

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

January 2025



From The Desk Of.....

Celeste Tate

City Administrator

Happy New Year.

I hope you all have had a wonderful holiday season and that 2025 brings you health, happiness, and prosperity. This was my first holiday season as your City Administrator and I was amazed to see how beautifully decorated everything was in town. Union also had a resident win the "Elf Over the Top Decoration Award" from the Union County Chamber of Commerce. The resident of 924 E Bryan was the winner. Their decorations were very festive and lit up the neighborhood. It was great to see the participation around town. The Christmas Parade was also fun to watch, and the library had a great showing with their float including the dancing ballerina talent of Tiffany the librarian. Thank you to the library, the friends of the library, and the public works crew for all their work on the float and to all the other folks who participated in the parade. It was a wonderful event. I would also like to thank the city staff for their work in getting the Christmas lights up in the park and around main street.

The winter season has not brought us much snow in the valley that has stayed as of yet, but our public works crew is ready nonetheless. The crew completed the servicing of equipment that would be needed in the event of winter weather road conditions and weatherizing where needed. Do make sure to do the same with weatherizing your own pipes and vehicles and other needed items. I do hope for more snow even though I don't necessarily enjoy driving in it. A healthy snowpack is crucial for agriculture, streams and helping to minimize the fire risk next year so I am hoping the lack of snow now is not indicative of the rest of the winter season.

Congratulations to the new councilors who will be sworn in on January 13th during the council meeting. With the election results now certified, I can announce that Kori Cox will join the council in seat 1; Trisha Seale in seat 3, Donald George in seat 5, and Susan Hawkins retained her position as mayor. I look forward to working with the new council. I would also like to thank the outgoing council people Tim Cox in seat 3 as well as his service as council president, and Jay Blackburn in seat 1. Thank you both for your years of dedication to the city, as well as your support over the past year.

With the beginning of the new year and the new council there will also be a discussion on committees and new dates and times will be decided for those committees with new members. I encourage you to come to council meetings and stay involved with the community as well as attend committee meetings and contribute your ideas.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, January also signals the start of the budget season. The budget committee meetings to review the proposed budget will follow in the spring. If you are interested in serving on the budget committee, please come down to city hall and fill out an application for consideration.

Have a wonderful and prosperous new year

Celeste Tate

2025
happy new year



Thank You!

To all who donated to our annual Toy's for Tot's drive this year.....we were able to provide a very happy Christmas to many of our local kids thanks to your generous donations!

All of the volunteers with your Fire/EMS service wish you all a Happy New Year!



A TRICKLE OF WATER.....THE SIZE OF A PENCIL LEAD

REMEMBER, THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF A CATASTROPHE. BROKEN WATERLINES COULD END UP COSTING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN WATERLINE AND HOME REPAIRS!!

THE CITY CHARGES 1/2 A PENNY PER CUBIC FOOT FOR WATER, A CUBIC FOOT OF WATER IS APPROXIMATELY 7.5 GALLONS. RUNNING A 'TRICKLE' OF WATER WILL COST MUCH LESS THAN BROKEN LINES AND HOME REPAIRS.

WE ALL KNOW THAT JANUARY AND FEBRUARY CAN BE BRUTALLY COLD, AND WE CAN'T STRESS ENOUGH TO LET YOUR WATER RUN WHEN THE TEMPERATURES DROP!

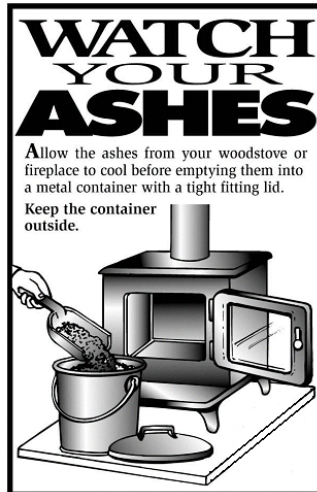


Ashes Don't Belong In The Trash....

Are you using your wood stove to keep warm this winter?

Please remember that your ashes should be disposed of properly, and not put into your trash can until they are **completely cold**. Place ashes in a metal container outside away from the house, out buildings, or anything else flammable. Keep your family and your property safe.

Ashes put into the trash too soon can also cause fire and costly damages to the garbage trucks. Those costs will be passed onto to you, so take care of those ashes properly.



House Numbers!

Winter means fire places, wood stoves, ice, flus and other illnesses....

These can all lead to the need for emergency response personnel. Every minute counts when emergency services are dispatched. At the time of dispatch they are given an address of the emergency. But can they find you? Do you have your address visible? Please post your house numbers! It may save your home or your life!

2025 Burn Permits Available

Burn permits for 2025 are now available at city hall. Permits are \$10.00 and are valid for the 2025 calendar year. Burn permits are required for burn barrels or open burning with in city limits.

Rules and regulations are also available at city hall.



Union Carnegie Public Library

~January Activities~

Happy New Year!

We hope you make this year a year of lots of books and reading!



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

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

- 1/14 SNOWFLAKE SEWING
- 1/21 CALM DOWN JARS
- 1/28 WINTER HATS



We shared First Place this year in the Christmas Parade!

Congratulations on our co-winner ~ House Family & Horses

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS: ONLY ONE THIS MONTH ~ JANUARY 21ST 4:00PM ~ 5:00PM

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

- 1/13 LOOM BEADING SESSION 1
- 1/20 LOOM BEADING SESSION 2
- 1/27 LOOM BEADING SESSION 3

CRAFT & CHAT!



UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY

182 S MAIN, UNION OR

541~562~5811

TIFFANY DERICHSWEILER ~ LIBRARIAN

Storm Drains....just for rain!

If you have curbs and gutters near your home or business, they likely have a storm drain nearby. Storm drains are for rain water or melting snow and transports that water to nearby stormwater ponds, and from there to nearby creeks and rivers. Therefore, if there are contaminants, trash or other materials in the water that enters storm drains, they too will be washed into local waterways.

Oregon State Law states that essentially anything other than rain-water should NOT go down a storm drain, including: wash water from vehicles or equipment, paint, oil, grease, chemicals, pool water, cleaning solutions, yard waste and any hazardous materials; anything that could pollute the waterways where stormwater drains lead.

Keep our waterways clear by keeping our storm drains clear from anything but water.





What's Happening at the Museum....

Even though the museum is closed and is dark and cold, very much like our January weather, there are many items that have their own story of how they contributed to a more comfortable life in the early twentieth century. Needless to say these items would not make our lives easier in 2025. One essential activity past and present is laundry day. We appreciate our washing machines and clothes driers. When the museum is open please stop by and look at our collection of washing machines and related items, some from the late 1800s. One machine that vaguely resembles half a wooden barrel with rockers combined pinwheel motion with a rocking movement of what was called the sud box. The rocking motion was made by hand and claimed to be much easier to use than a machine with a pin wheel agitator. The great thing about this combination washer was that it only used 3 pails of water that had to be heated on a wood stove.

Another old washing machine was made of wood with copper sheeting on the sides. A copper plunger was used essentially to pound the dirt out of the clothes. Then there was the attached Anchor brand wringer that had two rollers and a handle that was turned by hand.

Often clothes were rubbed on a washboard. Dripping clothes had to be hand wrung and were hung on a clothes-line in the yard to dry. In the winter salt could be added to the rinse water to keep the clothes from freezing. A folding wooden clothes rack was most often used in the house during the winter. I visited some elderly friends one winter afternoon and their wooden clothes rack loaded with wet underwear took up a good portion of their living room. I wondered about proper etiquette in regards to viewing underwear in a living room while visiting. I did comment on how unusually white those garments were. I was informed that a rinse additive had been used.

Several old products were used to keep clothes white. Mrs. Stewarts Bluing was a common whitener. Also American Ball Blue was sold in a box containing marble sized blue balls. I examined one of those blue balls from our museum display and have had a blue stain on my fingers for the past three days. It must have been a powerful product as was Blue Raindrop Water Softener which not only gave the "whitest, brightest" wash possible but it also prevented a ring in the bathtub when used sparingly in bath water.

One new addition to the museum displays for 2025 will be the building of an old fashioned wash house. Not only will there be an extensive display of washing machines but there will also be a tin bathtub. All of these items from the past make one appreciate not only the hard work associated with early wash days but serve to remind us how lucky we are to be able to wash and dry our clothes in about an hour.

Stay warm. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

Tuesday last a young man who has been living in Summerville, accompanied by a girl also of that place, came to this city and put up at the Bon Ton restaurant. And while here the villain succeeded in accomplishing her ruin, staying with her one night and the next morning lit out on the eastern bound train. The proprietor of the restaurant not desiring such proceedings under his roof told the girl that she had better seek other quarters. The girl procured some laudanum and endeavored to get rid of her shame and wretchedness by taking her own life, but was frustrated in her designs. At this writing she is at the Centennial hotel. We at present suppress the names of the parties for no doubt the girl is more sinned against than sinning and appears to be friendless. If she has no relatives or friends to follow up the wretch and fill his carcass full of buckshot the officers of the law should look into this matter.

~ Oregon Scout January 15, 1886

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 ~

Trisha Seale	Dick Middleton
Kori Cox	John Black
Don George	Anita Davis
Mayor Susan Hawkins	

January 2025 Council Meetings

January 13th

Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

January 27th

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