



# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

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### Council Meeting

Jan 24, Feb 28 & Mar 25 – 7 p.m.

### Planning & Zoning Meeting

Jan 20, Feb 17 & Mar 17 - 6:30 p.m.

### Council Work Session

Jan 10, Feb 14 & Mar 14 - 6:30 p.m.

### Heritage Committee info, contact

Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or

[buffersburg@verizon.net](mailto:buffersburg@verizon.net)

Web Page

[www.carr.org/~unionbr](http://www.carr.org/~unionbr)

E-mail

[unionbr@carr.org](mailto:unionbr@carr.org)

ARTICLES FOR THE  
APRIL/MAY/JUNE  
NEWSLETTER

ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY  
MARCH 15, 2022

## OFFICE CLOSED

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
January 17<sup>th</sup>

President's Day  
February 21<sup>st</sup>

**Note: Daylight Savings begins  
on March 13<sup>th</sup> 2022**

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Happy New Year. What a way to start the year with snow. Please remember that Main Street is a snow emergency route. That being said, there is no parking on Main Street when the snow plan is in effect. That way the snow plows can do a more efficient cleaning job. Council President Donald Wilson is your contact person to call.

Please keep in mind that parking spaces in front of your home on the street is not owned by you just because you live there. Parking is first come, first served. Most people work it out with their neighbors.

Don't forget that trash pickup is Wednesday. Please put trash out late on Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning.

The New Year's Eve fireworks were courtesy of Dream Big and a job well done. Thank you.

The new Christmas lights in town were arranged by Councilperson (no comma) Laura Conaway. Laura spent a lot of time looking at many lighting options and chose the best deal. We were able to buy ten new ones this year at a cost of only \$5,000. Ten more are needed to complete Main Street. We are checking to see what we can do in our next budget.

We are now working on the Town's 150-year anniversary celebration. More details will be coming.

With cold weather comes water problems. Councilperson Amy Kalin is your contact if the

issue is the responsibility of the Town.

Please check the Town's website to see which councilperson is in charge of your situation. Each member of the Town Council has a specific job.

Everyone is welcome to attend council meetings. We can only help to address your needs when we know of them. Let us hear from you directly and not via hearsay.

Thank you. Let's continue to make UNION BRIDGE the place we all LOVE.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,  
Mayor*

## GRANT PROJECT UPDATE Program Open Space (POS) Grant - Community Center Tot Lot and Walkway Roof Upgrades

The Town has applied to Carroll County Recreation and Parks and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for funding to make improvements to the Community Center tot lot with some new equipment and to repair the walkway roof leading to the main entrance. We have received approval to move forward and will be seeking additional funding for the complete cost.

## Town Waste Water Treatment Plant and I&I Efforts

The Town is currently working to assess efforts and requirements for updating our wastewater treatment. Several options will be considered as we work with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to discover

our needs and develop a plan to address any finding.

We are also working on a separate workstream to investigate and remediate any inflow & infiltration (I&I) concerns that may be found within our sewerage flows. More information will be provided on both workstreams as they develop.

For questions on these or any other Town projects, call the Town Office at 410-775-2711.

*Mike Reynolds,  
Circuit Rider*

### **CARROLL COUNTY MASTER DEPUTY – BRIAN COUSSY**

Happy New Year! As you may have personally experienced, 2021 was a roller coaster ride for many of us. Everyone dealt with COVID-19, many people grieved the loss of a loved one, or were diagnosed with a serious medical condition. However, it was not all bad, as many began their own journey of self-improvement. Hopefully 2022 will be a better year for everyone.

Some highlights of 2021 were the restrictions of COVID-19 were lessened. Students returned to in-person learning and we began socializing once again at community events. Although not completely normal, some sense of normalcy was returned. One of the events that was the well-attended was National Night Out, which is held on the first Tuesday in August every year. This year's National Night Out events included equipment displays from both the Fire Department, and multiple Police agencies from the county. There were fun events for the kids to participate in and many informational booths present sharing various safety information. This event was a huge success and builds relationships between the community and law enforcement.

Another great thing that came out of 2021 was the beginning of the local GED classes. Carroll

Community College and Springdale Preparatory School teamed up and brought GED classes to the community in October. Several community members enrolled in the program and are well on their way to successfully completing the course, and others have already received their certificates.

Mental health and substance abuse issues affect community members in many different ways. There was an increase this year in the number of individuals that have recognized the need for outside help and have sought out assistance in various ways.

Recovery is not a one-person, one-step, or one-day process. Community members suffering from mental health or substance abuse issues are encouraged to seek assistance and make 2022 a positive year.

With those highlights, I feel that it is important to make goals for ourselves. As we begin the new year, many of us will make resolutions or goals to achieve self-improvement in 2022. However, often our goals or resolutions are so complicated that we end up failing or giving up by mid-January. With the new year, what are some of your resolutions or goals? Instead of making a difficult goal or resolution, make smaller ones. For example, some may say, "I need to get back in shape." Instead of enrolling for a gym membership or going to the gym five times a week, go smaller by just walking around the block. By doing this, not only are you setting yourself up for healthier and sustained goal achievement, but you are getting out and becoming familiar with your neighbors. This is one of the most basic steps you can take as a community member to make your community a safer place to live, play, and work.

As we all know, there is no better feeling in the world than giving. Another resolution that I hear often is people wanting to give back. One way to accomplish

this goal is to skip one or two coffee runs a week, and instead, donate that money to one of several local charities. Your donation could go a long way by helping others living within your community.

When making your list of self-improvement resolutions for 2022, consider adding an additional goal for your community. Whatever your New Year's resolution or goal is, just continue to work towards it.

May everyone's 2022 be kind, safe, and healthy!

*Master Deputy  
Brian Colussy*

### **DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE**

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to 2022 as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our wonderful town.

Dream Big Union Bridge had a very successful 2021, we are happy to report that our events this past year were huge successes. We had between 60-75 people attend our 1st Annual Tree Lighting on E. Broadway Street. The Union Bridge Gift Shop continues to bring in new people from all over and the feedback has been nothing but positive. By the time this newsletter is posted, we will have hosted the 1st Annual New Year's Eve Celebration, which will be reported on in the next newsletter.

We would like to thank all the businesses both local and outside of town for their support throughout the years. We work very hard to pull the businesses together and drive traffic to each one of them through our events. We want to thank the Town Council for all of its support and help this past year. We all work closely in this town. It is just one more reason Union Bridge is the best!

We are continuing to bring new events to our town, stay tuned for 2022 as we have more new things on the horizon.

A very special thank you to all of our volunteers as they work

tirelessly to bring these new fun and exciting events to town.

We are always looking for and welcoming new volunteers. Please feel free to attend our monthly meeting, which is held the 1st Monday of every month at St. James Lutheran Church on Benedum Street, starting promptly at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

### **HUGHES TRASH REMOVAL 2022 HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE**

No changes for this quarter. Trash will be picked up on schedule.

### **PROTECTING CARROLL COUNTY WATERS**

Stormwater in Union Bridge is regulated by law under Phase 1 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permits under EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) administered through the Maryland Department of the Environment. For more information go to: <http://ccgoverment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>

### **WATER CONSERVATION INDOOR TIPS**

1. **Scrape instead of pre-rinsing.** Save yourself up to 20 gallons of water by scraping food off your dishes instead of pre-rinsing them.
2. **Install high efficiency aerators.** Installing an aerator on your bathroom or kitchen faucet and save about one gallon per minute each time you run them. An aerator reduces the flow from the faucet, and uses air to maintain good water pressure.
3. **Wash only full loads.** Clothes & dish washers use about the same amount of energy and water regardless of the number of clothes or dishes inside, so run full loads whenever possible.
4. **Let your dishwasher do the work.** The

average dishwasher uses about ten gallons or less per load. Many kitchen faucets use the same amount of water by running for just four minutes.

5. **Use the microwave,** a bowl of water, or place frozen food in fridge overnight instead of running the tap to thaw it out. You'll save about two gallons of water for each minute the faucet does not run.
6. **Replace older toilets** with a WaterSense labeled high efficiency toilet. Older toilets can use up to four times more water per flush.
7. **Regularly check for & repair water leaks.** Even small leaks can waste hundreds to thousands of gallons of water a month. Many water leaks can be fixed by a do-it-yourself plumber, and repair parts are relatively inexpensive to purchase (\$5-20).
8. **Take shorter showers.** Each minute you shave off your shower time saves up to 2.5 gallons of water.
9. **Select an Energy Star-approved appliances.** They use 15-20 less gallons of water per load, and you will see savings on your energy costs too.
10. **Know where your master shutoff valve is located.** This could save water and prevent damage to your home.

### **WINTER SEASON REMINDERS**

#### **UNION BRIDGE CODE CHAPTER 130, SEC.4 (B2)**

Owners or occupants of premises fronting on any street with paved sidewalks shall remove any snow or ice from the travelled portions of the sidewalk, to a width of at least 30", within 24 hours after snow or ice ceases to fall.

### **SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES**

Please be advised that Maryland Transportation Article 21-1119 authorizes law enforcement officers to ticket and tow vehicles parked in snow emergency routes when a snow emergency is declared. Violators of this transportation article could be fined \$70. Violators will also be responsible for the tow bill, if the vehicle is towed.

When a snow emergency is declared by the State Highway Administration, the Town of Union Bridge will post the declaration on the Town's website. Please remember to stay educated during snow events. Whenever you hear the weatherman call for snow, play it safe and just remove your vehicle from the street so you are not burdened later with cost associated with violations.

### **WINTER MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PATTERN SIDEWALKS**

1. Sand or kitty litter may be used for traction.
2. Snow removal equipment should have a rubber edged blade.
3. We do not recommend the use of salt or snow melting product containing sodium chloride. In event that these products must be used, wash any residue from the concrete surface.
4. Avoid the use of ice picks or anything that may chip or damage the concrete surface.

#### **SNOW**

**Main Street is a snow emergency route, NO PARKING is allowed when the snow emergency plan is in effect.**

#### **NO PARKING**

On East Broadway from Lightner Street up to Bellevue and on Thomas Street when the emergency plan is in effect.

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**SNOW MAINTENANCE  
AROUND FIRE HYDRANTS**

If you have a fire hydrant near your house, please keep it clear of snow so the fire department can quickly access it during an emergency.

**IMPORTANT**

**If anyone notices anyone stealing water from hydrants or any unauthorized appropriation of water, please call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711.**

**SEWER LINE BLOCKAGES**

**RESIDENTS:** If your sewer line becomes blocked, please contact the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 before calling a plumber.

**FOR WATER AND SEWER  
EMERGENCIES  
PLEASE CALL  
AMY KALIN  
1-410-775-0687**

**THE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
IS AVAILABLE FOR WEDDINGS,  
PARTIES AND REUNIONS. CALL  
THE TOWN OFFICE AT 410-775-  
2711 TO INQUIRE ABOUT  
RENTING THE CENTER FOR  
YOUR FUNCTION.

