

UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

January/February 2016

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Council Meetings Jan 25 & Feb 22 – 7 pm.
- Planning & Zoning Meetings Jan 21 & Feb 18 – 6:30 pm.
- Council Work Sessions Jan 11 & Feb 8 – 6:30 pm.
- Heritage Committee information, contact Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or buffersburg@verizon.net
- Town Office will be CLOSED:
 - Jan 1 (New Years Day)
 - Jan 18 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
 - Feb 15 (Presidents Day)
- Articles for the March/April Newsletter are DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE February 15th

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

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Yes, it looks like New Windsor Middle School will be closing. Lots of people sent in letters and argued against the closure. Remember about a year and half ago when they first talked about the closings, Commissioner Rothchild already had in his mind to close New Windsor Middle School. Go back and read some of our old newsletters when I asked parents to aware. Commissioner Rothschild said that our numbers were down at New Windsor Middle. On November 17th the Mayors in the county had a meeting with the Commissioners and I stated then that if they brought back the students that went to Taneytown years earlier, it would make up the difference. We had no say then and we have no say now. School Board members were around before the election. Don't think they will be back in Union Bridge until next election. Please remember their names.

Winter is here. Please remember that the sidewalks in front of your house is your responsibility to keep free of snow and ice. The ordinance states that 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. Let's all try our best to follow the ordinance.

There are a lot of vacant properties in town. Please help the town and your fellow neighbors by clearing those sidewalks of snow and ice also. Please do not pile snow on top or around fire hydrants. If the snow freezes, the hydrant will be unusable. In case of an emergency, time is very valuable. Emergency services do not have the time to remove snow so they can access a hydrant. If you have a parking meter in front of your property please shovel around the meter and shovel an area for people to access the sidewalk. Don't forget that **Main Street is a snow emergency route, NO PARKING is allowed when the snow emergency plan is in effect.** Vehicles must be moved off of Main Street so that the State can plow the snow. Also, be sure to clear snow off of your water meter pit. The town must be able to access your water meter at all times.

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).

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.

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

UNION BRIDGE FIRE COMPANY

Monthly Public Breakfast -- second Sunday of the month

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

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.

IF I WERE MAYOR, I WOULD.....ESSAY CONTEST

The essay contest is open to all Maryland 4th grade students enrolled during the 2015-2016 school year. One winner from each participating MML district will be invited to participate in the Contest Awards Ceremony. Each winner will also receive \$100.00. The original essays must be submitted to MML by March 31, 2016. Please pick up an entry form at the Town Hall.

INDOOR WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

1. On average, toilets are responsible for 25% of your indoor water use. Installing a high-efficiency certified toilet can create significant water savings.
2. Taking shorter showers can help reduce your household's overall water usage. Consider switching to a low-flow showerhead to save on water. Five minutes in the shower equates to 50 gallons of water down the drain.
3. Run the dishwasher and washing machine when each is at full capacity to save on unnecessary water usage. Doing so can save up to 1,000 gallons of water a month.
4. When buying new appliances, consider those that offer cycle and load size adjustments. These are more water and energy efficient.

5. Replace and retrofit old faucets with high efficiency ones.
6. Listen for dripping and running toilets. Fixing a leak can save 300 gallons or more a month.
7. Don't leave the water running when brushing your teeth, shaving or washing dishes.
8. Use leftover water from cooking pasta or vegetables to water indoor plants.
9. Run your garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons of water each time

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

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 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.

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.

PLEASE RECYCLE

*IT'S STATE LAW.

*IT'S ENVIRONMENTALLY SMART.

*IT SAVES THE TOWN MONEY (YOUR TAXES).

*THE MORE YOU RECYCLE THE LESS TRASH YOU PUT INTO LANDFILLS.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!