



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

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Council Meeting

Oct 28, Nov 25 & Dec 23 – 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting

Oct 17, Nov 21 & Dec 19 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Work Session

Oct 7, Nov 4 & Dec 23 - 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Committee info, contact:

Jim Rowe - President: 410-775-2901 or
email: jimandfrank@verizon.net

Web Page

www.townofub.org

E-mail

unionbr@carr.org

ARTICLES FOR THE
JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025
NEWSLETTER
ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY
December 15, 2024

OFFICE CLOSURES

November

11th - Veterans Day
(Observed)

28th & 29th – Thanksgiving

December

24th – Closing at noon
25th – Closed for Christmas
Dec 31st – Closing at noon
Jan 1st (2025)– New Year's
Day – Closed

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

First of all, we must thank the Union Bridge Fire Company for the donations of ice this summer for the Town's snow cone events.

Fall and winter months are going to be busy in town.

The Town's Planning & Zoning Commission is still looking for a volunteer for the Board. The applicant must be able to attend meetings and, first of all, complete the on-line training. Please contact the mayor or town office. The applicant will be appointed by the Town Council.

Street lights that are not working are reported to Potomac Edison as soon as we are made aware. Most lights have two (2) or three (3) work orders reported before they are fixed. The electric company is responsible for fixing them. Please let the town office know so the work order can be filed.

We had a successful spring and summer with trout fishing. I am hoping that the DNR will restock for the fall season. Fisherman, keep your eyes and ears open.

There will be times this winter when controlled burning will be conducted in the town park. A lot of cleaning up has been done so that those who like to walk and fish can enjoy it better. We are aware of the mosquitos. Please bear with us.

To those who say that they are unaware of what is going on in the town, please look at the town's website. Town meetings have been on TV for the last 8 months or so. Council meetings have

always been on the fourth Monday of the month, unless a holiday.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,
Mayor*

GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE

Town On-Call Engineer

The Town is seeking an on-call engineer to aid the town with project needs. The previous contract with GHD has expired and we have issued an RFP and received bids for continued services. Bids are currently being evaluated and a selection will be made soon.

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 in 2025.

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. We have engaged our engineering firm to move forward with the investigations with the CCTV screening and smoke testing is completed.

More information will be provided on both workstreams as they develop.

2022 Federal Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) – Via Carroll County Thomas Street Water Line Repairs & Valve Bolt Replacement

The County approved funding of a project to replace the water main on Thomas Street and bonnet valve bolt replacements. Carroll County is contributing \$157,606.00 towards the project, which will end up costing approximately \$515,000.00 when completed. Both projects have had the construction completed and we are working to close out the administrative efforts.

Track Loader with Mowing Attachment

We have applied for a grant through the USDA to purchase a track loader with mowing attachment to be able to mow areas around town where access is currently an issue for our existing equipment. The grant will cover \$50,000.00 of the expected total cost of \$80,000.00. It is worth noting that we have applied for this grant previously and have been

awarded funds to purchase our dump truck and work truck. We have been awarded this funding, purchased the equipment and are working with the USDA to finalize the grant closeout.

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 FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

The Union Bridge Fire Company's Silent Auction Committee is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in donating your time and talent, please call Karen at 410-775-7197.

We are also looking for donations... It's not too early to share your antiques, collectibles, handcrafted items, gift cards or if you need a place for those re-gifted items. For item donations, please call Karen at 410-775-7197, Trisha at 410-596-5303 or email us at: ubfcsilentauction@gmail.com.

We are gearing up for the fall with a variety of planned events. Volunteers are needed to help make these activities a success. Please consider helping for a few hours.

Have you noticed the new roof on the building? Or the resurfacing of the parking lot? Inside, we have updated the kitchen with new fryers (great for chicken), walk-in refrigerators and freezer. We're looking forward to seeing you at the fire hall!

All You Can Eat Breakfast: Second Sunday from October to May (7am – 11am) \$12.00 Adults, \$6.00 Children.

Bull & Oyster Feed: Saturday, November 2nd. \$50.00 in advance. Call Tommy – 443-340-9421.

Craft Night at the Fire Hall: Sea Glass – Angel or Grinch. Friday, November 8th from 6-9 p.m. Call Charlene 443-605-6252

Cash Bingo Banquet: November 23rd, \$35.00 per person. Call or Text Melvin at 443-789-3823 for reservations by 11/21.

Christmas Mart: Saturday, November 30th. Vendors call Missi – 410-775-2872.

UNION BRIDGE LION'S CLUB

On Saturday, December 7th, the club will be preparing gift baskets for the elderly in the community.

On December 14th, the club sponsors Wreaths Across America.

The Lion's Club has invited Santa to visit Union Bridge on Saturday, December 21st. The time and location will be posted in town and shared on Facebook, as Christmas draws near.

We will be sponsoring a blood drive on Friday, December 27th, at the Union Bridge Church of the Brethren, downstairs. The Red Cross asks that you call them to pre-register to donate. Time is 12:00pm – 5:00pm.

The Lion's Club is a totally non-profit organization. We invite you to join us in serving the community. Call Secretary, Ilene Weeks at 301-672-4495, if interested.

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.

HUGHES TRASH REMOVAL 2024 HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving week –
Normal pickup

Christmas & New Year's weeks–
Pickup will be one (1) day behind on both weeks. Please put your trash out on Wednesday evening for each week.

YARD WASTE

Please note that yard waste pickup for the year has ended. We will begin again in the spring, 2025.

LEAF PICKUP

The Town will again offer leaf pickup. Please call the Town Hall to schedule a pickup October – December.

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 (1) 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 and dishwashers 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.

EYE ON WATER

EyeOnWater (EOW) services gives Union Bridge water/sewer customers direct access to your water consumption data and provides tools to help you manage your water use. EyeOnWater can be downloaded free at Google Android Play or Apple IOS App Store. Customers can also access EOW on a computer by going to the following web address: <https://eyeonwater.com/signin>.

Customers can quickly view recent water usage with a two-week comparison, and view detailed water usage history by the hour, day, week, month and year!

Please have a copy of a recent water bill available as you will need

your account number in order to access.

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

WINTER MONTHS

Remember that the winter months will soon be upon us. Be sure to drain all outdoor water hoses and temporary water lines. Check all outdoor faucets to make sure they are turned off and are not leaking.

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 & CARE OF PATTERNED 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 REMINDER

On East Broadway from Lightner Street up to Bellevue and on Thomas Street when the snow 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.

HOUSE NUMBERS

Emergency response teams cannot find you if your house number is not clearly displayed on your home. Believe it or not, a majority are not visible from the street. It's even worse at night. A poorly-displayed number, or no number at all, can cost you precious time in an emergency. If you have not already done so, please place your house number on your home. The bigger numbers are, the better. Help us to be able to locate you when you need our assistance. Thank you.

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 INQUIRE ABOUT RENTING THE CENTER FOR YOUR FUNCTION.

***Please Have a
Safe & Happy
Holiday Season***

Holiday
OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 6, 2024: 11AM - 7PM
 DECEMBER 7, 2024: 11AM - 7PM
 DECEMBER 8, 2024: 10AM - 4PM

UNION BRIDGE
Gift Shop

11 NORTH MAIN STREET,
UNION BRIDGE, MARYLAND

Dream Big Union Bridge Presents...

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Come Celebrate the Joys of the Season
 Live Music - Live Nativity - Special Guests
 Lite Refreshments - Tree Lighting

December 6, 2024 at 6:30 PM
Rain Date December 7, 2024

BRING A CHAIR

Holiday Food Drive
Bring 10 Nonperishable food or
toiletry items for a chance
to win \$50 cash.

Heidelberg "Lehigh" Park
 117 South Main Street, Union Bridge, MD 21791

Sponsored by Carroll Arts