

City of Union News Letter

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

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

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

November 2015

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



Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project – Second Town Hall Meeting

A second town hall meeting to discuss the City of Union wastewater treatment improvements that are on the horizon was held in the Leonard Almquist Council Chambers at 1 p.m. on October 21, 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss why improvements to the wastewater treatment system are necessary, when those improvements will need to be completed, the estimated cost of the project, and the potential increase to sewer rates.

Paul Stevens, P.E., Senior Engineer from Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. in La Grande and Rod McKee, P.E., City of Union Public Works Director/Assistant City Administrator provided a power point presentation of the project and fielded questions from the public. To recap the major points of the presentation:

- The wastewater treatment improvements are necessary for the City to comply with new pollutant limitations in Catherine Creek which will be established by the ODEQ in the near future. The pollutants in this case are temperature and ammonia.
- The City of Union operates the wastewater treatment plant under very strict rules established by a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) which is issued every five (5) years to the City by the ODEQ.
- A Wastewater Facilities Plan (WFP) prepared by Anderson Perry and Associates for the City of Union in response to the before mentioned pollutant limitations was accepted by the City Council in February 2015.
- The WFP identified 7 improvement alternatives that would allow the City's wastewater treatment facilities to meet currently identified future wastewater treatment/discharge regulations.
- The City Council chose an alternative for the proposed improvement that will discontinue discharging to Catherine Creek. The proposed improvements would continue to utilize the existing treatment facilities, continue to provide treated effluent to irrigate the golf course, provide for treated effluent storage during the non-irrigation season, and add irrigated cropland to utilize the treated effluent not used at Buffalo Peak Golf Course.
- The proposed storage lagoon and irrigated crop are proposed to be located on property owned by Oregon State University south of Arch Street and east of the wastewater treatment plant.
- The proposed improvements would need to be constructed before 2019.
- The total estimated cost of the proposed improvements in the year 2018 is \$4,681,000.
- The project cost is expected to increase residential sewer rates by approximately \$23 per month. This is the upper rate impact that is expected to result from the improvements.

Since the first town hall meeting in September, City staff and the Engineers have been working to develop other funding options and cost savings opportunities for the project. Success we may have in any of the areas could ultimately reduce the projected \$23 per month rate increase due to the project. Developments in these areas will be reported in future monthly Newsletters.

At least one more Town Hall meeting will be scheduled to be held to allow the community to learn or be updated about the project. The next town hall meeting will be held in the Leonard Almquist Council Chambers at either in December or January 2016. If you have any questions regarding this project please contact Rod McKee or Sandra Patterson at City Hall. The number is (541) 562-5197.

CITY OF UNION
342 S. MAIN STREET
UNION, OREGON 97883
541-562-5197

www.cityofunion.com

Office hours: Monday -Thursday 10 am – 5 pm

CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Ken McCormack
- Councilor Randy Knop
- Councilor Sue Briggs
- Councilor Doug Osburn
- Councilor Matthew Later
- Councilor Coy Wilde
- Councilor Open
- Student Councilor Teara Howard

PLANNING COMMISSION

- Planning Chair Linda Boettcher
- Commissioner Ed Baird
- Commissioner Charma Vaage
- Commissioner Robert Burton
- Commissioner Shawna Opie
- Commissioner Jerry Brounstein

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

- Committee Member Donna Beverage
- Committee Member Todd Howitt
- Committee Member Gary Graham
- Committee Member Charma Vaage

Union Chamber Needs Your Help to
Beautify Union



The City of Union Chamber is making a “Mini Welcome Park” at the Frontier lot on Main Street. We are selling 2” by 2” pavers to put under the bench and for future benches. We are selling them for \$25 each and you will have your name or business name put on them.

Please email unionchamber@eoni.com or call Leslie at 541-962-5504 to reserve your paver and help make Union an even prettier place to live!!



Trivia Answers 1.C 2.A 3.A 4.B 5.B 6.C



From The Fire Chief....

November means the changing of our clocks!!

This is the perfect reminder to install, check and change the batteries in smoke/carbon monoxide detectors.

Location requirements:

- ✓ Install outside each sleeping area, even in each sleeping area
- ✓ Install on each level if home is multilevel
- ✓ Install on the ceiling at least 4” from the nearest wall, or on the wall at least 4-12” from ceiling

Non-recommended locations:

- ✓ Do not install in kitchens
- ✓ Do not install in bathrooms
- ✓ Do not install in garages or other unheated areas

Moisture, frost, cooking vapors and exhaust fumes could cause the malfunction of the unit and sound a false alarm.

Test your alarms, vacuum and remove dust and cobwebs monthly. Replace alarms ten years old or older.

Museum News.....

The Union County Museum had another good year! We opened on Mother's Day and closed for the season in mid October. We started this winter doing a new project that we have wanted to do for years. We had a large area behind the cowboy exhibit of items in storage ready for a General Store. We cleaned that area, had plans drafted, used the bar cabinets from Cass's Tavern that we had stored, put up shelves and we were able to put a lot of our items out and ready for our spring opening.

In August we had a Pioneer Day in the court yard. It was a great day of a lot of fun! There were booth's of Sheep Shearing , Wool Spinning, Flint Napping Black Powder, Wood Making, Candle Making, Dutch Oven Cooking and a Live Band! We tried to show how things were done a long time ago during the days of the pioneers.

It takes a lot of volunteers to keep us open all season and we are truly grateful for all of the help. With the signage on the freeway and our website tourist found us easily. We had 1,300 visitors which represented 5 country's, and 29 states! We even had a visitor fly in from Florida, to research his family who lived here long ago. He was really happy to find the history of his family. Every season we see people who find their family history and the happiness with what they find. We had a lot of positive remarks about our little Victorian town.

Most of the items and displays we have are from people in Union County, and they tell of how is was a long time ago. If you love history, or have guests who love history by all means come and see us next Spring!!

~Union County Museum

There's a chill creeping into the air!

The leaves are changing colors. Winter is just around the corner. Now is the time to think about properly watering your trees in autumn to help ensure against damage in the winter. In the middle of winter, the ground is frozen. Trees are not able to access water, so it is important that you are watering your trees in autumn as necessary. Watering your trees in early autumn is different than late autumn, so water accordingly.

Early Autumn



In early autumn, you should stop watering your deciduous and evergreen trees. Do not worry about watering until the leaves have fallen from the deciduous trees. The trees are still growing in early autumn and watering will encourage new growth. If a frost comes when there is new growth on the tree, it will be damaged.

Late Autumn



Once the deciduous trees have lost their leaves in late autumn, it is time to start watering again. Evergreen trees will definitely need to be watered before winter - since they never lose their foliage and go into full dormancy, they will constantly be losing water throughout the winter. By late autumn, the tops of the trees have gone dormant, so they will not produce new growth. The tree is busy moving nutrients around in preparation for dormancy.

Water deeply (at least 1-2 feet deep at a time) until the ground is frozen. Deep watering encourages proper root growth so that the trees will be able to access water farther down in the soil.

Young trees, especially, need lots of water to establish roots in preparation for winter. Newly planted trees should be watered at the base, while more mature trees should be watered at the drip-line.

You can keep watering trees in late autumn as long as there is no snow cover and the air temperature is above 45 degrees. Trees in milder climates should be watered throughout the winter as needed, though usually the rains will suffice.

Source: <http://treesandshrubs.about.com/od/watering/qt/watertreeautumn.htm>

Leaves, Leaves, Leaves!

Fall is the time for cooler days, frosty mornings, brilliant colors, falling leaves and unfortunately the need for yard work to collect all those fallen leaves!

Have you considered composting? Compost is often referred to as *Gardener's Gold* because of its ability to help plants grow. If you've ever been in a forest and peeled away the top layers of leaves on the ground, you will have seen a rich layer of this black, earthy, moist material called compost. Compost, when mixed in with soil, improves soil structure, adds a wide variety of minerals and nutrients and improves the soils ability to retain moisture. All of which will benefit next spring and summer's garden and flower beds!

Compost is the earth's way of naturally recycling old plant material and is a great way to manage this fall's abundance of leaves and other yard waste. So why not try composting this fall and by next spring you could be mining *Gardener's Gold* in your very own backyard.

Information found @ www.gwinnettcb.org



HISTORIC CONTEST

Union's Historic Preservation Committee wants to raise awareness of historic preservation. They want to promote better awareness of architectural details, cultural history and Union's historic past.

In that effort, a photo will be taken and printed in the newsletter which will showcase a part of a historic building from the historic district. The district is down town. Take a guess at what building the photo came from. And of course it wouldn't be a contest without a prize. Turn in your answers to city hall where all the right answers will go into a jar. At the end of the month a person will be picked. In the following month's newsletter, the winner and information on the historic symbol will be shared.

Here is your first photo.....
Good Luck!!



Quote Of The Month.....

"The unthankful heart discovers no mercies; but the thankful heart will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessings."

— *Henry Ward*



Just A Reminder.....

Burning of household garbage is prohibited.

You can burn dry leaves, twigs, clean paper and dry untreated wood.

Fires must be attended to at all times and out at dusk!

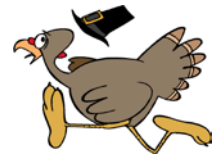
Turkey Day Trivia!!

Answers on page 2



1. The first department store to hold a Thanksgiving parade was?
 - a) Montgomery Wards
 - b) Macy's
 - c) Gimbel's
2. The word turkey is said to come from the Hebrew word "Tukki" which means?
 - a) Pheasant Bird
 - b) Wild Bird
 - c) Turk's Bird
3. It is believed that how many pilgrim women survived to celebrate the first Thanksgiving in 1621?
 - a) 5
 - b) 15
 - c) 25
4. The first Thanksgiving was believed to have lasted how many days?
 - a) 1 day
 - b) 3 days
 - c) 7 days
5. By the 19th century, celebrating Thanksgiving is said to have been the origin of what table tradition?
 - a) Having table cloths
 - b) Having a kids table
 - c) Having a centerpiece
6. Before harvested and sold a cranberry must bounce at least how high to make sure it's ripe?
 - a) 1 inch
 - b) 2 inches
 - c) 4 inches

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	1 st Wed of the month	Health Clinic	5:00 pm	541-562-6134
CUP Senior Assisted Living	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays			
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	3 rd Friday of the month	First Baptist Church	10-noon	541-562-5531
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
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	United Methodist Church	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

