

# City of Union News Letter

**City of Union**  
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Website: [CityOfUnion.com](http://CityOfUnion.com)

"Promote rural values, protect local assets and foster community pride"

**CITY HALL HOURS:** Monday thru Thursday  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm - Open during lunch

Union Carnegie Public Library  
Mon 10:30am - 6:00pm Thurs 1:00pm - 6:00pm  
Tue 10:00am - 5:30pm Fri 9:00am - 3:30pm  
Wed 4:00pm - 8:00pm

January 2014

## Citizen Input Needed!

### SAVE THE DATE

The City of Union will host a community open house on January 29<sup>th</sup> as part of the City's efforts to update its Transportation System Plan (TSP). The open house will be held at Union School S.E. Miller gym from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The purpose of the open house is to give the general public an opportunity to review the progress being made on the TSP.

Interactive maps and feedback forms will also be provided so citizens can provide comments and submit ideas on how to improve the roadway, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit network in Union over the next 20 years.

For more information on the January 29<sup>th</sup> open house or the Transportation System Plan Update, please contact Sandra Patterson, City Administrator at 541-562-5197 or [admin@cityofunion.com](mailto:admin@cityofunion.com)

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## Utility Bill Change Coming Soon!!

Beginning with the January utility bill, which arrives on February 1<sup>st</sup>, you will notice a change. Several years ago a \$6.00 charge was added to all water accounts to fund water projects. This fee was added to the regular monthly water rate. This fee will now be shown separately to reflect the utility rates more accurately. When reading your statement your actual monthly water rate will be lower, having had the \$6.00 fee taken out and listed on its own. All the charges will still add up to the same base rate. For a residential user the base rate is \$67.77, plus the \$10.00 EMS user fee.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your utility bill please contact Laura or Pam at City Hall. 541-562-5197



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**



## Protect Your Water Pipes!

Extreme cold can cause water pipes inside and outside your home to freeze and sometimes rupture. When it is below freezing it is recommended to:

- \* Let your faucets trickle
- \* Leave cabinet doors open to let the heat warm the pipes
- \* Remove outside hoses from any outside faucets
- \* Insulate outside faucets and pipes under the house



If your pipes do happen to freeze, **do not** thaw them with a torch. Instead thaw them slowly by directing warm air from a hair dryer, moving the heat along the pipe not to focus on just one spot.

## Take Care of Your Four-Legged Family



Cold weather creates its own stress for your pets, and they need your undivided attention. When the temperatures are below freezing it's time to give your outdoor dogs or cats a break and invite them inside, even if it's in the garage.



If you opt to not bring your pet inside, make certain they have clean and dry shelter. Insulate with straw or a blanket.



Pets that move about on sidewalks, driveways, or streets run the risk of picking up rock salt, ice melt or other chemicals in their foot pads. Make sure to wipe all four feet thoroughly. These chemicals can be harmful to your pet's digestive tract. Check their paw pads also as they may become sore and bleed from encrusted ice.



Keep an eye on your pets water, be sure to check it often to see if it is frozen. If you are unable to check your pets water often, a heated water bowl can prevent freezing.



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 causing the pet to freeze to death. Riding in the back of pick-ups can cause a wind chill that can be dangerous to your pet.



Just remember, if it is too cold for you to want to be outside, then your pet is also cold and shouldn't be kept outside.

## Important Notice!! House numbers!

This time of year it is especially important to have your house numbers visible! Colder weather means burning wood stoves, portable heaters and other ways to try and stay warm. Accidents happen that require your Fire and Ambulance Department to find your residence, without house numbers its difficult and could cost valuable response time. Numbers should be large enough to be seen from the street.

## Goal 9 and Goal 10 Review

The city has released new draft copies of Goal 9 Economics and Goal 10 Housing. Union City Council will be reviewing these documents for adoption over the next couple of months. The public can get a copy at City Hall or view them both online at the city's website. These goals are mandated by the State of Oregon, and each goal is a guide for the next 20 years with regards to both economics and housing needs. You are encouraged to review the documents for future impacts.

Watch for public hearing notices.

For more information contact Union city hall ~ 541-562-5197

### **LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE A HUGE SUCCESS!**

'THANK YOU' to all who attended our open house on December 11<sup>th</sup> and helped make this year a huge success. We had over 100 visitors come enjoy the festivities and to see Santa.

We want to say...

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

To local resident

Don Wood

He won the big tree with gifts!

### **Union FFA Donates To Local Food Bank!**

Thank you Union FFA for your generous donation of almost 4,000 lbs of produce to the local food bank!!

Your donation will go to local residents and give them a very Merry Christmas!

Way to go kids!!!

### *Mountain of Snow....*

*To say that the winter of 1916-1917 was cold is to put it mildly. There was a hundred-day stretch where the temperature rose above freezing only three times, once a single degree and twice it was two degrees. That winter more than 85 inches of snow fell on Union. It was piled everywhere and after a while the town looked as if it had sunk.*

*At Hot Lake, E.L. Larn said it was the worst snow he had ever known and he had lived there for thirty years. He said his orchard had drifted twenty feet deep.*

*~Union Centennial Album*

## OREGON PROPERTY TAX

Properties in Oregon have two values for taxing purposes: a taxable assessed value (AV) and a real market value (RMV). Each property is taxed on its assessed value. To calculate tax, the assessor's office takes the permanent rate of each tax district, plus any voter-approved temporary taxes or bonds, and multiplies the total rate times the property's AV.

In addition to calculating the taxes according to AV, assessor's calculate taxes using RMV to ensure taxes do not exceed constitutional limits based on RMV. If taxes exceed statewide caps, they are reduced until these limitations are met, a process know as compression.1. Statewide, local governments lost \$185 million to compression in FY2012-13. The constitution also limits the rate of growth in assessed values for the vast majority of properties to 3% annually and sets permanent tax rates for all taxing districts. These limits make property taxes predictable for Oregonians, but for local governments limitations often mean property taxes no longer keep pace with expenses.

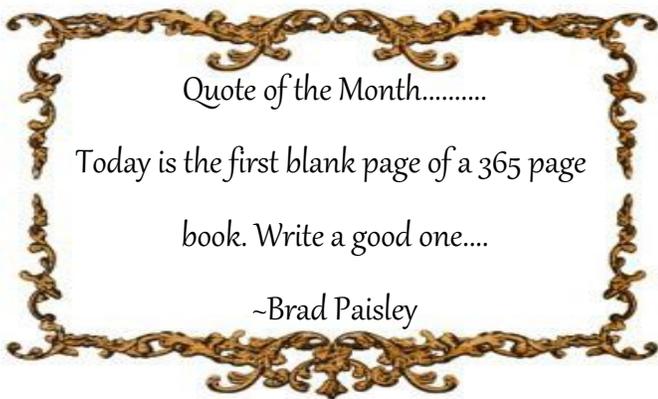
## Burn Permits Available

Burn permits for 2014 are now available at City Hall.

The cost is \$10.00 per permit

Burning season is January 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>

Remember, only clean paper, dry leaves and twigs, and clean wood is allowed to be burned.



Quote of the Month.....

Today is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one....

~Brad Paisley

## Beverage Elected To County Board

Congratulations to local resident Donna Beverage for recently being elected to the Union County Chamber of Commerce Board. She will become the link between the local business community and the rest of Union County. As she leaves the position of City of Union Chamber Present she'll put on her new hat and jump right into the hard work of keeping communication flowing and finding ways to better Union.

Beverage's new position will provide a unified voice for Union businesses, including those on Main Street and off. Also provide the local chamber board with value-added information from the rest of the county.

**While on the topic**, City of Union Chamber of Commerce is seeking new members. Strong membership involvement in its activites will increase the impact and effectiveness of the organization. Chamber of Commerce membership is an investment in the present and future of the individual's and the community's welfare. Currently our local Chamber is working to fund bike racks for Main Street and is the sponsor of the Grassroots Festival. There is no need to be a business to be a member and you don't have to attend meeting to be a member, everyone is invited to join, visit [www.visitunionor.org](http://www.visitunionor.org) or stop by and see the new Chamber President Nick Shaffer at Union Drug.

*Thank You!*



Santa was in town on December 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
and with the assistance of the  
volunteers of the Union Emergency  
Services, he delivered presents to many  
local children. This would not have  
been made possible without the  
community's generous donations and the many hours  
put in by our EMS volunteers.

The Union Emergency Service volunteers want to Thank all who  
donated and made this all possible.

# WANTED

Union's Fire Department is looking for volunteer's who are motivated and dedicated to serving and protecting their community. Our crew responds to emergencies in the City of Union, and assist's other communities as needed. Volunteer Firefighters are on the front line, making rescues and saving lives and property.

Are you ready to volunteer and help your community?

Firefighter-1 training is available beginning the middle of January 2014. The city provides this training to volunteers free of charge.

If you are interested contact

Laura at City Hall

541~562~5197

# The Union Family Health Center

Starting December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013

New hours of operation, to serve all of Union, Cove, and North Powder

Monday–Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm



Our Providers:

Dr. Kim R. Montee, MD  
Bonnie Hayslett, PA



Dental Services Provided by:

Dr. Larry Waugman, DDS

The South County Health District holds it's regular board meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the conference room of the Union Family Health Center.



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

If you would like to advertise your monthly event or activity email [cityhall@cityofunion.com](mailto:cityhall@cityofunion.com) or call 541-562-5197.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Booster Club Meeting		Old Music Room	6:00 pm	
City of Union Chamber	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs of the month	LG Brewskis	Noon	<a href="http://www.visitunionor.org">www.visitunionor.org</a>
City Council	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:00 pm	
Order of Eastern Star	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5660
Food Bank	Saturday after 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	Methodist Church	9-11 am	541-562-5675
Food Alliance	Every Monday	Methodist Church	12:30-1 pm	
Friends of the Library	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Int'l Rainbow for Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-975-9495
Library Board	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues of the month	Library	9:00 am	541-562-5811
Lions Club	1st Wed of the month	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5685
Municipal Court	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed/every quarter	City Hall	5:30 pm	541-562-5197
Planning Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior Lunch	Every Tuesday	Methodist Church	12:00 pm	541-562-5675
South County Health Dist	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:00 pm	
Stockshow Board	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:30 pm	
TOPS	Every Wednesday	Union Health Cntr	8:30 am	541-562-9009
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	5 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035