

# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

## November/December 2009

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Council Meetings      Nov 23 & Dec 28 – 7 pm.
- Planning & Zoning Meetings      Nov 19 & Dec 17 - 6:30 pm.
- Council Work Sessions      Nov 9 & Dec 14 - 6:30 pm.
- Heritage Committee      Nov 5 - 7:00 pm.

• Town Office will be CLOSED:

- November 26th

- December 24th (noon) and Dec 25th

• Articles for the January/February Newsletter are DUE IN CITY OFFICE December 15, 2009

Web Page [www.carr.org/~unionbr](http://www.carr.org/~unionbr) E-mail [unionbr@carr.org](mailto:unionbr@carr.org)

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I would like to say I have good news and bad news, but unfortunately I have only bad news. The Town is feeling the pinch of the nationwide recession and as there seems to be no end in sight we will need to adjust our budget to address some shortfalls in revenue. The most crushing loss in revenue came from the State in the manner of reduced Highway User Funds. These funds were reduced 90%, which means we have very little money to repair the streets or for snow removal. There are some projects that we have signed contracts for that will be completed, but nothing else will be done until this issue with the State is resolved. I still hold out hope that they will relent and give the counties and municipalities at least 50% of budgeted amounts. That would at least allow us to do some street maintenance and provide for snow removal. The Town Clerk has done a great job of identifying areas within the budget that can be reduced with little or no impact to the rest of Town services, but street maintenance will be a problem for the foreseeable future. We will keep you posted and let's hope for a mild winter

Bret D. Grossnickle, Mayor

### UNION BRIDGE RESIDENT DEPUTY

Greetings Union Bridge: As we race towards the holidays, I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone well. I have found that the older I get, the faster life goes by; just a "heads up" for our younger residents. In September we experienced two criminal incidents, nothing too serious but due to the actions of two of our residents, certainly worth

mentioning. In both cases local residents chose to act, chose to get involved in protecting our community. In both cases the perpetrators were identified and arrested. In one of the incidents the suspect was held by the citizen until the arrival of responding deputies. All would agree that when citizens get involved they are given credit for looking out for their neighbors. What is rarely mentioned is that your involvement, especially when it comes to our young people, may help the individual turn their life around. When a blind eye is turned to criminal activity, the criminal's commitment to crime is strengthened. This must not be.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Quote for this issue: "They cannot take away our self-respect if we do not give it to them." Mahatma Gandhi

Vince Pacelli, DFC  
Carroll County Sheriff's Office  
410-386-2900 ext. 4159  
vpacelli@ccg.carr.org  
Tips 1-888-399-TIPS  
Emergency 911  
Non-emergency 410-386-2900  
Grant Project Update

Farquhar Street Sidewalk Improvements -

Construction has begun on the Farquhar Street Sidewalks. All the residents on Farquhar Street will be given a notice letter as to when the construction will begin on their block. In these notice letters, MK Concrete Construction will have a small list of suggested items not to use on the sidewalk this winter. Union Bridge would like to keep the sidewalks looking as nice as possible for as long as possible. The town received a \$195,300 grant from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) toward the sidewalk improvements.

South Benedum Street Sidewalk Improvements -

The Town of Union Bridge was awarded \$242,000 from Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Development Block Grant Program. This grant will be used to improve sidewalks and curbing along South Benedum Street. This will be at no cost to the residents or property owners.

For additional information on any of the above projects, please contact Jared Schumacher at the Town Office at 410-775-2711. Have a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

News Release

The Union Bridge Youth Committee, the Carroll County Public Library and The Town of Union Bridge are pleased to announce the opening of a free community computer lab, with Wi-Fi Internet service, at the Union Bridge Community Center on Ladiesburg Road most Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 PM to 9 PM. In addition, the Carroll County Public Library Bookmobile will visit the center every other Monday from 5:30 to 7:30.

The computer center currently has six computers with Internet access, which visitors may use for online sessions of up to an hour. Two additional computers will be available for offline activities, such as computer training, educational software, and other activities. Visitors may also bring their own computers and access the Internet with the free Wi-Fi signal. Additionally, students may come to the center to get help with their homework, both online and offline, from volunteers. Students who wish to earn volunteer credit hours may be eligible to do so by serving the center and showing people how to use the computers.

The center has been established using private donations, including contributions from the Lehigh Heidelberg Portland Cement Company, the Union Bridge Lions Club, the Megan Taylor Foundation and Wayne and Betty Adams.

News Release

A public hearing on Amendment to the Union Bridge Comprehensive Plan is set for November 19th.

The 60-day public review and comment period for a proposed amendment to the "2008 Union Bridge Community Comprehensive Plan" ends on November 6, 2009. This amendment proposes to delete from the transportation element

the proposed future extension of Shepherd's Mill Road from its existing terminus at Quaker Hill Road westward to MD Route 75/Green Valley Road. This component of the Comprehensive Plan is shown as a planned major street and would be eliminated from the Plan altogether by the proposed amendment. Any supporting text in the Comprehensive Plan would likewise be deleted or modified consistent with the amendment.

The final step in the public comment process will be the public hearing on the plan, which is slated for Nov. 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Union Bridge Town Hall, 104 West Locust St., Union Bridge, MD.

The public hearing provides an opportunity for citizens to influence the future of Union Bridge by submitting written or oral comments on the amendment to the comprehensive plan for the town and its surrounding area. The proposed amendment may be modified as a result of the comments received during the public review period.

Copies of the proposed revised plan map are available for review at the Town Hall, any Carroll County Public Library branch, the County Dept. of Planning and may also be reviewed on the Carroll County Government web site:<http://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/compplan/unbridge/default.asp>.

Questions or comments should be directed to Violette Hobbs, Clerk-Treasurer at 410-775-2711, e-mail [unionbr@carr.org](mailto:unionbr@carr.org) or mail at 104 W. Locust St., Union Bridge, MD 21791

Heritage Committee

The Union Bridge Area Heritage Committee will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Bridge Town Hall. We will elect officers and a board of directors for 2010-2011, and discuss our 2010 calendar of activities. All are welcome. Come share your ideas. For more information, contact Kathy Erb at 410-775-7450 or [kathyerb@verizon.net](mailto:kathyerb@verizon.net).

FSK LAX Registration

FSK Youth Lacrosse registration begins November 1st. Early bird discount cost of \$80 available Nov. 1-30th. Open to children in kindergarten through 8th grade. For more information or to register on-line please visit [www.fsklax.com](http://www.fsklax.com)

Resolutions

On September 28, 2009, The Town of Union Bridge passed Resolution Nos. 04-09 and 05-09. These resolutions modify the applicability of General Water and Sewer Assessment fees in cases of the demolition and reconstruction of structures pursuant to Ordinance Nos. 255 and 256.

UNION BRIDGE FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

PUBLIC BREAKFAST

8 W. Locust St. Union Bridge  
Sunday Nov. 8th, 7-12 noon

APPLE DUMPLING SALES

Ladies Auxiliary

\$3.00 each

Place order by Nov. 7th

Missi – 410-775-2872

Glenda – 410-775-2509

Pickup Sat. Nov. 14th, 12 noon to 3 p.m. (At the fire hall - 8 W. Locust St.)

BINGO BANQUET

Sat. Nov. 21st

8 W. Locust St.

\$25 includes a meal

Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Bingo starts at 7 p.m.

Call 410-775-0001

CHRISTMAS MART

Sat. Nov. 28th  
9 AM to 3 PM  
Call 410-775-2757

Hughes Trash Removal 2009 Holiday Schedule  
Thanksgiving changed to Friday and Friday changed to Sat.  
Christmas & New Years Changed to Sat.

LEAF PICK-UP

The town will again offer leaf pick-up. Please call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 to schedule a pickup.

REMOVE SNOW AND ICE TO A WIDTH OF 30" ON SIDEWALKS WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER SNOW OR ICE CEASES TO FALL

WISHING YOU A HAPPY THANKSGIVING & MERRY CHRISTMAS!