

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 10:00am - 4:00pm

October 2024



From The Desk Of.....

Celeste Tate

City Administrator

This past month we have observed cooler temperatures over the last few weeks. It is hard to believe I have had the privilege of serving you for ¾ of a year now! I have greatly enjoyed meeting many of you and learning so much about this wonderful historic town. I look forward to continuing progress on the many projects to benefit the city and citizens. If I have not met you yet, please stop by. There are also volunteer opportunities on the planning commission coming up, and also the historic committee. Public attendance is also always welcome and encouraged at any and all commission, committee or council meetings. Below are some updates on several items.

The second unit at the Ranger Station was well received this summer and both units were well utilized by folks visiting the area. I fully expect that in the years to come, this resource will be able to contribute funds to the general fund to aid in economic development for the City of Union. The third and final unit will hopefully be up and running sometime during 2025.

The Planning Commission will have an open seat starting December as Robert Burton will be stepping down. We thank Mr. Burton for his many years of service. From my cursory look, Mr. Burton has provided over 15 years of service to the city on the planning commission. This commission is vital to the smooth running of the city by reviewing and making decisions on all; conditional use permits; variances; partitions and subdivisions and also makes recommendations to the city council on; zone changes; comprehensive plans; and ordinances related to planning and development. If you are interested in serving the city in this capacity, please come to city hall and pick up an application.

There will be a Public Informational meeting held at the Catherine Creek Community Center on October 1st at 6:30pm in regard to the Buffalo Flats project. Though this project began several years ago, project design has not been completed and many residents still have concerns as to the affect of this project on the floodplain within the city and other impacts the project may have. This meeting is an opportunity to come together and share information and hear from others. Everyone is welcome to attend. Though this meeting is not an official city meeting, I have assisted with coordination efforts in order to facilitate open communication and dialog. Please come and visit with others.

The park has been busy this summer, but things are winding down with the Family Roots Blues & Brews which occurred on September 27th and included some great live music, vendors and some tasty drinks. Hope you were able to enjoy some of the festivity.

The fire burn ban has been lifted for the City of Union as of October 1st. However, please burn responsibly. Please watch the wind and monitor your fires as they can spread quickly. Also remember to pick up a burn permit at city hall for \$10.00 which are valid for one calendar year from January through December.

Welcome to fall and the cooler temperatures and vibrant colors. Though I am not much of a pumpkin spice lover, I will enjoy a nice peppermint mocha as I watch the leaves turn.

Celeste Tate





FOG?

Fats, Oils and Grease.....commonly found in wastewater. When poured down the drain, FOG can build up in your sewer pipes and cause some very significant and costly problems. Including sewer backups into your home.

Why should you care?

Residential households contribute FOG build-up in the sewer lines because of the amount of fats, oils and grease washed into the plumbing system, primarily through the kitchen sink. When sewer line clogs happen, it is up to the homeowner to clear the line. This can be potentially hazardous and very costly.

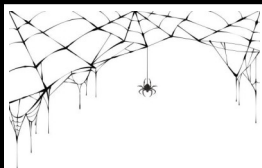
What can you do?

The easiest way to solve the FOG problem is to keep it out of the system in the first place.

- ⇒ Never pour fats, oils and grease down the sink drains, garbage disposal or toilet
- ⇒ Pour fats, oils and grease into jars, cans, or when cooled into a plastic container. When the container is full dispose of it in the trash
- ⇒ Mix cooking oil with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds, place in a lidded container for disposal in the trash
- ⇒ Never dispose of fats, oils or grease outside!, or down the storm drain



FOG build up and clogs cause major issues at the city wastewater treatment plant as well, costing expensive maintenance and equipment replacement costs. Unfortunately, these costs are often passed onto the citizens



Main Street Union Presents

Trunk -or- Treat 2024

Union High School Parking Lot, October 31st

5:00pm - 7:00pm



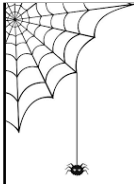
HAPPY "INCORPORATED" DAY!!

The City of Union received it's original charter from the State of Oregon on October 19th, 1878. Originally founded in 1862, and platted on November 11th, 1864, it wasn't incorporated until 1878. Then in 1891 a new charter was granted to the city, enlarging the corporate limits of the city to one square mile.

At Union's fifty-year birthday in 1928, it's population had grown to over one thousand residents and at it's centennial birthday it had grown to two thousand residents. Today, Union is still home to about 2,100 residents....give or take a few....with many new homes being built and some new small businesses starting up.

Happy Incorporated Day City of Union ~ October 19th ~ 146 years and counting!





Union Carnegie Public Library

~October Activities~



STORYTIME EVERY TUESDAY 10AM ~ 11AM

WE WILL READ TOGETHER FOR HALF AN HOUR AND THEN DO A CRAFT/ACTIVITY:

- 10/1 PAINTED ANIMAL LEAVES
- 10/8 CAULDRON ART
- 10/15 SCAREDY CATS
- 10/22 FLASHLIGHT ART
- 10/29 CHICKEN ART



AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS: FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH ~ OCTOBER 1ST & OCTOBER 15TH 4PM ~ 5PM.

ADULT EVENTS, MONDAY 5PM ~ 6PM

- 10/14 FAIRY HOUSES
- 10/21 SHELL BOXES



PUMPKIN PAINTING: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 10:00AM TO NOON, OUR ANNUAL PUMPKIN PAINTING EVENT!! ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED.

DID YOU KNOW: FREE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL PASSES ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH YOUR LIBRARY CARD? LOG IN WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD TO ACCESS THESE BENEFITS AT [HTTPS://LIBRARIESOFEASTERNOREGON.QUIPUGROUP.NET/?UNION](https://librariesofeasternoregon.quipugroup.net/?union)

COOLER WEATHER: WHAT BETTER TIME TO CURL UP WITH A GOOD BOOK! THE DAYLIGHT HOURS ARE GETTING SHORTER, THE TEMPERATURES ARE GETTING COOLER, NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME! UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY INVITES YOU TO COME AND FIND YOUR NEXT GOOD BOOK, OR AUDIO BOOK!!

FOOTBALL

Friday, October 4th vs. Crane @ 5:00pm

Friday, October 11th vs. Cove @ 7:00pm

Friday, October 18th vs. North Powder (homecoming) @ 7:00pm

Friday, November 1st vs. Imbler @ 7:00pm



VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday, October 1st vs North Powder JV/V @ 5:00/6:00pm

Thursday, October 3rd vs. Elgin JV/V @ 5:00/6:00pm

Friday, October 11th vs. Cove JV/V @ 4:00/5:00pm

Saturday, October 12th vs. Sherman/Cove/Weston (4 way game, start time TBD)

Thursday, October 17th vs. Elgin JV/V @ 5:00/6:00pm

Friday, October 18th vs. North Powder JV/V @ 4:00/5:00pm

All games and start times are subject to change





What's Happening at the Museum....

The Museum has officially closed for the season and will reopen Mother's Day 2025. The closure will enable brick mason Rod Muilenberg to erect scaffolds, move bricks, mortar and related building materials needed to repair the crumbling parapet on the south side of the bank building.

Accessioning of donated historic items is an ongoing task. Donations are always welcome. If you wish to donate while the museum is closed you may do so by e-mailing ucmuseumoregon.com to make arrangements for someone to meet you at the museum.

Fall is here and it is time to prepare for winter. Hopefully hay is now ready for winter stock feeding, home canning and dehydrating is in progress and warm clothes are emerging from storage.

According to archival records Union was well known for huge harvests of various types of fruit. Conrad Miller in 1862 brought apple and pear trees to be planted. Apparently fruit of all kinds grew well in the Union area. Dried apples and dried prunes were products which were popularly sold to mining areas. The dried fruit also were great for shipping long distances. One article stated that the Allen Fruit Drier in Cove actually shipped 1,000,000 pounds of dried fruit in the year 1900. Try to imagine one million pounds of dried fruit!

In 1876 A.J. Goodbrod who resided in southwest Union (his original home is still there today) created a man made lake which was in existence from 1900 until the mid 1930's. He was noted for raising huge quantities of apples and prunes which were shipped to various locations via railroad. His apples were well known and he also owned a cider mill that produced delicious cider and high grade vinegar.

In 1904 Union had a prosperous business known as the Allen Fruit Evaporator. This fruit evaporator was located in a two story structure eighty by one hundred feet on a siding of the Central Railroad of Oregon. During the fruit season at least 12 men were employed by the AFE. Mostly prunes were "evaporated" but pears and apples were also processed.

Some of these heritage trees are still scattered around the city. About three years ago a gentleman doing research on heirloom apples did a presentation about his search for old varieties of fruit. Because of Unions' rich past with fruit he did find several old species of trees. Old trees do have a history. If you have such a tree in your yard, take good care of it. It may well have contributed to that one million pounds of dried fruit that was shipped in the year 1900. Enjoy October. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

A man who refused to give his name was committed to jail for 25 days by Justice Ellsworth on Wednesday last at La Grande and was brought over yesterday by Constable Baker and was placed behind bars in the county jail. He was convicted of larceny of a cheese. If the cheese was like some we have seen the penalty of having to eat it would be equal to six months confinement.

~Oregon Scout July 13, 1888

Yes... You Can Burn

Burning is allowed beginning October 1st, with a burn permit issued by the City of Union. You can obtain a burn permit at City Hall. Burn permits are \$10.00 and are valid for each calendar year, January through December.

Please remember, you can only burn
the following:

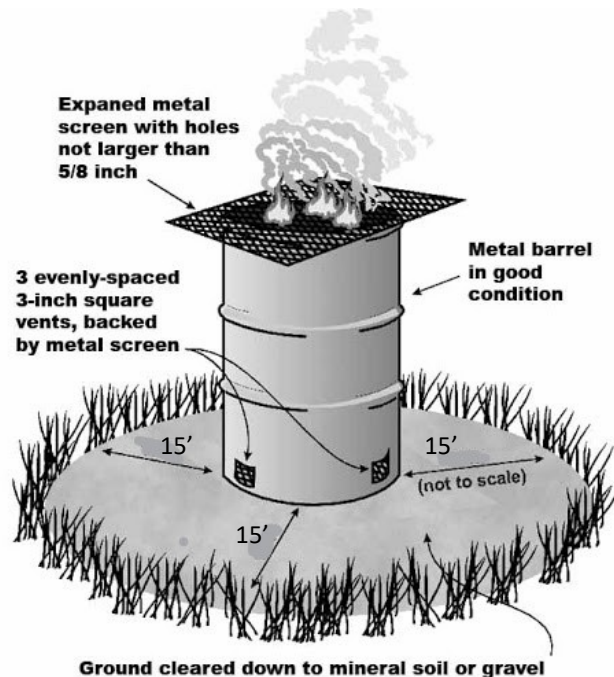
- ⇒ Dry leaves
- ⇒ Twigs
- ⇒ Un-waxed paper and cardboard

ABSOLUTELY NO GARBAGE

All fires must be completely out by dusk.

Violations of burning regulations can result in a citation.

Be sure to pick up your pamphlet for burn barrel regulations and other burning regulations at City Hall, or contact us and we can email you a pamphlet.



Did You Know ~

October 1, 1908 ~ Henry Ford's Model T, a "universal car" for the masses, went on sale for the first time.

October 2, 1968 ~ California's Redwood National Park was established. Redwoods are the tallest of all trees, growing up to 400 feet during a lifetime that can span 2,000 years.

October 3, 1863 ~ President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday or November as Thanksgiving Day.

October 13, 1775 ~ The US Navy was born after the Second Continental Congress authorized the acquisition of a fleet of ships.

October 15, 1917 ~ World War 1 spy, Mata Hari, was executed by a French firing squad at Vincennes Barracks, outside Paris.

October 21, 1879 ~ Thomas Edison successfully tested an electric incandescent lamp with a carbonized filament at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, keeping it lit for over 13 hours.

October 31, 1941 ~ Mount Rushmore National Memorial was completed after 14 years of work.

Planning Commission Seat Open Soon

Are you interested in the growth of your community?

Are you interested in becoming involved in your local government? Then the Planning Commission is a great place for you!

The Planning Commission meet once a month, on the third Wednesday at 7:00pm. This committee makes decisions and recommendations based on the City Comprehensive Plan and requirements in the City's zoning codes. The Planning Commission is the approval authority for most special use permits. On occasion, it is responsible for reviewing site plans.

Applications can be picked up at City Hall, by email ,or found on the City's website

www.cityofunion.com

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Reviewing Ordinances
- ⇒ Committees working on the City Charter, Water/Sewer, Zoning, Trails, and Ordinances



~City Council Members ~

Jay Blackburn	Dick Middleton
Tim Cox	John Black
John Farmer	Anita Davis
Mayor Susan Hawkins	

October 2024 Council Meetings

October 14th

Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

October 28th

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



Did you know you can receive a city newsletter by email? If you would like to receive your newsletter this way just email Laura Dodds at lauradodds@cityofunion.com and request your name be added to the list.

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	541-562-2038
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	5:30 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	Nov 21, Feb 27 & May 22nd	Library	9:00am	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	541-562-2038
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