



# UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

July/August 2017

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Council Meeting**  
July 24 & August 28 – 7 p.m.  
**Planning & Zoning Meeting**  
July 20 & August 17 - 6:30 p.m.  
**Council Work Session**  
July 10 & August 14 - 6:30 p.m.  
**Heritage Committee info, contact**  
Jim Rowe 410-775-9939 or  
[buttersburg@verizon.net](mailto:buttersburg@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 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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

## OFFICE CLOSED

**July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

## Independence Day



## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Well, it's that time of year again. Grass and weeds have been growing very fast due to the rain and sun. So now is when your neighbors start to call the Town Office and report you. We have to spend time having someone to go out, check for the proper address and spend town dollars sending out letters. Junk and unwanted items are found in alleys and behind buildings everywhere. And those we miss are found by your neighbors that report you. Believe me -- the office has enough work to do rather than checking and writing letters about weeds and unwanted items. This is your tax money being spent.

If you drive by the Fire Hall parking lot and see old cars sitting in the middle of the lot, stop and ask someone when the training is going to be. This fire company has some of the best rescue tools and trained people to use it in the county. Sit and watch when they practice. You will be amazed.

The walking trail is about to be mowed. We are working with the people that have been working with the Monarch butterflies so mowing has special timing. It is important.

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.,  
Mayor*

## GRANT PROJECT UPDATE Community Center Upgrade

The Town has submitted a request for a Maryland Program Open Space (POS) award to fund upgrades to our Community Center. The funds will allow us to install new windows, doors and provide insulation for the internal walls. We are awaiting a decision on the award.

## Town Truck Funding Request

The town has submitted an application to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) for a grant to fund the purchase of a new 4x4 pickup truck for the town's maintenance and emergency needs. We are anxiously awaiting a decision from the USDA.

## Inflow & Infiltration Engineering Feasibility Study

The Town has been awarded a SEARCH grant by the USDA to fund an engineering study to propose recommendations for inflow and infiltration (I&I) mitigation in the Town which will increase the town's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) capacity and allow for growth in our community. The Town is currently accepting and reviewing proposals from engineering firms before we proceed.

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



Mike Reynolds,  
Circuit Rider

### **Broken Glass?**

Last summer you might have heard me speaking around town about the "Broken Glass Theory." The "Broken Glass Theory" was introduced in 1982 when James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling wrote an article in, "The Atlantic Monthly." The article focused on broken windows within a vacant building. If no one replaces these broken windows, it shows that no one cares causing the criminal element to continue. Soon the building will be spray painted with graffiti, juveniles will break into the building and use it as a hang out or party house. Later the vacant building will draw in the homeless where fires will be set for warmth which could cause the building to burn down to the ground.

This theory does not always include broken windows. This theory also focuses on properties that have a buildup of trash or junk, abandoned vehicles parked around town, left over furniture left on street curbs and of course out of hand landscaping around properties. With these types of issues, property values go down, criminal elements rise and Town Hall has to spend numerous amounts of time warning and citing home owners who are not in compliance.

After reading this article, please take a walk outside and look around your property. If you see a porch stacked full of items you have not used in years, it's time to get rid of it by selling it or donating it. If you cannot see the roadway through the landscape jungle

that you call your front yard, it's time to mow it or hire a local youth to maintain it. Once you start getting into the spirit of cleaning up your property, you might as well start moving forward into updating your curb appeal. It does not cost too much to place a new coat of paint on the front door, make some shutters out of spare wood or make some planters for your windows. Just a little improvement goes along way.

But don't get me wrong, recently while traveling the streets of Union Bridge, I am glad to see all the renovations taking place all over town. I have seen new windows, doors and even siding being installed along with buildings being repainted. I was also proud to see business owners taking it upon themselves to update their storefronts and even cleaning the streets/parking lots for the Fireman's Parade last month. With these dedicated individuals, we as a community are coming back stronger than ever. These things never go unnoticed.

On a different note, recently you may have seen photographers and reporters roaming the streets of Union Bridge following yours truly. Over the past two months, I have been the recipient of several awards for the actions I have begun to implement within your community. Mind you, these actions have not gone unnoticed with me. You see, these programs are the result of several highly invested individuals within your own community sharing the same dream as I have.

I am glad to announce that on the first and third Thursdays of the month Mount Union Lutheran Church has begun a

Youth Group, which meets at the Community Center at the community park from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. This Youth Group is open to all youths who wish to be active with other youth their age.

I am also pleased to announce that Mount Union Lutheran Church has also started "Life Choice" meetings the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Individuals who are struggling with life problems are encouraged to attend. Males will meet at the Community Center while females will meet just five minutes outside of town at the Mount Union Lutheran Church, on Middleburg Road.

I am proud of the Union Bridge VFW for donating helmets for local youth who truly need them within town, so they can be in compliance with the State Helmet Laws. I am also extremely proud of the Union Bridge Business Association for helping set up the local "Business Watch" program that has been up and running for the past year.

As you can see, these awards belong to all of you, not just me. For that, I want to thank you for your dedication and helping me, make your community healthier, cleaner and safer.

As always, stay safe out there.

*Master Deputy  
"Brian" Colussy*

### **WEST CARROLL REC**

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*

**HUGHES TRASH**  
**4<sup>th</sup> of JULY HOLIDAY**  
**SCHEDULE 2017**

Please note that trash pickup on the week of Independence Day will be on Thursday, July 6, 2017

**IMPORTANT HUGHES**  
**TRASH REMOVAL**  
**NOTICE!!!**

Beginning the week immediately following Independence Day, trash pickup will move to Wednesdays (July 12, 2017) going forward. Trash should be placed for pickup on Tuesday night beginning on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**UNION BRIDGE FIRE**  
**COMPANY**

August 18, 2017  
**Golf Tournament**

For more info call  
410-775-7422

August 19, 2017

**Big Money Drawing**

Tickets are \$10 each.

Each ticket has 4 numbers and a chance to win a total of over \$12,000.

You don't have to be present to win.

Doors open 4:00pm

Drawing starts at 5:00pm.

Last prize is won on the MD 4 Digit lottery number. Last prize is \$5,000.

Food and drink included with the purchase of a ticket.

Call 443-974-8719 or 410-775-7422

Thanks for everyone's support at our carnival this year. This helps us give the support and equipment needed to serve the community in many ways.

Thanks again.

*U.B.F. Co.*

**THANK YOU**

**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 the 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.

**MOUNT UNION LUTHERAN**  
**CHURCH SPONSORED**  
**EVENTS YOUTH GROUP**

Meets every **first** and **third Thursday** of the month at the **Community Center** from **6:30-8:00pm**

This is a non-faith based meeting and refreshments will be provided.

**LIFE CHOICE MEETINGS**

Meets every **second** and **fourth Thursday** of the month from **7:00-8:30pm**.

**Males** meet at the **Community Center**

**Females** meet at **Mount Union Lutheran Church** on Middleburg Rd.

**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://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>



## 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.

## 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.



## YARD WASTE PICKUP

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

## 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.

## 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

## SAVE THE DATE! DRUG AWARENESS EXPO

Thursday, October 5, 2017

4:00-8:00pm

Union Bridge Fire Hall

For more information contact  
Town Hall at 410-775-2711



**TO HAVE A  
SAFE &  
FUN  
FOURTH  
OF JULY**