



# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

March/April 2017

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Council Meeting

Mar. 27 & Apr. 24 – 7 p.m.

### Planning & Zoning Meeting

Mar. 16 & Apr. 20 - 6:30 p.m.

### Council Work Session

Mar. 13 & Apr. 10 - 6:30 p.m.

### Heritage Committee info, contact

Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or

[buffersburg@verizon.net](mailto:buffersburg@verizon.net)

### Web Page

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

### E-mail

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

## ARTICLES FOR THE MAY/JUNE NEWSLETTER

ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY  
**APRIL 15, 2017**

## OFFICE CLOSED

**April 14, 2017  
Good Friday**

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Spring is coming. Now is the time we all must try and fill these empty buildings located in town. We have office space and need small businesses to occupy those available spaces. We must show that we are open for business, storefronts in town have been empty for far too long. Union Bridge has great restaurants, therefore we have a lot of foot traffic. Let's fill these buildings and let people spend their time and money at your new business.

I continue to receive comments concerning the truck traffic on Main Street. People always refer to the trucks as "Lehigh trucks". The tractor trailers and dump trucks are not owned by Lehigh. When you see large trucks making turns on our side streets, the drivers are following their GPS system. I think almost everyone has experienced direction errors when following GPS or Map Quest.

We have been experiencing animals getting into residents' trash. Please make sure you have a trash can, so that when you put your trash out for pick-up, animals are not able to get to it.

The town will be holding elections for three Council members on May 9, 2017. I believe that the town's council

members have done and continue to do a great job. If you are thinking about running for office, keep in mind that these jobs require a lot of time with little pay. Our Council members don't do it for the money, they do it because they love their town.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,  
Mayor*

## GRANT PROJECT UPDATE WETLANDS PARK TRAIL SYSTEM

I hope everyone has had a chance to see and use the completed trail system at the Union Bridge Wetlands Park. This new trail section is part of a multi-phase walking and biking trail that has been in progress since 2001. The park now has over a mile of trail that meanders through the town's natural 54-acre park. The Wetlands Park has several unique natural features that go along with our ongoing preservation improvements including:

-A large and diverse young forest, developed through a Carroll County coordinated reforestation program with the planting of over 5,000 trees.

-The Little Pipe Creek meanders through the length of the property. The Town restored approximately 2,500 linear feet of the eroded stream banks and stream channel.

-The stream has forested areas and vegetative cover along the banks to cool the water temperature and encourage growth of fish populations (completed with the cooperation of Maryland Department of Natural Resources).

-The park has over 85,000 square feet of restored wetland areas, adding to Carroll County's and DNR's goal to restore lost wetlands and maintain water quality.

-The park has a high population of diverse bird species for bird watching.

-The park is accessible for handicapped individuals.

The Town hopes this trail system will allow students, residents, and visitors to explore the complete park and all its natural wonders.

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

*Jared Schumacher,  
Town Consultant*

**NO ONE SHOULD HAVE  
TO LIVE IN FEAR OF  
WHERE THEY LIVE**

Citizens of Union Bridge, I totally agree that no one should have to live in fear of where they live. Over the past couple months, I have stopped and began educating citizens about the new "No Parking Zones" along East Elger Street and Main Street. While educating your fellow citizens of these new zones, I often find myself combating a verbal confrontation. These altercations can lead to several other criminal issues like, disorderly conduct or disturbance of the peace, which gratefully these encounters didn't escalate to that point.

Most times these confrontations are not over the

"Parking" enforcement itself, but mostly over the many issues the town is facing. Most times these concerns are with the drug problems, the troubled youth around town and of course the speed enforcement on Main Street. So let me first explain why the new "NO Parking" zones were developed.

In the fall of 2016, it was brought to our attention that school buses could not safely turn onto East Elger Street from Main Street due to citizens parking along East Elger Street. Buses then had to wait for the parked vehicles to be cleared, which caused traffic to back up on Main Street.

With this concern reported, an investigation began. The investigation revealed that vehicles traveling westbound on the narrow East Elger Street had to swerve into oncoming traffic when encountering a parked vehicle. Not only did this cause traffic flow issues, it was also dangerous for drivers as it could have caused a possible head-on collisions.

It was also discovered that a fire hydrant was directly in front of 1 East Elger Street. As we know, it is a state law that prohibits parking within fifteen feet from the hydrant. It is extremely important that this fire hydrant be readily available to fire personnel in the event of a fire or an emergency. Not only that, but the apparatus for the fire department would have been in the same situation as the school buses. As you know every second counts in an emergency which could lead to serious injury or even death.

On another note, in reference to other concerns reported during these encounters, we are actively

working on all those issues as well. Lehigh Cement Corporation will be donating an electronic traffic enforcement sign, in the near future, to help us with speed enforcement. This sign will be moved around town in order to collect useful data. This data will then be used in determining when the directed enforcement should be conducted in order to get the most compliance.

We are all aware of our troubled youth around town and what some of their actions have caused. Councilwomen Kalin and I have reached out to several agencies like the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster and several local churches for help. We are currently looking for transportation services available in order to keep those youth active in a "positive manner." If anyone has any further suggestions on helping develop youth programs, please contact us.

Not only have we looked into these issues, we have also started to plan ahead. Recently, the town adopted a new "Nuisance Ordinance" to help assist in curbing some of these problems. In the January Town Hall Meeting, Mayor Jones said, "It's time to take back this community" and every council member couldn't have agreed more. With that said, in the near future, I will be attempting to set up Community Block Clubs. However I will need assistance from the citizens themselves to help make this happen. If you are displeased or frustrated in what you see and want to change this community for the better, it's time to step up and stop being afraid to live where you live. These clubs will be designed to help protect

everyone from retaliation, so don't be afraid. Anyone interested in learning more about these community block clubs, please contact me at [bcolussy@ccg.carr.org](mailto:bcolussy@ccg.carr.org). Until then, you could always make an anonymous call to 410-386-2900 or 410-386-2860 to report any suspicious or criminal activities.

As you can see we are working extremely hard in changing your community for the better. However we are in need of more people to continue to step up to assist us. As you know, what you see around this community now didn't happen overnight and it will take time to correct. With these programs in place we will hopefully be able to begin veering this community back on course, which will take a lot of time and energy. I know that if we set our minds to it, we can make it happen.

*Master Deputy  
Brian Colussy*

**ALCOHOLICS**  
**ANONYMOUS**  
**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

As we are all aware from current national news headlines, the nation has a serious drug epidemic. Recently several people have suggested that we begin such programs as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) within town. We cannot agree more. A small committee has been set up and we are working on bringing such programs to the community. We need to know if more people are interested in these programs because the previous ones have failed for lack of attendance. If you know of someone needing help or if you yourself need help, please

reach out to this committee at [saveourstreetsub@gmail.com](mailto:saveourstreetsub@gmail.com). Please know your information will always be kept strictly confidential. When we respond, we will provide a list of current services available within the county to assist you until we have the programs readily available in town. Please know that you are not alone, as this epidemic is taking this nation by storm. Please get help before you become a statistic.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TO THE CITIZENS**  
**OF UNION BRIDGE:**  
**THREE MEMBERS OF**  
**THE COUNCIL WILL BE**  
**ELECTED.**

**ELECTION DAY IS**  
**TUESDAY,**  
**MAY 9, 2017**  
**7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**  
**LOCATION: TOWN**  
**HALL**  
**104 W. LOCUST ST.**

**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 P.M. Monday through Friday. **Registration will**

**close on Sunday, April 9,**  
**2017 at 4:00 P.M.**

**Qualification 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.

**Qualification of Candidates for Council:**

1. You must have resided within the corporate limits for at least one (1) year.
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\*\*\*

**A candidate for office must file a "Certificate of Nomination" with the Town Clerk, no later than 4:00 P.M. on Monday, April 10, 2017.**

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.

**PUBLIC WORKSHOP**  
**HOMEOWNERS &**  
**STORMWATER**

The Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is partnering with the Carroll County Water Resource Coordination Council to host a

free public workshop on March 18, 2017, in the Great Hall at Carroll Community College to provide homeowners with information on how to prevent stormwater pollution and minimize stormwater runoff from their properties.

Experts will be able to provide helpful materials and answers to individual questions on the topics listed below.

Each expert will briefly present on a topic (see webpage for approximate times).

\*General Homeowner Best Management Practices

\*Lawn Care and Landscape Management.

\*Septic Maintenance

\*Permeable Pavement

\*Rain Gardens

\*Composting (Yard and Food Waste)

\*Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

\*Tree Planting

\*Stream Corridor Assessments & Stream Buffer Initiative

Come for the entire time or just drop-in for specific sessions and talk directly to the expert(s).

More details and information on the Homeowners & Stormwater Workshop can be found on the website at <http://ccggovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/homeowners/> or by contacting Brenda Dinne @ [bdinne@ccg.carr.org](mailto:bdinne@ccg.carr.org) or 410-386-2140. No registration is necessary. The workshop will be held in the Great Hall from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

### **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://ccggovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>

### **ORDINANCE #313 DISORDERLY HOUSE NUISANCE**

On January 23, 2017 the Union Bridge Town Council approved Ordinance #313 Disorderly House Nuisance.

### **RESOLUTION 01-17**

Resolution 01-17 was approved on January 23, 2017 for the upcoming budget. This resolution updates the CIP for FY 18/23.

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Old New Windsor School/County Government Offices/Library Administration Offices in New Windsor.

We are currently seeking a Union Bridge Town Representative. Please attend one of our upcoming meetings, if interested.

For general information about West Carroll programs, contact Community Coordinator, Penny Rockwood at 410-775-1506. See our website: [www.gowcrc.com](http://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 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY**

March 3, 2017

**Gift Card Bingo**

Contact: Missi Green  
443-340-9462

March 12, 2017

**Breakfast**

March 18, 2017

**Fire Co. Dance**

April 9, 2017

**Breakfast**

April 15, 2017

**Fire Co. Gun Raffle**

April 22, 2017

**Fire Co. Bingo Banquet**

Contact: Melvin Smith  
443-789-2323

May 14, 2017

**Breakfast**

### **CARNIVAL**

The Union Bridge Fire Company's Annual Carnival will be held from May 29th through June 3rd. Entertainment, rides, and great food will be available all week. A new 2016 Spartan/4Guys Engine Tanker was purchased last year, and this year a 2017 Road Rescue Ambulance will be delivered. If you would like to donate items to the Silent Auction, we are in need of antiques, collectibles, gift certificates, gift baskets, handcrafted items, services, etc. Volunteers are needed to help with this committee. Please contact Karen Kotarski at 410-775-7197.

**NEW SERVICES**  
**AVAILABLE TO UNION**  
**BRIDGE RESIDENTS**

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Carroll County (RSVP) announces two new services that are now available to help seniors and other residents of Union Bridge:

The Food Pantry at Francis Scott Key High School is now open to all residents every Tuesday from 3:00-4:00. Canned goods, bakery items and other pantry staples may be picked up at no cost. It is not necessary to show proof of household income to obtain groceries, and participants are encouraged to take an extra bag of groceries to deliver to a friend or neighbor. To find the Food Pantry, go to the back parking lot of the school and use the entrance near the flagpole.

RSVP volunteers will deliver groceries to anyone who does not have transportation to get to the school, those over age 55 or those who have physical limitations that make it difficult to carry grocery bags. Call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 to request home delivery through the Seniors with Groceries project.

Transportation assistance is now available to cancer patients who find it difficult to get to their medical appointments. RSVP volunteers for the American Cancer Society's "Road to Recovery Program" will pick up patients at their home, and provide transportation at no cost to treatment appointments in the county. Call the American Cancer Society at 410-781-6909 to request transportation assistance.

RSVP is a branch of the Senior Corps, a federally supported program through the same agency which administers AmeriCorps and Vista. The program recruits volunteers age 55+ to provide needed services in Carroll County through established non-profits.

RSVP volunteers serve with Meals on Wheels, health and wellness partnerships, soup kitchens, and food pantries to address food insecurity for older, homebound residents. Many seniors must make the choice between eating healthy food and paying rent or buying critically needed medicine, and RSVP volunteers serve in programs that help seniors to live better, more healthy lives.

RSVP Carroll County addresses the concerns of the community by harnessing the power, wisdom and experience of seniors age 55+. A few minutes or hours per week can make a significant difference in the lives of others.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Seniors with Groceries project, or know of a home-bound individual who could benefit from the services provided by RSVP volunteers, contact RSVP at 410-386-4646.

**HELP WANTED**  
**SOBER TRUTH**

New non-profit seeks a part-time receptionist, and 2 licensed therapists for Taneytown office. 20+ hours per week leading to full time as we grow. Send resumes to [sobertruth1@comcast.net](mailto:sobertruth1@comcast.net), or call 443-858-5036.

**DR. JASON TATE FAMILY**  
**MEDICINE**

Dr. Jason Tate Family Medicine, in Taneytown MD, is excited to announce the addition of Rebecca Barker to his growing practice. Rebecca brings almost a decade of professional experience to the office which included time at the world renowned R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma center in Baltimore. As a Family Nurse Practitioner, Rebecca will add to the capacity of the practice as she will begin seeing new patients this summer.

Rebecca holds a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Medicine from Elon University, a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from the University of Maryland and in April will complete her Master's Degree in Nursing from Simmons College. Outside of the office Rebecca enjoys traveling, fitness, golf and spending time with her husband and son.

**2017 SCHOLARSHIP**  
**PROGRAM**

The Carroll County chapter of the Maryland Municipal League will once again offer three (3) \$1,000.00 scholarships to Carroll County high school students who have been accepted into a college or university or Carroll County students currently enrolled in a college or university in a graduate or undergraduate program. You can pick up an application at the Town

Hall, Monday thru Friday  
8:00 - 4:30.

### **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.

### **IMPORTANT**

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

### **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 the numbers the better. Help us to be able to locate you when you need our assistance.

### **YARD WASTE PICKUP**

Will begin in April. Bags for yard waste must be purchased at the Town Hall for \$1.25. 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.

### **COMING SOON A UNIQUE THEATRICAL EVENT**

You are invited to participate in a Dramatic Presentation about the Final Days of Jesus! This production will take place on April 9th and 10th, 7p.m. near Union Bridge.

We will need help in the following areas; acting, singing, dancing, multimedia, lights and sound, set construction, props, administration, refreshments, etc.

If you want to be involved or want more information, please call or text Cary Moorman at 301-514-6432.

### **SUNRISE SERVICE**

**April 16, 2017**

**AT**

**UNION BRIDGE  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

**6:00 A.M.**

### **LOST AND FOUND**

A few items have been left at the playground area. Call the Town Hall to inquire.

### **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.

**REMINDER  
Clocks spring  
forward on  
March 12, 2017**

