

City of Union Oregon NEWSLETTER

"PROMOTE RURAL VALUES, PROTECT LOCAL ASSETS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY PRIDE"

City Hall

Monday Thursday 10 am ~ 5 pm
CLOSED For Lunch Noon ~ 2 pm
Fridays CLOSED

Union Carnegie Library

Monday 10 am ~ 6 pm
Tuesday ~ Thursday 10 am ~ 5 pm
Fridays 10 am ~ 4 pm



On the Original Oregon Trail Hwy
Mission: to Organize and Promote Constructive Relationships Between Local Government Bodies, Private Business and Citizens

Main Street Musings for February 2026

Main Street Union met February 11 at RattleTales coffee shop at 6pm. MSU's annual Membership **Meet and Greet will be moved to April 8, 2026** starting at 6pm at Rattle Tales with desserts and beverages being provided by MSU members. Main Street Union will be recognizing community and Main Street members for their efforts this past year towards making positive changes in our community. A power-point presentation on Main Street Union and how it works under the Oregon Main Street Program will be presented along with a review of what Main Street has been up to and what its plans for the future might be. The public is always welcome to attend, bring a friend, **You DO NOT have to own property on Main Street, or own a Historic home, or even be a resident of Union, you only have to want to help make positive changes in our community.**

Main Street Union has been very busy the past few years with community projects and after review our project list and persons willing to chair the projects the organization finds it has more projects than chairpersons, projects without chairpersons may have to be discontinued. Projects with chairpersons include: **Grassroots, the Block Party, Halloween-Kiddie Parade/Trunk or Treat, Christmas Parade, Park Project, Pursel Memorial, Planters on Main Street, Historic District Signage, Economic Vitality for Downtown, and Grant Funding.** Projects needing volunteers to chair include: **Family Roots and Blues (one last Friday of June and July), and a 4th of July Library Activity.** If you would like to help on one of these important **Community Events** you may contact President Walt Brookshire at 541-805-8689 or email Main Street at mainstreetunion@gmail.com.

Planters on Main Street will be available again this year, due to increase plant and supply costs the cost for sponsoring a planter will be \$75 this year. Main Street Union will be placing plaques on the planters indicating who has donated for their display, MSU volunteers ensure the planters are watered. If you would like to **Sponsor a Planter and/or volunteer** to water them please **contact** Planters on Main Street chair, Meriah at Catherine Creek Gardens & Gifts. Planter sponsorships have been high in demand in the past, and again it will be first come first served with previous sponsors being given priority.

At Main Streets February meeting the Annual Internal Audit was presented, a review of the Nonprofits Insurance Alliance zoom meeting on Legal Aspects of Maintaining Your 501c3 status was provided. Volunteer hours by Main Street Union members recorded for January 2026 were in excess of 110 hours (many volunteer hours go unrecorded). Main Street will also be assisting the City Of Union Chamber in their events by providing necessary "boots on the ground".

Grace Donovan from REV Partners at EOU attended informing MSU how we might be able to use an upper-class student to assist us on some of our projects. It might be possible to get a student to assist MSU in marketing and possibly our website, she would be able to help us in drafting a job description, budget and duration. REV likes a sponson to use the student about 10hrs per week and will work with MSU to find a student to fit our needs. This is not a free program and MSU will look towards grants to fund.

Please start looking for Main Street Union's web page which is under construction with the help of Cindy Edwards and board members Jana Dick, John Baker, and Meriah Williams. Postings on meetings and other Main Street activities will start to be uploaded to keep the community informed on what Main Street Union is up to and how the community can help and participate.

Main Street Union **meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm** and will be meeting March 11 at RattleTale. Anyone interested in helping Union **Build on Community Assets** and **Make Union the Quality Community** we all wish to live, work, and invest in, are welcome. Contact Walt Brookshire-President at 541-805-8689 if you have questions about Main Street Union or ideas where the organization may help Our Community.



Water / Sewer Rates Increase

City Council has reviewed the city's finances and has approved a 3% rate increase in sewer base rates and a 3% rate increase in water base rates, effective April 1st, 2026. You will see these changes reflected on your May 1st utility bill you receive.

Beginning April 1st, water base rate will be \$36.79 for a 3/4" meter. In addition to the base rate each cubic foot used is charged at .005 cents up to 1000 cubic feet, (up to 2000 cubic feet during summer months) and .0125 per cubic foot thereafter.

Also, beginning April 1st, sewer base rate will be \$57.42 according to size of meter and multiplier.

Therefore, an average household with a 3/4" meter will have a utility bill base rate, before any water usage, of \$94.21.

As stated, these new rates will be reflected on the utility bill you receive in May.



System Development Charges (SDCs)

A system development charge (SDC) is a one-time fee imposed on new development to equitably recover the cost of expanding infrastructure capacity to serve new customers. SDCs are not taxes—they are collected for a specific purpose and provide a distinct benefit to the persons who pay the fee. The City shall continue to charge for time, equipment, and materials for establishing new water & sewer connections over and above the System Development charges, pursuant to cost recovery schedules established by resolution of the council and set forth in Resolution 2005-25 or as may be updated from time to time. The System Development charges shall be reviewed during the 2026-2027 fiscal year or as soon as practicable and new amounts will be based upon the review and calculation at the time with current costs reflected. The city shall consider adding a charge for parks and streets/transportation as allowed in Ordinance 500 along with any other fees necessary and allowed per the same ordinance. The System Development charges shall be assessed and collected pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance 500 and shall be credited in the city's annual budget as follows

Water Reimbursement Fee

Water Capital Improvement Fee

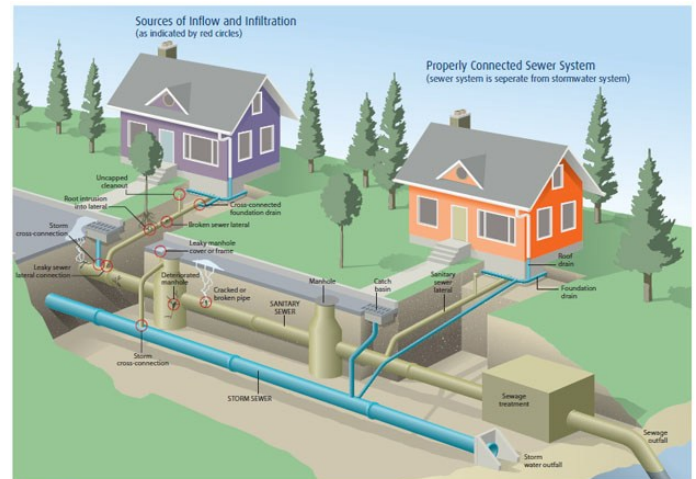
Wastewater Reimbursement Fee

Water Reimbursement Fee \$676.00

Water Capital Improvement Fee \$572.00

Wastewater Reimbursement Fee \$3,952.00

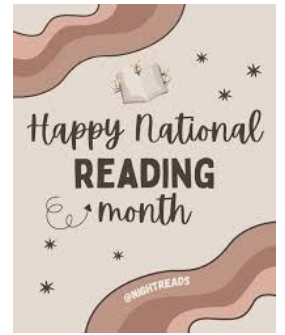
\$5,200.00





Union Carnegie Public Library

~March Activities~



We are very excited to add large print and audiobook titles to our collection thanks to donations from The Roundhouse Foundation, and the Keane Family Fund of Oregon Community Foundation.

Our new large-screen public computers are available thanks to donations from the Friends of Union Carnegie Public Library. We love our Friends group!

We received an amazing, unsolicited \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York celebrating America's 250th anniversary! The Carnegie Corporation sent out these grants to celebrate democracy and support Andrew Carnegie's democratic dream of free libraries.

STORYTIME EVERY TUESDAY 10:00AM ~ 11:00AM

WE WILL READ TOGETHER FOR HALF AN HOUR AND THEN DO A CRAFT/ACTIVITY:

- 3/3 FINGERPRINT FLOWERS
- 3/10 NEGATIVE POP ART
- 3/17 LADYBUG WINDOW ART
- 3/24 DOILY LAMBS
- 3/31 ZENTANGLE RABBITS

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS: FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH ~ MARCH 3RD & MARCH 17TH 4:00PM ~ 5:00PM

- 3/3 FINGERPRINT FLOWERS
- 3/17 NEGATIVE POP ART

ADULT EVENTS, SELECTED MONDAYS 5:00PM ~ 6:00PM

- 3/2 BOOK NOOK SESSION 4
- 3/9 BOOK NOOK SESSION 5
- 3/16 BOOK NOOK SESSION 6

AFTER SCHOOL VIDEO GAMES EVERY THURSDAY FROM 5:00 PM ~ 6:00 PM



UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY
182 S MAIN, UNION OR
541~562~5811
TIFFANY DERICHWEILER ~ LIBRARIAN





What's Happening at the Museum....

March is here and I know everyone is enjoying the potluck of any kind of weather all in the same day.

This month the museum is busy planning some upcoming events as well as moving desks and office materials into the refurbished office. The walls and ceiling are painted and the new flooring has added a true elegance. The comment from everyone is the same .. WOW! You will be able to see this updated space when the museum opens May 10th on Mother's Day.

The city of Union is so fortunate to have the true spirit of volunteerism not found in all communities. The volunteers at the Catherine Creek Community Center make the second Friday of every month a day to anticipate. The music is lively and the lunch is always a most delicious feast. The Mainstreet Union volunteers are hard at work showcasing the beautiful city of Union with the historic connection to the Oregon Trail. The museum volunteers all do a huge variety of tasks to preserve and promote Union County history. Volunteers Val Stockhoff and Louise Weeks, who are also Board members, have spent a tremendous amount of time preparing for a treasure hunters extravaganza in the parking lot of the museum on April 25th. I'll remind everyone of this event next month. Accolades and appreciation to all Union volunteers. Each and every one of you makes this community special.

Since volunteers are always "as busy as bees" let's focus on honey whose definite vast history has kept bees buzzing for about 8 thousand years. Honey was first mentioned in 2400 BCE in cave paintings in Cuevas de la Arana in Becorp, Spain. Egypt first domesticated honey bees about this time. There is evidence of elaborate hives constructed from woven reeds and clay. Honey was also found in some of the treasures in pyramids. In Greek mythology honey was considered to be the nectar of the gods. In fact, Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine, prescribed honey as an antibiotic which was extensively used for wound healing. Apparently the ancient Greeks also used honey in securing bolts that were used in many buildings. Moving on in time, the pioneers made honey by collecting pink clover blossoms which they boiled until they had a form of clover honey.

Happy March. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

Have you ever been visited by that frisky and uncomfortable animal called a nightmare? Have you ever had it climb upon the bed while you were asleep and go through a lively performance which would make a fortune for the proprietor of a circus? You never can tell just when this nocturnal steed will make its appearance, but you are absolutely safe from it if you happen to be reposing on one of S.E. Miller's new bedsteads which are unsurpassed in quality and price.

~Oregon Scout September 24 1891

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS!!



Here we are already more than halfway through the 3rd nine weeks of the school year. We are so busy and in our routines that time seems to be flying by. Our winter sports teams have all been successful and are all competing at their respective state-level tournaments. Our FBLA is gearing up for their State competition in April and busily taking tests, building business plans, creating digital works of art, and the list continues. The advanced Robotics team is headed to their largest competition of the year soon, and we wish them tons of success. The FFA chapter recently competed at its District Convention and did very well, and will soon compete at the State Convention in Redmond, OR. The National Honor Society will induct its Junior scholars soon and send our Senior National Honor Society students well-prepared for their next chapters in life beyond high school. Spring sports are right around the corner, so we encourage you to get out and enjoy the weather and support your Bobcats. Make sure to follow our Facebook page for sports and activity updates.



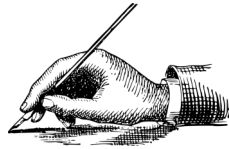
Elementary News!

If there isn't going to be snow, please give us more spring-like days for the children to run and play! The bit of snow we did get brought smiles, cold noses, and large snowmen to our playground, and our students were thrilled. Springtime brings field trips, Spring fundraisers, traditional school activities, and concerts to our elementary. Many of our classes are participating in fundraising activities to support their overnight trips with friends and family, creating lifelong memories. The PTA Spell-a-thon is an academically driven fundraiser that supports our school. So, if your neighborhood children are out and about asking for spelling pledges or donations, please consider supporting them and our school. The Elementary Spring concert day has been changed to June 2nd. The PTA carnival will be on April 17th, which is always a fun time for our students and families. Additionally, we will host our 2nd annual Literacy night on April 30th at 5:00 pm. Mark your calendars now for all the fun things to come!

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ 2026-2027 Budget
- ⇒ Reviewing Ordinances
- ⇒ Committees working on the City Charter, and Ordinances



~City Council Members ~

Trisha Seale	Dick Middleton
Kori Cox	John Black
Don George	Anita Davis
Mayor Susan Hawkins	

March 2026 Council Meetings

March 9th

Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm

All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

Meetings are live streamed and can be viewed on our Facebook page. Or you can view them any time later on our website www.cityofunion.com

[Like us on Facebook!](#)



Did you know you can receive a city newsletter by email? If you would like to receive your newsletter this way just email heatherdaggett@cityofunion.com and request your name be added to the list.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of month	Community Center	6:00pm	541-562-2038
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thurs of the month		6:00 pm	unionchamber@eoni.com
City Council	2nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Council Work Sessions	2 nd & 4 th Mon of month	City Hall	6.00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	2 nd Tues of the month	251 S Main	6:00 pm	541-910-6268
Order of Eastern Star	2nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	
EOLS Board	2nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek CommCtr	10-11:00am	541-562-2038
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tues January, April, July & November	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5807
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3 rd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30pm	
Historic Preservation	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00pm	541-562-5197
Library Board	Feb 27th, May 22nd, Aug 21st	Library	9:00am	541-562-5811
Lions Club	3 rd Tues of the month	Catherine Creek Comm Ctr	5:30 pm	PO Box 337
Mainstreet Union & Economic Development	2nd Thursday of the month	Call contact # for location	7:00 pm	541-910-7048
Planning Commission	3rd Thursday of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 pm	541-562-2038
School Board	2nd Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	6:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	Last Friday of month / Oct, Jan, April, and July	Health Clinic	1:30 pm	541-562-2222
Union Cemetery Board	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Cemetery Office	9:00 am	541-562-5212
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday	UHS Ag Science Classroom at the back of the gym	6:30pm	541-975-9495
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar