

Publication of the City of Union, Missouri

Winter 2014 | Volume XV, Issue 1



talk of the town



Mayor

Mike Livengood • 583-8257

Board of Aldermen

Ward I

Robert Schmuke • 583-8639

Jim Albrecht • 583-4992

Ward II

Vicki Jo Hooper • 583-8640

Dale Schmuke • 583-2099

Ward III

Paul Arand • 583-5489

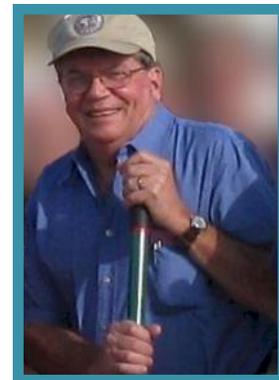
Dustin Bailey • 636-484-2937

Ward IV

David Pope • 583-7813

Karen Erwin • 314-378-0958

from the mayor →



A Happy New Year to all from me and your Board of Aldermen. In the past, the January issue was my opportunity to discuss City projects from the past year and in the future. I will go into City projects, but I want to draw your attention to an issue that is an ever growing problem in communities across the country; bullying. Though bullying can happen at any age, I am referring to bullying in schools.

Inside this issue you will find an article concerning bullying. Increasingly, you have noticed stories on television news and newspaper articles about bullying over the past few years, but this issue cannot get enough exposure. Please take the time to read the article, especially if you are a parent of school age children.

As each year is, 2013 was a busy year when it came to City projects. The overlay of Independence Drive and the round-about at the intersection of the Washington Avenue and Independence Drive was completed. Walkers can now make a complete loop around Union on the safety of curbed sidewalks. The renovation of Main Street was also completed with bump outs, new landscaping, stamped crosswalks, planters on the north side of the Franklin County Courthouse. In addition, new benches and additional trash receptacles were installed. Veteran's Memorial Park has been graded and seeded. The City of Union has a brand-new, more "customer friendly" web site.

Future improvements are scheduled for Denmark Road and Prairie Dell Road, as well as installation of a new water well for the east side of town.

The Board of Aldermen, City staff and I pledge to continue to give you, our constituents, the highest quality of services in 2014. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your Aldermen. Our contact information is included in the newsletter.

Mike Livengood



Officer of the Year



The Union Police Department supervisors selected Sgt. Andy Parker as the 2013 Officer of the Year. Sgt. Parker was recognized at the City of Union Employee Christmas Party on December 19th. Andy is a lifetime resident of the City of Union and has been with the department for 29 years. He was promoted to patrol sergeant in 1995 and is a Field Training Officer for new recruits. Andy's squad, or a member of his squad, has been recognized by MADD, for each of the last five years, for their efforts in the area of Driving While Intoxicated.

Andy, who leads by example, exemplifies the soul of the Union Police Department by striving for justice with a caring and understanding approach to victims and to suspects.

New Website Launched

The City recently launched a new website at www.unionmissouri.org and hope you find it a much improved experience over our previous site. Not only is the new site more aesthetically pleasing with bright colors and current photos, we have made drastic changes to make it easier for you to find the information you are looking for.

Some of the most notable changes are:

- Search feature, just type the keyword(s) in the search box, top right of the home page.
- How Do I? Section ... Commonly asked questions are answered here, such as “how do I apply for a business license?”, or “how do I view the recycling schedule?”, or “how do I reserve a park pavilion?”.
- Community Calendar, News and Announcements and popular pages are all shown on the home page.



- Alerts—Look for the orange button at the top right column of the home page. We'll post current alerts, such as a trash schedule change, or water boil notice.

- Notify Me— This feature allows you to subscribe to a service that will automatically email you when there is a significant change to a page on the website. Just look for the Notify Me icon near the top of the page to subscribe.

The website is forever evolving so check back often to see what's new.

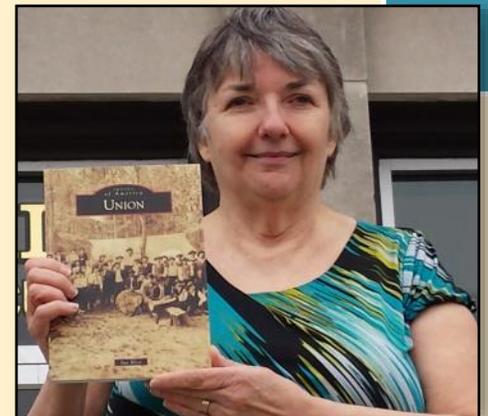
If you would like to make a comment or have a website question, please contact

Wanda Parsons, Community Development Assistant
 Phone: 636-583-3600
 Email: wparsons@unionmissouri.org

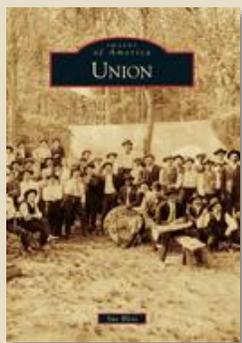
UNION: History through Images

When Sue Blesi moved to Franklin County 27 years ago, she discovered that her St. Clair area farm had been a land grant made to George Hearst, the grandfather of the famous miner and senator by the same name. Sue began researching history related to the Hearst family then branched out her research into Franklin County. She has already authored two books, “Gleanings from the Past”, a history of St. Clair, and “Where Dead Men Still Fight” a history of Stanton, MO. Her latest book, simply titled “Union” is a part of the Images of America Series, by Arcadia Publishing. It tells the story of Union through 200 high quality black and white photos. She collected photographs from area residents and several historical societies, often toting a laptop computer and scanner so she could make high quality scans on the spot. Collecting information on everything related to Franklin County has been her passion for two-and-a-half decades.

Blesi has plans for future books on the area. If you have information or photographs you'd like to share on any Franklin County topic, please call Sue at 573-739-9201 or email sblesi@hotmail.com.



Sue Blesi holds a copy of her new book “Images of America—Union”



Union History: Images of America

Available for purchase, \$21.99 + tax

In Union: Purschke's, Creations by Laura, Walgreens, and Dickey Bub

Online: amazon.com, arcadiapublishing.com

Direct from author, Sue Blesi, at 573-739-9201.

A Few Highlights of 2013

The sound of hammers striking nails and the sight of construction cranes have again reclaimed their respective place in Union. 2013 was a busy year for construction of infrastructure improvements, and residential and commercial development throughout our community. In the midst of the recession, the City of Union continued to be the fastest growing community in Franklin County.

As of December 17, the City of Union Building Department has issued 109 permits for single family dwellings in 2013.

Veteran's Memorial Park



The first few steps were taken to make Veteran's Memorial Park a reality; grading and seeding. The future Veteran's Memorial Park is located along Progress Parkway and will be a 44-acre recreational park with amenities planned for users of any age to enjoy. Before walking paths, soccer fields, baseball fields and shelters can be constructed in the future, the property first needed to be graded for those uses. The City of Union plans to allow the grass to take root before construction commences on the property.

Main Street



The Main Street project began with the installation of Union's first roundabout at the intersection of Main Street and Independence Drive near Union High School. The project, as a whole, included new street trees, replacement sidewalk and curbs in some areas, stamped crosswalks in the downtown area and landscaped planters and seating on the north lawn of the historic Franklin County Court House.

The project was approximately a \$2 million cost-share project with MODoT. The City of Union was responsible for 20% of the project cost.

Oak View Village



Oak View Village is a 47-unit senior villa community under construction along Progress Parkway, just south of the Union Fire Protection District Fire House #3. The development is being developed by Golden Management, St. Louis. Oak View Village is for people 55 years and older and their spouses. Children cannot live in the development. The development is maintenance free to the occupants and includes a clubhouse for use by residents. Golden Management received state and federal tax credits from the Missouri Housing Development Commission. For more information, please contact Golden Management at 314-432-3088.

Independence Drive

Over the summer of 2013 construction was completed along Independence Drive. Included in this project was the completion of Union's second roundabout at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Independence Drive. Roundabouts allow for reduction of accidents, reduction of delays, and are less expensive for the community. In-

cluded in the project was installation of sidewalk and curbing from Washington Avenue east to Church Street. The project was approximately a \$1 million project, also a 20% cost-share project with MODoT.

Frick's Market



After months of searching for the right location, Frick's Market began construction of their site west of the new Jim Trenary Chevrolet dealership this past summer. The new store will be approximately 33,000 square feet and will include a drive-thru option for their deli area. The entrance to the new store will be off Central Avenue. Plans for the current store, located on Springfield Avenue in downtown Union, have not been finalized.

Recycling and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

Leave at curb by 6:00a.m.

Schedule published and mailed in January was incorrect. Please see page 5 of this document for the correct schedule. Rev. 5/14/2014

talk of the town

Union City Hall

500 E. Locust Street - Union, MO 63084

Phone: 636-583-3600 • Fax: 636-583-4091

PRSR STD

U.S. Postage

PAID

city elected officials

Municipal Judge A. David Arand

City Collector Terry Copeland

departmental listing

City Administrator Russell Rost

City Clerk Jonita Copeland

Chief of Police Norman Brune

City Engineer Jonathan Zimmermann

Community Development Director Joseph A. Graves

Finance Director Heather Keith

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Arand

Public Works Director Harold Lampkin

web site

www.unionmissouri.org

[Facebook.com/CityofUnionMo](https://www.facebook.com/CityofUnionMo)



cable access

Charter Cable Channel 117.3 or

Digital 993 — Union City Access Channel

BULLYING: The Warning Signs

Recognizing the warning signs is an important first step in taking action against bullying.

It is important to talk with children who show warning signs, which sometimes can also point to other issues such as depression or substance abuse. Talking to the child can help identify the root of the problem.

Look for changes in the child. However, be aware that not all children who are bullied exhibit warning signs.

Signs that Your Child is Being Bullied:

- Unexplainable injuries
- Lost or destroyed personal belongings.
- Frequent illness, real or faked.
- Changes in eating habits.

- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares
- Declining grades, loss of interest in school
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations
- Self-destructive behaviors such as running away from home, harming themselves, or talking about suicide

Signs a Child is Bullying Others:

- Get into fights, increasingly aggressive
- Frequent disciplinary actions
- Have unexplained extra money or new belongings

Why don't kids ask for help?

Statistics from the 2008–2009 School Crime Supplement show that an adult

was notified in only about a third of bullying cases.

Kids don't tell adults for many reasons:

- Kids may want to handle it on their own to feel in control again.
- Kids may fear backlash from the kid who bullied them.
- Kids may not want adults to know what is being said about them, whether true or false.
- They may feel like no one cares or could understand.
- Kids may fear being rejected by their peers.



Source: Stopbullying.gov

Union, MO
2014 Recycle / Yard Waste Schedule

January

Thursday 2nd = Recycle

Wednesday 8th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 22nd = Recycle

February

Wednesday 5th = Recycle

Wednesday 12th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 19th = Recycle

March

Wednesday 5th = Recycle

Wednesday 12th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 19th = Recycle

April

Wednesday 2nd = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 9th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 16th = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 23rd = Yard Waste

May

Wednesday 7th = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 14th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 21st = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 28th = Yard Waste

June

Wednesday 4th = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 11th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 18th = Recycle and Yard Waste

Wednesday 25th = Yard Waste

July

Wednesday 2nd = Recycle

Wednesday 9th = Yard Waste

Wednesday 16th = Recycle

Wednesday 23rd = Yard Waste

The current contract expires in August, 2014. We will have an updated schedule at that time.

Must Place At Curb By 6:00 A.M.