

# The Citizen-Reporter



## SHERMAN COUNTY

A Sherman County Government Publication — August 2021

### Cicada Killer Wasps

Cicada killer wasps mistakenly identified as Asian giant hornets.

Across Sherman County and eastern Wasco County there have been numerous reports of invasive Murder hornets or Asian giant hornets. All of these sightings have been Cicada killer wasps, often mistaken for the Asian giant hornet. They are about the same size as the Asian giant hornet (1 inch long and 0.25 inch wide), but have some clear differences in their coloration and patterns on their abdomen. The Asian giant hornets have dark orange stripes that are smooth bands. Cicada killer wasps have higher contrasting yellow stripes that are peaked. Fortunately the Asian giant hornet is yet to be found in Oregon after being found in Washington a year ago. The Asian giant hornet is an invasive hornet that can kill honey bees and can

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### Senior and Community Center

The Sherman County Senior & Community Center is finally back open for in house lunches! We got approval from Capeco to reopen on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>. We are still offering to go lunches, as well as in house lunches. To order a to go meal please call 541-565-3191 and leave a message with the number of meals you'd like to order and the name for each one. We will place the to go meals on a table just inside our front door, to the right. Each plate will have a name on it, and will be placed on the table at 12pm. There is a donation box on the table for lunch donations. The suggested donation is \$4 for those over 60. If you prefer to eat inside the salad bar opens at 11:30am, and lunch is served at 12pm. You can find our monthly menu taped to our front door, on the county website and we also have hard copies available at the lunch counter.

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### New Housing Grant Programs

Sherman County Court approved two new housing grant programs to incentivize housing development in the county. These programs add to the suite of existing incentive programs already offered by the County to address the need for more, improved housing.

The new "Housing Property Preparation Grant" program addresses the problem of unsafe, blighted properties throughout the county while stimulating the housing construction market. It offers an up to \$20,000 grant to responsibly demolish unsafe housing units, clean up any environmental contaminants on the property, and prepare the lots for either housing redevelopment or sale. The program is not intended for residents seeking to redevelop houses they are living in. The "New Housing Construction Grant" will provide \$10,000 grants for newly

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*Cicade Killer Wasps*

form large swarms. No one has died from their sting in the U.S., but compared to honey bees their sting is more painful and contains more toxins. They are nicknamed “Murder” hornets for their aggressiveness towards honey bees and will fight to the death for honey bee larva.

Cicada killers are native to Oregon and emerge around the end of June and are out for 60-75 days. Around September they return underground until the next year. Cicada killers can sting if annoyed, especially if you are near their underground nest, but usually they will leave you alone and are well mannered compared to yellow jackets. In addition, Cicada killers are solitary and do not form swarms like hornets. The females paralyze cicadas with a sting and then transport them back to their underground nest, which can take all day. The cicada is put in a side chamber where the wasp also lays eggs. Once the eggs hatch the larva will feed on the cicada. The male wasps are focused on finding a mate and will actually vomit on their own heads to stay cool in the heat. The wasps prefer Eastern and Central Oregon where sandy soils make it easy to dig their underground nests, usually 10 inches deep.

If you see a suspicious wasp feel free to reach out to OSU Extension Service at 541-298-03581 or 541-296-5494 or [jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu). We can assist as long as you have a good full body photo or have a live or dead specimen.

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*New Housing Grant Programs*

constructed housing units in Sherman County to fill in housing gaps. Single family, multi-family, stick built, or double-wide manufactured houses on a permanent foundation are all eligible. However, the units must be sold or occupied by the owner within 30 days of completing the project and cannot be used as a second home or short term rental.

Sherman County continues to offer grant programs to support rehabilitation of non-owner occupied housing properties and the development of new long term rental units. Additional terms and conditions for both grants can be found on the Sherman County website.

All housing grant decisions are made by Sherman County with the help of an appointed Housing Grant Review Committee. Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) is supporting the County in administering these programs. Marla Harvey (MCEDD Program Manager) is available to answer questions about the application and grant process. Potential applicants are encouraged to review the applications in

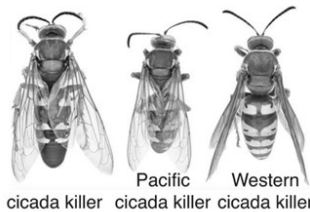
detail and reach out to MCEDD staff prior to starting their projects. Grant funds are not guaranteed.

For more information and links to applications visit [co.sherman.or.us](http://co.sherman.or.us) and search for rental housing. Contact Marla Harvey at (541) 296-2266 or via email at [marla@mcedd.org](mailto:marla@mcedd.org) with any questions or to apply. Funding is limited and you must contact program staff prior to starting project to be eligible. This program is funded by Sherman County.

## Drought Thoughts for Livestock

Dealing with drought can be especially challenging with livestock. It is critical to rotate livestock off of heavily grazed pastures during drought as it will take more time for grazed forage to regrow. Continuous grazing for several months will increase compaction and livestock will continue to graze the plants that are palatable to them without allowing plants to recover. Overgrazing and compaction increase pasture deterioration, evaporation, and run off when it finally rains again. Livestock can graze forage plants down to 3-4 inches without over grazing, but should then get rotated into the next pasture. Each pasture needs roughly four weeks of rest. Also consider improving livestock distribution by placing supplements and water in areas that are usually avoided. The worst plan of action is to open up all your gates and allow access to all your pastures as this will allow overgrazing and ultimately

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Photos by Xanthie Shirley, USDA-APHIS

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Drought Thoughts for Livestock*

hurt your whole operation vs a smaller, yet more concentrated impact in one place.

It is better to feed animals hay in one pasture while the drought persists than try to graze drought stricken pastures. Be careful where your hay supplies are from, it can be an easy way to introduce new seeds that you might not want.

Think about where you are feeding your animals hay, avoid feeding hay in the best pasture ground that you have. Another thing to consider is testing forages for nitrate toxicity before feeding, especially if grazing crops that you decided not to harvest due to drought conditions. Nitrate is the form of nitrogen commonly found in the soil and is taken up directly by plants and converted into protein through photosynthesis. When the plants are stressed, such as drought or a cold snap, excess nitrates build up and the plant is not able to break them down as photosynthesis is inhibited. Cloudy conditions and heavy smoke cover, such as last September can also lead to nitrate build up. Nitrate toxicity can be present in wheat, barley, alfalfa, sorghum, and sudangrass. Pastures can also be a problem if they are full of Kochia, lambsquarter, pigweed, quackgrass, and thistles. Also during this drought some weeds might be increasing as those plants that were heavily grazed in the past are not able to compete. It is important to remember that Russian Knapweed can cause chewing disease in horses and goats if they eat too much of it.

Want to better understand government programs to help financially with drought impacts? Take a look here to monitor drought conditions and for resources: <https://www.drought.gov/>. Oregon Cattlemen's Association also has some good resources: <https://orcattle.com/resource/drought-resources/> Curious what the current price of hay is? Hay reports can be accessed here: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/hay-reports>

## Board of Property Tax Appeals Board Openings

The Sherman County board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) has openings for the 2021-22 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, 2021. 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, 2022. If you are interested in being considered for the BOPTA board, please contact the Clerk's office 541-565-3606 no later than Friday, October 2, 2021. BOPTA pool members will be appointed by the county governing body on October 6, 2021.

## 2021 Sherman County Fair Schedule

541-565-3510

[www.shermancountyfairfun](http://www.shermancountyfairfun)

### Monday, August 16

7:00 am - 9:00 am High School Sports Practice

8:00 am - 3:00 pm 4-H Static Judging @ 4-H Pavilion

### Tuesday, August 17

7:00 am - 9:00 am High School Sports Practice

10:00 am 4-H Horse Show

*(Showmanship followed by Western Equitation - break*

*for lunch - then Trail Horse & Western Games)*

**ARENA WILL BE CLOSED AFTER 4-H HORSE**

**SHOW EVENT IS FINISHED**

### Wednesday, August 18

7:00 am - 9:00 am High School Sports Practice

10:15 am Queen (2021) Applications due @

fair office

10:00 am - 11:00 am All Beef Weigh-In

11:00 am - 11:30 pm All Turkey Weigh-In

11:00 am - 6:00 pm All Open Class Entries/Contests to be entered

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm All Swine Weigh-In

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm All Sheep & Goats Weigh In

3:30 pm Dale Coles Classic Car Show Check in

4:30 pm Long Horn show on Mid-Way

5:00 pm BBQ Burgers/Hot Dogs Cooked by Fair Board

5:10 pm Classic Car Show Awards

7:00 pm Cattle Sorting

### Thursday, August 19

7:00 am - 9:00 am High School Sports Practice

TBA MUTTON BUSTIN SHOWS

8:30 am Final placement for all Open Class Baked

Goods & Flowers

9:00 am Open Class Pavilion Judging starts

9:30 am 4-H & FFA Records Books Due (4-H Pavilion @ grounds)

9:30 am - 9:45 am Market Show Clinic (4-H & FFA)

10:00 am 4-H Rabbit & Cavies Show (market & showmanship)

10:00 am - 12:00 pm 4-H & FFA Swine Market Judging

**followed by Breeding Class**

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm 4-H & FFA Goat Market Judging

**followed by Breeding Class**

1:30 pm 4-H & FFA Poultry Show (market & showmanship)

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm 4-H & FFA Beef Market Judging

**followed by Breeding Class**

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm 4-H & FFA Sheep Market Judging

**followed by Breeding Class**

7:00 pm Down on the Farm Chore Course

### Friday, August 20

7:00 am - 9:00 am High School Sports Practice

TBD RDO Breakfast

TBA MUTTON BUSTIN SHOWS

9:30 am - 9:45 am Showmanship Clinic

10:00 am - 11:00 am 4-H & FFA Swine Showmanship (SR./INT./JR)

**Open class swine to follow**

11:00 am - 12:00 pm 4-H & FFA Goat Showmanship (SR./INT./JR)

**Open class goats to follow**

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm 4-H & FFA Beef

Showmanship (SR./INT./JR)

**Open class beef to follow**

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm 4-H & FFA Sheep Showmanship (SR./INT./JR)

**Open class sheep to follow**

2:30 pm Livestock Judging Contest

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Grand Champion All Around Showmanship

meeting and animal draw

7:15 pm Special intros in rodeo arena

7:30-9:30 pm Bull Riding

### Saturday August 21

TBA MUTTON BUSTIN SHOWS

8:30 am Horse & KIDS Games @ main rodeo arena

9:00 am Premium Payouts @ Fair Office (Open Class Only)

9:00 am 4-H Grand Champion All

Around

Showmanship Contest

**4-H/FFA awards will follow all-around**

10:00 am Queen's Reception @ grounds

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm 4-H & FFA Livestock sale

4:00 pm FFA BBQ Meal

5:30pm Derby Check in

6:30 pm Demo Derby

9:00 pm ALL FAIR EXHIBITS CLOSED

9:30 pm -1:00 am Dance with

"Countryfied"

**DENOTES APPROXIMATE TIME\*\*\*\***

**<<<<<SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE>>>>>**

## Vaccination Incentive Drawings

Sherman County residents who have had at least the first COVID-19 vaccine shot can be entered into a drawing to win a prize. Drawings will be at Fair on August 21. Enter Drawing at County Court office till August 12th. You can also sign up at Fair. Call 541-565-3416 if you have questions.

## Senior Citizen Donations Wanted

On August 23rd we will be distributing Summer bags to senior residents of Sherman County. You can help us fill these bags by dropping off donations to the EMS building in Moro or the County Court Office at the Courthouse or by emailing [countycourt@shermancounty.net](mailto:countycourt@shermancounty.net) We are looking to fill 28 bags. Donations will be accepted until Friday, August 20<sup>st</sup>. Suggested items are: garden fresh veggies, fruit, Kleenex, quart baggies, gallon baggies, lotion, puzzles, hand soap, nuts, crackers, trail mix, etc.

We are also looking for sponsorships for 5 Sherman County Ambulance Service Memberships.

## Sherman County Event Survey

Sherman County businesses and residents are encouraged to respond to the "Sherman County Community Outreach and Neighborhood Events Survey" created by your Chamber of Commerce proudly serving Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler Counties.

Help the Chamber identify how to best work within the communities of Sherman County. The Chamber is looking for ways we can engage and continue to provide quality services to the businesses and communities we serve.

Please share your thoughts by September 6, 2021 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/shermancountyevents>

## 2022 Primary Election Notice

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 the Sherman County Clerk's office will be conducting the 2022 Primary Election by mail. Candidates may file for office beginning September 9, 2021 until the deadline of 5:00pm on March 8, 2022. The following county offices will appear on the ballot:

Candidate for the below offices may file at the County Clerk's office by one of the following methods:

Submit form SEL 101 and pay a \$50 filing fee

Submit form SEL 101 and petition to obtain signatures.

**PARTISAN OFFICE:** Major party candidates will be nominated for this office at the Primary and elected at the November 8, 2022 General Election:

**County Commissioner,**  
Position 2 – 4 year term (Current: Justin Miller)

**NONPARTISAN OFFICES:**

Candidates for the following nonpartisan offices may be elected to office at the Primary:

**County Assessor** – 4 year term (Current: Ross A. Turney)

**District Attorney** – 4 year term (Current: Wade McLeod) - *Candidates for the office of District Attorney are required to file directly with the Oregon Secretary of State's office.*

Candidates for the following nonpartisan office will be nominated at the Primary and elected at the November 8, 2022 General Election:

**County Treasurer** – 4 year term (Current: Marnene Benson-Wood)

Other public offices for which the Secretary of State will accept declarations of candidacy or petitions for nomination or election for this election can be found at the following link: <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/open-offices.pdf>

Election manuals and forms are available on-line at the Oregon Secretary of State, Elections Division <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/laws-rules-publications.aspx> or on the Sherman County Clerk's web page <https://www.co.sherman.or.us/archive-county-election-results/> forms are also available at the Clerk's Office in the Courthouse which is located at 500 Court Street in Moro. If you have any question please contact the Clerk's Office 541-565-3606.

## Sherman County Public/School Library

### SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday 11:00am—7:00pm  
 Thursday 11:00am—7:00pm  
 Saturday 10:00am—4:00pm

The library will be open for walk-ins and curbside service during all of our open hours.

### 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.

### Phone:

541-565-3279

### Address:

65912 High School Loop  
 Moro, Oregon, 97039

### Website:

[ShermanCountyPSL.weebly.com/](http://ShermanCountyPSL.weebly.com/)

### Email:

[shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us](mailto:shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us)

### FACEBOOK

“Like” us on Facebook at Sherman County Public/School Library.

## ED’S ANECDOTES

August 27, 2020 #8

My love for ship travel got me searching every summer in magazines like National Geographic. I would plan my vacations and “book” on to various vessels. One such voyage to Europe was aboard the German ship MS Seven Seas. The “Seven Seas” was a school ship at this time so the passage from New York to Le Havre, France was affordable to me. I made my way to the ship terminals in New York and like others was full of great expectations for my cruise to Europe.

When I got aboard ship the cabin was assigned to me with three other passengers. They were all quite friendly with stories about the MS Seven Seas. It was such a fine looking vessel and the first night in the dining room was a sample of how well the dining

would be for seven lovely days at sea. The crew aboard the “Seven Seas” were very accommodating with our needs which made every day on board very pleasant.

One evening we had a crew member tell us about the ship and its captain. It wasn’t long after World War II so my thoughts shifted when the man talking told us the captain had been a U Boat commander during the World War II years for Germany. After further researching the MS Seven Seas and its incredible history I learned that our ship was then owned by the United States government and during that war it was an aircraft carrier. It was the first ever escort carrier in our navy. Along with 16 planes on the hanger deck and 46 planes on the flight deck it went on to be awarded a battle star for its presence in Guadalcanal. She was named the USS Long Island.

## Resident Incentive Applications

To receive your 2021 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, 2021.

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.

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*Senior and Community Center*

If you would like to be added to our menu email list please email us at [ka-ri@shermancounty.net](mailto:ka-ri@shermancounty.net) and we will get you added to our list. Thanks and we hope to see you all soon!

## The Judges Corner

I was lucky the other day and got to have my 3 year old granddaughter ride with me in the combine as I was harvesting wheat near our home. After she went through my lunch box, eating the strawberries I hadn't gotten around to, she was a non-stop chatter box. "what is this"? "What does it do"? "Why"? "Grandpa, look the wheat is coming in". Then she looked out the front window, seeing I was driving towards a fairly steep hill, grabbed the door handle with both hands and said, "Grandpa, hang on"! I realized I feel that way every time I think about the past year or when I look at the news. Sadly my daughter came out and got my granddaughter a short time later. I know I am so lucky to have these moments nearly every day.

On the subject of luck—20 COVID-19 vaccinated Sherman County residents recently won \$2,700 each—18 cash prizes and 2 scholarships. This money was from Federal COVID-19 dollars that the State of Oregon awarded to each county and had to be used for vaccination incentives. The Sherman County Court chose to get this money in to the hands of our citizens. The second half of these funds will be raffled off at the Sherman County Fair in the form of \$500 pre-paid Visa cards and a grand prize of a Polaris Utility Vehicle. Be sure to sign up at the County Court's Office Monday-Thursday or at the fair, prior to the drawing if you are vaccinated. I hope to see you at the fair.

If you notice such things, you will notice county vehicles now have a Sherman County decal on their sides.

Recently, Sherman County has sold the land across from the TA Express truck stop in Biggs Junction. The contract to build the new water system in Biggs was awarded to Crestline Construction.

Dan Son, the Program Coordinator for the Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Program has taken a job with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). Dan has done an outstanding job controlling noxious weeds and will be missed. Good luck Dan! What a great opportunity.

Back to luck—Sherman County is lucky to have Heroes living amongst us. Recently an MCP fuel truck had vapors explode into flames. The operator was engulfed. Charlie Miller rushed to his side, dragged him to safety, helped put the flames out, and then the both of them ran back to the burning truck and managed to close the valves—extinguishing the fire. This took place at the fuel depot near the elevator in Wasco Who knows how much damage would have been done with out the heroic actions of these two. Thank you Charlie and Brett. Not many people would run towards a burning fuel truck.

"You got to try your luck at least once a day, you could be going around lucky all day and not even know it  
—Jimmy Dean

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>

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday  
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

**The Dalles Disposal**  
1317 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street -The Dalles, 97058  
(541) 298-5149

### Self-Haul Recycling Depot Schedule:

- Moro 9 am - 4:30 pm: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday & Saturday
- Wasco 9 am - 4:30 pm: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday & Saturday
- Rufus 9 am - 4:30 pm: 4<sup>th</sup> Friday & Saturday
- Grass Valley 1-3 pm: Monday & Tuesday weekly