# **UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER**

# July/August 2016

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#### DATES TO REMEMBER

• Council Meetings Jul 25 & Aug 22 – 7 pm.

• Planning & Zoning Meetings Jul 21 & Aug 18 – 6:30 pm.

• Council Work Sessions Jul 11 & Aug 8 – 6:30 pm.

 Heritage Committee information, contact Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or <u>buttersburg@verizon.net</u>

- Town Office will be CLOSED:
- July 4 (Independence Day)
- Articles for the September/October Newsletter are DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE August 15th

website www.carr.org/~unionbr email unionbr@carr.org

#### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Council member Donald Wilson met with contractors and they rode around town to access the condition of the streets. We have more repairs needed than money to do the needed repairs. With all of that being said street repairs have begun.

With all the rain that we have been getting it is hard for some people to keep up their mowing. We understand how hard it can be to keep up with your grass, however we do have an ordinance that requires grass not to be over 6 inches tall. It is a long process for the town to send notices out for people to mow their lawn. First we must send a letter giving the homeowner 10 days to cut their grass, if they do not comply we must send a second letter by registered mail. Then if the homeowner still does not comply, the town can either mow the property or issue a citation. It is a very costly process for the town, using tax payers dollars. Foreclosed houses are another issue. In the best circumstances banks send someone out to take care of their foreclosed homes, but that very rarely happens. The town follows the same procedures and must keep a record of all time and money spent on any given foreclosed property. All expenses the town occurs on an abandoned property are kept until the property is sold. This could go on for years and your tax dollars could be tied up in one property for years.

Mowing along the walking trail has started, you may notice that the whole area will not be mowed this year. This year we are trying to let some areas grow and watch the birds and butterflies it attracts. Let's take time to watch all the wildlife.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

Perry L. Jones, Jr., Mayor

#### GRANT PROJECTS UPDATE

#### Wetlands Park Trail Extension

The Town of Union Bridge has been awarded grants from the Maryland State Highway Association's NRT program, Maryland Program Open Space program and Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to complete our looped trail system and expand our parking area at the Little Pipe Creek Wetlands Park. This project will

extend the length of the Little Pipe Creek Wetlands hiking and fitness trail an additional 1,100 feet (approximately). Once the environmental review has been completed, we will request release of funds and begin the bidding process.

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

Jared Schumacher, Town Consultant

#### WEST CARROLL REC

West Carroll serves Union Bridge, New Windsor and the 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 p.m. at the Old New Windsor School/County Government Offices/Library Administration Offices in New Windsor.

We are currently seeking a Union Bridge Town Representative. Please attend one of our upcoming meetings, if interested. Next meeting dates will be on August 8th and September 12th. July is our annual Coordinator-Only Meeting and is closed to the public.

#### FALL SPORTS:

# **Art Program**

Contact Jenifer Patterson 443-340-3103 carrollartleague@gmail.com

#### Cheer

Contact: Kim Smith 410-215-9659

or Tanya Golden 443-605-4314

Website: www.leaguelineup.com/werrebels

# **Field Hockey**

Contact: Mellissa Lease

443-386-1479

Website: www.westcarrollfieldhockey.com

Soccer

FSK Jr. Eagles Soccer

Website: www.fskjreaglessoccer.com

For general information about West Carroll programs, contact Community Coordinator, Penny Rockwood at 410-775-1506. See our website:www.gowcrc.com or like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/gowcrc

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.

Penny Rockwood, Community Coordinator

### MARKET ON THE ROLL

Every Wednesday, Seed of Life Nurseries will have a food truck with fresh produce and Bakery items at reduced prices stationed at the Union Bridge Community Center, 4770 Ladiesburg Road, 1p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Seniors only (55+) 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open to Public

#### **ORDINANCE 311-A**

On April 25, 2016 the Union Bridge Town Council approved Budget Ordinance 311-A for FY 16/17, with expenditures and revenues of \$880,502.00. The town tax rate for this fiscal year will increase to \$.35 per \$100.00 of full value assessment of property in The Town of Union Bridge and the town personal property tax rate to remain at \$.75 per

\$100.00 of assessed value.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 312**

On May 23, 2016, the Union Bridge Town Council approved Ordinance No. 312, authorizing the extension of the existing standard lease agreement dated October 23, 2000 which provides for the use of a portion of the land at the Union Bridge Community Center for a Communications tower.

#### 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 or on private property.

#### LOST AND FOUND

A few items have been left at the playground area. Call the Town Hall to inquire.

# ACCESS CARROLL

Access Carroll is a patient centered, integrated health care home for low-income residents of Carroll County. Medical, dental and behavioral health services. Appointments Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 410-871-1478

#### UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIAION

The Union Bridge Business Association will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, July 19 at the Union Bridge Town Hall. The mission of the association is "for business professionals to meet once a month, to get to know one another, what products and or services they provide, and to help everyone's business grow". The organization works together to provide an opportunity to enable all area businesses to promote and strengthen each other and to work to support local events. The association meets every third Tuesday. For more information, visit the website at www.ubba-md.org or e-mail Judy Baxter at judybaxter5@comcast.net.

Judy Baxter, President, Union Bridge Business Association

# **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 badly 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 the numbers the better. Help us to be able to locate you when you need our assistance.

#### PHONE NUMBERS

The town is requesting all property owners submit a phone number to the Clerk-Treasurer. If there is an emergency a town official may need to contact you.

### **OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION 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.

If anyone notices anyone stealing water from hydrants or any unauthorized appropriation of water, please call the Town Hall at 401-775-2711.

#### DISPOSABLE DOES NOT MEAN FLUSHABLE

The sewer system is designed to accept water, human waste and toilet paper. Toilet paper dissolves quickly in water. However disposable cleaning wipes, diapers, paper towels, shop rags and other such items do not dissolve easily and may accumulate in the sewer system contributing to clogs and back-ups. As these items travel through the system they also get caught in the pumps and other equipment potentially damaging the equipment and leading to an overflow. Even if the label reads "flushable" it is still safer to dispose of these items in the trash.

#### 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 PAGE AMY KALIN 1-410-775-0687

IMPORTANT: If anyone notices anyone stealing water from hydrants or any unauthorized appropriation of water, please call the Town Hall at 401-775-2711.

#### YARD WASTE PICKUP

Will begin in April. Bags for yard waste may be purchased at the Town Hall for \$1.25. This charge helps to defray the cost of the 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.

#### **DRUG AWARNESS EXPO**

SAVE THE DATE

October 6, 2016 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Union Bridge Fire Co.

#### UNION BRIDGE 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 SAFE AND FUN FOURTH OF JULY!