Sherman County Community Transit

A long-running staple to our community, Sherman County Community Transit (SCCT) was originally operated as Sherman County Bus Company. Assumed by the County in June of 2007, SCCT receives state funding with which to provide public transportation to Sherman County residents. What started as a small operation, has now expanded to 12 vehicles and 9 drivers. SCCT provides transportation to medical appointments for all Sherman County Residents, with a special concentration on our Senior Citizens, disabled, and Veterans. For those with Medicaid Coverage, rides are also available at no cost to the rider. In addition, grant funding allows Sherman County Community Transit to provide 3 weekly shopping trips to The Dalles.

- Sherman Community Transit Staff

1990 National EMS Week

The week of May 19-25, 2019 was the 45th annual National EMS Week. In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in our nation’s communities. Sherman County EMS celebrated EMS Week at our May 21st meeting.

Sherman County EMS is proud to acknowledge and thank all of those who serve in our community. We also would like to acknowledge the family members who support our EMS personnel. Personnel miss dinners, family functions and other activities in order to answer the call of duty. Personnel respond all time of the day and night and in all types of extreme weather conditions. Please take the time to thank your Sherman County EMS personnel and let them know how much they are truly appreciated.

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

As of May 9th, Paula King, a 9 year veteran dispatcher for SCCT, celebrated her retirement. Congratulations to Paula, she will be dearly missed. Kelsi Phillips was hired as the new dispatcher and joins long-time Community Transit Coordinator, Marnene Benson-Wood.

To schedule a medical ride, or to reserve a spot on one of the weekly shopping trips, please contact Kelsi, Monday-Thursday from 8-5 at 541-565-3553. While the shopping bus and other medical transportation services are free to all Sherman County residents, donations are encouraged and appreciated. For specific pickup locations and times for the Tuesday shopping bus please visit our website https://www.co.sherman.or.us/departments/sherman-transit/ or see our flyer located in the Post Offices at Grass Valley, Moro, and Wasco.

- Sherman Community Transit Staff

Sherman County Emergency Services
**Sherman County Board of Property Tax Appeals Board Openings**

The Sherman County Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) has board openings for the 2019-2020 tax year. These positions are open to nonoffice-holding residents of Sherman County. A nonoffice-holding resident cannot be: a member of the county governing body, a member of the governing body of any taxing district within the county, an elected official within the county, a person employed in or hired by the county or any taxing district within the county, a former county assessor, or any appointee acting in the place of the assessor that held the office or was appointed during the tax year subject to appeal to BOPTA, or a person previously employed in or hired by the office of the assessor during the tax year subject to appeal to BOPTA.

Board members hear petitions for reduction of the real market, maximum assessed, specially assessed, and assessed value of property placed on the roll by the county assessor as of January 1, 2019. The board will also consider requests to waive penalties assessed for the late filing of real and personal property returns.

An initial training session is required for new members and for those members returning after a break in service. Board members are required to attend training approved by the Department of Revenue at least every other year unless no petitions are filed. The BOPTA board generally meets for one or two sessions during the year between February and June. The one-year term ends on June 30, 2020.

If you are interested in being considered for the BOPTA board, please contact Jenine McDermid at 541-565-3606 or by email at: countyclerk@shermancounty.net no later than Friday, September 27. BOPTA pool members will be appointed by the county governing body on October 2, 2019.

- Jenine McDermid, Clerk

**Safe Sherman County Summer**

No one needs to be injured, or worse, because of avoidable tragedies. Be proactive! Be responsible! Be engaged! Don’t accept driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. No one has the right to endanger you, your family or your community. Speak up or offer a ride. If that doesn’t work... Be a law enforcement assistant... Report suspected Drunk or High drivers by calling 911. Try to have the vehicle description, license plate number, location and/or direction of travel.

- Amy Asher, Sherman County Drug and Alcohol Prevention

**2019 Spring Grant Awards Announced by Cultural Coalition**

Spring grant awards for 2019 have been announced by the Sherman County Cultural Coalition (SCCC) committing $5,670.00 to projects that strengthen existing cultural resources or engage the community in the arts, heritage or humanities in Sherman County.

Six project applications met the goals and priorities established by the Coalition in the Sherman County Cultural Plan. Successful applicants and projects are as follows: Darian Davis – Community Basketball Court; Moro Community Presbyterian Church – Sherman County Vacation Bible School; Sherman County Fair – ADA Picnic Table Replacement; Sherman County Historical Museum – A Night at the Museum; Sherman County Public/School Library – 3D Printer and Scanner; OSU Sherman County Extension – Kids Summer Drama Camp.

Funding for these community projects was made possible with a grant award received from the Oregon Cultural Trust plus matching funds generously provided by Sherman County. Applications for the next grant cycle will be available in the fall of 2019.

The Oregon Cultural Trust, with donations from Oregonians, funds 1400+ nonprofits in Oregon in the areas of arts, heritage, and humanities. When you donate to any of the 1400+ on the list, you can qualify for a state tax credit. Visit [https://culturaltrust.org/](https://culturaltrust.org/) to learn how you can get involved and qualify for the tax credit.

For additional information, please visit the Sherman County Cultural Coalition website at [https://www.shermancountyculturalcoalition.com](https://www.shermancountyculturalcoalition.com).

- Melva Thomas, Cultural Coalition

**Wildfire Prevention**

- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
- Remove dead vegetation and other items from under your deck or porch, and within 10 feet of the house.
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks) within 30 feet of your home’s foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don’t let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- Wildfire can spread to tree tops. Prune trees so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
- Don’t let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
- Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.
- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screens with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services
**SUMMER HOURS**

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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**LIBRARY AFTER HOURS - WEDNESDAYS**

6:00PM-8:00PM: STARTS JUNE 26

Grades 7-12 - come to the library for movies, games, food, crafts, or just hanging out.

**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. June’s book is *A Town Like Alice* by Nevil Shute.

**DROP-IN PROGRAMS: ALL AGES**

**Craft Day:** Every Tuesday from 12pm-3pm, come to the library, enjoy our air conditioning, and use our crafting equipment and supplies. Support will be available for the vinyl cutter and the 3D printer.

**Snack Time:** Preschool through 12th grade. Come enjoy healthy and fun snacks and cold drinks during open hours all summer.

**SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS: 6:00PM**

- June 20: *How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World* (PG, 2 hours 26 minutes)
- July 11: *Captain Marvel* (PG, 1 hour 47 minutes)
- July 25: *Five Feet Apart* (PG13, 1 hour 56 minutes)
- August 8 (*Starts at 5*): *Avengers Endgame* (PG13, 3 hours)

**SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM**

“A UNIVERSE OF STORIES”

(ALL PROGRAMS BEGIN AT 11:00AM)

- July 2: “My Mother the Astronaut” by Traveling Lantern (all ages)
- July 9: Summer Reading Program (birth—6th grade)
- July 16: Summer Reading Program (birth—6th grade)
- July 23: Summer Reading Program (birth—6th grade)
- July 30: “Our Place in Space” by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History (A family program)

Birth to Grade 6 may register at Sherman County Public/School Library, ABC Huskies Daycare, or Little Wheats Daycare. Grades 7-12 may register at Sherman County Public/School Library.

**NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY**

- *Leopard at the Door* by Jennifer McVeigh
- *Beyond the Point* by Claire Gibson
- *The Priory of the Orange Tree* by Samantha Shannon
- *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See
- *Normal People* by Sally Rooney
- *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell

**CRAFTS IN STACKS**

- June 29: Dream Catchers (ages 10+)
- July 27: Book/Journal Making (ages 10+)
- August 27: Indoor Succulents (all ages)

-Marylou Martin, Library Director
OSU Youth Summer Activities

Oregon State University Sherman County Extension will be offering a variety of programs to Sherman County kids. Contact the office for more information and to register your child by calling 541-565-3230.

◆ Sherman County 4-H Camp
  Wednesday June 19 - Friday June 21
  Camp Morrow, Wamic
  Cost $110 (registrations due June 3)
  For Sherman County connected youth who just finished 4th-6th grade. Do not need to be a 4-H member to attend.

◆ Outdoor Cooking Day Camp - free!
  Friday, June 14: 9am-12pm - Dechutes Park west of Biggs Junction on Hwy 30
  Lots of cooking and eating! Bring a water bottle. Limit 20 kids age 8 and older, call Extension Office to register 541-565-3230.

◆ “Put It Up!” Food Preservation Workshop – free!
  Monday, August 5 - Friday, August 9
  10am-2pm: With drama instructor Hayley Hoyt! At Sherman School cafeteria & stage. Develop your own SUPERHERO with powers, costume, voice and character. Gain confidence, learn how to work in a group, improve communication skills. Limit 20 kids ages 5 and up, call Extension Office to register 541-565-3230.

- Cindy Brown, OSU Extension Services

Strong Women

The Strong Women Strength Training Program is a community based strength training program aimed at mid-life, and older women. The benefits of strength training for older women have been studied extensively and include:

* Increased muscle mass and strength.
* Improved bone density and reduced risk for osteoporosis and related fractures.
* Reduced risk for diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, depression, and obesity.
* Improved self-confidence, sleep and vitality.

The Strong Women Strength Training Program includes progressive resistance training, balance training, and flexibility exercises. Classes typically have eight to twelve participants, and last approximately 45-60 minutes. The curriculum includes two sets of resistance training routines, each with 8-10 exercises that can be used within the program. Both routines begin with a 5-10 minute warm up that may include walking, marching, or light calisthenics, e.g. toe touches. The resistance training exercises work all of the major muscles groups, utilizing a combination of dumbbells, adjustable ankle weights, and body weight. Classes conclude with a 5-10 minute cool-down that includes upper and lower flexibility exercises.

Classes will be offered in the Grass Valley Pavilion, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (except holidays) at 7:30 a.m. beginning May 22. All people are invited to join us.

- Fern Wilcox, Community Member

Sherman County Connects New Broadband with Gorge.net

Over the last two years, Sherman County and its cities have come together to discuss broadband needs. After conducting surveys, community forums, and several planning meetings, the group identified partnership opportunities to develop a fiber-to-the-home network serving each of the cities in Sherman County and Biggs Junction. GorgeNet was selected to partner in providing that service during the summer of 2018. During the fall of 2018, the City of Moro was connected and this spring the Cities of Grass Valley was connected. Builds are in progress in Wasco with an anticipated completion date in mid-June and Rufus with a completion date in July. Biggs will also be receiving additional connectivity by the end of the summer. Speeds up to a gigabit will be available throughout.

Carrie Pipinich, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District Project Manager, coordinated the planning process, supported the communities in efforts to identify a partner to improve service and worked with the partners to successfully apply for $200,000 of funding from the Regional Infrastructure Fund through Regional Solutions. Additional funding was provided by each City, Sherman County, and GorgeNet. Carrie works on

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.
Broadband Continued...

broadband issues throughout the region and manages the Gorge Broadband Consortium. For more information on this and other new broadband developments, contact Carrie at 541-296-2266 or carrie@mcedd.org.

- Mid Columbia Economic Development District

Something Big is Happening for “Our Kids, Our Future, Our Community”

A group of interested and concerned folks in our community have come together to form the Sherman County Education Foundation (SCEF). Spearheaded by Gary Irzyk and Liz Cranston, the goal of the group is to enhance the already great education currently offered in Sherman County. Due to low enrollment and tight budgeting, small schools like ours may offer only limited classes in subjects like art, music and drama and even classes teaching life skills. Goals can be met by partnering with and supporting other like-minded groups: OSU Extension and 4-H, Weir Memorial Fund, SWCD, Museums, Scholars Reading Program and SKORE after school programs, etc.

SCEF, through donations from our friends and neighbors, have already donated funds to the Sherman School music department for the purchase of an instrument. Also gifted are college level Great Courses available for students and adults through the School/Public Library.

Now you can help, too! Donations of your time or money are always appreciated. As the 501(c)3 application is in development, SDL has agreed to act as Fiscal Sponsor for the Education Foundation until the Not-For-Profit designation is permitted. Checks should be written to Sherman Development League, noting “For the SCEF Fund”, P O Box 11, Moro, OR 97039.

For more information e-mail us at shermancoeducationfoundation@gmail.com or write SCEF, P O Box 68, Moro, OR 97039. Look for us at the Sherman County Fair in August and other upcoming Sherman County events.

- Sheri Carlson, Sherman County Education Foundation

Resident Incentive Applications

The Resident Incentive Applications for 2019 will be mailed out the first week of June. This marks the eleventh year since the program was first introduced. Qualifying applicants must live in Sherman County for at least one year by the application due date, August 31, 2019, and must still be residents when checks are distributed in December 2019.

Applications are sent out to all addresses currently registered with the Sherman County post offices. Information about the program and the application can be found on the Sherman County website at www.co.sherman.or.us or at the Financial Services Office located in the Courthouse, 500 Court Street in Moro. Please call 541-565-3623 for more information.

- Debbie Hayden, Finance Director

Sherman County EMS Congratulates EMR Students

Sherman County EMS would like to congratulate the following students for completing the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Course:

John Barber, Jordan Barrett, Jacob Burbank, Christian Derting, Marcus Henricksen, Izabella Montesanti, Kimberly Stadeli, and Emma Witherspoon.

The course instructor was Bob Stone, EMT with Sherman County EMS. The students put in 5 months of training, 2-3 days per week. They are now ready to apply for their state license and start their training on Sherman County Ambulance. Great job everyone!

- Shawn Payne, Emergency Services

Swim Bus

It’s that time of year! Swim bus will run on Mondays and Thursdays starting July 11 through August 15, 2019. Information and registration will be available June 4, 2019, and will be given out to each student at school. There is no cost associated with this great summer activity. Children must be grades Kindergarten through 6th grade in order to participate.
Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us on Sunday, June 9th for the Sherman County Historical Society Annual Meeting and dinner. This event is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. Come tour the museum while enjoying a social hour at 4pm with wine tasting and dinner registration. At 5pm dinner will be served next door at the Senior Center with guest speaker Cal McDermid of the Fort Dalles Museum. Dinner is $15 per person at the door. Please call and RSVP at 541-565-3232.

The Museum is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through October. The Museum is operated by friendly volunteers with first-rate interpretive exhibits, hands-on activities, and a research genealogy library. The Sherman County’s Visitor Center is also located at the museum. The Sherman County Historical Museum is located at 200 Dewey Street in Moro, Oregon. For more information call 541-565-3232 or visit our Facebook page and website: www.shermanmuseum.org

Why is Community Important to You?

On May 10, 2019, Sherman County Prevention hosted a Mother’s Appreciation Dinner and Dance at the Wasco School Event Center. While families mingled, they were asked to answer the question; Why is community important to you? As you read through the responses, reflect on what your answer would be. I am happy to share the wonderful answers from that night and hope we can agree that Sherman County is a great place to live. We are strong individuals within strong families making up a strong community. These connections are the greatest asset we have to creating a positive culture for our youth. These are also the reasons we have hope in combatting substance abuse and mental health disorders as a whole community. I hope you enjoy what your friends and neighbors said about you Sherman County.

“This Sherman County community is important because we all come together in hard times and we all care very much about our young people and families.”

“This is where my daughter can grow up to be a beautiful soul and I met the love of my life here. And the community is cool too!”

“This county is important to me because people make me feel welcome and that I belong.”

“This is my home and if it comes to it, I would defend it with my heart.”

“Sherman County community is important because we all come together in hard times and we all care very much about our young people and families.”

“Thanks to this family we have out here everyone comes together in fire season and helps one another and it’s amazing. Best of wishes this year and stay Sherman strong.”

“This community is important to me as I love how they always stand behind you when you are in need. Best place I could have retired-glad to be home.”

“This community is important to me because my friends and family live in it. This is my home and if it comes to it, I would defend it with my heart.”

“This community is important to me because I want to raise my children in a place where people matter and people care about each other. Life is slower and people come together when needed.”

- Amy Asher, Prevention

Judges Corner

Sherman County kicked off the summer with a couple of Memorial Day weekend events. Rufus had a catfish derby, a car show, raffles, and an awards banquet/dinner, all open to the public. This is planned to be an annual event, but this year it also celebrated Bob’s Texas T-bone’s 50th anniversary. Happy Anniversary to all at Bob’s.

The Memorial Day parade in Wasco, starting with the fighter jet flyover, is always a great event. I want to thank all who participated and helped with both events. Personally I wish to thank everyone who helped carry the flag in the Wasco parade. The FFA chapter look very sharp as they carried the front of the flag down the street.

I also want to apologize to the young cheerleader group for not announcing them as they followed the Veterans float. I honestly did not see you, but you do a great job, keep up the good work.

On the note of good work, Beth
The Judges Corner Continued...

McCurdy will be missed at the fair. Thank you Beth for the years of dedicated hard work you have given Sherman County by being part of the fair board and secretary. Thank you and good luck Beth.

As Sherman County Court, we have started visiting and touring local businesses and county departments, this past month. Commissioner McCoy, Commissioner Bird, and myself toured the Azure Standard Warehouse just west of Moro. We learned the facility covers approximately 1 1/2 acres, has shipping routes all over the country, and employs 60ish people. Thanks Barry Ambrims for taking the time to show us around. The Food Pantry, in Rufus, was next on our agenda. Located in the Community Center, the Food Pantry saw over 40 families, 75 people, the day we visited them. It is amazing the variety of food stuff available. The Food Pantry helps fill a need and those who run it, do it on a very thin budget. We are lucky to have another asset helping out in our community.

The Sherman County Court has put out a request for quote to complete the fiber that currently runs from Grass Valley to Wasco. This grant funded project, would bring fiber from Wasco to Rufus, and is not the same the same project that is bringing fiber into the homes.

Since we are on the subject of fiber/tele-communications, the FTN board is currently having an independent systems/asset audit being done. This will help the board have a clearer picture of FTN. The current FTN board is working hard to continue to support the Regional 911, school, library and health clinic communications.

Building Codes and housing continue to be on our court agenda.

“The most valuable of all talents is that of never using two words when one will do” - Thomas Jefferson

Wasco School Events Center Happenings

The Board would like to thank the following people for volunteer services at WSEC: Anna Alley for volunteering for Kids Gym every Friday from November thru March. This proved to be a well attended activity, and we hope to offer Kids Gym again next winter. Dee Turner, USA Pickleball Association Ambassador and national tournament player from Wamic, who put on a free clinic May 7 in the gym for 16 people to help them improve their game and work on game strategies. Sherman High Student, Darian Davis, for choosing to clean up, repair and install basketball backboards on the tennis court at WSEC as his Eagle Scout project. Darian has received a grant from Sherman County Cultural Coalition in the amount of $800, and one for $1,500 from Sherman County Prevention, to make this possible. Home Depot has agreed to support his project through matching dollars for supplies.

Pickleball continues to be the most popular activity at the Events Center (almost 300 Fitness Center sign-ins in a recent one month period, most of those for pickleball), with open pickleball held Sundays beginning at 4:00, and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30. Feel free to drop in and learn the game during these times. If it is a first time visit to see if you like the game, there is no charge. After that, it is $5 per visit, or $25 per month to join the Fitness Center. We continue to have our Coffee Hour every Monday from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., and there are usually some homemade pastries to share with the coffee crowd. The coffee’s free, but we gladly accept donations.

Mark your calendar for two fundraisers coming this fall: On Saturday, August 31, and Sunday, September 1, we will be having a rummage sale from-10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Table rental is $10. If you would like to reserve a table, please contact Melissa Kirkpatrick at 541-442-5778. Vendors will be allowed to set up the day before (time to be determined), or they can set up an hour prior to the beginning of the sale. There will also be a table of items for sale to benefit the Events Center. If you would like donate items to us, please contact Melissa about what type of items we will accept, and a time to drop the items off. The second fundraiser will be An Afternoon of Sherman County Talent on Sunday, October 20, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This event will feature a silent auction of items made by local artists. There will be a variety of pieces available to bid on, from paintings to photography, fiber arts to metal work, ceramics and pottery, woodworking, jewelry, knitted and crocheted items, food as art, and much, much more. Tickets are $10 each, and include a glass of beer or wine (more beer/wine can be purchased at the event), appetizers, and an opportunity to bid on these items. More information will be forthcoming.

A BIG thank you to all of you who volunteer to help make the Events Center a success. If you have any ideas for things you’d like to see happen here, feel free to contact our director, Melissa Kirkpatrick, or any of our Board members: Gail Macnab, Carol Olmstead, Jesse Fuhrer, Tom Lepinski, Cal McDermid, and Linda Krafsic.
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, plastic style glass bottles, tin cans (flattened), clean aluminum foil & foil baking pans, empty aerosol cans (discard cap).
- 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