

City of Union Oregon Newsletter

"PROMOTE RURAL VALUES, PROTECT LOCAL ASSETS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY PRIDE"

342 South Main Street P.O. Box 529 Union, OR 97883 541-562-5197 Fax 541-562-5196 cityhall@CityOfUnion.com www.CityOfUnion.com

CITY HALL Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Open During Lunch

UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY Monday 10am-6pm
Tues ~ Thurs 10am-5pm Friday 10am-4pm

July 2023



From The Desk Of
Doug Wiggins
City Administrator

June has been a continuation of May. With stock show preparations, to projects underway, there has been no slowdown with business here in the City.

Public Works continues to install water and wastewater services for new homes being built. Just this past month they have installed 6 new services with another couple on the near horizon. So, in perspective that is 7 new homes they are being or will begin being built this summer. The growth is nice, and it is great to see some of these vacant lots begin to fill in.

At the Ranger Station we continue to move forward on the construction of the middle unit. As of this writing, the initial plumbing is finishing up and electrical will be in soon to do their initial work. We have been taking bids for HVAC and have one submitted thus far and believe another one coming in shortly.

The budget was passed for FY 23-24 by the City Council on June 12, 2023.

The Fire/EMS ballot issue has been filed with the County Clerk and has been given measure number 31-118. The ballot will be asking residents to vote on whether to annex the City Fire and EMS departments into the Union Rural Fire Protection District. Please get out to vote on August 22, 2023.

The Main Street Union committee continues to work on plans for the park and needs to hear from community members what you want and like. They are nearing a stage in which they will begin having the final plans drawn together, so it is vital to reach out to those members for information. If you need help in finding out who to contact, please contact City Hall and they can get you a contact.

The Mayor and City Council have begun the process of looking for a new City Administrator as I am moving. It was a tough decision, but my family and I are leaving for the central Oregon coast. I will have more in the next newsletter, my final one, as August 21, 2023, will be my last day.

I know this is a short note, but it continues to be busy as we continued to be pulled many directions. Staff and Crew are getting through the requests just as fast as they can so, please be patient.

I hope everyone is having an eventful start to the summer.

July

BURN BAN

JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

THUNDER AT THE PEAK!!

JULY 4TH

BUFFALO PEAK GOLF COURSE

Vendors, Food Trucks and games at the City Park beginning at 5:00pm

Cornhole Tournament at the Union Baptist Church parking lot. \$25 entry fee

Free shuttle bus at Old West Federal Credit Union. Shuttles start at 8:00pm

Fireworks at dark!!

Come, bring the whole family and join in the FUN!!



UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please come by and claim your forgotten items from the library lost and found!

Our summer program runs through August. Sign up any time.
All ages welcome!

2023 Summer Reading Program

July schedule

Monday	7/3	10:00	Dino wash @ City park
Thursday	7/6	10:00	Plant seeds @ Library
Monday	7/10	10:00	Play kitchen @ Library
Thursday	7/13	10:00	Leaf cutting tray @ Library
Monday	7/17	10:00	Edible finger paint @ Library
Wednesday	7/19	10:00	Character puppets @ Library
Monday	7/24	10:00	"Chiqui Chef" toddler cooking @ Library
Wednesday	7/26	10:00	Ice painting @ Library
Monday	7/31	10:00	Superhero design @ Library

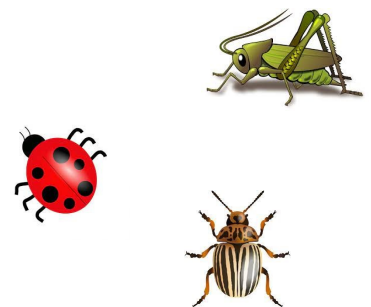


All Age July schedule

Friday	7/7	10:00	Robotics Show @ City Park
Wednesday	7/19	1:00	Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Storytime @ City Park
Friday	7/21	9 PM	Movie in the Park (TBA) @ City Park

School-Age schedule

Wednesday	7/5	10:00	Lewis & Clark Traveling Trunk @ Library
Thursday	7/6	10:00	Recycled paper seed balls @ City park
Tuesday	7/11	10:00	Yoga & movement @ City Park
Wednesday	7/12	10:00	Finding Bugs in Nature @ City Park
Thursday	7/13	10:00	Solar Prints @ City Park
Tuesday	7/18	10:00	Yoga & Movement @ City Park
Thursday	7/20	10:00	Geodes @ City Park
Thursday	7/20	2:00	Oregon Rocks @ Library
Thursday	7/27	10:00	Go STEM! Magnetics & Solar Energy @ City Park



Teen & Adult Schedule

Monday	7/10	5:00	Sleepy Time Tea Blending @ Library
Wednesday	7/12	2:00	Yoga @ Library
Friday	7/14	10:00	Watershed Exploration age 11+ @ City Park
Monday	7/17	5:00	Guided ARTitation @ Library
Monday	7/24	5:00	Floral Candles @ Library
Tuesday	7/25	10:00	Go STEM! Teen @ City Park
Monday	7/31	5:00	Watercolor bookmarks @ Library



Don't forget our annual Friends of the Library book sale coming up at Grassroots!

Check us out on Facebook @Union,OR Carnegie Library

Main Street Union.....

HERE AT MAIN STREET WE HAVE BEEN BUSY GETTING THINGS DONE BEHIND THE SCENES FOR THE UNION CITY PARK PROJECT. WE SELECTED SPVV OF SPOKANE BACK IN APRIL OF 2023 TO BE THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT TO PREFORM THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE PARK. THE CITY OF UNION GRACIOUSLY SELECTED MAIN STREET UNION FOR A GRANT TO HELP PAY FOR THIS MUCH NEEDED MASTER PLAN. SPVV HAS BEEN WORKING HARD REVIEWING AND ORGANIZING THE RESULTS FROM OUR CITY-WIDE PARK SURVEY INTO A VISION OF WHAT OUR CITY PARK COULD LOOK LIKE.

NOW HAS COME THE TIME FOR UNION RESIDENTS TO GET A GLIMPSE OF WHAT OUR PARK COULD LOOK LIKE. THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO CHIME IN VIA ZOOM MEETING COMMENTS WITH SPVV & MAIN STREET AS TO WHAT THINGS YOU LOVE! AND WHAT THINGS WE COULD MAKE BETTER.

WE WILL IN THE NEAR FUTURE BE HAVING A CITY HALL MEETING FOR THE PUBLIC TO COME DOWN IN PERSON AND MAKE FURTHER COMMENTS AND OR SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE PARK. BUT FOR NOW OUR FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING HAS ARRIVED. JULY 11TH 2023 @ 6:30PM SPVV WILL BE HOSTING A ONLINE ZOOM MEETING WHERE PEOPLE CAN GET THEIR FIRST LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING SO HARD ON BEHIND THE SCENES.

A ZOOM MEETING LINK WILL BE POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA HERE IN THE COMING DAYS SO PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN. FOR THOSE THAT DON'T HAVE SOCIAL MEDIA PLEASE REACH OUT TO A NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND THAT DOES SO THAT WE CAN HEAR FROM YOU.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Union SWCD will be

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7:00pm

Meeting will be held at:

OSU EXTENSION OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

10507 N McAlister Rd. Island City OR 97850

The meeting may also be joined by telephone at:

1-646-749-3122 Access code: 808-075-909

Contact James Webster for a meeting agenda

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR UNION RESIDENTS TO ATTEND AND MAKE COMMENT, AS THE PROJECT IS AT ABOUT 80% AND ARE STARTING TO PUT IN GROUND TEST WELLS.

Community Center News.....

The Catherine Creek Community Center has begun their “**Adopt a Window Project**” and invites community members to contribute to the cost of restoring our historic stained-glass windows. If you would like more information, or to make a donation, please contact the Community Center at 541-562-2038

Community Food Pantry: The food pantry, held the third Friday of each month, is accepting monetary donations to purchase bulk foods from Community Connection (they only charge us \$0.15/per pound). An account has been set up at Old West Federal Credit Union.

Thank you for you ongoing support!!

BE A RESPECTFUL PARK USER

WE ALL LOVE TO VISIT OUR CITY PARK. IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO SPEND A SUMMER DAY OR EVENING. AND YES, OUR DOGS LOVE VISITING THE PARK WITH US....BUT NOT EVERYONE WHO VISITS THE PARK IS A DOG LOVER. THERE ARE MANY ADULTS AND CHILDREN WHO ARE AFRAID OF DOGS. ALTHOUGH WE FEEL OUR DOGS ARE SAFE, WE SHOULD ALL BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS.

PARK RULES STATE: ALL DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH AND NOT ALLOWED TO RUN AT LARGE.



NO ONE WANTS TO STEP IN POO.....

THERE ARE DOGGY POO BAGGY STATIONS AT THE FRONT AND REAR OF THE PARK AS WELL AS TRASH BINS. PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND DISPOSE OF PROPERLY.

THE CITY WORKERS WORK HARD TO KEEP OUR PARK CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL FOR ALL TO USE. TAKE TIME TO HAVE A PICNIC, TAKE A STROLL ON THE WALK PATH, SIT ON A BENCH AND LISTEN TO THE CREEK, HAVE A FAMILY REUNION, HAVE A WEDDING OR JUST TAKE THE KIDS TO THE ENCLOSED PLAY GROUND.

WE HAVE A WONDERFUL PARK, ENJOY IT TODAY!

COMING SOON... ..

GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL

August 12th, 2023

What to look forward to:



- ◆ CITY WIDE YARDSALE
 - ◆ CAR SHOW
 - ◆ DUCK RACES
- ◆ MUSIC & FAMILY STREET DANCE
 - ◆ VENDORS
 - ◆ AND SO MUCH MORE!!

A FULL DAY OF FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



What's Happening At The Museum in July:

History is almost like an intricate weaving with many threads that intertwine to make a pattern. On June 22, 2023 these "threads" of history were evident at the Museum when two guests arrived seeking information about one of their ancestors. These guests from the Sacramento area came to Union specifically to see what they could learn about Jabaz Hinckley. There are many volumes of local history and pictures at the Museum. Information was found in *THE UNION CENTENNIAL ALBUM 1878 to 1978* by Rick Steber and Jerry Gildemeister. Jabaz Hinckley and two other men moved into what they thought was an abandoned cabin. The cabin actually belonged to Conrad Miller who is listed as the first white man to settle in Union in 1862. Miller, who left his cabin to travel to Vancouver to purchase apple and pear trees was absent from his property much longer than expected, hence "squatters" occupied his property. The only proof Conrad had that he actually owned the land was the fact that he had planted a garden. The court decided that a man never planted vegetables if he had no intention of returning. So, Conrad Miller retained his land and Jabaz Hinckley had to find another place for himself. A descendent of Jabaz's and a relation of Conrad's, Carolyn Davis Young (age 92) both met and revisited family history that occurred 161 years in the past. It must be said that the California visitors stayed in Union, ate at local eating establishments, visited the Museum, City Hall and the cemetery and stated that they absolutely "loved" every minute spent in Union.

Many activities are planned for Union's Fourth of July celebration. The Museum will be open to add another venue to the festivities. Among the many historic reference books at the Museum is the following delightful story of Unions first flag. In the spring of 1863 the country was in the throes of the Civil War. Mrs. Harriett Hendershot of Hendershot Point (on the curve about 5 miles from Cove headed to Union) and Mrs. E. H. Lewis of Union wanted to make an American flag to show support for the Union cause.

Mrs. Hendershot contributed a beautiful red dress that had belonged to her deceased daughter. Mrs. Lewis gave a lovely white linen sheet for the stars and stripes.

They remembered seeing 16 year old Miss Martha Koger, daughter of Bill Koger from Lower Cove, wearing a pretty blue riding habit. Could they possibly persuade her to give a part of her pride and joy for the field of blue? She did. Thus, these two ladies were able to make the flag that flew over Union's July 4, 1863 celebration.

It's a shame we don't have that original flag for display today. We can only wonder what happened to it. Hopefully it simply wore out from use.

Remember our Third Tuesday event at 7 p.m. at the Little White Church. Ginny Mammen will be our presenter on July 18. Be prepared for a memorable evening.



Snippet of Union's History.....

*Oregon Historical Society 2005
by Cain Allen*

Broom brigades were women's organizations that spread throughout the United States during the 1880's. Mark Twain observed in his 1883 book 'Life on the Mississippi' that "in the West and South they have a new institution ~ The Broom Brigade. It is composed of ladies who dress in a uniform costume, and go through the infantry drill, with a broom in place of a musket." He described the broom brigade of New Orleans: "I saw them go through their complex manual with grace, spirit and admirable precision. I saw them do everything which a human being can possible do with a broom, except sweep."



Union's Broom Brigade was organized shortly before the town's 1889 Fourth of July celebration. The July 4, 1889, issue of the Union Eastern Oregon Republican noted that "while the other committees were busily engaged arranging their plans for a successful celebration of the Fourth a number of the ladies conceived the idea of getting up something on their account the management of which should be entirely in their own hands. A meeting was organized, attended by a large number of ladies, married and single and after discussing a number of plans, the organization of a broom brigade was agreed upon." The paper noted that "the brigade occupied a prominent place in the procession and was the recipient of much applause as it sturdily marched along, armed with their weapons of defense.

Ordinance Education Corner...

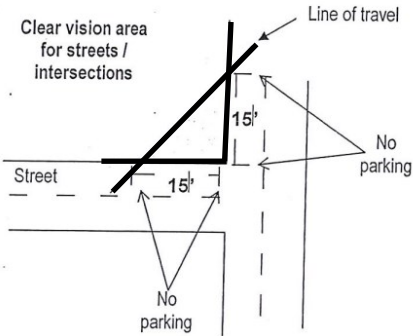
Planning on building a fence this summer?...

Fences can be built on your property line, and at this time there is no restriction on how high you can build your fence....unless you live on a corner. Then there are Clear Vision restrictions. To keep a clear line of vision for drivers at a corner, it is code that no ‘sight-obscuring’ plantings, walls, structures, fences, vehicles or other temporary or permanent obstructions may exceed three feet in height as measured from the grade of the street centerline.

A clear vision area shall be a triangular area on a lot at the intersection of two streets, two sides of which are lot lines measured a distance of fifteen feet from the corner intersection of the lot/property lines. The third side of the triangle is a line across the corner of the lot joining the ends of the other two sides and into the line of travel.

If you have questions regarding fencing please contact city hall.

Call 811 before you dig!!



COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:



- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ Upcoming Wastewater In-fluent Screen Project
- ⇒ Upcoming Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Rural & City Fire/EMS merger
- ⇒ Hiring of new City Administrator

~City Council Members ~

Jay Blackburn Dick Middleton
Tim Cox John Black
John Farmer Anita Davis

Mayor Susan Hawkins

July 2023 Council Meetings

July 10th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

July 24th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

Meetings are live streamed and can be viewed on our Facebook page. Or you can view them any time later on our website

www.cityofunion.com



Like us on Facebook!

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of month	Community Center	6:00pm	
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thurs of the month		6:00 pm	unionchamber@eoni.com
City Council	2nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Council Work Sessions	2 nd & 4 th Mon of month	City Hall	6.00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	2 nd Tues of the month	251 S Main	6:00 pm	541-910-6268
Order of Eastern Star	2nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	
EOLS Board	2nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek CommCtr	10-11:00am	541-562-2038
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tues January, April, July & November	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3 rd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30pm	
Historic Preservation	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00pm	541-562-5197
Library Board	4 th Wed of July, Oct, Jan, April	Library	4:00 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	3 rd Tues of the month	Sports Complex	5:30 pm	PO Box 337
Mainstreet Union & Economic Development	2nd Thursday of the month	Call contact # for location	7:00 pm	541-910-7048
Planning Commission	3rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 pm	
School Board	2nd Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	6:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	Last Friday of month / Oct, Jan, April, and July	Health Clinic	1:30 pm	541-562-2222
Union Cemetery Board	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Cemetery Office	9:00 am	541-562-5212
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday	EOLS Clubhouse	6:30pm	541-975-9495
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar