



talk of the town

Summer 2012
Volume XIII, Issue 2

www.unionmissouri.org



Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor

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Board of Aldermen

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Ward II

Vicki Jo Hooper • 583-8640

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Ward III

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Ward IV

David Pope • 583-7813

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from the mayor →

Summer is just around the corner. Mother Nature provided us with a glimpse of summer back in March, now we're experiencing typical weather in Missouri; one day 85 degrees, the next 55 degrees. Spring also kicks off road construction season and the City of Union will experience several large projects, including one project that began in April and will not be complete until October.

The reconstruction of Main Street from Old Highway 50 east to Highway 47 began construction in early April. The bid was awarded to Magruder Construction Company based in Troy, Missouri. The project will include new sidewalks and curbing, in certain areas, new landscaping in the downtown area, improved signage, and complete overlay of the entire stretch of Main Street. The intersection of Main Street and Independence Drive will include Union's first roundabout. Though somewhat controversial, roundabouts have been proven to be safer than traditional intersections. Don't get me wrong, it will take some getting used to, but once familiar with how a roundabout functions, it will be a vast improvement to the area.

Several streets throughout Union will also receive asphalt overlay this summer. Some of the streets to be finished before June 30 include sections of: Hoffert, Kennedy, Sophia, Jefferson, Springfield and Roosevelt. After July 1 sections of: Roosevelt, Lincoln, Garfield, Mt. Vernon, Potomac and Georgetown will receive an overlay of fresh asphalt.



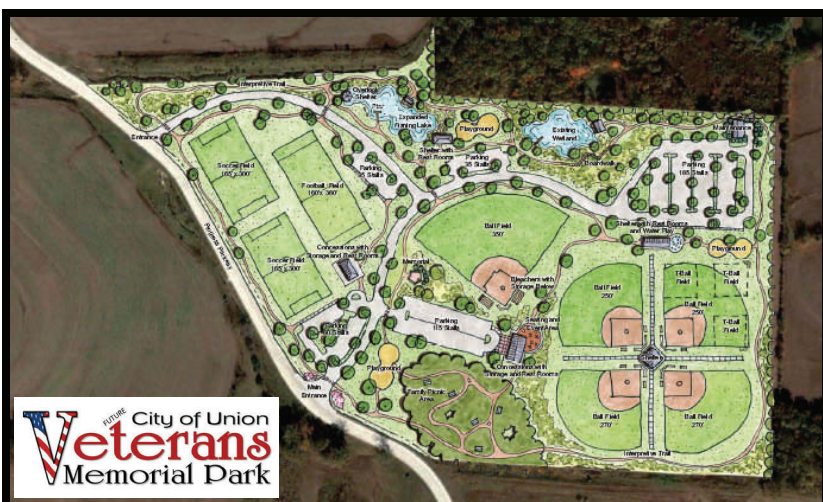
As always, please keep an eye out for construction workers as you drive. Keep cell phone talk to a minimum and never text while driving.

Over the past few months, the City of Union has seen the retirement of several City employees. Don Bradshaw of the Parks and Recreation Department retired with 9 years of service. The Public Works Department had two retire; Donald Hughes with 34 years and Jim Carpenter with 24 years. The Board of Aldermen, City staff and I wish these gentlemen years of happiness in their retirement and that the fish keep biting.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, ideas or would like to participate on one of the City's committees, please contact me or your Aldermen.

Have a happy and safe summer.

Mike Livengood



Veterans Memorial Park
City of Union

1/2 Cent Park Sales Tax
Vote at City Hall, 500 E. Locust Street, Union, Missouri
June 5, 2012. Polls are open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
See related story on back page.



June 15

"Tangled"

July 20

"Dolphin Tail"

August 17

"Eat My Dust"

With the Hwy 30 Car Club

September 21

"Gnomeo and Juliet"



Family Night Concert Series begins on June 1 and are held once per month through September. Time is 6:30pm to 9:30pm, at the large pavilion in the Main City Park. FREE to the public.

June 1: Daniel Swan

July 6: 8 Track

Aug. 3: Michael Terry Group

Sep. 7: Fanfare

more events

May 27: Swimplex Opens

June 2: Founder's Day

June 9: Car Show in the Park

June 20: Senior Fishing Derby

July 1: Cross Road Riders

Motorcycle Show

July 5-8: Franklin County Fair

Aug. 17: Family Luau at the Swimplex

Sep. 15: Fall Flea Market

A complete schedule of Parks & Recreation Programs and Events is available at City Hall or can be viewed online.

More info at
www.unionmissouri.org
or Call 636-583-8471

Farmers Market Is Open For Business

Though still a bit early in the year, the Union Farmers' Market is open. The market is currently held in the City Hall parking lot across the street from City Hall, Saturdays 6am -11am and Wednesday 3:30pm – 5:30pm.

To increase exposure for our Farmers' Market vendors, the City of Union has been negotiating with the First Baptist Church near the intersection of Highway 50 and Highway 47 to relocate our Saturday market. Currently, only the Saturday market would be relocated. Also, the move to the commuter lot will not occur until June 2012.

Relocating the Saturday morning market to the commuter lot at the First Baptist Church will give both vendors and customer's easy access to fresh, locally grown produce from Franklin County gardens.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Development Department at 636-583-3600.



New Population Signs Installed

The city limit signs were recently changed to reflect Union's population as of the 2010 census. The custom signs feature the city's new "U" logo, which is slowly being phased into the city's marketing materials. So, welcome to the "U", that is; *Welcome to Union, MO ... a Great Place for U.*



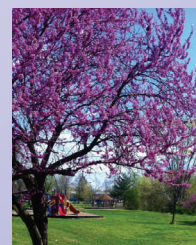
Keep Yard Waste Off Streets

When mowing this summer, please remember to sweep or blow grass clippings off the street and back into your yard. If you do not remove yard waste from the street, you are breaking the law and could be ticketed.

According to the Union Code of Ordinances, Section 515.230: Littering, a person commits the offense of littering if he/she throws or places or causes to be

thrown or placed any glass, glass bottles, wire, nails tacks, hedge, cans, garbage trash, refuse, solid waste, YARD WASTE, limbs or rubbish of any kind, nature of description on the right-of-way of any public street, road or State highway...

Aside from being aesthetically unappealing, those grass clippings, etc. will be flushed into the storm water and could possibly contribute to failure of the storm drain and cause area flooding. Remember that those affected could be your neighbors and/or family.



Calling all Shutterbugs!

Do you have some great pictures of Union events or some nice scenes of our Town that you'd like to share? Please email your digital pictures to wparsons@unionmissouri.org along with some information about what is pictured. Your picture may be featured in future issues of "Talk of the Town", our website and more.

Crystal Extrusion Systems, Ltd

Stable Workforce Leads To Success

CRYSTAL EXTRUSION

Size of Facility
125,000 square feet

of Employees
48

Located to Union
2003

Market
Northeast & Midwest U.S.

Website
www.crystalextrusions.com

Contact
Thomas Ziegler
704 West Park Rd.
Union, Missouri 63084
636.583.7755

Crystal Extrusion, here in Union, is the American Dream come true for a Taiwanese immigrant, Thomas Chen and his family. Coming to the United States in 1982 from Taiwan to seek a better opportunity, Mr. Chen accepted every work opportunity while he went to school. Thirty years later, Crystal Windows, Inc., located in Flushing, New York, is one of the top 50 window manufacturers in the nation. In 2003, Crystal Windows purchased an existing aluminum manufacturing facility in Union and with 8 employees, opened Crystal Extrusion Systems.

In the beginning, Crystal Extrusion provided extruded aluminum for the manufacturing of commercial/industrial grade windows at the New York facility. Today, however, the Union facility offers a litany of services for various industries, including; design, extrusion, powder coating of aluminum, and fabrication. Crystal Extrusion's work can be found in fencing, the lighting industry, facade cladding systems and the "hot" industry of solar panels, to name a few.

Recently, Crystal has added a narrow cut hot log saw, reducing waste tremendously while increasing productivity exponentially and adding to the bottom line. "We are now able to purchase logs of aluminum (from Cape Girardeau) and cut the sizes we need instead of having a huge inventory of different sized aluminum on hand," explained Tom Ziegler.

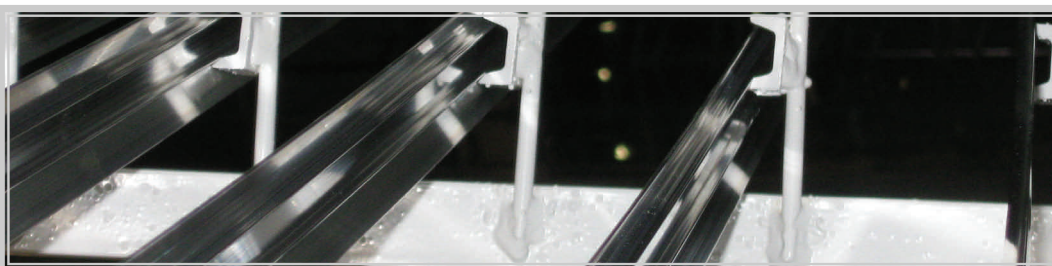
Crystal Extrusion continues to grow in sales each and every year...even through the recession. As a matter of fact, sales, based on tonnage shipped, have doubled in the past 5 years. Tom Ziegler, Vice President, attributes this increase to the hard work and dedication of the employees at Crystal and the company's ability to give their customers quick lead time and ability to provide value added enhancements.

Mr. Ziegler praises his workforce for being the driving force behind the increase in sales over the past few years. Due to Crystal's steady workforce, employees have played an important role in streamlining processes and cost saving ideas due to their years of dedicated service to Crystal. Ziegler continued by stating, "We're all a big family here. Crystal is a family run business and we run the business as a family."

Fifty percent of Crystal Extrusion Systems sales are within 50 miles of the Union facility. "We have a tremendous reputation for delivering a quality product at a low cost and that reputation continues to grow in the St. Louis area," proudly added Mr. Ziegler.

"Anything we can do to add value for a customer we will do it. Whether it is painting it, cutting it, fabricating it, packaging it...we will do it"

Tom Ziegler



talk of the town

Union City Hall

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PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 20
Union, MO
63084

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

June 5th, EVERYONE Votes at City Hall

On Tuesday, June 5th, the City of Union will hold a special vote of the people. One issue will be on the ballot, a ½ cent Park Sales Tax. All polling will take place at Union City Hall, 6:00am to 7:00pm. The City of Union was able to save money having only one polling place.

The proposed sales tax would be dedicated solely to expand the parks system and maintenance of the City's Park and Recreation system.

If approved, the sales tax will provide the following:

- 1) Funding to construct a new park, Veterans' Memorial Park, to provide additional active and passive recreation opportunities, expand the parks system into the growing southeast area of the city and address the need for additional athletic fields within the city's park system.
- 2) A dedicated funding source for parks indefinitely.

- 3) Provide for operations and maintenance and improvements in parks facilities located throughout Union.
- 4) The creation of jobs.
- 5) The ability to share costs with nonresidents who shop in Union, rather than impose a property tax that affects only Union residents.

Once financing has been repaid, the Park Sales Tax will be reduced to ¼ of 1% and remain at that level. This tax is a parks specific tax that would be added to purchases made in the City of Union for residents and non-residents. For example a person would pay an extra .10 for every \$20 they spend.

Please familiarize yourself with the facts surrounding the issue and be sure to vote, at CITY HALL, on June 5th.

More information, including frequently asked questions can be found at www.unionmissouri.org.