

The Citizen-Reporter



SHERMAN COUNTY

A Sherman County Government Publication — December 2020

New Sherman County Commissioner Sworn into Office



Pictured above: Commissioner Justin Miller and Judge Joe Dabulskis

The Sherman County Court is proud to announce the appointment of its newest member, Justin Miller. Commissioner Miller was sworn in October 21, 2020 to finish the term of Commissioner Tom McCoy who retired at the end of September, 2020. Commissioner Miller states “I am proud to have grown up in Sherman County and am grateful for the experiences, services and support that were provided to me. I feel fortunate to have benefited from a K-12 education, community support in extracurricular activities as well as the many great examples set by members of the community who gave their time and skills for the betterment of Sherman County. I feel it is important to give back to this community, and what better opportunity than to follow in the footsteps of prior commissioners and judges whose leadership I have valued and respected. I have appreciated their commitment to put the best interest of the citizens of Sherman County first.”

Sherman County Invites Applications for the Position of Deputy Clerk

POSITION SUMMARY AND GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:

Regular full-time, salaried position, 40 hours per week or 1.0 FTE with flex-time for overtime. Supports County Clerk in day-to-day operations. Researches, coordinates and administers programs, policies and procedures to ensure consistency and compliance with federal, state and local laws and requirements. Performs a variety of specialized clerical and administrative duties in conducting the activities of the County Clerk's office. Duties include, but are not limited to activities involving elections, document recording, providing customer service with record research, issuing marriage licenses, domestic partnerships, filing surveys, plats and court documents, passport photos, Board of Property Tax Appeals, and other activities as assigned. Required to become certified as a Passport Acceptance Agent and Notary Public within 4 months of hiring. Successful applicant must pass a criminal history background check.

Salary range: \$3,535 - \$4,739 Monthly

Closing Date: 5:00pm on December 23rd, 2020

Application for Employment and complete job description are available on the Sherman County website <https://www.co.sherman.or.us/documents/>

[employment-application/](#) and at the Sherman County Clerk's Office.

Submit completed application and resume to:

Sherman County Clerk
500 Court Street
PO Box 243
Moro, OR 97039
541-565-5026

Sherman County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Sherman County Senior Center

1. Who can eat at the senior center?

Anyone of any age can order a lunch. We have a suggested donation of \$4 if you are over 60, \$7 if you are under 60, and \$3 for 12 and under.

2. Is the center open during Covid-19?

Currently we are closed to the public due to the vulnerability of the seniors, but we are doing to-go lunch orders M-F.

3. How do we order a lunch?

Please call 541-565-3191 by 10:30am on the day you would like to order. Leave a message with the number of meals you would like and the names on each meal. We put the meals out front at 12pm, wrapped in foil with names on post-it notes placed on each plate. We provide an entrée, side dish, salad and dessert each day.

4. How do we pay for our meals?

We have a donation box out front each day where you can leave your donation. or you can call us to purchase a meal card that we'll keep on file for you.

5. How do we know what is on the menu?

We post our monthly lunch menus online on the Sherman County website. They are also posted in the local post offices, and a copy is always taped to our front door. We also provide paper copies of the menu on our lunch table each day for anyone to take. If you would like to be emailed the menu each month please email:

kari@shermancounty.net with your preferred email address and we'll add you to our email list.

6. Why does nobody answer the phone when I call?

Typically we are in the kitchen, away from the phone. We check messages each morning to gather lunch orders, but if you have a question or need a call back please leave a voicemail with your contact info and we will return your call at our earliest convenience.

7. What are your hours?

We are available M-F between 10am-2pm each day. Our doors are locked, as we are closed to the public, but feel free to contact us with any questions.

8. Do you have equipment to loan out?

Yes, we do have equipment that we loan out, such as walkers, canes, wheelchairs, etc. If you are in need of an item please leave a voicemail to arrange an appointment to view our available items.

9. Are you accepting food donations?

Yes, we do accept food donations. Make sure the items are not opened or expired, and call 541-565-3191 to ar-

range a time to drop the items off.

10. Are you in charge of Meals on Wheels?

Yes. Please call 541-565-3191 to receive an application.

In Honor of Veterans Day

In Honor of Veterans Day, we thought we would share these interesting facts about Arlington Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Arlington Cemetery

This is really an awesome sight to watch if you've never had the chance. Fascinating. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?

21 steps: It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?

21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.

3. Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and, if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and

moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5. How often are the guards changed? Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day; 365 days a year.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5'10" and 6'2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30.

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives.

They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV.

All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty. Eternal rest grant them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, DC, our US Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person.

The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

OSU Agricultural Extension

Jacob Powell, Agricultural Extension Agent for OSU, has posted several tutorials and webinars of interest to small acreage landowners and commercial producers at the OSU Extension Service North-Central Oregon YouTube Channel: <https://beav.es/42a>



WINTER FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

The USFA's Winter Residential Building Fires (PDF, 1 MB) report shows that each winter an estimated 108,400 residential building fires occur in the United States, resulting in 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1.7 billion in property loss. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential building fires at 36 percent followed by heating at 23 percent. Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The NFPA and USFA recommend following these safety tips to prevent winter home fires:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.
- Space heaters need space; keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from each heater.
- Check electrical cords often and replace cracked or damaged electrical or extension cords. Do not try to repair them.
- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. They are not designed for this purpose and can be a fire hazard. In addition, carbon monoxide (CO) gas might kill people and pets.
- Do not put your live Christmas

tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

- Avoid using lighted candles. If you must use candles, place them in sturdy candleholders that won't burn.

If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.

For more information, contact Dana Pursley-Haner, Director of Emergency Services at 541-565-3100.

SHERMAN COUNTY BOARD OF PROPERTY TAX APPEALS NOTICE OF SESSION

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 10:00am, the Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) of the County of Sherman, State of Oregon will meet to:

- Hear petitions for reduction of the real market, maximum assessed, specially assessed, or assessed value of property as of January 1, 2020, or as determined under ORS 308.146;
 - Hear petitions for reduction of value corrected under ORS 311.208;
 - Hear petitions for waiver of penalties for late filing of real or personal property returns.
- Petitions can only be accepted by the County Clerk's Office. Please

mail or hand-deliver to:

Sherman County Clerk – BOPTA
500 Court Street

PO Box 243

Moro, Oregon 97039

Fax: 541-565-3771 Email:

deputyclerk@shermancounty.net

Hand-delivered petitions must be delivered to the clerk's office by 5:00pm January 4, 2021.

Mailed petitions must be post-marked on or before January 4, 2021.

Faxed or electronically filed petitions must be received by midnight Pacific Standard Time January 4, 2021 as evidenced by electronic acknowledgement of receipt produced by the County's fax machine or computer network. Petition forms to file your appeal are available at the County Clerk's office and online at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/programs/property/Pages/property-appeals.aspx>

The board will meet at the Sherman County Courthouse in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at 500 Court Street in the city of Moro, Oregon. A schedule of hearings for those who request to be present will be posted 48 hours prior to the meeting on the door of the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Sherman County Courthouse, Moro, Oregon.

If you have requested to be present at the hearing, you will be notified of the date, time and place to appear. All other hearings will be scheduled as time allows. We request you provide your additional appeal evidence at

least seven (7) working days prior to your hearing so that we may make copies for the board members and the Assessor's office. Please mail, hand deliver or fax your additional evidence. Please do not email your evidence. If you wish to present your additional evidence at the hearing, please bring five (5) copies of your evidence with you. In order to most effectively use the time allocated for your hearing, it is best to have all evidence prepared and available before the hearing begins. Contact the Board of Property Tax Appeals clerk for information.

Executive sessions may be held during the session as authorized by ORS 192.660 to consider documents and information made confidential under ORS 308.290, ORS 308.411, and ORS 308.413.

It shall be the duty of the persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone in need of special accommodations is asked to submit a request at least 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting Kristi Brown at 541-565-3606.

2020 General Election Results

Certified results for the 2020 General Election are available on the Sherman County Elections page of our website, or by following this link: <https://www.co.sherman.or.us/archive-county-election-results/>

AMBULANCE MEMBERSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS

Do you have that special someone who you just don't know what to get for Christmas? If you do and they live in Sherman County, think about an Ambulance Membership. Sherman County Ambulance has a membership program, which costs \$30 per household, per year. Also, you might think about getting a Membership for yourself, if you haven't already. This is a huge savings if you don't have insurance. An average ambulance call can be around \$2,500. The Ambulance Membership Program is also part of the reciprocal network with approximately 80 other agencies in Oregon. That means that if you need an ambulance in another city and they are part of the network, your Sherman County Ambulance Membership will cover that. If you do have insurance, we will still bill for the call, but if it doesn't pay the entire bill, the Membership will cover the balance. If you don't have insurance, the Membership covers the entire bill.

If purchasing for a gift, we will send you a holiday inspired gift certificate to give to your loved one.

We also have Life Flight brochures available if you are interested in purchasing a Life Flight membership or you can log onto lifeflight.org.

If interested, contact Dana at the Emergency Services Building in Moro at 309 Dewey Street. You can call 541-565-3100 or email to emergencyserv@embarqmail.com.

Oregon Senior Peer Outreach

The Oregon Senior Peer Outreach is now accepting referrals to provide "Holiday Connection Calls" to isolated older adults from ALL Oregon counties! Our trained Senior Peer Support Specialists provide weekly befriending phone calls to improve the emotional and physical well-being of Oregon Seniors (55+) who may be experiencing isolation, loneliness, depression or grief. We have now expanded statewide to serve more of the many Oregon older adults who are suffering from COVID-19 isolation. We rely on trusted community partners and family members to identify older adults who will benefit from our friendly connection peer service.

Referrals of older adults who may benefit from the new Holiday Connection Calls service can be made by filling out the Referral Request form online at: <https://communitycounselingsolutions.org/senior-outreach-referral/>, or by calling us at: 1-833-736-4676 (1-833-SeniorOutreach)

Sometimes staying connected is just a phone call away. Now that we are moving into our golden years, we feel that there is "no need to go it alone"!!

We look forward to hearing from you!

ED'S ANECDOTES

When I was a young man, around 15 years old, my dad got me a summer job at the Portsmouth yard in Maine. That was full of adventure. The Nazis surrendered their U-Boat Fleet since the Great World War II was finally over. One of my working days at the naval base, I was employed as a helper on a maintenance task very close to where fleet type submarines tied to docks along the Piscataqua River. It was a beautiful sunny day and I noticed odd looking submarines approaching the far docking area. They were traveling on their own power and didn't look like American vessels. When they started tying up to the docks I went out for a closer look to learn these were German U-Boats with American navy personnel commanding their operations. This fired me up to be witnessing the end of Germany's part in WW II and the thought of peace at last in Europe. My first chance to check the U-Boats out was on a Saturday when I was not working. The newest of these German U-Boats was the U-3008. It was totally different from the older U-Boats and had something very unusual aboard. This thing was called a "snorkel" which allowed the sub to charge its batteries while submerged. The U.S. navy took its first trial with a snorkel removed from one of these boats I had watched on that beautiful summer day. The U-Boat became a U.S. experimental submarine USS U-3008. Snorkels were used on American fleet type subs thereafter.



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 from 4:00pm-7:00pm, Monday-Friday and 10:00am-4:00pm, Saturday. Call us, e-mail us, or use the Sage system to place holds. When your books/materials are ready, we will call or e-mail and let you know. Please call the library when you arrive and we will bring your books out to you.

PATRON 30 MINUTE APPOINTMENTS

Appointments are available from 4:00pm-7:00 pm, Monday-Friday and 10:00am-4:00pm, Saturday. Call or e-mail us to make an appointment.

PICK UP AND DELIVERY

Books and materials can be dropped off and picked up from various locations. Please call the library for pick up and drop off locations in Sherman County.

2020 Fall Grant Awards Announced by Cultural Coalition

Fall grant awards for 2020 have been announced by the Sherman County Cultural Coalition (SCCC) committing \$6,700.00 to projects that strengthen existing cultural resources or engage the community in the arts, heritage or humanities in Sherman County.

Five project applications met the goals and priorities established by the Coalition in the Sherman County Cultural Plan. Successful applicants and projects are as follows: City of Grass Valley – *Annual Easter Egg Hunt*; Leaps and Beats Dance Studio – *Mirror Project*; Sherman County Booster Club – *Fall Festival*; Sherman County Public/School Library – *Grab and Go Craft Kits*; Sherman County School – *3rd Grade Ukuleles*.

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 spring of 2021.

For additional information on the Sherman County Cultural Coalition, please visit our website at <https://www.shermancountyculturalcoalition.com>

The Judges Corner

The holiday season is upon us which means so is the last of the year. What started out as a year I was really looking forward too, morphed into something out of a sci-fi movie. 2020 has been something.

Really, if we focus there is much to be thankful for. Our school has had over 10 weeks of in person learning. That is a success! We may be one of the only schools in the state with that as an achievement. The teachers, staff, and parents cannot be thanked enough for their outstanding dedication for making this work in what must be absolutely nerve fraying conditions. Thank you so much everybody for making this work.

Sherman County is continuing to do what it can to improve its' internet in the rural community. 4 solar powered repeater trailers have been set up to reach students and teachers in hard to access areas. The feedback is, it is a vast improvement. The county is in the process of purchasing 3 more trailers and will be setting them up before the end of the year. OPB even had an article on their digital news page about this on November 16th.

One face that you will not see around in a county vehicle anymore is Tom MacNab. Tom retired at the end of October after 12 years of controlling noxious weeds with the Sherman County Weed Department. Good Luck Tom in all you choose to do. The Sherman County Court is proud to welcome Justin Miller as the newest commissioner. Commissioner Miller will serve out the remainder of Tom McCoy's term. Commissioner Miller will be on numerous committees ranging from local, regional, and state, as well as sit on County Court sessions that take place on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

One of the many things Commissioner McCoy was working on before he left Sherman County is a Regional Stabilization Center. This will be a place for those in need of mental health help and to keep those same individuals out of our jails. I have taken Tom's place on this regional committee that is working hard to make this a reality. The Sheriffs from several counties along with health care professionals also make up the team.

The Governors' office and OHA has come out with a new set of metrics for handling each county's level of required COVID precautions based on that county's tests and cases. This is a positive response. One size does not fit all and each county is different. There is a saying amongst county governments "If you see one county, you've seen one county". Sherman County is currently one of the five counties listed in the low risk category, let us do what we can to keep us at this level. As a heads up, your county government does have conversation every few weeks with Governor Brown and OHA, via Zoom meetings to discuss the situation, possible solutions and changes. You can view these new metrics on OHA's website. They will go into effect December 2nd.

It was so great to walk into the house on Thanksgiving Day and smell the turkey and fresh baked pie, I immediately thought "hey, since I can smell them, I must not have COVID". That is nuts. With the extra pressure of these unprecedented times and the stress of the holiday season, please reach out with a positive thought to those around you, smile, and throw a snowball when we get snow, hum a Christmas tune, enjoy the holidays and be safe.

You are the only one that can use your abilities-
that is an awesome responsibility!

Judge Joe Dabulskis





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>

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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