



# the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

Volume 14 Issue 1

ONLINE EDITION

January 2014

## Round of Applause for Eight Heroes at 20th Annual BRAVO

*United States Navy SEAL Lieutenant Commander Rorke T. Denver to Deliver Keynote Speech*

The City of Bellflower will honor eight great recipients at the 20th annual BRAVO Awards held on Thursday, February 6th, 2014. The award winners are as follows: L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. Deputy James Colbert, L.A. County Deputy Probation Officer Michael Drayer, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. Deputy Charles Gonzalez, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. Chief Thomas M. Laing, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. Deputy Walid Tawdi, Russell Thompson, L.A. County Fire Inspector Brent Times, Marinus Zwaan, and two high school essay contest winners, Sydney Gao and Eileen Tovar.



The BRAVO Awards will feature Keynote Speaker U.S. Navy SEAL Lieutenant Commander Rorke T. Denver, the prestigious Los Angeles County Fire Department Honor Guard, guest speakers Los Angeles County Sheriff Leroy Baca and Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby, and much more. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium (16600 Civic Center Dr., Bellflower) and is free and open to the public.

The BRAVO Awards, which

stands for Bellflower Recognizes Acts of Valor and Outstanding Service, honor residents who acted in support of public safety. First responders, public safety officers and residents based in Bellflower who went beyond their responsibilities also receive recognition for their tireless efforts.

The BRAVO Awards ceremony is funded entirely through sponsorships from area businesses and individuals, and is one of the City's most prestigious honors. For sponsorship information or for event details call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267 or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).

## *State of the City; Building a Better Bellflower*



Mayor Ray Dunton will present Bellflower's State of the City address on Thursday, February 20 at 11:30 a.m. in Simms Park Auditorium ( 16614 South Clark Ave.)

Tickets are \$15.00 and will be on sale beginning Tuesday, January 7, 2014. Themed "Building a Better Bellflower," the luncheon will highlight recent accomplishments and forecast future City projects for the new year.

For more information about the event call (562) 804-1424, ext. 2267 or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).

## City Hall Closed Dec. 31, Jan. 1 & 20 Regular City Council Meeting Resumes Jan. 13

**Reminder: There will be no trash collection on Wednesday, January 1. Collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. (e.g. Wednesday's route will be collected Thursday)**

**There will also be no street sweeping on Wednesday, January 1.**

# New 2013 Building Codes Go Into Effect January 1, 2014

Every three years the State of California adopts new and/or updated model codes. The California Building Standards Commission has established January 1, 2014 as the effective date for the implementation of the 2013 California Building Standards Code (aka the CA Codes or Title 24). Any plans or permit applications submitted on this date or after will be required to comply with the 2013 CA Codes. The 2010 CA Codes will remain in effect for all plan and permit applications submitted on or before December 13, 2013 (which allows 2 week time frame to complete plan review before new code dates); hence, permits issued under those approved plans may be built under the 2010 CA Codes.

## FAQ'S REGARDING THE NEW 2013 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE:

**Q:** Will my construction project be affected by the new 2013 California Building Standards Code?

**A:** If your project has already obtained a permit or will obtain a permit before

January 1, 2014, then the new 2013 Codes will not apply, unless the permit(s) expire by time limitation, or any major revisions are introduced January 1, 2014 or thereafter.

**Q:** If a project is submitted for plan check to the Building and Safety Division prior to January 1, 2014, what Codes are applicable to the project?

**A:** The cutoff date for projects to be reviewed under the current 2010 California Building Codes is December 13, 2013. Any plan check submittals that are submitted after December 13, 2013 will be reviewed and inspected under the newly adopted 2013 California Building Codes.

**Q:** If my project is submitted to the Building and Safety Division for plan check prior to January 1, 2014, when will my plan check expire?

**A:** Plan check applications are valid for one year from the date of application.

**Q:** Where can I find and/or purchase

the new 2013 California Building Codes?

**A:** The new 2013 California Building Codes are currently available for purchase from technical book stores or directly from the International Code Council, at [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org). As of January 1, 2014, the new 2013 California Building Codes, as adopted and amended by the City of Bellflower, will be available for public review at the Building and Safety Division.

**CR&R will provide FREE Christmas Tree recycling services beginning Thursday, Dec. 26th through Saturday, January 11th**

**Remove stand, lights and ornaments, and place your tree on the curb next to your trash container on trash day. If your tree is more than 10' tall, be sure to cut it in half.**

**For more info call (562) 944-4716**



On December 10, the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) presented the City of Bellflower with a 2013 Project of the Year award for the City's "Rights-of-Way to Open Space" projects. These projects consist of the Bike Trail, Riverview Park and Palm Park. The award was for the "Creative and Innovative" projects category, since the City entered into long-term leases with Metro, SCE and Caltrans, respectively, for the development of underutilized transportation and public utility rights-of-way into passive and active recreational open space for the community. The uniqueness of the achievement is its innovation in land re-purposing with strategic partnerships, but without acquisition. The three facilities as a whole nearly doubled the City's public open space.



The City of Bellflower staff is planning a proposed dog park in town. The dog park will feature fenced in areas for large and small dogs to run off-leash, and will connect to the bike trail where many residents walk their dogs on a leash. An open house was held on December 7th for homeowners and residents in the vicinity. Be on the look out for public meetings and council studies to determine the future of the park.

# A Festive Evening at Bellflower Chamber of Commerce Open House



## Downtown's Unique Places



### Ruffles & Rust

Home and Garden Decor, Shabby Chic, French Country and Rustic  
9737 Flower St., (562) 326-1137



### GG's Corner

Home and Craft Decor, Shabby Chic, Victorian Collectables  
9735 Flower St., (562) 505-2005

**OPENING EARLY 2014**

### Bo's Cigar Lounge

Cigars, drinks & comfy chairs  
www.boknowscigars.com

### Fronk's Restaurant

Burgers & Barbecue  
www.eatatfronks.com

### Cocina Habana Vieja

Cuban restaurant

## Assemblymember Garcia Offers a Chance to Propose a New Law

Have you ever been in a situation and thought "There ought to be a law?" If so, Assemblymember Cristina Garcia would like to hear from you!

Garcia's office is holding a "There Ought to be a Law" contest for residents of the 58th Assembly District (Downey, Commerce, Pico Rivera, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cerritos, Artesia, Montebello and a part of Norwalk). This is your chance to submit ideas/proposals for a new state law!

Entries can touch on a wide range of issues that can be addressed by legislation and will improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods and throughout the state of California. Applications can be submitted online and are due by Friday, January 17, 2013.

The contest is open to residents of the 58th Assembly District and people of all ages are encouraged to enter. All high school and college students are highly encouraged to participate.

For more info and application form visit [www.asmdc.org/members/a58/](http://www.asmdc.org/members/a58/).

### Mark Your Calendar - Walk & Talk

Assemblymember Cristina Garcia has scheduled a Walk & Talk in Bellflower on February 1, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Location: TBA



While most Californians will keep their existing health insurance, some may be moved off their current policies because their plans don't meet the minimum coverage benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

To help these transitioning enrollees, a special customer care unit has been established. The hotline, (855) 857-0445, will operate Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Covered California is now enrolling through March 31, 2014. For more information about available plans and/or coverage visit [www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com).



BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 9 TO 18 ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER

# MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP



Proudly Presented by



9831 Belmont Street  
Town Center Plaza  
Bellflower . 90706

## 10 WEEK WORKSHOP INCLUDES:

HOW TO AUDITION  
HOW TO ACT  
HOW TO USE YOUR VOICE PROPERLY  
DANCE TECHNIQUES

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION DATE AND PARENT MEETING IS:  
FEBRUARY 25TH 2014 AT 6:00PM AT THE WILLIAM AND JANE  
BRISTOL AUDITORIUM, 16600 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE,  
BELLFLOWER 90706

This 10 week workshop will prepare you to perform in a  
musical Theater production on a professional stage.  
The performance dates are: May 2nd Thru May 4th  
at 16600 Civic Center Drive (inside City Hall).

\$130.00 for full 10 week course  
Payment plan available

Ph. 562 . 867 . 3524

[www.bellflowertheater.org](http://www.bellflowertheater.org)

In cooperation with Music Theater International  
and the City Of Bellflower Parks and Recreation

## Bellflower Symphony Orchestra Night at the Opera

Saturday, February 1, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Free admission for members  
or Bellflower residents

**Donation recommendation:**  
**\$12 Adult - \$10 Student/Senior**

For info call (562) 867-4871

Bristol Civic Auditorium  
16600 Civic Center Dr.,

## Library Events

Clifton M. Brakensiek Library  
9945 E. Flower St.  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
(562) 925-5543

## Teen Wednesdays

Every Wednesday in January

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Free & open to the public

Hey teens, join us every Wednesday for board games, video games, movies, art activities, tasty snacks, and so much more! Stop by, because there is something different every week! For grades 6-12.

## Zumba Fitness

Saturday, January 11

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

Free & open to the public

Want to get re-energized for the new year? Zumba welcomes participants of all levels. Be sure to bring water and a towel. For teens and adults.

## Sisters in Crime/LA

Saturday, January 25

2:00 p.m.

Free & open to the public

Learn from guest speakers who are experts in their fields, including detectives, editors, best-selling authors, publicists and more. Mystery author panel.

## When Life Gives You Lemons Kicks Off the Young Playwrights' Program

The Youth Cultural Arts Foundation steals the spotlight in the new year with an original Young Playwrights' Program performance titled "When

Life Gives You Lemons" by The New Year Group.

Upcoming shows are scheduled for

Friday, January 31 at

7:30 p.m., Saturday, February 1 at

7:30 p.m., and Sunday, February at

2:00 p.m. The following weekend also

offers additional showtimes on Friday,

February 7 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. and the finale on Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m.

All performances are held at the Belmont Theater at 9831 Belmont St., Bellflower. Tickets are \$6.00 presale and \$8.00 at the door. Reserve early; performances often sell out!

The goal of the Young Playwrights' Program is to encourage the next generation of theater script writers by honoring their work and bringing it to life. For more info call (562) 867-3524 or visit [www.bellflowertheater.org](http://www.bellflowertheater.org).



# A Look Back at Bellflower 2013



Belle the cow installation



Palm Street Park opens



BRAVO Awards ceremony

Thank you to our community for making 2013 great! We look forward to another fun year full of activities.



Food Trucks & Flicks



Streetfest



National Night Out



Tree Lighting Ceremony

# 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 Winter/Spring Hours of Operation

## January (ALL PARKS)

Monday - Thursday • 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday • 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. / Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## February (1st-9th) (ALL PARKS)

Monday - Friday • 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. / Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## February (10th-28th) (ALL PARKS)

Monday - Friday • 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (CP/TP)  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (SP)  
 Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## March (ALL PARKS)

Monday - Friday • 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 (ALL PARKS)

January 1 • Unsupervised  
 January 2 - 3 & 20 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 February 14 • 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 February 17 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## Pirate Park

### January

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. / Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### February (1st-9th)

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. / Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### February (10th-28th)

Monday - Friday • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### March

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

## Special/Holiday Hours

January 1 • Closed  
 January 20 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 February 17 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Key for calendar



City Hall closed



City Hall closed for holiday

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