

# OLD TOWN NEWS

CITY EVENTS, CITY COUNCIL, DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES,  
& MUNICIPAL CODE INFORMATION

Winter 2019/20  
VOLUME 42, ISSUE 4

UNION GAP  
1883



Por favor llame 248-0432 para obtener información en español

## 16TH ANNUAL **OLD TOWN LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 6PM**

The parade will begin at Peppermint Stick and follow Old Town/Main Street to the Valley Mall Parking Lot. Families can take photos of the parade entries and there will be Christmas Caroling with Yakima Symphony, photos with Santa & candy canes. Cookies, hot cocoa, coffee and tea *provided by Union Gaps First Baptist Church* in the Valley Mall/ Sears parking lot.

*Fun for the entire family!*

### **NEW CHRISTMAS TRANSIT!**

A Christmas transit take you up to the parade starting point starting at 4PM. Park your car in Sears back parking lot and take the Christmas transit to the parade start.

*Sponsored by  
Union Gap Med Star Transit.*





**UNION GAP TOURISM DISCOVERY MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH**  
**UNION GAP CITY HALL | 3:30PM - 5:30PM**

*You're Invited!*

If you're a Union Gap business/Union Gap event and have a unique story and/or item/good(s) you feel could help us increase tourism to Union Gap, we want to know! We can help get the word out through consumer media, social media, and trade media.

Please bring your photos/ideas/stories and more to our Union Gap Tourism Director Eric Patrick on December 17th. You can schedule an appointment at 15 minute intervals or just show up for the next available opening.

**To schedule:** Call or text Eric at (509) 985-7768.

**Email to:** [visituniongapwa@gmail.com](mailto:visituniongapwa@gmail.com)



**Examples:**

1. Los Hernandez Tamales attract a local/regional and national audience.
2. Major's Burgers deep fried asparagus seasonally attracts travelers.
3. Refurbished equipment at the Ag Museum such as their Belly Dump wagon has attracted national press.
4. Events such as the El Guapo Disc Golf event attract national press.



*AS TEMPERATURES DECLINE,  
KEEP **SAFETY** ON YOUR MIND FOR YOURSELF,  
YOUR LOVED ONES AND YOUR PETS.*

Community of Union Gap  
**THANK YOU** so much!

*From the Union Gap Library and  
Community Center Committee*



## SNOW REMOVAL

Resident cooperation is essential to the success of the snow removal operations. It is very important that vehicles are removed from City Right-of-Way when there is significant snowfall. With fewer cars on the streets, snow plows can do a more efficient job of clearing snow and ice.

**As a reminder, UG Ordinance No. 2850 states in part:** *Snow and Ice Obstructions - No person shall cause snow or ice to be placed in any public street, alley, sidewalk or public way; provided, that this section shall not apply to Union Gap town employees performing the regular course of their duties. Violation of this section shall be a civil non-traffic infraction with a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).*

Please go to <https://uniongapwa.gov/public-works/street/> to review the entire Ordinance No. 2850 and Public Works "Snow Removal & Ice Control Plan".  
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

We should try to conserve water year-round, but here are some ways to specifically prepare for winter-time water wasters.

**WINTERIZE YOUR PIPES:** Preventing burst pipes and leaks are your best bets when it comes to conserving water during winter. It's a good idea to make sure outdoor pipes, like the ones running to your backyard spigot are wrapped. This way, when temperatures drop below freezing, they stay warmer than the air and are less likely to develop leaks or burst.

**INSULATE HOT WATER PIPES:** Ever notice that it takes your shower longer to get hot when it's freezing out? That's because your pipes are colder. Hire a plumber to wrap your pipes in insulation, or head to your crawl space or basement to do it yourself. Not only does this help the hot water stay hot, but it helps protect these pipes from the cold, which can cause leaks.



## CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

**DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY,** Basin Disposal will collect one Christmas tree per residence at no additional charge to you. Please place your tree next to your garbage container for pickup.

## YARD WASTE PICK UP

The Public Works Department will pick up your bagged yard waste, weighing less than 40 lbs until March 1st.

Please contact Public Works Administration office at **225.3524** to schedule a pick-up.



## WHO TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE?

**EMERGENCY - 24 HOURS A DAY / 7 DAYS A WEEK:** All life threatening emergencies - **dial 911**

**AFTER NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS, WEEK-ENDS AND HOLIDAYS:** All non-life threatening emergencies (i.e. water line breaks / sewer back-ups) - dial **509.248.0430\***

**DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS:** All issues that can wait until normal business hours - dial the appropriate number listed on the back of this newsletter.

*\*After normal business hours, week-ends, and holidays the Police Department transfers their business line to SUNCOMM Communications - the 911 call center for Yakima County and dispatch for the Union Gap and Yakima Police Departments. If you do not get an answer right away, there is a good chance 911 is handling calls on their emergency lines and are unable to get to the non-emergency lines as quickly as normal.*





## CELEBRATES ITS 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

In November of 2018, we launched Visit Union Gap's #smalltowntourismchat and it has gained a loyal following. We started inviting co-hosts in March and we've partnered with 6 travel/food writers, 2 small town business consultants/speakers and two communities.

If you're on Twitter, come check us out on the 3rd or 4th Wednesday of each month @UnionGapWA, it's a great place to learn about, and to promote Union Gap!



## POLICE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holiday Season is a fantastic time for gathering with family and friends; the Union Gap Police Department wants to remind you to stay vigilant about your safety and security. Each year we respond to several burglaries and car prowls directly related to the Holiday Season.

In the Hustle and bustle of the holiday season we sometimes forget to keep an eye on our belongings. When shopping, please remember to lock your doors and don't leave anything in plain sight. Car prowlers are looking for the easy theft. Place your recently purchased packaging in the trunk or under a privacy cover in your vehicle. If you need to deposit several items in your car but want to continue shopping, please move to a different parking area. Thieves will watch the parking lots during the holiday for people putting merchandise in their trunks. If you leave the vehicle where it is and continue to shop, they will break into your truck after you go back into the store and steal the recently purchased items.

Christmas trees are a wonderful tradition and some want their friends and neighbors to see how beautifully they are decorated. If your tree is visible to anyone passing by, please make sure the present under the tree cannot be seen. It is not uncommon for burglars to notice the presents under the tree and break in to steal them when the resident are not home.

If you are going to be away for the holidays' please let us know. Call the front desk and make an "Extra Patrol" request.

If you notice anything suspicious or have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Union Gap Police Department at (509) 248-0430.

Happy Holidays!



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL UNION GAP PROPERTY OWNERS, BUSINESS OWNERS AND/OR RESIDENTS:**

In 1996, the Regional Wellhead Protection Committee (RWPC) was formed by eight (8) water purveyors in the Upper Yakima Valley, including the City of Union Gap, under the leadership of Yakima County (YC) in response to Washington State Department of Health (DOH) wellhead protection planning requirements.

The RWPC and the City are taking a proactive approach to wellhead protection planning to ensure that each community's groundwater supplies are adequately protected from potential contamination sources on the ground surface.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the location of your parcel, within the City's wellhead protection area, and provide you with information on how you can help protect the City's drinking water supplies.

Wellhead protection planning includes four (4) elements, as follows:

1. Development of wellhead protection area, or areas, which may be susceptible to contamination;
2. Development of contingency planning to ensure that prompt response procedures are in place in the event a well becomes contaminated;
3. Identification of potential contamination sources, which include septic tanks, underground storage tanks, abandoned wells, and certain businesses; and
4. Coordination of management efforts to help minimize the impact of potential contamination sources, including posting of signs, distribution of literature, and public education efforts.

The RWPC and the City understand that most property owners, business owners and residents recognize the need to protect the environment in and around their property. We hope that informing you of your location within the City's wellhead protection area will result in an increase in precautions to ensure your activities do not adversely impact our drinking water supply. The following practices can greatly reduce the threat of contamination to groundwater supplies:

- Recycle all hazardous wastes used on the premises, including solvents, paints, paint thinner, printing supplies, and/or other known chemicals through Yakima County's free small quantity generator or recycling programs or other free local collection points throughout the valley. Contact YC Solid Waste Division at 509.574.2450 for locations, drop times, and materials accepted.
- Reduce the amount of hazardous waste used through waste minimization efforts. Free literature on waste minimization is available from the Department of Ecology (DOE) and Union Gap Public Works Administration at 509.225.3524.
- Conserve water whenever possible; water conservation reduces waste volumes and reduces the threat of contaminant transport.

For more information, or to view your location in the WHPA, please visit the RWPC Website at <http://www.yakimacounty.us/668/City-of-Union-Gap-Wellhead-Protection-PI>

Sincerely,

**CITY OF UNION GAP**  
Dennis Henne, Director  
Public Works & Community Development

*Notification: 4th Quarter 2019*

CITY OF UNION GAP  
102 W. AHTANUM ROAD  
P.O. BOX 3008  
UNION GAP, WA  
98903-0008

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### WEBSITES

Published on a quarterly basis to  
keep citizens informed

City Business: [uniongapwa.gov](http://uniongapwa.gov)  
Union Gap Tourism: [visituniongap.com](http://visituniongap.com)  
Xpress Bill Pay: [xpressbillpay.com](http://xpressbillpay.com)

### PHONE DIRECTORY

#### 102 W. AHTANUM ROAD

City Hall	248-0432
Fire	575-6060
Park Reservations	248-0432
Treasurer / Clerk	248-0432
Utility Billing	248-0434
Newsletter	248-9202

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Building / Planning	575-3638
Code Enforcement	248-0430
Public Works	225-3524

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Police	248-0430
Crime Prevention	457-5927
Animal Control	248-0430

#### 1000 AHTANUM ROAD

Senior Citizen Center	248-2668
Activities/Barn Rentals	248-0432

#### TOURISM & TRANSIT

Tourism Promoter	575-8770
Union Gap Transit	574-8000
UG Transit TTY	574-8000

### MAYOR & COUNCIL

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Position #1  
**John Hodgkinson** ~ 424-0993

Position #2  
**James Murr** ~ 426-0838

Position #3  
**Roger Wentz** ~ 930-7023

Position #4  
**Dave Butler** ~ 452-8631

Position #5  
**Dave Matson** ~ 945-2139

Position #6  
**Julie Schilling** ~ 453-2446 Ext. 3

Position #7  
**Sandy Dailey** ~ 248-6351

#### MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor  
**Roger Wentz** ~ 930-7023

Deputy Mayor  
**Dave Matson** ~ 945-2139

### CITY STAFF

*City Manager*  
**Arlene Fisher**  
248-0432

*Director of Public Works &  
Community Development*  
**Dennis Henne**  
225-3524

*Director of Finance &  
Administration*  
**Karen Clifton**  
248-0432

*Police Chief*  
**Greg Cobb**  
248-0430

*City Attorney*  
**Bronson Brown**  
628-4700