

UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

March/April 2004

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Council Meetings	Mar 22 & Apr 26 – 7 pm.
Funding Committee Meetings	Mar 10 & Apr 14 – 7pm.
Planning & Zoning Meetings	Mar 18 & Apr 15 - 6:30 pm.
Council Work Sessions	Mar 8 & Apr 12 - 6:30 pm.

NEWSLETTER articles for Jun/Jul issue due in office **April 15, 2004**

Web Page www.carr.org/~unionbr

E-mail unionbr@ccpl.carr.org

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

There has been a lot of talk lately about budget shortfalls and the effects they will have on local governments. We have had to bear these cuts to our budget without the benefit of alternate funding sources available to county, state and federal governments. As there is very little fat in small town budgets, any revenue cuts from above can be devastating. We lost in excess of \$20,000 in highway user taxes this year, which translates into fewer repairs to our streets. The cost for police protection will rise to \$36,000 during the next year and we expect an increase in trash collection fees also. There also is the deregulation of the electric industry. At this time we don't know what the impact will be, but most probably it will not be good. Water and Sewer is a separate issue as these services are paid for by user fees, and do not come out of the general fund. However as a result of stricter regulations imposed by the EPA and MDE, we have had to spend a lot of money to upgrade the treatment process required to provide quality potable water. I don't dispute the need for these more restrictive regulations, but I do recognize the financial burden that is placed on some residents as a result of complying with them.

The money paid to the trash collection contractor is set by the contract, but the tipping fee paid to the County for the disposal of trash can be reduced by better recycling practices. We do not pay a fee for the recycled materials taken to the county's facility. I know there have been many problems with our current trash hauler regarding recycling, but steps are being taken to improve this service in the future. Also if you know of anyone who is not a resident, bringing their trash to town for pickup, please ask them to stop, or bring it to our attention. This is not only unfair to the residents who pay for this service, it is also illegal. Money can also be saved by complying with the many laws we have, such as weed control or junk vehicles. It costs around \$60 to send a compliance letter and follow up requires additional staff time. The bottom line is, service costs money. More services, more taxes. The State or Feds may speak of alternate sources of revenue; however, in the end there is only one source readily available to all stages of government - its citizens.

I tell you these things in hope that everyone will understand the difficult job we face every year in balancing the budget. We haven't the luxury of borrowing additional currency like the Feds do. So, please, help us to keep taxes and user fees as low as possible and the next time you hear someone say, "The Town should take care of this", remind them who "The Town" really is. It's you and I. Thank you.

Bret Grossnickle

UNION BRIDGE RESIDENT DEPUTY

Deputy 1st Class

R. C. Cromwell

Carroll County Sheriff's Office

Non-emergency 410-386-2900

EMERGENCY 911

Tips hotline 1-888-399-TIPS

FUNDING BREAKFAST

March 21, 2004 & April 18, 2004

SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT

Recently the Episcopal Housing Corporation began construction of the Shriner Court project for limited income seniors in Union Bridge. The project will be built on Ladiesburg Road, across from the Union Bridge Community Center.

When the project is completed, in November 2004, the twenty rental units will be available to those 62 years old and over with incomes below \$23,600 per year for one person and \$27,000 for two persons.

The design for the project will have porch-front buildings with two one bedroom apartments in each of the ten buildings and a management building. The rent for the units is expected be approximately \$400 per month with residents paying their own utilities.

For more information on Shriner Court or to request an application call Dan McCarthy at 410-366-6200 or via e-mail at Dan@ehc.ang-md.org.

CARROLL COUNTY BUREAU OF AGING

Free Income Tax Assistance at Carroll County Senior Centers

*For Seniors only (60+)

*No Income Limit

*Appointments must be made in advance.

Westminster Senior Center Phone: 410-848-4049

Mondays, Jan. 26 – April 12, from 9:00am – 2:30pm.

South Carroll Senior Center Phone: 410-795-6591

Wednesdays, Jan. 28 – March 31, from 9am – 2:30pm.

North Carroll Senior Center Phone: 410-239-6400

Thursdays, Feb. 5 – March 31, from 9am – 2:30pm.

Taneytown Senior Center Phone: 410-756-4557

Tuesdays, Jan. 27 – Feb. 31, from 9am – 2:00pm.

Mt. Airy Senior Center Phone: 410-795-1017 or 301-829-2407

Mondays & Fridays, Feb. 2 – April 12, from 9am – 12:30pm.

WEST CARROLL REC. COUNCIL

The West Carroll Rec. Council serves Union Bridge, New Windsor and surrounding areas. Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm at the Union Bridge Town Hall. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. For more information about programs, please call Penny Rockwood at 410-857-3549. Meeting dates: March 15 and April 19, 2004.

UNION BRIDGE LIONS CLUB

The Union Bridge Lions Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6:29pm at Buttersburg Inn located at 9 N. Main St. in Union Bridge.

March 6, Dublins Irish Cabaret Captial Theater of Chambersburg - \$26 per person, 8pm.

March 9, District Government Night – elections of officers, Buttersburg Inn, 6:29pm

March 23, Adventures of a mountain climber, Buttersburg Inn, 6:29pm.

March 27, Chicken Corn Soup, \$3.75 per qt., pick up orders at the Church of the Brethren, 8am-noon.

April 13, Zone Social, Union Bridge Community Center, social 6pm/dinner 6:29.

April 23, Basket Bingo, Union Bridge Community Center, food at 5:30pm, bingo 7pm.

BASKET BINGO Sponsored by the FSK High School Music Boosters

March 19, 2004 (Friday) Doors open 5:30pm, games begin at 7pm
FSK Cafeteria, 3825 Bark Hill Road, Union Bridge

Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door

Baskets are filled, food will be available
For ticket information call 410-751-1720
Proceeds support the FSK Instrumental Music Program

PATRICIA STONESIFER, COUNCIL MEMBER IN CHARGE OF WATER AND SEWER HAS A PAGER # FOR YOU TO CALL.

****410-899-1200****

To page Tricia, call her pager #, then key in the # you are calling from and press pound button (the # key on your phone) and hang up. Tricia will call you back and do what she can to take care of the problem.

DISPLAY OF ADDRESS

Due to the fact that addresses assigned to your property are also assigned to the emergency operations system for the county you should post your house number per Carroll County Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances, Chapter 97, which reads:

“Article 2, Chapter 37 – DISPLAY OF ADDRESS – Section 3700.0 General Section 3700.1. Single family detached or attached residential structures shall display, facing the street, numerals at least three inches (3”) in height designating the address....”

The town has three-inch aluminum numbers, 0,1,4,5,6,7,8 & 9 **FREE** while they last.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS A BREAKFAST THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - The Union Bridge Fire Company will NOT be having a Fireman's Parade during their annual Fireman's Carnival this year. The Carnival will run May 31-June 5.

*Thank You
Cheryl Keeney
Parade Chairman*

RECYCLING INFORMATION

Spring and hence spring-cleaning is just around the corner. I just wanted to take a few minutes and remind EVERYONE WHAT IS AND IS NOT RECYCLABLE. Newspapers can be recycled provided they are tied in a bundle with string or in a paper bag, but not if they are in a plastic bag. Clean metal cans and plastic bottles without lids or caps can be recycled. The cans and bottles should be placed together in the recycling bin. Boxes can be recycled provided that they are broken down, meaning that they lie flat. Also keep in mind that styrofoam and plastic wrapping of any kind needs to be placed in the trash. Please keep these rules in mind the next time you place items in the trash and ask yourself if they could be recycled. By following these rules we can do our part to insure our recyclables don't end up in the trash. If you have further interest in recycling, a publication produced by Carroll County should be available in the Town Office by mid-spring.

*Thank you for your time,
Jason Erb*