

The Citizen-Reporter



A Sherman County Government Publication — February 2010

2010 Primary Election

On Tuesday, May 18, 2010, the Sherman County Clerk's Office will be conducting the 2010 Primary Election. Offices in Sherman County that are due for election this year are:

PARTISAN OFFICE:

County Commissioner – 4 year term

NONPARTISAN OFFICES:

District Attorney – 4 year term

County Treasurer – 4 year term

Qualified county residents who are interested in filing for these positions should contact the Sherman County Clerk's Office at 541-565-3606. The clerk's office is located in the Sherman County Courthouse at 500 Court Street in Moro, Oregon. Filing information is available at the clerk's office or online at <http://oregonvotes.org/publications/>.

Candidates for the position of district attorney are required to file directly with the Secretary of State's office.

The deadline to submit declarations of candidacy or petitions for nomination is 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.



PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

Precinct Committeepersons are elected to two year terms at the 2010 Primary Election. Democratic and Republican positions with one male and one female from each precinct will be elected. A precinct committeeperson must receive at least three votes to be elected to the office.

Prospective candidates must submit filings of candidacy with the Sherman County Clerk's Office no earlier than February 1, 2010, and not later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.

~ Jenine McDermid, Clerk



Land Grants and Extension

The Sherman County Extension Office serves as part of the larger state-wide Extension Service based in Corvallis as part of Oregon State University. County Extension Agents are part of the University's teaching faculty and must meet performance standards to proceed through the stages of professorial ranks.

But why is Extension tied to OSU and not some other institute? Oregon State University is the state's "Land Grant College." President Lincoln, in the midst of a Civil War, had the foresight to sign the Morrill Act of 1862, a bill which passed to each state a unit of federally owned land for that state to sell and use the proceeds to establish a school of higher learning that would provide for the advancement of agriculture and other sciences.

There are presently 76 land grant colleges and universities in the nation. Each received title to lands that they sold and invested, but the workings of each may not be as clear. Florida State University was chartered after all their lands were accounted for so they received title to lands in Nevada for sale in support of the school. Eighteen of the land grant schools have "State University" in their name, but many have "A&M" in the moniker. Rutgers (New Jersey), MIT (Massachusetts) and Cornell (New York) are examples of other land grant colleges.

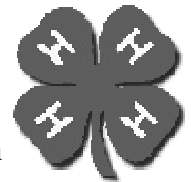
Oregon State is one of only two that are Land Grant, Sea Grant, Space Grant and Sun Grant schools.

In Oregon, it is Oregon State University that is so chartered. Even though many great research discoveries were coming out of that school, it was clear that not every farmer could get to the campus to receive the information. It was decided to "extend" the campus by creating a campus, off the main campus, in each county with local educators/faculty members to share that information, in an informal setting, with the locals and to

communicate the needs of those clients back to the researchers who worked on the issues. Hence, the Extension Service.

The Extension Service is funded by three key sources: federal, state and county. By agreement, the county provides an office and all related expenses (phone, travel, copying, clerical, etc.) needed to operate an office, but as OSU faculty, the Extension Agent is paid by the state not the county.

Extension Update:



Elizabeth Wallis of Moro has been hired to replace Joan Bird in managing the Sherman County 4H and Youth programs. 4H is the largest youth program in the county involving about 90 kids in 4th through 12th grades. Wallis was hired with grant funds received from the James Weir Memorial Fund, a charitable foundation established to benefit the educational opportunities of youth in the old Biglow and Emigrant Springs school districts and Sherman County.

~ Professor Sandy Macnab, Extension Agent

2010 Resident Incentive Program



The first year of the Sherman County Resident Incentive Program went well. The County has learned a few things along the way and there will be some minor improvements to the process for 2010.

Application forms for the 2010 Resident Incentive Program will be mailed by June 1, 2010. To receive your 2010 payment, complete the application in full and return it no later than August 31, 2010. Forms will also be available after June 1st at the Sherman County Clerk's Office and on the Sherman County Web site at www.co.sherman.or.us.

~ Sherman County Court

Sherman Development League Announces Grant Awards

The Sherman Development League (SDL) has announced the successful completion of awards for 2010 committing over \$234,000 in grants and/or loans to projects of benefit to Sherman County.

Formed in 2000 as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, SDL's mission is to provide charitable support through grants and/or loans to create community-based programs and projects for the enhancement of the social, cultural and educational environment of Sherman County. The SDL also provides fiscal sponsorship for projects which enhance the quality of life for residents within Sherman County. Modest, short term loans are available to for-profit businesses.

Eight local project applications met the requirements and goals established by SDL. Included are projects from the City of Moro, City of Wasco, Little Wheats, Inc., North Sherman Preschool, Sherman County Child Care Foundation, Sherman County Extension Service, Sherman County Health District and Sherman County Historical Society.

To date, the Development League has awarded \$860,326.00 in grants to Sherman County organizations and/or projects plus another \$197,000.00 in loans.

The next round of grant requests will be accepted by SDL in the fall of 2010.

~ *SDL Board of Directors*



2010 Census

Residences across the United States will receive the 2010 census questionnaire around March



15th. With ten questions or fewer per person, it is the shortest form since the first Census was taken in 1790. All responses are safeguarded and kept completely confidential, even from other government agencies.

Please fill out and return the questionnaire in its postage paid envelope by April 1st. The census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:

- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Job training centers
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Senior Centers
- ◆ Infrastructure
- ◆ Emergency Services

We can't move forward until you mail it back. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

The Census Bureau is taking applications for temporary jobs in Sherman County. To take the Census test, call 1-866-861-2010. You will be prompted to put in your zip code, which will forward your call to the Local Census Office where they can schedule you to take the test.

Support the 2010 Census. It's Easy. It's Safe. It's Important.

~ *Helen Bandy, Assistant Manager for Recruiting*
541-526-0832, Redmond, OR



Mid-Columbia Center for Living's System of Care

Structured Learning Class in it's Second Year

The Structured Learning Class, a collaborative classroom effort between Mid Columbia Center for Living's System of Care (SOC) and Sherman County School District, is in its second year of operation at the elementary school in Grass Valley. Eight students are currently enrolled in this classroom along with teacher Shannon Hansen and assistant Doris Hubbard. The children in this classroom have benefited from the extra time, attention and therapeutic interventions available to them. Most of the children in the structured classroom spend part of their day in the mainstream classrooms then return to the structured classroom for more support.

Specific Services Provided through the SOC grant include:

- Mental Health assessment and treatment plans.
- Children are screened through the Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII), developed by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.
- Doris Hubbard is the Family Care Coordinator as well as the classroom assistant. Doris holds Child & Family team meetings with families to develop an individual's strengths based on a coordinated plan for the child.
- Assigned Master's level clinical therapist, Tiffany Kenslow, attends the Child & Family meetings and can provide individual and family counseling.
- Medication management is available through a licensed Psychiatrist.
- Ms. Kenslow and Ms. Hubbard provide a weekly therapeutic group in the classroom. Children are taught social and relationship skills through a fun and interactive curriculum.
- Classroom assistant position is supported through System of Care mental health funds.
- A Family Advocate, Shannon Billings, is available to attend meetings with families or to help families find resources. Shannon is employed through the Oregon Family Support Network (OFSN).
- SOC's summer program was provided to children enrolled in last year's supported classroom. Two days each week children were picked up at their homes and transported to The Dalles to join the other participants and SOC staff members. The youth spent the days doing fun and recreational activities while learning and improving their social skills with the group. Lunch and snacks were provided then the children were transported back to their homes.
- In home parent coaching is available for the families.

*~ Marilyn Richardson, System of Care Project Director
Mid-Columbia Center for Living 541-296-5452 ex 3455*

School Exclusion Day: Wednesday February 17, 2010

Oregon school law requires all children attending day care facilities, preschools and K-12 schools have up to date immunizations to remain in school. The exclusion day this year is Wednesday, February 17, 2010. Parents will be receiving letters the first week of February from North Central Public Health District indicating what additional immunizations their child may need. The immunizations can be received at their private provider or at the Public Health District's office in The Dalles. On Wednesday, February 17, children who have not received the required immunizations will no longer be allowed to attend school until proof of immunization has been received by the school or daycare facility.



North Central Public Health District Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

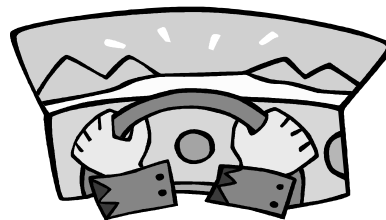
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

(Closed the first Tuesday every month from 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM). Please note: Our office will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of President's Day.

Questions? Call North Central Public Health District at (541) 506-2600.

Driver Education Class Signup Underway

The signup period is now underway for driver education classes for Sherman County youth, ages 15-17. This year's program kicks off with a two-hour student/parent night on February 23rd at 6:00 p.m. The program will continue as a before-school non-credit class throughout the spring. Behind-the-wheel instruction will be scheduled for after



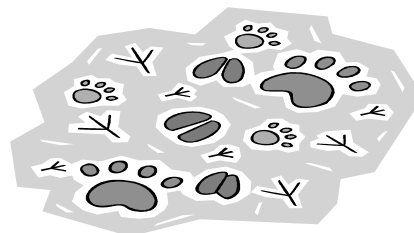
school, evenings, or weekends through coordination with the instructor. Application packets are available at the Sherman Junior/Senior High School office and at the Sherman County Clerk's office. Packets can be mailed upon request by calling the Sherman County Clerk's office at 541-565-3606. Completed applications need to be mailed or dropped off at the courthouse no later than Wednesday, February 10th.

To be eligible, participants will need to have obtained their instructional permit no later than February 23rd. Additionally, participants may not have reached the age of 18 prior to beginning the class. These are requirements of the Oregon Department of Transportation Driver Education certification process and there are no exceptions allowed.

The program is administered by Sherman County, with classroom space provided by the Sherman County School District. Anyone with questions is encouraged to contact instructor Paula King at 541-333-2735.

~ *Driver Education Advisory Committee*

Have a Wildlife Problem?



Contact Sherman County's Wildlife Specialist:

Dean Dark
541-413-0302
USDA Wildlife Services

Public/School Library News

ONE BOOK, ONE COMMUNITY

The 2010 One Book, One Community featured selection is **“A Flickering Light”** by Jane Kirkpatrick. **“A Flickering Light”**, chosen for Library Journal’s Best Books of 2009, is a historical novel and luminous coming-of-age-tale as Jane pulls a page from her grandmother’s photo album to capture the interplay between shadow and light, temptation and faith that marks a woman’s pursuit of her dreams.

How to participate in **One Book, One Community**:

- (1) Read **“A Flickering Light”** by Jane Kirkpatrick. Multiple copies of the book will be available at Sherman County Public/School Library for checkout.
- (2) Attend the author visitation on **March 16 at 6:30 p.m.** at Sherman County Public/School Library where Jane will read from, discuss and autograph **“A Flickering Light”**.

EARLY CHINESE IMMIGRANTS

Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

A special program about the rich cultural history of early Chinese immigrants in central and eastern Oregon will be presented by Christina Sweet, curator of the Kam Wah Chung & Co. Museum in John Day, Oregon. She will bring artifacts from the museum and discuss how the Chinese worked in the gold fields and railroads of early day Oregon and how they lived in a culture so different from their own native country.

ANNUAL READ-A-LOUD

In celebration of National Library Week, please join us at Sherman County Public/School Library, **April 14 at 6:30 p.m.** for the 14th annual Read-A-Loud. Jane Kirkpatrick, Sherman County’s well renowned author, will host this event. Community members, high school staff and students will read selections from their favorite books or poetry, occasionally from their own pen. The Read Aloud has proven to be a delightful evening filled with memorable words, stories and images. Everyone is welcome, either as a reader or a listener. Please contact library staff if you wish to sign up for a 5-minute reading spot on the program.

BESTSELLERS

Stop by the library and check out the Bestseller Display. Sherman Co. Public/School Library received a Cultural Trust grant to engage youth and community in the arts, heritage and humanities by purchasing popular books which engage and promote literacy. Hurry in to choose your favorite.

~ Arla Melzer, Public/School Library Staff





Tourism-minded folks/representatives of Sherman, Wheeler and Gilliam counties are working together to welcome visitors to the tri-county region, *John Day River Territory*. The Condon Chamber of Commerce is serving as the hub for planning and developing marketing strategies and will serve as the contact point.

This group reached consensus on the design and content for an ad in the 2010 Travel Oregon-Eastern Oregon Trip Planner which will include a link to a brand new Web site: www.johndayriverterritory.com.

The new Web site will welcome visitors to our North Central Oregon region, invite them to learn more about us and link them to activities, communities, businesses and events in the three counties.

One section on this site will promote the recreational and sightseeing activities popular in the three counties – rafting, golfing, fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, windsurfing, camping, scenic byways, wineries, fairs and rodeos, wind farms, museums, cycling, the Fossil Beds, in addition to our county's largest events.

A section on Communities will feature towns within Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler Counties that offer tourism opportunities. The section on What's Happening will include news and events. A John Day River Territory Events Calendar will promote events within Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties where viewers can search by category or month.

The Condon Chamber of Commerce will reserve a section with which to promote the Condon Chamber of Commerce and everything Condon.

Sherman County's Web site, www.co.sherman.or.us, provides resources for county residents. However, in the absence of a chamber of commerce, the County maintains a business directory and a calendar of events, as well as the contents of its new brochures, Experience the Land Between the Rivers; a cycling itinerary: Windmills and Wheat Fields; and driving itinerary: The Way West.

The Sherman County Historical Museum's Web site, www.shermanmuseum.org, offers information on local history, museum exhibits and publications, and a museum calendar of events.

The three counties, relative to their location on Travel Oregon's tourism map, are not well positioned for marketing. This group is taking a new approach to opening the gates to the *John Day River Territory* in north central Oregon. So far, no support has been requested of Sherman County businesses who serve visitors and travelers.

It's time. The heavy lifting has been done. Now Melva Thomas and Sherry Kaseberg, as members of the *John Day River Territory* planning group, are asking Sherman County businesses to support efforts to promote our region by seriously considering becoming a member of the Condon Chamber of Commerce. Membership letters will be mailed soon providing further details. This is a special opportunity to become an active participant in marketing all the *John Day River Territory* has to offer.

Questions may be directed to Sherry Kaseberg at sherryk@gorge.net or Melva Thomas at mthomas@co.sherman.or.us. 541-565-3416.

~ *John Day River Territory Web site Committee*



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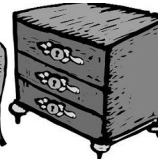
Postal Patron

Save Money & Waste Less

reduce • reuse • recycle



- Prevent waste—think ahead on your purchases
- Avoid buying what you don't need
- Minimize packaging—bring your own bag, buy in bulk
- Use long-lasting durable goods, not disposable
- Look for recyclable (reusable) containers
- Purchase recycled content products
- “Use it up...wear it out...make it do” (use what you already have)
- Take care of and repair rather than replace
- Can you borrow or rent rather than buy?
- Shop at and donate to secondhand and thrift stores



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Columbia Gorge Freecycle Network on Yahoo groups
“Connecting people who have things they want to throw away with others who may want those things”

