

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

December 2024



From The Desk Of.....

Celeste Tate

City Administrator

As the winter season approaches, that means one thing, the holidays are on their way. Here in Union, that also means the annual Christmas Parade and tree lighting and the community coming alive with the festive spirit. The annual lighted parade will be on December 7th with a Nutcracker theme. I look forward to seeing all the floats lit up for the holidays. Earlier that same day will be a Winter Wonderland Bazaar and will feature vendor tables full of arts and crafts, concessions, gifts and many other offerings at the Catherine Creek Community Center. With so much to enjoy, from food and entertainment to holiday shopping and shining lights, it is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season. Mark your calendar, gather your loved ones and make plans to enjoy the festivities of the day! The library also will have many activities for the kids as well as adults this month including Cookies with Santa, a falconry presentation, and monogram Christmas ornaments for adults. There is something going on each week so make sure to stop in and see what's happening.

Winter season also means freezing temperatures and we can't remind folks enough to make sure hoses are disconnected from spickets even if they are frost free. Taking these and other precautions to winterize where needed, including insulating when necessary, can save \$1,000's later. Broken water lines are preventable and when they break cost residents considerable amounts of money.

On the city side, public works has been preparing for winter weather and the cold temperatures. As the winter traveling begins, please make sure to give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination without rushing and leave yourself more time for stopping as even roads that appear to be clear can be slick.

January will bring to the council three new councilors. While the election results will not be certified until after this newsletter comes out. We do know that there will be three new councilors as those three councilors did not re-run for these positions. I look forward to working with the new folks and the city can benefit from having a fresh perspective on things.

January will also mean the start of the budget season with budget committee meetings to follow in the spring presumably in the month of April. If you are interested in serving on the budget committee, please come down to city hall and fill out an application for consideration.

Coming up in January is also my one-year anniversary here as your City Administrator. I have enjoyed immensely getting to know the town and the citizens and working for the betterment of the community.

I look forward to the next year.

Have a happy holiday season and stay safe and warm.

Celeste Tate



Christmas Parade

And

Winter Wonderland

Tree Lighting With Santa



5:30pm ~ Lighted Parade (themed Nutcracker)

Parade line up is 4:45pm in front of Old West Federal Credit Union. Email unionchamber@eoni.com to register or just show up to join us.

Followed by ~

Tree Lighting with Santa!

Located at Hometown Hardware

Chili provided by VFW

Join us to Welcome in the Holidays!



Mayor Hawkins, the City Council,

City Administrator, Employees

and Volunteers wish you a

Happy Holidays!

Travel plans in your future?...

We urge travelers to not blindly follow their GPS devices/mapping apps to navigate road closures.

We know in our area road closures happen often! Road closures can happen at any time, with no warning, and for many reasons, not only depending on the weather.

Just recently there were multiple motorists stranded in our area after relying on GPS to divert them around a road closure. They were fortunate that a SOS signal reached authorities and Union County Search and Rescue located them.

Just because your GPS device/mapping app shows the best alternate route it doesn't mean the road is open and passable. Remember, the farther off the normally travelled route you get, the farther away from help you get, and the possibility of losing all cell services.

Nothing is worth taking the chance, it's best to get to where you are going late, than to not get there at all.

As always, we also recommend having a few safety essentials when driving anywhere this winter:

Keep these items in a bag or container in your car or truck:

- ◆ Ice Scrapper, and small travel/camping size shovel
- ◆ Something to give traction; sand or kitty litter, or chains
- ◆ Flashlight and extra batteries, matches
- ◆ Jumper cables, tool box
- ◆ First Aid Kit, with, if possible extra daily medications
- ◆ Blankets
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Non-perishable foods
- ◆ Cell phone charger
- ◆ An extra quart of oil, and container of anti-freeze



Before heading out, plan your trip and allow plenty of time to get to your destination safely.

OH DEER
WINTER
IS HERE

Wonderland Bazaar



Catherine Creek Community Center

Saturday, December 7th 11am ~ 4pm

Art, Baked Goods, Concessions
Crafts, Gifts, Jewelry and Music!

Fun for the whole family!!

667 S. Main, Union, OR

Email ccccenter667@gmail.com for more info





Your local Fire & Emergency Service Departments are requesting your help in making this Christmas a very special one for the local children of the community. Your donation has the power to make a difference.

A small donation of a New unwrapped toy, game, gloves, hats, or cash (which the department uses to purchase needed gifts), are just a few suggestions.

Look for donation boxes at local businesses.

Cash donations can be made at City Hall.

Donations are tax deductible, receipts are available at City Hall upon request.



Help make this a Merry Christmas for a child who might otherwise go without.

City of Union Snow Removal Policy

During times of inclement weather it is the City's mission to maintain adequate and safe traffic flow for emergency personnel, school buses, and the general citizenry, while being fiduciary responsible when removing ice, slush and snow.

The City of Union Snow Removal Policy states:

The City might not initiate snow removal until four (4) inches of wet heavy snow, four (4) inches of dry blowing snow at 20+ mph winds, or six (6) inches of dry powdery snow accumulates on the open ground. Snow removal will be conducted along streets according to their priority in facilitating the movement of emergency vehicles and personnel, school busses and local traffic. A map of these routes is available at City Hall.

Slush that has accumulated to at least four (4) inches will be plowed to facilitate water movement away from driving lanes, reducing the risk of iced driving lanes.

The City will not be responsible for clearing individual driveways that may be blocked from snow removal operations. While plowing streets a resident's driveway may be blocked by a berm caused by plowing. The City is not responsible to clear these driveways. Personnel plowing will do their best to not block driveways, but often due to the equipment used it is impossible to prevent it from happening. We appreciate your understanding in this matter, and realize they are working hard to clear the streets for all of us.

The City will work to anticipate dangerous conditions brought on by freezing rain, black ice, packed or freezing snow, and will apply sand to major intersections, steep slopes, and any other areas where ice could constitute a significant hazards to motor vehicles.

If you would like a copy of the City of Union Snow Removal Policy and plowing route, you can pick one up at city hall. Or contact city hall at 541-562-5197 if you would like one mailed or emailed.



When meeting a plow on the road, slow down, never pass on the right. Plows, sanders and other large equipment are often difficult to see out of, only pass on the left if the driver sees you and motions for you to pass.

Drive careful this winter and stay safe!

Union Carnegie Public Library

~December Activities~



Keep an eye out for Pip, our Elf on the Shelf! He moves around the library causing mischief! Come over and intervene!!

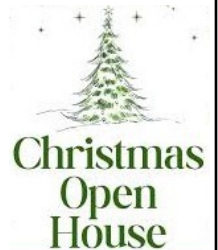
****STOP BY FOR COOKIES WITH SANTA ON DECEMBER 20TH, 1:00PM ~ 4:00PM
DECEMBER 23RD, 4:00PM ~ 6:00PM
DECEMBER 24TH, 3:00PM ~ 5:00PM.**



**BRING YOUR PHONE OR CAMERA AND TAKE PICTURES WITH THE BIG MAN HIMSELF!
FOR FREE!!**



****THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY WILL BE HOSTING THEIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE ON DECEMBER 20TH, FROM 6:00PM ~ 8:00PM. 16 DOOR PRIZES!! REFRESHMENTS DOWNSTAIRS IN THE EATON ROOM IN THE UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY.**



****WATCH FOR OUR PARADE ENTRY IN THIS YEAR'S WINTER WONDERLAND CHRISTMAS PARADE! THANK YOU TO THE CITY OF UNION PUBLIC WORKS AND THE FRIENDS OF THE UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR ALL OF YOUR HELP!**

****DECEMBER 24TH AT 1:00PM WE WILL BE WATCHING THE POLAR EXPRESS AND DRINKING HOT COCOA. STOP BY AND GRAB A JOLABOKAFLOD MUG AND FREE COCOA WHILE SUPPLIES LAST AT OUR COCOA BAR. BRING YOUR FAVORITE STUFFIE (OR BORROW ONE OF OURS) AND GET COMFY FOR A COMMUNITY MOVIE.**

STORYTIME EVERY TUESDAY 10:00AM ~ 11:00AM

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

- 12/3 GINGERBREAD PLAYDOUGH
- 12/10 LETTERS TO SANTA
- 12/17 DALA HORSE ORNAMENTS
- 12/24 MINI CHRISTMAS TREES



AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS: FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH ~ DECEMBER 3RD & 17TH 4:00PM ~ 5:00PM

ADULT EVENTS, SELECTED MONDAYS 5:00PM ~ 6:00PM

- 12/9 MONOGRAM CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

WE HAVE A FALCONER WITH HIS HAWK, "GOMEZ", COMING OUT TO THE CITY PARK ON DECEMBER 20TH, 10:00AM ~ 11:30AM. COME BY TO LEARN ABOUT FALCONRY. THIS IS A FREE EVENT OPEN TO ALL AGES IN COMMUNITY.



UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY
182 S MAIN, UNION OR
541~562~5811
TIFFANY DERICHSWEILER ~ LIBRARIAN



What's Happening at the Museum....



This December all the volunteers at the Museum would like to extend special holiday greetings to our Union neighbors. Along with our good wishes we would like to share some history of candy. It is said that candy is always sweeter when shared with friends so I would like to share some popular candy from the past.

Candy canes are possibly the oldest traditional candy for the holidays. These red and white treats actually can be traced back to 1670 when the choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral in Germany first bent sticks of sugar into the shape of a cane representing a shepherds' crook used for capturing wayward animals. These treats were passed out to children to keep them occupied. Eventually this treat made its way to the U.S. in 1847 brought by German-Swedish immigrants.

Other popular hard candies included ribbon candy made from long strips of hard candy that was folded to look like a ruffled ribbon. There were a variety of flavors and bright colors. Cut rock candy was round and had a themed design in the center surrounded by white and then a variety of colors for the outside coating. Filled raspberries were a hard outer shell of candy with a soft center. Of course we all fondly remember the lifesaver books that were usually only available during the Christmas season.

Gum drops were quite popular not only as a candy but as an interesting chewy addition to popcorn balls, cakes and cookies. I remember an elderly neighbor always had a gum drop tree on her holiday table. It was a tree and gum drops were stuck on the bare branches. She also used this tree for Valentine's Day and used red gum drops.

Pink peppermint pigs were quite popular during Victorian times since a pig was the symbol of good health, happiness and prosperity. The tradition was to bring this candy pig out after dinner and pass it around the table in a pouch. Each person gave the pig a tap with a small hammer and then would share a favorite memory from the past year. The pouch would then be opened and everyone would eat a piece of peppermint pig.

The well decorated Victorian tree usually had a Christmas tussie mussie. A tussie mussie was a paper mâché cone made of gift wrap or used holiday cards. Each tussie mussie was filled with candy and nuts.

Favorite candy was always a special holiday treat in the past as it still is today. Remember-candy is always sweeter when shared with friends. Wishing everyone a sweet and enjoyable December. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

Robbers entered the First National Bank of Union, about 3 o'clock this morning, but were unsuccessful in looting the treasure vault. They entered the building by forcing the front door and going into the bank parlor. They first burrowed through the walls of the vault. Attacks were then made on the fine safe in the vault, with a view to force it open and secure the contents. Nitroglycerine was used, and three charges were exploded. The double steel door of the vault was wrecked, and the large plate-glass windows in the front of the building blown out by the explosion, but the safe was not opened, although the front was badly damaged and the time lock ruined.

The damage to the bank and fixtures is fully \$2000. The explosion aroused the residents of that section of the town, and attracted the attention of the night watchman, but the robbers escaped. A revolver is the only article missing from the bank. The robbers secured no money, although over \$1000 was lying before them in the vault. Officers are working on the case, but have no clues as to the identity of the parties.

-Morning Oregonian 12/23/1900

happy holidays



Love walking your dog?....

- ◆ **Dress your dog:** Yes, dress your dog. A sweater, jacket, and boots to help keep them warm and beat the temperature, wind, rain/snow.
- ◆ **Protect your dog's paws:** Just like you should protect your dog's paws in the summer from hot asphalt, you should protect your dog's paws from icy frozen ground. Use booties or paw wax, be sure to clean their paws after each walk to remove any ice, snow or road salt that may be on them.
- ◆ **Keep walks short:** In the cold, dogs may not have as much stamina as they do in warmer weather, so try to keep walks shorter and less frequent.
- ◆ **Watch for signs of hypothermia:** The biggest risk of walking your dog in the winter is they can develop hypothermia, which is when their body loses more heat than it can produce. If your dog shows signs of being too cold, end your walk and get them inside and warm.

Cold Weather Care....

Cold weather creates stress for your four-legged family members, and they need your attention. When the temperatures start dropping it's time to give your outdoor pets lots of love and invite them inside, even if it's just in the garage. If you absolutely can't bring your pet inside, make certain to provide them clean and dry shelter out of the wind and weather. Insulate their area with straw or blankets.

Be sure to check their water often. Always make sure they have fresh water and that it's not frozen. A heated water bowl will make this easier.

Just as you should never leave your pet in a car in the summer, you should never leave your pet alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and can cause death to a pet.

Show them a little extra love this winter!



Wind And Trash!!....

Union Sanitation asks that citizens make sure that their trash is bagged with the bag tied shut, trash can lids are closed (even with the lid weighted with a rock or something similar if possible), and trash cans are pulled out to the edge of the road or street on pick up day.

Unbagged trash blows all over the city with these harsh winter winds! A weight of a rock or something similar will make sure the lid stays closed. Trash cans that aren't at the edge of road or street can not be picked up by garbage truck, therefore it may be missed on pickup day.

Thank You from Union Sanitation



The City of Union has completed their lead service line reporting, it was submitted to the Oregon Department of Human Services on October 14th. Through records and field inspections, we are pleased to announce that we have not detected any lead service lines in our system. For reporting information you can visit <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/servicelines.php> search for ID #00915

Public Notice:

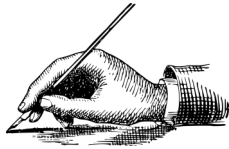
Freezing Temperatures mean the possibility of frozen pipes!! The city urges citizens to run their water at a steady 'trickle'. This helps prevent your waterlines from freezing as well as preventing your water meter from freezing.

A 'trickle' is described as about the size of a pencil lead.

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
 Anita Davis
 Mayor Susan Hawkins



December 2024 Council Meetings

December 9th

- Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
- Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

December 23rd

- Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

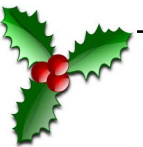
■ All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

■ 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