

UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

November/December 2016

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Council Meetings Nov 28 & Dec 19– 7 pm.
- Planning & Zoning Meetings Nov 17 & Dec 15 – 6:30 pm.
- Council Work Sessions Nov 14 & Dec cancelled.
- Heritage Committee information, contact Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or buttersburg@verizon.net
- Town Office will be CLOSED:
 - November 11 (Veterans Day)
 - November 24-25 (Thanksgiving)
- Articles for the January/February Newsletter are DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE December 15

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

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Time to reset your clocks. Fall back one hour on November 6, 2016. That is also the time to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms. All new smoke alarms since 2013 are the 10 year sealed battery units. There is no battery to replace, so please make sure your home, has the proper alarm. Renters you should check with your landlords and make sure all rooms and hallways are adequate.

High school students needing service hours please call the town office.

With winter coming, on we always have calls for help with snow removal from sidewalks and around vehicles. If you are looking for a few extra dollars, let the town office know.

The Disorderly House Nuisance Ordinance will soon be introduced, it is long overdue.

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). The Mayor and Council approved Stambaugh's Inc. to complete the project. The contractor will have 60 days to complete construction, at which time it will be open for public use. The existing trail is still open for use during construction.

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

Jared Schumacher, Town Consultant

TIME FOR A CHANGE

It's that time of year again, where the holiday season is quickly approaching us. Please, no one panic, take a deep breath and let's start preparing for this season together. Hopefully this top ten list to surviving the holidays gets everyone through, so let's get started!

10. The Tom Turkey's of the world and Santa's Reindeer will begin causing havoc on our roadways. So let's slow down during the hours of dusk through dawn and always remember that these holiday icons travel in herds. So if you see one, you better watch out for the rest of the pack. Not only do we have to watch out for all those holiday icons, but we also have to keep in mind that our fellow community members' minds are racing as well. So before crossing the street, opening our car doors or pulling into traffic, always look twice. So let's drive defensively on our way to grandma's house, as we don't want to celebrate this joyous time of year at the local ICU.

9. If you are planning on heading to the beach or out of town this holiday season, you can always request patrol checks of your residence with the Carroll County Sheriff's Office by calling us at 410-386-2900. Deputies will complete checks of your residences while on their normal patrols, as time permits. In the attempts to keep your house safe or to deter crime, not only should we make sure all of your windows and doors are locked, but you should also place a hold on your mail with the US Postal Service and a hold on your local newspaper delivery service. Other helpful ways you can deter burglars is by placing lights on timers, or keeping a radio playing. Notifying those trusty neighbors or the Sheriff's Office of emergency contact information will also be beneficial if first responders need to get a hold of you while you are away or laying on the beach.

8. As Santa's helpers are out and about shopping at those malls or local shops this year, let's not become victims of thefts. Please remember to secure all those all those valuables out of sight before exiting your locked vehicle or sleigh. While in the stores, make sure all purses are not left unattended in the shopping carts. Also while in those public parking lots late at night, always remember to park in well-lighted areas as close to the stores as possible. Never leave your vehicle idling unattended.

7. If shopping in those crowds at those local stores isn't for you but working those delivery drivers is, make sure you are collecting those delivered items in a timely manner. You could possibly have those items shipped directly to the gift receiver, to your employer's address, or have a trusted neighbor collect them off those door steps or even request to pick them up at the delivery company.

6. After returning home with all those treasures, keep in mind on where you hide them. It's recommended that you wait until Christmas Eve to place those gifts underneath the tree, as burglar's peering through those windows could see all that loot, causing them to plan on stealing all your hard work. As our minds continue to race during the season, please remember to lock those windows and doors before you leave home!

5. Speaking of holiday decorations, don't forget to water that tree and keep those decorations away from heat sources. No one wants to be displaced after a house fire, especially during the holidays. Also, if you have one of those 20 foot inflatable snowmen, make sure he is tied downtight, as we don't need him to come to life like Frosty and float down the streets causing havoc on our roadways or taking out the community's electric grid.

4. Remember that as the weather gets colder, let's make sure you protect yourself. Start first by winterizing that vehicle of yours by getting a tune up, new tires, a snow scraper, a collapsible shovel and a safety kit that includes a blanket. Take your time while shoveling sidewalks or your driveways as pushing yourself could result in muscle aches or, worse, heart attacks. When hitting those streets use caution as black ice could be present, causing you to become a new performance artist for the hit TV show, "Dancing With The Stars". Please, don't forget about our four legged friends, as they appreciate shelter from the elements just as much as we do.

3. After celebrating those holidays by unwrapping all of our gifts that Santa brought us, it will be time to take out our trash to the curb. Make sure you break down all those high end gift boxes like that 90 inch flat screen high definition supersonic television or that box that housed that new and improved latest and greatest high-tech gaming system, as

burglars look out for those types of high-ticket items.

2. As we spend time with the family this holiday season and things begin to get out of hand, remove yourself from the situation. It's better to leave the situation rather than getting into a physical altercation with that family member that every family has, causing you to receive a gift of silver bracelets and an all-expense paid trip to our county's newest resort destination, hotel CCDC (Carroll County Detention Center).

1. While celebrating the holidays, either with friends, family or at those office work parties, please remember to have a designated driver. No one wants to hear that their family member was involved in an accident after having too much eggnog while celebrating the season.

All kidding aside, The Carroll County Sheriff's Office and I want to wish you the best this holiday season and hope you have a bright and joyous New Year. Just remember that while you celebrate those holidays this year, your local, state and federal first responders will always be there to support you, no matter the time or day it is. So if you see something, say something and as always stay safe out there.

Master Deputy "Brian" Colussy

CARROLL COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER -- JOIN NOW

Law Enforcement Exploring is a youth development program centered around 5 areas: Career Opportunities, Leadership Experience, Life Skills, Service Learning, and Character Education. Law Enforcement Exploring offers young men and women ages 14- 20 (and in High school) the chance to experience law enforcement career opportunities. Come to our open house on Tuesday, November 1st, 2016 at 7:00 pm at Winter's Mill High School, 560 Gorsuch Rd., Westminster, MD 21157. For more information, contact Carroll County Sheriff's Office, Lt. Fisher at 410-386-5900 or Maryland State Police, Capt. Holly Barrett at 410-386-3000.

PROTECTING CARROLL COUNTY WATERS

When it rains or when snow melts, stormwater washes away pollutants that have accumulated on lawns, driveways, roads, highways, and parking lots. These pollutants flow overland into storm drain systems and ditches emptying into local streams and rivers. When left untreated, these pollutants can impair local and downstream waterbodies used for swimming, fishing, aquatic life, and drinking water. You can help improve and protect the waters in Carroll County at home and in your municipality by learning more about stormwater pollution and prevention.

Things you can do to help prevent stormwater runoff pollution:

- *Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters.
- *Never dump anything down stormdrains, into ditches or streams.
- *Compost your yard waste.
- *Use the least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems.
- *Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff.
- *Wash your car on the lawn or take it to a car wash instead of washing it on a paved driveway.
- *Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.
- *Pick up after your pet.

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/>

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.

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

HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION 2016

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, trash will be picked up on Friday, November 25, 2016.

LOST AND FOUND

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

UNION BRIDGE FIRE COMPANY

Monthly Public Breakfast -- second Sunday of the month from October to May

7:00 AM - 11:30 AM

All you can eat - Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Sausage Gravy, Hominy, Pudding, Potatoes, Biscuits, Muffins, Fruit, Orange Juice, Tea and Coffee.

Adults \$8.00 Children 6- 12 \$4.00 - Under 6 Free

If snow emergency plan is in effect the event is cancelled.

UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Union Bridge Business Association meets every third Tuesday at 7:30 a.m., 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.

Our meeting format is expanding. Last month we met at Buttersburg for a presentation by Deputy Brian Colussy and others from the Sheriff's Department, including Sheriff DeWees, on Community Policing. We will be inviting special speakers on a quarterly basis. Meeting in the other months will showcase current members. Join us and hear what these folks have to say.

If you are a current member, take note that membership renewals are due. If you haven't joined the association yet, join now and receive the remainder of 2016 and all of 2017 for the cost of membership.

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.

LEAF PICKUP

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

WINTER MONTHS

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.

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.

For more information call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711

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 the event that these products must be used wash any residue from the concrete surface when feasible.
4. Avoid the use of ice picks or anything that may chip or damage the concrete surface.

REMINDER: 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 traveled portions of the sidewalk, to a width of at least 30", within 24 hours after snow or ice ceases to fall.

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 up to Bellevue when the snow emergency plan is in effect.

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.