

# OLD TOWN NEWS

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

SUMMER 2020  
VOLUME 43, ISSUE 2

UNION GAP  
1883



Por favor llame 248-0432 para obtener información en español

## UNION GAP

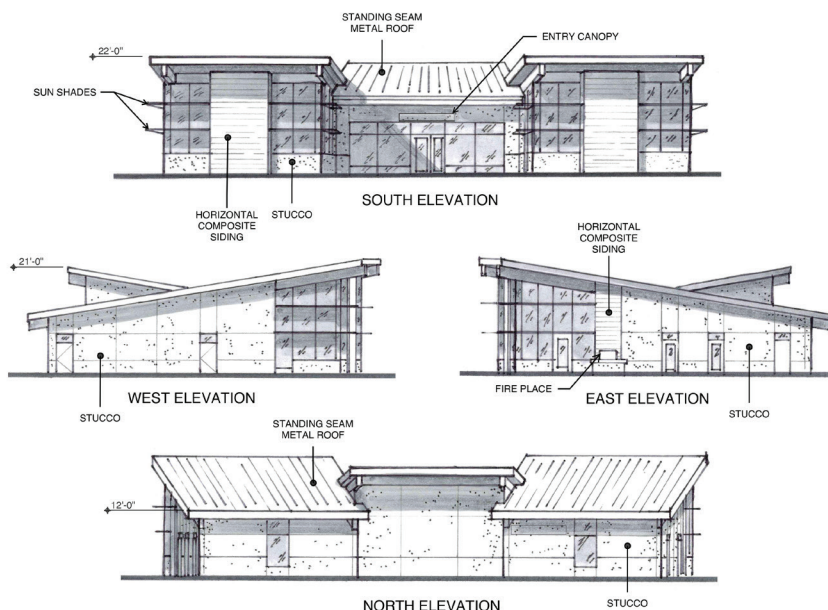
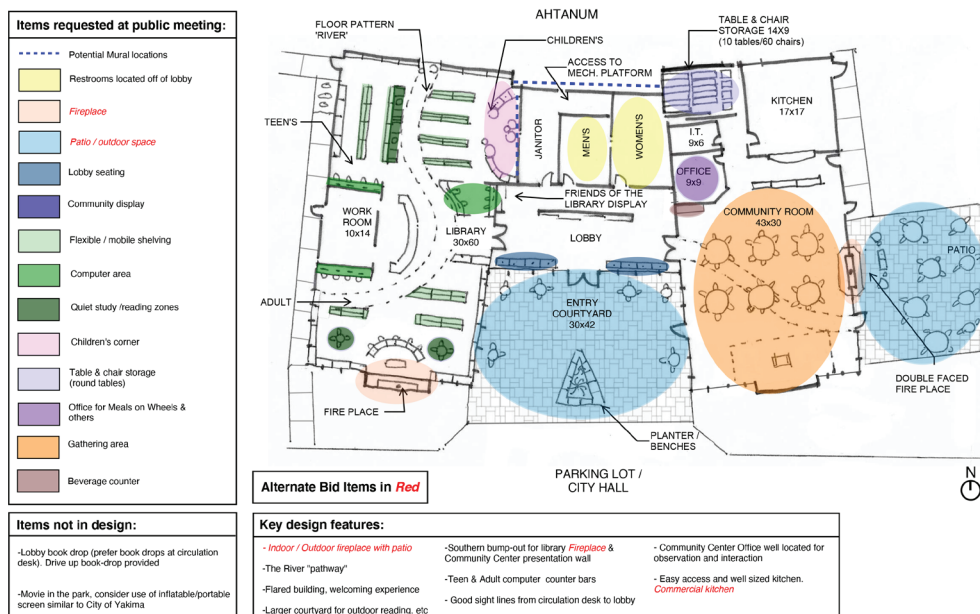
COMMUNITY CENTER & LIBRARY

### FLOOR PLAN

The new Union Gap Library/Community Center will be accessed via an entry courtyard designed to welcome visitors as well as to host gatherings and casual public use. The lobby serves both the Library and Community Center, providing restrooms and support facilities for both sides. The Library (west wing) is just over 2,000 square feet and will feature a generous Children's Area with a reading corner, fun furnishings and mobile shelving to allow the flexibility to support a wide range of programs. The Teen Area will house a connection bar for use of electronic devices as well as booth seating for study and team projects. A nook on the south side is set aside as a Reading Area which may include a fireplace if budget allows. A focal Check-Out (Circulation) Desk provides ease of access for patrons as well as full visibility for staff. The Community Center (east wing) has been designed at roughly 2,000 square feet and features a nice sized gathering space facing south for presentations and performances. A double-sided fireplace is shown facing both the gathering space and an exterior patio to the east which is again dependent on available funding. A kitchen has been included to support Meals on Wheels and other community functions. The floor plan is rounded out with an office and support spaces.

### EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

The exterior of the building is designed to blend with City Hall in both the use of shed roofs and similar cladding materials. Windows will predominately face City Hall and the courtyard and include built-in sunshades to aid in sun control. Doors will be provided to allow ample access to exterior areas intended to host community activities.



## Cancelled COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Old Town Days

June 13-14, 2020

### Union Gap's Sun, Sips & Suds

June 13, 2020

### City of Union Gap Summer Youth Program 2020

## WORK ZONE SAFETY

On a daily basis our Public Works crewmembers are in several different areas around the City to complete necessary repairs and improvements. Please remember to slow down, when you are going through an area with temporary traffic control, be an attentive driver and obey all signs and instructions from the flaggers. Driving safely will help protect you and your occupants, our crewmembers, and other individuals in the area. NOTHING is more important, when you are behind the wheel, than making it from point A to point B safely – if you do experience an emergency, please pull over in a safe area and call 9-1-1.

**WSDOT**  
**WORK ZONE SAFETY FACTS**

**TOP 3 REASONS**  
for work zone collisions:  
DISTRACTED DRIVING,  
FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE  
& EXCESSIVE SPEED

**WASHINGTON AVERAGES**  
**726**  
roadway work zone  
injuries each year

**2X THE FINE!**  
Traffic fines are double  
in work zones

**94%**  
of people hurt in work  
zone collisions are...  
...MOTORISTS  
their  
PASSENGERS  
or passing  
PEDESTRIANS

**Nationally, there's a work zone crash...  
...EVERY  
5.4  
MINUTES**

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Safety/Brake/>

Each year about 670 people are killed nationally in roadway work zones. In 2019, Washington had 10 fatal work zone crashes on state roads.

Union Gap School puts on **'Teachers Parades'** through neighborhoods.



One of the latest social-distancing trends is the teacher's parade, in which teacher's wave to their students as they drive in their cars.

United States®  
**Census  
2020**

The census helps shape our community and everyone one is counted. Complete the census today! Please complete your form online, by phone, or by mail when your invitation to respond arrives.

**It's not too late to complete your 2020 census, visit:**  
<https://2020census.gov/>

For more information please visit: <https://www.census.gov/>



# Big News!

Friends of Union Gap Library & Community Center is now an official 501c3 Non-Profit. "So what does that mean?" you might ask. It means that you can now make a tax deductible contribution to the most exciting project in Union Gap as it begins the steady march towards a community complex that will provide a fabulous collection of books, the latest and greatest in library technology, classes, activities, and a place to safely gather just for fun, when social distancing is a thing of the past.

As diverse as the contents of a library, so are the Friends of the Library & Community Center. Short books, long books, books for kids, books for grownups, it takes all kinds to fill the shelves. So the same applies to fund raising, donations large and small, from people old and young, businesses and organizations, partnering with Friends to support the Library & Community Center. Everyone can play a part.

As Friends 501c3 our focus will be fundraising for non-construction details for the Community Center, an outdoor movie screen, projector and sound system, appliances for a commercial kitchen, even arts and craft supplies, board games and puzzles! There are lots of necessary and exciting things to choose from. Very soon, we will break ground on this fabulous project and every dollar donated moves us that much closer to a community center loaded and ready for the residents of Union Gap.

If you're interested in making a donation of any size please contact us at [friends.uglcc@gmail.com](mailto:friends.uglcc@gmail.com). Please LIKE us on Facebook and watch for more exciting news coming soon.

## A Big "Thank You" To These First Time Donors

**Special Projects** Mercy Enterprises  
Theresa Charvet  
Mark Crouchet

**\$500.00 to \$1,000.00** Bill & Lynn Cox  
Terry Schilling Family  
Mark Crouchet

**\$100.00 to \$500.00** Maralyn Killorn  
Jack Galloway

**Up to \$100.00** Helen Canastey  
Jeff Shoemaker

**Donation** In Memory of Gladys Blehm

## The Fred Meyer way to support your Library & Community Center!

As an official 501c3, Friends of Union Gap Library & Community Center can partner with a variety of corporations committed to community engagement and charitable giving. Our first partnership is with Fred Meyer. All you have to do is link your Fred Meyer Shopper's Card to the Friends of UGL&CC and Fred Meyer will donate based on the shopping you do every day!

### To Use the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program

Simply visit <https://www.fredmeyer.com>. Once logged into your Fred Meyer account just search for Friends of Union Gap Library either by name or UY746, then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a Rewards Card. If you need help check out [fredmeyer.com](https://www.fredmeyer.com) and search for Fred Meyer Community Rewards or simply contact Customer Service. Do it today and support your local Library & Community Center! Watch our Facebook Page for more easy giving opportunities to come like Albertsons/Safeway and Amazon Smiles.



# Volunteer Opportunities

Please submit your interest form - we currently have vacancies on the Park Board. Appointed by the City Council, the board and commission members offer their knowledge and experience to advise and inform the City Council on a variety of issues to help shape the community.

Additional information can be found at <https://uniongapwa.gov/forms>.

## Yard Waste Pick Up

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 requirements, the City's annual Yard Waste Pick Up Program was cancelled. **GOOD NEWS** - Basin Disposal will pick-up yard waste, generated on your property in Union Gap, beginning May 1 thru November 30. Please place your bagged yard waste next to your garbage container for pickup on your garbage day.

## Water Conservation Matters

Water conservation requires some thought and effort if we want to change the course of our water usage. Each day we should all challenge ourselves to save water any way we can. Every little bit helps and does / will make a difference even if it feels like a small amount saved on our part.



## Friendly Reminder

When celebrating our Nations' Birthday don't forget that fireworks are **illegal** in Union Gap.

*It is unlawful for any person to hold, conduct or engage in any public display for fireworks within the city without first having obtained and being in possession of a valid permit under the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 2344 § 1 (part), 2002)*

*Any person violating or failing to comply with the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than ninety (90) days, or by a fine in an amount not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or both such imprisonment and fine. (Ord. 2344 § 1 (part), 2002)*





# Street Light Outages

Help us keep Union Gap safe and well-lit for everyone! Please report any/all inoperable streetlight to the Public Works Administration Office at 225.3524. To help expedite the repair, it would be helpful to provide the address closest to the pole and the pole number if possible.

## The Union Gap Police Department

would like to remind you to keep yourself safe from scams during these already difficult times. It is truly a shame that scammers are taking advantage of these uncertain times to try and scam others. Some of the more popular schemes and scams that are currently circulating are unsolicited emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), and Internal Revenue Service (IRS). These emails come with attachments that supposedly have pertinent coronavirus information in hopes that you will click on the attachments. Once the attachment is opened these can contain malware that can infect or hijack your computer and serve as a gateway into your computer. Best way to protect yourself from these types of scams is not to open any unsolicited email or texts from people you don't know and especially do not click on attachments.

Another way that people are currently being scammed is by fake emails or websites claiming to have coronavirus treatment, vaccinations, cures or people selling fake or unnecessary protective gear. They will sell you these items to obtain your bank account information or credit card numbers, but never actually deliver the items. Be cautious of any unsolicited contact and always check the information for companies yourself prior to making any online purchases.

Scammers are also taking advantage of the expected stimulus checks to defraud people. They will claim to either be the IRS or your banking institution and will request you verify your identity before they will release your check. Do not release any personal information over the phone, email or text. If you have any questions about your stimulus check visit the IRS website and use the tool provided to check the status of your check.

And lastly, scammers are using coronavirus charity campaigns to scam either money or personal information out of people. There are legitimate nonprofit organizations trying to raise money and we recommend that you research the organization on your own or make direct contact with them prior to giving them your donation.

Tips to stay proactive and avoid falling victim of scam are:

- *Do not give anyone account information or personal information via email or phone.*
- *Do not open attachments or click on links on emails from senders you do not recognize.*
- *Avoid answering robocalls or unusual text messages.*
- *Make sure your computer has up to date virus software and that it is working properly.*

These are uncertain times and we hope that you are keeping yourself and your loved ones healthy and safe. Please stay vigilant and don't allow yourself to become a victim of scam.

## 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.

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

PRSRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
YAKIMA, WA  
PERMIT #100

Postal Customer—ECRWSS

## 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
Public Works	225-3524

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Police	248-0430
Code Enforcement	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 Hodkinson** ~ 424-0993

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

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

Position #4  
**Jack Galloway** ~ 452-2966

Position #5  
**David Hansen** ~ 388-8898

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

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

#### MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor  
**John Hodkinson** ~ 424-0993

Deputy Mayor  
**Roger Wentz** ~ 930-7023

### 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