



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026

INSIDE

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK
GRANT/PROJECTS UPDATE
UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION
WEST CARROLL REC COUNCIL
NEWS
ORDINANCE # 320
WATER CONSERVATION TIPS
WINTER SEASON REMINDERS

Council Meeting:
Jan 26, Feb 23 & Mar 23 – 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting:
Jan 15, Feb 19 & Mar 19 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Work Session:
Jan 12, Feb 9 & Mar 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Committee info, contact
Jim Rowe - President: 410-775-2901 or
email: jimandfrank@verizon.net

Web Page
www.carr.org/~unionbr
E-mail
unionbr@carr.org

ARTICLES FOR THE
APRIL/MAY/JUNE
NEWSLETTER
ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY
MARCH 15, 2026

OFFICE CLOSED

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
January 19th

President's Day
February 16th

**Note: Daylight Savings begins
on March 8th 2026.**

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Happy New Year everyone! With Christmas behind us, let's everyone keep in mind that children and adults may have new bikes. Lots of riders out there, riding on the streets and use of the parks. We all must share and watch out for the safety of the drivers, walkers, and riders.

Keep a check on power cords and charging units. Power chargers can overheat and start fires.

We have been very lucky with not having much snow. Remember when cleaning sidewalks, try not to throw big piles back into the streets. Please help keep snow from around fire hydrants.

Very high winds this fall has been very hard on trees. We do our best to keep up with branches that have fallen or are hanging in the trees on town right-of-ways and parks. Please help by doing your part to maintain your property. If you have brush or limbs, small amounts to haul, you can call the Town Office and we can help you. You must be able to help load.

If you have ideas or suggestions for the Town, please come to town meetings, send us a letter or email us, as I am not on Facebook or Union Bridge Happenings. If we can work together as a team, the Town and its residents will all benefit. Only by working together and listening to each other, we can bring new ideas to light. I urge each of you meet face-to-face to discuss any

concerns you may have instead of turning to newspapers or social media to air grievances. I challenge everyone to try to do what is the best for the entire community.

I hope to see you at our Town Council meetings the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,
Mayor*

GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE

Community Center Park Tennis Court Improvements

The Town has been awarded funding from Program Open Space (POS) to make needed improvements to the tennis courts and lighting located at the Community Center Park. The Town will bid out the work and develop the complete scope of work and schedule.

Community Center Interior Improvements

The Town has been awarded funding from Program Open Space (POS) to make interior upgrades to the kitchen, floor, ceiling and air conditioning of the Community Center. Next step is to schedule work to be done and receive estimates/bids.

Water Service Line Inventory

As many residents know, the Town has been conducting a required identification and inventory of water service lines to identify and remediate any lead and galvanized (requiring

replacement) service lines. Step one was to send out letters to all residents and update an inventory spreadsheet and share with MDE. Our next step is to apply for funding to identify the service lines from the water line to the meter pit and to each residence. This is under way with an application due by the end of January. More information will be communicated as we progress.

Community Center Tot Lot

The Town has been granted funding from Carroll County Recreation and Parks and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to make improvements to the Community Center tot lot for some new equipment/safety surface. As the original funding is less than the total amount required, we have been awarded the remaining funds through the Maryland DNR's Community Parks and Playground grant. We will be preparing the RFP and proceeding with this project within this next quarter.

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 findings. The Town has applied for and received a grant to fund the study. The Town has been granted \$5,000,000.00 from the State of Maryland to assist with the improvements once a project plan has been determined. The Town's engineering firm has completed the draft of the study and are working with MDE to complete and move forward with the next phase.

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. Investigations have been completed and the Town will be

seeking funding opportunities to implement the recommended course of action.

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 & Zoning
Administrator*

UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Happy New Year! Let's make 2026 a better year for businesses. We will be having association meetings to help accomplish that. If interested, please send your contact info to:

judy21@comcast.net.

WEST CARROLL REC COUNCIL NEWS

West Carroll serves Union Bridge, New Windsor, Taneytown and surrounding areas. Anyone interested in Rec Council programs or events is welcome to attend our meetings, which are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the New Windsor Community Meeting Room.

Visit our website:
www.gowcrc.com

Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/goWCRC>

For general information about West Carroll programs, contact Community Coordinator, Penny Rockwood at 410-775-1506 or prockwood1@verizon.net.

ORDINANCE #320

On November 24, 2025, the Union Bridge Town Council approved Ordinance #320 which refers to the purchase of a parcel of land at the intersection of West Locust Street and East Whyte Street.

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://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>

WATER CONSERVATION INDOOR TIPS

- Scrape instead of pre-rinsing.** Save yourself up to 20 gallons of water by scraping food off your dishes instead of pre-rinsing them.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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 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.

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.

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

BRET GROSSNICKLE

410-274-2860

THE COMMUNITY CENTER

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