

City of
UNION
Missouri

FALL
2023

Cover Photo: City Lake Gazebo Fall 2022
by Wanda Parsons

TALK OF THE TOWN



PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF UNION, MISSOURI
10 E LOCUST STREET, UNION, MO 63084
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Union, Missouri

Fall 2023

TALK OF THE TOWN

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR SCHMUKE

Hello Citizens of Union,

I hope you had a long and enjoyable summer! If you're like most of us, fall brings welcome relief to the summer heat but the return of a very busy calendar.



As many of you have noticed, there are a number of projects underway and great things happening in the City of Union.

Construction on Hansen Park continues to progress and we are looking forward to adding the new downtown park to the City's park system. In addition, the City has begun demolition of the buildings on the lot across from City Hall. I know it's hard to see old buildings go, but sometimes the condition of the buildings makes it more economical to remove them and start over than to try to restore and maintain them. In this case, the damage to the roof and second floor of the buildings made saving the buildings impossible.

The goal is to create a new, permanent home for the Farmers & Artisans Market and create a public venue down Main Street between the new pavilion and Hansen Park. The two spaces will provide a great entertainment venue for our community for years to come. While we're waiting for construction to catch up, be sure to check out Sip on Main and the Old Ozarkian Distillery, two of our newest additions to Downtown.

I hope to see everyone at the Homecoming Parade on October 6th, the Spooktacular Farmers Market, and Boo Bash later this month.

From our small business community to East Central College, there is something for everyone in Union.



ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Robert L. Schmuke
314-808-3056

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

WARD 1

Brian Pickard
636-667-9790

Amanda Sullivan
314-920-9923

WARD 2

Barbara E. Laberer
636-584-9631

Russell Rost
636-744-6292

WARD 3

Jacob T. Doecke
636-388-9896

Dennis Soetebier
636-584-9309

WARD 4

Heather Eppe
636-584-1701

Tom Strubberg
636-675-3838



Board of Aldermen Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm at City Hall, 10 E. Locust Street, Union, MO 63084

Agendas are posted at

<https://www.unionmissouri.gov/government/agendas.php>

AGENDA



Want to be notified as soon as the next issue of Talk of the Town is published?

Sign up to receive email or text alerts at

https://www.unionmissouri.gov/government/talk_of_the_town.php





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Fall 2023

TALK OF THE TOWN**OCTOBER**

1	Veterans Fishing—Veterans Memorial Park
9	Board of Aldermen Meeting 6:00pm City Hall
13	Farmers Market Trunk or Treat at ECC
27	Boo Bash! - City Park

NOVEMBER

10	Veterans Day (City Hall Closed)
13	Board of Aldermen Meeting 6:00pm City Hall
17	Union Furniture Christmas Block Party
18	Electronics Recycling, 8am-1pm, 202 W Brown
23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday (City Hall Closed)
25	Small Business Christmas at United Bank of Union (1440 Rebel Drive)

DECEMBER

8	Winter Wonderland Parade
11	Board of Aldermen Meeting 6:00pm City Hall
25-26	Christmas Holiday (City Hall Closed)

JANUARY 2024

1	New Year's Day (City Hall Closed)
8	Board of Aldermen Meeting 6:00pm City Hall
15	Martin Luther King Day (City Hall Closed)

**YARDWASTE SCHEDULE**

October 4, 11, 18, 25
November 1, 8, 15, 22
December 13, 28

**ELECTRONICS RECYCLING**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023

8AM-1PM

202 W BROWN STREET

**WHO YA GONNA CALL?**

CITY HALL	636.583.3600
BUSINESS LICENSES	636-583-3600 x1110
BUILDING PERMITS	636.583.1805
HUMAN RESOURCES.....	636.583.3600
MUNICIPAL COURT	636.583.8436
PARKS & RECREATION	636.583.8471
UTILITIES	636.583.3600 x1106
UTILITIES PAY BY PHONE	877-812-3501
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.....	636.583.8979
FIRE DEPT NON-EMERGENCY	636-583-2515
FRANKLIN COUNTY.....	636.583.6358
PROPERTY TAXES (FRANKLIN COUNTY COLLECTOR)	636.583.6353
LICENSE BUREAU	636.583.3282
POLICE DEPT NON-EMERGENCY	636.583.3700
SWIMPLEX.....	636.583.3316

**CITY OF UNION
FARMERS &
ARTISANS MARKET**

present



**THE 2ND ANNUAL
SPOOKTACULAR
MARKET
& TRUNK or TREAT**

Friday, October 13, 2023

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

East Central College (parking lot)
1964 Prairie Dell Drive, Union, MO



636.583.3600



www.unionmissouri.gov



CityofUnionMO



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BUZZWORTHY NEWS FROM CITY HALL

ORDINANCE UPDATE

Following is a partial list of ordinances passed by the Board of Aldermen from January 2023-June-2023. Stay in the know ... Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm. Agendas are posted at www.unionmissouri.gov.

ADOPT 2023/24 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET (Ord 4607—6/12/2023)

The City's fiscal year is the twelve-month period beginning on July 1st and runs through the following June 30th. The City of Union Board of Aldermen and staff are to properly account for public funds, to manage municipal finances wisely and to plan for adequate funding of services. **Union's budget is balanced**, meaning total proposed expenditures do not exceed estimated revenues. The annual budgets and financial statements are available for review at unionmissouri.gov, under the document library.

REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS (Ord 4618—8/14/2023) Due to the severe drought over the summer the Board took action to amend **Section 215.350 Discharging Fireworks**, adding the following "No person shall at any time, ignite or discharge consumer fireworks any time during a period of moderate drought, severe drought, extreme drought, or exceptional drought as indicated by the U.S. Drought Monitor published by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ST ANDREWS MEADOWS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (Ord 4613—7/10/2023)

The property owner and developer of St. Andrews Meadows subdivision located at Denmark Road and St. Andrews Drive, requested creation of the Community Improvement District in order to help fund public improvements within the subdivision, such as sidewalks, streets, storm and sewer systems, parks, lawns, trees and other streetscape features. The developer may impose a special assessment to those who purchase homes within St. Andrews Meadows. Annual assessments will be \$300 or \$500 depending on the class of home purchased and be collected by the Franklin County Collector's along with annual property taxes. Again, this assessment only affects homeowners within the St. Andrews Meadows subdivision.

2023 CITY OF UNION TAX RATE (Ord 4621—8/21/2023)

Each year in August, the City sets the tax rates for Real Estate and Personal Property. The 2023 tax rate was set at a total of \$0.6892 per \$100 assessed valuation, which has remained the same since 2021. Your Real Estate and Personal Property bills also include taxes for the following entities: Missouri, Franklin County, Special Road District, R11 School, Hospital, Fire, East Central College, Scenic Regional Library, Ambulance and Franklin County SB40 Resource Board. Each district sets their own tax rate.



Help us help you; dispose of your trash properly and remember hot ashes should never be placed in a trash receptacle.

We would like to remind all customer to be mindful of the items they are putting in their garbage and recycling containers and the hazards that can occur when flammable materials are improperly disposed of. Things that do not belong in the garbage/recycling truck are chemicals, ashes, paint, lithium batteries, etc



September 8, 2023—Waste Connections and Union Fire Department work to put out garbage truck fire.

CEMETERY CLEANUP

The City of Union will conduct a general clean - up of the Union City Cemetery, located on North Washington Ave. from October 30-November 3, 2023. If you have placed any items on the ground at the Cemetery that you wish to preserve, please remove the item(s) by 6:00 a.m. on October 30th. Items placed at the cemetery after 4:30 p.m. on November 3rd will not be disturbed throughout the winter, as long as it does not interfere with cemetery maintenance. Rules governing placement of memorials at gravesites are posted at each entrance to the cemetery.



*“There is nothing permanent
except change.”*

— Heraclitus

HANSEN PARK

We wanted to take a moment to address the status of Hansen Park. This project is being undertaken in accordance with the wishes of Bob Hansen, who passed away June 14, 2021. Bob was an avid supporter of local businesses, a generous donor to causes he believed in and he had a profound vision for our community's future.

Before his passing, Bob Hansen expressed a strong desire to see our community flourish through the creation of a unique quiet park. He believed that such a space would not only enhance our downtown but also provide a place for residents to gather, enjoy small events, and experience the sophistication he envisioned. With Hansen's passing, the Trustees of his estate were left with the task of making his vision of a downtown adult park a reality.

In the Spring of 2022, the trustees demolished the Hansen owned buildings at 209-217 E Main Street to make room for the park. The Hansen House at 15 N Oak along with its park-like courtyard would also become part of the newly established park.

Per the Trust agreement, the Trust would pay for the demolition and construction of the park, and upon completion, the City of Union would maintain the park.

Over a year has passed now, and many of our citizens have questioned why tear down the buildings, why is this taking so long? Well, the trustees have been dealing with the challenges of this economy. Rising costs, material shortages and contractor scheduling to mention a few. With that said, however, work continues and while we cannot promise a finish date, the project is getting closer to the finish line.

We believe Hansen Park will not only beautify our downtown but also have a positive economic impact, attracting visitors and potential new businesses to downtown and contribute to the vibrancy of our community.

We look forward to opening the park in 2024.

Do you need a building permit?

Building & Engineering 636-583-1805

Right-of-Way Permit

- Required when installing/maintaining public utilities located within the City right-of-way
- Required when installing or widening a driveway connecting to a City street or alley
 - ⇒ Driveways limited to 25 feet in width at the street
- Required for installing/maintaining service connections when the work will encroach into the City right-of-way (i.e. replacing a sewer lateral when the City sewer is located in the street)

Accessory Building Permit

- Required for every accessory building (i.e. shed) regardless of shape, size or material
- Accessory building size limited to 50% of the square footage of the principal building



Pool Permit

- Required for any pool, hot tub and spa that can contain more than 24 inches of water in depth
- Fence or barrier required, not less than 48 inches in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier, and shall completely surround pool, hot tub or spa
- Gates and doors in fences or barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching
 - ⇒ Where the self-latching device is less than 54 inches above the bottom of the gate,





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**5TH & 6TH
GRADE**
BOYS AND GIRLS

REGISTER NOW FOR
**BASKETBALL
& VOLLEYBALL
LEAGUES**

\$50 / Child

Recreational youth basketball and volleyball for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls is being offered this fall and winter.

Boys Basketball session is accepting registrations through mid-October 2023. Boys and Girls Volleyball registrations will open December 4, 2023, with practices beginning the 3rd week of January.

Adult volunteer coaches are needed for the leagues. If you're interested in coaching or know someone who might be, please encourage them to get involved.

Keep in mind that these details are subject to change, so stay in touch with the Union Parks Department for any updates. Visit unionmissouri.gov/uprd and follow [@unionprd](https://www.facebook.com/unionprd) on Facebook or call 636-583-8471 for more information or to register for a league.

Annual Boo Bash!

Bring all your ghouls and goblins to this FREE family event at Union City Park (575 N. Christina Avenue) on October 27th, 2023. Events begin at 6:00pm. There will be a costume contest for children aged 10 and under, judged by Union Kiwanis Club. Enjoy refreshments, hayrides and go trunk-or-treating.

For more information, reach out to the Parks Department at 636-583-8471 or email progcoord@unionmissouri.gov



CATCH & RELEASE

Union City Lake is a popular spot for anglers. UPRD would like to remind everyone November 1—January 31 is Catch-and-Release only for trout.

Flies, artificial lures and unscented soft plastic baits may be used. Only 1 pole may be used. Use of chum is prohibited.

February 1—October 31: You must stop fishing for all species after having 4 trout in possession.



The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

1. Friday, November 17, 2023
Union Furniture's Downtown Christmas Block Party is like stepping into a Hallmark Christmas
2. Saturday, November 25, 2023
Union Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business Christmas at United Bank of Union (1440 Rebel Drive)
3. Friday, December 8, 2023
Winter Wonderland Parade



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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK October 9-13

The Union Fire Protection District is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign,

"Cooking Safety Starts with YOU."

The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take when cooking to keep themselves and those around them safe.

This year's campaign addresses cooking, which is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths.

49%

Forty nine percent of all U.S. home fires are cooking fires according to the National Fire Protection Agency. Such numbers remind us, public education is still needed.

The Union Fire Protection District encourages all residents to embrace the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme. Fire Chief Russell Hamilton explains "a cooking fire can grow quickly. We have seen many homes damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented."

The Fire District offers these key safety tips to help reduce the risk of a cooking fire.

1. Watch what you heat. Always keep a close eye on what you are cooking. Set a timer to remind you.
2. Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove. Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.
3. Have a "kid- and pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove or grill and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

Firefighters will be focused on presenting this year's campaign message and how the above safety tips can keep all safer. If one has questions or would like additional information, feel free to contact the Union Fire Protection District @ 636-583-2515.

Blossoms of Beauty: Courthouse Square Flourishes

Thanks to Ability DSFC and Franklin County Master Gardeners





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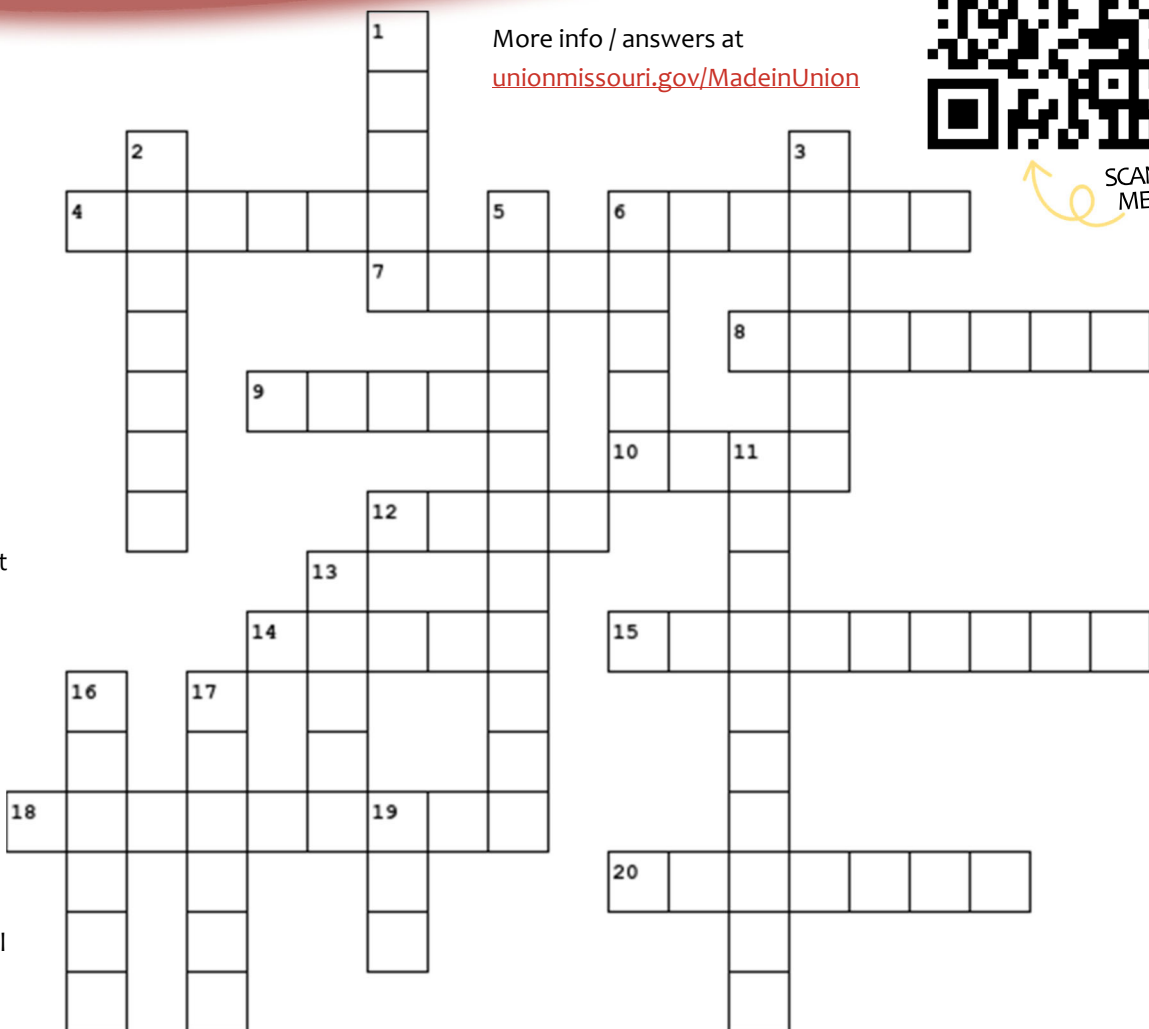
Made in



Manufacturing Day is the First Friday of Every October.

MFG Day is designed to introduce and expose the next generation of workers to the great careers and rewarding work in manufacturing.

How well do you know the manufacturers in Union? It's amazing when you think of all the things MADE IN UNION.



More info / answers at

unionmissouri.gov/MadeinUnionSCAN
ME

Across

4. Design and manufacture flight simulation hardware for aerospace and defense markets
6. ___ Powder Coating, an alternative to painting, this finish uses a spray gun an electrostatic charge to coat just about anything made of metal.
7. Makers of Chocolate Zucchini Keto Crusts and other flavors of keto-friendly pizza crusts
8. Extrusions is what they do; from aluminum window frames to boat and trailer accessories
9. You've walked on it, you've driven on it, you build with it. This woman-owned-business named after the family name has been providing material service since 1940
10. "Making the things that make you productive". They once had a "I Hate Filing Club" under the brand Esselte
12. ___ and Control ... Love those Doritos? This company plays a part in making sure your chips are seasoned and are also known as Spray Dynamics
14. It all started in Milan, Italy. Their prosciutto is featured on charcuterie boards everywhere.
15. They make corrosion resistant tanks, linings and coatings
18. ___ Factory ... Making FUN for 40+ years with soft play products
20. This company makes Classic Magnets and the only "Made in the USA" manufacturer of molded magnets

Down

1. Thanks to this company's infrared heaters, you can enjoy a meal on Hagie's patio in the winter time and stay warm
2. Known for "Dispensing Innovation", Maker of the Bread Buddy, food dispensers and More
3. The Town and Country ___ company has provided roofing and siding in the Midwest since 2005
5. The lowest load-bearing part of a building, typically below ground level. Mentz builds this.
6. ___ Run Boxes -- Packing or shipping? Cardboard is your friend, and this company has everything you need to safely package your stuff
11. Slogan is "Innovating powder. Shaping brands" and in Union they package such products as Gold Bond powder and more.
13. ___ Labs.. While they don't make things, they have been "Making the World's Food Safer" since 1982
16. The sweet smell of sawdust brings memories of Dad's workshop ... this wood works company makes doors, windows, trim, flooring and just about anything made of wood.
17. Pop the top and stick that soup in a microwave, you can thank this company for the convenience of those plastic food containers and more.
19. "Making a Material Difference", in short, they "SELL METAL"

*Not all manufacturers are included here, but we appreciate all the tool & machine shops that make parts for just about everything under the sun.