

# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

September/October 2016

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Council Meetings Sep 26 & Oct 24 – 7 pm.
- Planning & Zoning Meetings Sep 15 & Oct 20 – 6:30 pm.
- Council Work Sessions Sep 12 & Oct 10 – 6:30 pm.
- Heritage Committee information, contact Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or [buffersburg@verizon.net](mailto:buffersburg@verizon.net)
- Town Office will be CLOSED:
  - September 5 (Labor Day)
  - October 10 (Columbus Day)
- Articles for the November/December Newsletter are DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE October 15th

website [www.carr.org/~unionbr](http://www.carr.org/~unionbr) email [unionbr@carr.org](mailto:unionbr@carr.org)

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Summer is over. Time to head back to school. Please take the time to check out all the bus stops, be aware of the children on the streets and allow extra travel time for work.

Until the last couple of weeks, it has been a good growing season. We have had lots of complaints about grass not being mowed and untagged vehicles. For your information every complaint we get about mowing or untagged vehicles, cost you as a tax payer about \$20.00 for the town to notify the person of the violation. If not corrected by the first mailing, then we have a second mailing, possible attorney fees and possible court costs which increases the cost to \$50.00 or more per violation. More than half the violation notices that are issued are to the same people/locations time and time again. Remember it is your tax dollars that are being spent, please try to be a considerate neighbor.

If you see standing water in swimming pools or barrels with stagnant water call the Carroll County Health Department at 410-876-1884, they will address the problem because of health issues.

The town will again be looking at the proposed Nuisance Ordinance. I would like the citizens of Union Bridge to take the time to know this ordinance. It will pass this time. Please continue to call police when you see suspicious activity, use your cell phone and take pictures, but keep in mind that not every stranger is a drug dealer.

September 17, 2016 Vintage Restoration will be having an open house and car show.

*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). The environmental review has been completed and work is ready to begin. The park will be open during the construction.

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

*Jared Schumacher, Town Consultant*

## **TIME FOR A CHANGE**

Union Bridge, it's time to take back your community, but first let me introduce myself. I am Master Deputy "Brian" Colussy and I work for the Carroll County Sheriff's Office for just under six years now. In the fall of 2014, I was reassigned to a new patrol sector, which includes the community of Union Bridge. I am sure you have seen me around town either by patrolling in my marked patrol unit, conducting traffic enforcement, on foot patrol, in a local business or attending a local community organization event.

With that said, while working within the community I have listened to several complaints from your fellow townspeople and have been told on countless occasions that the community needs help. I must agree with your concerns and I have created many goals in reference to meeting those problems. Over the past couple years I have been working hard for the community in order for it to change for the better, but I cannot do it alone, I need your assistance. You may ask, "Brian, how can I help?" Well here are just a few suggestions.

### **1. IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!!**

Those could include one of the following:

- \*Suspicious Conditions
- \*Underage drinking parties
- \*Drug sales/usage
- \*Fights, disorderly subjects or domestic situations
- \*Other low quality life crimes

## **REPORTING PHONE NUMBERS**

**Emergency 911**

**Non-Emergency 410-386-2260**

**Carroll County Sheriff's Office 410-386-2900**

**Underage Drinking Parties Anonymous Tips Line**

**Call or Text: 443-547-1509**

**Email: [tipsline.ccsao@ccg.carr.org](mailto:tipsline.ccsao@ccg.carr.org)**

### **2. MAINTENANCE OF YOUR PROPERTY**

Curb appeal

- \*Repairing of broken windows
- \*Maintaining the care of your landscape
  - Cutting overgrown brush
  - Maintaining a manicured lawn
- \*Removal of extra clutter that is beginning to collect on your porch or yard

### **3. BECOMING MORE ACTIVE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

- \*Attending your Town Hall meetings
- \*Suggestions and / or setting up events to help benefit your community
- \*Community Service Projects
- \*Setting up and becoming a member of a "Block Club"

You may ask how all that will affect our community. Well when you start becoming aware of your surroundings and begin to improve your properties, report crimes and become active within your community, you set a presence to the criminal element. You'll see when the community starts to support each other and begin to improve, the criminal element,

drug dealers will disapprove of the active community and will begin to move out, allowing your quality of life to improve, which will increase your property values.

While speaking with your fellow citizens and patrolling your community, I know that you are up for the challenge since I have noticed that within the past month twelve properties have already begun to improve. I have noticed that local establishments have begun to rebrand themselves and begun updating their store fronts. Not only have the business owners begun to improve but local property owners have also started to repair their buildings and taking care of their overgrown brush around their properties. I know that "WE" can and will be able to take back this community and make it the best community ever, as long as "WE" work together.

If you would like to learn more or would like to chat with me, just pull me aside when you see me in town or email me at [bcolussy@ccg.carr.org](mailto:bcolussy@ccg.carr.org). I will also be attending the 2nd annual Union Bridge Drug Awareness Expo on October 6, 2016 at the Union Bridge Fire Department, where you can learn even more information on how you can improve your community, resources available within the county and of course all the current drug trends affecting our communities. I hope to see you around town and at the Drug Awareness Expo.

As always, stay aware and stay safe!

*Master Deputy "Brian" Colussy*

## **PROTECTING CARROLL COUNTY WATERS**

When it rains or when snow melts, stormwater washes away pollutants that have accumulated on lawns, driveways, roads, highways, and parking lots. These pollutants flow overland into storm drain systems and ditches emptying into local streams and rivers. When left untreated, these pollutants can impair local and downstream waterbodies used for swimming, fishing, aquatic life, and drinking water. You can help improve and protect the waters in Carroll County at home and in your municipality by learning more about stormwater pollution and prevention.

Things you can do to help prevent stormwater runoff pollution:

- \*Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters.
- \*Never dump anything down stormdrains, into ditches or streams.
- \*Compost your yard waste.
- \*Use the least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems.
- \*Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff.
- \*Wash your car on the lawn or take it to a car wash instead of washing it on a paved driveway.
- \*Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.
- \*Pick up after your pet.

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

## **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.

We are currently seeking a Union Bridge Town Representative. Please attend one of our upcoming meetings, if interested. Next meeting will be on September 12th.

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*

## **HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION 2016**

Memorial Day week trash will be picked up on Friday, June 3rd.  
Independence Day week trash will be picked up on Friday, July 8th.  
Labor Day week trash will be picked up on Friday, September 9th.  
Thanksgiving Day trash will be picked up on Friday, November 25th.

### **LOCATION CHANGE MARKET ON THE ROLL**

Every Wednesday, Seed of Life Nurseries will have a food truck with fresh produce and Bakery items at reduced prices stationed at the Union Bridge parking lot at the intersection of Warehime Alley and W. Broadway, beside Esquire Liquor store, between the hours of 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome, please come out and purchase some fresh produce.

### **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 or on private property.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

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

### **UNION BRIDGE FIRE COMPANY**

**Sept. 10, 2016**, Gun Bingo, 20 games, doors open at 6:00 p.m.

**Oct. 2, 2016**, Ladies Auxiliary Apple Dumpling Sale, to place an order call 443-340-9462.

**Oct. 6, 2016**, Drug Awareness Expo., 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., for more information contact The Town of Union Bridge 410-775-2711.

**Oct. 9, 2016**, Country Breakfast, 7:00 to 11:30 a.m.

**Oct. 15, 2016**, Bull & Oyster Feed, for more information contact, Tom Garber 443-340-9421.

**Oct. 22, 2016**, Fire Company Gun Raffle.

**Oct 23, 2016**, Ladies Auxiliary Pot Pie Dinner, for more information call 443-340-9462

### **ACCESS CARROLL**

Access Carroll is a patient centered, integrated health care home for low-income residents of Carroll County. Medical, dental and behavioral health services. Appointments Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 410-871-1478

### **UNION BRIDGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

The Union Bridge Business Association meets every third Tuesday at 7:30 a.m., at the Union Bridge Town Hall. The mission of the association is "for business professionals to meet once a month, to get to know one another, what products and or services they provide, and to help everyone's business grow". The organization works together to provide an opportunity to enable all area businesses to promote and strengthen each other and to work to support local events.

For more information, visit the website at [www.ubba-md.org](http://www.ubba-md.org) or e-mail Judy Baxter at judybaxter5@comcast.net.

*Judy Baxter, President, Union Bridge Business Association*

### **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.

### **PHONE NUMBERS**

The town is requesting all property owners submit a phone number to the Clerk-Treasurer. If there is an emergency a

town official may need to contact you.

### **LEAF PICKUP**

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

### **WINTER MONTHS**

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.

### **DISPOSABLE DOES NOT MEAN FLUSHABLE**

The sewer system is designed to accept water, human waste and toilet paper. Toilet paper dissolves quickly in water. However disposable cleaning wipes, diapers, paper towels, shop rags and other such items do not dissolve easily and may accumulate in the sewer system contributing to clogs and back-ups. As these items travel through the system they also get caught in the pumps and other equipment potentially damaging the equipment and leading to an overflow. Even if the label reads "flushable" it is still safer to dispose of these items in the trash.

### **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.

### **YARD WASTE PICKUP**

The last day for yard waste pickup will be either the first or second Wednesday of October. Contact the Town Hall for a definite date.

### **DRUG AWARENESS EXPO**

The Town of Union Bridge is having its 2nd Annual Drug Awareness Expo. This event will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Union Bridge Fire Hall, 8 West Locust Street, Union Bridge, MD. This is an effort to help residents of Union Bridge, and the surrounding areas, be informed of the newest drug concerns and prevention methods.

For more information call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711

### **TRICK OR TREAT**

OCTOBER 31, 2016

6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM

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

### **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.