Meet Commissioner Bird

Joan Bird opened a new chapter in her life when she was appointed and sworn into office as Sherman County Commissioner on January 30th. She joins Judge Joe Dabulskis and Commissioner Tom McCoy who welcome the enthusiasm and experience she brings to the County Court.

She will represent Sherman County in meetings with other jurisdictions: Mid-Columbia Community Action Council; North Central Public Health District Board; Sherman County Prevention Coalition; Sherman County Public/School Library Board; Sherman County Watershed Council; Sherman County Soil & Water Conservation District; Sherman County Senior & Community Center Advisory Board; and Sherman County Fair Board. Contact Commissioner Bird at jbird@co.sherman.or.us.

In seeking appointment, Joan expressed appreciation for living and raising her family in Sherman County, and wants future generations to feel the same about this County.

Joan holds strong ethical standards, is a good listener and likes to gather as much information as possible before making decisions. Her education and employment gave her a strong foundation for this appointment. She graduated from Dufur Public Schools in 1974 and from Merritt Davis Business School as a legal secretary in 1975.

She worked for Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, 1975-1976, The Dalles Public Schools, 1976-1977 and for the Wasco County Court, 1979-1981, where she learned a great deal about local government administration, planning and governance. Joan married Jim Bird in 1981, and moved to Sherman County. They have two daughters, Jenna and Marci, and one grandson, Isaiah.

In Sherman County, she worked for Oregon State University Extension organizing 4-H camp, programs for members and leaders and the 4-H side of the county fair. She retired from a job she loved for 28 years with OSU. She just couldn’t stay retired so she went to work for Edward Jones in The Dalles, 2009-2013.

She’s volunteered for youth programs and more recently for the Grass Valley Pavilion Restoration project. Perhaps being a member of the City of Grass Valley Council since 2011 best prepared her for local issues.

Well-deserved honors tell us a lot about her: OSU Exemplary Employee; Jim Klahre Award for Service to Children; Fair Board State Award for Service to Children; Sherman County Cattlemen’s Service Award; and Sherman County Fair Grand Marshal.

- Sherry Kaseberg, Sherman County e-news

The Judge’s Corner

Sherman County has many great people residing in “the Land Between the Rivers.” The County now has one of the best as it’s member of the County Court—Welcome Commissioner Joan Bird!

Having Commissioner Bird on board is similar to getting a new best friend when you were young and in school - you wanted to tell them everything, all you know immediately, right now, as fast as you can. Sorry Joan if I dump too much on you too fast, but it’s exciting to have you on the County Court. Thank you!

Also on the personnel front, we have a new Head Cook at the Senior Center. Welcome Kristi Lesh, and we will miss you Cindy Heater-Judah.

I want to thank all who helped with the roads these past couple months. I know Charlie Miller, Chris Kaseberg, Bryan McKinney, Bryan Cranston, Rick Danielson, von Borstel’s, Justesen’s, and the many others who helped that I didn't know about. Thank you.

Just a quick story—I stopped a snow plow one evening after dark, after it went by my house. I was going to thank the operator, and give him a couple of homemade doughnuts. As I stepped up on the ladder and the door opened, I looked up and was momentarily taken aback, a little frightened, the man

Continued on Page 7...
National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

April 14-20, 2019 marks this year’s National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This is the time to appreciate, and thank, the dedicated professionals who staff the thousands of 911 centers throughout the Nation. These devoted public servants work quietly on the front lines of emergencies, serving as “the first of our first responders.”

Sherman County Dispatch is covered by Frontier Regional 911 Dispatch, which is located in Condon, Oregon. Please join us this week in recognizing the men and women who work behind the scenes, often without recognition, to answer our 911 calls, dispatch our first responders, and protect our lives and property.

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

Genes & Addiction

“There are many ways that genes could cause one person to be more vulnerable to addiction than another. Just because you are prone to addiction doesn’t mean you’re going to become addicted. It just means you’ve got to be careful.”
- Dr. Glen Hanson

Scientists will never find just one single addiction gene. Like most other diseases, addiction vulnerability is a very complex trait. Many factors determine the likelihood that someone will become an addict, including both inherited, and environmental factors.

Because addiction is a complex disease, finding addiction genes can be a tricky process. Multiple genes and environmental factors, can add up to make an individual susceptible, or they may cancel each other out. Not every addict will carry the same gene, and not everyone who carries an addiction gene will exhibit the trait. However, multiple lines of research show that addiction is influenced by genes.

For more information or resources contact the Sherman County Prevention Office at 541-565-5036.

Emergency Notification System

Have you signed up for the Emergency Notification System yet??? Please DO NOT wait until there is an emergency to do so. This is a great way for you to receive emergency notifications. Examples of notifications are road closures due to weather or evacuation notices due to flooding or fires.

The Emergency Notification system gives us the ability to deliver emergency notifications and information messages to targeted areas within one of the four counties. The system utilizes home phones, cell phones, text and electronic mail messaging. The system within Sherman County is called FRONTIER REGIONAL ALERT.

Sign up can be found on the Sherman County 911 website at www.co.sherman.or.us. Click on the Emergency Services Tab, then Emergency Alerts, then “How do I get notified of county emergency alerts?” There you will find the link to access the sign up page. If you need any assistance with registering, please contact Shawn at Sherman County Emergency Services at 541-565-3100.

Once again, please sign up as soon as possible and DO NOT wait until an emergency to do so.

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

Driving Under the Influence

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN SHERMAN COUNTY!

KNOW OREGON’S DUII LAWS

Oregon’s driving under the influence of intoxicants laws prohibits driving:

- With a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08% or more, or while under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, a controlled substance, and/or an inhalant.
- In Oregon, a motorist can be convicted of Attempted DUII by intentionally engaging in substantial step toward driving with a BAC at or above .08% or while under the influence.
- An offender can commit a DUII offense while driving something other than a vehicle, such as boats, bicycles, mopeds, scooters, and motorized wheelchairs in some circumstances.
- Under Oregon law, “under the influence” is defined as having one's physical or mental facilities are adversely affected to a noticeable or perceptible degree as the result of ingesting drugs and/or alcohol.

Don’t Drive Impaired! Make a plan ahead of time, and have someone you can call for a ride if you need one. And remember; when a driver is impaired, they don’t have the ability to know how impaired they are.

- Amy Asher, Prevention/Outreach
Public/School Library Updates

SPRING 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.

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. April’s book is Behind Closed Doors by B.A. Paris.

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.

NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY
I’ll Be Gone In the Dark  Michelle McNamara
The Lost Man        Jane Harper
Where the Crawdads Sing  Delia Owens
The Last Romantics  Tara Conklin
Black Leopard Red Wolf  Marlon James
Love and Other Consolation
Prizes                    Jamie Ford
Inheritance              Dani Shapiro
Fly Girls                Keith O’Brien

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.

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

MOVIE NIGHT: BUMBLEBEE - MAY 7 6:00PM
Cybertron has fallen. When Optimus Prime sends Bumblebee to defend Earth, his journey to become a hero begins. As the Decepticons hunt down the surviving Autobots with the help of a secret agency led by Agent Burns, Bumblebee and Charlie team up to protect the world in an action packed adventure that’s fun for the whole family.

-Marylou Martin, Library Director
Notice Of Rulemaking

This is to notify landowners that the Land Conservation and Development Commission has proposed an amended administrative rule that, if adopted, may affect the permissible uses of your property and other properties.

On May 23, 2019, the Land Conservation and Development Commission will hold a public hearing regarding adoption of a proposed rule (OAR 660-033-0130). Adoption of the rule may affect the permissible uses of properties in the Exclusive Land Use zone, and may change the value of those properties.

Summary of Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendments change the criteria for approving a photovoltaic solar power generating facility in exclusive farm use (EFU) and mixed farm and forest zones. If the Land Conservation and Development Commission enacts the rule, a county would no longer be permitted to approve a solar power generating facility through a conditional use permitting process on part of a property zoned EFU or farm-forest that has soils rated by the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service as Class 1, Class 2, prime or unique. These are the best soils for raising farm crops. Instead, the County would be required to change its comprehensive land use plan, and justify why farmland protection rules should not apply.

The proposed rule amendments would also allow a solar power generating facility on certain high-value farmland to exceed the existing 12-acre size limit, if the County approves a site plan for the solar facility that includes farming among or around the solar panels.

This notice contains specific language required by Oregon Revised Statute 197.047 so that the State of Oregon complies with the requirements of law as enacted by Ballot Measure 56, approved by Oregon voters in 1998. The law requires certain wording in this notice, but that wording does not necessarily describe the likely effects from the change in land-use laws.

For More Information

The proposed amendments to OAR 660-033-0130 can be mailed to you at cost and are available for inspection at http://www.oregon.gov/lcd/LAR/Pages/Solar.aspx or at 503-373-0050 or DLCD.LandownerNotice@state.or.us.

For additional information regarding the effect of the proposed rule amendment on your property, contact the Sherman County Planning Department at 541-565-3601.

For general information on the rule amendment, contact the Department of Land Conservation and Development at 503-373-0050 or DLCD.LandownerNotice@state.or.us.

Notice Required by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

- Georgia Macnab, Planning Director

GOBHI Family Care Coordinator

Greater Oregon Behavioral Health Inc. (GOBHI) is seeking a Full Time Professional Family Care Coordinator for the following locations:

- Arlington, OR, US
- Condon, OR, US
- Fossil, OR, US
- Spray, OR, US
- The Dalles, OR, US

Salary Range: $45,000.00-$55,000.00 (USD) Annually

Collaborates with community partners within the region of Sherman, Gilliam, and Wheeler Counties to develop and support needs of young children and families. Specific focus is in early childhood development, parent education and public health. This position will work closely with the Four Rivers Early Learning Hub and North Central Public Health goals and priorities related to prevention programs that promote the overall wellness for children and families.

Candidates need to have established relationships in the Sherman, Gilliam or Wheeler county region. Experience and/ or education in the human services or education field with administrative responsibilities. This position is a remote position working in the communities of Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler. Position requires travel within the service area with overnight travel.

To apply go to: https://workforcenow.adp.com/mascr/default/mdf/recruitment/recruitment.html?cid=c22e016-528f-4804-a755-6e749340d107&ccId=19000101_000001&type=M&lang=en_US

- North Central Public Health District

Free Bicycle Helmets Available

It is that time of year again, when kids are dusting off their bikes and starting to ride. If your child is in need of a helmet, please contact Shawn Payne at 541-565-3100, or stop by the Sherman County Emergency Services Building.

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

House Addressing Project

Sherman County Emergency Services has partnered with the Eagle Scouts Program to improve the house addressing in Sherman County Cities. The numbers are the approved height of 4” and are reflective. This will enable Emergency Services to find addresses quicker, especially when time is of the essence. Emergency Services is paying for the address numbers and the Eagle Scouts will attach them to your residence, if you wish.

This project is slated to begin this Spring. It will start in Moro and then continue to the other Cities. We have numbers available year around. If you would like to pick up numbers to put on your house, you can contact Shawn Payne at 541-565-3100.
Special District Election May 21, 2019

The final day to register to vote for this election is April 30. Voter registration cards postmarked by this date or an online registration submitted no later than 11:59pm are valid. Voter registration or information updates can be done online at My Vote: https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/registration.aspx?lang=en. Registration cards can be obtained at any post office, county clerk’s office or printed from the following link: https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/SEL500.pdf

Ballots will be mailed by between May 1st & 7th. It’s important to update your voter registration if you have moved or changed your mailing address. The Postal Service cannot forward ballots. An absentee ballot can be requested if you will be away from home and would like to receive your ballot at a different address. To obtain an absentee ballot request form, please contact the clerk’s office or go to: https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/SEL111.pdf

Your voted ballot must be received in a County Elections Office or an official designated dropsite by 8pm on Election Day. Postmarks do not count. If your ballot arrives after 8pm on Election Day, it will not be counted. Official Sherman County ballot drop sites are found outside the following locations (Do not deposit your voted ballot into any City Hall drop box):

- Rufus City Maintenance Building – 400 Main Street (to the right of the city drop) slot
- Wasco City Hall – 1017 Clark Street (freestanding white ballot box just uphill from the stop sign)
- Grass Valley City Hall – 109 SW Mill Street (freestanding white ballot box to the left of the city drop box)
- Sherman County Courthouse – 500 Court Street, Moro: White, red and blue official ballot box at the corner of Court & 5th Streets; Or use the official ballot drop slot in the counter at the Clerk’s Office

To view a list of local contests and candidates follow this link to the Sherman County website: https://www.co.sherman.or.us/documents/2019-special-district-election-information/ Candidate names are arranged by surname in random order in accordance with ORS 254.155. If you have questions about voter registration, need an absentee ballot, need a replacement ballot because you made a mistake, or are in need of further assistance, please contact the County Clerk’s office at 541-565-3606.

Sherman Housing Programs

In an effort to meet the growing demand for quality housing in Sherman County, the County Commission is offering two grant opportunities to support the renovation or creation of rental dwellings.

The New Rental Housing Development Grant program provides $10,000 per unit for construction of new rental housing. Housing must be stick-built structures or new double-wide manufactured homes on a foundation. To qualify, grant recipients must certify their rental units and agree to keep the new house as a long-term rental for five years.

The Housing Rehabilitation Grant program covers 20% (not to exceed $20,000) of approved project costs for non-owner occupied or newly purchased stick-built homes that require renovation before move in. Up to $50,000 of the purchase price of a home is eligible as part of the project budget, so long as houses are not lived in by the owner prior to renovation. The dwelling must meet FHA/VA habitability standards once the rehabilitation is complete.

In addition to these Sherman County specific opportunities, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) 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 any of these programs, contact Marla Harvey, Sherman County’s Housing Grant Coordinator with MCEDD, at 541-296-2266 or marla@mcedd.org.

Oregon Raceway Park

Oregon Raceway Park announces the beginning of its tenth full season as the largest race track in Oregon. Widely regarded among Track Day Drivers, Motorcyclists and Racers as one of the most technical Road Courses in the Country, the track regularly draws drivers from Calgary to California. Track Operations Manager, Bill Murray, remarked in a recent interview "O.R.P. is the best kept secret in Oregon, local residents are often surprised to find this facility is only 2 miles East of Grass Valley". This anonymity may be changing soon as the track plans to become better at letting its Sherman County neighbors know what events are open to fans, spectators, and the just curious. "The track is moving into what is scheduled to be our busiest season yet" says Murray. We are looking forward to our Annual Course Worker Training Day held every March. Those that complete the one day training are eligible to be hired for flagging and control duties at the track. Murray quips: "It is a great way to watch races and get paid for it too! He adds "Maintaining an excellent safety record is our number one priority."

- Bill Murray, Oregon Raceway Park

- Amy Asher, Prevention/Outreach
FREE County-wide Cleanup May 4th

When: Saturday, May 4, 2019; 9am-3pm

Where: Sherman County Solid Waste Transfer Site, 72526 Welk Road between Highway 206 and Biggs Junction.

How: Upon arrival, wait for the attendant to direct you to the appropriate unloading site.

Limited: One trip per vehicle.

Restrictions: No household hazardous waste, medical waste, or recycling will be accepted.

Fees are required for:
- Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners @ $32.63 each
- Appliances @ $12.83
- Tires without rims @ $11.81
- Tires with rims @ $15.76
- Furniture @ $12.83

You may also bring:
- Yard waste: clean brush & trimmings under 6 inches in diameter.
- Car batteries
- E-waste: Computer towers, laptops, Monitors, televisions.
- Waste Connections/The Dalles Disposal

FREE Hazardous + E-Waste Day

What: Get rid of unwanted hazardous, waste, electronics, and medicine.

When: Friday, May 3, 2019; 10am-2pm (A second event will be held November 1, 2019 in the City of Wasco)

Where: Sherman County Road Department, 501 4th street, Moro.

Although FREE, pre-registration is required for businesses and farmers due to the contractor needing the proper supplies. Contact: 360-772-2838

Or Call us at (541)506-2255

Sponsored in partnership with: The James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation, The Next Door Inc, Four Rivers Early Learning Hub, and Wasco Electric Cooperative

- Amber DeGrange, Juvenile Director

Accepted items:
* Hazardous Waste: AG chemicals & pesticides; paints & stains; yard/garden & pool/spa chemicals; cleaners, disinfectants, solvents & glues; automotive fluids; art & hobby chemicals; fluorescent lamps, CFL bulbs & ballasts; propane bottles & tanks; old gasoline; fire extinguishers; batteries.
* Electronics: computers; monitors; laptops/tablets; keyboards; printers; mice; cell phones
* Medicine: unwanted prescriptions; over the counter medications; vitamins; nutritional supplements; pet medicines.

NO SHARPS ALLOWED.

For more information call 541-506-2632 or visit www.tricountyrecycle.com.

- Tri County Hazardous Waste

IMAGINATION LIBRARY: An awesome resource in Sherman County!

A FREE Book for your child direct to your mailbox EVERY MONTH

Enroll your child in Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and give them the gift of reading...free!

Every month, until their 5th birthday, your child will receive a free high quality book appropriate for their age. They love getting their own mail!

Reading together is the pathway to a bright future for your child and our Community.

Sign up online— it’s quick and easy!
* Go to: www.imaginationlibrary.com,
looking down at me was wild haired, scruffy, and had wide red bloodshot eyes. That’s when I realized just how stressful the job must be trying to stay on the road, 10 hours or more, day after day, especially when you can’t see it. Thank you Road Department.

One of the goals I have is to visit all County Departments at their location, and many of the local business and operations. During the past couple weeks we have visited the Evergreen State Holdings, LLC facility in Grass Valley, which is quite impressive, and we did a tour of the Waste Water Treatment Facility in Biggs Junction. The Court has the responsibility of being the Biggs Service District Board of Directors, that was quite an education.

No matter what season or the reason, the residents of Sherman County have stepped up when needed. From the fires this past summer to the craziness of the snow this winter, you, the citizens of Sherman County, make me say to myself, “Yeah, I’m glad I live here!”

- Judge Joe Dabulskis

“Governments’ first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives.”
- Ronald Reagan
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