

The Citizen-Reporter



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

A Sherman County Government Publication — June 2022

Congrats to Tom McCoy - Diamond Pioneer Award Recipient!

Tom McCoy has dedicated most of his life to Sherman County and improving the production and economics of wheat in the state of Oregon. He has lived in Sherman County since 1975. Tom was recently awarded the Diamond Pioneer Award in honor of the work he has done for the county and wheat producers. The Diamond Pioneer Award recognizes individuals who have contributed a lifetime of involvement in the development of Oregon's agriculture and natural resources. Rather than short-term public service, this award reflects a lifetime of involvement, which Tom has certainly done. In 2013, Tom was also inducted into the OSU College of Ag Sciences Hall of Fame for his work with wheat production and economics in Oregon and Sherman County.

He has served in various leadership

Congratulations Class of 2022

Congratulations to the Sherman County Class of 2022:

- ◇ Isaac Aldrich
- ◇ Aurora Baker
- ◇ Koby Berry
- ◇ Rose Couch
- ◇ Alyssa Cunningham
- ◇ Cali Johnson
- ◇ Allie Marker
- ◇ Austin Olson
- ◇ Melanie Ponke
- ◇ Joseph Ramos
- ◇ Nathan Riggs
- ◇ Emma Robbins
- ◇ David Romero
- ◇ Dillan Stanfield

We wish all of the graduates good luck and great success in all their future endeavors.

Resident Incentive Program Applications Available Soon

Applications for the 2022 Resident Incentive Program will be mailed out during the week of June 7th. This year will mark the 14th year since the program was first introduced in 2009. Qualifying applicants must live in Sherman County at least one year prior to the application due date of August 31, 2022 and must still be residents in December, 2022 when checks are usually mailed out.

Applications are sent to all addresses currently registered with Sherman County post offices. Information about the program and the application can also be found on Sherman County's website at www.co.sherman.or.us or by calling the Financial Services Office located in the Courthouse at 500 Court Street in Moro: 541-565-3623.

Continued on Page 3 ...

A Look at the Value Provided by Sherman County Justice Court

Sherman County will have a new Justice of the Peace on August 1st and the announcement and introduction of my successor will likely take place relatively soon. There will be considerable information to be shared during the transition and as I have previously stated I am looking forward to working with my successor to make the transition as successful as possible. There have been conversations during the past few weeks regarding the specific role that Sherman County Justice Court plays in the enforcement of laws and resolution of conflict in Sherman County, and I appreciate the opportunity to address this subject with the residents of our county through the perspective of my nearly 21 years in the office of Justice of the Peace.

Sherman County Justice Court is a limited jurisdiction state court established under Article VII, Section 1 of the Oregon Constitution. There has been at least one justice court in Sherman County at all times since the county was formed in 1889. The role of justice courts in Sherman County has understandably evolved over the past 133 years, but for the last 20-plus years the court has primarily dealt with traffic violations along with fish and wildlife, marine, and numerous miscellaneous violations. The court also handles small claims filings and evictions. With these

cases adjudicated by our local justice court, Sherman County Circuit Court is able to concentrate on criminal and civil matters that are well suited for a court of record.

Justice Courts have sometimes been described as “courts of first impression,” and “courts of common sense.” These distinctions are not intended to disrespect other courts but they tend to be based on the likelihood that dispensation of justice will take into consideration local perspectives and concerns and will often involve direct interaction with the adjudicator.

For many years, Sherman County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicles carried the slogan “Enforcement through Education” on their exterior. The process that begins with the issuance of a citation can be effectively completed through adjudication in Sherman County Justice Court. The court is able to provide a level of direct education during the initial court appearance that is not available otherwise and often includes specific attention to the serious concerns of Sherman County residents, whether they involve hazards related to driving in the cities of Sherman County at high rates of speed, the proliferation of 100 MPH plus speeding on Interstate 84 and Highway 97 in Sherman County, or fish and wildlife violations that disrespect the natural resources of our county. All interactions are conducted with an emphasis on respect for both the process and the persons with whom the court interacts, and are consistent with Sherman County's core values.

As I prepare to leave office, I take considerable pride in having been part of a team effort that has worked to provide accountability, education, and service regarding the many important issues that come before the court. It is critical that this cooperative effort is continued far into the future, for the benefit of all. Thanks for the opportunity to have served Sherman County!

Submitted by Ron McDermid, Sherman County Justice of the Peace

OSU Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Station (CBARC) Field Tours in Moro and Pendleton

On Tuesday, June 14th the Pendleton Station will hold the OSU/ARS Ag Research Round-Up starting at 7:45.

Wednesday, June 15th, 7:45 am is the Sherman Station Field Day in Moro, OR. Coffee, donuts, drinks and lunch will be provided at both events, thanks to our incredible sponsors (MCP, Wheatland Insurance, JTI, OWGL, Northwest Grain Growers). Please see the website: <https://beav.es/iSy> for more details and to register to attend either or both events. There will also be a South Sherman Wheat Variety Tour starting at 3:30 (till 5 pm) following the Sherman Station Field Day near Kent on Finnegan Rd (45.1965, -120.7162).

2022 Spring Grant Awards Announced by Cultural Coalition

Spring grant awards for 2022 have been announced by the Sherman County Cultural Coalition (SCCC) committing \$5,195.00 to projects that strengthen existing cultural resources or engage the community in the arts, heritage or humanities in Sherman County.

Four project applications met the goals and priorities established by the Coalition in the Sherman County Cultural Plan. Successful applicants and projects are as follows: Sherman County 4-H Association – *Traveling Artist Enrichment Camp*; Sherman County Garden Club – *Fund Four Lunch Gatherings*; Sherman Kids Zone – *Kids Zone Events*; West Family Homestead – *Pottery Class*.

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

4-H/FFA Clothing Exchange

Sherman County folks with current or former 4-H or FFA members who have shown animals at the fair in recent year- Have some show clothing stored at home that your kids already out-grew or previously wore for fair? Come and swap with us. The Sherman County 4-H leaders are putting on an ongoing clothing exchange to help keep costs down for participating families.

Please bring any gently used, no-longer-needed, clean show clothing items to donate or exchange to the Sherman County Extension Office, 66365 Lonerock Rd, Moro. These items could include long-sleeved shirts, jeans, belts, and western boots. This is an opportunity to follow the 4-H motto of “to make the best better” so stop by and participate. Any questions, contact Office Manager Christian Ayles at 541-565-3230.

Sherman County 3rd Grade Art Exhibit

June 6-30; 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday;
Commissioner’s Meeting Room
(2nd Floor) in Courthouse.
500 Court Street,
Moro, OR 97039.

Congrats to Tom McCoy *Continued From Page 1 ...*

roles within Sherman County as a County Commissioner (2013-2020), Sherman County Library Board member, and on the Sherman High School Board of Directors from 1989-1992 (Chairman in 1992). He was also involved with the Sherman Cooperative Grain Growers board from 1976-1987 and was the President from 1984-1987. In 2002 Tom wrote a pertinent economic article, “The Effect of the Farm Crisis on Oregon Wheat Growers - A Case Study of a Representative Farm in Sherman County.” This article examined how serious the agricultural depression was having on the economics behind producing wheat in Sherman County and across the state of Oregon (might be worth looking at considering current inflating input prices) - read it here: <https://beav.es/iGP> He also provided the State of Oregon with his economic expertise on the Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors from 1991-2000. His economic expertise comes from his PhD in economics from Stanford and a Masters from Harvard. He has also served on the Oregon Wheat Commission (Chairman in 2011), the Oregon Wheat Growers League (Chairman in 2001), and on the National Association of Wheat Growers board from 2001-2002. Tom continues to be involved in the Sherman County community and provide his insights into the economics of producing and marketing wheat. Thank you Tom!

PRE K—12th Grade **OPEN GYM**

- Wasco Event Center Gym
- Age Groups
 - ◇ Preschool—4th: 12-1:00
 - ◇ 5th—12th: 1:00-2:00
- SC Prevention, SC Wellness Center, and local athlete mentoring
- Parents must remain on site
- Gym appropriate shoes and water bottles required

Open Gym Summer Schedule: June 25, July 16, and August 20.

Contact: shermanwellnesscenter@gmail.com
deannac@co.sherman.or.us

OYC Summer News

Be on the lookout for more news regarding summer job opportunities with OYC, and a summer calendar outlining all of the wonderful summer activities and opportunities.



Public Health Corner

North Central Public Health District offers a variety of services to Sherman County residents!

Environmental Health Program

Environmental Public Health works to identify, assess and report on threats to human health from exposure to environmental and occupational hazards, and advise Oregon communities on potential risks where they live, work, play and learn.

Food Safety: Licensing facility permits, provide inspections and address compliance issues. Sites include restaurants, cafeterias, mobile food units and events. Staff can also provide education on food safety and food safety regulations.

Foodborne Illness Prevention Program: Works in partnership with the food service industry and the public to reduce or eliminate the known causes of foodborne illness. The program provides technical assistance, training and education, works to ensure compliance, supports the statewide licensing and inspection schedule, and supports the Food Handler Card program.

Public Pool and Tourist Facility Program: Works in partnership with the recreation and tourist industry and the public to reduce the risk of waterborne illness, injury, and sanitation issues at public facilities.

Public Water Systems: Site inspections & water quality monitoring, ensuring a safe & reliable public drinking water supply.

Safe Drinking Water Program: Administers and enforces drinking water quality standards for public water systems. Emphasizes prevention of contamination through inspections, technical assistance to water systems, and responding to containment alerts.

On-Site Wastewater: Regulation and inspection of new on-site sewage management systems, education on maintaining safe & healthy on-site systems, and septic system records available by request.

NCPHD regulates the installation, repair, and maintenance of septic systems on homes and businesses not served by community sewer systems. Onsite wastewater treatment systems must be designed, installed and maintained to protect the groundwater aquifer and surface waters from contamination; and promotes public health by properly disposing of disease causing waste water.

For more information or to sign up for these services call NCPHD at 541-506-2600 or visit www.ncphd.org

Sherman County Harvest Festival

The First Annual Sherman County Harvest Festival will be Saturday, June 18th in Moro, Oregon from 4-10 p.m.

There will be children/family activities from 4-7 p.m., an Artisan Market from 4-7 p.m., live music by Countryfied from 6-10 p.m.

Fun for the whole family! Food and drink, local vendors and a wheat tribute! There will also be museum tours.

This event is sponsored by Oregon Frontier Chamber of Commerce, Sherman County Cultural Coalition and Sherman County Court.



Wasco School Events Center News

Your donations to the Events Center go towards funding special projects here, so our apologies to the following people who made donations in response to our fund raising brochures that were sent out last November and whose names were not included in the January Sherman County Reporter: Pat and Debbie Bird, Ernie Moore, Marty and Molly Belshe, and Millie Moore. In addition, thanks to Mortensen Construction for more donations of miscellaneous office equipment. Thanks, too,

for the \$330 donation from the Sherman PTO, Sherman School Boosters, and Sherman County Prevention for being able to use both the auditorium and gym for the Missoula Children's Theatre. Sherman County Prevention Coordinator, Deanna Christiansen, has been using the gym every other Saturday to involve PreK – 12th grade students in a variety of physical activities, and the Sherman High junior class hosted this year's prom in the auditorium. With the improvements that have been made, our auditorium is proving to be a popular venue for events.

The WSEC Board of Directors will have an opening beginning July 1. Board members serve a three-year term. They attend our monthly meetings, assist with fund raisers, help write grants, and perform other volunteer duties that fit their interests. If you would like to be considered for a three-year term, please send us an e-mail (wascoschoolec@gmail.com) or a letter (Box 413, Wasco, 97065) before June 8 stating your interest in serving. We will choose the new Board member at our June meeting.

Special recognition goes to the following people who have been instrumental in their support of WSEC:

CAROL OLMSTEAD: Carol attended grade school and high school at Wasco, and when the city acquired the school from the County in 2017, she was the one who got citizens motivated to save the school and create something our community could be proud of (even going so far as threatening to chain herself to the pillars out front if anyone

attempted to tear the building down). She was one of our original Board members, and many of the photos you see in the hallways were donated by Carol. She retired from our Board a few years ago. She and her family have recently moved from Wasco.

LINDA BIRD: In 2020, when the Events Center Board had to eliminate the Business Manager position due to decreased revenue brought on by Covid, Linda stepped up to the plate and took over managing the office. When the City told us that they wanted all of our financial information put on QuickBooks, Linda volunteered to take on this monumental task. She worked over a hundred hours for free until we finally hired her as a contract employee. She is stepping down (from the job, but still plans to volunteer), and we now have Ian Melzer managing the business side of the Events Center. Thank you, Linda, for your dedication to the Events Center.

And next time you visit the Events Center, please notice the American flag that now flies from the flag pole in our front lawn. Ian Melzer was instrumental in getting the rope fixed, the flag ordered, and flying proudly in time for Memorial Day.

As always, if you're interested in renting a classroom for a business or a one-time meeting, scheduling an event in our auditorium, or joining the Fitness Center, contact us at 541-993-6838 or wascoschoolec@gmail.com, and like us on Facebook at Wasco School.

Public/School Library Updates

541-565-3279

shermanlibrary@sherman.k12.or.us

ShermanCountyPSL.weebly.com/

SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday 10:00am-6:00pm
 Thursday 10:00am-6:00pm
 Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm
 Curbside pickup available

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.

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB—July 7 6:00pm

Join us for tea, dessert, and book discussion. July’s book is *Midnight at the Blackbird Café* by Heather Webber.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM--READ BEYOND THE BEATEN PATH

Age Groups: 0-6, 7-10, 11-17
 June 16 10:30am (Thursday) Traveling Lantern Theatre presents: *Camp Ocean*
 June 28 11:00am (Tuesday) Dive Into Reading
 July 19 11:00am (Tuesday) Grow Into Reading
 July 26 11:00am (Tuesday) Going on a Bear Hunt
 August 2 11:00am (Tuesday) Blanket Fort Library

NEW MOVIES

The Croods A New Age
Scooby-Doo! The Sword and the Scoob
The Batman
Sing 2
Encanto

NEW NON-FICTION

A Train Near Magdeburg Matthew A. Rozell
How to Keep House While Drowning K.C. Davis
Killing the Killers Bill O’Reilly
PlantYou Carleigh Bodrug

NEW FICTION

Bravely Maggie Stiefvater
Remarkably Bright Creatures Selby Van Pelt
A Magic Steeped in Poison Judy I. Lin
The Candy House Jennifer Egan
A Sunlit Weapon Jacqueline Winspear
The Diamond Eye Kate Quinn
Lessons in Chemistry Bonnie Garmus

DISCOVERY KITS

Come in and check out buckets that contain “Early Learning Kits” for teachers, parents, and caregivers of children. They include read-aloud books, books for emergent readers, video, and hands-on materials for young ones to enjoy. Teacher guides and early learning tip sheets are included.4

Sherman Extension Offers Summer Day Camps

Sign your kids up for one or several of the free summer day camps offered by OSU Sherman County Extension. Call the office at 541-565-3230 to reserve a spot or ask questions. Note age ranges and group limits.

Outdoor Cooking Workshop at Deschutes State Park, Friday June 10 9am to noon for kids 8+, limit 20 kids.

Kids Food Preservation Workshop at Extension Office Monday June 27 through Wednesday June 29 9am to noon for kids 8+, limit 10 kids. We will be using the “Put It Up” kids food preservation curriculum.

Many other day camps available. Please call for info.

TRI-COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE

Have you ever wondered what can be recycled? If a certain item or material is hazardous waste? Where to take a certain item for recycling or disposal? Or when the next hazardous waste event is? Well, we have some exciting news to share with you—look no further! On our website’s homepage, www.tricountyrecycle.com, you will find the new Waste Wizard search engine and Events Calendar. The Waste Wizard allows you to search an item or material based on which county you are located in and gives you answers within that region; and the Events Calendar has our hazardous waste collection schedule, where you can get email or phone reminders for the events. We’re pretty excited about this new feature on our website, so take a look and let us know what you think!



The Judges Corner



The weather was a factor this year during the catfish derby held over Memorial Day weekend in Rufus. The derby that is put on by The Gorge Outfitters and Wendy H, was a huge success. The heaviest fish weighed 19.5 LBS, the longest fish caught was 29 15/16th inches long. The best fish story is that a young lady who is a straight A student in grade school won a lap top computer with the longest kid's fish at 25 inches. Any parent who takes the time to take kids fishing, deserves a hero award in my book. Then when evening came, some of Sherman County's finest preformed. We know them as "Countryfied"

The Memorial Day Celebration and Parade in Wasco always makes numerous chills travel up my spine. From the fly over of the jets, to the giant flag rippling in the breeze as it comes down the street, the feeling of gratitude and pride I get for all the veterans and people who have made this country the great country it is, is something I can't put into words. The only thing I can do, is to humbly say, "THANK YOU"!

The weather that hampered the fisherman in Rufus has been a boon to the farmers. We have had a great month of May on the wheat side of Sherman County. Should be a good test of the new grain facility being built just north of Wasco. Truck routes and traffic patterns will be different, please be alert and careful during the harvest season. Those loaded trucks can't stop on a dime and have less visibility.

Traffic on Meddle Lane will soon have a smoother ride. The lane is currently having the "earth binding" process applied by the Sherman County Road Department. Please stay off that road as the road crew has a couple more weeks of work there before the road is ready for traffic.

The East end of Starvation Lane at the John Day River has a new parking lot approximately 200' X 85'. Later this summer the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept. is planning to build the long awaited new boat ramp as part of the same project.

The County Court house has a different feel this week because we said good-bye to Rita in the finance office at the end of May. Rita will be missed by all of us. Sitting at her place is Verna. Good Luck to both of you, Rita and Verna. Rita, I will miss the fresh flowers, Verna, I enjoy the "Smarties".

This time of the year I must say "Thank You", to everyone who volunteered or was volunteered into being on a budget committee. NORCOR, FTN, 911, Sherman County, MCCFL are just naming a few of the many entities that depend on these volunteers to help make decisions that sometimes can be difficult and/or time consuming. Thanks again for your time and especially the questions. Those questions really make us think of why we should do some of the things we do.

For the month of June, art created by Mrs. Mobley's 3rd grade class is on display in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, upstairs in the courthouse. This art show was created as result from letters received from 3rd graders, Luke H. and Aiden D. Come view some delightful pieces during hours the courthouse is open.

While you are in the courthouse feel free to stop in and say hi, my door is always open.

I was doing an evaluation of an executive director as part of a board I am on. As I read an employee's self-evaluation, a statement she wrote was so good that I wrote it down and I keep a copy of it on my desk, repeatedly sharing it when I can. It states, "I recognize that it is my responsibility if staff do work that is not up to par", Jessica Metta.

Judge Joe Dabulskis



SHERMAN

COUNTY



June

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.
- Plastic bags

First Sort: Commingled:

- PAPER - white and colored paper (staples OK), newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, phone books, paperback books, spiral-bound notebooks, cereal & cracker style boxes (liner removed), cardboard tubes, paper bags, egg cartons, milk cartons & juice boxes.
- PLASTIC - plastic bottles, #1 & #2 with a neck. Examples; beverages, milk jugs, shampoo, detergent, cleaners (rinse & remove caps)
- 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. No larger than 2' x 2' square

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