

The Citizen-Reporter



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

A Sherman County Government Publication — August 2020

2020 General Election News

The 2020 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3 and conducted by mail. As a reminder to electors interested in becoming a candidate for city office, the filing deadline is Tuesday, August 25. Candidates must file at their local city hall. Please contact your city recorder/administrator for office hours and other details. For a partisan office listed under ORS 249.722, nonaffiliated and minor political party members must file a certificate of nomination on or before August 25.

The final day to register to vote or change party affiliation is Tuesday, October 13. Voter registration cards postmarked by October 13 or an online registration submitted no later than 11:59pm are valid. For online registration or to update your voter information go to: <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: <https://>

sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/SEL500.pdf

Ballots will be mailed between October 14 and 20. 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 on or before 8:00pm on Election Day or it will not be counted. Postmarks do not count!

Official Sherman County ballot drop sites are found outside the following locations (*Do not deposit your voted ballot into any City Hall drop box*):

Continue on Page 5...

Do You Own a Sherman County Business

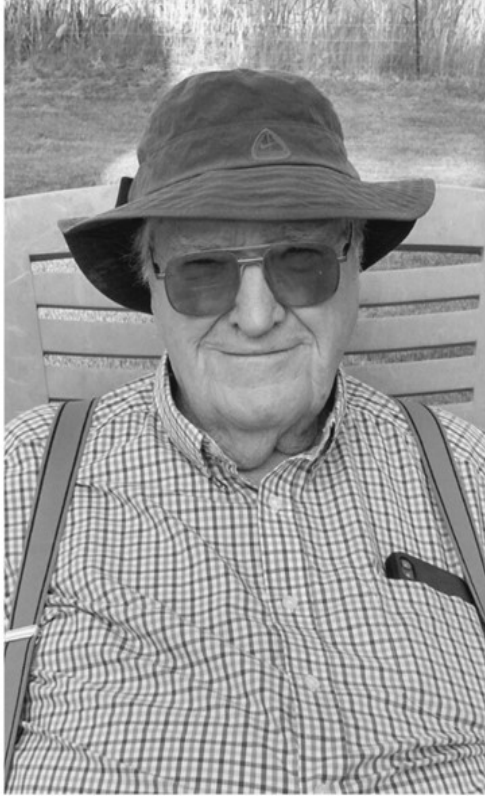
Do you own a business in Sherman County? Do you get periodic emails from the County? If you don't get emails from the County, please send us your business name, town, phone number and email to countycourt@shermancounty.net. We send out group emails periodically to disseminate information about COVID-19, grants, county information and more.

Resident Incentive Applications

To receive your 2020 Resident Incentive payment, complete the application in full and return it to Sherman County 500 Court Street, PO Box 382, Moro, OR 97039 by August 31, 2020.

If you have mailed in your Resident Incentive Application and have not received a confirmation postcard; your application has not been received.

To verify receipt of your application, you can call the County's Finance Department at 541-565-3623.



Ed's Anecdotes

Ed was born in 1929 Lincoln, New Hampshire.

He spent five years serving in the United States Navy. After the Navy, Ed attended Portland State where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts.

He worked in journalism and the broadcasting industry for many years.

Family brought him to the Pacific Northwest and eventually to Sherman County in the 1980s. He served as the transit courier for the Sherman County Public/School Library for over 20 years.

Class of 2020:

You have gone off in the world to make it a better place for all of us. How I enjoyed the school sports I was able to attend while you were here.

I'm looking forward to more excellent sport events, but I'll not forget the class of 2020. When you were short a few players in football, Condon was able to assist your numbers, but that was not a deterrent, the games continued, with great excitement. When the girls basketball team experienced a few injuries and had to play with one or two subs, you carried on to play that wonderful game anyway. In any future stumbling blocks, life will be easier for you because you did that. Having to complete your classes as you did the last few weeks of school was still another amazing accomplishment that turned out so well.

In my 91 years I had not recalled such dedication. The pandemic did not slow your determination to fulfill your Sherman High School requirements either. Congratulations to you all and it was heartwarming to see the sportsmanship, your determination, and a job well done.

Mr. Ed Champagne

Emergency Business Assistance Grants

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) was granted \$50,000 from Business Oregon to distribute COVID-19 Emergency Business Assistance Grants in Sherman County.

Small businesses and non-profits with 25 or fewer employees that have been adversely affected by economic conditions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and have not received federal emergency assistance under the federal CARES Act, the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance Program or other federal emergency pandemic assistance funding may be eligible. Additionally, 50% of all funds must be given to sole proprietors. Grants will be disbursed on a first come, first-served basis. Funding is also available for Hood River and Wasco Counties.

Applications and a full list of eligibility requirements can be found at mcedd.org/bizgrants. Call 541-296-2266 x1005 for English, or llame al 541-296-2266 x1004 en Español.

To apply email applications to bizgrants@mcedd.org or mail/hand deliver to MCEDD at 802 Chenoweth Loop Road, The Dalles, OR 97058.

Letter From Shawn Payne

Dear Sherman County Community:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the past 21 years that I have served as your Emergency Services Director. This program started as an idea in 1997-98 and became a reality in 1999. At that time I applied for and was offered the position as Emergency Services Director. I have also served on the Sherman County Ambulance for almost 38 years. I have always felt that my Advisory Committee and Sherman County Court really understood the philosophy of the program and have always backed me 100%.

I have truly enjoyed all aspects of my career with Sherman County. I consider the Sheriff's Office, the Fire Districts and all of my EMS crew to be a second family. There is a saying that I like to use "In this family, no one stands alone." This is so true. We may be a little dysfunctional at times, but we are family, none the less.

I have had the awesome responsibility and honor of training numerous emergency personnel, some of which I have had the pleasure of working with side by side and a few who have moved on to being paramedics and nurses.

I have enjoyed working with my Emergency Management colleagues, although COVID-19 has been a bit of a trial. I appreciate Chris Fitzsimmons with Gilliam County Emergency Management who has always been a great resource for me.

I have truly loved my job as the Emergency Services Director and the opportunity to serve my community. There is nothing more rewarding. It has been a 24/7 job at times, so I must say how much I appreciate my husband, Jim and the rest of my family for their support as well.

I am in the process of training my replacement. You may already know her. Her name is Dana Pursley-Haner. Dana has been an EMT with Sherman County Ambulance since 2013. She is an EMT-Intermediate, who provides excellent patient care. She is very quick to learn, which is helpful, because there is a lot to learn in this position. I ask that you all be patient during the transition. It will take some time, but she is definitely up to the task.

With fond regards, Shawn Payne

EMT Class Coming This Fall

Sherman County EMS will be hosting an EMT Class starting this fall. It will be held through Columbia Gorge Community College. Most of the classroom will be delivered via virtual training, with an occasional face to face class for practical labs and evaluations. This is a two-term course which will meet twice weekly in the evenings and an occasional Saturday.

Sherman County EMS is looking to fill some positions on our ambulance service. This is a paid position at \$15.00 per hour while on an ambulance call and if you live within the

response area, primarily Moro, you can be on-call for a week at a time, which pays \$150 weekly.

If you are really interested in taking the class, you will be asked to sign an agreement stating that you will complete the class, license as an EMT and respond on the ambulance. If you do not fulfill the agreement, then you will be responsible for the tuition and fees associated with the class, which is about \$2,000 per person. This is a very intense, but rewarding class.

If you are interested in finding out more about this class, please contact Sherman County Emergency Services at 541-565-3100 or emergencyserv@embarqmail.com.

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 Sherman County Emergency Services 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.

Sherman County Youth Livestock Show 2020

COVID-19 may have canceled plans we had for the summer, including fair, but we are happy to announce some sort of “normalcy” for our youth, with a Youth Livestock Show and Auction. The show will fall during the same week as fair, August 18th – 23rd, and closely mimic a normal fair schedule. Please contact Sue at the OSU extension office, or your livestock leader for further information.

New Prevention Website

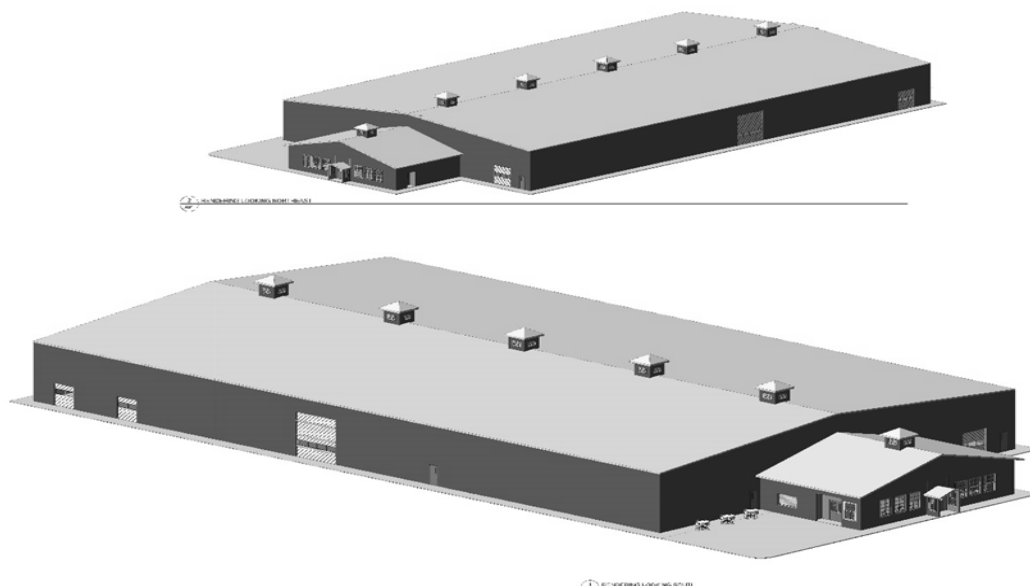
Check out shermancommunity.com fully functional by August 15, 2020. This is a new website/blog intended to provide community resources, employment and housing announcements, upcoming events and prevention information. There will also be a gallery section to post photos of our community. There will be NO political or “for sale” articles on this page. For questions or comments email aasher@co.sherman.or.us. Sponsored and managed by Sherman County Prevention and Community Outreach

Upcoming Extension Agriculture Programming

There is still a lot up in the air in terms of if fall extension events will be held virtually or in person. There will be a grazing and forage management class for both small landowners and ranchers in late September and a pesticide pre exam course in November. The typical pesticide recertification events will likely still happen, dates and format TBD.

Sherman County Fairgrounds Updates

The 2020 Fair season is not the only thing that has changed this year at the fairgrounds. The 4H Pavilion has been re-sided, new interior and exterior lighting will be coming soon, as well as improvements to the doors. The fair office is also getting some attention, thanks to Eliot Kaseberg and board member Bert Perisho, the office is seeing some needed improvements. While it’s exciting to see the existing buildings being improved upon, the fair board is very excited to announce the approval of a new 37,500 sq ft indoor arena! Construction is set to begin Spring 2021.



PILLAR CONSULTING GROUP, INC.
 ARCHITECTURAL RENDERING
 1000 NE 10TH AVE, SUITE 200
 SHERMAN, OR 97150
 TEL: 503.866.1111
 WWW.PILLARCG.COM

RENDERINGS
 SCFG MULTI - USE BARN
 SHERMAN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

A91

Agricultural/Rural Wildfire Education

While the current fire season is almost half way over, we are entering the most serious part of the season referred to as “dirty August.” Fire-fighter fatalities and injuries are most likely to occur during August. OSU Extension has an online agricultural wildfire class available for free. The course can be accessed at <https://campus.extension.org/enrol/index.php?id=1842> The opening page states, “Guests cannot access this course. Please log in.” Proceed by clicking on the “Continue” button and you will be directed to create a free account. There are also several recordings from two prior webinars on Wildfire Preparedness and Suppression available on the OSU Extension North Central YouTube Channel at <https://beav.es/42a>. The videos include Inventorying and Mapping Fire Resources, 2020 Grazing and Rangeland Fuels Outlook, Grazing for Fire Mitigation, and Risk Assessment, Emergency Planning, & Being Defensible.

Mid-Columbia COVID-19 Relief Fund

The Mid-Columbia Relief Fund is rental and utility assistance available to people who are at or below 80% Area Median Income and have experienced a loss of income, compromised health conditions, at risk of losing their housing, or diagnosed or exposed to COVID-19. Please contact Oscar Enriquez at 541-296-5462 or oscare@mid-columbiahousingauthority.org if you have any questions.

Continued from Page 1...

Rufus City Maintenance Building – 400 Main Street (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 just left of the city drop box)

Sherman County Courthouse – 500 Court Street, Moro Drive-up ballot box at the corner of Court & 5th Streets; Or use the drop slot at the counter in the Clerk’s Office .

If you have any questions, need a replacement ballot because you made a mistake, need an absentee ballot, or are in need of further assistance, please contact the Sherman County Clerk’s Office at 541-565-3606.

Sherman County Board of Property Tax Appeals Board

The Sherman County Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) has board openings for the 2020-21 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 BOP-TA, 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, 2020. 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, 2021.

If you are interested in being considered for the BOPTA board, please contact Kristi Brown at 541-565-3606 or by email at: deputyclerk@shermancounty.net no later than Friday, October 2. BOPTA pool members will be appointed by the county governing body on October 7, 2020.

Car Seat Technician Available in Moro

Sherman County Victim Assistance Program, located in the District Attorney's Office, has a trained Car Seat Technician. The services that this Technician can provide include, but is not limited to, car seat installations, child safety educational materials, car seats on a first come first serve basis for families in need, and answer car seat questions.

We can also provide pack 'n' plays for families in need of a safe sleep option for their infant. These are also on a first come first serve basis and we have limited stock available. The pack 'n' play comes with a set of sheets and our worker will educate families on safe sleep practices by providing safety tips and education materials. Both of these child safety products and education are provided to the communities of Sherman County as identified safety needs for children and families.

Due to COVID-19 and state mandates, we ask you to please make an appointment in advance, wear a mask, and meet our technician outside. Please contact Katie during business hours at (541) 980-8674 to schedule.



Sherman County Public/School Library

Website: ShermanCountyPSL.weebly.com

Email: shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us

Phone: 541-565-3279

Address: 65912 High School Loop Moro, OR 97039

"Like" us on Facebook at Sherman County Public School Library

CURBSIDE SERVICE

Our curbside service is available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-7 and Saturdays 11-4. Call, e-mail, or put items on hold on the Sage system. We will let you know when your items are ready to pick up.

VIRTUAL STORY TIME

Virtual Storytime videos will be posted the first two Fridays of August at 11:00 am on our Sherman County Public School Library Facebook page and on our Sherman County Library YouTube Channel. Virtual Storytime provides a fun experience for caregivers and young children to learn more about early literacy skills and practices through songs and rhymes.

FREE GRAB & GO CRAFT KITS

We will feature a new craft in August. Also, if you missed a week or would like to do a craft again, give us a call and we will bring the kit to Rufus, Wasco, or Grass Valley with our transit or you can request to pick one up with curbside service.

PICK UP AND DELIVERY

Please call the library for pick up and drop off locations in Sherman County.

Hazardous Waste Collection Event

There is still a hazardous waste collection event planned for Friday, October 30th from 10 am to 2 pm in Wasco, OR at the Wasco Event Center. The event is for agricultural producers, rural households, and small businesses. Please note that agricultural producers and small businesses must pre-register. Go to <https://tricityrecycle.com/resources/upcoming-events/> for updates and to pre-register.

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council

Are you financially affected by COVID?

We may be able to help!

If you have been financially impacted by COVID you may qualify for assistance. For assistance with energy payments, please call Mid-Columbia Community Action at 541-298-5131. For assistance with paying rent, please call Kasey at 541-980-4188.

The Judges Corner

I am sitting on a hill top, in a combine that is full of wheat, waiting for the truck to return from the elevator. When it gets here, I can unload and go back to harvesting. Today is day 10 of harvest and I'm only one day late on getting my article to Tammi so she can get it to the printer. 4 more days in the combine, should see us finished with harvest. From this hill top, I have a good view of the surrounding area. Things have sure changed in the past couple of weeks. What was golden fields of grain are now stubble fields. The next time we harvest this field, when I look to the South and South West, I will see wind turbines of the latest wind project "Golden Hills". Avangrid broke ground last month for their O & M building, early next year the plan is to start erecting the turbines and the entire project should be finished by the end of 2021.

The recent building within Sherman County also consist of the finishing of Finnegan Bridge, leveling the site for the 400,000 gallon steel reservoir above Biggs Junction, the improvement of the boat ramp at the end of Starvation Lane, the much needed update of rural internet system, and very soon, the removal of the several dilapidated buildings in Biggs Junction at the Old Biggs Motel site.

Sherman County just received a grant to improve rural-hard to reach locations – broadband. With this grant, a repeater will be placed on Tygh Ridge to reach areas of the south end of Sherman County. Several solar powered repeater trailers will also be purchased and placed to provide coverage in remote areas. This is all being done to prepare for distance learning and the upcoming school year. The intent is to be completed by September 30th.

The Leaders Association and the Sherman Booster Club put on a two day – day camp at the end of June. All reports are that it was a GREAT success. Thanks everyone who made this day camp the success it was.

These past months have been quite a challenge on the COVID front. Meetings, meetings, and more meetings. Phone, video and conference calls – you name it. They range from bi-weekly calls with state senators and representatives to weekly calls with FEMA and the governor's team. Thanks everyone for their patience and help throughout all of this turmoil. A big hand to Shawn Payne and the Emergency Management Services. Shawn will be moving to a new position soon and the county after interviewing several great candidates has hired Dana Haner to fill this position. Sorry to see you go Shawn, Dana we look forward to working with you.

As we interviewed the candidates for the above position, one candidate made a comment that brought to mind the quote from Theodore Roosevelt, "When you are asked if you can do a job, tell them, certainly I can! Then, get busy and find out how to do it".





SHERMAN
COUNTY



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.

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.



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

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