



#### Calendar of Events

#### August

- 9 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 9 Election (Partisan Primary)
- 18 Municipal Court

### September

- 5 Labor Day
- 8 Municipal Court
- 13 Village/Building Board Meeting

#### October

- 11 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 13 Municipal Court

#### Trash/Recycling

Trash pick up is shaded, recycling dates are circled

July							August								
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31															

Trustee Kristine Jaeger217-1919
Trustee Kevin O'Driscoll298-7102
<b>Trustee</b> Ellen Reyerson(651) 890-6093
Trustee Mike Wittenwyler358-1800
<b>Trustee</b> Jim Schuler249-1696
Village Departments
Administrator/Police Chief Tanner Nystrom244-3048
Clerk/Treasurer Sarah Danz244-3048
Deputy Clerk/Clerk of Court Rene Dopkins244-3069
Rec. Dir./Deputy Treasurer Curt Erickson230-7655
<b>Police</b> 244-1430
Public Works244-3048
Fire & Rescue244-3390

President Carl Vieth.....249-4647

Trustee George Brown.....246-8422

Village Board







September

12 13 14 15 16 17 19 20 (21) 22 23 24 26 27 28 29 30

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Mark S. Farnan

# Dog Days of Summer. By: Carl Vieth, Village President

As we enter the dog days of summer, I encourage all to be mindful of the risks of heat, and how to manage them. First, be aware of the forecast and plan ahead to make sure you are dressed appropriately and have plenty of water at hand so you can remain well hydrated. Second, plan your activities to include rest stops and opportunities to cool down during outdoor activities. Next, sunscreen! Apply liberally and often – especially after a dip in the pool or lake. Finally, be sure to have a "buddy" with you, or at a minimum, someone who knows where you are and what you are doing in case of an emergency.

As a member of our community, please take time to check in on your neighbors, and make sure they are in a safe environment. Limit watering of lawns and flower beds to the early morning or early evening – watering during the day is minimally effective and wastes a precious resource. Be sure to dispose of garden debris and tree branches correctly. This means grouped in separate piles and on the terrace adjoining the street – not in the street or curb. Debris in the street impedes stormwater drainage, causing pooling in the roadway – not good!

Also, as we think about summer weather, be aware of the insidious (and sometimes not so insidious) impacts of the changing climate on our weather patterns. As predicted, we are experiencing an increase in the number and severity of our summer storms. High winds and heavy rains are going to continue and be more prevalent into the future. I mention this because as time goes on, we need to adapt to the "new normal". Planting trees that are more resilient to strong winds, selecting appropriate building materials for remodeling projects, and landscaping to accommo-

date large volumes of rainwater that appear over a short period of time.

Just as we residents are adapting, so are our village services. We have made a concerted effort to improve communications through NIXLE alerts, email blasts, and social media. If you haven't signed up – you can link through the Village of Maple Bluff home page. Our Public Works Department has been able to flex to meet the demands posed by significant storms. As an example – virtually every home in The Bluff experienced some damage during the most recent severe storm. In addition to significant damage to Village trees, the Public Works staff were faced with a mountain of residential storm debris. Yet within two weeks – all was cleaned up! Amazing!

Our protective services, Fire/Rescue and Police, have also had to pivot to meet new public safety challenges. Of particular concern are an increase in downed power lines and related power outages. Most every home in the Village has experienced some degree of power interruption as well as interruptions to phone and internet services. This is likely to continue into the future, so have a "back up plan" and be ready for when they occur. By the way – a weather radio is a great idea!

In closing, I'd like to recognize the contributions and hard work performed by our Public Works, Fire/Rescue, Parks, and Administrative Departments in keeping the Village residents safe and secure through these challenging times.

Walk, bike, and drive safely

Carl



# August 9th Election Information

Partisan Primary Election means you can only vote for candidates of one political party. It is always best to select a party first and then select candidates. If you cast votes under multiple parties, without selecting a party, none of your votes will be counted.

Registering to vote or checking registration status Please visit myvote.wi.gov to verify registration status. Mail-in and online registration is closed. Please visit the Village Center in-person, during regular office hours, to register. Registration on Election Day is also available.

Requesting an absentee ballot If you are a registered voter and wish to request an absentee ballot, please visit myvote.wi.gov to complete your request.

**Before returning your ballot** Verify that there are two signatures, both voter and witness, and the witness address on the absentee envelope. Your ballot can not be counted if these are missing.

Returning your absentee ballot The use of drop boxes and hand delivering someone else's ballot are NOT allowed. Voted ballots should be mailed back via USPS or hand delivered by the voter directly to a staff member during regular business hours or on Election Day.

**Election Day** Polls at 18 Oxford Place will be open from 7:00am until 8:00pm on Election Day.

**Regular Office Hours** 8:00am-4:00pm Monday – Friday

Please feel free to call 608-244-3048 with questions.

# Greater Opportunities to Serve! By: Tanner Nystrom, Village Administrator/Police Chief

As we enter the month of August, we find ourselves full-swing in our summer routines – elections, budgeting, heightened maintenance, community programming, and special events are just a few of the additional priorities our small team have this time of year. As such, I sincerely thank our elected and appointed officials, as well as our volunteers for their dedication and support to the community! We are very happy to see residents enjoying the opportunity to be outdoors, travel, and socialize after two unique years with COVID. A return to activity means Village Staff have greater opportunities to serve!

As you plan your late summer vacations, I encourage you to be mindful of security around your home and throughout the neighborhood. Please report nonemergent concerns to Dane County Dispatch at (608) 255-2345 and continue to dial 911 for emergency situations. Although there was a historic practice of calling the Village Center for non-emergent police matters, we need to minimize the potential for poor outcomes that can result from this habit - calls not responded to, messages not clearly conveyed, delayed officer response, officers arriving with incomplete information, etc. The dispatchers at Dane County are professionally trained to gather the precise information our public safety professionals need to respond to situations quickly and effectively. I also encourage you to notify us when you travel out of town or have overnight visitors by filling out a vacation request and submitting overnight parking requests. Our request forms can be found on the Police Department page of our Village website (https://villageofmaplebluff.com/ home/departments/police-department/). Effective and timely communication can make a significant difference in our ability to respond quickly and deliver public

services effectively. I sincerely appreciate everyone's assistance in keeping our village safe.

I would like to publicly congratulate and thank our Public Works Director, Tom Schroeder, for yet another year of service. On July 29th, we celebrated Tom's 31st year of service to the Village of Maple Bluff. Truly an accomplishment by a man who exemplifies our core values of integrity, compassion, trust, and dedication! On July 15th we also celebrated Recreation Professional's Day here in the front office and, although the gesture is small, I want to thank our Recreation Director, Curt Erickson, for all his efforts to make summer programming a success, despite numerous challenges. Curt is an integral part of our administrative team and during the summer he is pulled in too many directions. Thank you for your consistent hard work and dedication!

As we embark on the second half of 2022, we continue to seek ways to improve the experience and value of our community. Staff and I are very appreciative to work for a community who supports us and values our contributions. My leadership team will continue to address the dynamic challenges presented to us, and among our top priorities are to attract and retain the great people who serve our residents! An organization is only as good as the people it is composed of – we will continue to find and keep individuals who demonstrate our values and find purpose in our mission. Thank you all for your support and continuing to look out for one another.

Sincerely,

Tanner A. Nystrom





# Public Works Update. By: Tom Schroeder, Director Public Works

Village staff and engineers will be looking for the best access and approach to several off-street sanitary sewer pipes. We have sanitary sewer along the lakeshore at the 300 block of Lakewood, and the 200 – 900 blocks of Farwell Drive. We also have off-street sanitary between New Castle and Laurel, Lakewood and Charing Cross, and Farwell Court and Bay Ave. There are 2 lines that go from Fuller Court to Sherman Avenue, also, a line that goes from Fuller Drive to Harbort Drive thru Burrows Park to Burrows Road and on to Bayside Drive and Old Shore Road. This will require a significant amount of coordination, communication and a fair amount of cooperation. The sanitary work will utilize trenchless technology...but we still need to get to all the manholes for inspection/cleaning/televising and installation of a pipe liner. Workers and their equipment will need access to these areas.

Along with the sanitary work we will also be replacing some old storm water outfalls that are reaching the end of their structural life. A storm line from Old Shore/Soccer field/Bay Avenue to Dengle's Bay. A similar pipe will be replaced from Chatterton's Pond to the lake at the SW corner of Beach Park. These areas will likely be trenched due to the size of the pipes involved. Additional lines would likely be lined.

We will be addressing tree needs from broken branches to removal of damaged trees as well as grinding stumps. Removing the stump/grindings/restoration will take place over the next few weeks. We are still discovering damage from the storm and still have a few ash trees as well as a few aging maple trees that will need removal.

The assault on weeds is under way once again. When we have an area and or tree base free of weeds, we will use some of our surplus mulch/chips to freshen the look. Weed control could be a full-time effort, we will do what we can to suppress the nemesis.

Call with your questions and concerns, thank you.





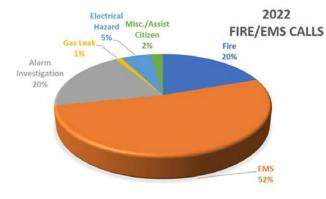




# Fire Rescue Department! By: Kristopher Loy, Fire Chief

**2022 Response Information:** As of July 26, 2022, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department had responded to 92 calls for service in 2022 with an average response time of 5 minutes and 19 seconds within the Village. Here is a list of the calls we've responded to.

Call Description	# Calls
Fire	18
EMS	48
Alarm Investigation	18
Gas Leak	1
Electrical Hazard	5
Misc./Assist Citizen	2
Total:	92



**2022-2024 Intern Class:** The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department would like to welcome our newest group of interns to the department. These four students moved into the firehouse in June and have been working diligently to learn everything they can about the fire service. They're currently working to obtain their EMT-B certification and will begin classes at Madison College this fall.



L-R: Abraham Ruiz, Ryan Thomas, Elijah Vance, Francisco Nava

**CPR Classes:** The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department is hosting CPR classes throughout 2022. These classes are being held at no cost to Village residents.

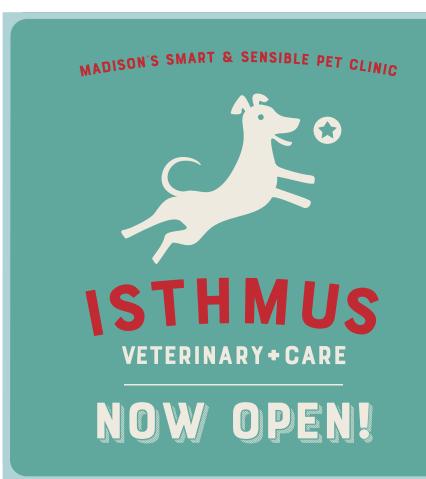
August 11, 2022: BLS Provider CPR October 15, 2022: BLS Provider CPR November 12, 2022: Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED

Please e-mail Lt. Doug Dietzen, ddietzen@ villageofmaplebluff.com to reserve a spot in any of our upcoming classes.

Structure Fire Response: On July 13, 2022 the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department responded as part of a Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) request into the Town of Dunn for a working structure fire. The McFarland Fire Department encountered flames issuing through the roof of the home upon arrival and requested assistance from 13 different fire/EMS agencies. Thankfully the occupants were able to exit the home safely and no one was injured.









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#### Firemens's Park

Over the course of the last year, the Village's Parks and Recreation Committee has vetted through extending the chain link fence that separates Firemen's Park from the Wisconsin and Southern Rail corridor for the safety of users at Firemen's Park. On June 22, the Parks and Recreation Committee presented the project to the Building Board and received approval to extend the fence which will connect to the northeast corner of the Village Center. The Village Board will have the project presented at the August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

# **Facility Reservations**

If you are interested in reserving the Beach House, Gym, or Dailey Cabin, please contact Curt Erickson at cerickson@villageofmaplebluff.com. The facility reservation request form can also be found on the Village's website under the Parks and Recreation page.

Upcoming rentals include Beach House, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and September 4<sup>th</sup>; Dailey Cabin, August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 11<sup>th</sup>; Gym, each Monday through September from 6:30pm – 8:00pm, August 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

#### **Beach House Hours:**

As the summer winds down, the Beach House will not be staffed after August 16<sup>th</sup> as the lifeguard team returns to school. If you need access to the Beach House, you can gain access through the key fob program.

Know the signs of blue-green algae and if present keep yourself and your pets out of the water. Blue-green algae blooms occur throughout the summer at the Beach and Marina. The water can appear like pea-soup and has a distinct smell. When in doubt, please stay out. Public Health Madison-Dane County does test the water quality on a weekly basis, but blue-green algae can appear within a few hours. For more information go to the following website: <a href="https://www.publichealthmdc.com/environ-mental-health/beaches-lakes-pools/blue-green-algae-precautions">https://www.publichealthmdc.com/environ-mental-health/beaches-lakes-pools/blue-green-algae-precautions</a>.

# **Programming:**

Fall Archery

Days: Wednesdays
Dates: September 7<sup>th</sup> –

October 12th

Time: 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Location: Gym Ages: 7 – 12 Fee: \$48.00



This fall session will work on safety, shooting techniques, accuracy and shooting with a compound bow. Each week the group will play fun games and have competitions.

Teen Fall Archery
Days: Wednesdays
Dates: September 7<sup>th</sup> –
October 12<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Location: Gym Ages: 13 – 17 Fee: \$48.00



This fall session will work on safety, shooting techniques, accuracy and shooting with a compound bow. Each week the group will play fun games and have competitions.

NFL Flag Football 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Days: Thursdays

Dates: September 8th - October 27th

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Johnson Park

Ages: 7 - 10 Fee: \$75.00

Learn the game of flag football in this NFL Flag Football program. Each participant will receive a replica NFL jersey and a set of flags. This instructional program will meet once a week with a 20-minute game at the end of each week.

The program will meet at Johnson Park. Volunteer instructors are needed.

## **Programming Cont:**

4th Grade Traveling

Dates: August 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: Johnson Park (Practices)

Games: TBD on Saturdays beginning in September

Ages: 9 – 11 Fee: \$85.00

Learn the game of flag football in this NFL Flag Football program. Each participant will receive a replica NFL jersey and a set of flags. Practices will be held once a week and will be subject to change based on volunteer coach's schedule, TBD, with games played on Saturday. This is a traveling team playing other Madison Area communities. This team will not be playing in the end of the year tournament. Volunteer coaches are needed.

5th Grade Traveling

Dates: August 23<sup>rd</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: Johnson Park (Practices)

Games: TBD on Saturdays beginning in September

Ages: 10 – 12 Fee: \$85.00

Learn the game of flag football in this NFL Flag Football program. Each participant will receive a replica NFL jersey and a set of flags. Practices will be held once a week and will be subject to change based on volunteer coach's schedule, TBD, with games played on Saturday. This is a traveling team playing other Madison Area communities. This team will not be playing in the end of the year tournament. Volunteer coaches are needed.

6th - 8th Grade Traveling

Dates: August 24<sup>th</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: Johnson Park (Practices)

Games: TBD Fee: \$85.00

Learn the game of flag football in this NFL Flag Football program. Each participant will receive a replica NFL jersey and a set of flags. Practices will be held once a week and will be subject to change based on volunteer coach's schedule, TBD, with games played on Saturday. This is a traveling team playing other Madison Area communities. This team will not be playing in the end of the year tournament. Volunteer coaches are needed.



K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Basketball

Dates: October 26 - November 16

Days: Wednesdays Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: Gym Ages: 5 - 8 Fee: \$50.00



This program teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory basketball games. Emphasis is placed on basic basketball skills such as dribbling, shooting, passing, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Chess

Dates: September 20 - October 25

Days: Tuesdays

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Beach House

Ages: 5 -11 Fee: \$80.00

Learn, Practice, and Play chess each class. Each class will have a new lesson and puzzle, as well as, guided games and in-class tournaments. Class fee includes Chesskid.com membership for the duration of the class.

**Coding Kiddos** 

Dates: September 19 – October 24

Days: Mondays

Location: Beach House

Ages: 5 - 7 Fee: \$76.00

Bring your stories to life with ScratchJr Coding! Participants learn the art of storytelling, create simple animations using code blocks, and are introduced to the world of coding all at the same time. Teamwork, collaboration, and inclusion are all on tap in this nurturing introduction to coding and storytelling.

STEM: Catapults & Dragons Dates: September 19 – October 24

Days: Mondays

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Beach House

Ages: 5 – 8 Fee: \$70.00

Build a dragon, railroad crossing, and design your own marshmallow catapult using LEGO bricks. Then use those projects to investigate basic engineering concepts.

# Youth Enrichment League Programs (YEL!) Cont.

Fencing

Dates: September 24 – October 29

Days: Saturdays

Time: 6:15pm – 7:15pm Location: Village Center

Ages: 9 – 18 Fee: \$84.00



Join this fast-paced, inclusive Olympic Sport. This class will teach fencers new skills each class, practice those skills in fencing games, and then encourages students to use those skills in fencing bouts. All fencing equipment is provided.

**Mad Scientists** 

Dates: September 21 - October 26

Days: Wednesday Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Beach House

Ages: 6 - 12 Fee: \$101.00

Make and take home a lava lamp, hover disc, explosive volcano, and of course...slime! Use all of these experiments to explore and discover the scientific method.

PreK & K Soccer

Dates: October 26 – November 16

Days: Wednesday

Time: 5:45pm – 6:45pm Location: Gym

Ages: 4 – 5 Fee: \$50.00



Get inside and get kickin'! We teach the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, receiving and scoring. Emphasis is on teamwork, fundamentals, safety and fast-paced action. Get your pulse pounding today.

**Junior Robotics** 

Dates: September 20 - October 25

Days: Tuesdays

Time: 5:50pm – 6:50pm Location: Beach House

Ages: 6 - 13 Fee: \$76.00

Build an alligator, race car and more. Then program the alligator to chomp, the car to rev, or design your own computer code to make them do whatever you want. Soccer K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Dates: September 20 – October 11

Days: Tuesdays Time: 4:30pm - 5:30p

Time: 4:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Beach Park

Ages: 5 - 8 Fee: \$50.00



Get outside and get kickin'! We teach the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, receiving and scoring. Emphasis is on teamwork, fundamentals, safety and fast-paced action. Get your pulse pounding today.

**Babysitter Training Course** 

Date: December 17 Day: Saturday

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm Location: Village Center

Fee: \$105.00
\* 8 spots remaining

Become a capable, confident babysitter that families want to hire. When you enroll in one of our Madison babysitting classes, you'll learn from the experts how to provide care to the kids in your neighborhood. From choosing age-appropriate activities, to keeping kids safe, handling a range of behaviors to building your babysitting business, our courses can help you become an in-demand sitter who can handle virtually any situation.

This class will not certify participants in CPR.

#### Trip

Cascade Mountain Trip Day: Monday (MLK JR Day)

Date: January 16, 2023 Time: 8:45am – 5:00pm

Fee: \$70.00 Age: 7 – 16

\*24 spots remaining

Hey kids, join the Monona, Cottage Grove & Maple Bluff Recreation Departments for an awesome day or night 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).









A portion of the younger members of Maple Bluff's Boy Scout Troop 5 spent the week of June 19 at Camp Tesomas in Rhinelander -

and had a blast! Big thanks to the adult chaperones who volunteered: Erica Gill, Jeff Audretsch, Patrick Grant & Trish Grant.





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# Amazing Fun in the Village By: Ellen Reyerson, Parks and Recreation Chair

As the August issue of our newsletter goes to press, we are thankful for all the amazing fun we've had this summer in the village. We saw the return of our beloved Bocce Bash, which raised over \$65,000! We'll put this money in our "bocce bank" and use some of the funds for making improvements at Johnson Park. It's never too early to start thinking about next year's Bocce Bash, so please be thinking about an event, vacation home, or special item you'd like to donate to the auction!

Following the Bocce Bash, we had our annual Father's Day Parade. Our stalwart neighborhood dads kept up the tradition of following the garbage truck down Lakewood in pilgrimage to the Beach House for bagels, coffee, and baptism of new dads:) Thanks to Jason Smith for organizing and to all the dads who participated!

We've also had a great summer of youth activities with many campers participating in Camp-ya-gotta-wanna and Arts & Athletics. April Grogan continues to keep the energy and enthusiasm high at Firemen's' Park for our youngest residents, and our Beach Park lifeguards are doing the same! Please check Beach Park "staffed hours" prior to visiting as we are short on staff this year, and have slightly reduced Beach House hours. Many village residents are also enjoying MBCC activities including tennis and swim team -- be sure to cheer on your Muskies at the swim and dive meets!

Finally, we were thrilled to bring back our Fest on the 4th. Despite overcast skies and bouts of rain, we had an amazing day! First, the Masciopinto family put on a wonderful 5K run through our village. Big thanks to them for coordinating registration, handing out tshirts, timing our runners, and setting up the postrun snacks! 40 Maple Bluff residents took part in the run, with (as expected) James Bickers coming out with the 1st place time! Hans and Biz Johnson's son-inlaw, Emilio Sanchez, took second place with life-long resident Johnny Walsh walking away with the bronze! If you didn't see these 3 men gliding down Lakewood Boulevard on July 4th, you missed witnessing real greatness. Jeff Olsen was not able to beat his brotherin-law, and took 4th place in that division. Ryan Dow hoped for a place on the podium, but as he was pushing 3 kids in a jogging stroller (up the Lakewood hill no less!) he placed 5th in his age group. Our more "experienced" runners in the 46-65 age group also had a nice showing with Derrick Herndon finishing first in his division.

Strong boys Oliver and Leo Dow tied for 1rst place in the kids division, and deny juicing while seated in their family stroller at any point during the route. Now-- on to the real heroes of this race -- our village women! Speedster Nicole Sandler handedly placed first place in 46-65 Ladies, as well as beat out her hubby Derrick -- bravo. Amanda McAllister came in 1st place for the 19-45 Ladies group, with Ellen Reverson just beating out Jessica McAllister for 2nd and 3rd place respectively. Ellen looks forward to aging up to the more senior division in 2025. For the young ladies aged 18 and under, Sadie Schroeder took first place. Last but not least, Henry Dow and Griffin Smith ran the "Sprint Course" for little kids, and took 1st and 2nd place respectively!

Following the run, Parade Marshal Jason Smith wrangled a fabulous lineup of firetrucks, police cars, emergency vehicles, floats, bikers and walkers! The entourage trekked all the way down Lakewood Boulevard, where parade float winners were crowned:

- Best motorized float: Pat and Linda McKenna's Mustang Convertible/Golden Retriever Galleon
- Most patriotic walker: Patrick Heaney in his American Flag suit
- Most festive bike: Griffin Smith

Fest co-chairs Sarah Pelleter and Erica Gill planned what many said was "the best fest ever" -- wow!!!!! Big thanks to these ladies for bringing some never-seen-

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before activities and fun such as a magician, Lily's Magical Treats Cotton Candy and Snowcones, and a bounce house! Weehoo, we had so much fun! Our hardworking Maple Bluff Fire Department put on a wonderful barbecue and raised much needed funds for their Firefighter's Association, which provides scholarship for firefighters and other items for the firehouse. Fire Chief Loy emceed the festival and rallied villagers to take part in the tug-of-war, wheelbarrow races, piggyback dash, and many others! Special thanks to our Troop 5 BSA who raised the flag and gave us the patriotic shivers as we played the National Anthem. Such a special fest!!!!

Unfortunately, rain began to fall as the fest wrapped up, but we do appreciate Mother Nature waiting to downpour until we had everything put away. At time of the ceremonial first pitch, the only creature on the field was a muskrat, who delighted in being first to round first base! Our brave village men were undeterred by the precipitation. Both teams used the rain delay to have a pre-game meeting and hydration session under the tent. Lower Bluff used this to their advantage, and came away with the win in the UB v. LB softball game 10-4! Pitcher and Team Captain Ed Jaeger denied his team the option for the extended pre-game in the tent, and held practice at Stoddard Park in the rain instead before he moved his crew down to the ball field. Athleticism was on display in this fierce fight, with Jeff Haupt coming away with the coveted MVP title after numerous diving catches in the outfield. And while he wasn't the only grown man wearing a batting glove to the game, he did have some clutch hits. While some men played in customary cleats and tshirts, Bob Rozmariek and Peter Wood wore golf-chic polos, and we appreciate them dressing







up. Chris Lucas received the award for most trash talk in the outfield, and Joe O'Connor had the most graceful slide into 3rd base--well done! The only player to hit a home-run was baseball bandit Joe Jones, who rounded the bases with grit and swagger never seen before in this series. On the flip side, George Cullen was the only former Division 1 athlete to strike out when he came up to bat -- but he looked graceful doing it. All the men played hard despite the rain delay, and did not flinch when baseball draft-dodger Kevin O'Driscoll began playing fetch on the field with his Golden-doodle in the bottom of the 4th inning. We were also fortunate to get the professional umpiring of baseball whiz, Carter Guglielmo and the always even-tempered, Jeff Cass, who called an honest game. Last but not least, we cannot fail to mention lower bluff hero, Casey Kinney, who saved a crowd of women and children spectators from a foul ball along the 3rd baseline, catching the ball WITH HIS BARE LEFT HAND! Maybe next year he will implement that strategy at 1st base? The crowd swooned and carried him on their shoulders all the way back to Woodland Circle after his incredible catch!



Coach Jeff was also kind enough to put on a kids-only softball game, and suffice to say that here Griffin Smith did not take home any prizes. In fact, he left mid-inning to go eat Goldfish in the beer tent, leaving Henry Dow all alone in center field. The Gill Boys, along with Finn Pelleter and Aidan Long, carried both teams with their years of baseball experience. Carter Guglielmo also played tremendously well, with some great hits and heroic catches! Coach Jeff did not let anyone off easy on the pitcher's mound, throwing one speedball after another over home plate. Wowzer, did the kids ever have fun and show us what the UB v. LB softball game might look like in 20 years!







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