

UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

May/June 2003

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Council Meetings	May 26 & June 23 – 7 pm.
Funding Committee Meetings	May 14 & June 11 – 7pm.
Planning & Zoning Meetings	May 15 & June 19 - 6:30 pm.
Council Work Sessions	May 12 & June 9 - 6:30 pm.

ELECTIONS - MAY 13, 2003 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

OFFICE CLOSED MAY 26, 2003 MEMORIAL DAY

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE IN CITY OFFICE June 16, 2003

Web Page www.carr.org/~unionbr

E-mail unionbr@ccpl.carr.org

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Soon we will begin construction of the new Water Treatment Plant, which will be located next to the Town Hall. The need for filtration came about when the Maryland Department of the Environment determined our well to be under the influence of surface water. This means that water from the surface is finding it's way into the well much too quickly. Normally the earth filters out any impurities as the water makes it's way slowly into the groundwater supply.

We add chlorine to the water as it is pumped out into the system as a means of disinfection. Chlorine is very effective at this task, but there are a few things it doesn't work well on, such as cryptosporidium or giardia. These things are larger than bacteria and have a hard shell which chlorine has a hard time penetrating. Luckily though for us, they can be caught by filter media such as sand, diatomaceous earth, membrane or the man-made ceramic media that we plan to

use. The Kinetico system we are installing was pilot tested on our main well and the one on the Fire Department property. Both sites tested very well and were approved by MDE.

There is also the problem of nitrate in the water. The EPA's maximum contaminant limit for nitrate in drinking water is 10 milligrams per liter. Our well is always between 9 and 10. It is MDE's wish that we install equipment to remove most of the nitrate, reducing the level to about 4.5 mg/l. This equipment is expensive to install and because of the salt required in the process, which is similar to the softening of water, makes the operational costs higher too.

All of the changes we have made to the water system are an effort by the Council to try and catch-up after years of neglect. I know the rate increase is not a popular decision by everyone, but we feel it is the only way to continue to provide an adequate supply of good potable water to all. If you look at what water actually costs I think you will be surprised at how inexpensive it really is. My family uses on average about 8500 gallons of water a quarter. That breaks down to about \$4.50 per thousand gallons. The more water you use, the cheaper it becomes due to the base rate. This also doesn't include the cost for sewer, which is another story. What else could you buy that cheaply? So I ask you to please support us as we make these tough decisions, because we all want what is best for Union Bridge.

Mayor Bret Grossnickle

UNION BRIDGE RESIDENT DEPUTY

No road in life is safe. You need to wear your seat belt on every trip, not just for yourselves, but those you love. The Sheriff's office maintains a high commitment to the citizens of Carroll County and wishes to extend all of our resources to make your journeys safe. As an active member of the CRASH coalition we can provide educational materials in the proper use of seat belts and installation of children's booster seats and child safety seats.

If you have any questions or concerns contact Sgt. John Shippee at 410-386-2900 or Ms. Kim Spangler from the Carroll County Health Dept. at 410-876-4448.

Carroll County Sheriff's Office
Non-emergency 410-386-2900
EMERGENCY 911
Tips hotline 1-888-399-TIPS

FUNDING COMMITTEE

BASKET BINGO

The Funding Committee will sponsor a basket bingo on May 9, 2003, at the Union Bridge Community Center at 4770 Ladiesburg Rd. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 at the door. For tickets or more information please call Jane Davis at 410-775-7678.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF UNION BRIDGE:

THIS IS ELECTION YEAR IN UNION BRIDGE

MAYOR AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE ELECTED

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY MAY 13, 2003

7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

LOCATION: TOWN HALL 104 WEST LOCUST STREET

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TOWN ELECTIONS

Qualifications of voters:

1. You must be a citizen of the United States.
2. You must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before Election Day.
3. You must have resided within the corporate limits at least thirty (30) days prior to the Election.
4. You must be registered to vote.

For questions or information on the elections call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711.

CERTIFICATES FOR NOMINATIONS HAVE BEEN FILED AND ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FOR MAYOR

Bret Grossnickle

Joan McKee

FOR COUNCIL

Lou Ellen Cutsail

Patricia Stonesifer

Donald Wilson

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting for the Mountain View Cemetery in Union Bridge will be held on Thursday May 15, 2003 at 7 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Union Bridge Methodist Church. All lot owners and other interested people are asked to attend.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Department of Agriculture will spray for mosquitoes again this year. You are asked to help eliminate mosquito-breeding areas. Empty any standing water and keep fresh water in swimming pools. Use caution when disposing of dead birds or animals by wearing gloves.

Information on dates and times for spraying will be posted.

POOL FILL UP

Permits to fill pools from a fire hydrant may be picked up at the Town Hall during business hours. The permit must be brought to the Fire Department when requesting water and returned to the Town Hall for payment when complete. The cost for water is \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons of water used.

Thank you for your cooperation. The town's water supply is everyone's responsibility.

WATER METERS

It is unlawful to tamper with or interfere with a water meter. WATER TURN OFF OR ON MUST BE DONE BY PERSON OR PERSONS DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE TOWN OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TOWN ONLY. Violators shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 per violation.

CHIPPER

The town's chipper is available for resident's use. Call to reserve. There is a Chipper Liability Waiver that must be signed and \$25.00 cash, refundable deposit that is required.

TRASH SERVICE

For questions concerning your trash pick up service please call Maryland Disposal & Recycling at 301-368-9094.

COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center is available for weddings, parties and reunions. Call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 for information.

SEWER LINE BLOCKAGE

If your sewer line becomes blocked please contact the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 BEFORE you call a plumber.

GRASS AND WEEDS

It is that time again. Town Ordinance # 263, Sec. C-2, Paragraph 2 states that owners and occupants of occupied premises and owners and persons in charge of unoccupied premises, including vacant lots, are hereby charged with the duty of maintaining any grass on such premises at a height of not more than six (6) inches: and further duty of maintaining such premises free of noxious weeds and dense underbrush....

YARD WASTE PICK UP

Yard waste pick up has begun. Please place bags where they can be seen. Yard waste must be in bags purchased at the Town Hall or the Union Bridge Hardware. If you have any questions about this service please call the Town Hall.

FIREMAN'S CARNIVAL

Please support the Fire Company at their annual carnival. The carnival will be held the week of May 26, 2003. The Fireman's parade will be held on Wed. evening May 28, 2003 starting at 7 p.m.