



# the BELLFLOWER CITIZEN

Volume 15 Issue 2

ONLINE EDITION

February 2015

## Cooper Salutes Bellflower's Community Heroes at 21st Annual BRAVO Awards

The City of Bellflower is preparing to host its 21st annual BRAVO Awards on Thursday, February 5th, 2015 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the William and Jane Bristol Auditorium inside Bellflower City Hall located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower.

The BRAVO Awards recognize individuals based in Bellflower from the L.A. County Sheriff's Department the L.A. County Fire Department and community heroes who performed outstanding acts of valor, heroism and community service in support of public safety in Bellflower during the past year. This year the City is recognizing sixteen recipients, as well as 2 winners of the annual Student Essay Contest.

Teaming up to host this year's event, Daniella Guzman and Whit Johnson of NBC4's weekday morning newscast "Today in LA" will venture out of the studio and into the theater to participate in the program. Known for her dynamic reporting, Guzman has covered many prominent news stories throughout her career, including hurricanes Ike, Dolly and Gustav. Guzman was one of the first reporters on the scene during the 2009 Fort Hood shooting rampage. From Texas, she went to work for NBC5



Chicago and covered a fast-moving blend of the latest breaking news stories and issues important to local residents. A native of Texas, Guzman is fluent in Spanish. She graduated with a B.A. in bilingual journalism and communications from the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

She lives in the Los Angeles area with her husband and daughter.

Whit Johnson's television news career has taken him from coast to coast and back, giving him a unique combination of local, national, and international experience. Since joining NBC4, Whit has traveled to Sochi, Russia for the 2014 Winter Olympics; reported from Boston for Governor Mitt Romney's 2012 run for President; he covered the Navy Yard mass shooting in Washington, DC and the fatal crash landing of Asiana flight 214 at San

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### *Bellflower Forecasts Stronger Year*

Mayor Sonny R. Santa Ines will present Bellflower's State of the City address on Thursday, February 19 at 11:30 a.m. in Simms Park Auditorium (16614 South Clark Ave.)

Tickets are \$15.00 and are on

sale now. Themed "Strong Today, Stronger Tomorrow," the luncheon will highlight recent accomplishments and present upcoming City projects for the new year.

For more information call (562) 804-1424, ext. 2267.

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
**\$15 EACH**  
 PURCHASE @ CITY HALL INFORMATION DESK OR SIMMS PARK

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**CITY HALL CLOSED**  
 Monday, February 16  
 Presidents' Day observed

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Francisco International Airport. In 2013, Whit earned a Los Angeles Emmy for a multi-part investigation into complaints that a Los Angeles area auto repair shop and towing company were overcharging people by thousands of dollars.

Whit was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, but after his career has taken him through four states and Washington, D.C., he's proud to consider the entire state of California his home.

The Keynote speaker for the event will be former Los Angeles Lakers player, NBA-DL and WNBA champion coach, Michael Cooper. Cooper is currently with the WNBA's Atlanta Dream. Cooper was a five-time NBA Champion as a player with the Lakers, and led the Los Angeles Sparks to two WNBA titles as the team's head coach, as well as coaching the Albuquerque Thunderbirds of the NBA D-League to a championship during their inaugural season.

Cooper is one of the most successful coaches in WNBA history, ranking second in career winning percentage (.663) and sixth in career victories (167) entering the 2014 season. He is the last WNBA head coach to have led his team to back-to-back league titles, winning the 2001 and 2002 championships in Los Angeles.



"We are honored to have a Los Angeles Lakers legend speak at our upcoming 21st annual BRAVO Awards ceremony. Michael Cooper has exemplified the spirit of the BRAVO awards through his community efforts off the court and with his actions as both a player and a coach on the court. We anticipate an inspiring message from "coach" Cooper and we look forward to his visit to the City of Bellflower as we

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# Thank You to all BRAVO 2015 Sponsors

## Diamond - \$4000



**MESA VERDE  
DEVELOPMENT, INC.**

Mesa Verde Development, Inc.  
19 Spectrum Pointe Drive, Suite 609  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
(949) 697-1931 • paul@mesaverdedev.com



Located at Belmont Court, Downtown Bellflower

## Platinum - \$3000



12739 Lakeland Rd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
(562) 944-4716



17406 Woodruff Ave. Bellflower, CA 90706  
(562) 925-9531

## Gold - \$2000



## Silver - \$1000



## Bronze - \$500

Hartzog & Crabill, Inc. Rotary Club of Bellflower  
Mike Cabrera - Intergraphics Printing Co.



## Honorable - \$250

Admiral Pest Control  
ACP Management Co.  
Beaver, Menkes & Hass  
Bellflower Kiwanis Club  
Bellflower Noon Lions Club

MGB Services, Inc.  
Mr. Termite  
Youth Cultural Arts Foundation  
TNT Fireworks

## Friend - \$100

Mayor Sonny R. Santa Ines  
Mayor Pro Tem Scott A. Larsen  
Council Member Ray Dunton  
Council Member Dan Koops  
Council Member Ron Schnabegger  
Bellflower Soroptimist

Christina's Uniforms  
Hails Family Furniture  
Laser Precision Tooling & Engineering, Inc.  
Ray Hamada  
Ray Smith Realty  
Shelton B. Pitluck, O.D.

# MEET THE WINNERS

Thursday, Feb. 5 • 11:00 a.m. • Bristol Auditorium  
Keynote Speaker Michael Cooper



Deputy Michael Haak  
Outstanding Service



Deputy Gregory Emerson  
Outstanding Service



Deputy Phillip Muse  
Outstanding Service



Lauren Gross  
Outstanding Service



Laurie Russo  
Outstanding Service



Veronica Gomez  
Outstanding Service



Eduardo De La Cruz  
Outstanding Service



Janet Karen Lucero  
Outstanding Service



Ana Bobadilla-Staple  
Outstanding Service



Madilyn E. Bagley  
Outstanding Service



Heidi Fernandez  
Neighborhood Watch Co-Capt.



Albert Fernandez  
Neighborhood Watch Co-Capt.



Steven Dollinger  
Distinguished Service



Lisa Fair  
Valor



Kyara Seymore  
Outstanding Service



La Fonda Riggins  
Distinguished Service



Cheyenne Avila  
Student Essay Winner



Kimberly Gutierrez  
Student Essay Winner

# Reap Rewards: Participate In *Dine Bellflower* Program

The Bellflower Chamber of Commerce is giving out free movie tickets as part of its *Dine Bellflower* Valentine's Day event. Choose from one of Bellflower restaurants (listed) and spend \$20 from February 13th-15th and receive one free movie ticket. Be sure to turn your original receipt for in exchange for the free movie ticket at the Chamber of Commerce office in Downtown Bellflower at 16730 Bellflower Blvd. no later than Tuesday, February 17th. Must be 18 years old to redeem and tickets will be distributed as first come, first serve. *Supplies are limited.*

Participating restaurants include Cafe Camellia, Catalina's Little Grill, Chris & Pitts BBQ Restaurant, Firehouse Chefs Food & Drink, Flour Street Bakery, Hambone's, Jack In The Box, King Taco, Las Islas Marias #9, Lee's Sandwiches, McDonalds, Nachos Mexican Food, New Wave Restaurant, Norm's Restaurant, Papa John's Pizza, Spike's Bar & Grill, Sahara Cuisine, Starbucks Coffee (Store #7608) and Subway.

Make Valentine's Day memorable, support local restaurants and plan an evening out (or in!) to *Dine Bellflower!*



## Shop New Fashion at February Grand Opening Events

The Bellflower Chamber of Commerce invites the local community to the Grand Re-Opening event for Diva Boutiques on Thursday, February 12th from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Stop by and discover premier women's clothing for all sizes (0-24), stylish handbags, jewelry and much more. Diva Boutiques is located at 16441 Bellflower Blvd. Bellflower, CA. For more info call Diva Boutiques at (562) 925-7847.



The Bellflower Chamber of Commerce will host a second Grand Opening celebration for MOZA by Zuly on Thursday, February 26th from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Find contemporary teen and women's fashion as well as original designs! MOZA by Zuly is located at 16733 Bellflower Blvd. Bellflower, CA. For more information call (562) 867-1744.



Bellflower Symphony Orchestra  
**Night at the Opera**  
Saturday, January 31, 2015  
7:00 p.m.

Free admission for members  
or Bellflower residents

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

For information or to purchase  
in advance call (562) 867-4871

Bristol Civic Auditorium  
16600 Civic Center Dr.,  
Bellflower, CA

## WORK AROUND TOWN

### **City of Bellflower**

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower  
(562) 804-1424 ext. 2240  
[www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)

### **Assistant Planner (F/T)**

#### **Planning Department**

\$4,673- \$5,681/month plus benefits  
**Applications due: 2/25/15 - 3:00 p.m.**

Provide general zoning, building, and related code information and application forms to permit applicants and the general public; provide guidance in filling out various permit applications and forms; ensure that applicants understand the permitting process and the necessary information and attachments required to submit an accurate and complete application. Process permit applications, review plans for code compliance, calculate fees, verify professional/contractor license...

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college with major course work in Urban Planning or a related field. One year of directly related municipal planning experience is highly desirable. For a full job description visit the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).

### **Admin. Assistant (P/T)**

#### **City Manager's Office**

\$20.20- \$24.56/hr.  
**Applications due: 3/3/15 - 3:00 p.m.**

Provide clerical support to the Administration Department, as well as customer service over the phone and in person. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel, schedule and coordinate projects, and type at a corrected rate of 50 words per minute (typing certificate required).

High School diploma, or equivalent; three years of recent responsible clerical experience, and general knowledge of modern office practices and procedures. For a full job description visit the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).

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pay tribute to our local community heroes," said Mayor Sonny R. Santa Ines. Mayor Santa Ines added that he has arranged for Cooper to autograph a basketball that will be raffled for attendees at the event.

The Laker Girls will also be on

hand to take photographs and sign autographs with fans, and a catered lunch is provided after the ceremony. The National Anthem will be performed by local student and Bellflower Youth Cultural Arts Foundation participant, Katelyn Robinson. The ceremony will also feature a special

presentation to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Bellflower Team for Outstanding Achievement in continuing the City's lowest crime rate in more than 50 years.

The BRAVO Awards ceremony is funded through sponsorships from area businesses and individuals and represents one of the City of Bellflower's most prestigious honors.

For more information on the BRAVO program call Kristen Smith at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267 or email [ksmith@bellflower.org](mailto:ksmith@bellflower.org).

## *Get Ready to Lose the Leash*

The City of Bellflower is nearing completion of the Flora Vista Dog Park and will host a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting event to mark the City's first dog park. 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.

The park includes decorative landscaping such as concrete bone planter (which will also double as a seating area), paw prints in the walking path, and a drinking fountain for humans and another for pets. Dog waste dispensers, drought tolerant plants and on-site parking will be featured as well. The grounds of each enclosed park is bedded with decomposed granite.

Sponsorship packages will be available to help fund ongoing maintenance and improvements to the park. For sponsorship info, call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267. For any other info call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2249.



Golden Corral construction on steady pace for a March 2015 Grand Opening Celebration. Look out for details on the City website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org) or find us on social media!



PLEASE JOIN  
**ASSEMBLYMEMBER CRISTINA GARCIA**

## ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 58 COMMUNITY SWEARING IN CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2015  
11:30AM-1:30PM

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER  
12400 COLUMBIA WAY  
DOWNEY, CA 90242

ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE FESTIVITIES, WHICH INCLUDE FREE FOOD AND MUSIC, AND CELEBRATE DISTRICT 58<sup>TH</sup>'S RICH CULTURE AND DIVERSITY

WITH SPECIAL GUEST BETTY YEE  
CA STATE CONTROLLER

RSVP ENCOURAGED

PLEASE CONTACT DENNISE SILVA TO RSVP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION  
EMAIL [DENNISE.SILVA@ASM.CA.GOV](mailto:DENNISE.SILVA@ASM.CA.GOV) OR CALL (562) 861-5803



## Love Bellflower: A Day of Service



Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> || 8:30AM - 12NOON

Meet at the Bellflower Towne Center  
at Bellflower Blvd. & Belmont St.

Teams will be going out to do clean-ups,  
painting and other jobs around our community.

To sign up call our office at 562.804.2189  
or email [admin@kcbellflower.org](mailto:admin@kcbellflower.org)

this year, make **Bellflower** your **Valentine**



## Final Streetscape Community Meeting

The Downtown business community along with Bellflower residents are welcome to join City staff to discuss the future Streetscape Enhancement Project. Several meetings were held throughout the past year and this final meeting will outline what features will be included and an approximate timeline to expect. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Kingdom Causes Community Center located at 16429 Bellflower Blvd. Bellflower. RSVPs are required no later than noon on Monday, February 2nd. Food and refreshments will be provided. To RSVP, call Jane Ramirez at (562) 804-2414 ext. 2010 or respond via email to [jramirez@bellflower.org](mailto:jramirez@bellflower.org).

One Day Only!

## "Have a Heart"

Super Saturday Adoption Event



Saturday, February 14, 2015  
10:00 am—5:00 pm

9777 Seaaca St. Downey, CA 90241

\$14

Adoption fee

All dogs & cats 1  
year and older.

### Adoption fee includes:

- Spay/Neuter
- Micro-chip
- First set of vaccines
- Flea Treatment

\*Promotion does not include  
"Boutique Buddies".

Some animals may require a  
spay/neuter deposit.

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

562-803-3301

## Library Events

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

## DIY Glass Etching for Adults

Tuesday, February 17  
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*Free & open to the public*

Learn how easy it is to put your own personal touch on any type of glass item like containers or cups. All materials will be provided. For adults 18+ yrs.

## DIY Mug Art for Teens

Wednesday, February 25  
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

*Free & open to the public*

Get creative and make your very own unique mug with just sharpies! All materials are provided. For teens in grades 6 - 12. Sponsored by Friends of the Bellflower Library.

## Fiddler on the Roof

Musical Theater  
Workshop

Ages 10-18

### Auditions:

Feb 11th - 6:30 p.m.  
16600 Civic Center Dr.  
Bellflower, CA 90706

Show Dates:  
March 27, 28, 29

8 week workshop - \$99

(562) 867-3524 [www.bellflowertheater.org](http://www.bellflowertheater.org) Find us on Facebook!