



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1999

DATES TO REMEMBER

Council Meeting

Nov 22 & Dec 27 – 7p.m.

Funding Committee Meeting

Nov 3 & Dec 1 – 7p.m.

Heritage Committee Meeting

Nov 16 & Dec 21 – 7p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting

Nov 18 & Dec 16 – 6:30p.m.

Main St. Revitalization Meeting

2nd Wed of even Months

Dec 8, 1999—7pm

Feb 9 & April 12, 2000

JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE IN CITY OFFICE

NOON, WEDNESDAY

DEC. 15, 1999

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I guess by now that everyone has gotten their new water and sewer bills. What a shock! We tried to prepare everyone for the last few months. Bills had to be increased because when the state studied our billing, we were told that we could not pay back loans at the rate we were charging. Grants have been filled out and sent in, but they also have a cost share.

We know that our rates are high compared to other towns, but other towns have had growth. A lot of people live here because we are a small town, but we still have to maintain our town the same as big towns. Every town around us has grown. They have more people and houses to help pay the bills. We need controlled growth to help our town stay alive.

Please, if you have any questions regarding your bill, call the town office.

The Town's main well is being camered again. The State will decide what we have to do. Anyone wanting to see the film please call.

The State Highway has done the new sidewalk. It was not a Town expense.

There are a lot of projects coming up in the next few months. Please watch the papers for events and information.

MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

The Town of Union Bridge has received a planning grant for the revitalization of Main Street. The planning grant was awarded by the State of Maryland in the amount of \$29,500. The purpose of the planning grant is to evaluate the Main Street Project and prepare plans and specifications for the bidding process for work to be done.

Jim Schumacher has prepared an implementation schedule, which can be viewed at the Town Hall, that sets goals for accomplishing phases of the grant process. Jim will be coordinating this effort to supply the State the documentation they require and preparing the Request for Proposals for advertisement. Jim and the town council have moved ahead with signing of the Community Development Block Grant agreement with the State of Maryland and other agreement and documents required by the State.

We are encouraged at the progress being made at this time, and look forward to the day when the actual revitalization takes place. The Main Street Committee invites any and all comment by the citizens of Union Bridge and also invites you to attend any meetings of the committee. The meetings are held at the Town Hall and are open to citizen involvement and/or attendance. Joan McKee (410-775-2976)

UNION BRIDGE RECREATION COUNCIL

The Union Bridge Recreation Council would like to congratulate Mr. Jim Schumacher for being selected as this years Volunteer of the Year! Jim has helped the rec. council with a number of projects with the town and coordinates and instructs a tennis camp for children in the summer. He will be honored at Bear Branch on Nov. 4th with a plaque and a "special gift" from the Recreation Council. Thanks Jim for all your hard work.

Our soccer season will be coming to a close and a big THANK YOU goes out to Cindy Hess for her hard work and dedication as this year's coordinator. We had over 70 children on 7 teams and are especially proud of our First Year under 12 team! Coaches Joe Rosebrock and Lori Beardsley have done a wonderful job with these talented soccer players. Our other coaches: George Taggert, Chris Schuster, Tom Frock, Byron Welker, Cindy Hess, and Colleen Williar also deserve a special thank you for their time and energy for volunteering with our Under 10 and Under 8 teams. We thank the Elmer A. Wolfe Elementary and New Windsor Middle Schools for allowing our athletes to use their fields! And neither of our younger programs would have been playing on fields if it wasn't for the great job of two very special dads, Mr. Tim Green and Mr. Colby Gill!!! Also we appreciate Emily Dozson, Candice Hibberd, Megan White, Tim Owings, Drew Rogers, Trent Miller, Sean Todd, John Brownley, Joy Page, and Jenny Robertson for all their expertise in refereeing. However the biggest and most important part of our soccer program were our kids! They all did a wonderful job in being good sports and playing great soccer. All of Union Bridge should be proud of these amazing youth that are dedicated, respectful, and responsible boys and girls

Our next exciting programs, being offered for the winter months, will be Wrestling and Ski Club. Wrestling will begin in Nov. and be offered to children ages 5 thru 15. Practices as well as matches will be held at Francis Scott Key High School. Anyone wishing to get more info on this program can call Mr. Steve & Mrs. Beth Hoff at (410) 848-2932. We are hoping to see more people take advantage of the Union Bridge Ski Club. They have a great rate for skiing at Ski Liberty and this club is offered to everyone, young and old alike! To hear about all the neat things involved with this club, call Mr. Richard Michaels at (410) 775-7544.

Preparations are under way for our Spring Activities. West Carroll Eagles Baseball would like to form a committee this year with representation from each age group. If you could help with this need, please call Brian Klein at (410) 775-7992.

Anyone with new ideas or who would like to help with any of the programs, please come join us the third Monday of the month at the Union Bridge Town Hall at 7pm. We will be nominating new officers during our November meeting. Please come out and support your children's futures by supporting your local recreation council.

TOWN HALL FUNDING COMMITTEE

The 8th annual Fall Fest is now history and plans are already underway for the 9th! For those of you who missed it there were lots of great food, added attractions, and a terrific auction. We raised over \$3,800 and would like to sincerely thank everyone. Congratulations to Jo Anne Tyler of Westminster for having the winning ticket in the 50-50 raffle.

Also under our belt along with bacon, eggs cooked to order, fried potatoes, chipped beef, pancakes, fruit and scrumptious baked goods was our first breakfast. Come join us on Nov. 21, at the Community Center for our second and mark your calendar for the following dates: Jan. 16, 2000; Feb. 20, 2000; Apr. 16, 2000; and May 21, 2000. The cost of this all you can eat meal is just \$4.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children 6-12, under 6 are free.

We are also selling the Third print in the series done by Dennis Schrald which would make a wonderful Christmas gift. For information contact the town hall.

The next meeting of the Funding Committee will be Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. New members/helpers are always needed and greatly appreciated. Join us for the fun AND the reward of making a difference.

TOWN MASTER PLAN

The Union Bridge Planning Commission will begin this month, the process of reviewing the town's master plan. The planning commission has scheduled a workshop and informational meeting for November 18, 1999, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The commission will explain the proposed timetable to complete the master plan review and the various elements of the plan such as land use, roads, community facilities, etc.

The planning commission welcomes and encourages citizen participation. The commission would like to know how you think the town should grow, and what public services and facilities need to be improved, changed and planned for. Citizens and property owners may also request changes to the zoning district currently designated for their property. Also, the commission will review the land areas immediately adjacent to, but outside, the current town boundaries. This will significantly impact how the town will grow in the future.

Copies of the current town plan, adopted in 1990, are available at the town office for review. To assist citizens and to make it more convenient, we will attempt to schedule one on one work sessions with individual citizens, to address specific requests, or to answer questions.

The review of the town master plan is very important. The adopted plan will guide the growth and development of the town for several years into the future. We hope many of you will attend the November 18th planning commission meeting to learn more about the planning process. Please call the town office at 775-2711 for more information.

WATER IMPROVEMENTS

Filtration Study – The town has evaluated a filtration study, prepared by John E. Harms Engineers, Inc., to determine the type and size of proposed filters that might be installed in the new well house. The town must evaluate alternative types of filters, so that the well house can be designed with sufficient space to include filters.

Well House – the town will be advertising for construction bids in December 1999 to construct the new well house. The new well house will be built adjacent to the town office building and will house well pumps, electrical equipment, chemicals, a possible filtration system, and water system supplies.

Town Well – The town's well was shut down for a short period of time last week to video the well shaft. Easterday well drillers removed the well pump and slowly lowered a thin video camera cable. The test went very well and the video picture was clear and detailed. The well, which is located on West Locust Street next to the town office was first drilled in 1909. The town will review the video to determine what improvement might be needed.

New Back-up Well – The Phillip's Property well, located on Green Valley Road. Just east of Myer's grocery store, is expected to go on-line in early 2000. The well house is almost complete and new electrical equipment has been installed. The town engineer has outlined the final improvements needed, in order for the well to be turned over to the town. The water from this well has been connected to the town's water system and will be available for public use, once final approval is given by the Maryland Department of the Environment. This new well will be the town's first back-up well and will provide about 90 gallons of water per minute, depending on the final test results.

Capital Program for Water Improvements – The town has applied to the office of Rural Development (RD), USDA, for \$2.98 Million in funding to complete several water improvement projects in the town of Union Bridge. Projects include upgrading and replacing substandard water lines, constructing new water lines, replacing the existing water tower on East Locust Street with a new elevated tank, etc. These improvements will not only provide upgraded water service to customers, but also will improve water pressure, fire protection, and water storage capabilities. The town is expected to hear from RD within the next few months regarding the status of our application. The mayor and council will also be holding a public meeting (the time and place will be advertised), regarding the RD application.

OTHER PROJECTS

New Sidewalk – The town has approved installation of an improved concrete sidewalk along the west side of Main Street, beginning at Green Valley Road (Rt. 75), which was done by the State Highway. Improvements include a new walkway, pedestrian improvements to the bridge and fence structure over little Pipe Creek, new curbs and gutter pans, new handicap ramps and drainage and inlet improvements.

Little Pipe Creek Park – The notices for construction bids will be advertised for the first phase of this new town park. Park amenities will include the stabilization of Little Pipe Creek, wetlands, wildlife habitats, walkways, a footbridge over Little Pipe Creek, wildflowers, and lots of trees and landscaping. It will be a beautiful park and will offer walkers and bikers a convenient way from Main Street to Rt. 75. The local schools will also be involved in the ecological and educational aspects of the park system.

Union Bridge Park Improvements – The town is working closely with the parks committee to complete several improvements to the town's park on Thomas Street (where the ballfields are). Some ideas include water and waste removal service to the park, concession stands, improvements to steps and walkways, horseshoe pit improvements and a possible picnic pavilion. These and other ideas will be discussed at the upcoming council meetings and park committee meetings. Cost estimates will be obtained to review the various options. These improvements are being funded by a grant through Maryland Program Open Space.

Information on these and other town projects may be obtained by calling the town office at 775-2711.

JOIN THE CUB SCOUTS

Open to boys in grades one through five.

Games, activities, camping, hiking, arts & crafts, sports, leadership opportunities, drug awareness programs, and much more.

For more information contact the following:

Union Bridge Cub Pack 459
410-775-2918
New Windsor Cub Pack 582
410-635-3271
Uniontown Cub Pack 633
410-775-2453
Taneytown Cub Pack 718
410-756-4645

WASTE DISPOSAL

York Waste Disposal will no longer be able to provide pick up/disposal services for any CFC (freon) filled appliance, i.e. Refrigerators, freezers, AC units, unless they are properly tagged and certified that all CFC (freon) components have been removed by certified HVAC company.

For further information call:

York Office - 1-800-210-9675

Lancaster Office – 1-800-353-5262

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED:

Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving

Dec. 23 – Xmas, ½ day (close at noon)

Dec. 24 – Xmas

Dec. 31 – New Year Holiday

SNOW

Main Street is a snow emergency route,

NO PARKING

is allowed when the snow emergency plan is in effect

ORDINANCE #263 B-2

Owners Or occupants of premises fronting on any street with paved sidewalks shall remove any snow and ice from the traveled portions of the sidewalk, to a width of at least 30", within 24 hours after snow or ice ceases to fall.

Union Bridge's Y2K Compliance Plan is on file at the Town Hall

LEAF PICK UP

Leaf pick up started on 10.18.99 and will continue as long as needed.

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"HEROIN KILLS" VIEWING

There will be a viewing of the movie, "Heroin Kills", on December 6, 1999,

at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. This film will be shown on a big screen TV and refreshments will be served. Parents and students with first hand experience concerning drugs will also be there to speak and answer your questions. This is a MUST SEE movie.

HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION

Thanksgiving Day – Friday 11/26/99

Christmas Day – No Change

New Years Day – No Change

COMMUNITY CENTER

AVAILABLE FOR WEDDINGS, PARTIES, AND REUNIONS.

CALL THE TOWN OFFICE TO INQUIRE ABOUT RENTING THE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR YOUR FUNCTION

WATER & SEWER

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

(PAGER #)

410-307-5128

Dial number – enter number you are calling from, then press the pound key (#) and hang up

Students that need community service hours may contact the town office at

(410) 775-2711