Village of Maple Bluff

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

December 2019

Welcome

Calendar of Events

December

3	Parks, Recreation & Board of Harbor Commissioners
10	Village/Building Board Meeting
25	Christmas Day

January 2020

1	New Year's Day
14	Village/Building Board Meeting
24/25	Winterfest

February

2	Groundhog Day
11	Village/Building Board Meeting
14	Valentine's Day

The Village Office & Public Works Department
will be closed
Dec 24 & 25, Jan 1

Village Board

President Timothy O'Brien.....246-0321
Trustee Kevin O'Driscoll.....298-7102
Trustee Patrick Grant.....217-1815
Trustee Kristine Jaeger.....217-1919
Trustee Eric McLeod.....244-1371
Trustee Jim Schuler.....249-1696
Trustee Carl Vieth.....249-4647

Village Departments

Administrator/Police Chief Tanner Nystrom.....244-3048
Clerk/Treasurer Sarah Danz.....244-3048
Deputy Clerk/Clerk of Court Rene Dopkins.....244-3069
Rec. Dir./Deputy Treasurer Curt Erickson.....230-7655
Police 244-1430
Public Works.....244-3048
Fire & Rescue.....244-3390

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Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 7:30am-5:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30am-7pm
Saturday: 8am-12pm
Closed Sunday

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Dear Village of Maple Bluff Residents,

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your new Administrator and Chief of Police. I am very appreciative to once again work for you, and with the village staff, as we contribute to our community's well-founded reputation and maintain a long tradition of distinguished public service. During my application process, I stated that I think you deserve a dynamic leader with the ability to build off of past successes, attend to evolving challenges, and exceed your expectations in governance. I also acknowledged that we have a noteworthy undertaking of balancing historic cultural values and quality of life expectations with responsible financial decisions; despite many complex environmental and social challenges present today. I look forward to this opportunity, one that allows me to continue my life-long calling as a public servant and make a positive impact on the lives of those who live in and serve our community.

Naturally, you may be curious of who I am and how I came to be your Administrator and Chief. I grew up in Madison and joined the United States Marine Corps after graduating from West High School in 1998. I then spent the last 21 years serving on both active and reserve duties – domestically and overseas – in the infantry and intelligence communities. I retired earlier this year and, looking back on my service, am extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve our nation while also learning to lead diverse teams and impact the lives of those with whom I served. As you may already know, I also worked for the village as a part-time law enforcement officer and investigator from 2012 to 2018. I served our community while attending the UW-Madison, which culminated when I earned a Master's Degree in Public Affairs from the LaFollette School. I left the village in early 2018 to work as a National Security and Intelligence Specialist for the United States Attorney's Office here in Madison. During the course of my professional and educational pursuits, I had the privilege to work among numerous officials, public servants, and academics; as well as alongside our exceptional village staff. Although unexpected, I was especially pleased when presented with the opportunity to come back to Maple Bluff: I have personal knowledge and great appreciation for our community's dedicated support, family-oriented values, and citizen involved approach towards governance.

I look forward to meeting each of you as well as serving alongside our elected officials and dedicated staff to provide our village with exceptional public services. As a leader, I hope to develop and inspire trust, purpose, selflessness, and camaraderie. To achieve these aims I intend to employ a leadership philosophy that emphasizes commitment, flexibility, responsibility, clarity, example setting, and rewards. I believe in focusing on improving the lives of individuals and putting the needs of others

Sarah Danz, Tanner Nystrom and Tim O'Brien

first, which ultimately results in their personal growth while enhancing organizational health and resiliency. In short, I plan to care for those who serve us and believe that in doing so we will gain collectively from their development and success. I will serve our community to the best of my ability and I look forward to the coming years with you. I am extremely honored and humbled to serve as your Administrator and Chief of Police.

Sincerely,

Tanner Nystrom, Village Administrator/Chief of Police

Public Works

Seasons: By: Tom Schroeder

It was the best of times…it was the worst of times. With the mood swings of Mother Nature this year and last year, you would think we could get a break here or there. We did experience something extremely different as we had insult added to injury with an early arrival of winter conditions and virtually little to none for fall weather to enjoy. Whatever our desire when it comes to weather, will take what we get…and like it…or at least deal with it as best we can.

As mentioned, that weather has been a challenge for most outdoor activities. It certainly did not provide our department with any favors. It has warmed up enough to erase signs of the early snow and allow us to get back on track with yard waste and leaf collections. I would like to commend and thank those who continue to be good stewards and neighbors by placing materials for collection properly on the terrace and not in the street. I also need to point out that we still have residents, or their service providers that place materials onto the street where it is only a rainfall away from flowing into the lake and or clogging the storm system. This year we were only a snow fall away from redistributing the leaves in the street to all of the neighbors downstream, so to speak. Voluntary compliance please; Thank You.

Mentioning outside activities impacted by the weather would have to include private home construction and landscape disturbance. We are witness to so many active work sites that storm water control receives the least amount of attention. What we see ranges from poorly installed or missing control measures. The effort does not stop once the proper appurtenances are in place, it has only begun. These same items require constant maintenance to maintain integrity. Storm water and erosion control receives little or no attention once the project begins. While this should be attended to by the contractor, any fines levied will likely go to the property owner. Voluntary compliance please; Thank You.

One more item regarding active project zones is specific to contractors and the parking of their vehicles and equipment. There is a tendency to swarm the job location and place trucks and equipment on both sides of the street creating a hazardous driving condition or an impossible pass through for emergency vehicles. Please request that your service providers park on your property or on one side of the street to allow for better traffic flow. Also, inform them that there is an ordinance that requires a permit to occupy right of way. We see contractors dumping materials onto the street; equipment parked over night; downing of trees onto the street. These actions without prior consent are fineable offenses. Voluntary compliance please, Thank You.

Please be good neighbors and inform your service providers of these concerns.

More winter to come! Snow removal from the streets evenly divided from the center of a road to the side of the same; we are an equal opportunity snow plowing department. Snow from driveways and sidewalks should remain on the property of origin; please do not place snow onto streets or other property other than your own.

Welcome to the holiday season! Hope your Thanksgiving was full of warmth and tidings spent with family and friends and that you get the Christmas Spirit and spread the joy of the season with all who are important to you…and even those who aren't.

The Village of Maple Bluff has been my day time home going on 29 years…it has been and continues to be an incredible journey, and a wonderful way of life. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

P.S. "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "It's a Wonderful Life" are must see holiday TV.

Trash/Recycling
Trash pick up is shaded, recycling dates are circled

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

PHOTOGRAPHED AT FONTAINE HOME
by BARRY AVERY

tis the season

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PROPERTY TAX BILL INFORMATION

December 16th, 2019 is the statutory deadline for property tax bills to be mailed. If you have not received your property tax bill by December 18th, please call the village center at 608-244-3048.

Payments can be mailed or dropped off at the village center, 18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704. Office hours are 7:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. The office will be closed on December 24th & 25th and January 1st. There is a payment box located in the vestibule of the village center if you are dropping off a payment after hours.

First installment payments are due by January 31, 2020 to the Village of Maple Bluff to avoid interest and penalties. Second installments are due to Dane County by July 31, 2020. If you want to include your property tax payment on your 2019 income taxes, that payment needs to be made on or before December 31, 2019. Please include the bottom portion of your tax bill when making payment.

NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the Village of Maple Bluff, on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term for village trustees will begin on April 21, 2020. All terms are for two years unless otherwise indicated.

Office	Incumbent
Village Trustee	Patrick Grant
Village Trustee	Kristine Jaeger
Village Trustee	Kevin O'Driscoll
Municipal Judge – 4 year term	Denis Vogel

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a village caucus for the purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the above listed offices will be held on January 14, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Village Center, 18 Oxford Place.

DOG AND CAT LICENSING

The Village of Maple Bluff requires licensing of all dogs and cats kept within the village. Licenses will be available for purchase beginning December 16th and are valid for the 2020 calendar year. The cost for dogs is $20.00 whether spayed/neutered or not. The costs for cats are $12.50 for spayed or neutered pets and $18.50 for un-spayed or un-neutered pets. You will also need to provide a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination, with expiration date, when obtaining a license. Licenses can be obtained at the Village Center, 18 Oxford Place.

EMPLOYEE GIFT GIVING POLICY

The Village of Maple Bluff has an established policy regarding the acceptance of gifts by village employees. Over the years, village residents have been generous during the holidays in expressing their thanks for the hard work of our employees throughout the year. In light of potential liabilities stemming from the acceptance of certain types of gifts, restrictions are placed on what gifts employees may accept. The policy directly prohibits any village employee from individually accepting alcoholic beverages and/or receiving monetary gifts from village residents.

After the holiday season, a party is held for all village employees in appreciation of their hard work. Residents who wish to contribute to the village employee holiday party are asked to direct their gifts to the Clerk/Treasurer to ensure that the gifts can be shared equally by all employees. All gift money collected will be used to pay for the holiday party. A sincere Thank You to those who have contributed to date. The employees of the Village of Maple Bluff take pride in their work and thank residents for their cooperation and support throughout the year.

Calling all villagers!
The magic of winter arrived early this year
let's embrace the longest season and celebrate the sight of snow!

Monday, Jan. 20
The Medallion's hunt
The first clue @ 4 pm will be posted via village email, and posted on the Village Boards! Hidden somewhere in the neighborhood is a treasured medallion (a bedazzled blue skillet). Follow the daily clues to the treasured hiding place! The prize for the medallion finder is $100, to be presented at the Saturday evening festivities.

Friday, Jan. 24
Euchre Tournament at the Beach House
Come one, come all! If you like euchre, beer or neighborly bonding this is a CANNOT MISS event. Or, if you like only one of the above, this is a CANNOT MISS event. Festivities begin at 6:30--We will feature premium beers, bubbles/wine and delicious pizza from Pizzeria Uno. Don't play euchre? We'll teach you! You will be randomly paired with partners and meet new friends and neighbors! Registration will end at 7:30pm, followed by rules and tournament play at 8 pm. Villagers too chicken to play cards are encouraged to attend and volunteer as beer maidens. Winners in top 3 places receive cash prize and neighborhood glory. Following the tournament which will end at approximately 9:30 pm, we will commence a mega-dance party. Cost is $20/player and includes buy in, pizza and one premium beer or glass of wine. Add unlimited beer/wine for $10. If you think you have the panache to topple one of last year's winners and you wish to lob some smack talk -- send it over to Jake Davie, Bruce Morrow and Trevor Stebbins who came in 1-2-3 in 2019.

Saturday, Jan. 25 4:30 to 8pm
Winterfest at the Beach House
This year, we'll give another go at celebrating the magic of winter under a night sky. Last year, we were thwarted by a polar vortex (one of many). If any villagers have an in with Old Man Winter, we are shooting for temps > 30 degrees, but we would settle for anything over 20. The chili cook off will begin before sundown and we'll polish it off by the light of the moon. Rookie and veteran chili cookers are encouraged to enter the contest and try to dethrone last year's winner, Jeff Masciopinto. This year we also hope to see the return of two legendary chilis missing in 2019; Derek Paulowski please bring back the bacon chili AND Froncek family please send your spice with a return of the 3C chicken-chorizo-chili ***

Chili, fixings, hot dogs, chips, and cookies will be included with the cost of admission ($5 per set of teeth) and honestly, what else do you need to feed your kids beyond what is cited above? Beer and water included with admission -- parents use your judgment here. Activities for all ages including the iconic Ididerdad Race, Ice-fishing, skating, a Snowman Contest and a roaring bonfire! Stop for a bite or spend the night with us! We also need volunteers -- don't make us beg, people.

***Chili cookers, please drop off chili at 430 pm and label your crockpots on the bottom and plan to pick them up after the cookoff. No one likes an abandoned crockpot and unlike euchre players after Friday night, they cannot walk home.

This is a great event to spend time with your neighbors during the winter months.

We would Love your Help!
Please contact Erin Vincent • vincent.erin@gmail.com

Parks & Recreation

Firemen's Park Master Plan

Over the course of the past several months, the Parks, Recreation and Board of Harbor Commissioners has been working with Ayres' Associates to complete a Master Plan for the redevelopment of Firemen's Park. The Committee has offered two opportunities for community engagement which has helped narrow the focus of a new design. The Committee will be reviewing draft plans within the next two months. Plans will be made available on the Village's website, as well as, on other media platforms. If you have questions or would like to provide input regarding Firemen's Park, please contact Curt Erickson at 230-7655.

Summer Concerts 2020

The Recreation Department has scheduled six concerts in the park in 2020. The line-up offers a nice variety of music. Concerts will once again be held on Monday evenings. Information regarding the line-up will be made available at a later date. If you or your company are interested in becoming a partner with the Village in sponsoring our series, please reach out to Curt Erickson.

Resident Key Fob Program

Early in 2019, the Village introduced the key fob program for residents to utilize facilities while they are "closed". In the inaugural year a total of 34 families have purchased the fobs. By obtaining a fob, the Village has provided access to the Beach House, Dailey Cabin and Village Center/Gym when the buildings are locked for bathroom purposes. Those families that have enrolled the program have provided positive feedback with this added amenity to our parks. If you are interested in obtaining a key fob, please visit the Village's website and complete the form and drop off a $60 payment.

Recreation Programs

Basketball
1st & 2nd Grade
Sundays January 5 – February 9
Boys: 1:30pm – 2:15pm
Girls: 2:30pm – 3:15pm
Min./Max.: 8/16
Fee: $43.00
This instructional basketball program will develop essential basketball skills in dribbling, passing, shooting techniques, movement without the ball and positioning. Each meeting participants will focus on a variety of skills. Participants will receive a basketball.

Dodgeball
Thursdays, 1/9 – 2/27
5:00pm – 6:00pm
Ages: 7 – 12
Min/Max: 12/40
Fee: $40.00
Are your kids feeling cooped up as the winter months drag on? Sign them up to dodge, dip, dive and duck in this playground favorite game on Thursday afternoons.

Conceal & Carry Course
Saturday, January 4
9:00am – 12:30pm
Fee: $55.00
Ages: 21+
Min./Max: 8/20
Earn a conceal and carry permit by attending this professional course taught by the Maple Bluff Police Department. Attendees are asked to bring writing materials to take notes.

Recreation Programs Cont.

Battledarts
Friday, January 24th
Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Fee: $20.00
Location: Gym
Ages: 7 – 15
Team Capture the flag
- Party is divided into 2 teams with each team having a (base) with their teams flag
- Object is to return opposing teams flag to your base
- If player is hit with dart during game, they return to their base for a 10 count, then back to the action
- Player who takes flag from base cannot pass it to another teammate
- Timed game, ties decided by sudden death

Single Flag capture
- Party divided into teams with each team having a (base)
- Single flag in the center of the battlefield
- Object is to bring flag to your base without being hit
- If player is hit with dart during game, they return to their base for a 10 count, then back to the action
- Timed game, ties decided by sudden death

Team Elimination
- Party is divided into teams.
- Once hit with dart, player is out until 1 team is left standing
- Timed game, ties decided by most players left on a team at the end

All for one/Zombies
- No teams
- Last one standing wins
- Once hit with dart, player give official their blaster and become a zombie!
- If a zombie is hit with a dart they are out until the next game
- Zombies try to tag players still in game, if tagged player becomes zombie

MAYHEM!
- Just as it sounds no one is ever out

Trips

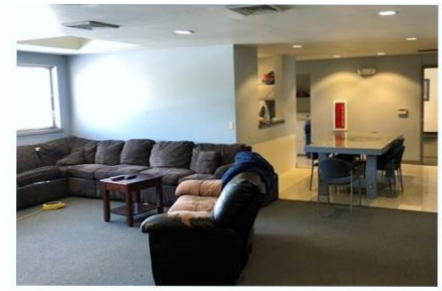
Cascade Mountain Ski/Snowboard
Monday, January 20th
8:45am – 5:00pm
Fee: $63.00
Ages: 7 – 16
Min./Max.: 14/24
Hey kids, join the Monona, Cottage Grove & Maple Bluff Recreation Departments for an awesome day of shredding down the slopes of Cascade Mountain. Enjoy the mountain on your skis or snowboard. There will be a separate waiver form for rental of equipment. Fee includes bus transportation, lift ticket (if you have a season pass, discounted rate is available), supervision, lunch ticket and rentals (if necessary).

Milwaukee Bucks vs. Chicago Bulls
Monday, January 20th
12:00pm – 9:00pm (or earlier depending on the end of the game)
Fee: $73.00
Ages: 7 - 15
Min./Max.: 14/22
Join Maple Bluff and Cottage Grove Recreation as we venture to the Fiserv Forum for an afternoon of Milwaukee Bucks basketball as they take on the Chicago Bulls. This trip has been scheduled for MLK Jr Day with a tip time of 4:00pm. Participants will have the opportunity to attend shoot-around leading up to the game with the potential to meet the players. Food and beverage is not part of the package, so please send money with your child. DEADLINE to register: December 15th.

Maple Bluff Firehouse By Kristopher Loy

Response Data: The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department has responded to 107 emergency calls for service with an average response time of 4.18 minutes (dispatch to on scene) in 2019.

Kitchen Remodel: The MBFD is currently remodeling our kitchen/living room at the firehouse. This is the first update to these heavily utilized spaces since the Village Center was constructed 20 years ago. Our live-in interns, volunteers, and full-time staff use the kitchen and living room while we are on call at the firehouse. The remodel itself is being funded with the Village's Capitol Improvement fund. Thankfully this will cover the physical infrastructure (flooring, cabinets, plumbing, electrical, etc.), but we need your help. In an effort to provide our personnel with the comforts of home while volunteering their valuable time at the firehouse, we are asking for financial donations to help purchase new kitchen appliances, kitchen utensils, living room furniture, laundry, etc. If you're interested and/or willing to help the MBFD fund these items, please contact Chief Kristopher Loy 608-244-3390 or kloy@villageofmaplebluff.com.



Vegetation Fire: At approximately 10:30am on Sunday, November 10, 2019, our department was dispatched to a vegetation fire near the Maple Bluff Country Club's maintenance facility. Fire crews arrived on scene to find a 20ft x 40ft vegetation/compost pile with active fire present. Fire crews made their initial fire attack and simultaneously requested the assistance of the Maple Bluff Department of Public Works to help spread out the compost using a skid-steer. The fire was located in an area with limited fire hydrant access and crews laid over 400ft of supply hose to establish an adequate water supply. Fire crews were on scene for nearly two hours and able to sufficiently cool the smoldering compost. No firefighters or civilians were injured at this incident and the fire damage was contained to natural vegetation. No physical structures were damaged. We were assisted at the incident by the Maple Bluff Department of Public Works, Maple Bluff Police Department, and maintenance staff from the Country Club.

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