

# Treasury Department won't give me a straight answer

I have a pile of letters and correspondence from the Treasury Department. The one thing these letters have in common are the lies I've been told, which are repeated over the phone.

In about the first week of October the Treasury Department told me over the phone that I owed \$289.30 and would be garnished for 25 percent of my net pay of \$1,107. That would be \$276.75.

On Oct. 17 the agent/cashier at the Walla Walla VA hospital told me that my total top amount due to cross-servicing was \$190.14, and my debt to the hospital was \$77.46 at the time.

On Oct. 19, 2017 the cross servicing office told me over the phone that I owed \$243.39, and I wouldn't be garnished in November, but Dec. 1 for the above amount. Then I was garnished on Nov. 1,

2017 for \$193.62.

Now I received a letter saying I'll be garnished again on Dec. 1.

The other thing your letters never tell me is what I actually owe the U.S. Treasury, or how much I'm going to be garnished. You're kind of like dealing with the mafia. I'm starting to wonder if any treasury employees have a soul.

Why do your letters say, "How can I stop this collection action?" then

offer me no options at all. Do you know I've canceled some of my VA prescriptions to keep my bill down? I'm making an appointment to see a Congresswoman's aide.

The Veterans Administration is mismanaged, and the whole VA is broken. To garnish a veteran is the most disrespectful, degrading thing you could ever do. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Some of us are low income, and have trouble paying our bills. Please take half of my pay if necessary but please stop garnishing me.

I'm looking into dropping out of the VA for my medical care.

I had 89 days sober until Nov. 4, but sitting in my chair crying and talking to the crisis phone line took care of my sobriety date.

LARRY W. SHOEMAKE  
HERMISTON

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor is a forum for the **Hermiston Herald** readers to express themselves on local, state, national or world issues. Brevity is good, but longer letters should be kept to 250 words. The **Hermiston Herald** reserves the right to edit letters for length and for content.

Send letters to editor@hermistonherald.com, or Hermiston Herald, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838 or use this online form.



# BOARDMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO BOX 1 • 101 Olson Rd • Boardman, OR 97818 • 541-481-3014  
www.boardmanchamber.org • email: info@boardmanchamber.org

## NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Port of Morrow Riverfront Center  
2 Marine Drive • Boardman OR 97818

### "What is GEODC?"

## GEODC

Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC) is a regional economic development non-profit 501(c)3 organization charged with supporting job creation and economic growth within our district; by assisting to create, retain, and expand businesses.

Join us at the November luncheon, to learn about their various lending programs, grant writing, labor standards, compliance and state/federal grant program administrations.

### This month's guest speaker:

Susan Christensen, Executive Director  
Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation

Enjoy a delicious lunch catered by **River Lodge and Grill**.

Lunch: 12.00 per person  
To ensure adequate seating and lunch, please RSVP by Monday, November 13, 2017  
(541) 481-3014 or info@boardmanchamber.org



## SHOP LOCAL!

Holidays are among us, and we are starting to see those every day reminders regarding shopping time frames!

Now is the time to also remember, our town has many places to shop. Groceries, gifts, dining and fuel, room accommodations for your visiting guests!

### Show your support and "Shop Local"

When you do, bring your receipts to the Boardman Chamber office.

November 25, 2017 until December 20, 2017.

Each receipt brings you an opportunity to win a prize, donated from many of our local businesses.

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## BUSINESS TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

Want to obtain current updates for your HR Departments? How about new ideas for your supervisors to motivate & retain your employees?

Wouldn't it be nice to have the convenience to have it in your region vs traveling all day?

Boardman Chamber of Commerce thinks so too!

### Afternoon Topic:

- Health Care Update
- Marijuana in the Workplace
- Oregon Overtime Rules for Manufacturers

### Afternoon Topic:

- Motivating & Retaining your employee

Registration begins November 13, 2017

Cost: 1/2 day - \$200 Chamber Member

\$250 Non - Chamber Member

Full day - \$350 Chamber Member

\$400 Non - Chamber Member

Small business - 10 employees or less \$50 discount

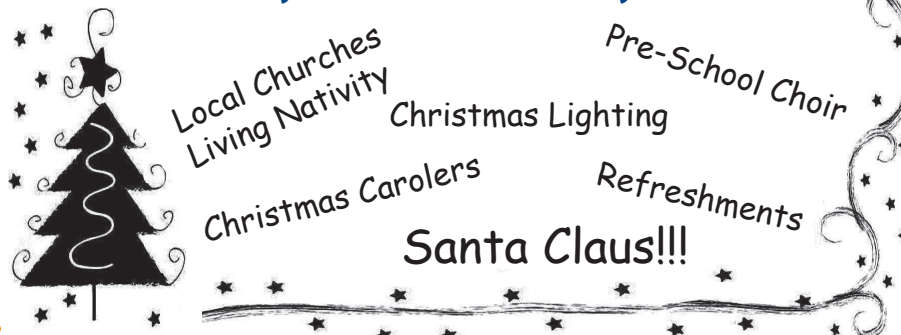
Presented by: Paul Hutter HR Answers, Inc.



## BOARDMAN COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CELEBRATION

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 6:00 p.m.  
SAGE Center  
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Come and welcome in the holidays with your friends and family



## Columbia River Community Health Services



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