

The Citizen-Reporter



S H E R M A N
C O U N T Y

A Sherman County Government Publication — February 2018

Renovation of 1899 Sherman County Courthouse Underway

Renovation of the Sherman County Courthouse is now in progress. For approximately the next 3 months the only departments operating in the building will be the Assessor, Clerk/Finance and Treasurer/Transit offices all adjacent to one another on the first floor of the building. After this first phase is complete, a second phase of renovation will take place involving all remaining spaces in the building. During the current phase, the link between the courthouse and the addition will remain closed with public access available at the front entrances. Currently, offices of the County Court, Justice Court, and Sheriff are all located on the first floor of the addition and Circuit Court, District Attorney, Juvenile and Prevention are located on the second floor. While the addition is substantially complete at this time final stages of construction will continue throughout the duration of the overall project which is scheduled for completion in late June.

In the months to come several exciting milestones will take place such as installation of the entry stone at the front of the addition, completion of project landscaping, and the anticipated late spring installation of the replicated cupola structure on the courthouse.

Additionally, upon final project completion there will be Sherman County themed artwork and photography on display. Sherman County extends its continuing gratitude for the support and patience of community members and will continue to provide updates throughout project duration.

-Ron McDermid, Sherman County Courthouse Project Steering Committee

Sherman County Business Loans Through MCEDD

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) offers loans specific for businesses in Sherman County with favorable rates, terms and requirements. These funds are offered as gap funding, often working in partnership with financial institutions or when they are unable to provide financing. MCEDD can accept a wide variety of collateral and can be in a secondary position as a lien holder. MCEDD supports start-ups, established businesses, and businesses from most sectors. Examples of prior loan clients include medical or veterinarian clinics, restaurants and coffee shops,

retail stores, janitorial or other services, construction companies, manufacturers and food processors, hotels, wineries and vineyards, and many more. Visit <http://www.mcedd.org/financing/business-loans/> to view details or access application materials, or call Eric Nerdin, MCEDD Loan Fund Manager at 541-296-2266.

-Jessica Metta, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Annual Meetings

The Sherman County SWCD & Watershed Council Annual Meeting will be held on February 14th, 2018 at the Grass Valley Pavilion.

Social Hour starts at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

A prime rib dinner will be catered by Paradise Rose Chuckwagon.

Attending the meeting will be guest speakers from Gorge Grown and Grass Valley Hemp Company.

Tickets are \$20/person at the door.

Please RSVP to the SWCD Office as soon as possible by phone, 541-565-3216, or by email, Amanda.whitman@or.nacdnet.net.

-Amanda Whitman, Sherman County Area Watershed Council

4 - H Enrollment 2018 Begins!

Yahoo! It's a new year in 4-H in 2018! Kids, it's time to join Sherman 4-H and get enrolled now. Stop by the Sherman Extension Office, 66365 Lonerock Rd, Moro OR 97039 or call 541-565-3230. Forms are available on-line at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sherman/youth-forms>

4-H is for youth ages 9 to 19 (as of September 1, 2017). The divisions are: Juniors: ages 9-11 (yes, this includes older 3rd graders); Intermediates: ages 12-14; and Seniors: ages 15-19 (and still in high school).

CloverBud 4-H is for kids ages 5-8 as of September 1, 2017, and is simply for fun gatherings and learning activities. If your child is of that age and you'd like to lead a CloverBud group or gathering, let the Sherman Extension Office know.

The Sherman 4-H enrollment deadline is February 15, 2018. Clubs will begin meeting and we want you to be ready to go. Most clubs will hold at least 6 meetings during the 4-H year, as well as exhibiting and participating in the Sherman County Fair. Enrollment is \$28/youth, with a discount for multiple children from one family.

4-H is a National, State, and Local program coordinated by State Land Grant Universities, as an educational and outreach program to develop good citizens in our country.

4-H is a youth development program where kids get to do things usually only adults do...4-H is "learning by doing"... members can: select and care for/raise livestock, take photographs for exhibition, learn how to cook a variety of foods, participate in clinics and workshops to learn more about livestock or healthy living, sew their own clothing, craft items for home, make money and keep track of records, cook outdoors, learn how to can fruit or make jerky, be part of an organization and participate in meetings, and much more.



4-H also means spring break and summer camps, fun outdoor adventures, youth leadership opportunities, 4-H Summer Conference at the Oregon State University campus in Corvallis, and travel opportunities nationally and internationally.

Current Sherman County 4-H clubs and leaders are:

- Goat.....Miranda & Ryan Owens
- Beef.....Sandi & Doug Martin
- Sheep....Stephen Fritts & Lindsey Cope
- Swine.....Samantha Roberts-Smith & Brennah Miller
- Horse.....Kayci Sharp
- Poultry.....DeeAnn Ramos
- Rabbit/
- Guinea Pig.....Melissa Montesanti
- 4-H Leadership.....Cindy Brown & Lindsey Cope
- Shooting.....Downen Jones & Jon Ramos
- Sewing.....Karen Thompson Umemoto
- Cooking/Baking.....Marylou Martin & Jeanne Kuettel
- Outdoor Cooking/Food
- Preservation.....Cindy Brown

Adults, if you have a wonderful hobby or interest that you would like to share with youth, consider holding a workshop at the Extension Office or volunteer to be a club leader. A minimum of six 4-H club meetings are required each year, and the folks at the Extension Office help you with all the paperwork and scheduling tasks.

We especially would like adults with an interest in: photography, crafts, sewing, knitting/crocheting, gardening, carpentry, welding, fishing, shooting, outdoor activities, or science/technology to give our Sherman kids more opportunities.

-Cindy Brown, 4-H & Healthy Living

Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

Sherman County Emergency Management, in coordination with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), is starting the process of updating the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. The last update on this Plan was completed in February 2014. The Plan is designed to identify natural hazards that could possibly be mitigated to decrease the degree of damage that may occur during an event.

If you would like to be part of the process to update the Plan, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawn Payne, Sherman County Emergency Manager and Emergency Services Director. She can be reached at emergencyserv@embarqmail.com or 541-565-3100. You may also stop by her office at 309 Dewey Street, Moro, Oregon.

-Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

Ambulance Service Area: Your Opinion Matters

Two of Sherman County Ambulance Service's core values are to provide quality patient care, and customer service and transparency. We also recognize that there is room for improvement in all service fields. If you would like to make a comment or suggestion to help us improve our customer service, please contact Shawn at emergencyserv@embarqmail.com or 541-565-3100. You can also contact the Sherman County Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee Chairperson, Bryan Cranston at 541-980-7041.

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services



Public/School Library Updates

FALL/WINTER HOURS

Monday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

NEW BEST SELLERS

“The People vs. Alex Cross”	James Patterson
“The Wife Between Us”	Greer Hendricks
“The Rooster Bar”	John Grisham
“Artemis”	Andy Weir
“Little Fires Everywhere”	Celeste Ng
“Killers of the Flower Moon”	David Grann
“Promise Me, Dad”	Joe Biden

TECHNOLOGY HELP

Help is available with Microsoft Office software, Facebook, e-mail accounts, smart phone technology, and more! Stop by or give us a call to make an appointment.

DISCOVERY KITS

Themed buckets contain “Early Learning Kits” for teachers, parents, and caregivers of children. They include read-aloud books, books for emergent readers, video, and hands-on materials for young ones to enjoy. Teaching guides and early learning tip sheets are included.

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

Please join us for tea, dessert, and discussion of our monthly book. To request a hold, call, e-mail, or stop by. Available in Large Print and Audio by request. February’s book is “The Women in the Castle” by Jessica Shattuck.

DECORATE THE MITTEN TREE

Thank you Sherman County Community members and School District staff and students for turning Sherman County Public/School Library’s Mitten Tree into a beautiful giving tree. Our school and community donated 26 hats, 67 pairs of gloves and mittens, 4 scarves, 5 pairs of socks, 2 pairs of slippers, and 13 blankets to the Sherman County Food Bank. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated!

Phone:

541-565-3279

Address:

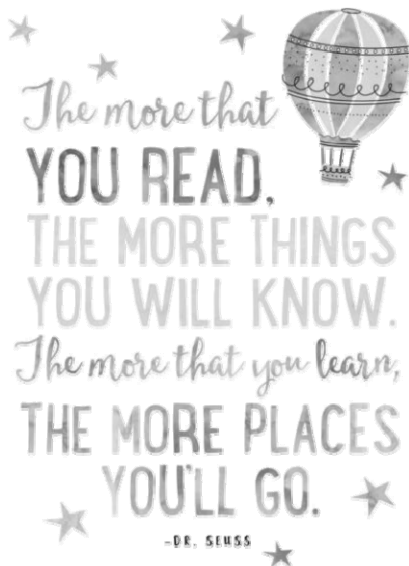
65912 High School Loop
Moro, Oregon, 97039

Website:

ShermanCountyPSL.weebly.com/

Email:

shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us
“Like” us on Facebook at Sherman County Public School Library



CRAFTS IN STACKS

Crafts in Stacks is a crafting class featuring a different seasonal theme each month. All supplies are included.

February 24, 2-4pm; Sky Pendants

We will create two pendants, one representing the night sky on a brass blank and another representing the day sky on a glass blank.

March 24, 2-4pm; Needle Felted Landscape

We will create landscape art by needle felting dyed wool to a felted wool canvas.

-Marylou Martin, Library Director

BINGO, PAINTING, AND PICKLEBALL

What do these things have in common? They are activities that have taken place, or are ongoing, at your Wasco School Events Center!

In December, the Wasco School Events Center (WSEC) Board held a **BINGO** fund raiser for the Sherman County Food Bank. Bingo cards were sold for \$1 each, or a donation of a canned food. Prizes were gift baskets and gift certificates donated by several local businesses and citizens. Over \$700 was raised and 120 cans of food were donated to the food bank.

Painting the auditorium is an ongoing project. New stage curtains have been installed, a PA system is in place, and coat racks have been purchased. This project is made possible by a grant from the *Sherman County Cultural Coalition*. The auditorium is the place to host your next event!

Pickleball: What is it? Pickleball was invented in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, WA. It is a fun, fast-paced sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping pong. Pickleball can be played both indoors and outdoors on a badminton-sized court, with a slightly modified tennis net, while using a ping pong type paddle, and a wiffleball type ball. Rumor has it, that it is the fastest growing sport in

America. Through donations from several local citizens, a portable net, and paddles and balls were purchased. Pickleball court lines have been temporarily taped on the gym floor. If you would like to give it a try, there will be open play on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person, unless you are a member of the Fitness Center, in which case, there is no charge.

To join the Fitness Center, rent a room, or schedule the auditorium for your event, please contact our manager, Melissa Kirkpatrick, at 541-442-5778.

-Linda Krafscic, Wasco School Events Center Board Member



Newly purchased coat racks and fresh coat of paint in hues of grey .



Every Second Counts!

This statement is even more important in the midst of life-threatening situations. Our emergency personnel know how important it is to have vital medical information readily available. The *File of Life* program enables medics to obtain a quick medical history when the patient is unable to offer one. This card, kept in a red plastic sleeve, lists: the patient's name, emergency medical contacts, insurance information, health issues, medications and dosages, allergies, recent surgeries, religion, doctor's name, and a health care proxy. The entire sleeve is held with a magnet to the outside of the refrigerator.

If you already have the *File of Life*, please make sure that the information you have listed on the card is still accurate. If you need a new card, please let us know.

This program is a free service provided by Sherman County Ambulance. If you are interested in receiving the *File of Life*, or have questions about it, please contact Shawn Payne at 541-565-3100.

City of Moro Sign Design Contest

The City of Moro is seeking design submissions for new city welcome/entrance signs. Designs will be judged and selected by the City Council on how well they express the city's character as a destination, incorporate the city's history, reflect the culture of the community, and their ability to be constructed.

The designer of the chosen sign design will have the honor of having their name displayed on the signs.

The first of these signs will be located at the North entrance to Moro, on Highway 97. The second of these signs will be located at the South entrance to town on Highway 97, near High School Loop.

Deadline: Designers are asked to submit sign designs to the City of Moro no later than, **2 p.m. on Thursday March 15, 2018.**

Design Proposals can be a simple hand sketch or a computer rendering. They may be emailed, delivered in person, or mailed. *Proposals may not be faxed to the City.* All electronic submissions must be in a PDF format. Send email submissions to *Erik Glover, City Administrator* at: moro@embarqmail.com

Sherman Broadband Survey

This fall the cities in Sherman County came together to explore interest in additional broadband service in Rufus, Wasco, Moro, Grass Valley, and Biggs Junction. Each resident received a survey in their water bill; 85 surveys were returned. Almost 26% of the respondents said that they ran a home based business using their internet connection, and almost 16% said that they teleworked. Additional focus around the need for access to support educational content was expressed. Significant concerns around available speeds and reliability were voiced by many of the respondents, with 80% interested in purchasing new services.

Questions regarding the sign design contest may be addressed to *Erik Glover, City Administrator*, City of Moro, 104 1st Street, PO BOX 231, Moro, OR 97039, by calling (541) 565-3535 or by sending an e-mail to moro@embarqmail.com

-Erik Glover, City of Moro

Helping Hands for Healthier Habitats

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) Volunteers offered a helping hand for healthier habitat on the Lower Deschutes River.

In July of 2017, five OYCC members and their crew leader offered to pull Yellow Starthistle and Diffuse Knapweed on three separate occasions along the Lower Deschutes River. Both of these noxious weeds are on the Counties A list, which means they take on a high priority for control. The Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Management Area is very grateful for the efforts of the OYCC staff in their commitment of making the Deschutes River a healthier habitat for all.

Special thanks to Miranda Owens and

The next steps in this process will focus on developing an request for proposals to explore partnership opportunities to support access to high speed broadband connections for all residents and businesses in the cities of Sherman County and Biggs Junction.

MCEDD provides staffing for Sherman County's Economic Development efforts. Contact jessica@mcedd.org for more information. To learn more about broadband opportunities, contact carrie@mcedd.org.

-Jessica Metta, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Taylor Olsen for all their support.

-Dan Son, Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Management Area



OYCC Volunteers pulling noxious weeds.

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Sherman County Senior Center is in need volunteer drivers for our **Home Delivered Meal Program, Meals on Wheels.** Once a week, volunteers deliver frozen microwaveable meals to senior and disabled residents within Sherman County.

This is a great community program that our senior and disabled neighbors depend on! Meals on Wheels is supported through the generosity of donations and primarily ran by volunteers like you!

For further information please contact:

Kari Silcox
Senior & Community Center Manager
(541) 565-3191
Kari@shermancounty.net

-Kari Silcox, Senior Center Manager

Sherman County Expands Programs to Support Housing Concerns

Sherman County recently expanded its grant programs offered to solve issues of inadequate housing stock in the County. After hearing many stories of new employees hired by Sherman County businesses or organizations that would like to live in Sherman County but can't find housing, Sherman County explored options to help spur the development of additional rental housing. Last January, the County created the **New Rental Housing Development Grant** program. This program was recently increased from a grant of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per unit for construction of new rental housing. Houses must be stick-built or new manufactured homes that are at least double-wides on a foundation. Additionally, the grant recipient must agree to keep the new house as a long-term rental for at least five years.

In acknowledgement that dilapidated and vacant houses create a blight in neighborhoods, and that the market in Sherman County may not support the necessary investment required to bring existing housing up to working family standards, Sherman County recently created a **Housing Rehabilitation Grant** program. This grant is for non-owner occupied, stick-built housing and is up to 20% of approved project costs, not to exceed \$20,000. The dwelling must meet FHA/VA habitability standards once the rehabilitation is complete.

A third program which the County has offered for a number of years is a low- or no-interest **Housing Construction Loan** to developers that do not qualify, or only partially qualify, for funding from a traditional housing lender. The County's loan would be repaid within a short period when permanent mortgages provide the capital to repay the construction loan. This program is not to compete with private sector lending. These programs are being offered in

partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), which also has unique loan funds set aside for the development of Attainable Housing, serving the middle housing market of 60-120% median family income. For more information about these programs, contact Jessica Metta, Sherman County's Economic Development Coordinator with MCEDD, at 541-296-2266 or jessica@mcedd.org.

Keep your eyes open and check back soon on the Sherman County website for the availability of housing applications online! www.co.sherman.or.us

-Jessica Metta, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Fundraiser

Little Wheats Daycare in Moro is looking to fundraise! We have multiple fundraisers coming up in the next two months to help us fund some much needed new outdoor play equipment, office equipment, and as always, our daily operating costs.

We have chosen some great fundraisers and would love to share them with you!

- ◆ February 1st-28th We are selling **Sees Candies** for Easter!
- ◆ February 12th-26th We have **home goods catalogs** with all sorts of wonderful home, kitchen & gift ideas to order from.
- ◆ March 17th We are hosting a St. Patrick's Day **PaintNite** event! This will be held at 4pm in the Wasco Events Center. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at <https://www.paintnite.com/events/barn-door-blossoms-at-wasco-annex-10049712> for \$45 apiece.

*Order forms for the candy sale and home goods can be found with our

Little Wheats youth and at the daycare facility.

Please find us on Facebook or contact Tabettha Hein, Daycare Manager, for further information!

Thank you for supporting our youth! Tabettha can be reached at 541-565-3152 or littlewheats@outlook.com.

-Tabetha Hein, Little Wheats Daycare

Meeting Notices

The next Watershed Council meeting will be held on February 13th, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. followed by the SWCD Board meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Soil and Water Conservation Office, 302 Scott Street, Moro.

-Amanda Whitman, Sherman County Area Watershed Council

2018 OSU Private Pesticide Applicator Pre-Exam Training

PIA, Blue Mountain Community College - Hermiston Campus. 2121 S. 1st street, Hermiston, OR. 97838.

Pre-Exam Training available for ODA Private Pesticide Applicator license **February 13, 2018**. *Space is limited to the first 60 people to register.*

Please call 541-567-8321 to sign up for the Pre-Exam Training.

Study materials are located at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Pesticides/Licensing/Pages/ExamsStudyMaterials.aspx>

Schedule a Test: A 48-hour notice is required to schedule/reschedule exams.

Call Metro Institute to schedule your test. 877-533-2900 or visit <http://oregon.metrosignup.com>. Payment of \$58.00 is required for taking each exam. Photo ID required.

Healthy Living: Master Wellness Program



Interested in health, nutrition and being active? Or want to be?

- ◆ Interested in health, nutrition and being active....for yourself, your family, your friends, your community?
- ◆ Could you use some extra motivation to achieve your own healthgoals?
- ◆ Are you interested in research-based, scientific information on health andlifestyle?
- ◆ Would you like to attend monthly gatherings about health and wellness, with a healthy meal served?
- ◆ Interested in personal growth and leadershipopportunities?
- ◆ Are you looking for some fun health- and nutrition-related volunteer activities to do in the county with kids, adults, families, or seniors?

OSU Sherman County Extension is researching the idea of a “Master Wellness Program” to bring health and wellness information to Sherman residents for your own benefit and motivation, as well as give you an opportunity to “pay back” by volunteering at Extension or other food and health-related events in the community.

What you learn, can help yourself... and others...live more healthful lives. In fact, research on these programs in other states shows participation in a health-focused master volunteer program can positively influence participants’ lifestyle behaviors as they work to improve health and quality of life in their communities. You benefit in your personal health as you help others with their health!

What do you think? We’d like to hear from you. Call or email Cindy Brown at 541-565-3230 work, 541-993-5291 cell, or cindy.brown@oregonstate.edu, or write to 66365 Lonerock Rd, Moro OR 97039.

Special Thank You

The Sherman County Senior & Community Center would like to thank our outgoing Senior Center Advisory Board Members Sue Lissman, Deanna Padget, Dorothy Benson and Sharon Chard for their service. The generous time invested by these volunteers is greatly appreciated by all at the Senior Center. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Donna Birtwistle for generously volunteering to become a new member of our Advisory Board. Thank you!!

-Kari Silcox, Senior Center Manager

Generous Donations

South Sherman Fire & Rescue received a large donation that provides better safety for our firefighters. The District received 30 complete sets of Scott Air packs plus an additional 30 spare bottles. The donated air packs are upgrades to the current District air packs and include additional safety features such as “heads up” displays within the mask. This feature shows the remaining air levels in the bottle so firefighters are aware when they are running low. Each pack features a buddy breathing system, which allows one firefighter who may have run out of air, to hook up to another firefighter’s air supply so both may exit the building safely. Firefighters will be training over the next two months on the proper use of the new air packs. This generous donation to the District totaled \$190,500 in new equipment.

The District has 10 new students who are attending Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Basic Academy held in Grass Valley; students will graduate in June. After graduation, the students are eager to begin providing medical services to the citizens of our District. This class was possible thanks to a generous grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

-Amber Kuettel, South Sherman Fire &



FREE HOUSE ADDRESS NUMBERS

Please help us to find you in an emergency! It is very important that each house have their address numbers displayed in a way that Emergency Service vehicles can find you in a hurry. The number should be displayed at least 4 feet high and be reflective. They also need to be placed in an area that is illuminated by a porch light, and are not hidden by shrubs, brush, or other objects.

If you do not have address numbers, Sherman County Emergency Services has them available free of charge. Please contact Shawn Payne at the Emergency Services Building in Moro or call at 541-565-3100.



Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Moro, OR
Permit No. 4

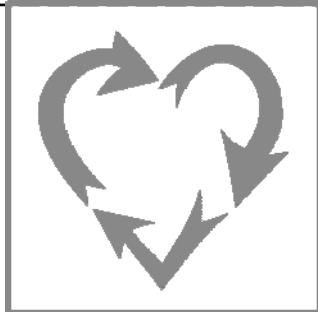
500 Court Street, P.O. Box 365
Moro, Oregon 97039
<http://www.co.sherman.or.us>

Postal Patron

Three Easy Steps to Recycle!

Do Not Recycle:

- Carbon paper
- Food-contaminated packaging
- Clear “clamshells” (berry, bakery or battery packages)
- Frozen food boxes or food stained paper
- Label backing sheets
- Paper towels, tissue, napkins
- Photographs
- Plastic-coated envelopes
- Wax, plastic or foil-coated paper
- Styrofoam.



The Solid Waste Transfer Site:

72526 Welk Road
Open every 2nd & 4th Saturday
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The Dalles Disposal
1317 West 1st Street -The Dalles, 97058
(541) 298-5149

First Sort: Commingled:

- PAPER - white and colored paper (staples OK) newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, phone books, paperback books, spiral-bound notebooks, shredded paper in a paper bag, cereal & cracker style boxes (liner removed), cardboard tubes, paper bags, egg cartons, milk cartons & juice boxes.
- PLASTIC - plastic bottles with a neck, plastic tubs 6 oz. to 5 gal, plant containers 4 inches & larger.
- METAL - aluminum cans, tin cans (flattened), clean aluminum foil & foil baking pans, empty aerosol cans (discard cap).

Second Sort:

- All glass bottles & jars - rinsed. No lids.

Third Sort:

- Corrugated cardboard - flattened.

All items should be clean & rinsed with lids removed & flattened if possible.

Self-Haul Recycling Depot Schedule:

- Moro 9 am - 4:30 pm: 2nd Friday & Saturday
- Wasco 9 am - 4:30 pm: 3rd Friday & Saturday
- Rufus 9 am - 4:30 pm: 4th Friday & Saturday
- Grass Valley 1-3 pm: Monday & Tuesday weekly