

# The Citizen-Reporter



## SHERMAN COUNTY

A Sherman County Government Publication — December 2021

### Senior Citizen Donations Wanted

On December 20<sup>th</sup> we will be distributing winter bags to Senior Citizens of Sherman County.

You can help us fill these bags by dropping off donations to Dana at the Emergency Management Services building in Moro or County Court Office at the Courthouse. We are looking to fill 28 bags. Donations will be accepted until December 17<sup>th</sup>. Suggested items are: toilet paper, Kleenex, hand soap, dish soap, lotion, bathroom spray, candles, flashlights, blankets, foil, kitchen sponges, lotion, Chap Stick, games, books, holiday decorations, tea, snacks and candy. You can also write cards to the seniors and we will add them to the bags.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the April and August Senior bags and/or sponsored an ambulance membership. We appreciate your generosity.

### Sherman County Education Foundation

To date (November 2021) your generous donations and support have funded 24 projects totaling more than \$18,500. Over 250 students and community members have benefitted from your help. Our endowment fund now stands at \$5,500. You have helped to provide: Music instruments; art supplies; start-up costs for Sherman Kids Zone; Computer software for science; camcorder and green screen; kiln, clay and glazes; STEM and science books; weather measuring equipment; field trips; polymer clay for arts and crafts; P.E. equipment; Great Courses DVD Collection.

While our school is excellent, with your help, we are providing experiences and opportunities above and beyond.

You have been wonderful supporters for our mission to enrich education for Sherman County kids and the community.

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### December Pesticide Classes

OSU Extension is offering free in person pesticide credit opportunities with 2 ODA CORE pesticide credits anticipated. On December 14<sup>th</sup> the course will be at the Sherman County Extension Conference Room in Moro and on the 16<sup>th</sup> it will be in The Dalles at the Columbia Gorge Community College, Building 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor lecture hall. Same agenda at both locations:

1-1:50: Integrated Pest Management with Plant Growth Regulators in Crops and Range 2:00—2:50: Reducing Pesticide Drift and Personal Safety

Email [jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu) if you have any questions or concerns with this training. Per state guidelines, masks and social distancing will be required and enforced for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status. Please register here: <https://beav.es/UBr> or call 541-298-3581. You can also scan this QR code:



# Last Call for OSU Extension Service General Ag Feedback

This is the last request for producer and stakeholder input on the needs of agriculture in Sherman County to ensure extension is meeting the needs of the local community. This anonymous survey will only take a minute of your time. Link: <https://beav.es/UoP> or scan the QR code to the right with your phone:



There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind.—C.S. Lewis

# Farm First Aid Class

OSU Extension Service is putting on a farm first aid training tentatively planned for Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Columbia Gorge Community College, Building 2, 3rd floor lecture hall, from 1-3 pm. The focus of this training is to provide more agriculture specific first aid training than typical generic first aid classes or CPR. Please RSVP preferably here: <https://beav.es/UaL> or call 541-298-3581 Email [ja-cob.powell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:ja-cob.powell@oregonstate.edu) with any questions. You can also scan this QR code:



# Wasco Event Center News

Halloween weekend at WSEC was a busy one. The annual hazardous waste collection was held in the parking lot, with a semi-load of items collected. Pickleball players sponsored a tournament and raised \$600 that will be donated to the family of a student at Sherman County School with a medical condition that will require surgery. Gena Arthur and Bill Holland were the winners of the tournament. Our second annual Trunk or Treat had 15 vehicles participating, with many families showing up for the occasion. During this event, the Leaps and Beats Dance Studio students performed a dance in the parking lot to the song “Thriller.”

Our city library volunteers have been busy ordering and shelving new books. If there’s something you’d like to read but we don’t have, leave a note in the library with book title and author, and they’ll see if they can order it. There is also a large number of

jigsaw puzzles for you to borrow or work on in the library. Stop by to check out a book or two to keep you busy during these dark, wet, and cold autumn evenings. Library hours are the same as our business hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Our stage floor will be repaired and refinished this January. This project is made possible, in part, with funding from the Sherman County Cultural Coalition.

Happy holidays to all, and thank you for your support throughout the year.

# Happy Holidays!

Be thankful for what you have; you’ll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never, ever have enough.—Oprah Winfrey

Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.—Kahlil Gibran



## Sherman County Public/School Library

### WINTER HOURS

Monday and Friday 2:00pm—4:00pm  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 2:00pm—7:00pm  
 Saturday 10:00am—4:00pm  
 Curbside pickup during open hours and beginning at 10:30 Monday-Friday

### WINTER BREAK HOURS (Dec. 20-Jan. 2)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11-7  
 Closed Christmas and New Years

### PICK UP AND DELIVERY

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

### DECORATE THE MITTEN TREE

Bring your donations of gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves to decorate the Mitten Tree. Community, school staff, and students are encouraged to adorn the branches with warmth. We are also requesting warm throws and blankets to place under the tree. The mitten tree will be up through the end of December and all donated items will be given to our local food bank and other agencies which serve Sherman County.

### LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

#### JANUARY 6 6:00PM

Join us for tea, dessert, and book discussion. January's book is *Meet Me at the Museum* by Anne Youngson.

### FACEBOOK

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

**Phone:**  
541-565-3279

**Address:**  
65912 High School Loop  
Moro, Oregon, 97039

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

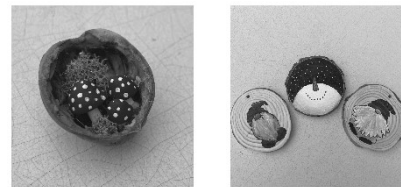
**Email:**  
[shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us](mailto:shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us)

### HANDMADE FROM THE HEART—MAKE IT, GIFT IT

All crafts are fully customizable. All ages welcome. Classes are on Saturdays at 4:00.  
 December 11—Metal stamp jewelry and leather stamp keychain



December 18—Mini mushroom ornaments and painted wood ornaments



There is no need to sign up ahead of time; appointments can be made to make a craft after the scheduled classes.

### NEW NON-FICTION

*No Cure For Being Human* by Kate Bowler  
*The Book of Hope* by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams  
*Music is History* by Questlove with Ben Greenman  
*A Hunter-Gatherer's Guide to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Heather Heying  
*This Is Your Mind On Plants* by Michael Pollan  
*Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson  
*Where Tomorrows Aren't Promised* by Carmelo Anthony

### NEW FICTION

*Poland* by James A. Michener  
*Game On* by Janet Evanovich  
*In Plain Sight* by C.J. Box  
*Long Range* by C.J. Box  
*Just Haven't Met You Yet* by Sophie Cousens  
*Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead  
*Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler  
*A Kingdom of Flesh and Fire* by Jennifer Armentrout

## Sherman County Board of Property Tax Appeals Notice of Session

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 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, 2021, 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: [kristiw@co.sherman.or.us](mailto:kristiw@co.sherman.or.us)

**Hand-delivered petitions** must be delivered to the clerk's office by 5:00pm January 3, 2022.

**Mailed petitions** must be postmarked on or before January 3, 2022.

**Faxed or electronically filed petitions** must be received by midnight Pacific Standard Time January 3, 2022 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, and online on the Sherman County Clerk's webpage, Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) tab.

If you have requested to be present at the hearing, you will be notified of the date, and time. You may attend the hearing in person, or virtually. 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 Weis 541-565-3606.

## Trees can be fire hazards

Fresh cut trees look and smell great, but they can also be a fire hazard. Ensure your tree brings joy instead of disaster to your home.

- ◆ Water the tree daily
- ◆ Place it three feet away from any heat source
- ◆ Don't use light strands with frayed, pinched wires or loose bulbs

*Continued from Page 1...*

*Sherman County Education Foundation*

You can continue to help by donating to the Sherman County Education Foundation, by volunteering your time, or by gifting toward our endowment fund. If you have questions, please call Gary at 541-993-5164 or find us online at [www.wesupportshermaneducation.org](http://www.wesupportshermaneducation.org)

## Sherman County Community Transportation

Public Transit Driver: Sherman County Community Transportation is accepting applications for paid driver positions. Applicant must be comfortable driving in populated areas and in adverse weather and road conditions. Position may require applicant to physically assist passengers in addition to mobility devices i.e. walkers, wheel chairs, scooters.

### Applicant Requirements:

Part-Time, flexible hours dependent on transportation needs

Minimum 21 years of age with a valid Oregon or Washington Driver's License

Pass a Background Check (criminal history and driving record), pre-employment drug screen

Required training provided upon hiring including Passenger Assistance, Defensive Driving, and CPR

Starting wage: \$12.54/hour

Sherman County Community Transportation provides rides for non-emergency medical appointments to The Dalles, Portland, Bend and surrounding areas. Applications may be obtained at the Sherman County Courthouse from the Transportation office, located at 500 Court St, Moro, OR. Sherman County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For more information, please contact the transportation office at 541-565-3553. Position open until filled .

## 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](http://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](mailto:emergencyserv@embarqmail.com).

## Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling

We are the Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program based out of The Dalles. We serve Sherman, Wasco, and Hood River Counties, with a mission of providing hazardous waste collection and recycling education and outreach. We accomplish this by holding twenty free hazardous waste collection events for households, small businesses and Agricultural Producers each year. Many of you may have attended our events in Wasco and Moro! Over the years, we have been able to take over two million pounds of hazardous waste out of the waste stream (with much thanks to our local partners and you)! In addition to collecting hazardous waste, we help provide solutions for unwanted paint, batteries, medicines and electronics too. We also work to help our community understand the complexities of recycling in our service areas. Thank you for your continued participation. For more information, please check out our website or contact us:

[www.tricountyrecycle.com](http://www.tricountyrecycle.com) , (541)-506-2636, [davids@co.wasco.or.us](mailto:davids@co.wasco.or.us)



# 2021 Fall Grant Awards

Fall grant awards for 2021 have been announced by the Sherman County Cultural Coalition (SCCC) committing \$11,815.00 to projects that strengthen existing cultural resources or engage the community in the arts, heritage or humanities in Sherman County.

Nine 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*; City of Rufus – *Community Center Roof Repairs*; Condon Chamber of Commerce – *Sherman County Harvest Celebration*; Leaps and Beats Dance Studio – *Awards/Hair & Make-up*; Rufus Food Pantry – *Plumbing Repairs*; Sherman County Booster Club – *New Year Celebrations*; Sherman County Public/School Library – *Handmade From the Heart*; Sherman County School – *Artist in Residence*; Wasco School Events Center – *Stage Floor Restoration*.

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 2022.

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/> to learn how you can get involved and qualify for the tax credit.

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

## Happy Holidays from County Court!

Judge Dabulskis,  
Commissioner Bird,  
and  
Commissioner Miller



Above: Commissioner Miller, Judge Dabulskis and Commissioner Bird at the Natural Gas Station east of Kent.

Below: Commissioner Bird at the Natural Gas Station east of Kent.



## The Judges Corner

This morning the county court did something we nor any other court has done; we took a tour of the Natural Gas Station in the extreme south end of our county east of Kent. The facility is owned by TC Energy and is a natural gas cleaning and compression station which pressurizes the gas in the pipe line as it travels down the line towards California. In the nearly 30 years that I have been a Sherman County resident, I have never heard a single complaint about the plant. That is what I call being a good neighbor.

Speaking of neighbors – last month a neighbor’s teenage student and sibling were in a car accident on Highway 97 because of the weather. It was a miracle nobody was injured. Just thinking about it makes me sick to my stomach, so “PLEASE” everyone drive carefully and safely! Take a little extra time, be extra careful, especially in the winter holiday season.

Sherman County will have a new face around the courthouse. Deanna Christianson was hired as our Prevention Coordinator. Thank you to all who applied for the position. It was one of the most talented pool of applicants I have seen. Welcome Deanna.

Tyler Holeman will be moving from a temporary seasonal employee of the weed department to the full time position of Lower Deschutes Weed Management Coordinator. Tyler has been filling in as the coordinator for the past few months when the previous coordinator moved on. Good Luck Tyler.

This past month I was fortunate to be able to show off Sherman County by giving tours to Senator Hansell, Dawson Quinton from Representative Greg Smith’s team and Dan Mahr from U.S. Senator Merkley’s office. Days that I am out and about in Sherman County and not in the office are the best. Next week I will be giving a tour to Kathleen Cathy from U.S. Senator Wyden’s office.

Every year in November, the Association of Oregon County’s puts on an event called the “Taste of Oregon”, at its annual conference. Each county show cases food products that can be bought commercially within their county. This year the cinnamon rolls from Frosty’s, chocolates from Pimberton St. Chocolates, and the Oreo truffles from the Sherman County Senior Center were big hits.

Back to neighbors: Tom McCoy, longtime county resident and former Sherman County Commissioner is back in the neighborhood. Both Sherman County and Wasco County have reached out to Tom and requested that he be on various boards and committees. Thankfully he has agreed to some of these requests. It is good to have him back in the neighborhood!

Another great thing I get to do as judge is to occasionally officiate a wedding. When asked to perform a marriage ceremony of neighbors and friends – that is a great day!

This is the time of year when many farmers and ranchers spend their days in the shop repairing equipment. With this in mind, I wanted to let them know I learned recently that 27 states have started looking at “Right to Repair” legislation. This means that companies with software blocks that limit who can repair some equipment will no longer be able to do so if this type of legislation passes.

The topic of repairing makes this quote appropriate – “One only needs two tools in life: WD40 to make things go, and duct tape to make them stop.” G. Weilacher

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