

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

September 2023



The City of Union would like to welcome Roberta Vanderwall as she fills in as interim city administrator. Roberta comes to us with a vast experience and knowledge of what it is to be a city administrator. Union is the sixth town in Oregon that she has served as city administrator or manager over a 35-year career. Roberta is not new to Northeastern Oregon. She grew up in the Anthony Lakes area where her parents operated five cabins they rented to the public. As a result, she developed a lifelong love of skiing which led her to join the Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol.

Prior to starting her career in city management, Roberta worked in law offices in Oregon, Mexico and Montana. This has helped her develop a background in law that has served her well as a city administrator.

Roberta began her career in North Powder in 1993 where she was the city recorder and then it's city administrator, she left North Powder after a total of 7 years and became city administrator for Mount Angel for 5 years, and was in Lakeview for 5 years, then in Nyssa for 9 1/2 years. This is Roberta's third stint as an interim administrator. She served as an interim manager of Coquille and Morrow County before coming to this recent position here in Union. "There is less stress as an interim, I don't have to make long-term decisions in the role but instead can concentrate on taking steps to make it easier for her successor to step in" a challenge that she relishes.

We feel very fortunate, even for a short time, to have someone so well qualified and who has Northeastern Oregon roots and understands small cities such as ours.

It's That Time Of Year.....



School is back in session, which brings congestion in town. It means we all have to watch for buses, kids in the crosswalks, on the sidewalks, crossing the street, and exiting buses. Children get distracted, especially young children, and don't always think to watch for traffic, that's why it is up to us to be diligent and aware to drive careful and watch for them. Let's all work together to keep our children safe!! ~Drive Careful and be Watchful~



Check this out!

Student Liaison Seat

The City acknowledges the importance of youth participation in local government. The student liaison seat is the perfect way for your student to become involved in the community and local government. And it will look great on that college application too!

Student must be entering the 11th grade or higher, and be available to attend monthly City Council meetings. City Council meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

The City of Union will grant a \$500 scholarship upon completion of a successful one-year term and enrollment of college.

If you have a student who would be interested in this unique opportunity, applications can be picked up at City Hall, or can be emailed.



**BURN BAN STILL IN EFFECT
JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER**

Union Carnegie Public Library

We have finished our summer reading program. We had another very successful program and would like to thank everyone who volunteered, those who donated, and those who attended!!

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards to us as prizes this summer.....

- * Union Market
- * Gravy Daves
- * Hometown Hardware
- * RattleTale
- * Obie's Hair Salon
- * Jo's Fabric
- * Knit Kabob
- * At Ease Cleaning
- * The Union Merc



Thank you to our activity hosts who volunteered their time in August:
Danae Yurgel, Jan Marrs and Nod Palmer

We would like to acknowledge the Friends of the Library for funding our puppet theater at Grassroots. Thank You!!

We'd also like to acknowledge generous grant donation from Ready to Read, and from the Libraries of Union County Foundation. Thank you for your support! These grants were used to purchase educational summer reading program prizes and fund our summer reading program.

Back to our regular schedule.....

Storytime ~ Tuesdays 10:00am

Sept 5th ~ Bug Hotel

Sept 12th ~ STEM Engineering

Sept 19th ~ Ice Cream in a bag

Sept 26th ~ Marble Run



Adult Craft Night September 11th @ 5:00pm ~ Adult coloring

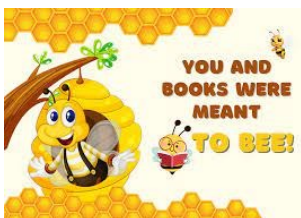
Thank you to Jesse for donating 5 brand new adult coloring books!

Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendar!

September 18th ~ Using AI to avoid a missed diagnosis with Dr. Bertrand / time to be announced

September 22nd ~ Library 111th Birthday Party at the City Park / time to be announced

We noticed that you've been investing your time with us, and we'd like to invest back in you. Our adult craft nights have shown steady attendance, so we purchased craft supplies that will be reserved for adult crafts only.



Library Hours:
Monday ~ 10am to 6pm
Tuesday thru Thursday ~ 10am to 5pm
Friday ~ 10am to 4pm

Union Carnegie Public Library
181 S. Main
Union, OR 97883
541~562~5811
Tiffany Derichsweiler ~ Librarian

Check us out on Facebook @Union,OR Carnegie Library

“Two sounds of autumn are unmistakable...the hurrying rustle of crisp leaves blown along the street...by a gusty wind, and the gabble of a flock of migrating geese.”

~ Hal Borland

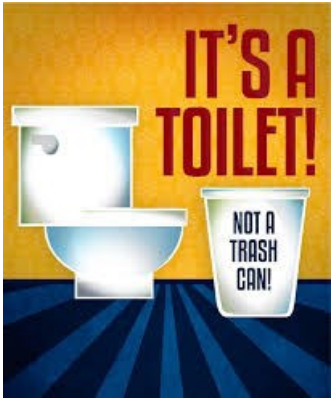


Dear Resident,

This is for all city residents/business owners who are connected to the city sewer system or will be in the future. Our goal is to educate our residents/business owners what should and should not go down your drain or toilet. The city’s treatment plant is designed to handle water, human waste and toilet tissue. And that is all. Items other than this lead to blockages, equipment failure and costly repairs. Those costs are born by you - the customer in sewer rates.

Examples of what should NOT go down the drain or toilet to the city’s sewer system:

- ◆ Cloth rags or towels
- ◆ Baby wipes, toilet wipes, hygiene towelettes, disinfecting wipes, or cloth wipes of any kind. Even if they indicate they are ‘flushable’ they truly are not flushable.
- ◆ Paper. No kleenex or paper towels. Only toilet tissue.
- ◆ Medications or medical items
- ◆ Feminine hygiene products of any kind
- ◆ Beauty products such as face wipes, q-tips, dental floss or old makeup
- ◆ Plastics of any kind
- ◆ Grease of any kind - especially cooking grease
- ◆ Garden supplies, pesticides or fertilizers
- ◆ Paint, varnish or paint remover
- ◆ Explosives of any kind, motor oil, gasoline



All of the items listed above should be thrown in the trash or disposed of properly as directed.

Remember, only water, human waste and toilet tissue should be flushed into the city sewer system. Prevent sewer backups, clogs and failed equipment which lead to costly repairs.

Reminder: All accounts with a balance of \$50.00 or more on the 15th of the month will receive a \$15.00 late fee. If the past due isn’t paid by the last business day of the month (not including Friday) a late notice will be delivered and a \$20.00 fee applied. Once notice is delivered there is a 7 day period to pay before services are disconnected and a \$35.00 fee applied. Upon disconnection, your account will be due in full, including most current billing and all fees. Service will only be restored when payment is received. We encourage residents to try to pay their utility bill by the 15th to avoid the possibility of fee charges up to \$70.00, and discontinuation of services. If you have questions regarding your utility bill please call us at 541~562~5197

Fall Gardening Tips....For A Productive Garden Next Year!

Fall is famous for being harvest season. The time when we’re plucking all that remains from the garden and bringing it into the kitchen to be eaten fresh or preserved for the long winter months ahead. Indeed, fall typically marks the end of the gardening season. But there is still work to be done!

Pull out all annual plants and save the seeds for next year! Don’t forget to pull and dispose of weeds.

Root crops like carrots, turnips and beets can be left in the ground past the first frost....but pull them before the ground freezes solid. Root veggies are known to get even sweeter when left through a frost.

Feed and amend your soil. Once you’ve cleaned up your garden, feed your soil. Fall is the best time to fertilize, as there is ample time for compost or fertilizer to break down and release nutrients into the soil before spring.

Fall is the time to get those beautiful spring flower bulbs in the ground. Be sure to give them water to help them get established. Add a couple inches of mulch over the soil in case of a extreme cold winter.

Mulch! Mulch is a great way to keep soil warm while seeds and spring bulbs are germinating and establishing themselves. Mulching around perennials, shrubs and trees help keep roots warm in cold winters. Mulching also helps add nutrients and organic matter to the soil.

Some perennials are more productive the following year if they’re pruned back in the fall. Herbs, rhubarb, some shrubs and trees all benefit from fall pruning.

Fall is a great time to plant ornamental trees and shrubs. Fruit trees and bushes do better when planted in early spring, but ornamentals like Japanese Maples, Evergreens and even Hydrangeas and Rhododendrons can be planted in the fall. But plant a few weeks ahead of any frost to give them time to get established.

Make some notes this year that will help you plan for next year. One important thing to write down is where you had everything planted. It’s always best to rotate your crops to avoid disease and nutrient deficiencies. Consider drawing a rough sketch of your garden and noting where things were planted. Also, note which of your crops did exceptional and what didn’t do so well.

Perhaps the best part of this time of year is the planning for next year’s garden!





What's Happening At The Museum in September:

The Museum has had a busy summer with a variety of guests enjoying history as well as having fun. I mention fun because one of our buildings in the 1940's was called Playland. It was a skating rink and a ballroom. The building still has its original maple floor which was conducive to dancing as well as a nice slick floor for roller skating. We also have original posters and publicity about Playland and many great activities which made it the place to go in Union to have loads of fun. Skaters had lace up skates with wooden wheels and there is a pair of these skates on display used in 1947 by Union resident La Von Bingham Hall.

There are many newspaper articles about the ballroom and famous bands which would come to Union to provide an evening of entertainment. These ads name T. Texas Tyler, a popular Western singer, Maddox Brothers and Rose, Wesley Tuttle, a star of screen and radio and a novelty act with the Three Shifles Skonks. According to advertisements a common quote was "See you at Playland. After the closure of this popular spot the building had a variety of uses, the last being the home of Ivan's Foods.

In 1968 the First National Bank Building next door to Ivan's was vacant and was purchased to become the Union County Museum. Twenty four years later the Playland Building was purchased and the two buildings were connected to form the lobby. When one looks at the buildings as they are today it's amazing to realize this work was done by volunteers.

The Museum also has a small library with history books, high school annuals and extremely old novels. These cannot be checked out but are available for anyone to come and read. A Union High School graduate came to the museum with two friends and past fun via yearbook pictures was shared with the Museum hosts as well as the friends. Amidst much gaiety and laughter we realized that perhaps the spirit of Playland still lingered. We have some missing years in the high school annual department so the donation of annuals is always most welcome.

Mark September 19 on your calendar for a Third Tuesday event at the Little White Church at 7 p.m. The Sheehy Family will provide an evening of music and rumor has it that John will play a very old and unique instrument that has historic ties to Union. Do come and "have fun" at the museum. More next month.

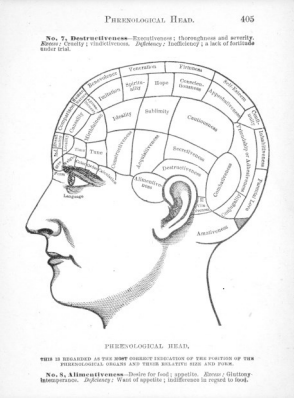


Snippet of Union's History.....

Oregon Scout September 10, 1887

All who are in love, but not loved in return; veteran maidens and bachelors; all who are married but would like a divorce; hen pecking wives and abusive husbands; grass widows, and widowers; all who have made marriage a failure and all who would like to make it a success, should attend Prof. Aulguire's phrenological lecture on "Love, Courtship and Marriage."

Prof. Aulguire's lecture on Phrenology Wednesday night, and the one on physiognomy Thursday night, were very entertaining. They were certainly of higher order than some we have listened to upon the same subjects. His cranial and facial delineation were very good. The Prof. seems a gentleman in every respect. Tonight his lecture is on "Love, Courtship and Marriage." Monday he will lecture to the children on Education etc. All should go and hear him.



How Can You Help The Museum?

The Union County Museum is staffed solely by valued volunteers. Occasionally, there are no volunteers available to act as hosts. We apologize, if the museum is closed, but it is for this reason. Recently we have been able to increase our open business days due to a few more volunteers, and we would love to be able to open even more days. But this can only be done with additional volunteers.

If you live in Union County and would like to volunteer as a host please contact Raye Clark @ 541-414-7316 or email hookandrave@yahoo.com

You are also welcome to come by, visit the museum and speak with Raye about becoming a volunteer.



Ordinance Education Corner...

Discarded Vehicle: Any vehicle which does not have lawfully affixed thereto an unexpired license plate and is in one or more of the following conditions: inoperative, wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, abandoned, junked. Discarded vehicles may be deemed to include major parts thereof, including but not limited to, bodies, engines, transmissions and rear ends.

Abandoned Vehicle: Vehicles left unoccupied, unclaimed, damaged, or dismantled condition on the street right-of-way or alleys of the city or on any other public or private property within the city.

It is unlawful to store or permit storage of a discarded vehicle upon any private property within the city unless vehicle is completely enclosed within a building or fence, or unless it is in connection with a business enterprise.

The presence of a discarded vehicle on private or public property is declared to constitute a public nuisance, which may be abated in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

To read this ordinance in its entirety, log onto the city's website at www.cityofunion.com and search ordinance.

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email? Just call city hall at 541-562-5197 or email lauradodds@cityofunion.com and we will put you on the email list.



COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:



- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ Upcoming Wastewater Influent Screen Project
- ⇒ Upcoming Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Union County Sheriff Contract
- ⇒ Hiring of new City Administrator
- ⇒ Reviewing Nuisance Ordinances

~City Council Members ~

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

Mayor Susan Hawkins

September 2023 Council Meetings

- September 11th
- Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
- Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

- September 25th
- 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