

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

February 2024



From The Desk Of...
Celeste Tate
City Administrator

Another new year has begun as I take over the reins as City Administrator here in this wonderful town. It has been a little over 3 weeks since I first walked in and with it has been a range of wild weather from snow and wind and below zero temperatures to 50 degrees and sunny. It has been a great first few weeks meeting folks from around the community and moving forward on different projects. Some of those projects include:

Ranger Station Project – Work continues on the second unit with HVAC, plumbing, and electrical finishing up and we anticipate that the second unit will be open for short-term rental by March 1st. The first unit is currently rented most nights and great reviews continue to roll in from folks who have had the opportunity to stay there.

Fire Station Annexation – Discussions continue on a proposed annexation of the City of Union Fire Department/EMS into the Union Rural Fire Protection District. A committee is currently working on budget planning and future equipment needs with different scenarios. This includes both if the annexation moves forward with public support and also what the EMS monthly fee may need to be to address future needs if the annexation is not successful. I encourage you to attend an upcoming committee meeting at the Fire Station on February 6th or 20th. There will also be a public hearing on February 12th here at the City Council chambers.

The city received a Community Development Block Grant in 2022 to assist with improvements for the water system and telemetry system. Though work has slowed during the winter months, work will start back up in full force mid-February to complete the project during 2024.

Additionally, budget season is coming up for the City of Union and along with that will come annual budget meetings in late April. Watch for the dates coming up soon and participate in your local government. Lastly, we have an open position on the Planning Commission and are currently taking applications. The Planning Commission generally meets once a month, sometime less, depending upon applications coming before it. Please see City Hall for an application and apply today.

Again, thank you for the warm welcome and if I have not had the opportunity to meet you yet, come down to City Hall and say hi, I look forward to seeing new faces.

Celeste Tate

Fire/EMS Rate Forecast Committee

The City is looking for volunteers to be on this committee and participate in reviewing the current Fire/EMS rate and a forecasted rate for the future.

Upcoming Meetings:

February 6th @ 7pm

February 20th @ 7pm

Meetings will be held at the Fire Hall, located at 570 E. Beakman, Union OR

If you would like to participate on this committee please stop by city hall and fill out a volunteer form. Or email lauradodds@cityofunion.com and one can be emailed upon request.

Fire/EMS Annexation Hearings

We invite you to join us:

The **2nd Public Hearing** to discuss the annexation of the City Fire/EMS with the Rural Fire Protection District, will be held Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00pm. in the Leonard Almquist Council Chambers. Please join us.



"Wherever you go,
no matter what the
weather, always
bring your own
sunshine."



Union Carnegie Public Library

~February Activities~

The Friends of The Library will be hosting a Valentine’s romance book sale downstairs at the library February 5th ~ 16th during open hours. Proceeds go to the Friends of The Library to support library functions.

Storytime Tuesdays from 10am ~ 11am

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| February 6th | Shell Necklace |
| February 13th | Paper Weaving |
| February 20th | Dino Collage |
| February 27th | Winter Sewing Cards |



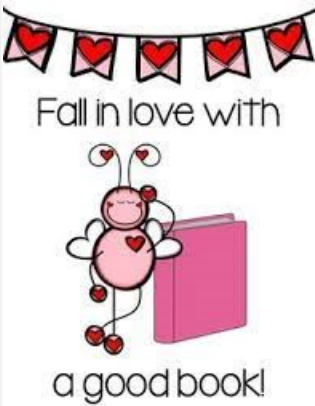
After School Craft Group ~ February 6th & February 20th 4:00pm to 5:00pm
Led by community partners, all supplies provided free

Adult Craft Night ~ February 12th starts @ 5:00pm ~ Faux stained glass. Free, all supplies provided, open to the public

We will be hosting our First seed exchange! Join us February 26th @ 5:00pm

Bring your surplus seeds (or just peruse ours-we have plenty!) and use our markers and bags to take home new varieties. If you are sharing seeds we will provide index cards so you can jot down information like type, age, organic, heirloom, or planting tips you would like to share.

Thank you to the Dorothy Louise Kyler grant foundation for awarding us a \$2500 grant for children’s materials and new media!!



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

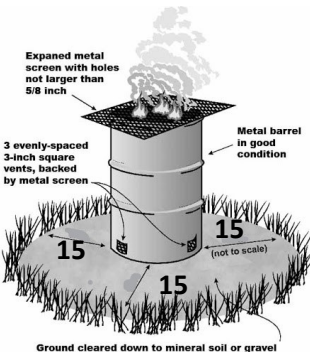
541~562~5811
Tiffany Derichsweiler ~ Librarian

Check us out on Facebook @Union,OR Carnegie Library

2024 Burn Permits Available

Your 2024 burn permits are available here at city hall. Permits are good for a full calendar year and cost \$10.00.

A burn permit is required for any open burning and container burning.

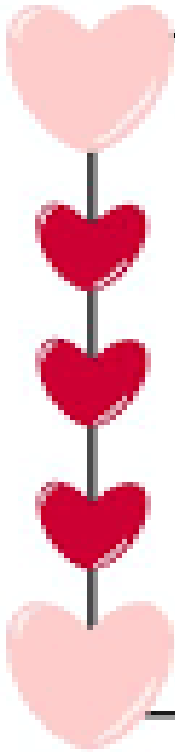


We have burning ordinance brochures available here at city hall, or if you would like one emailed to you just let us know. There is important information in the brochure on burning regulations in the city limits of Union.



The Friends of The Union Carnegie Public Library are accepting donations for their annual yard sale fundraiser this spring.

Please coordinate drop off of donated materials by contacting the Friends on their Facebook page 'Friends of Union Carnegie Library' or call the library at 541-562-5811. All proceeds from sales are used to support your local library.



LJ Brewskis welcomes you to spend Valentines Day with us!
We will be offering a special menu for your enjoyment...

Starter for two ~

Shrimp cocktail with crab melts

Soup and Salad Bar

Main Entrees ~

Prime Rib with baked tater

New York Steak with baked tater


Seafood Pasta

Pesto Chicken Pasta

Dessert for two

Regular menu item will also be available

An RSVP is appreciated, although not required



"My favorite thing to make for dinner is reservations with you."

Wall Branding and BBQ at LJ Brewskis

Join us on Saturday, February 10th, starting at 4:00pm for BBQ Brisket and Pulled Pork sandwiches and bring your branding irons! We will be set up for hot and electric irons.

Come Put Your Brand On Brewskis Wall!!

Coming February 24th....

Name the cow at Brewskis! Proceeds from 'Name The Cow' entry's will be donated to Union County FFA Chapters.

More information will available as the date gets closer.

UPCOMING
Events



The City of Union has an open seat on the Planning Commission...

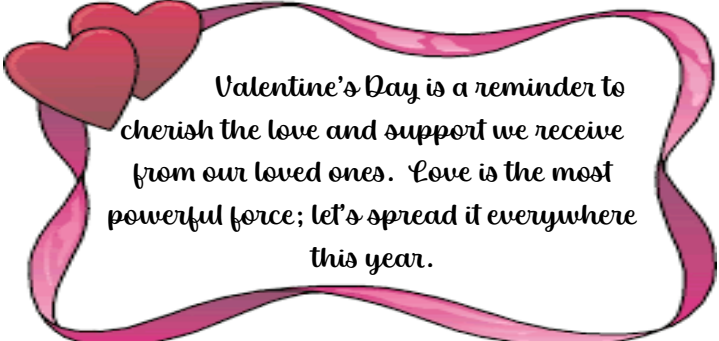
The Planning Commission, a quasi-judicial body, consists of seven members appointed by the Union City Council. The Commission conducts public hearings on planning applications and subdivision applications for specific parcels of land and in some cases recommendations to the City Council. The Planning Commission is the approval authority for most special use permits. On occasion, it is responsible for reviewing site plans. The Planning Commission makes decisions and recommendations based on the Comprehensive Plan and requirements in the City's zoning codes. The Planning Commission is responsible for updating the Comprehensive Use Plan for the continued growth and development of the City.

Planning Commission meetings are held once a month, when there are applications to go before the commission. These meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of each month. Candidates for this position must also be a registered voter.

If the Planning Commission interests you and you would like to be considered for the position, please come by or call city hall for a volunteer application. You can also call email city hall at lauradodds@cityofunion.com for an application.



♡♡ Happy Valentine's Day! ♡♡



Valentine's Day is a reminder to cherish the love and support we receive from our loved ones. Love is the most powerful force; let's spread it everywhere this year.



What's Happening At The Museum in February:

Last month the formal parlor and the old fashioned kitchen period rooms were featured. Historically the kitchen with its wood cook stove was probably the warmest room during cold weather. Another of our period rooms is an old fashioned bathroom stocked with useful items. One feature is a gravity flush toilet which was the top of the line in luxury. Such a wonderful item in the house made life easier because folks didn't have to trudge outside to visit the outhouse. A box containing water was above the appliance and flushing was accomplished by pulling a chain. Also there is a unique zinc bathtub which was certainly more comfortable than a washtub.

The well stocked bathroom also has bottles, vials and tins containing useful items such as Dr. Lyon's Tooth Powder, Goblin Soap, Dr. Miles Nervine, most useful when nerves keep a person awake at night, straight razors and hand held hair clippers that did not run on electricity but instead needed a steady hand squeeze to make the clippers cut hair. These items which were so innovative in the past makes one appreciate the modern bathroom features we all enjoy today.

Another room in the Museum which is not open to the public is the Archive Room. This is the repository for many kinds of paper items and is invaluable for specific types of research. This area contains a wealth of information in handwritten form about events, business activities and a myriad of transactions related to daily life. For example, in a handwritten ledger from a Union grocery store we know that on October 23, 1893 R.A. Brown purchased sugar for \$1.00, rice for \$.50 and twenty oysters for \$.79. Also on that same date George Ames purchased a new pair of suspenders for \$.50. These are not earth shaking events but they represent a true glimpse of everyday life in a time long past.

There are also many business ledgers from the post office listing money orders from 1894 to 1911, ledgers from the famous Centennial Hotel, information from Willis Skiff's sawmill and railroad documents. There are personal diaries from High Valley, autograph books with charming verses, City Directories with addresses, occupants and occupations of each home in a city and Sanborn maps. Oftentimes when a museum visitor requests specific information a trained volunteer can find unique information located in the Archive Room. All of these items are wonderful treasures and a true reflection of day to day activities often not found in history books.

Happy Valentine's Day. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

Major R.H. Hendershot, the drummer boy of the Rappahannock, assisted by some of our best local talent will give an entertainment at Wright's hall in this city next Monday evening. The Portland, Maine Argus in speaking of the Major says:

"Robert H. Hendershot, the drummer boy of the Rappahannock the most noted drummer of the age gave an exhibition of his wonderful skill with the sticks at Greenwood Garden before a large audience which notwithstanding the unpleasant weather had assembled to hear him. He played on the solid silver drum with the gold tipped sticks presented to him by Horace Greely and it is no wonder audiences are delighted to hear him. Such drumming has never been heard in Maine. One of his selection last evening was an imitation of a battle and old soldiers who have passed through battles in all their fearful reality know how real are his imitations."

Mr. Hendershot is accompanied by his son, an expert fifer and with the assistance of our local talent will no doubt give an excellent entertainment. Admission 50cts; children 25cts; reserved seats 75cts; for sale at the Centennial hotel.



From Public Works

We all know that February in Eastern Oregon can be brutal. The city’s public works crew still cautions citizen to watch the forecast and to be prepared for freezing conditions.

The snow and freezing temperatures of January caused frozen pipes for a few residents in Union, so we remind you that just a few precautions can possibly save you hundreds of dollars spent on repairs.

During freezing temperatures we suggest that you:

- Let your faucet **trickle** (the size of a pencil lead)
- Leave cabinet doors open to let in warm air to pipes
- Wrap pipes with insulation

If your pipes do freeze, remember to warm them up slowly to prevent bursting a pipe.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ City/Rural Fire annexation
- ⇒ Upcoming Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Union County Sheriff Contract
- ⇒ Reviewing Ordinances

~City Council Members ~

Jay Blackburn
Tim Cox
John Farmer

Dick Middleton
John Black
Anita Davis

Mayor Susan Hawkins

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.

February 2024 Council Meetings

February 12th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

February 26th
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	541-562-5600
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	541-562-5600
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	UHS Ag Science Classroom at the back of the gym	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