

# THE VILLAGE OF *Maple Bluff* NEWSLETTER

Photo by Jonah Westrich, Isthmus Media Group



## Flag Football Fun at Beach Park



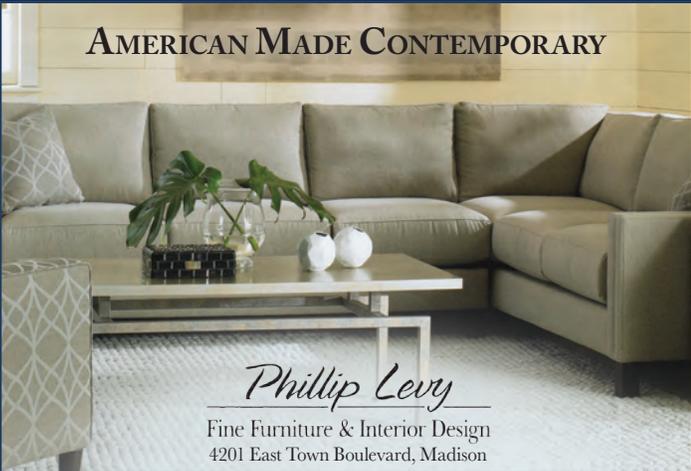
**THE END OF** the construction year “slow down” has not really happened for us here at the Village Center. Longingly anticipating the construction projects conclusion, I thought we would have an opportunity to start to get caught up and work on some other daily operational activities which have been awaiting some attention. What we have found however, is that some new projects are surfacing that require and push us into planning/project mode.

First, I am anticipating that a proposal for a development at the corner of North Sherman Avenue and Commercial Avenue will be brought to me at a meeting I have scheduled for tomorrow (Oct. 16th). There was an initial look at this project site plan a month or so ago at the Building Board, but these will be the more extensive plans that will need to go through the Plan Commission as a Conditional Use Permit. I also am anticipating that the Finance Committee will need to react to our first request for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) assistance for this development.

This project will have great scrutiny; there will be public hearings that will be held in consideration of the proposal, which will allow community members to attend and provide input. I strongly encourage you to attend those public hearings to make your comments and feelings known. I often hear from people who stop in the office who express their displeasure with certain parts of projects or just the concept of projects generally. Although I love to talk with them and banter about philosophical ideas about the pros and cons of TIF's, or the economic design of our country, they need to express those ideas to their elected or appointed members of committees. I don't get to vote on most or any matters that come before the Village. I get to implement those decisions and I try to create the environment to make them successful. Get involved and let your thoughts be known!

Next, the Village continues to work with the Maple Bluff Country Club in its pursuit of some physical changes to the club, including the first priority right now which is the replacement of the MBCC Pool. On our side, the most significant work being done right now is in the rewriting of the lease of that property. Beside the work on the lease, the MBCC is working on its fundraising for this project. I am anticipating engineering documents from the MBCC, which should allow the Village to review. Then work with our village engineer to replace a water main that loops up and around the Country Club property and driveway from Lakewood Blvd over to Kensington. The village will also review plans for a path to allow kids to bicycle safely from the club down to the beach.

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The Village Board is also moving in the direction of a Full Property Assessment Revaluation in 2015. I am awaiting confirmation that the assessment company can complete this work, but I fully expect that they will do so. As many of you are aware, after the economic downturn in 2008, the value of many properties were affected, and most went down. Because the great value discrepancies, a full revaluation needs to take place. As this potentially moves forward, we will be in touch with you about those details.

There is a group working on a Veterans Memorial for the Village. A lot of great work is taking place by many of our residents to make this dream a reality. Stay alert for opportunities for contributions! Also, if you are aware of past village residents, who served in the military, get us their name, rank and branch of service.

I am quickly running out of space for my newsletter article and I probably left several topics out. I will try to catch up more next month. Until then, have a great Thanksgiving! Almost forgot to mention, the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on the Sunday after Thanksgiving! I can't believe I am writing this already.....where did my year go?

**Tim Krueger, Village Administrator/Police Chief**  
tkrueger@villageofmaplebluff.org | 244-3048 ext. 111



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Contact: Paul Rozeski Phone: 608-239-2944  
Email: paulr@bestversionmedia.com

### HOA SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Are you on the association board for your subdivision? Contact us for information on how you can submit articles, updates, reminders, events and more to the residents. We create customized Homeowners Association sections at no cost to the HOA or the residents.

### FEEDBACK/IDEAS/SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 13th of each month. Email your thoughts, ideas, and photos to: [evanderweele@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:evanderweele@bestversionmedia.com)

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Police Department (business line)..... 244-1430  
Village Center.....244-3048  
Public Works.....244-3048  
Wisconsin Poison Center (Control).....1800-222-1222  
Recreation.....244-3048

### TIMETABLE OF MAGAZINE DEADLINES

DUE DATE FOR CONTENT	MAGAZINE EDITION
December 13.....	January
January 13.....	February
February 13.....	March
March 13.....	April
April 13.....	May
May 13.....	June
June 13.....	July
July 13.....	August
August 13.....	September
September 13.....	October
October 13.....	November
November 13.....	December

*Magazines usually arrive within the first week of every month, but can vary depending on the post office.*

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# Dear Residents,

It was a beautiful day for a fall wedding. The bride decided the night before to have the ceremony outside the church. That afternoon, the cool air felt refreshing while the sun was shining down on us. And the trees and shrubs were still in bloom with a vibrant mix of greens.

As the bride walked down the aisle, she had a sparkle in her eyes and a big smile on her face. She looked stunning while her dress glistened in the sun. Her family turned to her while her father held her arm tight, knowing he would soon be giving away his youngest daughter, his little girl.

I could hear the tears in her voice as she said her vows while holding the groom's hands tight. After their first kiss as newlyweds, they turned to the audience with tears of joy in their eyes and quickly did their celebratory walk back down the aisle as a married couple.

This past weekend, I was Maid of Honor in my best friend's wedding. This is my second time as Maid of Honor; I was 16-years-old the first time when my sister married.

I will always be thankful I stood up in my friend's wedding. I know I may or may not stand up in a wedding again, so I will forever hold the memories and photographs from the special day when the first of my close friends tied the knot. The day will always be remembered and cherished.



That was my last wedding of the year and as I look at the calendar, I cannot believe it is already November. Time sure does fly fast! Enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with your family!

Best,

*Erin Vander Weele*

Content Coordinator  
[evanderweele@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:evanderweele@bestversionmedia.com)

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Want to learn more?

Please contact Christa Banholzer, Division Manager, at [cbanholzer@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:cbanholzer@bestversionmedia.com).

**THE 2014 CIP** is yet to be completed as I draft this article. With just a little more focused effort from our contractor, this project should be done by the time you are reading this newsletter.

I suspect that many contractors have been aggressively pursuing available projects all year. I would also suspect that some of those contractors were very successful in the bidding process that takes place for projects such as our own. You cannot travel anywhere without encountering large-scale street/highway reconstruction; it is seemingly everywhere. I would also suspect that some of those contractors, who were very aggressive in the bidding process, may have found themselves having to juggle resources in an attempt to maintain schedules. I would also suspect that there are some contractors who had to pull resources from project A to please owners of project B and so on and so on. I would also suspect that there are contractors that took on projects and met expectations and schedules. The season for construction is nearing the end for all of us. Fortunately, the Village has had project inspectors present throughout this campaign, assuring quality control no matter the finish date.

With this project running into the fall season, or as we see it, leaf collection season, I would like to share some suggestions. We are well aware of the restoration taking place in the project zones and how sensitive and fragile these areas are likely to be. None-the-less, it is on your terrace and not in the street where yard waste, leaves, and brush are placed for collection. I would recommend using the same place as much as practical without co-mingling unlike materials. We will see to it that restoration is revisited next spring as deemed necessary.

Also, keep in mind that our equipment requires an unimpeded

approach for collection to take place. Do not place leaves, garden material or brush around or near mailboxes, street signs or trees. This will only delay or prevent the collection to take place, as will parked cars or equipment that “cover” the location of yard waste. Please remember that “good housekeeping” is placing yard waste on the terrace and not in the street where it can be carried into the storm water system and end up in the lake. We all benefit from doing the right thing! We make every effort to collect waste in the entire Village each and every week at least once, BUT...no promises for the week of Thanksgiving, so get your raking done as early as possible.

I hate to talk about it, but winter is just around the corner. There are a lot of predictions suggesting as bad or worse for this year compared to last. We will get what comes, just be prepared and respond as necessary. If conditions are awful; stay off the roads if at all possible. If not, drive defensively. It is our goal to plow the roads every 2-3 inches during extreme snow events, so realize you may have to clear the drive or walk and mailbox more than once. PLEASE keep snow on your property and do not move it onto the neighbor's terrace, in the road, on the median strips or onto the golf course. Please inform your service providers.

The village will be looking for gardening volunteers. There will be opportunity along the 10/100/200/300 blocks of Lakewood Blvd. Contact the Village Center if you have an interest in beautifying the Village! Call with your questions and concerns. Thanks for your perseverance!

**Tom Schroeder, Public Works Director**

244-3048 ext. 120 | [tschroeder@villageofmaplebluff.com](mailto:tschroeder@villageofmaplebluff.com)

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# Maple Bluff Bulletin Board

## Maple Bluff Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

Join the annual tree lighting event on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 30 from 3:30-5:30pm at Johnson Park. Bring a treat to share!

The Fire Department will provide hot cocoa and a bonfire to keep everyone warm. There will also be a Santa Visit!



## Meeting House Nursery School Open House

Meeting House Nursery School is now taking names for the 2015-16 registration priority list. Call now! Open house is Sunday, January 18 from 3-4pm

900 University Bay Drive • Madison, WI 53705  
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## RAKE-A-THON

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>

Help us build our 15<sup>th</sup> home for our sponsored family!

We will rake your yard for a suggested donation of \$25 per person, per hour of labor; work groups of 4-6 volunteers will be assigned to each yard.

All proceeds go directly towards the construction of our family's home!



If interested...

Please sign up by Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> so we can plan ahead!

Any questions please call 217-714-7245



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**Basketball**

Basketball season is just around the corner with a number of Village youth playing this year. This year's offerings consist of K-8th grade. Teams that are made up of 3rd through 8th grade will be playing in various leagues around the Madison area. If you have a child that has signed up for basketball, the game schedules will be released in December. Games for most teams will start the weekend of Jan.10.



**Open Gym Hours**

Basketball practices will occupy a majority of gym time throughout the week to accommodate all of the teams this year. If you are looking for open gym hours, it is best to visit the Village's website at [www.villageofmaplebluff.com](http://www.villageofmaplebluff.com) and view the calendar of events on the bottom of the homepage. If there is nothing listed in the gym, it should be available for open gym. During open gym, you will need to share the space with other users. The intended use for open gym is for resident usage. Residents are allowed to bring up to 3 non-residents with them.

If during open gym hours you are noticing a lot of non-residents using the gym and not allowing residents to utilize the space, please contact me and I will look into it further.

**Kayak, Canoe & Paddleboard Program**

I hope a majority of you were able to take advantage of the free

canoe/kayak/paddleboard program the Village offers. Late in the summer, we built a better lock box for the paddles and life-jackets and changed the combination lock. If you utilize this program and use the equipment, next summer all equipment that is returned to the box must be hung up when you are done. This will help protect the lifejackets and the paddles. This program has now ended for 2014, we will move the equipment back to the beach house mid-April 2015.

**2014 Bocce Purchases**

I often times will hear people ask what the annual Bocce Tournament purchased this year with the funds raised. Here is a brief summary of what was funded through the end of October:

- Assistance in building the Warren Dailey Cabin
- New paddleboards
- Three Concerts in the Park
- Tables and chairs for the Warren Dailey Cabin
- Dog waste stations in the Parks
- Glass patio doors at the Beach Park
- Gaga Ball Pit
- Fest on the Fourth Inflatables
- Two new Maple Leaf Bike Racks at Firemen's Park

**Curt Erickson - CPRP**

Village of Maple Bluff Recreation Director  
608-244-3048

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SEPT 6, 2014 - OCT 5, 2014

	ADDRESS	BEDS	SQ FT	LIST PRICE	PRICE CHANGE	SOLD PRICE
<b>ACTIVE</b>	528 N Sherman Ave	3	1676	\$214,900		
	200 Kensington Dr	2	1135	\$259,000	-\$5,000	
	278 Kensington Dr	2	1839	\$285,000	-\$5,000	
	<b>330 Woodland Cir</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1888</b>	<b>\$335,000</b>	<b>-\$15,000</b>	
	826 McBride Rd	3	1684	\$419,900		
	318 Woodland Cir	5	2834	\$434,900		
	* 318 Kensington Dr	3	2000	\$487,500		
	<b>* 818 Charing Cross Rd</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2814</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>		
	801 Butternut Rd	4	2940	\$529,000		
	731 Wilder Dr	4	3548	\$789,000		
	403 Coleman Rd	5	4055	\$799,000		
	909 Farwell Dr	5	4368	\$889,900	-\$30,100	
	45 Cambridge Rd (Lake)	5	4200	\$1,249,900		
	<b>* 11 Cambridge Rd (Lake)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>\$1,375,000</b>		
	711 Farwell Dr (Lake)	3	2448	\$1,400,000	-\$200,000	
	615 Farwell Dr (Lake)	4	5252	\$1,450,000		
	1225 Farwell Dr. (Lake)	4	5604	\$1,595,000	-\$55,000	
	<b>307 Farwell Dr (Lake)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8545</b>	<b>\$2,200,000</b>		
<b>* 1155 Farwell Dr (Lake)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5423</b>	<b>\$2,200,000</b>			
45 Fuller Dr (Lake)	5	6598	\$2,749,900			
209 Farwell Dr (Lake)	4	4320	\$2,750,000			
<b>SOLD</b>	22 Burrows Rd	4	2606	\$350,000		\$317,000
	<b>11 Paget Rd</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>\$385,000</b>		<b>\$377,500</b>

\* = New Listing    **GREEN** = Sprinkman Real Estate Transaction  
 \* All statistics have been gathered from the SCWMLS and may not include homes sold by builders or without a Realtor.

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### Open House

We would like to thank everyone who was able to attend this year's fire prevention open house. In addition to our annual open house, we provide fire prevention presentations at the firehouse or your business throughout the year. Please contact the on-duty fire officer at 608-244-3390 to arrange your group's presentation today.

### Chimney Cleaning

As temperatures dip, many of you will begin using your fireplaces. As always, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department looks to prevent emergencies before they happen. In order to help prevent a chimney fire, please have your fireplace cleaned and inspected by a certified chimney sweep on an annual basis.

### Madison Marathon

On Sunday, November 9, 2014, the Madison Full and Half Marathons will be taking place. The course for each race will bring runners through the Village of Maple Bluff. Runners will be entering the north end of the Village on Farwell Drive near the Marina and exit the south end of the Village on Sherman Ave near Fullers Woods. Unfortunately this will disrupt traffic patterns in the Village from mid-morning until mid-late afternoon on November 9th. Police, fire, and EMS personnel will be positioned through the race course helping to direct runners and motorists alike. We apologize in advance for an inconvenience this may cause.

It was another fun year at the fire prevention open house.



### Badge Pinning Ceremony

On October 12, 2014 following our fire department open house, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department held its annual Badge Pinning Ceremony to officially welcome the newest members of our department. At the ceremony we officially welcomed three new interns: D'Andre Mackey, Jordan Pake, and Dylan Bowman. We also welcome three new volunteers to the department: Jeremy Ernst, Bryce Powell, Dontrell Mackey. Welcome to the MBFD!

Kristopher Loy, Assistant Chief

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## Butternut Squash Soup

BY JORDAN KING

2 tablespoons of butter or olive oil	2-3 dried bay leaves
2 cups of chopped leek (1 large)	1 roasted butternut squash
5 black peppercorns, crushed	3 cups of stock
5 allspice berries, crushed	4 cups of water
	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup roasted pine nuts
	salt to taste

**1.** Roast the squash flesh side down in an inch of water for 45 minutes at 375 degrees. **2.** In a stockpot, sauté the chopped leek in melted butter (or heated oil). **3.** Add bay leaves and crushed spices. **4.** Once the squash is cool, scoop out flesh and add it to the pot with the stock and water. Bring mixture to a boil for 10 minutes. **5.** While the soup is boiling, roast pine nuts (if necessary) in a toaster oven until golden. NOTE: They burn fast, be vigilant. **6.** Add pine nuts to soup and remove bay leaves. **7.** Using an immersion blender or a standing blender, blend soup until desired consistency has been reached. **8.** Salt to taste.

Serves: 4-6

## Simple Popovers

BY JORDAN KING

1 cup flour  
1 cup milk  
2 eggs  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt



**1.** Heat oven to 425 degrees and grease muffin pan. **2.** Blend all ingredients with a hand blender until smooth. **3.** Place greased, empty muffin pan into heated oven for 3 minutes. **4.** Remove the pan from the oven and fill each cup half full with mixture. **5.** Bake for 20 minutes at 425. **6.** Turn the oven down to 350 and bake for 15-18 more minutes. **7.** Turn the oven off and pierce the top of each popover to release steam. **8.** Return popovers to the oven for 5 minutes. **9.** Serve hot.

Makes 12 popovers

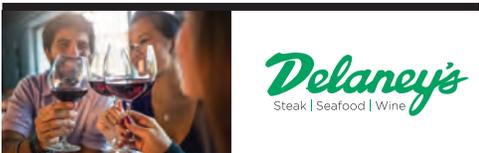


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**Restaurant Spotlight:**

**Otto's Restaurant & Bar**

OTTO'S RESTAURANT and Bar executive chef Karl Granberg says food is what inspires him.

"As a chef, I love being able to work with top-quality seasonal ingredients and coming up with specials to show them off," says Granberg.

He has been working at the restaurant for seven years. Otto's offers Mediterranean-inspired cuisine, fresh seafood and steaks served in a beautifully restored 1890s stone farm house. The restaurant is locally owned and loved for its excellent cuisine and professional service.

"I love the fact that Otto's has so many loyal, regular customers who really appreciate the quality and consistency that we work hard to deliver every day," says Granberg.

Located just east of West Towne Mall, on Mineral Point Road, the restaurant features a comfortable, classic bar offering fine wines, expertly mixed cocktails and microbrews. Often called the "Cheers" of the city's west side, Otto's bar is a popular gathering spot where regulars become friends and the bartenders take pride in knowing just how customers like their drinks.



"It's gratifying to see people really enjoying what we're doing," says Granberg.

Otto's staff is dedicated to providing great dining experience and is regularly recognized with Diner's Choice Awards for excellent service and consistent, high-quality cuisine.

"I think Otto's is so successful, and has been for the past 20 years because there's such a strong commitment to quality here and to doing whatever it takes to take care of customers. That also extends to the staff, several of whom have worked here twice as long as I have been at Ottos. That's pretty rare in the restaurant business and it makes for a really nice 'friends and family' atmosphere," says Granberg.



**Reservations are recommended and can be made at [www.ottosrestaurant.com](http://www.ottosrestaurant.com) or 608- 274-4044. Free parking is available. Otto's Restaurant & Bar – 6405 Mineral Point Rd., Madison WI 53705.**

**Hours:** Bar opens Tuesday – Friday at 3:30pm; Saturday at 4:30pm. Closed Sunday and Monday. Bar Happy Hour (1/2-priced appetizers) Tues.-Fri. 3:30-6:30pm; dinner Tues.-Sat. from 5pm.

**Promote your restaurant in one of the most exclusive guides in Madison. This section is in eight of the neighborhood magazines we produce in Madison, reaching almost 6000 hungry homes just like yours.**

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**Mermaid Theater of Nova Scotia's "Stella, Queen of the Snow"**

@Overture Center

Based on Marie-Louise Gay's book, (as well as its French-language edition, *Stella reine des neiges*) this version for the stage celebrates the antics of an endearing duo as they spend a day in the snow. The hour-long production features the puppets, striking scenic effects and original music that have earned international recognition for Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia.

Time: 3pm

Cost: \$18-23

[www.overturecenter.org](http://www.overturecenter.org)

THURS., NOVEMBER 20

**Morning Play Date**

@Dream Bank

Enjoy a morning of meeting new friends.

While kids enjoy interactive story time and crafts, grown-ups can explore new exhibits and enjoy a cup of coffee. Free snacks, fun, and learning - so bring your hungry bellies, listening ears, and colorful imaginations!

Time: 10-11am

Cost: FREE

[www.dreambank.amfam.com](http://www.dreambank.amfam.com)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**Holiday Craft Fair**

@St. Albert the Great

Catholic Church, Sun Prairie

Get ahead on your gift-getting! Enjoy cinnamon rolls and coffee as you stroll through over 70 booths. Lunch will also be served, a la carte. Handicap accessible.

Time: 9am-2pm

Cost: Free Admission

[www.saintalberts.org](http://www.saintalberts.org)

MON., NOVEMBER 24

**R.E.A.D. to a Dog**

@Hawthorne Library

This is a Reading Education Assistance Dog visit held at the Hawthorne Library on E. Washington Ave. Kids can bring a favorite book and read aloud to a furry friend. Time slots available on a first come, first-served basis.

Time: 3:30-4:30pm

Cost: FREE

[www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/hawthorne](http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/hawthorne)

TUES. DECEMBER 2

**Mannheim Steamroller Christmas Concert**

@Overture Center

They've sold over 20 million Christmas records and they still put on quite a show. Lights, sounds, and multimedia messages combine to make this Christmas concert one you and your family will remember.

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: \$39-\$90

[www.overturecenter.org](http://www.overturecenter.org)

THURS., DECEMBER 4

**Mess Monsters**

@Madison Children's Museum

Get messy in the art studio at the Children's Museum. This weekly art class is designed for the youngest visitors to the museum, ages 6



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Time: 11am

Cost: FREE with \$8 admission or season pass  
[www.madisonchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.madisonchildrensmuseum.org)

WED. & FRI., DECEMBER 5 & 7

### UW Women's Hockey vs. North Dakota

@La Bahn Arena

Watch the 4-time National Champions, the UW Badgers Women's hockey team, in a home game against the University of North Dakota.

Time: Wed. 2pm; Fri. 3pm

Cost: \$5 adult, \$2 children

[www.uwbadgers.com](http://www.uwbadgers.com)

FRI., DECEMBER 6

### "Lands in Limbo" Photography Exhibit

@Madison Museum of Contemporary Art

A photographic exhibit that takes you on a tour of "Lands in Limbo": Abkhazia, Northern Cyprus, Transnistria, Nagorno Karabakh, and Somaliland — many of which broke away from larger, recognized nations after bloody ethnic conflicts. Although their citizens have succeeded in securing new borders, these de-facto states continue to exist in a political, social, and cultural limbo. Until the international community recognizes and confirms their legitimacy, they remain detached from the rest of the world. Mahon artfully examines the conditions of everyday life

among these isolated communities as they grapple with matters of cultural and ethnic identity, economic hardship, and postwar devastation.

Time: 6-9pm

Cost: Free for MMoCA Members;

\$10 for non-members

[www.mmoca.org](http://www.mmoca.org)

SUN., DECEMBER 7

### John Oliver - Stand-Up Comedy

@The Orpheum Theater

John Oliver is an Emmy and Writer's Guild Award winning writer. His HBO show, Last Week Tonight with John Oliver, presents a satirical look at the week in news, politics and current events. On his occasional breaks from television, John returns to his first love of stand-up and plays to sold out venues across the US.

Time: 10:30pm

Cost: \$47

[www.madisonorpheum.com](http://www.madisonorpheum.com)

SAT. DECEMBER 6

### Kids in the Rotunda

@Overture Center

Davey Doodle and the Red Hots will get your toes tapping and bodies moving to their own unique interactive family fun music. Characters will come to life with songs about his dog Truffle Doodle, daughter April, and a stuffed brown bear named BB. They will also perform new classics for parties

and holidays with the Happy Happy Birthday song and the Very Scary Halloween song. Some members will be invited on stage to participate!

Time: 9:30 & 11am, 1 pm

Cost: FREE

[www.overturecenter.org](http://www.overturecenter.org)



TUES., DECEMBER 9

### RSVP for Astronomy 101

@Aldo Leopold Nature Center

This Astronomy 101 is a Home School Program on Tues., December 9th, but registration is due on the 5th. Spend an afternoon exploring the solar system, including planets, moons, and constellations. Register your child for all sessions or choose your favorite subjects. Fee: \$10/child individual class (Members get 10% off). All programs are appropriate for youth ages 5-12 years old.

Times: Varies - Check Website

Cost: \$10 per child (Members get 10% off)

[www.aldoleopoldnaturecenter.org](http://www.aldoleopoldnaturecenter.org); 608-216-9371

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**Timeshare available.** St Thomas, USVI - timeshare, July 3-10, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, plus fully equipped kitchen, dining area and family room sleeps 8, overlooks ocean, two verandas Marriott Frenchman's Cove- tennis courts, on beach, pool, water slides, grill out areas and much more. For more information, please call 608-213-8339.

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**CALLING ALL KIDS & TEENS!**

**Please see your personal copy of the Village of Maple Bluff Newsletter for the Youth Classifieds Listings**

Around this time of year, residents in your neighborhood may be looking for trust-worthy, friendly, familiar faces to help them out. We invite you to post your talents and abilities to the Youth Classifieds section of your neighborhood newsletter to advertise yourself and the jobs you are willing to help out with.

**It's easy to submit your ad to your neighborhood newsletter. Simply ask your parent for their permission. Then go to [www.bestversionmedia.com](http://www.bestversionmedia.com) and click "Submit Content."**

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**Good for Birds  
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Attracting birds to your yard in winter gives children a unique opportunity to notice the nature right outside their window. Nothing attracts them more than feeding them!

Providing feeders is an important and helpful action children can take to care for neighborhood wildlife. At the same time, this can become a fun, family activity. Feeding birds can lead to noticing all the different types of birds you have around your neighborhood, which seeds and/or foods different birds choose and what their different beaks look like! Children are naturally curious and interested in nature - join in!

This can be a fun way to learn about birds - so keep it fun!

**Ice Cream Cone Bird Feeder**

This simple feeder can be placed into a bush or positioned on a low branch. The recipe substitutes vegetable shortening or lard for peanut butter to aid in easier spreading, but feel free to use peanut butter - birds like peanut butter - it's high in fat and full of protein - important in winter!

**YOU WILL NEED:**

- flat-bottomed ice cream cones
- vegetable shortening or peanut butter
- corn meal
- birdseed
- plastic knife

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Mix the shortening or peanut butter with corn meal. This extends the amount of shortening you will need and is also readily eaten by many birds. Just begin adding in corn meal until you get to a gritty consistency.
2. Put birdseed in a bowl.
3. While holding cone, spread the mixture around outside top section.
4. Roll cone in birdseed.
5. Take completed feeder outside and place upside-down over branch in a bush or tree.
6. Watch and see who comes to eat!

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