

# VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS** 

January 2023



CONGRATULATIONS!
SERGEANT SUGDEN 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Photo was taken on Dec 4, 2022 SHOP WITH A COP

#### Calendar of Events January New Years Day 10 Village/Building Board Meeting Village Caucus 7:00pm 10 10 Martin Luther King Jr Day 12 Municipal Court Winterfest 27-28 **February** 2 Groundhog Day 9 Municipal Court 14 Village/Building Board Meeting 14 Valentine's Day 20 Presidents' Day March Village/Building Board Meeting 14 16 Municipal Court

#### Trash/Recycling

Trash pick up is shaded, recycling dates are circled

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



Ali Shreve / DVM
Erica Olsen / DVM
Meg Wright-Waldschmidt / DVM
Sarah Stock / DVM
Emily Altkorn / DVM

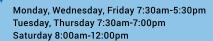
SCAN HERE



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Village Board
President Carl Vieth249-4647
Trustee George Brown246-8422
Trustee Kristine Jaeger217-1919
Trustee Kevin O'Driscoll
<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







#### Keep snow and ice 5 feet away from fire hydrants.

In case of fire, firefighters need to be able to get to the hydrants quickly to protect people and property.







#### Another New Year! By: Carl Vieth, Village President

Another new year, another promise of health, happiness, and of most importance, peace. As the holiday season winds down, and we enter the throes of winter, I often find myself looking back on the year that was; and thinking about the possibilities the new year brings. I have never been one to embrace New Year's resolutions. Probably because of the pragmatic upbringing my parents gave me. In essence, the belief is if you are planning to make a change in yourself, what in the world are you waiting for? It's that same pragmatism that has helped me through the years in my personal and professional life. One would think that with almost 70 years under my belt, I'd be pretty close to perfect. Unfortunately, that isn't the case; some would say not even close. New situations bring new challenges, and all too often strategies that worked in the past are no longer effective at solving today's problems. This is also true in local government.

As the needs and demographics of our Village residents change, so too is the need for our government to anticipate and respond so that we provide optimal services in a timely and fiscally responsible manner. Most of the challenges we face come from externalities over which we have little or no control. COVID, the weather, state and national politics, and world events can – and do – impact Village operations. Yet, there are many things that we can control or strongly influence. Our service priorities and service offerings, Village policy and procedures, and how we as a community choose to operate. Of course, we need to temper what is possible with the constraints of our budget and staff capacity.

Our Village Board, staff, and committee volunteers are remarkable in finding ways to make things work. And though it may appear seamless to the average Village resident, from behind the scenes there is a tremendous amount of thought and effort that goes into a very efficient and effective local government. Our community is the beneficiary of having residents with a wide range of knowledge and skills that we can tap into as we plan to meet the next set of challenges. This is why I'd encourage each and every one of you to consider running for a seat on the Village Board or volunteering to become a member of one of the Village committees. All too often I hear people complaining about how government is ineffective, and that they feel powerless to change that. Well – here's your chance! You do have the power to make a difference. Our Village Caucus is January 10th. The Caucus is the

means by which we nominate Village residents to appear on the April ballot. I look forward to seeing you and your neighbors there.

I would be remiss if I did not address public safety, a concern that many of you have. Recent pursuit incidents and the tragic outcome of one of those have made visible the reality of the changing crime scene in Maple Bluff and the surrounding area. Though crime statistics are down, that means little when it literally comes to your front door. We, the Board and staff, understand that and though we cannot prevent every crime, we can do our very best to limit criminal activity and effectively respond to crime in the Village. As mentioned before, there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes in Village government. This is also true for our protective services. We have been actively recruiting officers to fill a vacant police position, we've also negotiated a new police contract that achieves a number of strategic goals for the police department. We have updated and expanded our technology and equipment, and have increased our investment in professional development. I welcome hearing from all of you, and look forward to working with staff and the community to develop long term policing strategies that will serve us best.

In the area of protective services, I am happy to report that we have successfully improved our fire/rescue capability to now include transport ambulance service. With a tremendous amount of work by the Fire/EMS committee, Village Staff, EMS Medical Director, and the Fire/Rescue Department led by Chief Loy, the Village of Maple Bluff has completed the purchase, set-up, training, and regulatory paperwork to make this vision a reality! A great example of what can be done with a clear, concise vision and people who can make things happen! Thank you!

Finally, a plea from a Village resident during the last Village Board Meeting. If you are walking at night, and wearing dark clothing, please, please, PLEASE wear a reflective clothing element or better yet, carry a flashlight. As we often say ... Walk at Night? Carry a Light!

Walk, ride, and drive safely Carl

#### New Year with New Beginnings! By: Tanner Nystrom, Village Administrator/Police Chief

As we enter 2023, I hope that this message finds you rejuvenated from the holidays! Although travel and gatherings can leave us exhausted, family and friends are reminders to appreciate what we have and all we accomplished throughout the year. For village staff, 2022 was a year of many fluctuations. The competitive job market kept us busy recruiting new police officers, public works members, and fire department volunteers. Simultaneously, our mission to deliver exemplary services led us to strive for improved communications and processes, to make initial investments in the future of our team, and to develop plans on how to continue delivering the services our residents expect and deserve. There is much work to be done and we find ourselves in a new year, with new beginnings once again!

As we start the year, I encourage you to consider involvement in your Village's government, whether it be running for election as a Trustee, or volunteering to participate in one of our committees. The Village of Maple Bluff's legacy as an independent and distinguished lakeside community is the direct result of our residents' willingness to serve. We are extremely fortunate to have thoughtful, intelligent, and highly competent residents who volunteer to selflessly serve for the betterment of their community. As such, please consider participating in our Village Caucus at 7pm on 10 January 2023. The Caucus will take place in-person and via Zoom – official notices will be posted as usual and meeting information can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.villageofmaplebluff.com">www.villageofmaplebluff.com</a>.

For the front office and police department, one of our first challenges of 2023 has already taken shape. I am disappointed to share that our Records Administrator Jessie Knops has accepted an offer to expand her professional opportunities elsewhere. Over the past seven years, Jessie has been critical to the success of our administration and police departments. She supported numerous administrative functions to include managing village and police department records, maintaining the village website and electronic communications, providing general front office support, supporting police training needs, reporting statistics and information to local and state entities, as well as building the village newsletter. Jessie consistently provided timely, accurate, and effective support to our team. We are sad to see her go but wish Jessie all the best in her future endeavors.

As a final note, I want to share some brief thoughts for residents concerned about safety in our Village. To deter crime in our community, the Maple Bluff Police Department (MBPD) utilizes a Problem-Oriented Policing strategy where officers strive to constantly communicate, engage the community, maintain a consistent patrol presence, proactively enforce violations, respond quickly to incidents, and thoroughly investigate all crimes committed in our jurisdiction. This

strategy keeps our community safe, however our team is small, and the challenges associated with maintaining criminal deterrence are growing with the Madison neighborhoods around us.

Although overall crime rates in Madison declined from 2021 to 2022, weapons violations remain at an all-time high and the crime rate in the areas around Maple Bluff remain flat. In fact, while our officers made 58 arrests in 2021, they made more than 90 in 2022. Additionally, our officers are experiencing a surge in stolen vehicles and refusals to stop during traffic enforcement which has increased our vehicle pursuit numbers from 32 in 2021, to more than 43 in 2022. I think it is important to note that these pursuits frequently result in the arrest of felons with violent criminal histories. Left unapprehended, these individuals pose an ongoing safety threat to our community as well as the adjacent Madison neighborhoods.

Looking ahead, the MBPD has specific challenges to address. First, we need to improve our communications with you to promote awareness and understanding. Relationships built on trust are the foundation of our ability to anticipate and address the complexities ahead. Recruitment and retention of talent, maximizing two-officer shift coverage, reducing administrative support gaps, and leveraging technology and environmental traffic control measures all take significant resources and time to implement. As such, I will work closely with our elected and appointed officials to improve safety in 2023 while paving the way for the resources we will need in the coming years.

Thank you for your support. I wish you all peace of heart and mind, as well as health and safety as we begin a new year.

Sincerely,

Tanner A. Nystrom

## Thank you Sergeant Sugden for 25 years of Service!



#### Welcome 2023! Department of Public Works

Welcome to the New Year of 2023! This recent past year provided many challenges as I suppose any year will do. I recall a point in time this summer after the windstorms of June, I am actually looking forward to winter conditions and a sense of normalcy. December provided little precipitation along with mild temperatures for the first two weeks then the cold hit us and left us with a white Christmas. The mild end of year did allow for an extended yard waste collection period, so we have now exchanged the rake for a shovel. With the mild weather for the first week of January some may be thinking spring, I would hope that we will still have some winter snow. Please use caution when winter storms arrive as it pertains to driving and snow removal and even walking on slippery surfaces. Keep the snow on your property, not in the street or your neighbor's yard. Place trash and recycle containers at the corner of your driveway approach when snowbanks begin to grow. Allow us to clear the road snow before you move vehicles onto the streets and give snowplow trucks lots of room...in the village and out too. Christmas trees will be collected weekly during January...even after.

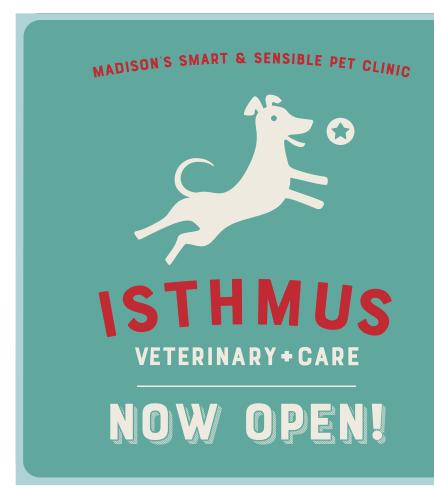
With December of 2022 behind us I hope all of you had a great Christmas with family and friends... warmth and good cheer to start out the New Year. This time of year has provided more lasting

memories for myself than any other. May we all have opportunity ...make that... take the opportunity to have experiences with family and friends that provide memories that stand the test of time.

I have a couple of requests of you. The first would be to consider turning on porch lights or your entrance lights from dusk to dawn. I have noticed how much of a difference it makes around the homes that currently have lights on during hours of darkness along the areas in-between street light placements. With concerns of some of our residents I believe this will help deter some from lurking in the dark. LED lights have come a long way from days past, they are much more efficient, and they give off plenty of light.

The second request is that you service and calibrate your water softener for the highest level of efficiency. If your softener is 10 years or older, consider a new one. The efficiency of new models will pay for themselves in a few years. Even if your unit is relatively new, calibrating it will optimize its performance. MMSD (Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District) claims that inefficient softeners are responsible for more than half the salts that end up going down the drain and end up at their treatment plant.

Call with your questions and concerns. Have a great New Year!

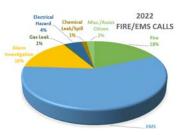




#### Fire Rescue Department! By: Kristopher Loy, Fire Chief

**2022 Response Information:** As of December 28, 2022, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department had responded to 142 calls for service in 2022 with an average response time of 5 minutes and 14 seconds within the Village. Here is a list of the calls we've responded to.

Call Description	#Calls
Fire	26
EMS	82
Alarm Investigation	22
Gas Leak	1
Electrical Hazard	6
Chemical Leak/Spill	2
Misc/Assist Citizen	3
Total	142





Recent Fire Response: On Wednesday, December 14, 2022, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department responded mutual aid into the City of Monona for a working structure fire at a personal storage facility. Fire had spread throughout much of the structure prior to the arrival of the first fire apparatus. The MBFD crew assisted with fire attack, overhaul, and incident safety. Ten area departments responded to assist. No injuries were reported, and the Monona Fire Department is currently investigating the incident.





## MAKING PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

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.

If you need to make an in-person payment, office hours are 8:00am-4:00pm Monday-Friday.

Escrow Checks will need to be endorsed by each property owner if the check is made out to the Village of Maple Bluff and the owners(s).

Please return the lower portion of your tax bill with payment. This helps us process payments more efficiently.



#### **NOTICE OF CAUCUS**

The village caucus for nominating candidates to appear on the spring election ballot for the following offices will be held on January 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm in-person and via Zoom.

The term for village president and village trustees will begin on April 18, 2023. All terms are for two years.

Office	Incumbent
Village President	Carl Vieth
Village Trustee	Ellen Reyerson
Village Trustee	Jim Schuler
Village Trustee	George Brown

The Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Sarah Danz, Village Clerk 244-3048



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### HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO 2023!

#### **Recreation Software Change**

New in 2023, the Village has changed the Rec registration software to RecDesk. Residents will be able to register for programs, reserve the beach house, Dailey cabin, and gym online. This new platform will require residents to create an online account. Visit: <a href="https://maplebluff.recdesk.com/Community/Home">https://maplebluff.recdesk.com/Community/Home</a> to complete your family's account.

#### Parks Key Fob Program

All 2022 key fob members that have not renewed for 2023 will have their fobs deactivated by 1/4/23. To continue participating in the program a new application and a \$60 fee should be submitted to the Village.

#### **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. As a reminder, the gym is closed at 9:00pm daily.

The gym will be closed for a week this spring as the gym floor will be replaced. More information regarding timing will be available when a contract has been signed.

#### **Traveling Basketball**

#### January Game Schedule:

#### 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys (TEAM 6)

1/7: Stoughton Community Building 12:45pm

1/14: McFarland High School 11:00am

1/21: Maple Bluff Madison Country Day 9:30am

1/28: Cottage Grove Glacial Drumlin School 12:45pm

#### 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls (TEAM 6)

1/7: Cottage Grove Glacial Drumlin School 11:15am

1/14: McFarland High School 11:45am

1/21: Maple Bluff Madison Country Day 9:30am

1/28: Stoughton Community Building 12:00pm

#### 6th/88h Grade Boys (TEAM 7)

1/7: Middleton 12:00pm

1/14: Cottage Grove 10:00am & 11:00am

1/21: Cross Plains 11:00am

1/28: Middleton 12:00pm

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

YEL! Programming Coding Video Games Tuesdays 2/21 – 3/28 4:45pm – 5:45pm Dailey Cabin \$76.00 Ages: 5 – 10

Why wait for the next great game when you can make it using ScratchJr®? Using a tablet and a drag-and-drop programming app, students will learn the basics of game design, beginning code, and use those skills to create five game projects including a racing game, alien invasion game, and more! 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 Wednesdays 3/8 – 4/12 4:45pm – 5:45pm Dailey Cabin \$69.00 Ages: 5 – 12

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!)

March Madness Fridays 3/10 – 4/14 4:45pm – 5:45pm Gym \$70.00 Ages: 5 – 9

MARCH MADNESS IS HERE! Time for some round-ball! 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!



#### **Summer Employment**

Applications for the Beach Lifeguard staff and CYGW Counselor positions will be accepted until 3/31/2023. Application can be found on the Village's website.

## Lifeguards Qualifications:

Current Lifeguard Certification or will complete the course by the end of May Minimum of 16 years of age or older

#### **Description:**

The Village of Maple Bluff is seeking multiple individuals who are eager to provide a fun and safe environment at the Maple Bluff Beach Park. Interested candidates will need to have current Lifeguard certification through the American Red Cross or equivalent. Applicants must work well with others, be a self-motivator and willing to engage summer program participants in activities. For a complete job description, contact Curt Erickson at cerickson@villageofmaplebluff.com.

**Pay:** Pay range is \$15.00 - 17.00/hr., depending on experience

Deadline to Apply: Applications are available at: <a href="http://villageofmaplebluff.com">http://villageofmaplebluff.com</a> and can be mailed to Village of Maple Bluff, 18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704. Applications are due no later than March 31.

#### **CYGW Counselors**

Minimum of 14 years of age or older
Previous experience working with children
Successful completion of

a Babysitter Training Course (preferred, but not required)

#### **Description:**

The Village of Maple Bluff is seeking multiple individuals who are eager to provide a fun, safe and educational Camp to youth between the ages of 3-7. Individuals will need to be available to work from 12:30pm-4:30pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday beginning June 13<sup>th</sup> through August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Camp Counselors will be assigned specific groups of up to 6 participants to provide small group activities. For a complete job description, contact Curt Erickson at cerickson@villageofmaplebluff.com.

**Pay:** Pay range is \$13.00-15.00/hr, depending on experience

Deadline to Apply: Applications are available at: <a href="http://villageofmaplebluff.com">http://villageofmaplebluff.com</a> and can be mailed to Village of Maple Bluff, 18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704. Applications are due no later than March 31.

## GRATEFUL

#### FOR YOUR TRUST + CONTINUED SUPPORT



#### 2022 Maple Bluff in Review



135 Lakewood \$800,000



209 New Castle \$1,265,000



614 Farwell \$1,950,000



28 Fuller \$3,000,000



345 Kensington \$660,000



366 Woodland \$668,000 SELL



372 Woodland \$675,000 BUY/SELL



846 Farwell \$750,000 SELL



910 McBride \$1,300,000 BUY



717 Lakewood \$1,800,000 BUY



Confidential BUY/SELL

57 Cambridge



\$3,015,000 BUY

1171 Farwell



\$3,300,000 BUY/SELL



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Shelly Sprinkman (608) 220.1453



Trey Sprinkman (608) 354.4000



Lori Murphy (608) 347.2281



Kristine Jaeger (608) 217.1919

#### **Shop With A COP** By: Jessie Knops

On Sunday, December 4th, 2022 the Maple Bluff Police department joined Dane County in the 22nd annual Shop With A COP community program. Each child was paired with an officer who donated a day to make sure they had a wonderful experience.

That day started with a ride in a squad car, a \$300 Target gift voucher, wrapping gifts together, followed by pizza and finally, a ride home. Ninety-four children and police officers from Dane County participated in this event.

We have an outstanding police department that is always caring and willing to go above and beyond what is required of them. Like our community, our officers are a truly unique set of people. We are all fortunate to have them looking out for us.









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