CITY OF UNION, OREGON

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER • NOVEMBER 2026



A Message from the City Staff

As we enter the holiday season, we are reminded of what makes Union such a special place — our strong community, local businesses, and neighbors who look out for one another. This November, we have much to be thankful for and even more to look forward to. We encourage everyone to join upcoming events, support local businesses, and enjoy all that our town has to offer.

City Hall Updates

- City Hall hours: Monday–Thursday, 10:00 AM–5:00 PM.
- City Council meeting: Monday, November 9, 2026, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.
  - Check the City website for the posted agenda.
- As colder weather approaches, please keep sidewalks clear and help remove leaves from storm drains.
- For the latest notices and meeting information, visit www.cityofunionor.gov

Getting Ready for Winter

- Test smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms and check heating systems.
- Clear gutters and downspouts before heavy rain or freezing weather.
- Keep flashlights, batteries, warm layers, and basic emergency supplies handy.
- Drive carefully as temperatures drop and conditions change.



UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Storytime • Tuesdays, 10–11 AM

- November 3 — Acord Plaid
- November 10 — Lacing Cards
- November 17 — Fancy Pumpkins
- November 24 — Snail Trail



After School Crafts • First and Third Tuesdays, 4–5 PM

- November 3 – DIY Phone Speaker
- November 17 – Polymer Clay Jewels



Adult Crafts • Select Mondays, 5–6 PM

- November 2 — Mending Party
- November 9 — Embossed Wreaths
- November 16 — Scrapbooking Party



Union Carnegie Library
182 S Main Street, Union OR 97883
541-562-5811
Tiffany Derichsweiler ~ Librarian

MAIN STREET & COMMUNITY

SHOP LOCAL • SUPPORT LOCAL • BUILD A STRONGER UNION

Holiday Light Parade

Christmas on the Oregon Trail

Saturday, December 5, 2026 • 5:30 PM • Historic Downtown Union



Festivities

- Annual Christmas tree lighting and Santa at Hometown Hardware.
- Best Business Light Display competition.
- Bring family and friends to enjoy the holiday spirit in historic downtown.

Parade Entries

To enter the parade, contact Main Street Union at mainstreetunion@gmail.com or 541-805-8689.



MAIN STREET UNION

Thanksgiving & Seasonal Reminders

- Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 26. City Hall will be Closed November 26th 2026
- Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 1; set clocks back one hour.



Burn permit requirements and seasonal restrictions can change. Check current conditions.

YES .... You Can Burn

Burning is allowed with a burn permit issued by the City of Union. You can obtain a burn permit at City Hall during regular business hours. Burn permits are $10.00 and are valid for each calendar year, January through December.



Please Remember ONLY Burn the Following:

ABSOLUTELY NO GARBAGE

- **Dry Leaves & Twigs**
- **Un-Waxed paper & Cardboard**

ALL FIRES MUST BE COMPLETELY OUT BY DUSK. VIOLATIONS OF BURNING REGULATIONS CAN RESULT IN A CITATION

AROUND TOWN

COMMUNITY NOTES • LOCAL PRIDE • WHAT'S NEXT

Shop Local This Season

Union's independent businesses, community groups, and volunteers help make our town distinctive. Consider shopping locally for gifts and everyday needs, and thank the people who keep our community welcoming.

Community Corner

- Look for local announcements, public notices, and event updates on the City's official website and social channels.
- If you have a community announcement for a future issue, contact City Hall to ask about newsletter deadlines and submission guidelines.

Oregon Trail Electric Co-op
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
Putting Our Energy To Work for You

City of Union Oregon

Union Oregon
City of Chamber of Commerce

✨ LIGHT UP THE TRAIL! ✨

Downtown Business Light Decorating Contest

Get your storefront ready for the holidays and join the festive fun! As part of this year's annual festivities, we challenge all local businesses to deck their windows, roofs, and doorways in holiday splendor.

- **Theme:** Christmas on the Oregon Trail 🎄🐴
- **When:** Have your displays shining bright by **Saturday, December 5th**
- **Winners** will be highlighted during the light parade at **5:30 PM**!

🏆 THE PRIZE 🏆

Best Light Display wins a **$100 Prize** courtesy of the **City of Union Chamber**! & Gift Cards from the Local Area. Show off your creativity, attract holiday shoppers, and

claim the ultimate bragging rights for the season.

How to Enter: Contact City Hall

cityhall@cityofunion.com, frontdesk@cityofunion.com or call 541-562-5197

CITY OF UNION, OREGON

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM IN NOVEMBER

MUSEUM NOTES • NOVEMBER 2026

Although the Museum is closed for the winter, there is ongoing activity in the office, the library and the Archive Room. Cataloging donated items, sorting and preserving paper documents, ledgers, school records and a myriad of truly informative and unique items does take a lot of time all year. Dedicated volunteers generously donate their skills towards ensuring that the Museum is truly a place where history lives.

I recently attended a fantastic and informative program presented by local retired educator Carol Byron. The topic—Schoolgirl Samplers. This is probably a topic few people think about when reflecting on school subjects and education; however, these hand-embroidered textiles were an important part of childhood education of long ago. These needlework samplers were instrumental in teaching numbers, geometric figures and moral values. A few examples of embroidered poems are as follows:

> *"There is always music amongst the trees in the garden, but our hearts must be very quiet to hear it."*
>
> *"The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."*
>
> *"Count that day lost whose low descending sun derives from my hand no worthy action."*
>
> *"Scatter kindness."*

Many of the early samplers can be traced to a specific school, teacher, country or learning environment through symbols or techniques used. Each sampler always contained the name and date of the embroiderer, which enhances identification. The oldest American sampler was created on linen with silk threads and was embroidered in 1640 by Loara Standish, the daughter of Miles Standish.

These samplers from the past are incredibly valuable. Websites for the National Museum of American History and the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge show many examples of these hand-stitched masterpieces, which represent skills acquired by young girls and boys. Thread and needles and a variety of stitching techniques are no longer part of a 5- or 6-year-old's kindergarten curriculum. I wonder if, in the future, items created on a 3D printer will also be valuable childhood creations?

Happy Thanksgiving. More next month.

SNIPPET OF UNION HISTORY

A look back at a local business announcement from 1891, describing a new billiard hall in downtown Union:

> *"The attention of our readers is called to the ad of the Union Billiard Hall just opened in this city by Jos. Squires and Charles Kelsay. They have fitted up the Bon Ton restaurant building opposite the Centennial hotel, in first-class style with a new and fresh stock of choice confectionery, cigars, miners water, etc. They have in connection a good billiard and pool table. This is a quiet and orderly resort for those who wish to indulge in a social game of billiards or pool. Give the boys a call. They will treat you decent."*

Oregon Scout — November 12, 1891


77 YEARS
FARMER MERCHANT
BANQUET
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 TH
EOU GILBERT CENTER
1 UNIVERSITY BLVD, LA GRANDE
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM DINNER AT 6:15PM
TICKETS CONTACT OR VISIT THE
OSU EXTENSION OFFICE CALL 541-963-1010
Join us for a night to celebrate the agriculture community in Union County!
Union Oregon
CITY OF
Chamber of Commerce
Years of Harvest, Heritage & Heart
FARMER MERCHANT
BANQUET
77 YEARS

CITY OF UNION, OREGON

COMMUNITY CALENDAR • RECURRING ACTIVITIES

November 2026 Newsletter | Weekly and monthly gatherings throughout the year

City Hall hours: Monday–Thursday, 10:00 AM–5:00 PM • City Hall: 541-562-5197

EVENT / ORGANIZATION	RECURRING SCHEDULE	LOCATION	TIME	CONTACT
Awana	Every Thursday during the school year	Baptist Church	6:30 PM	541-562-5870
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	6:00 PM	541-562-6035
VFW Formal Meeting	1st Thursday of the month	VFW Hall	6:00 PM	541-562-6035
EMS Department	1st Monday of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 PM	Not provided
City Council Meeting	2nd Monday of the month	City Hall	7:00 PM	541-562-5197
Council Work Sessions	2nd & 4th Monday of the month	City Hall	6:00 PM	541-562-5197
Union Cemetery Board	2nd Tuesday of the month	Union Cemetery Office	9:00 AM	541-562-5212
CUP Medical Association	2nd Tuesday of the month	251 S Main	6:00 PM	541-910-6268
EOLS Board	2nd Tuesday of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 PM	541-562-5631
Friends of the Library	2nd Tuesday in Jan, Apr, Jul & Nov	Union Library	5:30 PM	541-562-5807
Mainstreet Union	2nd Wednesday of the month	251 S Main Street	7:00 PM	541-805-8689
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thursday of the month	Location to be confirmed	6:00 PM	unionchamber@eoni.com
Order of Eastern Star	2nd Wednesday of the month	Masonic Hall	7:00 PM	541-805-0779
School Board	2nd Wednesday of the month	Athletic Complex	6:00 PM	541-562-5166
Lions Club	3rd Tuesday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	5:30 PM	PO Box 337
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3rd Wednesday of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30 PM	Not provided
Historic Preservation Commission	3rd Wednesday of the month	City Hall	6:00 PM	541-562-5197
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday of the month	UHS Ag Science Classroom (back of gym)	6:30 PM	541-975-9495
Food Bank	3rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	10:00–11:00 AM	541-562-2038
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 PM	541-562-2038
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of the month	Community Center	6:00 PM	541-562-2038
Planning Commission Work Session	4th Tuesday of the month	City Hall	5:00 PM	541-562-5197
Planning Commission Business Meeting	4th Tuesday of the month	City Hall	6:00 PM	541-562-5197
South County Health District	Last Friday in Oct, Jan, Apr & Jul	Health Clinic	1:30 PM	541-562-2222
Library Board	Feb 27, May 22, Aug 21 (year to confirm)	Library	9:00 AM	541-562-5811

Please confirm schedules and venues directly with each organization. The Chamber location and Library Board year still need confirmation.



COUNCIL CORNER:

- Ordinances
- College Street Bridge
- Committees working on Sheriff Contract, Hiring Committee

~City Council Members~

Kori Cox Jay Blackburn Trisha Seale

Terra Richter Anita Boyer-Davis

Mayor ~ Susan Hawkins

COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 9th
Work Session @ 6:00pm
Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm

November 23rd
Work Session : 6:00 pm

All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall 342 S Main Street
https://www.cityofunionor.gov