



VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

neighborhood news

August 2024



SUMMER OF CYGW *page 8*

Calendar of Events

August 2024

- 5 Parks and Recreation
- 5 Special Village Board
- 5 Rescheduled Concert in the Park
- 6 Plan Commission Public Hearing
- 9 In-Person Absentee Voting Ends
- 13 Partisan Election
- 13 Building Board
- 13 Village Board
- 15 Municipal Court
- 27 September Building Board Materials Due

September 2024

- 2 Village Center Closed
- 10 Building Board
- 10 Village Board
- 19 Municipal Court
- 24 October Building Board Materials Due

Village Board

President Kevin O'Driscoll
kodriscoll@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Lindsay Campbell
lcampbell@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Kristine Jaeger
kjaeger@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Ellen Reyerson
ereyerson@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Greg Engle
gengle@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Jim Schuler
jschuler@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Mike Wittenwyler
mwittenwyler@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trash/Recycling

AUGUST '24	SEPTEMBER '24	OCTOBER '24
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29 30	27 28 29 30 31

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Thank You All! *By Tanner A. Nystrom*

As we enter the month of August, I am grateful to see our community buzzing with late summer energy and hope for the future. This summer has been filled with village traditions, programming, and special events, alongside the pursuit of several long-term priorities. We've been refining our zoning code, transitioning water meters, undergrounding utilities, and updating aging facilities—all while navigating staffing challenges in a difficult labor market. To maintain our services in 2025 and beyond, we've had to carefully assess and address our needs. If you haven't yet explored the information about the potential referendum in November, I encourage you to visit the Village website. We've worked hard to explain the current situation, and I deeply appreciate all residents who attended our information sessions and engaged respectfully with the challenges we face. I would like to extend my thanks to our elected and appointed officials for their unwavering dedication and support to the community. Thank you all!



Now, it is with mixed emotions that I announce the resignation of our esteemed Fire Chief and Public Safety Director, Kris Loy. After an illustrious 23-year career with the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department, Chief Loy has decided to embark on a new journey with the McFarland Fire and Rescue Department as an Administrative Captain, effective August 2nd. Chief Loy began his career with us as an intern in 2001 and steadily rose through the ranks, demonstrating exceptional leadership and dedication. His ability to connect with others, foster a supportive environment, and mentor interns, firefighters, and EMTs has been instrumental in shaping the department and improving the lives of many in our community. Beyond his professional duties, Chief Loy was a tireless leader, often seen grilling or handling the microphone at Fest on the 4th and Monday night concerts. His presence and contributions have been invaluable, and he will be greatly missed. While

we are saddened by his departure, we are excited for him as he takes the next step in his career. Please join me in congratulating Chief Loy on his new role and thanking him for his remarkable service to the Village of Maple Bluff. We are grateful for his 23 years of dedication and know that McFarland has gained an exceptional leader. Chief Drager will serve as interim chief while we conduct interviews for the open position, posted on July 19th. Interviews are planned for mid-August, and we hope to fill the role in November. Thank you, Chief Loy, for your unwavering commitment and service. We wish you all the best in your new role!



As we say farewell to Chief Loy, I also want to welcome a new member of our team, Chaplain AJ Feucht! I feel very fortunate that we can welcome AJ to his first Chaplaincy. This is also a first for our department and given what I know about Chaplain Feucht, I am humbled for his willingness to voluntarily serve as part of our team. His biography can be found in the following pages for those interested - I encourage you to read it. You will start to see him around the community, so please introduce yourselves if you are so inclined. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Chaplain Feucht to Maple Bluff! Welcome to the team Chaps!

As always, thank you all for your support and continuing to look out for one another.

Sincerely, **Tanner A. Nystrom**

A Message from the Village President

Dear Neighbors,

Thank you and congratulations to Maple Bluff Fire Chief Kris Loy. We wish him the best in his new role and know that McFarland is very fortunate to have his leadership and expertise.

A heartfelt thank you to our Public Works staff and neighbors who cleared drains, moved brush, and managed nearly 4 inches of rainfall on the evening of Saturday, July 13th, and Sunday, July 14th. Public Works, Fire/EMS, and Police were all actively engaged in managing these storms, which caused temporary closures on Sherman Ave and several other hazards in the Village.

We extend our gratitude to our Recreation staff and volunteers at Fest on the Fourth and our Monday night

concert series. Events like these make Maple Bluff stand out during one of its best celebrations of the year. Speaking of volunteers, we need more! We have many new families in the Village and an equal number of volunteer opportunities. Please consider becoming more active in our community.

Lastly, please continue to review and consider the November 2nd Village of Maple Bluff referendum. The City of Madison and the Madison Metropolitan School District will also be going to referendum. Village staff and I are available to answer your questions about our referendum, and there will be continued communications and opportunities to stay updated and learn more.

Thank you all for your continued support and engagement.

Sincerely,
Kevin O'Driscoll, Village President

Letter from the Chief

Village of Maple Bluff Residents and Friends,

It is with a mixture of gratitude, excitement, and sadness that I announce my resignation as the Fire Chief/Public Safety Director for the Village of Maple Bluff, after 23 years of service.

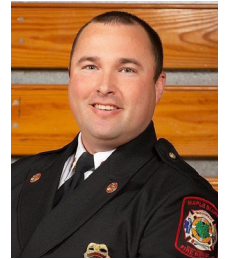
For the first 14 years with the Village, my love for both the Fire/EMS service and this community flourished. The leadership within the MBFD and Village consistently provided me with opportunities for career advancement and growth. Starting as an intern and climbing through the ranks to Fire Chief, I dedicated myself to learning everything I could about this community and the families I was honored to protect. During my tenure, I started a family of my own and was able to share with them all this wonderful community has to offer.

In 2015, I was entrusted with the privilege of leading the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department as Fire Chief/Public Safety Director. An honor I will forever cherish. I couldn't possibly thank all the first responders and Village staff enough for helping to make the MBFD the fantastic organization it has become. I am who I am because of my family and the good people at the MBFD.

In pursuit of new challenges and personal growth I have accepted an Administrative Captain position with the McFarland Fire & Rescue Department, and my last day as Fire Chief in the Village of Maple Bluff will be August 2, 2024.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

With heartfelt appreciation, **Kristopher Loy**



BIOGRAPHY: DARREL D. 'AJ' FEUCHT



Colonel Darrel D. 'AJ' Feucht is a graduate of Columbus High School, Columbus, Wisconsin. He holds a Bachelor of Sciences degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Agriculture and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lakeland College in Accounting. He holds an advanced management and leadership certificate from the UW-Madison School of Business and a master's

degree in Management and Organizational Behavior from Silver Lake College. His military education includes the U.S. Army Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Field Grade Pre-Command Course and Title 10 Dual Commanders Course.

Colonel Feucht was commissioned a second lieutenant, United States Army Corps of Engineers, through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1985 and began his military career with numerous commands and staff assignments in the 86th Army Reserve Command and the 84th Division, U.S. Army Reserve. In August 1994, he transferred to the Wisconsin Army National Guard as assistant plans officer, 332nd Rear Area Operations Center. In subsequent years, he served in a succession of staff positions within the 64th Troop Command. He assumed command of the 64th Rear Operations Center (ROC) in June 2002. In September 2002, the 64th ROC deployed for a year of active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom II and Operation Iraqi Freedom I. He also was the deputy director of operations, XVIII (18th) Airborne Corps during that deployment. He commanded the 64th ROC until May 2004, when he was assigned as operations officer, and later as executive officer, of 64th Troop Command. He commanded the 64th Troop Command from August 2007 to September 2010. He assumed the position of J-4, Domestic Operations on the JF-HQ, Joint

Staff in September 2010 until assuming the command of Wisconsin's first mission of its kind, the 82nd Agribusiness Development Team (ADT). He also served as the Strategic Plans Chief for Task Force Hydra, Camp Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan. The Wisconsin 82nd ADT completed a successful deployment to Asad Abad, Kunar Province and the Capitol Region in Kabul, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom XIII. Colonel Feucht had the privilege of commanding soldiers and airmen over half of his successful career. He retired after a 30-year career in July 2013.

His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, the NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge and the Eisenhower Trophy Unit Ribbon. He is a 2017 inductee to the Wisconsin Army National Guard Hall of Honor. He is a 2019 inductee to the University of Wisconsin - Madison Army ROTC Badger Battalion Hall of Fame.

Colonel Feucht is a retired civilian since April 2022. He worked for 35 years as manager of facilities and life safety for Nelnet, Inc. (fka Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Inc.), Madison, Wisconsin. He is an adjunct professor at Lakeland University since 2014. He is an active member of VFW Post 7591 (house committee member and chaplain) in Madison, American Legion Post 501, Post (3rd vice commander and chaplain) in Madison, Commonwealth Masonic Lodge #325 (senior warden) in Madison and Monona United Methodist Church (certified lay minister) in Monona, Wisconsin. A member of International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC). He is active on his Harley Davidson, a Master Gardener, Badger Honor Flight volunteer and an Agrace Vets to Vets Program volunteer, novice woodworker and works on his 1966 Ford Mustang convertible during his free time. He lives in Monona, Wisconsin with his fiancé Elley, daughters Satine and Nevaeh, twin sons, Mitchell and Andrew.

Department of Public Works *By Tom Schroeder, Director of Public Works*

It has turned out to be one of those years with precipitation... specifically rainfall. Rain with wind, rain without wind, some rain that rivals the monsoon of tropical regions...and nearly all the events had plenty of lightning and thunder. From the 1st of June to the 19th of July Madison has had 16.5" of rain. The rains of the weekend of July 13-14 were equal to the entire average for the month. The lake levels have been managed by the County and State to stay under 852' on Mendota despite the constant thunderstorms tracking across south central Wisconsin. Our storm system worked quite well having to deal with a storm that provided 4-7" of rain in a 90-minute period Sunday the 14th. The storm system is built to handle a 5-10-year storm event...that is 2.5"- 4.2" rain in a 24-hour period. We experienced all of that in an hour and a half. Once the rain stopped the system caught up very well. The lake level is so high that the storm system is already pre-loaded, this will slow the outfall and rain will go with the elevation and lay of the land. Landscaping with a defensive posture of protecting one's home is a reasonable approach. When flash flooding takes place storm systems are over matched, pipes in the ground are full. Surface flow will take place with defensive landscaping or not. If you live in an area

with dramatic elevation change and you are at the lower end...landscaping could be a consideration. If you have any doors at ground level be sure that rainwater is directed away from your home. I am aware that some construction has taken place over decades that are not built with a 5- or 10-year storm even in mind...let alone a 100-year storm event.

With the recent thunderstorms taking place it should be plain to see the difference between placing yard debris on the terrace or onto the street. PLEASE place all materials on the terrace for collection.

Another observation with our experiences with storms this year is that nearly every tree failure had some level of previous existing conditions. The tree was destined to fail with a little nudge from nature. Please consider having a professional arborist assess your trees great and small to minimize the chances for disaster.

The Department of Public Works will be welcoming Andrew Boersma back to the DPW team. We are pleased to have him return to the fold. There is no place like Maple Bluff!!!

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August 13th Partisan Primary Election Information

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

Please call 608-244-3048 with questions.

Registering to vote or checking registration status Please visit myvote.wi.gov to verify registration status. You may also register online through July 24th. After July 24th, registration must be completed in the clerk's office through August 9th or on Election Day.

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. The deadline to request a mailed absentee ballot is August 8th.

Returning your absentee ballot Voted ballots can only be returned by the voter, unless the voter is disabled and requires assistance. Ballots can be mailed back via USPS, placed in the interior drop box at 18 Oxford Place, or hand delivered directly to a staff member during regular business hours or on Election Day. Ballots must be received no later than 8pm on Election Day.

In-Person Absentee Voting In-Person absentee voting will begin July 30th and will conclude at 5pm on August 9th. Office hours are Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm and Friday 8:00am - noon. The office will remain open until 5:00pm on Friday, August 9th.

November 5th General Election Information

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

Please call 608-244-3048 with questions.

Registering to vote or checking registration status Please visit myvote.wi.gov to verify registration status. You may also register online through October 16th. After October 16th, registration must be completed in the clerk's office through November 1st or on Election Day.

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. The deadline to request a mailed absentee ballot is October 31st.

Returning your absentee ballot Voted ballots can only be returned by the voter, unless the voter is disabled and requires assistance. Ballots can be mailed back via USPS, placed in the interior drop box at 18 Oxford Place, or hand delivered directly to a staff member during regular business hours or on Election Day. Ballots must be received no later than 8pm on Election Day.

In-Person Absentee Voting In-Person absentee voting will begin October 22nd and will conclude at 5pm on November 1st. Office hours are Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm and Friday 8:00am - noon. The office will remain open until 5:00pm on Friday, November 1st.

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Parks and Recreation

By: Curt Erickson, Recreation Director/Deputy Treasurer

Fall Programs

YEL! Soccer

Wednesdays 10/16 - 11/20

Fee: \$65.00

Ages: 4 - 6

Location: Gym

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

YEL! Basketball

Thursdays 10/17 - 11/21

Fee: \$70.00

Ages: 5 - 8

Location: Gym

Join this fast-paced, inclusive class. Classes will consist of kid-friendly games while developing basketball skills. Emphasis will be placed on basic skill development of dribbling, shooting, passing, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Fall Music Together

Dates: Tuesdays 9/10 - 11/12

Times: 9:00 - 9:45am, 10:00 - 10:45am, 3:30 - 4:15pm

Fee: \$170.00

Location: Dailey Cabin

Instructor: Susan Cramer

Each Music Together class is an active music making experience designed to teach the way young children learn through play with the ones they love! In this mixed-age class, each child participates at their own level through singing, moving, chanting, listening, watching, and exploring musical instruments. Classes provide a variety of adult-child activities that are engaging and developmentally appropriate and offer new ways to play musically at home.

For more information visit:

<https://musictogetherwithsusan.com/>

3rd & 4th Grade Boys & Girls Traveling Basketball Teams

Practice Dates: TBD in Gym

Games: January - February TBD

Ages: 8 - 10

Fee: \$85.00

This is a traveling basketball team that will practice inside the Village Center gym 1 day a week and will play games against McFarland, Monona, Cottage Grove, and DeForest. Games will feature 4 on 4 competition as the league focuses on skill development while providing more opportunities for all players. Each player will receive a Maple Bluff jersey. Volunteer coaches will be required.

Yoga with Emily

Dates: Thursdays 9/5 - 10/24

Time: 8:30am - 9:30am

Fee: \$80.00 for the full class or \$12.00 per drop-in.

Instructor: Emily Cobb

Location: Dailey Cabin

Emily's passion for yoga began when she was looking for a community in college. She pursued 200-hr yoga training in 2015 and soon added Yoga Sculpt to her certifications. She taught and managed a studio in Minnesota for 7 years. She is excited to move back to Madison and share her passion with the Maple Bluff community. Emily enjoys teaching vinyasa yoga offering the ability to move with breath and stretch the body. She also loves to teach yoga sculpt, a class rooted in yoga with cardio, weights, and upbeat music.



CYGW Recap

Another successful summer of CYGW is in the books. This year more than 50 village youth participated in this fun afternoon playground group. Special visitors included Maple Bluff Fire & Rescue Department, Public Works Department, and Police Department. Thank you to Anna Moore, CYGW Director, all the counselors, Big Buddies, and the parent volunteer committee for making this another memorable summer. Registration for 2025 will become available in January.



Parks and Recreation (continued)

By: Curt Erickson, Recreation Director/Deputy Treasurer



We are looking forward to Water Street Jacks rescheduled performance on August 5th. Their performance was originally scheduled for July 15th but due to the elevated threat for severe weather in the early evening hours the Village rescheduled. Thank you to our sponsors for the 2024 series, Best Buds Landscaping, Isthmus Partners, Sprinkman Real Estate, Lake Ridge Bank, Steve Olson and Stacy Schultz, Pellitteri Waste Systems, Willy Street Co-Op, and Kwik Trip. Attendance at each concert exceeded 200 people. Without the generosity of our sponsors our concerts would not be possible.





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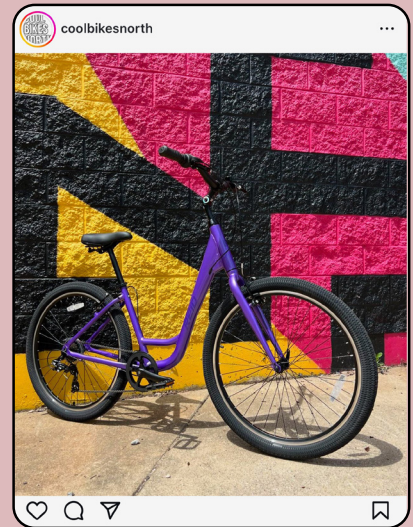


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