# VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

# **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

December 2022



#### Calendar of Events December

- 8 Municipal Court
- 13 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 25 Christmas

#### January 2023

- 1 New Years Day
- 10 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 10 Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 20 Municipal Court
- 27-28 Winterfest

#### February

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 10 Municipal Court
- 14 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 20 Presidents' Day

## Trash/Recycling

Trash pick up is shaded, recycling dates are circled

December						January					February										
S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		5	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	(11)	12	13	14	1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	(14)	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	9	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	(28)	29	30	31	29	30	31					2	6	27	28				

## Village Board

0	
President Carl Vieth	
Trustee George Brown	
Trustee Kristine Jaeger	217-1919
Trustee Kevin O'Driscoll	
Trustee Ellen Reyerson	(651) 890-6093
Trustee Mike Wittenwyler	
Trustee Jim Schuler	249-1696

#### Village Departments

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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



# DO YOUR RETIREMENT PLANS LOOK LIKE THE KITCHEN DRAWER?



# Contact us to help straighten things out Call 608.807.1100





Mark S. Farnan

# Holiday Season! By: Carl Vieth, Village President

It happened so quickly, 2022 that is. Today we find ourselves in the midst of the holiday season; smackdab between Thanksgiving and the December holidays. Towards the end of the month, some of us will observe Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the Winter Solstice - or other holidays. But if those aren't enough, December is the month when we celebrate a number of other observances. For instance, December 7th is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, and December 10th is Human Rights Day. Holidays that remind us of the blessings of our freedom and provide us time to reflect on the sacrifices many have made to secure them. In December there are a multitude of other lesser-known celebrations that are of a more whimsical nature. December 4<sup>th</sup> is the day we observe both National Sock Day and Wear Brown Shoes Day. Tuesday December 13th is National Ice Cream Day, which pairs perfectly with National Cupcake Day, Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

So why lead with the talk of holidays? There are important themes that are common to holidays and observances. These include celebration, remembrance, and recognition of the contributions that many have given us. Yes, even brown shoes. The holiday season also reminds of the joys of peace, love and charity; as well as respect for our common goals and aspirations. Many of our civic organizations, religious communities, and service groups will organize food and clothing drives for those experiencing food and shelter insecurity. I ask that you find it in your heart to give to those less fortunate than us.



Unfortunately, the holiday season can also have a downside. This time of the year can be stressful and trigger mental health challenges for many. All too often events that should bring us joy and contentment are fraught with anxiety, depression, and resentment. Some are the result from unmet or unrealistic expectations, others the result of loneliness and isolation. Whatever the root cause, many will experience the difficulty posed by a mental health issue. I ask that you take time to look out for each other, visit your neighbors who are housebound, and offer to help those in need. Similarly, if you are experiencing a mental health challenge, reach out to family, friends, and healthcare professionals. In Dane County, we have a 24-Hour Mental Health Crisis Line: the number is (608) 280-2600, call if you need help! If you or a loved one are contemplating suicide, the national suicide hotline is also available 24/7, just dial "988". Help is there.

In closing, please, find it in your heart to be kind to yourselves and one another. As the Dalai Lama once said, "Be kind whenever possible, it is always possible". Peace.

Walk, Cycle, and Drive Safely

Carl



# Bring the Joy of Christmas to Less Fortunate Children

Please drop off a new, unwrapped toy (age 0-12) to the Village Center before December 13th.

Thank you for helping us spread good cheer this holiday season!



# Happy Holidays to All! By: Tanner Nystrom, Village Administrator/Police Chief

As we enter the last month of 2022, staff and I want to wish all of you, our residents, Happy Holidays! As you look to host family here in the village or travel to see loved ones, rest assured that village staff are working to ensure you can enjoy a safe and pleasant winter season. The annual holiday parade and tree lighting was a success due to the hard work and dedication of our Public Works and Fire Departments. I sincerely appreciate the time and care they put into the event despite their numerous other obligations this time of year. Similarly, our Administration and Police Departments remain diligent as the holiday activity at year's end keeps us busy as well. Just as we are thankful to serve this beautiful village for another year, I am thankful for the dedicated team I have, and family we build. Happy Holidays to all!

I would be remiss not to mention Holiday safety. As you travel out of town or have overnight visitors, please submit vacation requests, and overnight parking requests on our police department's page of the village website (https://villageofmaplebluff.com/home/departments/ police-department/). Vacation requests allow our officers to be watchful of your home while you are away and contact you should there be a need. As for parking, we generally prohibit vehicles from parking on the street overnight which ensures our Public Works crew can remove leaves, snow, and other debris. Off-street parking also ensures that emergency response vehicles can travel safely, while also arriving at any potential incident in the timeliest manner. Additionally, vehicles in the roadway during hours of darkness limits visibility of drivers, decreases safety of pedestrians, and enables cover for criminal activity.

As Madison grows around our village, our task to maintain order and safety becomes more challenging. As such, on behalf of your Police Officers, I ask for your continued assistance. Please report suspicious activity and safety concerns to the Dane County Dispatch at (608) 255-2345 and continue to dial 911 for emergent situations. Effective and timely communication can make a significant difference in our ability to respond quickly and deliver public services. Although we have a small team, you can rest assured that our public safety professionals are dedicated to our community and make every effort to fulfill our obligation to you every day. We strive to maintain exceptional services, develop trusting relationships, and maintain criminal deterrence in our community. Thank you for keeping our village safe and secure.

With safety in mind, please drive with caution and remember pedestrian safety. Our Police Officers are keenly aware of traffic safety importance, especially when roads get slippery and dark comes early. To help improve safety of our community, please consider wearing reflective clothing or carrying a light while walking/biking through the village at night. Drivers can find it hard to see and as a pedestrian focused community, we want everyone to stay safe during the holidays – "out at night, wear a light".

On a parting note, I want to thank Sergeant Jay Sugden for 25 years of service to the Village of Maple Bluff. Over the course of his career with the Maple Bluff Police Department, Jay has proven to be a compassionate leader, a dedicated public servant, and a faithful friend to many. We look forward to however many more years Jay will choose to serve with us. Congratulations Jay!

Thank you all once again and have a Happy Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Tanner A. Nystrom





# Pleasant November! By: Tom Schroeder, Director Public Works

All things considered this has been a pleasant November. The weather delivered not only one day but nearly an entire week at or near 70 degrees, very welcomed. There was likely some weather that would balance the scales such as heavy rain while we were still working on finishing our village wide collection for the week. Just a little bit of snow, very exceptional. For us in Public Works the conditions of November determine if it's a good fall collection season or a not so good fall collection season. It was good.

For all the late season raking taking place we will be collecting until the weather prevents our preferred collection process to take place. If snow covers leaf piles, we will do our best with our skid steer and plows.

By now, I've been preaching it for over 20 years, everyone should know that materials placed for collection need to be separated in like piles...and placed on the terrace and not in the street. This is not a fanciful request; it is the right thing to do. Items that are organized and separated and on the terrace are easier (efficient and effective) for our collection process. Also, the materials should not surround mailboxes; street/utility poles; trees; landscape rocks/ timbers; vehicles and equipment. The property owner is responsible for properly presenting materials for collection. Most of our village residents do a great job with this and you are not the intended reader that I want to reach. Everyone benefits when the materials are thoughtfully placed on the terrace, especially Lake Mendota. Materials placed on the street are a rainfall away from flowing down the street into the storm system and then directly into Lake Mendota.

Back to how good November has been...We have hired Vaughn Blaeser for an open part time position. Vaughn has exceptional experience from many years working for AT&T; SBC Wisconsin Bell. Having worked for a large utility provider wearing several hats transfers nicely with what we do here in Village of Maple Bluff Public Works.

And, equally exciting is that we have filled our open full-time position with an experienced applicant, Nick Ciabatti. His experience was working with us up until July of this year. Nick had an opportunity that he wanted to explore, he did, experienced what that opportunity provided, and has come back to us. We are very happy to have him back!

We are prepared for the upcoming winter season.

May your Holiday Season be wonderful and full of time spent with family and friends.

P.S. snow is to stay on property...not in the street or your neighbors terrace.

We have equipment and material at the ready for the winter season.



# \$10 OFF YOUR FIRST VISIT WITH THIS AD!



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

**2022 Response Information:** As of November 29, 2022, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department had responded to 129 calls for service in 2022 with an average response time of 5 minutes and 17 seconds within the Village. Here is a list of the calls we've responded to.

Call Description	#Calls	Electrical Chemical Misc./Assist Hazard Leak/Spill Chizen FIRE/EMS CALLS
Fire	23	Gas Leak 1% 2% Fire 1% 18%
EMS	73	Investigation 16%
Alarm Investigation	21	
Gas Leak	1	
Electrical Hazard	6	EMS S75
Chemical Leak/Spill	2	
Misc/Assist Citizen	3	]
Total	129	]

**Emergency Medical Services (EMS):** The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department is excited to announce that we will begin providing Emergency Medical Transport Services with our own ambulance in 2023. Our staff is working diligently with the State of Wisconsin EMS Office to obtain the approvals necessary to provide this service. We recently took delivery of a 2022 Lifeline Ambulance and are in the process of outfitting it with all equipment required to operate at the Advance Emergency Medical Technician Level.



**EMS Flex Grant Award:** The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department is happy to announce the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has awarded our department \$110,255.00 in EMS Flex Grant Funding.

Earlier this year, Governor Tony Evers directed the DHS to utilize \$12 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to assist EMS providers throughout the state. With an overwhelming response from over 400 applicants who requested \$63 million in assistance, the Governor recently provided an additional \$20 million in funding to the grant program. In total, 442 EMS agencies will receive much needed financial assistance.

The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department's Chief, Kristopher Loy, applied for the EMS Flex Grant in July of 2022 referencing several areas of need. Including updates to equipment/apparatus, staffing, training, and recruitment/retention. With the Village Board of Trustees approving the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department to begin providing 911 EMS transport services, the awarded grant funds will be utilized to supplement the recent purchase of our ambulance. This will help lessen the overall financial impact to our community.

The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department looks forward to the opportunity to continue to provide dedicated, quality, and companionate service to our residents and thankful for the continued support from our community and elected officials. We are beyond appreciative to Governor Evers and DHS for the funding support they have afforded us through this grant program.



**2023 Pancake Breakfast:** Save the date! The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Association will be holding their annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at the Maple Bluff Firehouse. Funds raised at this event will used to help financially support our intern and volunteer members through college and continuing education scholarships.



# Shop With A Cop

On Monday, November 21, 2022, the Maple Bluff Police Department accepted a donation on behalf of Shop With A Cop - Dane County, Inc for \$2,000 from Upper Iowa University. Shop With A Cop -Dane County, Inc. strives to create a positive interaction between law enforcement and the community by helping economically disadvantaged children shop for gifts for their families during the holiday season.

# **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 19th and are valid for the 2023 calendar year. The cost for dogs is \$20.00 whether spayed/neutered or not. The costs for cats is \$12.50. 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.





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# Parks and Recreation By:Curt Erickson, Recreation Director/Deputy Treasurer

## **Recreation Software Change**

The Village will be utilizing a new recreation management software called "RecDesk" in 2023. RecDesk will improve user experiences through lower credit card processing fees, the ability to reserve the gym, Beach House, and Dailey Cabin online, and sign up for the key fob program online. The Village's current provider, Active Net, will be deactivated once the new site is up and running.

#### Parks Key Fob Program

The 2022 key fobs will expire on January 3, 2023. To renew for 2023, residents will be required to fill out a new form and submit the \$60 fee. The 2023 program will run from 1/3/2023 - 1/3/2024. The key fob program provides residents access to the Beach House, Dailey Cabin, and Gym.

#### Open Gym

The Village Center gym will have limited open gym hours due to recreation programming. To view the Village's calendar, visit our website under the Parks and Recreation tab. If the calendar does not have a scheduled event in the gym, it would be available for open gym. As a reminder, the gym is closed at 9:00pm daily.

#### **Cross-Country Ski Trails**

Did you know the Village has a wonderful cross-country ski trail on the Maple Bluff Country Club? The trails have been meticulously groomed by Village residents, Mike Douglas and Jim Schuler once adequate snowfall occurs. If you are not cross-country skiing, please refrain from walking or snowshoeing on the groomed trails. Please watch your emails announcing the trail opening.

## Marina Application Renewals

All 2022 residents that rented space at the Maple Bluff Marina were distributed 2023 applications with their property tax bills. The 2022 renters have the first opportunity to renew their space until the end of February. Once the deadline has passed or a renter chooses not to renew, the Village will work through the waiting list to fill the vacated spot.

# Upcoming Programming: Youth Enrichment League Programs (YEL!)

Coding Animation Date: January 10 – February 14 Day: Tuesdays Time: 4:45pm – 5:45pm Location: Dailey Cabin Age: 5 - 12 Fee: \$76.00

Bring your stories to life with ScratchJr® Coding! Students 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. Sign up for Coding Kiddos today to THINK, LEARN and PLAY WELL with {YEL!}. ScratchJr® is not affiliated with {YEL!} nor does it endorse this program.

Junior Dance Date: January 11 – February 15 Day: Wednesdays Time: 4:45pm – 5:45pm Location: Dailey Cabin Age: 5 – 12 Fee: \$69.00

Glissade, pirouette and chasse' your way across the floor as you learn fundamental dance repertoire while preparing for the end of session recital. Each {YEL!} Junior Dance class follows four basic components: •Teach It!... Each class students are taught dance fundamentals.

•Practice It!... Students practice those fundamentals as a group and individually.

•Move It!...They implement what they've learned into across-the-floor and bar routines.

•Dance It!...Finally, students put it all together in a choreographed routine in preparation for the recital. Sign up today to THINK, LEARN and PLAY WELL with {YEL!}. For more details about {YEL!} Dance classes, visit YouthEnrichmentLeague.com.

PARENTS: Ballet or jazz dance shoes are recommended, but not required. Please dress your child for movement.

RECITAL: Will take place the last 30 minutes of the last class. Ask your dance instructor for details.

## Youth Enrichment League Programs (YEL!)

YEL! Basketball Date: January 13 – February 3 Day: Fridays Time: 4:45pm – 5:45pm Age: 5 – 8 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Location: Village Center Gym Fee: \$50.00



Join this fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) class. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach 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 skills development of dribbling, shooting, passing, sportsmanship, and teamwork. Sign up soon...the shot-clock is running down!

Mad Scientist Date: January 26 – March 2 Day: Thursday Time: 4:45pm – 5:45pm Age: 6 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> - 12 Location: Dailey Cabin Fee: \$101.00

In this class, you won't just learn science...you'll DO science. 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. Don your white coat and goggles... it's time to begin your own journey to becoming a mad scientist (cue maniacal laugh)!

NOTE: All experiments are physical experiments, not chemical. Students will be provided safety goggles to wear during class.

#### **Basketball Programs**



The 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball programs will begin games on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and will

continue until Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. The 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys basketball team will begin games on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and will end with a tournament on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Game locations and times will be distributed to participants once the final schedules have been approved.

Thank you to the following residents who are volunteering their time to coach this season: Hannah Hau, Annie Sugar, Tim Sugar, James Bickers, Patrick Grant, and Bob Gingras. These teams would not be possible without volunteers.

#### Programs

Babysitter Training Course Date: December 17 Day: Saturday Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm Location: Village Center Fee: \$105.00 \* 4 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.

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).





WISCONSIN EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE

Holiday Tree Lighting

# YOU'RE INVITED TO THE EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE TREE LIGHTING WITH GOVERNOR AND FIRST LADY EVERS

Sunday, December 4, 2022 - 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Please register to join the festivities with Governor Tony Evers and First Lady Kathy Evers as they kick off the holiday season. Enjoy musical performances, a sing-along, merriment by Santa Claus, hot chocolate and cookies, the lighting of the tree, and a walk through the decorated public rooms. The tree lighting ceremony will be held outdoors from 4:30p.m. to 5:00p.m. Afterward, guests may walk through the public rooms of the Executive Residence to enjoy the festive decorations from 5:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.

Guests are encouraged to bring a new, non-perishable food item which will be donated to Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin, or a new Children's Book (ages 0-12) to support the First Lady's Holiday Children's Book Drive, which will be distributed to non-profits across Wisconsin.

This event is free to the public however, capacity is limited. All guests must be pre-registered by December 2, 2022 in order to attend and unregistered individuals may not be admitted. General admission seats and general admission standing. Once registration reaches capacity, registration will be closed. Please register to attend today. <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/433663036817</u>

Sunday, December 4, 2022 – 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Wisconsin Executive Residence 99 Cambridge Rd. Madison, WI 53704

# **PROPERTY TAX BILL INFORMATION**

December 19th, 2022 is the statutory deadline for property tax bills to be mailed. If you have not received your property tax bill by December 23rd, please call the village center at 608-244-3048.

Payments can be mailed to 18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704 or dropped off at the Village Center by utilizing the payment box in the front entry. If you would like a receipt, please include an email address or self-addressed envelope. Office hours are Monday -Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

First installment payments are due by January 31, 2023 to the Village of Maple Bluff to avoid interest and penalties. Second installments are due to Dane County by July 31, 2023. If you want to include your property tax payment on your 2022 income taxes, that payment needs to be made on or before December 31, 2022. Please include the bottom portion of your tax bill when making payment.

# **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.





18 OXFORD PLACE MADISON, WI 53704





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