



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

INSIDE

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK
GRANT/PROJECTS UPDATE
RESOLUTION 04-23
DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE
WEST CARROLL REC COUNCIL
UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOC.
HEADSTART PROGRAM INFO.
HUGHES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
WATER CONSERVATION TIPS
FALL/WINTER NOTES
PARKING & STREET NOTES

Council Meeting

Oct 23, Nov 27 & Dec 18 – 7 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Meeting
Oct 19, Nov 16 & Dec 21 - 6:30 p.m.
Council Work Session
Oct 16 & Nov 13 - 6:30 p.m. (Dec Meeting Cancelled)

Heritage Committee info, contact
Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or
buffersburg@verizon.net

Web Page
www.townofub.org
E-mail
unionbr@carr.org

ARTICLES FOR THE
JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024
NEWSLETTER
ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY
December 15, 2023

OFFICE CLOSURES

October

9th – Columbus Day

November

10th - Veterans Day
(Observed)

23rd & 24th – Thanksgiving

December

22nd – Closing at noon
25th & 26th – Closed for
Christmas
Dec 29th – Closing at noon.
Jan 1st (2024)– New Year's
Day

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

This summer on June 9, July 14, August 1, August 18, and September 1, the Town served over 500 snow cones. The events would not have been successful without the help of the Conaway family. Also, thank you to the Union Bridge Fire Company, who donated all of the ice for the event. This shows community cooperation. Watch for dates as there may be a hot chocolate event this winter.

Once again, we are dealing with parking problems all around town. Take a drive up and down the streets in the evening and you will know what we mean. If you live on Main Street, and you have parking out back, think about the businesses that could use those spaces for their customers during business hours. All other streets will soon have painted parking spaces. Please park in those spaces or you will be ticketed. As a reminder, trailers are not permitted to park for over four (4) hours or overnight. Vehicles not moved on any street after seven (7) days, will be ticketed. The Town has two (2) parking enforcement people. For one, her job is typically day work. The second person works on as-needed calls. If you don't know

the laws, please ask. It could save you \$25.00 per ticket. After receiving tickets, your vehicle may be towed by an out-of-town towing company.

Trick or Treat in town will be October 31, Halloween Night from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Houses with their porch lights on will have a chance to see all the children enjoying the night. In past years, there have been an average of about 100-125 trick or treaters. Remember to only visit houses with porch lights on. Small children should be accompanied by an adult. After dark make sure everyone has proper lighting (flashlights).

The Union Bridge Lions Club will have their Halloween Party at the fire hall as always. Check with the Club for date and time.

Bagged leaves will be picked up again this year. Residents must call the town office to schedule a pick-up.

Don't forget on November 4th, the Flood Zone will be having their 4th Marine Corps Birthday Party. Come out and show support for our military.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,
Mayor*

GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE

Community Center Tot Lot and Walkway Roof Upgrades

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 and for repair to the

walkway roof leading to the main entrance. As this funding is less than the total amount required, we have been tentatively awarded the remaining funds through the Maryland DNR's Community Parks and Playground grant. We are currently awaiting a vote by the Maryland Board of Public Works to finalize the award.

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 we have submitted to the MDE for review.

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 almost completed. Completion of the remaining lines is scheduled for the end of October.

More information will be provided on both workstreams as they develop.

2022 Federal Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) – Via Carroll County Thomas Street Water Line Repairs & Valve Bolt Replacement

The County approved funding of a project to replace the water main on Thomas Street and bonnet valve bolt replacements. Carroll County is contributing

\$157,606.00 towards the project, which will end up costing approximately \$515,000.00 when completed. Next steps will be to prepare an RFP and select a contractor to complete the project.

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. If awarded, the grant would 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 are currently awaiting a decision from the USDA, which will come in later 2023.

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

*Mike Reynolds
Circuit Rider & Zoning
Administrator*

RESOLUTION 04-23

On September 25, 2023, the Union Bridge Town Council approved the adoption of the 2022 Carroll County Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town of Union Bridge.

DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE

MEETINGS – We will be holding meetings on an “As Needed” basis.

Union Bridge Gift Shop - The Union Bridge Gift Shop operated by Dream Big Union Bridge continues to bring new customers into town and everyone loves the shop. If you haven't been there...you need to stop in. Holiday Open House December 1, 2 & 3. Stop by and enjoy some light refreshments, a unique and affordable shopping experience.

Annual Holiday Tree Lighting – will be held on

December 1st at the square in Union Bridge. We have some new things planned for this year's event, so mark your calendar so you don't miss out.

New Year's Eve Event – we are planning on holding this event again this year, however we do need donations. We will be reaching out for sponsors and are looking for donations. This is an expensive event, that Dream Big Union Bridge sponsors. We are planning to do it at the Union Bridge Fire Company Grounds. Live band “Cashtown”, 20-minute fireworks display, magician, food, beer garden and a fun time. We hope to bring back the “Passport” program again this year. It is with the help of the local businesses that it is possible, so please go out and support the local businesses. Shop Small, Shop Local. details as the time gets closer.

Fundraisers – we are looking for ideas to raise money so we can continue to provide these FREE activities to the public. We would love for you to recommend any ideas you have to help us raise money. We are currently thinking of holding a BINGO, and maybe a festival of some type. If we can continue to raise money and get support from the community, we can continue to serve our community with such events as Easter Egg hunt, Rubber Duck Derby, community picnic, bulk trash pickup, Christmas for the elderly, New Year's Eve event. Any and all ideas are welcome for both fundraising and events.

We are always looking for new volunteers, it's a no judgment zone. No membership fees, no meeting requirements, or participation requirements. You do what you can, when you can! We just want to have FUN and bring our Community Together!!!

Follow Dream Big Union Bridge on FACEBOOK, for updates and events.

WEST CARROLL REC COUNCIL NEWS

West Carroll serves Union Bridge, New Windsor, Taneytown and 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 7:00pm at the New Windsor Community Meeting Room.

Visit our website:
www.gowcrc.com

Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/goWCRC>

For general information about West Carroll programs, contact Community Coordinator, Penny Rockwood at 410-775-1506 or prockwood1@verizon.net.

UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Now that summer is coming to an end, time to get back into gear. We have not been having meetings but we are still working with businesses in the area, especially the newer ones. That being said, there are two things coming up that you need to be aware of.

First, one of the newer businesses in town, Save Point, will be having two (2) weekend tournaments. Each tournament will have three (3) games and the highest scorer at the end of the two (2) weekends will be the winner. The categories are in three (3) different age groups: kids 12 and under, 13–17-year-olds, and adults that are 18 or older. Anyone that plays will have a chance to win a \$20 Save Point gift card. The dates for the tournaments are Dec 1-3 and 8-10. Plan to go visit this new business and let's see who the winners are!

The second upcoming event is a Car Show at Vintage Restorations on October 21st. This is a neat event and always brings people to town.

When Covid started, we needed to stop having meetings. It

is time to start again. Please let me know if you are interested in the Union Bridge Business Association and would attend meetings held on either Tuesday or Wednesday at 8 a.m. Send your message to judyj21@comcast.net. Looking forward to getting things started and making things happen!

FREE SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

Associated Catholic Charities, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start is a federally-funded program that promotes school readiness and family self-sufficiency through holistic services. Carroll County Head Start/Early Head Start provides a wide range of services from prenatal to preschool, for low-income families. We support the development and growth of children from birth to age five (5). Our program is MSDE Accredited. We have seven (7) sites throughout the county, including Francis Scott Key High and two locations in Taneytown. For more information, or to enroll your child, please contact us at: 667-600-2571 or visit our website @ <https://cc-md.org/programs/carroll-county-head-start/>

HUGHES TRASH REMOVAL 2023 HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving week –
Normal pickup

Christmas & New Year's weeks-
Pickup will be one (1) day behind on both weeks. Please put your trash out on Wednesday evening for each week.

YARD WASTE

Please note that yard waste pickup for the year has ended. We will begin again in the spring, 2024.

LEAF PICKUP

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

WATER CONSERVATION INDOOR TIPS

1. **Scrape instead of pre-rinsing.** Save yourself up to 20 gallons of water by scraping food off your dishes instead of pre-rinsing them.
2. **Install high efficiency aerators.** Installing an aerator on your bathroom or kitchen faucet and save about one (1) gallon per minute each time you run them. An aerator reduces the flow from the faucet, and uses air to maintain good water pressure.
3. **Wash only full loads.** Clothes and dishwashers use about the same amount of energy and water regardless of the number of clothes or dishes inside, so run full loads whenever possible.
4. **Let your dishwasher do the work.** The average dishwasher uses about ten gallons or less per load. Many kitchen faucets use the same amount of water by running for just four minutes.
5. **Use the microwave, a bowl of water, or place frozen food in fridge overnight instead of running the tap to thaw it out.** You'll save about two gallons of water for each minute the faucet does not run.
6. **Replace older toilets with a WaterSense labeled high efficiency toilet.** Older toilets can use up to four times more water per flush.
7. **Regularly check for & repair water leaks.** Even small leaks can waste hundreds to thousands of gallons of water a month. Many water leaks can be fixed by a do-it-yourself plumber, and repair parts are relatively inexpensive to purchase (\$5-20).

8. **Take shorter showers.** Each minute you shave off your shower time saves up to 2.5 gallons of water.
9. **Select an Energy Star-approved appliances.** They use 15-20 less gallons of water per load, and you will see savings on your energy costs too.
10. **Know where your master shutoff valve is located.** This could save water and prevent damage to your home.

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://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>.

WINTER MONTHS

Remember that the winter months will soon be upon us. 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.

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

WINTER MAINTENANCE & CARE OF PATTERNED 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 event that these products must be used, wash any residue from the concrete surface.
4. Avoid the use of ice picks or anything that may chip or damage the concrete surface.

SNOW

Main Street is a snow emergency route. **NO PARKING** is allowed when the snow emergency plan is in effect.

NO PARKING REMINDER

On East Broadway from Lightner Street up to Bellevue and on Thomas Street when the snow emergency plan is in effect.

SNOW MAINTENANCE AROUND FIRE HYDRANTS

If you have a fire hydrant near your house, please keep it clear of snow so the fire department can quickly access it during an emergency.

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 poorly-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 numbers are, the better. Help us to be able to locate you when you need our assistance. Thank you.

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
410-274-2860

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.

TRICK OR TREAT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31,
2023
6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

Please turn your porch lights on if you wish to participate.

Please Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season

Parking and Street Reminders

- ✓ Please note that when parking in the municipal parking lot located at the corner of W. Broadway and Warehime Alley, parking is limited to no longer than two (2) hours maximum. You will receive a parking ticket if you are in violation.
- ✓ Please remember to pay your parking meters. They are in effect from 9:00 a.m – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday. (Sundays and federal holidays are excluded.)
- ✓ Our meters accept nickels, dimes and quarters. A nickel will give you 12 minutes, a dime 24 minutes, and a quarter will give you one (1) hour. Please plan accordingly.
- ✓ Please note that the meters each have a maximum time allowed – some are 15 minutes and some are two (2) hours. At the end of the maximum time allowed, you must vacate that parking spot.
- ✓ Parking fines range from \$5 to \$50, depending on the violation. If fines are not paid within 30 days, the fine will be increased.

+++ AND:

- ✓ Please note that the one-way directional flow of traffic on Engle Alley has changed from East to West (from S. Main Street to Warehime Alley) to West to East (from Warehime Alley to S. Main Street). Please pay attention to the street signs.