



# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022

## INSIDE

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK  
GRANT/PROJECT UPDATE  
SAFETY TIPS  
DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE  
UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS  
ASSOCIATION  
WEST CARROLL REC COUNCIL  
NEWS  
PIPE CREEK FRIENDS MEETING  
TRASH PICKUP HOLIDAY  
SCHEDULE  
ORDINANCE 317  
ORDINANCE 318  
BUDGET ORDINANCE 318-A  
WATER/SEWER USER RATES  
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
WATER CONSERVATION TIPS  
SUMMERTIME NOTES

### Council Meeting

Jul 25, Aug 22 & Sep 26 – 7 p.m.

### Planning & Zoning Meeting

Jul 21, Aug 18 & Sep 15 - 6:30 p.m.

### Council Work Session

Jul **CANCELLED**, Aug 8 & Sep 12 - 6:30 p.m.

### Heritage Committee info, contact

Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or

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

### Web Page

[www.townofub.org](http://www.townofub.org)

### E-mail

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

ARTICLES FOR THE  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER  
NEWSLETTER

ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY

**September 15, 2022**

## **OFFICE CLOSED**

July 4<sup>th</sup> 2022

Independence Day &

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Labor Day

## **FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK**

A big thank you to everyone who joined us in the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade. I hope the parade route was okay. The route was changed because the County was to have Shepherd's Mill Road bridge closed for a new replacement. The State Highway Administration said Main Street would not be able to close for the parade. For those who are new in town, the parade route was almost the same as years ago. We will see what happens next year with the bridge closings. Remember, the road will be closed for about one year for replacement. That is a Carroll County roads project.

Construction has started on Locust Street stormwater management pond. This also will be a county-funded project. It will treat stormwater from about half of the town.

The solar project construction is complete. The mowing at and around the panels will be handled by the owners of the project.

We are still working on more funding to complete new equipment for the playgrounds at the Community Center. We have P.O.S. funding for about half the project. Applying for additional funding to finish and upgrade the whole park.

Town street repairs are being assessed by our street department.

We were successful in receiving a capital improvement funding of \$5 million for a wastewater plant upgrade. We will

be requesting more funding for the upgrades.

August 2nd will be National Night Out again and sponsored by the Town. It will be at the parking lot on East Broadway, off of Main Street.

Please watch the Town web page and 150 Celebration on Facebook for additional programs in Town.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.  
Mayor*

## **GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE**

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

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 and for repair to the walkway roof leading to the main entrance. As this funding less than the total amount required, we are moving forward and will be seeking additional funding to complete the project.

### **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. As the Mayor stated, 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.

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.

### **2022 Federal Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) – Via Carroll County Various Town Water/Sewer Projects**

The Town was recently contacted by the County Administrator asking for funding requests for eligible water/sewer projects. The County has available grant funding where they can possibly fund 50% for the projects. Union Bridge has submitted the following six projects for consideration:

1. Replacement of water meters.
2. Water main replacement on Thomas Street & bonnet valve bolt replacements.
3. Bar screen replacement & aeration swing diffuser replacement for the WWTP.
4. I&I field investigations and preliminary engineering report.
5. Internal plastic piping replacement in the WTP.
6. Water storage tank cleaning/investigation.

Out of the six submitted applications, the County is considering only the water services project on Thomas Street. We are still awaiting a decision from the County at this time.

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

*Mike Reynolds  
Circuit Rider & Zoning  
Administrator*

### **SAFETY TIPS**

Summer is finally here, which is a time for relaxation, recreational activities, and vacations. Whatever you have in store for your summertime activities, please remember that criminals do not take breaks when it comes to crime. As we know, criminals are opportunist, and according to studies, summertime is full of opportunities.

According to the Department of Justice statistics, residential burglaries are 10% more common during the summer months. These statistics also show that household property victimization, household larceny, and serious violent crimes are also more common during the summertime.

Why is this, you might ask? Research shows that residents leave their doors and windows open more frequently and spend less time at home during the warmer weather. Another reason according to the research is that, with the rise in temperatures, it causes people to generally become uncomfortable. With this discomfort, it causes rises in aggression which could lead to more aggressive criminal activity. Keeping this in mind, before you enjoy your summertime activities, please review the following crime prevention tips from the National Crime Prevention Council to help keep you from becoming a victim.

#### ***Home Safety Tips***

- Lock your windows, doors, including the garage door, and don't forget that backyard shed.
- Put lights on timers to give the impression that someone is home.
- Ask a trusted family member, friend, or neighbor to keep a watchful eye on your home or

have your mail held at the local post office until your return.

- Don't post on social media that you are leaving town and wait to post photos after you return from your trip.

#### ***Vacation Tips***

- Lock your room and remember not to give out your room number or invite strangers into your hotel room.
- Be friendly but be vigilant. Watch for and report any suspicious behavior.
- Plan your route – stay within well-traveled routes and walk in groups.
- Keep your belongings secure – Purses should be securely closed, backpacks are zipped, and wallets are kept in your front pocket. When dining in restaurants do not hang your purse or backpack on the back of your chair.

#### ***Tips for Parents***

- Be proactive – make a backup plan in case the group gets separated during a family outing and have a scheduled meeting place and time.
- If your child or teen will be alone a significant amount of time, have him/her check in with you if they plan to leave the house and when they arrive back home.
- Monitor internet and social media activity to establish that children and teens are visiting appropriate sites and following guidelines.

#### ***Car Safety Tips***

- Always lock your doors and roll up your windows when you leave your car.
- Do not leave valuables in the car. If you must leave prized possessions in your vehicle keep them out of sight or hidden in the trunk.
- Before you get into your car, check the backseat and around the car. Lock your doors once inside the car.

Whatever you have planned this summer, please remember to

always be kind, stay calm, and stay safe out there.

*Master Deputy Brian Colussy  
Carroll County  
Sheriff's Office*

## **DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE**

**NEW MEETING DAY** – We are now meeting on the 1st Thursday of every month at St. James Lutheran Church starting promptly at 6:00 p.m. **We NEED more VOLUNTEERS!!!**

**Union Bridge Gift Shop** - The Union Bridge Gift Shop operated by Dream Big Union Bridge continues to bring new customers into town and everyone loves the shop. If you haven't been there...you need to stop in. Hours: Thursday – Saturday 11-7 and Sunday 11-3. Stop in and purchase 50/50 Raffle tickets.

### **Recap of Events:**

Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held April 16th, we had a great turn out with 50+ kids and each kid left with a filled Easter Basket. A great time was had by all especially visiting with the Easter Bunny and the Dream Big Duck.

**Annual Rubber Duck Derby** – May 21st was successful only because we did pre sales online. The weather was extremely HOT and the attendance was not as large as we have had in the past, because of the heat and the detour through town. We still need donations, in order to hold the New Year's Eve Event.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Annual Cookout & Movie Night** - July 30th at the Union Bridge Community Center starting at 5:30 p.m. we will be partnering up with the Union Bridge Church of the Brethren for this event. Look for flyers throughout town. This is when you will need to reserve Back to School Backpack. Which will be distributed at the Back-

to-School Ice Cream Social 5:30 – 6:30 on August 22 @ St. James Lutheran Church on Benedum Street.

- We are planning a BINGO for September 24th at the Community Center. We need volunteers to help with this event.
- Everyone wants us to hold the NYE event, which includes fireworks, live band and more. In order to do so, we need support from the community/residents. We have ongoing quarterly 50/50 raffles at the Gift Shop and are accepting monetary donations needed to make this event happen.

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

### **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK – Dream Big Union Bridge**

If you want these events to continue, we need the support of the residents of Union Bridge. We need volunteers and to raise funds to hold these events. **FOR INFORMATION CALL 443-340-6305.**

*Cheri Thompson  
Dream Big Union Bridge*

## **UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

The Union Bridge Business Association was active until the pandemic hit. Now that we are getting past that, maybe it is time to get the association functioning again.

For those who are unaware of the business association, it is a group of business people who meet to help each other develop their business in the Union Bridge area and help the Town with projects. For instance, the Military Banner project. The Business

Association manages the process for the banners and purchases the hangers for the Town. We are open to projects the Town needs help with and stay in touch with the Mayor's office.

The association is a member of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce so members have access to Chamber activities without having to pay to be a member. This is significant. I would like input on who is interested in getting the Union Bridge Business Association back to activity. I thought we would schedule a get together at Flood Zone to discuss everyone's interest and input on things like meeting times. Please contact me, Judy Jones, at [judybaxter5@comcast.net](mailto:judybaxter5@comcast.net) or give me a call at 443-937-6221. Can't wait to hear from you.

## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00pm

### **Meeting Dates:**

- **July (NO MEETING), Aug 8<sup>th</sup>**
- **Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, Dec 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Visit our website:**

[www.gowcrc.com](http://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. Another source to check for upcoming sports registrations is "RecZone", found in the back of the Sports section of the Carroll County Times on Sundays.

## **PIPE CREEK FRIENDS MEETING**

You are invited to come meet the Quakers of Union Bridge!

Just as Union Bridge is celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Pipe Creek Quaker Meeting is celebrating their 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of their meeting house in Union Bridge. It is still in use today, so please come and visit.

On October 9, 2022, we are hosting a get together to learn of the connection between the Town of Union Bridge and Quakers, from 1 - 4 p.m. Tour the building, grounds and the cemetery and listen to short talks on our shared history in Union Bridge. See you there at 455 Quaker Hill Road, Union Bridge, MD 21791.

Anita Virkus  
Co-Clerk, Pipe Creek  
Friends Meeting

### **HUGHES TRASH REMOVAL**

For the weeks of Independence Day and Labor Day, trash pickup will be one day behind, so please place your trash out Wednesday evening instead of Tuesday.

### **ORDINANCE 317**

On June 27, 2022, the Union Bridge Town Council approved Ordinance 317 which amends the Union Bridge Town Code, Chapter 220, Article 4 to establish criteria and procedures for review, approval and use of certain Solar Energy Conversion Facilities within the Town's municipal limits.

### **ORDINANCE 318**

On March 28, 2022, the Union Bridge Town Council approved Ordinance 318 which amends certain zoning provisions in Union Bridge Town Code, Chapter 220, Article 10, to provide additional regulations for Principal Permitted Uses in the Local Business District.

### **BUDGET ORDINANCE 318-A**

On April 25, 2022, the Union Bridge Town Council approved

Budget Ordinance 318-A for FY22/23, with expenditures and revenues of \$1,041,289.00. The town tax rate shall remain \$.35 per \$100.00 of full value assessment of property in The Town of Union Bridge. The town personal property tax rate shall remain \$.75 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

### **Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc. (HSP)**

Are you having challenges making payments for utility services? Are you in danger of being evicted due to circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic? If so, Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc. (HSP), may be able to help. Each year, HSP helps thousands of Carroll County residents prevent and fix emergencies by utilizing community funding to assist people in crisis. To find out more information on all of their programs, call them at **410-857-2999** or visit <https://staging.hspinc.org/>

### **WATER/SEWER USER RATES**

Per the Town Code, the annual Water and Sewer user rates increase of 3% will be effective beginning July 1, 2022.

The new Water User Rate will be \$6.78 per 1000 gallons and the new Sewer User Rate will be \$4.92 per 1,000 gallons.

### **WATER/SEWER BILLING SCHEDULE**

For your convenience, we are providing the quarterly billing schedule for residents who are connected to the Town systems.

Usage Months	Month Billed	Due Date
Jan/Feb/Mar	April	May 15
Apr/May/June	July	Aug 15
Jul/Aug/Sep	Oct	Nov 15
Oct/Nov/Dec	Jan	Feb 15

Note that if you do not receive a bill before the end of the billing month, please contact the Town

Office at 410-775-2711 to request a copy prior to the due date.

Also note that if your payment is mailed and it is not received by the Town Office by the due date, you will be assessed a late fee. Please ensure you allow sufficient time in the event of delays with mail delivery.

### **CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

The annual Water Quality Report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

You can view the report at <https://unionbridgewaterqualityreport.webs.com> or you can pick up a copy up at the Town Office.

### **WATER CONSERVATION OUTDOOR TIPS**

1. Water your yard and outdoor plants early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.
2. Mulch around plants to hold water in the soil.
3. Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.
4. Use plants that require less water.
5. Use a broom, not a hose to clean driveways and walkways.
6. Avoid leaving sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours.
7. Collect rainwater to reuse in the garden whenever possible.
8. Use leftover water from cooking pasta or vegetables to water indoor/outdoor plants.
9. Limit car washing or visit a commercial car wash that recycles water.
10. Keep outside faucets in good repair.

### **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/>.

### **TOWN CURFEW**

Please keep in mind that curfews for children under the age of 18 years are as follows:  
12:01 am – Saturday & Sunday  
10:00 pm – Sunday - Thursday

### **YARD WASTE PICKUP**

Bags for yard waste must be purchased at Town Hall for \$1.25 each. This charge helps to defray the cost of the pickup.

### **BRUSH REMOVAL SERVICE**

The Town will provide hauling services for brush removal (limbs/branches) by appointment. Note that you will need to load the brush onto the truck. Call 410-775-2711 to schedule a pickup.

### **GRASS & WEEDS**

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 under brush.

### **PET OWNERS**

The Town is getting calls about residents not picking up after their pets. Please consider those who come after you on your walk. Put yourself in their shoes – literally. Please be a good neighbor and pick up your animal droppings. Union Bridge Code, Chapter 10, the owner of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by his animal(s)

on public property, including sidewalks, recreation areas.

### **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.

**Have a Happy and Safe  
4<sup>th</sup> of July & Labor  
Day!!!**



Join our Facebook Page:



The Town of Union Bridge –  
Celebrating 150 Years



# EARN MONEY!

## BE AN ELECTION JUDGE FOR THE CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS!



If you are at least 16 years old, you can earn from \$175 to \$320 a day by working during Early Voting or on Election Day.

**Early Voting for the Primary Election:** July 7, 2022 through July 14, 2022 from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Primary Election:** July 19, 2022, 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Scan the QR code to learn more information and sign up today.  
Or call (410) 386-2959.

