

**From:** [Village of Lake Bluff](#)  
**To:** [Gail Ciolok](#)  
**Subject:** Lake Bluff Letter - October 27, 2017  
**Date:** Monday, October 30, 2017 10:39:26 AM



## Lake Bluff Letter

There are no scheduled Village events this week. [View Future Events](#)

### Village News

#### [Lake Bluff Condemns Weekend Graffiti Incident; Police Investigating](#)

Early Sunday, October 22, 2017, the Lake Bluff Police Department investigated a report of criminal defacement involving anti-Semitic and anti-African American graffiti. The graffiti was spray painted at four different locations including two roadways, a driveway and a tree. The Lake Bluff Public Works Department promptly removed the graffiti.

"It does not appear that the graffiti targeted any single person. But, we should all view this as an assault on our values as a community," said Police Chief David Belmonte. "This hateful act has no place in this town and will not be tolerated. This Department will investigate the matter thoroughly."

Lake Bluff officials are stressing that anti-Semitism and racism have no place in the Village. Reflecting on the on-going community dialogue surrounding short-term rental regulations and the vandalism incident, Village President Kathleen O'Hara started the October 23 meeting of the Lake Bluff Board of Trustees by reading a statement.

"All of us must embrace and adhere to the guiding principles which define us as a community," said O'Hara. "There is no other way."

She cited the Village Strategic Plan's guiding principles:

- Take personal responsibility for the quality of our community
- Act with integrity, accountability, and in the best interests of all
  - Demonstrate kindness, neighborliness and concern for others
  - Be inclusive, welcoming, and open minded
  - Interact with respect civility in all circumstances
  - Embrace a positive, forward-looking orientation
  - Cherish our history, culture and legacy of excellence

"The Village Board is very concerned about what happened on Sunday," O'Hara stated when asked today. "While the graffiti appears to be a random act, it is still nothing other than repugnant. This crime is completely inconsistent with who we are as a community and the direction we are heading. There's no place for it. Period."

Anyone with information should call the Lake Bluff Police Department Investigations Division at 847-234-8760 ex. 5.

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### [Upcoming Halloween Events](#)



**Don't miss these fun events for you and your family!**

- **Trunk or Treat** - Hosted by the Lake Bluff Park District on Friday, October 20th. The event is free for kids 12 and under. For additional information visit <http://lakebluffparks.org>.
- **Children's Halloween Party** - Hosted by the Lake Bluff Public Library on Tuesday, October 24th. [Click here for additional information.](#)
- **Pumpkin Fest and Chase** - Hosted by the Lake Bluff School District #65 PTO on Friday, October 27th (Pumpkin Fest) and Saturday, October 28th (PTO Pumpkin Chase 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run). Visit <http://lb65.org> or [click here for additional race information.](#)
- **Trick-or-Treat and Hot Dog Roast** - Hosted by the Lake Bluff Police Department on Tuesday, October 31st. Trick-or-treaters are invited to stop by the Public Safety Building (45 E. Center Avenue) for the annual hot dog roast during trick-or-treat hours (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.). Police Department personnel, with help from their families, will cook hot dogs, serve potato chips and refreshments, the hots dogs are limited so plan to come early.

The Police Department would like to thank Target, Knauz Automotive, Heinen's, Graffiti Grill and Two Paws Up Dog Training for their contributions to event!

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### [Upcoming History Museum Events](#)

The Lake Bluff History Museum ([lakebluffhistory.org](http://lakebluffhistory.org)) is hosting an exciting event soon:

- **Christmas Home Tour** - *December 2, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$50.* This popular tour - the sixth one hosted by the Lake Bluff History Museum - brings the splendor of history and the holidays to life! Participants are treated to an insider's glimpse at a charming selection of Lake Bluff homes. Each home is decorated to reflect the owners' unique style. The tour also includes a holiday boutique. Beginning November 1, tickets can be purchased online at [lakebluffhistory.org](http://lakebluffhistory.org) or in the museum during its regular hours: Tues/Thurs 1-4 pm and Sat. 10 am-1 pm. Tours start at the museum anytime between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Participants are provided a guide and the information needed to start the self-guided tour.

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### [Take Action and Be Prepared During America's PrepareAthon! with Lake Bluff's CodeRED Emergency Notification System](#)

The Village of Lake Bluff is making efforts to prepare its residents and businesses for disasters by taking part in America's PrepareAthon! and in conjunction with the CodeRED emergency notification system. The CodeRED Weather Warning system is an opt-in service that automatically notifies those registered of tornado, flash flood and severe thunderstorm warnings just minutes after an alert is issued by the National Weather Service, making it an essential preparedness tool to stay safe.

"It's important to Be Smart, Take Part and Prepare for disasters. The CodeRED system will help us prepare our residents if severe weather is headed our way. We will also use it to keep the community informed throughout an emergency event," said David Belmonte, Lake Bluff's Chief of Police.

Chief Belmonte urges all residents to enroll to receive emergency alerts through CodeRED. Those who have already enrolled to receive CodeRED notifications but have recently moved or changed telephone numbers are encouraged to click on the [CodeRED](#) logo on the Village's website ([lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org)) to update their contact information.

"We ask residents to encourage their family members, friends, colleagues and other groups about the CodeRED system and make sure they are in the emergency database. We rely on the CodeRED system

to keep our community informed, but we need to make sure we have your correct contact information," Belmonte said. "It is important that even if you previously registered, you should again to verify you are in the database."

Those without Internet access may call the Lake Bluff Police Department Records Division at 847-234-8760 extension "2" Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. to subscribe to receive CodeRED alerts by supplying their information over the phone.

America's PrepareAthon! is a national, grassroots campaign for action to increase individual and community preparedness and resilience through hazard-specific drills, group discussions and exercises throughout the year. One of the Village of Lake Bluff's role during this campaign is to increase the number of residents and businesses enrolled to receive CodeRED emergency and severe weather notifications.

For more information about America's PrepareAthon!, please visit [ready.gov/prepare](http://ready.gov/prepare) or email

[PrepareAthon@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:PrepareAthon@fema.dhs.gov). Join the twitter discussion @PrepareAthon.

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### [Lake Bluff Residents, lock your cars!](#)



Residents who don't lock their cars continue to be victims, and Lake Bluff Police officials again urge residents to take their keys and lock their cars. Gang-affiliated criminals have struck Lake Bluff and the North Shore throughout the summer. Often we find these auto-burglaries have one thing in common: **the car is left unlocked**. It takes less than 20 seconds to open an unlocked car, grab what is in plain view, check the usual hiding places for other items, and get away. **How long would it take you to lock your car?**

"We continue to see thieves take advantage of unlocked cars in our community," said Police Chief David Belmonte. "We have increased our night patrols and continue to work with other agencies to stop these

criminals, but every car stolen this year had the keys left in it. We are making ourselves targets." The members of the Lake Bluff Police Department encourage these steps to **avoid being a victim**:

- Lock ALL your vehicle's doors and close every window.
- Do not leave valuables in your car.
- If you must leave valuable items in your car, place items out of sight.
- Call the Police Department to report ANY suspicious activities, persons, or vehicles.

Do your part by taking preventive action and spreading the word. You can make a difference.

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### Recent Board and Committee Actions

*For more information, visit the Village's [meeting packets and videos page](#). Agendas and meeting materials are typically available the Friday before a meeting; videos within a week after the meeting; and minutes after they are approved at the next meeting of the public body. Not all meetings are recorded on video.*

#### Recent Village Board Meeting (October 23):

- Passed a resolution honoring the public service of Fire Department member Gregg Marsh.
- Established a capital projects fund with \$2 million in initial funding.
- Accepted the FY2016-17 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- Authorized a contract for equipment replacement at the Wimbledon lift station (wastewater).
- Authorized a change order for the FY2017-18 Motor Fuel Tax street improvements.
- Authorized a change order for the emergency repair of Moffett Road.
- Approved a final plat of dedication on Quassey Road in unincorporated Lake County.

#### Recent Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee Meeting (October 25):

- Continued work plan discussion including recycling and disposable bag usage; beautification planning; and development of a sustainability plan.

#### Recent Police Pension Fund Meeting (October 26):

- Received updates regarding fund status, investments, fund policy, and recipient benefits.
- Discussed property tax levy recommendation to the Village Board.

#### Recent Joint Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Special

**Meeting (October 26):**

- Continued discussion of Comprehensive Plan revisions involving housing, transportation, and annexation.

*There are no upcoming board and committee meetings the week of October 30.*

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In the event that Meeting Agenda links do not properly function, subscribers may find agendas posted on the Home Page at [www.lakebluff.org](http://www.lakebluff.org). All Board and Commission [Meeting Minutes](#) are generally approved at the next regular meeting and posted on the website the following day.

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