



# the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

Volume 14 Issue 4

ONLINE EDITION

April 2014

## Thompson Park Tot Lot Keeps Families Active

The new playground geared toward toddlers and children with special needs celebrated an official Grand Opening on Thursday, March 20th. The City of Bellflower, First 5 L.A. and the L.A. Conservation Corps welcomed children ages 0-5 years old to try out the new play structure, glider, swings, spinner, and climbing tunnel. Healthy snacks and refreshments were provided to replenish energy lev-

els throughout the afternoon event.

The playground at Thompson Park cost about \$200,000 and was funded and completed through a First 5 LA's Tot Parks and Trails program. The nonprofit child advocacy group set aside \$10 million in 2010 to invest in parks and other projects catering to young children in underserved areas of Los Angeles County. Their goal is to help young children maintain a healthy

lifestyle by providing public spaces to play outdoors.

The City of Bellflower was selected for the project due to Thompson Park's lack of tot playground equipment, their established Special Needs Programs and also, based on the number of children in the local area. The park is located at 14001 S. Bellflower Blvd. in Bellflower. For more information call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2268.



## Fundraiser Lineup Readies for Relay

Bellflower's Relay for Life event, which benefits the American Cancer Society, has generated a lot of interest and will begin fundraising efforts this month for the annual summer event scheduled for June 29 and 30, 2014. Team captains have worked with several local and surrounding area restaurants to donate a portion of their earnings toward the Bellflower Relay for Life event. Team captains are also actively recruiting volunteers, relay participants and for business

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## Demolition Begins at Future Golden Corral Site



# West Nile Virus & Mosquito Awareness Week Buzzes into the City

California Legislators have declared April 20 through April 26 as West Nile Virus and Mosquito & Vector Control Awareness Week.

“Mosquito Control Awareness Week is an opportunity for our district to emphasize the importance of mosquito control and disease prevention,” says Kelly Middleton, Director of Community Affairs for Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD). “Increasing mosquito activity in Los Angeles County is a reminder that the summer mosquito breeding season is here and residents need to take measures to protect against mosquito bites and disease transmission.”

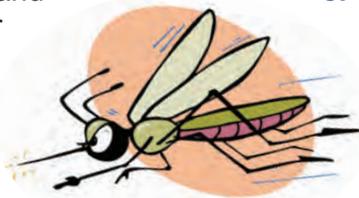
West Nile virus is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes that can lead to serious illness and even death in humans, horses, birds, and wildlife. The Asian tiger mosquito is a dangerous invasive species recently found in the cities of El Monte and South El Monte that is capable of spreading diseases such as dengue fever and chikungunya in our communities. Eliminating this mosquito is a tough, yet critically

important challenge that requires everyone’s help to keep our communities healthy and safe this year.



Listed are easy ways you can help:

- **Take a few minutes to walk around your property and dump out buckets, saucers, and other items that are holding water.**
- **If families are outdoors when mosquitoes are active, apply insect repellent. The most effective repellents contain active ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535 or Oil of lemon eucalyptus (PMD). Always apply according to label instructions.**
- **Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.**



Inform GLACVCD of dirty pools or daytime mosquito bites; they can help solve mosquito issues in your neighborhood for free. To report a service request call (562) 944-9656 or visit [www.glacvcd.org](http://www.glacvcd.org).

## Easter Brings an Egg-citing Event



Kingdom Causes Bellflower will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at Simms Park located at 16614 South Clark Ave. in Bellflower. Crafts, cupcake decorating, games and shows begin at 10:00 a.m. and the Egg Hunt begins shortly after at 11:15 a.m. Children will be separated into 5 areas by age: Pre-K & Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grade, 3rd & 4th grade, 5th & 6th grade, and a special area for young children with parents. For more information call the Kingdom Causes main office at (562) 804-2189.

# Take Back Initiative Wants Your Old Medicine

The City of Bellflower and the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department have partnered with Kaiser Permanente to host a National Take Back Initiative event on Saturday, April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Office (9400 E. Rosecrans Ave. Bellflower, CA 90706) Local residents can turn in unused or expired medication anonymously for proper disposal by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The event is free and open to the public. The collection site entrance will be indicated on Clark Ave.

Medications like prescriptions,

over-the-counter drugs, dietary supplements, vitamins, and herbal supplements are now a leading cause of child poisoning deaths.

Bringing expired, unused, and unwanted medication to a take-back event like this also helps the environment. In the past, people were advised to flush unused medication down the toilet, but this can contaminate the water. Prescription drugs that are collected by the DEA will be disposed of by the safest means available for this waste stream.

There is also a permanent drug-take-back bin at the entrance of the

Lakewood Sheriff’s Station at 5130 Clark Ave. where prescription pills, ointments and syrups can be dropped off no questions asked. No sharps are accepted at this location.

For more info about this event visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov). Additional info about medication safety is also available on the DEA website or at [www.kp.org](http://www.kp.org).



## WORK AROUND TOWN



**Kmart**  
10400 Rosecrans Ave.  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
**Apply online:**  
www.searsholdings.com/careers  
\*Enter zip code 90706 and search

### Loss Prevention Associate (Part-time)

This position is responsible for providing excellent customer service, protecting company assets through activities in safety, inventory recovery, and internal and external theft. Loss Prevention associates assist with reduction of loss of inventory, time, and assets, monitor surveillance equipment, & apprehend shoplifting suspects.

### Cashier (Part-time • 3 positions available)

Responsible for providing excellent customer service, efficiently and accurately completing sales and service transactions at the cash wraps, as well as handle customer issues that may arise on the sales floor.

### Softlines Merchandiser (Part-time • 3 positions available)

This position ensures basic and seasonal replenishment and merchandising and operational programs are established and maintained to improve sales and profitability in one or more departments. This position also works in conjunction with the Department Lead in maintaining merchandise assortments and pricing integrity.

Visit website for more open positions

# Mark Your Calendar

## Adult/Senior Excursions Adventure North

Enjoy a day of shopping at various boutiques at the Ojai Farmer's Market, then sit back and enjoy a private premium wine tasting session at Casa Barranca followed by a lunch at Sea Fresh Restaurant. *Walking level: HIGH.* Registration deadline is Friday, April 4. To register or for info call (562) 866-8614.



**Sunday, April 27**

**8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

Fee: \$75 includes wine tasting, lunch & deluxe coach transportation

## Hospice Seeking New Volunteer Staff



### Saturday Training Sessions:

**April: 5, 12, 19, 26**

**9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Companion Hospice  
8130 Florence Ave. Suite 200  
Downey, CA 90240

Companion Hospice will host free volunteer training to area residents who would like to learn to be a special friend and assist/relieve tired caregivers. Training sessions will teach volunteers how to provide comfort, care and compassion in a supportive way. **Enrollment closes Monday, March 31.** To enroll call Rita Riggs at (562) 944-2711.

## Bellflower Residents Celebrate Earth Day

Bellflower residents can turn in a used oil filter in exchange for a new one on Saturday, April 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Autozone Auto Parts (9031 Alondra Blvd. Bellflower, CA 90706) \*Residents may receive up to 2 new filters in exchange for 2 used filters. While supplies last. For more info call (562) 944-4766.

The annual Compost Giveaway will be held on Saturday, April 26



from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Simms Park located at 16614 South Clark Ave., Bellflower.

Compost bags will be limited to two bags of mulch per person (NOT per vehicle, carpooling is encouraged).

Residents must bring the coupon found in the CR&R Environmental News mailer to receive their mulch.

For more information, contact CR&R at (877) 826-9677.

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support through donations or services.

Participating restaurants are as follows: **Ricci's Italian Deli in Bellflower** (10% any day now through June 29 from noon-8:30 p.m.), **California Pizza Kitchen in Cerritos** (20% Tuesday, April 15 all day), **Domenico's Italian Restaurant in Long Beach** (25% Tuesday, April

22 from 11:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.), and **Hambone's BBQ in Bellflower** (15%

Wednesday, April 30 & Thursday, May 1 from noon - 9:00 p.m.). Official fundraiser flyers must be presented prior to ordering. To print a copy of the flyer, visit the City of Bellflower website calendar section at

www.bellflower.org. For info about the Relay event visit www.relayforlife.org.



## Mayfair Students Learn Life Lesson



The national program **Every Fifteen Minutes** held a school-wide event on **March 20 - 21, 2014** at **Mayfair High School** in Lakewood. This powerful program challenged students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.

## Teens Compete for Court Titles

Fourteen aspiring contestants will compete on Friday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Miss Bellflower & Miss Teen Bellflower Competition at Hosanna Chapel in Downtown Bellflower. Participants are Leslie Cerecer, Jasmine Luebanos, Rachel Udabe, Diana Quintero, Ravyn Woodard, Rebecca Garcia, Brianna Laredo, Betty Gonzlez, Shiena Bas & Samantha Salmon, Hannah Mercado, Jennifer Sarabia Diaz, Natalie Willson and Trisha Howland. Contestants have interviewed with volunteer members of the community, attended rehearsals and are ready take the reigns from the current Bellflower Court.

Scholarship prizes will be awarded to the title holders and all contestants will be judged on interviews, business-wear, fun theme, evening gown and onstage Q&A segment.

Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at the door. For more information call (562) 565-3942.



## Young Artists Steal the Spotlight April 26th

Enjoy the sounds of the annual Spring concert presented by the Bellflower Symphony Orchestra and L.A. County Board of Supervisors on April 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bristol Civic Auditorium located at 16600 Civic Center Dr., Bellflower.

These young musicians, rang-

ing in age from 11-21 years, will join Symphony Conductor Joseph R. Taylor on stage to perform.

General admission is \$12, while students and seniors are \$10. Symphony Orchestra Members and Bellflower residents get in free with proof of residency. For info call (562) 867-4871.

## Free Library Events

Clifton M. Brakensiek Library  
9945 E. Flower St. Bellflower, CA  
(562) 925-5543

### Zumba

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Get energized and healthy with Zumba! This instructor led class welcomes participants of all levels. Don't forget to bring water and a towel. For teens and adults. Sponsored by *Friends of the Bellflower Library*.

### Yarnival

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Learn basic skills in a group environment and share your projects/patterns. Ages 10+ years are invited and beginners are welcomed and encouraged. Bring your own supplies and we will provide guidance and ideas.



## BELLFLOWER BRONCOS YOUTH FOOTBALL UPCOMING REGISTRATION DATES

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

SATURDAY, MAY 10

SATURDAY, MAY 24

**STRAP ON YOUR HELMET  
AND COME ON DOWN!**

Kids ages 5-14 yrs

Tackle & Flag Leagues Forming

INFO: (562) 712-7206 or visit  
[www.eteamz.com/Bellflowerbroncos](http://www.eteamz.com/Bellflowerbroncos)  
Facebook - Bellflowerbroncos

# Current City Hours



The current City of Bellflower work schedule for employees and essential City services is listed below. City Hall and the Public Works Yard will be closed alternating Fridays.

**Bellflower City Hall Hours of Operation**

Monday - Thursday • 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (closed alternating Fridays)

**Building & Safety Division (located within City Hall)**

Monday - Thursday • 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (closed alternating Fridays)

**Bellflower Sheriff's Substation Hours of Operation**

Monday - Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Alternating Fridays • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Saturday • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Sunday • Closed  
*After hours services provided by Regional Sheriff's Station in Lakewood (562) 623-3500*

**Simms, Caruthers and Thompson Park Facilities**

Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer Hours of Operation

**April (ALL PARKS)**

Monday - Fri • 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

April 14 - 18 • 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 April 20 • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m

**May (ALL PARKS)**

Monday - Fri • 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

May 24 - 26 • 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**June (ALL PARKS)**

Monday - Fri • 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

Beginning June 14 • Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 June 19 - 20 • Noon - 9:00 p.m.  
 Beginning June 23 • Monday - Fri • 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Pirate Park**

**April**

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

April 20 • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**May**

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

May 24 - 26 • 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**June**

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
 Sat. • 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Special/Holiday Hours**

June 14, 21 & 28 • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

April 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <b>C</b>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 <b>C</b>	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 <b>C</b>	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 <b>C</b>	24
25	26 <b>H</b>	27	28	29	30	31

June 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>C</b>	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 <b>C</b>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**Key for calendar** **C** City Hall closed **H** City Hall closed for holiday

For more information call City Hall at (562) 804-1424 or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)