set aside for victims' claims. The GAF Corporation, and its very wealthy owner Samuel Heyman, will gain enormously if this bill passes because the amount that they will pay under the Bailout Bill is significantly less than what they are paying to asbestos victims. What do the victims gain? They get large medical bills, funeral and autopsy bills. There is loss of income to families due to death. Widows never get full Social Security and pension benefits; only partial. Not to mention loosing the emotional support of a spouse and your children's father.

Congress wants to pass this Bill in Oct. Please call your U.S. Senators and Congressional Representatives and tell them to vote "No" on the Bailout Bill S-852. Asbestos has affected too many people for too many years.

(s) Barbara Andrews
Echo

Engagement

Bates-Glasson



Justin Glasson III and Kelli Bates

Kelli Nicole Bates, Lewiston, ID, and Justin William Douglas Glasson III, Clarkston, WA, have announced their engagement and upcoming wedding.

Kelli is the daughter of Dale Bates of Heppner and Kandy Hall of Lewiston. She attended Asotin schools and graduated from Heppner High School in 2001. She received an associate's degree in accounting in 2005 from Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton. She is employed with Sixth Street Chiropractic in Clarkston and attends Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston.

Justin is the son of William Glasson II of Clarkston and Roxy Bartels of West Sacramento, CA. He graduated from Clarkston High School and in 2003 from Lewis-Clark State College. He is employed by Guy Bennett Lumber in Clarkston.

They plan an October 22 wedding at the Puffer Butte Lodge at Fields Spring State Park in Anatone.

Engagement

Hisler-Weygandt



Annie Hisler and Evan Weygandt

Annie Marie Hisler and Evan John Weygandt, both Portland, announce their engagement to be married.

Annie is the daughter of Susan and Paul Hisler, Jr., Heppner. She is a 1998 graduate of Heppner High School and received a degree in cosmetology from Mt. Hood Community College in 2002. She is employed as a color specialist at The Colour Authority.

Evan is the son of Brenda Young, Salem, and John Weygandt, LaGrande. He graduated from South Salem High School, Salem, in 1995 and received a degree in business management from Western Oregon University at Monmouth in 2000. He is employed as a shoe rep for Ecco USA.

They plan an April 22, 2006, wedding at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD receives grant

The Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District has received a \$396,999 Emergency Response and Crisis Management grant from the Department of Education. Sara Strizzi, a federal project officer in the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, announced the award.

This is the second such grant received by the ESD. The project director for the grant will be Tammy Campbell who has been working with schools in Umatilla and Morrow counties in a similar role during the past eighteen months. One of Campbell's

duties will be to travel to Washington, D. C., to work with federal officials on the administration of the grant.

As part of the administration of the grant, the ESD will continue to operate a coalition of local agencies designed to help prepare for potential school related emergencies, including community or regional disasters. The coalition is particularly interested in targeting information for schools, families, and communities.

In addition to working with schools, the grant will also provide education and training to opportunities to parents and community members.

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