



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

INSIDE

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK
GRANT PROJECT UPDATE
DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE
UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION
HUGHES TRASH NEWS & NOTES
BUDGET ORDINANCE 315-A
WATER/SEWER USER RATES
WATER CONSERVATION TIPS
SUMMERTIME NOTES
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
DRIVING 101

Council Meeting

Jul 27, Aug 24 & Sep 28 – 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting

Jul 16, Aug 20 & Sep 17 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Work Session

Jul 13, Aug 10 & Sep 14 - 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Committee info, contact

Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or

buttersburg@verizon.net

Web Page

www.townofub.org

E-mail

unionbr@carr.org

ARTICLES FOR THE
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY
September 15, 2020

OFFICE CLOSED

July 3rd 2020
Independence Day
(Observed)
&
September 7th, 2020
Labor Day

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

We would like to thank ALL of the local businesses that stayed open during this time.

Please keep an eye on the Fire Company board at the Fire Hall for upcoming events. They will have fundraising events posted. Please support them. The lack of a carnival this year has really hurt the funding of the paid people and the great equipment and training of the volunteers they provide.

Military banners are up and will be displayed through Veteran's Day to show support of our veterans. The Town of Union Bridge is very proud of this project. The banners increased in price this year. After three years, the price has gone up to \$105.00. The new forms are available at the Town Office, or see me. Checks should be made out to U.B.B.A. Payments can be given to me or dropped off to my attention at the Town Office.

The Solar Panel project is back on track. Also, the County is back to work on the stormwater project.

You may have received some letters in the mail recently from a company titled "Service Line Warranties of America" (SLWA).

This company provides warranties to help with water and sewer service line repairs that may be the resident's responsibility. The Town has approved for the communications to be sent and feels that the service is a good and affordable option for property owners. If you are interested,

please contact the company directly as the Town Office cannot answer any specific questions. You can call SLWA at 1-844-257-8795 or visit www.slwofa.com for more information or to opt out of mailings.

Now, for some exciting news. In 2022, the Town will be 150 years old! We are planning a great event for that year. How many of you remember the 125th anniversary event? I hope this one is just good, if not better. We just may ask for your help.

Perry L. Jones, Jr.
Mayor

GRANT PROJECT UPDATE

Sustainable Community Designation Renewal

The Town applied for and was granted Sustainable Community status initially in 2014. This is a five-year privilege which is eligible for renewal after the period has expired. Being a Sustainable Community allows the Town to be eligible to apply for a myriad of grant and funding opportunities available from state and federal agencies.

We are proud to announce that the Town's status as a Sustainable Community has been renewed after an intensive application process. The term is for another five years.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant for Emergency Generator

The Town has been awarded a grant for funding from FEMA to

install an emergency generator. The generator will run the Water Treatment Plant and Town Office in the event of an emergency. We are actively working with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to implement the project. The project is currently out for bid.

Program Open Space (POS)
Grant - Community Center
Parking Upgrades

The Town has been awarded funding from the MD Dept. of Natural Resources to pave the parking area around the community center and to add parking spaces in front of the center. This project is currently out for bid.

MDE Financial Assistance I&I

Following our Inflow & Infiltration study funded by USDA, the Town applied for assistance to perform our engineering recommendations through the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Unfortunately, the Town was not granted these funds, however we will keep applying.

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

*Mike Reynolds
Circuit Rider*

DREAM BIG UNION
BRIDGE

Dream Big Union Bridge recently held a chalk painting contest and there were three winners. A gift certificate for a Pizza Kit from Original's was awarded to each winner.

We are currently doing a "Be Kind" project and information can be found on our Facebook page.

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during these incredibly trying times. If you have a need, please reach out to us, as we have been assisting the elderly with their needs and are diligently working with the St. James

Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

Any questions, please feel free to call 443-340-06305 or visit us on Facebook. Come out to Flood Zone and vote for our "Dream Big Union Bridge" boat!

We are always looking for additional volunteers and all are welcome!!!

*Cheri Thompson
Dream Big Union Bridge*

UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION

Here's hoping you are doing well while working with the Coronavirus issues. It has definitely caused businesses to make decisions they never thought they would have to make. Let's hope we can get back to a more normal situation in the not-so-distant future.

The Union Bridge Business Association is looking forward to hosting a get-together as soon as we can. We would like to invite every business owner to come meet us. If you are reading this and own a business, contact one of our officers or go to our website and leave a message. Our president's e-mail is judybaxter5@comcast.net. We would love to meet each and every one of you. The date and time will be posted on the Union Bridge Business Association website and Facebook page. Remember, you don't have to live in Union Bridge to be a member!

Are you enjoying the military banners? If you know a veteran who is not represented, contact Mayor Jones and pick up an order form. We would love to honor every veteran.

Looking forward to seeing you as soon as we can. Have a great 4th of July!

HUGHES TRASH
REMOVAL NEWS &
NOTES

For the week of Independence Day, there will be no change in the Town's pickup schedule.

For Labor Day week, trash pickup will be one day behind so please place your trash out Wednesday evening instead of Tuesday.

Please note that Hughes will not pick up bulk trash. Please do not put out anything larger than your trash can.

Last, if you have any "give-away" items, please do not place them near your trash or they may be discarded.

RECYCLE, PLEASE!

Beginning soon, Carroll County will begin charging municipalities for disposal of recycling. As this is an added cost to the Town, we urge you to recycle as diligently as you can since the cost to dispose of recycling will be roughly half of the cost of trash disposal. With your help, we can reduce our operating cost by responsibly recycling. Thank you.

BUDGET ORDINANCE
315-A

On June 8, 2020, the Union Bridge Town Council approved Budget Ordinance 315-A for FY20/21, with expenditures and revenues of \$1,020,769.00. The town tax rate shall remain \$.35 per \$100.00 of full value assessment of property in The Town of Union Bridge and the town personal property tax rate shall remain \$.75 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

WATER/SEWER USER
RATES

Per the Town Code, the annual Water and Sewer user rates increase of 3% will be effective beginning July 1, 2020.

The new Water User Rate will be \$6.39 per 1000 gallons and the new Sewer User Rate will be \$4.64 per 1000 gallons.

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.

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

TOWN CURFEW

Please keep in mind that curfews for children under the age of 18 years are as follows:
 12:01 am – Saturday & Sunday
 10:00 pm – Sunday - Thursday

YARD WASTE PICKUP

Bags for yard waste must be purchased at Town Hall for \$1.25 each. This charge helps to defray the cost of the pickup.

BRUSH REMOVAL SERVICE

The Town will provide hauling services for brush removal (limbs/branches) by appointment. Note that you will

need to load the brush onto the truck. Call 410-775-2711 to schedule a 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.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The annual Water Quality Report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

You can view the report at <https://unionbridgewaterqualityreport.webs.com> or you can pick up a copy up at the Town Office.

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 AMY KALIN 1-410-775-0687

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

CRIME PREVENTION 101

It appears that the warmer weather has finally arrived, meaning that the summer season has officially begun. With that said, I felt that this was the perfect opportunity to hopefully educate you on crime prevention 101, so that you do not become a victim this summer season.

During the warmer months of the year, law enforcement agencies across the nation observe an increase of thefts that plague our communities. Most times, these crimes take place in our more populated areas or in our residential neighborhoods. These thefts often occur during the overnight hours while you are safely tucked away in bed dreaming. As these criminal opportunists roam our neighborhoods, they are looking for that perfect opportunity to find that unlocked vehicle, unsecured garage or shed. Once these

criminal opportunists locate what they are looking for, they will enter your vehicle, unsecured garage or shed and begin rummaging through your personal property looking for something of value. Within minutes, the criminal opportunists will be moving on to the next opportunity awaiting them, making you a victim of a preventable crime.

How is this a preventable crime you may ask? It's simple, you just need to lock that vehicle, close that garage door and place a lock on that shed. By doing so, you are making your neighborhood less attractive to these criminal opportunists. As a result, you will not become a statistic in the annual Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) uniform crime reporting (UCR) report. According to the 2018 annual report, a total of 1,183,631 reports of thefts from autos and 448,439 thefts from buildings were reported to police across the nation that year. The 2018 report further stated that the average value of items stolen from vehicles were approximately \$994 and items stolen from buildings were approximately \$1,610 that year. Again, these crimes are preventable if you just take that extra minute to properly secure your belongings.

There are other ways to protect ourselves from crime. Upon researching community policing several years back, I stumbled on a philosophy called the "Broken Glass Theory" that was published in the Atlantic Monthly in March of 1982 by social scientists George Kelling and James Wilson. The

theory states that if a broken window in a building does not get repaired, then the remaining windows in the building will be eventually be broken out. There are ways we can avoid making this theory a reality in our community. Some simple examples and techniques we may all share are, reporting burned out streetlights to town hall, picking up litter along our streets, maintaining our properties and reporting and removing graffiti within a timely manner.

We need the help and support of our communities as well. Like the Department of Homeland Security says, "If you see something, say something!" Together we can protect our communities.

As always, stay safe, stay healthy and LOCK THOSE DOORS!!

*Master Deputy Brian Colussy
Carroll County Sherriff's
Office*

PLAYGROUNDS ARE OPEN!

Follow these recommendations to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- Bring hand sanitizer with you.
- Wear a face covering (if older than two years old).
- Practice social distancing.
- Avoid congregating.

Please note that the basketball court will remain closed until further notice.

FOUND

Vehicle key fob found along the Donald Wilson Walking Trail (Little Pipe Creek area). Owner may claim at the Town Office Monday – Friday from 8:00a.m. until 4:30pm. Owner must present associated vehicle for proof of ownership.

**Have a Happy and Safe
4th of July & Labor
Day!!!**

