

# City of Union News Letter

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

CITY HALL HOURS: Mon thru Thurs 10:00 am - 5:00 pm - Open during lunch

February 2016

## 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](mailto:cityhall@CityOfUnion.com)

Website: [CityOfUnion.com](http://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

## February



### Volunteer Appreciation Poem

The key to our success rests in people like you,

Who embody the spirit of greatness by saying,

Yes I can, and you can, too!

### The Loss of a Long Term Councilor/Mayor

The city's loss is both profound and deep felt within the community. Ms. Briggs served her community with integrity and professionalism. Her dedication spread over 30 years of her life to the City of Union.

Serving as Union's first female Mayor she had a take charge attitude and got business done around city hall which left an impression on everyone. She held many council positions over the years. She headed up the local Commercial Club which later changed to the Chamber of Commerce which she would serve as secretary and treasurer when needed. She was the one that lived up to the standards and followed through.

Her community efforts were always a vision towards moving Union forward to a better place for everyone. The Union Health Clinic and Athletic Complex are both examples of her dedication. Despite her gentleness, her soft spoken manner and always respectful demeanor, she was a woman of strength, even at the end.

The loss of Ms. Briggs, both as an individual and as a public servant, is immeasurable as she is irreplaceable.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONTEST

Last Months  
Photo Location:



Congratulations to Marcia Bergstrom! She recognized this as the historic jail window located at the High School. Marcia, you can come pick up your prize at city hall.

Union's Historic Preservation Committee wants to raise community awareness of historic preservation and promote better awareness of architectural details, cultural history and Union's historic past. Drop off your guess at City Hall or email your guess to [cityhall@cityofunion.com](mailto:cityhall@cityofunion.com). A prize will be awarded to the winner!

This Months Photo:



Winner will be announced in next month's newsletter  
Good Luck!

*Historic Committee members, city employees and family members may not participate.*

## Council Seat Opening

City Council will be taking applications to fill one open seat. The council meets regularly on the second Monday of the month at 7:00pm. They may periodically meet throughout the month if needed. Council also serves on the budget committee which meets in late winter to early spring.

Applications can be picked up at city hall or down loaded from the city website.

[www.cityofunion.com](http://www.cityofunion.com)

If you have further questions please call Sandra Patterson 541-562-5197  
Deadline for applications is March 3<sup>rd</sup> by 5:00pm

## Union Carnegie Public Library

182 N. Main Street  
541~562~5811



Fall In Love With Reading



## Did You Know?....

All of the City Council meeting agendas and other meetings are advertised at a number of places. They are posted in the window of the Almquist Chambers, in the foyer of City Hall, in the Post Office on the north wall on the city's bulletin board, on a city bulletin board in Union Market, the Library, and can be found on the city website

Be sure to watch for upcoming meetings!  
Council meetings are held regularly on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Chambers

## Chamber Corner.....

Help the City of Union Chamber of Commerce continue to promote Union as a great place to live, work and visit!!

You can become a member for only \$50 per year.

**Frontier Welcome Park/ Phase 2** You might have noticed the large bench and Kiosk across from Umpqua Bank. We are working on a WELCOME Park. Phase 2 includes pavers under the bench with business names on them. *You can have a paver too!!*

To become a member or to purchase a paver for your business or in memory of someone email [unionchamber@eoni.com](mailto:unionchamber@eoni.com)

Our next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at noon. Check out Facebook or [www.grvoutskirts.com](http://www.grvoutskirts.com) for more info.

## Quote of the month....

*“We are addicted to our thoughts. We cannot change anything if we cannot change our thinking.”*

~ [Santosh Kalwar](#)

## THANK A VOLUNTEER!

Union's community is so fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers working on our Fire/Ambulance Department! Take a few moments when you see one of these hardworking volunteers, and tell them Thank You!

In the event of an emergency they take time away from work, home and family to provide excellent protection and care for all of us!

## Easy Money....

Men had made a try for money, but as far as anyone remembers no bank robber ever got away scott free in Union. One of the most ridiculous heists ever attempted occurred at the First National Bank of Union in 1900. It was 3:00 in the morning and black as sin when the night watchman made his rounds. He passed the bank, all was in order, and continued up the street.

When he was gone, shadows slipped from the alley and a rock was tossed, breaking the electric lamp overhead. Three burglars broke down the front door of the bank and went straight to the parlor outside the vault. They chopped a hole in the brick wall, just large enough for a man, and then one by one they squeezed themselves inside the vault. They tried to crack the safe with a steel wedge and mallet, they scratched the paint. Then they turned to a crowbar and tried to pry the lid open, they got nowhere. One of the boys broke out the nitroglycerin and affixed three charges to the safe. They back out the hole before lighting the fuse and it was lucky that they did. The explosion was way too much for the job and fragments of metal were hurled through the doors of the vault breaking the plate glass window out in front of the bank.

The burglars high-tailed it for the hills and no one in town saw them leave. But everyone heard the explosion and a volunteer ran to touch off the fire alarm. Those answering the call found the bank vault still smoking. In the morning the bank was open for business as usual. Only there was some delay when the experts brought it to open the safe could not. Funds were temporarily borrowed from the Townley Gale & Co. store.

Altogether there were \$2,000 worth of damages done to the bank. But if the robbers had gained entry to the safe they would have found \$15,000 for their picking.

As it was, all the robbers raised was a cloud of dust.

~ City of Victorian Heritage, Centennial Album



## From The Fire Chief...

Did you know that virtually no one uses car seats correctly the first time!!

Dr. Ben Hoffman of OHSU recently published research findings in *Journal of Pediatrics*.  
Read the [Portland Tribune Article](#).

### Common Child Passenger Safety Mistakes

- Turning a child from a rear-facing restraint to a forward-facing restraint too soon. American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) now recommends keeping children rear-facing until 2 years old if possible.
- Restraint is not secured tight enough — it should not shift more than one inch side-to-side or out from the seat.
- Harness on the child is not tight enough — if you can pinch harness material, it's too loose.
- Retainer clip is up too high or too low — should be at the child's armpit level.
- The child is in the wrong restraint — don't rush your child into a seat belt.



**CAR SEAT CHECK-UP AND FITTING STATION WILL BE HELD  
FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> AT THE LA GRANDE RURAL FIRE STATION IN  
ISLAND CITY FROM 2:00pm ~ 4:00pm**

### How Can You Help Union's Economy?

How can you help?...Buy from those who live and work in your community. If they stay in business, they keep people employed, and they continue to support community events and programs. If they are not in business, you shop in someone else's community and they will receive the benefits of employment, taxes and the circulating money that will stay in that community.

Your dollars do make a significant difference. It is estimated that a dollar spent locally with a locally owned store is usually spent six to fifteen times before it leaves the community.

Support the businesses we have in our community, and more

### Surplus Gun Locks!!

Yes, we still have gun locks! If you have a need for a gun lock please come by city hall and pick up a couple.

There are occasions when city hall or public works need to contact our customers. In case of an emergency, whether it's water/sewer related or fire/medical, we can't reach you unless we have your current information!

Please let us know of any updated information, such as cell phone numbers, landline phone numbers, mailing addresses or persons to contact in event of emergency. Call city hall with any changes

541-562-5197



*Happy Valentine's Day*

## Union Revolving Loan Fund

The revolving loan fund is money set aside for local businesses to borrow against at a 0% interest for exterior improvements.

If you are a business owner and looking for additional funding, call Sandra Patterson at city hall for further information and an application.  
541~562~5197

## Do You Recycle?...

You can recycle, at no cost, cardboard, plastic and newspaper locally at 410 Treatment Plant Road at the end of West Arch Street next to the waste water treatment plant.

As for household poisons, brake cleaner, chlorine, cooking oil, aerosol paints, pesticides, etc, you can take to La Grande City Garbage. For more details call 541-963-5459



## 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			6:00 pm	
City of Union Chamber	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month		12:30	unionchamber@eoni.com
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> Wed of the month	City Hall	5:00 pm	541-562-6134
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	541-910-6002
EOLS Board	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:30 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month	First Baptist Church	10-noon	541-562-5531
Friends of the Library	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Library Board	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month	Library	4:00 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed of the month	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5685
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
School Board	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	7:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035
Weight Watchers	Every Monday	Library	5:30 pm	541-910-4889



City of Union is an equal opportunity provider and employer

