Sherman County Courthouse to Kick Off 2019

On January 2, 2019, the Sherman County Courthouse kicked off the new year by swearing in all the newly elected and re-elected officials with a small ceremony held in the Commissioners Meeting Room. During this time, family, friends, and the community gathered to view the Oath of Office performed by Jenine McDermid, Clerk, for Joe Dabulskis, Judge; Tom McCoy Commissioner; Ross Turney, Assessor; and Marnene Benson-Wood, Treasurer. In the latter part of the day, the Office of the County Court held a meet and greet for the community with Judge Dabulskis with refreshments provided by his family and friends.

On January 30, 2019, the Office of the County Court welcomed their newest member to the Board of Commissioners to fill the vacant Commissioner position. After interviewing three candidates provided by the Republican party, the County Court appointed Joan Bird as Commissioner. After being appointed, Joan was sworn into office. Please help us give a warm welcome to our newest addition.

The Court would also like to thank all candidates who stepped up and put forth their time and effort during this process.

Congratulations to all!

- Kayla von Borstel, Administrative Assistant

Top: Judge Dabulskis
Middle: Commissioner McCoy
Bottom: Assessor Ross Turney

Top: Treasurer Marnene Benson-Wood
Middle: Sworn in County Members
Bottom: Commissioner Bird
Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) is currently seeking job applicants for full time employment as a seasonal habitat restoration technician.

The Lower Deschutes CWMA is a partnership among Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Sherman County Weed District, Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District, Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Parks, Recreation Department, and multiple private landowners.

The Lower Deschutes CWMA exists to foster and support collaborative habitat management between public land managers and private landowners. With the goal to maintain, restore, and enhance the ecosystem of the Lower Deschutes River, re-vegetation projects coupled with a long-term weed management plan will be vital in formulating effective strategies to help the program succeed. By providing weed education and public outreach, the Lower Deschutes CWMA will help bring awareness to a habitat issues that have no boundaries, while providing opportunities for long term success.

The Deschutes River was designated an Oregon Scenic Waterway in 1970 and a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 1988. The river runs through a deep rim rock lined canyon that ranges from 900 - 2,600 feet in depth. Within this canyon, you will experience an incredible geologic and cultural history among a diverse community of fish, wildlife and vegetation. The Deschutes River is an increasingly popular river for all kinds of recreationists. Thousands of people visit each year to enjoy its incredible fishing, exciting whitewater, and beautiful scenery. The river offers a variety of opportunities for both day and overnight trips. Recreational activities include boating, fishing, hunting, mountain biking, and hiking.

Positions available: Three candidates, including one crew leader, will be hired to work approximately 35 weeks from March - October 2019. The crew leader will be responsible for leading the crew into the field to accomplish daily/multi-day efforts. The crew leader will work closely with the Program Coordinator to determine best management strategies to accomplish program objectives in the most efficient and effective manner possible. The crew leader must be able to safely carry out the transportation, and logistical challenges commonly encountered while working in remote areas with limited access.

Location: Main office is located in Moro, Oregon. All field work is done on the lower 43 miles of the Deschutes River.

Primary job duties: You will be working on a post-fire habitat restoration project managing noxious weeds in Bighorn Sheep and Salmon habitats. Surveying and treating noxious weeds within the Deschutes river corridor as part of a team, measuring/mixing and applying herbicides, using ArcGIS and other mapping software for treatments and surveys of noxious weed infestations, reseeding and revegetation, whitewater rafting, overnight camping, Facebook, website, and social media updates.

Qualifications: Applicants must be capable of performing physically demanding labor in a backcountry setting for 10 hours a day, 4 days a week. Applicant should expect to hike extended distances on steep, rough terrain while carrying up to 40 lbs. Candidates should have a solid understanding of the flora and fauna respective to the high desert region of Central Oregon. Rangeland work will be performed in an arid environment where fire danger is extreme, safety is paramount. Candidates will be required to properly identify targeted noxious weeds within their different growth stages. Ideal candidates are willing to work in a variety of weather respective to central Oregon (high winds, extreme temperature fluctuations, rain, intense sunshine, etc.). Applicants must be willing and enthusiastic about camping, rafting, & being outdoors. Ideal applicants have an established interest in service and conservation issues and take joy in tackling challenging situations with a positive mindset. Candidates should have experience using Microsoft Office programs, ie. Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and experience using social media platforms, ie. Facebook.

Necessary Gear: Sturdy boots, pants, and long sleeve shirts. Camping is often required and prospective technicians are expected to have camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, backpack, etc.).

Duties: Technician will work with a variety of staff, cooperators, and partners to support long-term invasive species control work. You will employ early-detection/ rapid response operations within the Deschutes River corridor focused on noxious weed control. The team of habitat restoration technicians along with the project coordinator will conduct multiple overnight camping and whitewater rafting expeditions to efficiently access and focus on high priority areas of noxious weeds.

The team will engage in a variety of projects, including the establishment of biocontrol treatments on invasive species, mechanical removal of invasive species, spot-spraying invasive plants in a rangeland ecosystem in both riparian and upland habitats, participating in a long term vegetative inventory/monitoring project, and mapping and inventorying priority areas.

This job is a great opportunity to work on a habitat restoration project specific to Bighorn Sheep and Salmon in their post-fire ecosystem. You will receive training and experience with vegetative monitoring, IPM, noxious weed management, rangeland management, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and working among a diverse group of public agencies, private landowners, and the general public.

Please visit our Facebook @ Lower Deschutes CWMA or our webpage @ www.lowerdeschutescwma.org

Interested candidates may apply by submitting a resume and cover letter to dson@shermancounty.net. Positions are open until filled.

- Dan Son, Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Management Area
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 DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY: COLLEGE COURSES ON DVD
Sherman County Education Foundation is donating college courses on DVD from highly rated instructors nationwide. The 45 courses will include 30-minute lectures, some with graphics, maps, pictures, and diagrams. Subjects cover math, physics, cosmology, World War history, medieval history, Middle Eastern and Ottoman history, Bill of Rights and Constitution, geology, meteorology, paleontology, Earth’s evolution, philosophy, and more.

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 *Us Against You* by Fredrick Backman.

NEW BEST SELLERS
- *The Point of it All*  Charles Krauthammer
- *Every Breath*  Nicholas Sparks
- *The Library Book*  Susan Orlean
- *How to Be a Good Creature*  Sy Montgomery
- *Unsheltered*  Barbara Kingsolver
- *Holy Ghost*  John Sandford
- *Becoming*  Michelle Obama
- *The Reckoning*  John Grisham

MITTEN TREE
Thank you Sherman County Community members, 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 13 hats, 26 pairs of gloves and mittens, 9 scarves, 3 pairs of socks, and 34 blankets to the Sherman County Food Bank. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated! A special thanks to Trent Harrison for picking up the Mitten Tree donations for us.

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 23 at 2:00pm: Learn how to dye silk scarves. March 30 at 2:00pm: Learn the basics of wire weaving jewelry.

-Marylou Martin, Library Director
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 at least 4” high and reflective. They also need to be placed in an area that is illuminated by a porch light and not hidden by shrubs or other brush.

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

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services
Sherman County Cultural Coalition
2019 Spring Grant Cycle

The 2019 Spring Grant Cycle, for Sherman County’s Cultural Coalition, will begin March 1, 2019. Applicants may be individuals and/or groups and need not be legally recognized non-profits.

Application Deadline: March 29, 2019

Awards up to $1,500 will be granted in support of local Sherman County activities and events which promote Culture, Humanities, Heritage and the Arts in Sherman County.

Additional information including Grant Guidelines and the application form, may be found at: https://www.shermancounty culturalcoalition.com

Completed grant applications may be mailed to:
Sherman County Cultural Coalition
P.O. Box 23
Moro, OR 97039

Or emailed to: shermanculturalcoalition@gmail.com

For questions please contact Contact Melva Thomas at 541-442-5488 or shermanculturalcoalition@gmail.com

Grant Awards Announced by Development League

Sherman Development League (SDL) has announced the successful completion of grant awards for 2019 committing $19,087.00 to projects of benefit to Sherman County.

Formed in 2000 as a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, SDL’s mission is to provide grants and/or loans in support of community-based programs and projects to enhance the social, cultural and educational environment of Sherman County. SDL provides fiscal sponsorship to organizations and/or unincorporated groups for projects which further its tax-exempt purposes and are of public benefit to the residents of Sherman County. A revolving loan fund has been established to provide loans to for-profit and non-profit businesses. SDL also serves as the Sherman County Cultural Coalition Board and provides related fiscal administration of funds received annually from the Oregon Cultural Trust and matching funds from Sherman County.

Five project applications met the requirements and goals established by SDL. Included are projects proposed by Sherman County Ambulance, Sherman County Historical Museum, Sherman County Preschool, Sherman County School – PTO and Wasco School Events Center.

Since 2007, the Development League has awarded seventy-seven (77) grants totaling $1,138,095.00, emergency funding in the amount of $78,412.00 for eight organizations and provided several loans to private and public entities.

Applications for the next round of grant requests will be available in the fall of 2019. Requests for loans may be submitted at any time.

- Sherman Development League
  Board of Directors

Sherman County EMS Receives FARMEDIC Course Grant

Thanks to a generous donation from Mid-Columbia Producers, and a generous grant from the Sherman Development League, Sherman County EMS will be offering a FARMEDIC Course to emergency services agencies in Sherman County this spring.

Sherman County Health District

Sherman County Health District News

The Sherman County Medical Clinic is thrilled to announce the newest member of the Clinic team! Christina Rust DPT, PT, MS, PA-C joined the practice in November as a medical provider.

Ms. Rust graduated from the University of Washington MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant program in August 2018. She has relocated to this area from Sandpoint, Idaho to be closer to family. She is the second oldest of 8 children and 4 of her siblings currently live in the Columbia Gorge area. Prior to returning to PA school, Christina was an orthopedic physical therapist. She graduated from Creighton University in 1996, with the nation’s first Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. Her specialties included sports, orthopedics, work injuries, back pain and arthritis. At the Sherman County Medical Clinic, she plans on expanding the current general care.
Health District News Continued

family practice to include a more robust women’s health program. In her free time, Christina loves spending time outdoors enjoying such activities as hiking, biking, skiing, kayaking and paddle boarding. Having grown up in a rural, small town, Christina is excited about providing much needed medical services in Sherman County and is looking forward meeting the patients. Call 541-565-3325 to set up an appointment with Christina.

Former long-time medical provider, Mark Corey retired at the end of December. Mr. Corey has been an asset to this community and has helped broaden healthcare services in Sherman County. Mr. Corey has spent the last 11 years skillfully tending to the needs of his patients and will be missed by many. We wish him the best in all his future endeavors!

As always, the Board of Directors invites your input, questions and comments. Board meetings are held, typically, on the 2nd Thursday of every month. The next scheduled meeting will be on February 14th at 5:30pm in the Administration Office. Check out our website at www.shermancountymedicalclinic.net for up-to-date information about programs and activities being offered by the Clinic.

- Caitlin Blagg, District Administrator
& Sherman County Health District
Board of Directors

Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Draft

The 2019 Draft Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is available online at the following link. The link is also available on the Sherman County Website. Any suggestions and or questions will be due, to Shawn Payne by February 22nd. She can be contacted at 541-565-3100 or email to emergencyserv@embarqmail.com

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

Renters Insurance Is A Good Investment

Did you know that if you are a renter and your home burns down or your are sued for a liability, the landlord’s insurance policy DOES NOT cover you?

WHAT IS RENTER’S INSURANCE? A simple definition of renters insurance is a policy for people who don’t own the property they live in that will protect them from unexpected personal property damage costs and legal liability. Renters insurance can be bought by anyone renting an apartment, condo, home or other living space. Although the policy is similar to homeowners insurance, key differences include:

◆ Renters insurance does not cover the structure, or dwelling, of where the tenant lives. Damage to the building is the landlord’s responsibility, who will likely cover these risks with a landlord insurance plan.
◆ Renters insurance is much more affordable than homeowners insurance.
◆ This is a great way to recover quicker after a fire.

The average cost for renters insurance in Sherman County is $185 per year for $30,000 coverage. This can be paid annually or on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Please take the time to call around to some of the insurance companies to check out prices. It will be worth your time.

- 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.

The Judge’s Corner

It has been a little under a month since I was sworn in as your Sherman County Judge. I thought I would write a few words to keep you informed. This has been a busy month. No matter how much you prepare, there is always a learning curve. A quick rundown of a few things that have kept me busy: A day in Salem discussing upcoming legislation and the position AOC (Association of Oregon Counties) should or may take, BOPTA (Board of Property Tax Appeals) training in Hood River, many Committee and Board meetings from Frontier 911 to Library Board, Biggs Service District and the waterline for the new water system that will be installed, and lastly, Frontier TeleNet (FTN). My questions about FTN are, where/what do we want to be in 1 year and 5 years, and what are the steps we need to take to get there.

By the time this is published, the Court will have chosen a new Commissioner to fill the vacancy on the Board. I’m looking forward to working with this new Commissioner, and seeing what ideas he/she will bring to the Court.

Sometime in the future I am thinking about a “State of the County” affair. Not sure about the format, but it would be to discuss projects and future plans and hopefully include other local leaders, i.e. mayors etc. Keep your eyes open for more information on this. I’m thinking June. I will end this note with a quote from Thomas Jefferson, “A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor and bread it has earned – this is the sum of good government.”

- Judge Joe Dabulskis
**Valentine Dance & Dr. Seuss Week**

Please join us for our Family Valentine's Day Dance, on February 14th, from 6 to 7 pm in the Sherman school cafeteria. Pre-K - sixth grade students and families welcome. Refreshments will be served. Donations at the door will help fund other Parent Teacher Organization events. Please also mark your calendars for our Dr. Seuss Week annual carnival on March 8th from 6-8pm. It will be a fun night of carnival games, cake walk, photo booth and prizes. Don't forget to bring your PTO Event Punch Card to both events!

Sherman Elementary School PTO is a nonprofit parent/teacher organization whose membership includes all parents, legal guardians, and staff at Sherman Elementary School. The PTO’s mission is to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff of Sherman Elementary School. Our efforts serve to enhance and maximize the education of every child while aiding them in achieving their highest potential. The PTO sponsors assistance to teachers in classroom settings, may hold fundraisers for supplemental educational materials and experiences, supports school and family social interaction, and provides a non-biased forum for sharing information on issues that impact our children.

It is our belief that the team effort of a parent teacher organization offers the best possible learning environment for our children. Please join us and volunteer as much or as little as you are able to. We appreciate you sharing your time and talents with the students of Sherman County!

- Liz Cranston, PTO Chair

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, an election will be held in Sherman County, Oregon for the purpose of electing board members to fill the following positions and terms, including any vacancy which may exist on the boards of the following districts:

**KENT WATER DISTRICT:**
- Position 3 – 4 Year Term
- Position 5 – 4 Year Term

**MORO RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**
- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 4 – 4 Year Term

**NORTH CENTRAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT:**
- Zone 3 (Rufus & Wasco) – 4 Year Term
- Zone 4 (Moro, Grass Valley & Kent) – 2 Year Term

**NORTH SHERMAN COUNTY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term
- Position 3 – 4 Year Term

**SHERMAN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT:**
- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term

**SHERMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT:**
- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 5 – 4 Year Term

**SOUTH SHERMAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**
- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term
- Position 3 – 4 Year Term
- Position 5 – 2 Year Term

This election will be conducted by mail. Each candidate for an office listed above must file a District Candidate Filing form (SEL 190) including a $10 filing fee, or file a District Candidate Filing form, Candidate Signature Sheet(s) Nonpartisan (SEL 121) with signatures of eligible Sherman County voters, and Petition Submission form (SEL 338) at the Sherman County Clerk’s Office no earlier than February 9, 2019, and no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 21, 2019. The Sherman County Courthouse is located at 500 Court Street in Moro, Oregon. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk’s Office at 541-565-3606.

- Jenine McDermid, Clerk

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**Senior Center Bake Sale Thank You**

The Sherman County Senior & Community Center held a Pie Bake Sale fundraiser on November 20, 2019. It was helpful for seniors to be able to buy an affordable, homemade pie for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, instead of having to bake one, or drive to The Dalles to purchase one.

Senior center staff, our advisory board members, and several community members donated pies for the fundraiser. We ended up with 27 donated pies and sold out within an hour. Each pie sold for $10, and we made $270 in fundraising dollars for the Sherman County Senior & Community Center. We would like to extend a genuine thank you to anyone who donated or purchased a pie.

Our patrons were thrilled to be able to purchase an affordable pie, and from their feedback we decided to make this an annual event. We are hoping to do regular holiday bake sales throughout the year, and we are currently planning another bake sale for the week before Easter. Once we have set a date we will advertise the bake sale throughout the community.

If you are interested in donating baked goods for our Easter bake sale please contact Kari Silcox at 541-565-3191, kari@shermancounty.net.

We thank you in advance for your support!

- Kari Silcox, Senior Center

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**Annual Meeting**

The Sherman County SWCD & Watershed Council Annual Meeting will be held on February 12th, 2019.

Social Hour starts at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner served at 6:00 p.m. by Paradise Rose Chuckwagon. Tickets are $20/person.

Guest speaker will be Bob Zybach, discussing wildfire history in Oregon.

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

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