

City of Union News Letter

"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

March 2015

City of Union
342 South Main Street * P.O. Box 529
Union, OR 97883
541-562-5197 * Fax 541-562-5196
eMail: cityhall@CityOfUnion.com
Website: CityOfUnion.com

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

WINTER STREET MAINTENANCE

With the better weather these past few weeks, Public Works personnel have started patching potholes on city streets around town. Unfortunately, many of the potholes are a symptom of the aging and poor condition of the street where they begin to form. This time of year we use an asphalt mix that we can apply cold because hot mix asphalt is not available from the local producers until later in the spring.

In many cases the condition of a street is so poor that patching a pothole is but a temporary band aid. Pothole patching is by no means a permanent fix unless followed by a surface treatment. That is why some streets must be patched more than once a year, year after year. Poor drainage and lack of adequate base under the surfacing also contribute to pavement distress that manifests itself as a pothole.

City crews plan to take advantage of this good weather and if it continues, repair all the potholes on city streets in the next few weeks. Gravel streets will also be bladed over the next month when the proper moisture is present.



If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact City Hall at 541-562-5197

FBLA-PBL Week!

Mayor Lindsley along with Union City Council presented National FBLA-PBL Week Proclamation during a special meeting held February 17, 2015 at city hall.

Union High School student Tiara Howered, FBLA Member accepted the proclamation from the Mayor as shown in the photo.

Special thank you to Ms. Howered for making this proclamation a local priority.



Greetings to the citizens of Union!

My name is Rod McKee and I am the new Director of Public Works for your community. January 25, 2015 was my first day on the job. I am excited about the position and the challenges that lie ahead for the City and me. I know from my short time here that your core public works employees, Paul Phillips, Robin George, and Ralph Riomondo are dedicated employees who strive to make your life here in Union better by properly managing the street, water, sewer, and sewer treatment systems with limited budgets the City has. Something that we all sometimes take for granted. I watched the movie, *The Good Lie* which was about the strife in Sudan, Africa and the refugees that poured from that war torn country. For many of the people in that country and now in refugee camps, there is no public water system, public sewer system, garbage service, grocery stores, hospitals, etc. Just a few of the amenities that make our nation great and our day to day lives simpler.

The Dalles, Oregon is what I call my hometown. I was raised in The Dalles and graduated from high school there. After obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University in 1976 I returned to The Dalles to work for a local Surveying and Engineering firm. My first public service job was with the City of The Dalles as City Engineer/Director of Public Works from 1981 to 1988. Then the position of City Engineer/Community Development Director opened with the City of La Grande in late 1988. I had always wanted to live in northeast Oregon and was lucky enough to be selected for this position. Since I have been in the Grande Ronde valley, in addition to the City of La Grande position, I have worked for Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. as a project engineer and also had my own engineering firm for 14.5 years while being here. All of my experience has been either managing public works infrastructure departments or the design and construction administration of public works infrastructure projects. It is hard to believe for me, but I have been in this field for 39 years.

My wife is Georgia and she has been involved in planning and conducting “Philly” trips for area 8th grade students for about 20 years. We have four grown children, Katie, Cody, Kelli Jo, and Kristy, and three grandchildren, Gracie, Ellie, and Lily. All of our children have participated in 4-H and FFA since they were old enough to do so. They have all shown livestock at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show (EOLS) here in Union and our daughters Katie and Kristy have both been Queens at the EOLS. Last year was our oldest granddaughters first year in 4-H. We have many friends here in Union and look forward to making many more.



NOTICE!

With this wonderful warm weather there is an increase of kids and adults out riding their bikes and skateboards. The city has an ordinance prohibiting the riding of bikes and skateboards on the sidewalks.

Why you ask? One reason is many business doors open out onto the sidewalk and cyclist can get hurt, also the City of Union is home to many retired and elderly citizens. While out and about doing their daily errands they are unfortunately at risk of being hit and possibly injured by a biker or skateboarder zipping by on the sidewalk.

Parents, we ask that you talk to your kids and explain to them the safety issues, laws, and to respect others on the sidewalks.

Per ORD 529. Section 30



Need Your Water Turned On or Off?

Please remember there is a procedure you must follow to have your water turned on and/or turned off. All these requests must be processed through City Hall either in person or by phone during regular work hours. We request that you not personally contact the public work employees for these services.

As a reminder, the fee's for turn on's and turn off's are as follows:

Turn On.....\$16.00

Turn Off.....\$16.00

After Hours Turn Off/Turn On Service Call.....\$90.00. Call 541 910-9111 for this service.

These charges will be added to your monthly water bill if not paid in advance.

West Fulton Street Water Improvements

During school spring break, the City water department will be installing a new water main along the south side of West Fulton Street from South 3rd Street, east approximately 300 feet. This new water main will replace an existing 1 ½ inch steel line that runs from West Dearborn Street to West Fulton Street. The existing 1 ½ inch line serves 4 residences along West Fulton Street. These improvements are expected to improve flow and pressure to this area. The improvements will also include a new fire hydrant at South Second Street that will improve fire coverage for the school.

Surplus Gun Locks!

The city has a surplus of gun locks left over from many years ago when the city had it's own police department. The city would like to offer these to citizens of Union at no charge. Limited to 5 locks per household. Only while supplies last. If there are still locks available come July 1st the city will allow households to have more locks if needed, while supplies last.

The city will not reserve locks for you, it is first come first served. Please do not call city hall regarding the locks.

If you want more information come down to city hall and view the locks.



Caution!!



Did you know when driving narrow residential roads it is State law that you drive 15 miles per hour? This applies unless some other speed is posted.

Be aware! Most of the City's residential roads are narrow, please **slow down!**

Source: 2014-15 Oregon Drivers Manual pg.33

FOR SALE BY THE CITY OF UNION

1974 GMC ¾ ton 4wd Pick-up. Minimum bid \$3750.00

The truck has 21,400 original miles. It will be sold with the original minimally used box and a utility bed. There is no pickup box tailgate. The front end, rear end, and brakes have been recently serviced.

This item is being sold by **SEALED BID**, on an as is and where is basis.

Cash and money orders only.

Bids must be received by March 31st, 2015, at City Hall, 342 S. Main, Union, by or before 5:00pm

Award will be made by the Union City Council, April 13th, 2015, in the course of the regular City Council meeting scheduled for that date at 7:00pm, at City Hall. No need to be present to be awarded. The City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids upon a finding by the Council that to do so is in the best interest of the City.

The vehicle is located across the alley behind city hall on Main Street and Dearborn. An appointment is required to inspect vehicle, please call City Hall at (541) 562-5197 during business hours, 10am – 5pm, Monday through Thursday. If you have questions please call City Hall or email cityhall@cityofunion.com

The City of Union is an equal opportunity provider

Quote of the month....

Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.

~Ralph Waldo Emerson~



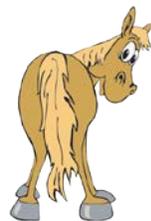
**Ronald McDonald House
Fund Raising Benefit**

Mark your calendar for
March 27th at 7:00pm

Call LG Brewski's for more
information!

YES, YOU CAN HAVE LIVESTOCK INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS...

- * *You are required to have 10,000 square feet of open ground per animal unit.*
- * *One animal unit = one horse or cow, or five sheep or goats, or twenty-four chickens (no roosters) or twenty four rabbits.*
- * *Exceptions are any nursing horse or cow up to 200 days of age, or any nursing sheep or goats up to 100 days shall be considered one animal unit*
- * *You must have liability insurance on your animals*
- * *Animal pens, pastures, and cages must be kept clean and odor free*
- * *Animals are not allowed to run at large*
- * *A permit needs to be picked up for all animals for EOLS (obtain at City Hall at no charge)*





From the Fire Chief

Did you know.....

In 1736, Benjamin Franklin organized the first volunteer fire-fighting society. Today, volunteers comprise 73% of firefighters in the United States. Of the total estimated 1,078,300 volunteers and paid firefighters across the country, 784,700 are volunteer. The majority of fire departments in the United States are volunteer. Of the total 26,354 fire departments in the country, 19,224 are volunteer, 3,845 are mostly volunteer, 1,407 are mostly career, and 1,878 are all career.

The number of Volunteer Firefighters in the United States have been declining. Major factors contributing to the decline include increased time demands, more rigorous training standards, and the proliferation of two-income families whose members do not have time to volunteer. Those who volunteer are indeed rare and dedicated.

Communities served by Volunteer Firefighters depend on them to be their first line of defense for many types of emergencies. Volunteer Firefighters are summoned to a wide array of emergencies including fires, emergency medical incidents, terrorist events, natural disasters, hazardous materials incidents, water rescues, wilderness rescues, wildland fires, and general public service calls. Volunteers spend an enormous amount of time training to prepare for these emergencies. The cost to train and equip a firefighter is approximately \$4,500 on average.

Included in your utility bill is a \$10.00 user fee which is designated solely to the Emergency Management Services Department (fire/ambulance service) for the costs of training expenses, equipment, supplies and maintaining vehicles.

Volunteer Firefighters are a special group. When others are running out of a burning building or away from a disaster or emergency, they are going into them. And with very little or no pay.

VolunteerFD.org

The City of Union Chamber of Commerce introduces member...

Dora's Garden is operated on farmland that has been operated by the Hutchinson family, and descendants, since it was purchased in 1890. The first "Dora" was Dora Hutchinson, born elsewhere in the City of Union before the family purchased this farm. She operated a cherry orchard until her death in 1965. The second "Dora" is Dora Cohen, currently working toward a Ph.D. in microbial ecology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. When Dora Cohen was a little girl she harvested and sold raspberries grown on the farm to Union restaurants.

Today, the farm is certified organic by Oregon Tilth. The family sells alfalfa hay in small bales, and sells fruits, vegetables, pickles, honey, jams and Union Bagel Shop bagels from their farm stand at 1393 N Cove Street, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturday and Sunday, during the summer season.

Masonic Scholarship Breakfast

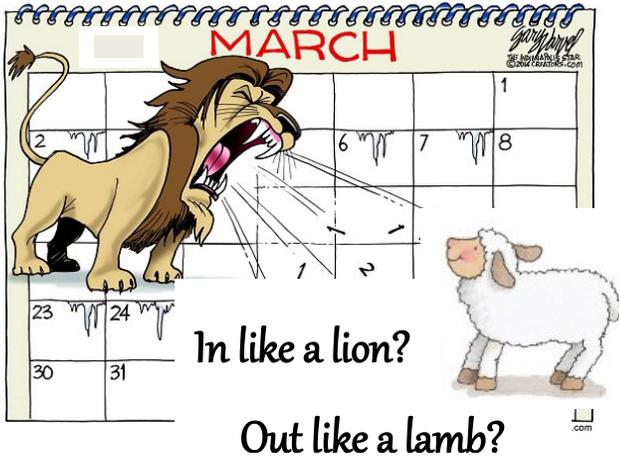
The public is invited to participate in the annual Masonic Scholarship Breakfast on Sunday, March 29th, 7:00am-10:00am

The menu will include:
Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Ham
Milk, Juice, etc

All proceeds support the Masonic Scholarship Fund for graduating seniors of Union High School.

Please note; this years breakfast will be hosted at the Union VFW Hall to better accommodate our handicap citizens who wish to attend.

Cost is \$10.00 and tickets can be purchased from any Masonic Brother in the Union area or at the Union Market.



"In Like A Lion, Out Like A Lamb"

March roars in like a lion
So fierce,
The wind so cold,
It seems to pierce.

The month rolls on
And Spring draws near,
And March goes out
Like a lamb so dear.

by Lorie Hill



COMMUNITY CALENDAR



If you would like to advertise your monthly event or activity email cityhall@cityofunion.com or call 541-562-5197.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Booster Club Meeting			6:00 pm	
City of Union Chamber	2 nd Tues of the month	See Nick @ Union Drug	12:30	www.visitunionor.org
City Council	2 nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	3 rd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:15 pm	541-562-5441
CUP Senior Assisted Living	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays	Union Drug Co.	6:00 pm	541-562-5441
Order of Eastern Star	2 nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1 st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5660
EOLS Board	2 nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:30 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	Saturday after 3 rd Monday	Methodist Church	9-11 am	
Food Alliance	Every Monday	Methodist Church	12:30-1 pm	541-562-6192
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Int'l Rainbow for Girls	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-975-9495
Library Board	3 rd Wed of the month	Library	4:00 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	1 st Wed of the month	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5685
Municipal Court	1 st Wed/every quarter	City Hall	5:30 pm	541-562-5197
Planning Commission	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior Lunch	Every Tuesday	Methodist Church	12:00 pm	541-562-5675
School Board	2 nd Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	7:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	3 rd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	7:00 pm	541-562-6180
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 st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035