



# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2025

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### Council Meeting:

Apr 28, May 19 & Jun 16 – 7 p.m.

### Planning & Zoning Meeting:

Apr 17, May 15 & Jun 12 - 6:30 p.m.

### Council Work Session:

Apr 14, May 12 & Jun 9 - 6:30 p.m.

### Heritage Committee info, contact:

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

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### Web Page

[www.carr.org/~unionbr](http://www.carr.org/~unionbr)

### E-mail

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

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ARTICLES FOR THE  
JULY/AUG/SEPTEMBER  
NEWSLETTER

ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY  
JUNE 15, 2025

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## OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>  
Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>  
Juneteenth

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Spring is here and time for cleaning up. When grass mowing starts, please do not blow grass onto the streets. If that happens, take time when you finish mowing to blow off street or sweep it up. The grass clippings wash down and clog storm drains, and are very dangerous to motorcycles and vehicles traveling when wet.

If there are any teens in town looking for volunteer work this summer, let the town office know. We get calls from people looking for teens to help with yard work and to help with odd jobs in and around the house. This is a great way to get your service-learning hours.

The Union Bridge Fire Company is always looking for teens from the ages of 12-18 years old for the Jr. Fire Company. This is a way to start a rewarding career and help the county where you live.

The town of Union Bridge will have elections for three (3) council members on May 13. Being a council person consists of attending regular meetings and special meetings if needed. Each council person will be assigned a job that is in reference to town committees. Applicants should be willing to take phone calls and have your phone number available to the public. Jobs consist of water and sewer, streets and pavement, public safety, sanitation and street lights, community center and parks. This is a thankless job but very rewarding. Applicants must have broad shoulders.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,  
Mayor*

## GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE

### Water Service Line Inventory

As many residents know, the Town has been conducting a required identification and inventory of water service lines to identify and remediate any lead and galvanized (requiring replacement) service lines. Step one was to send out letters to all residents and update an inventory spreadsheet and share with MDE. Our next step is to apply for funding to identify the service lines from the water line to the meter pit and to each residence. This is under way with an application due by the end of January. More information will be communicated as we progress.

### 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 within this next quarter.

## 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.

## 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*

## RESOLUTION 01-2025

On February 24, 2025, the Union Bridge Town Council approved the adoption of this Resolution to amend the Union Bridge & Environs Community Comprehensive Plan.

## UNION BRIDGE FIRE COMPANY

**Silent Auction:** The Union Bridge Fire Company's Silent Auction Committee is looking for donations, antiques, collectibles, handcrafted items, event tickets, "filled baskets," gift cards and new or gently used items are needed.

The Silent Auction will be displayed inside the fire company's air-conditioned social hall. You can bid on items from 5pm – 10pm on Thursday and Friday. Saturday 4pm -8pm. This event depends on community support. If you have items to donate, please call:

**Karen @ 410-775-7197**

**Trisha @ 410-596-5303**

**Audrey @ 410-775-2047**

Or email:

[ubfcsilentauction@gmail.com](mailto:ubfcsilentauction@gmail.com)

Our carnival will be from Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

- Great food will be available.
- Entertainment: Come out and hear:
  - "Bootleg" on Thursday;
  - "Half Serious" on Friday; and
  - "Twenty Dollar Prophet" on Saturday

Come out and support your local fire company.

Check us out on Facebook!

## CARROLL COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK

**When:** Sunday, April 6, 2025

**Where:** Union Bridge Church of the Brethren, 124 S. Main Street, Union Bridge, MD 21791

**Registration:** 1:30 p.m.

**Walk Begins:** 1:45 p.m.

**Local agencies receiving 25% of the proceeds:** Access Carroll, Shepherd's Staff and St. James Lutheran Food Pantry.  
**Contact:** Kaye Horr 410-635-2877

*Donations accepted online!*

## COMMUNITY POLICE SPOTLIGHT

A few topics over the past several months come to mind while thinking of crime deterrence. The most common in recent months has been fraud schemes, and thefts. Recently we have had individuals posing as contractors to obtain work that was solicited by knocking on doors. I will encourage anyone, if they encounter a similar situation, to get a second opinion before agreeing to the job. If the individual cannot receive "No" as an answer, do not hesitate to contact us.

Additionally, frauds have become more common on computers, phones, and other electronic devices. This often is completed through phishing emails, and text messages. Yes, we have had individuals pose as Carroll County Sheriff's Deputies, unfortunately. In the past, scammers would advise the subject that they have warrant or a ticket that is unpaid. They would then encourage the subject to pay them via gift cards which should ALWAYS be a red flag. Look in emails and text message for misspelled words, subjects, or an uncommon email which is easily registered. Always do a two-factor confirmation before submitting to the potential scammer.

Let's talk about the elephant in the room, which is mental health. This is a subject that is not comfortable for most people to speak about; however, it is probably most important. In my ten years of service as a Carroll County Sheriff's Deputy I will say that mental health is commonly the single largest issue I have dealt with. Yes, this is my opinion however, I have observed that issues normally stem from poor

mental health whether domestic related, financial, or even speeding egregiously. The healthier we are mentally equals better health overall. No, I am not perfect either, however the more cognizant I am of my own deficiencies, the better I am at managing it. We are all human and we live in a complex world that is rapidly changing. I would encourage everyone to take time for themselves. This could start as just a few minutes every day with a busy schedule. Something, however, is better than nothing. Take a walk, call that friend or work on the hobby that has been collecting dust. If all else fails, please do not hesitate to contact us. I am Crisis Intervention Team certified and often can leave you with a referral if the matter is not exigent. Additionally, I will leave you with the Sante Mobile Crisis team phone number in addition to 988.

- **Carroll County Crisis Response Helpline: 410-952-9552**
- **CALL 988: for immediate emotional assistance 24/7**
- **Carroll County Sheriff's Office (non-emergency) 410-386-5900**
- **In case of an emergency 911.**

Thank you, residents of Union Bridge, have a happy and healthy spring of 2025.

Respectfully,  
 Master Deputy K. McGinnis  
[kmcginnis@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:kmcginnis@carrollcountymd.gov)  
 443-536-8726 (non-emergency)

**ATTENTION RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS: TAKE THE TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE INFORMATION SHARING SURVEY TODAY**

Effective communication and information sharing is the backbone of a thriving community. It ensures transparency, builds

trust, and fosters collaboration between residents and town leaders. To improve how information is shared, and decisions are made and communicated, we need *your voice*. By participating in our survey about communication satisfaction, you can help shape the future of how our town engages with its residents.

**Why Participate in the Survey?**

1. Your feedback drives change
2. Build trust and transparency
3. Enhance community engagement
4. Shape future policies

**What's In It for You?** A chance to make your voice heard.

Your feedback matters more than ever. Let's work together to ensure that communication from town leaders meets your expectations and keeps everyone informed. Take the survey today—because your voice shapes our future!

**TAKE THE SURVEY**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/townofub>



**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.

**HUGHES TRASH HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE**

Memorial Day holiday week trash & recycling pickup will be delayed by one (1) day, which is Thursday, May 30, 2024. Please put your trash out the night before.

**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/Jun	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.

**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://ccgovernance.org/ccg/npdes/>

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**WHAT YOU CAN DO!**  
**TIPS TO STORMWATER**  
**POLLUTION PREVENTION**

***Spring/Summer/Fall***

Direct your downspout rain gutter discharge to your yard area to infiltrate into soil. Consider a raingarden in your landscape. Redirecting the discharge away from foot or road traffic areas can reduce the need for de-icer.

**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.

**YARD WASTE PICKUP**

Will begin on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bags for yard waste must be purchased at Town Hall for \$1.25 each. 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.

**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.

**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**

**1-443-340-9266**

**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.

# PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE CITIZENS OF UNION BRIDGE:

## THIS IS ELECTION YEAR IN UNION BRIDGE

THREE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL  
WILL BE ELECTED.

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

7:00 A.M., TO 8:00 P.M.

LOCATION: TOWN HALL, 104 WEST LOCUST STREET

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TOWN ELECTIONS

**Voter Registration:** It is necessary to be registered in order to vote in Town elections. If you are already registered with the County to vote in County, State, and Federal elections, you are automatically registered to vote in Town elections. If you wish to vote in only the Town election you may register at the Town Hall **during regular hours, 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.** Registration will close on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

### **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.

### **Qualifications of Candidates for Mayor and Council:**

1. You must have maintained continuous occupancy of a primary residence within the corporate limits continuously for at least two (2) years immediately preceding this election.
2. You must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
3. You must be a qualified voter of the Town.

\*\*\*Terms of office are for four (4) years\*\*\*

### **Uncontested Elections:**

If, on the day immediately following the deadline for filing certificates of nomination in accordance with Section 20-30 of the Union Bridge Town Charter, the number of duly qualified candidates for the office is equal to or less than the number of vacancies for such office, then no election shall be held for such office.

**A candidate for office must file a "Certificate of Nomination" with the Town Clerk, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025.**

**Should you have any questions concerning this notice please call the Town Hall, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., at 410-775-2711.**

## **Ratcliffe Applied Technology & Trades Center: Train for an In-Demand Career – 100% Covered!**

**Unlocking opportunities for a well-paid career and a better life for you and your family.**

Carroll Community College is excited to **launch in Fall 2025** the **Ratcliffe Applied Technology & Trades Center**, providing fully funded training programs to help you gain in-demand skills for high-paying jobs.

- ✓ 100% tuition, fees, and certification testing covered
- ✓ Monetary stipends and free toolkits
- ✓ Hands-on training in growing industries

**Located at the Coppermine Pantherplex in Hampstead**, this state-of-the-art 15,000-square-foot facility features specialized labs and classrooms designed for practical, real-world learning.

### Programs Offered:

- Automotive Technician\*
- Carpenter
- Electronic Assembler
- Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Technician\*
- Pathways to Entrepreneurship
- Pet Groomer
- Plumber
- Welding

**Program lengths** range from just 1 week to 6 months!

Many of the programs are **already offered on the main college campus**. Visit [www.carrollcc.edu/RatcliffeWorks](http://www.carrollcc.edu/RatcliffeWorks) to learn more and register today.

*\*This project is funded by the State of Maryland's EARN Maryland Grant Program, administered by the Maryland Department of Labor.*