

# The Citizen-Reporter



## SHERMAN COUNTY

A Sherman County Government Publication — February 2023

### Grass Valley Business Secures Grant for EV Charging

Congratulations to the Grass Valley County Market on their successful application to Pacific Power for an electric mobility grant! The grant will support the design and installation of a Level 2 electric vehicle charging station at the Market. Staff from the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District worked with the owners of the Market, Roger and Bonne Whitely, to submit an application and will continue to support the project as it proceeds through design and construction. The project provides an opportunity to highlight the benefits of electric vehicles (EVs), support more widespread adoption, and draw travelers to local businesses and attractions. This project is possible with support from the Oregon Clean Fuels Program and Pacific Power. Funding for this

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### 2023 Sherman County Fair—Hold On to Your Hat!

The Sherman County Fair Board would like to thank everyone for attending the 2022 Sherman County Fair and making it a success. Some of you may have seen the continuous changes to the new Event building at the fairgrounds. The building is looking great, and we are still on target for unveiling it for the 2023 Sherman County Fair.

We are in the middle of planning our 2023 fair and are actively seeking volunteers for Open Class and kids' activities; this is also a great opportunity for students that are looking for community service hours.

If you are looking for ways to make money for your nonprofit group or organization, we would love to have your groups sign up to work shifts either in the concession booth or the fair

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### CAPECO Update

Phillip Muir with Capeco (Central Action Program East Central Oregon) is coming to the senior center the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11am for targeted options counseling.

Phillip brings brochures and educational materials to educate local seniors on all the programs that are available to them. Their goal is to connect seniors with services and resources available in the area. Stop by to meet Phillip and learn all about Capeco's programs, and feel free to stay for lunch at 12pm.

### Senior Center Lunches

Don't forget the Sherman County Senior Center offers to go lunches for people of all ages. Just call 541-565-3191 and leave a message by 10:30am with your name and the number of lunches you'd like to order. The to go lunches are placed on the table in our lobby at 12pm each day. Lunch is \$5 for those over 60 and \$8 for those under 60.

# Notice of Election of District Board Members

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023** an election will be held in Sherman County, Oregon for the purpose of electing board members to fill the following positions and terms, including any vacancy which may exist on the boards of the following districts:

**KENT WATER DISTRICT:**

- Position 2 – 2 Year Term
- Position 3 – 4 Year Term
- Position 5 – 4 Year Term

**MORO RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 4 – 4 Year Term

**NORTH CENTRAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT:**

- Zone 3 (Rufus & Wasco) – 4 Year Term

**NORTH SHERMAN COUNTY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

- Position 2 – 4 Year Term
- Position 3 – 4 Year Term

**SHERMAN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT:**

- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term

**SHERMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 2 Year Term
- Position 5 – 4 Year Term

**SOUTH SHERMAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

- Position 1 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term
- Position 2 – 4 Year Term

This election will be conducted by mail. Each candidate for an office listed above must file a **Declaration of Candidacy form (SEL 190)** including a \$10 filing fee, or file a **Declaration of Candidacy form, Candidate Signature Sheet(s) Nonpartisan (SEL 121)** with signatures of eligible Sherman County voters, and a **Petition Submission form (SEL 338)** at the Sherman County Clerk’s Office no earlier than February 4, 2023 and no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 16, 2023**. Any updates to vacant special district positions can be found by visiting the Sherman County Clerk’s page

<https://www.co.sherman.or.us>.

The last day to register to vote in this election is April 26<sup>th</sup>. If you need to register to vote, or update your existing registration, you can do so by visiting the Oregon Secretary of State’s My Vote site

**[www.oregonvotes.gov/myvote](http://www.oregonvotes.gov/myvote)**; or complete a Voter Registration Form, available online at [oregonvotes.org](http://oregonvotes.org), at any Post Office, or the Sherman County Clerk’s office at 500 Court Street, Moro, Oregon.

If you have any questions, or need assistance with voter registration, please contact the Clerk’s Office at 541-565-3606.

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***Grass Valley Business Secures Grant for EV Charging***

grant is made possible by the Oregon Clean Fuels Program administered by the state Department of Environmental Quality. Grants are intended to support projects that advance electric transportation in underserved communities, including areas without ample access to public charging. The goal of the Clean Fuels Program is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Oregon’s transportation fuels. In addition, EV infrastructure represents a valuable and growing economic opportunity and communities are leveraging creative public-private partnerships to encourage EV drivers to visit and support rural communities.

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***2023 Sherman County Fair—Hold On to Your Hat!***

restaurant.

If you are interested in helping, please let us know by emailing [shermanctyfair@hotmail.com](mailto:shermanctyfair@hotmail.com).

Can’t wait to see you in 2023,

The Sherman County Fair Board

## Frontier Regional Alert

Frontier Regional Alert and Everbridge offer free alerts for notifications for events throughout Sherman County. To sign up for free Alerts go to: [www.co.sherman.or.us/departments/emergency-services/](http://www.co.sherman.or.us/departments/emergency-services/)

## OSU Agricultural Wildfire Training

Now is the time to start planning for the next wildfire season. Are you and your home, farm, or ranch ready? The above average precipitation that we have continued to receive in 2023 will likely correspond with more abundant fuels across rangelands and crops this coming fire season, making it important that we are prepared before fire season starts. This training will help you better prepare your home, farm, crops and animals, and farm infrastructure for wildfires through improved wildfire behavior awareness, creating strategic fuel breaks and defensible space, and increasing your safety and effectiveness when you have to evacuate or suppress wildfires burning on your property. Join OSU Extension on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1pm to 4:30pm, Wasco County Extension Office (CGCC, building 2, 400 E Scenic Drive, The Dalles, OR) or virtually on February 10<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm. The class will cover:

- Rick Fletcher with ODF covering Wildfire Suppression Tactics and Safety in croplands and rangelands
  - Simone Cordery-Cotter with OSFM covering defensible space and the new statewide defensible space mandates
  - Jacob Powell and Katie Wollstein with OSU discussing fuel breaks and fire behavior in wheat and rangelands
- Fred Wensenk with BPA covering powerline safety during wildfires
- Please register here: <https://beav.es/5b4>, class is free and registration is encouraged for both in person and virtual class

options, especially if you want certificates. Contact Jacob Powell at [jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.powell@oregonstate.edu) or call 541-298-3581 for questions or also to register. If you can't make it but are interested I would encourage you to look at taking these online and on demand Ag Wildfire Courses that I put together specifically for the crops and rangelands of eastern Oregon : *Wildfire Preparedness in Agriculture*: <https://beav.es/w92> and *Ag Wildfire Behavior and Suppression*: <https://beav.es/ibX>

## Nutrient Management and Soils Workshop for Ag Producers

February 22nd, 2pm—4:30 pm, Moro

This workshop will focus on covering soil sampling, soil testing, soil pH, and nutrient considerations for irrigated forage crops and dryland wheat. Class will be held at the Sherman County Extension Office at 66365 Lonerock Rd, Moro, OR 97039.

## WIC Info

"North Central Public Health District's WIC office will be holding its traveling satellite clinic at the Sherman County Senior & Community Center in Moro on Feb. 14.

The clinic is by appointment only. Anyone who is interested in the WIC

program is encouraged to call ahead at 541-506-2610 to get more information about WIC, and then set up an appointment at the satellite clinic.

The length of time the satellite clinic is open varies, depending on how many appointments are made, but it typically runs from 10 a.m. to noon.

WIC offers pregnancy and breastfeeding guidance, wholesome foods, nutrition-focused counseling, free health screenings, and connections to resources. WIC is all about healthy babies, kids and families. If you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or have a child under 5, WIC could be for you! Please give WIC a call at 541-506-2610 if you are interested in learning more or to set up an appointment to enroll in the program.

The WIC office will also be leaving some 2023 WIC calendars at the senior center for anyone interested. The calendars are available in English and Spanish. Each month features a health topic that is tied to a national health focus along with healthy recipes and tips to keep yourself and your family healthy."



# Random Acts of Kindness Day

Random Acts of Kindness Day is February 17, 2023.

“The positive effects of kindness are experienced in the brain of everyone who witnessed the act, improving their mood and making them significantly more likely to “Pay It Forward” – Jamil Zaki

This year Random Acts of Kindness week kicks off on February 13!

What are your plans to spread kindness to your community this year?

You can download your Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) guide at [www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org).

While there you can download and participate in the #RAK coloring contest and find ways to spread kindness. #RAKWeek #MakeKindessTheNorm! #ShermanPrevention

# Family Opportunities

Movie Nights at Wasco School are the second Friday of the month

February 11 – Family Dance and Middle School Hangout from 6-8PM, with family photos available for every family that attends.

February 18 – STEM Exploration Day at Sherman County Public/School Library drop in from 11-3 to explore science and have some great family fun!

# Vaping

Vaping – Use Among Youth Continues to Rise

Current statistics show that 1-5 high school aged youth is using some type of e-cigarette/vape product regularly. Vaping use among Oregon 11<sup>th</sup> graders showed an increase of 77%.

Research continues to show that the strongest factors in growing youth making choices is strong and open communication with a parent. Please talk to your youth about vaping, and the risks associated.

You can find information on signs of vaping, and how to talk about vaping with your teens @ <https://www.samhsa.gov/> and @Tobacco-Free Kids.org



If you have any concerns or would like more resources, please contact Deanna Christiansen at Sherman County Prevention. 541-565-5036 or [deannac@co.sherman.or.us](mailto:deannac@co.sherman.or.us)



# Free Smoke Alarms

FREE SMOKE ALARMS installed by Moro Fire in collaboration with Sherman County Emergency Services and the American Red Cross. House fires claim seven lives every day, but you can help change that. American Red Cross has been installing free smoke alarms because working smoke alarms cut the risk of death by fire in half. To request an appoint call 541-565-3100 or visit [redcross.org/getanalarm](http://redcross.org/getanalarm)



# First Responders Training

Want to give back to your community? Here is your opportunity! Sherman County Emergency Services is offering First Responders training in Sherman County. This class will be held at the Emergency Services Building in Moro. The class will consist of two evenings a week with an occasional Saturday. Classes start in late March and end in June. Call 541-565-3100 for more information.



## Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Caring for someone with a chronic condition is rewarding. But it can be challenging, too. Taking care of yourself is important. Join us for a free, six-session class that will support you to better care for your loved one and yourself. This class is for anyone who helps out or cares for a friend or relative!

Powerful Tools for Caregivers classes help caregivers take better care of themselves while caring for a friend or relative. Whether you provide care for a spouse, partner, parent, friend, or an adult child; at home or in a care facility, whether down the block or miles away, yours is an important role. This is a course for you!

We'll cover a variety of topics and strategies to:

- Reduce stress
- Improve self-confidence
- Manage time, set goals, and solve problems
- Better communicate with care partners, doctors, and others
- Navigate caregiving transitions and decision making
- Locate community Resources

To sign up or ask questions contact Roni at [rhyde@gobhi.org](mailto:rhyde@gobhi.org) or 541-705-4870

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Classes held on Mondays

Feb 27 - April 3, 2023

11am - 12:30pm PT

via Zoom

space is limited & registration is required

## Spring Pesticide Training

March 13th 9:30 am—Noon, The Dalles

OSU Pesticide training with 3 ODA continuing education credits with lunch following in The Dalles, CGCC Building 2, 3rd floor lecture hall (400 E Scenic Drive). Succession workshop will follow at 1 pm, please register here: <https://beav.es/5z3>. Sessions will cover wheat, pastures, and possibly one session on horticulture.

## Farm Succession Planning

March 13th 1pm—3:30 pm, The Dalles

OSU Extension and Oregon Agricultural Trust will be putting on free a farm succession planning class in The Dalles, CGCC Building 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor lecture hall (400 E Scenic Drive) on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a free lunch before the class starts at noon with the class starting at 1 pm. Registration is encouraged here: <https://beav.es/5zo>, especially if you plan on having lunch.

## Grass Valley Fire

When GVB Bio Pharma in Grass Valley caught on Fire on November 20, 2022, citizens leapt into action!

This fire could have been worse. The injuries could have been worse. Because of the courageous people that night, injuries were minimal and the fire was contained rather quickly. The town had been evacuated but people were able to return home within 24 hours.

Sherman County would like to thank everyone that was involved in helping out during the Grass Valley fire. Below is a list of agencies involved. We are very sorry if we have missed anyone.

American Red Cross  
 Frontier 911  
 Gresham Hazmat  
 Hermiston Hazmat  
 Huskies Market ( for opening to get food supplies)  
 Mid Columbia Fire Rescue  
 Moro Fire & Rescue  
 Multiple community members  
 North Sherman Fire & Rescue  
 ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation)  
 OEM (Oregon Emergency Management)  
 OSFM (Oregon State Fire Marshall)  
 OSP (Oregon State Police)  
 PP&L Linemen (Pacific Power & Light)  
 Sherman County Ambulance  
 Sherman County School for housing residents over night  
 Sherman County Sheriff  
 South Sherman Fire & Rescue

*Thank You First Responders*



# Sherman County Public/School Library Updates

## WINTER HOURS

Tuesday 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
 Thursday 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
 Saturday 10:00 am—4:00 pm

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.

## EASY BOOKS

*Blue Bison Need a Haircut*  
 Scott Rothman

*The Three Billy Goats Gruff*  
 Mac Barnett

*Love from the Crayons*  
*Little Owl's Love*  
 Divya Srinivasan

## NEW MOVIES

*The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep*

## LIBRARY BOOK CLUB—March 2 @ 5:00pm

Join us for tea, dessert, and book discussion. March's book is *Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear

**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)

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

“Follow” us on Instagram at ShermanCountypsl

## NEW NON-FICTION

*Wise Gals:* Nathalia Holt  
*The spies who built the CIA and Changed the Future of Espionage*

*Killer in the Kremlin* John Sweeney  
*Plant-Based Woman Warrior*  
 Jane Esselstyn & Ann Cruile Esselstyn  
*Like a Rolling Stone: A Memoir*  
 Jann S. Wenner

## NEW FICTION

*The Butcher and the Wren: A Novel*  
 Aliana Urquhart  
*Elements of Love (The Limber Baron's Daughter)*  
 Mary Connealy

*The Nurse's Secret:*  
 Amanda Skenandore  
*A Thrilling Historical Novel of the Dark Side of New York City*

## BEST SELLERS

*The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man: A Memoir*  
 Paul Newman  
*And There was Light:*  
 Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle  
 Jon Meacham

*Blow Back*  
 James Patterson

*Going Rogue*  
 Janet Evanovich

*Girl Forgotten*  
 Karin Slaughter

*Maybe Someday*  
 Colleen Hoover

*Maybe Now*  
 Colleen Hoover

*Maybe Not*  
 Colleen Hoover

\*\*\* and more come by and browse...

*Boys from Biloxi: A Legal Thriller*  
 John Grisham

## The Judge's Corner

Every morning I have to take my wife's pup outside so she can take care of business. I do this about 5am. For the first few months this was a chore. Now I view it as a great way to start my day. I see shooting stars and passing satellites almost every time I can see the night sky. When I can see the stars, the first thing I look for is the Big Dipper followed by the Little Dipper with the North Star at the end of its handle. It is amazing to think about all the people who have used that bright star as guidance throughout the centuries.

I don't make wishes on most of the shooting stars I see, but when I do, I keep it simple and hope for a good, safe and healthy upcoming year.

On the note of guidance, it is sad to say good-bye to former Sherman County Judge Gary Thompson. I still reached out to him from time to time to ask why and how certain things were done in the past.

Recently a 4 inch hole was discovered in the roof of the Senior Center in Moro. Upon inspection, it was realized that the time had come for a complete roof replacement. Sorry for the noise and inconvenience this will cause for those who dine and do business there during this construction period.

When I first took on the reasonability as Sherman County Judge, Frontier TeleNet was a hot topic, and not in a good way. Things have changed. Funding and management is stable at this time and I was elected to be President of the Frontier TeleNet board yesterday. Judge Morley from Wheeler County has been at the helm for the last several years, did a great job, but it was time to rotate. At NORCOR our regional jail, Wasco County Commissioner Scott Hege was elected as Chair of the board and I was elected Vice Chair with the rotation of leadership.

There is a new face in the Sheriff's office. Cody C. is joining the law enforcement office to help keep Sherman County safe. Welcome Cody and family. And thanks to all of the officers that work in the Sheriff's office for what they do.

Speaking of Thank You(s) for those keeping us safe. U.S. Senator Merkley was in Sherman County for a town hall and recognized S. Sherman and Moro Fire for their actions during the recent hemp plant disaster. All the fire departments in Sherman County along with others should have been recognized for performing acts of heroism. I apologize to those who were not!

This coming week should see things being put back together in Wasco. The road repair that has made us drive the long way around, while not easy and did have surprises, has proceeded quite well. The County Court did an inspection one cold, snowy day, saw some of the issues and met with the contractors. I stop and watch the progress a couple times a week as it is on my way to work. But I am ready to stop taking the long way.

Now that the legislative session is beginning and I have been informed there are a couple thousand bills and concepts being put forth, with over a thousand more expected before the end of session, this statement by Thomas Sowell hits the spot; "Have we reached the ultimate stage of absurdity where some people are held responsible for things that happened before they were born, while other people are not held responsible for what they themselves are doing today?"

But the New Year resolutions fresh in our minds, this quote is the one that I will end with, "Take action! An inch of movement will bring you closer to your goals than a mile of intention." By Steve Maraboli

Judge Joe Dabulskis



**SHERMAN**  
COUNTY



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*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
- Plastic tubs or plant containers

### 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 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