



the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

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ONLINE EDITION

December 2015

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting to Ring in the Holiday Season

Join the City of Bellflower staff, BUSD students, Downtown restaurants and area residents to celebrate the holiday season at the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Friendship Square (Downtown Bellflower).

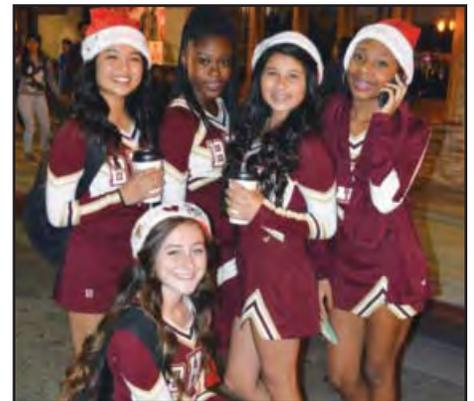
Santa Claus will arrive during the event and meet with children one-on-

one to take their holiday wishes! The Mayfair High School Vocal Ensemble will entertain attendees with a special performance of holiday songs.

There will also be a rink for scooters and skates (children are encouraged to wear a helmet to enter the rink), along with the Bellflower Recreation In Motion (BRIM) program, and

holiday crafts. Refreshments will be served, including complimentary peach cobbler donated by Johnny Rebs' Restaurant, and coffee and hot cocoa provided by Starbucks.

For more information on all City's holiday festivities call the Parks & Recreation Department at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2261



BRAVO Sponsorships Open

Are you a business looking to advertise in the local community or an individual who wants to publicly support Bellflower's neighborhood heroes? If so, the City of Bellflower is seeking sponsors for the 22nd Annual BRAVO Awards. The ceremony will be held on February 4, 2016 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 is one of the City's most prestigious honors and

stands for Bellflower Recognizes Acts of Valor and Outstanding Service. Citizens, as well as area residents, whom have acted in support of public safety or provided service over-and-beyond the call of duty, are presented an award and thanked for their efforts.

The BRAVO Awards ceremony is funded entirely through sponsorships from area businesses and individuals. To view sponsorship levels, visit the City's website at www.bellflower.org (listed on the homepage News Details) or call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267.

City Hall Holiday Closures

Christmas Eve & Day
Dec 24th - 25th

New Year's Eve & Day
Dec 31st - Jan 1st

(Note: City Hall is also closed Dec 30th)

Fire Inspection Scam Alert

The County of Los Angeles would like all business owners



and operators to be advised of an ongoing scam involving fraudulent fire protection companies. Employees of these companies have been entering businesses claiming to have a contract or a work order to do an inspection at the location. It has been reported by victims, that statements have been made to mislead business employees such as, “we work with the fire dept.,” “we took over your old company”, “we are your company”. The fake inspectors will seek to gain a signature of an employee, often a front desk or warehouse worker, in an attempt to legitimize themselves.

Despite there being no contract or scheduled inspection, the employees of these companies will attempt to convince a representative of the business to let them walk the property. If your business did not request a private company to come and inspect your fire equipment, you can refuse services from the soliciting company.

Do not sign any contracts provided by these companies – if you sign a contract or waiver, they will attempt to bill you for their fraudulent services. If you have any doubt



about what is required regarding your fire equipment or life safety needs, please contact the fire department with your questions and/or concerns.

Any businesses that have had any contact with these fraudulent fire inspectors are encouraged to call the Lakewood Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 623-3500 or Los Angeles County Fire Department East Region Fire Prevention Office at (562) 860-8014.

Fire Safety FAQs Provided by Edison

How do I install holiday lights and decorations safely?

When the holidays are near and it's time to decorate, help your family enjoy the season safely.

- ◆ If you find frayed cords or wires, broken fuses, or cracked light bulbs, throw away the strand and get a new one.
- ◆ Never use nails or staples to attach a string of lights or a cord.
- ◆ Choose extension cords that are certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL, CSA, or ETA.
- ◆ Don't overload: limit yourself to three strands of lights per outlet.
- ◆ Unplug decorative lights when you leave home or go to bed.

After the holidays, there's a safer way to remove and store lights and decorations. Unplug decorations, lights and extension cords before removing them. Never allow children to tug on electrical cords – there's a risk of tearing the insulation and exposing wires.



Outdoors, keep ladders, long-handled tools, and dangling light strands far away from overhead power lines, service drops, and pole-to-house connections. Follow manufacturers' and your city's directions for safely disposing of worn or broken lights and decorations.

For more info visit www.sce.com

Recycle Your Christmas Tree

CR&R Waste Management will begin their Christmas tree collection recycling service on December 28th and continue curbside pickups through January 15th.



If your tree is over 6' tall, CR&R asks each resident to cut it in half and place at the curb on your regular collection day. **Residents must call to schedule tree pickup.** Small trees may be placed inside your green waste cart [if you have one]. Tree collectors will come by on your scheduled collection day.

Christmas trees are considered organic waste, which means they can be composted, mulched or even converted into fuel. But the tree is only organic if it's stripped down to its original form, which means removing all the lights, ornaments and tinsel. The “flocked” tree, in which the tree is spray painted white for a more “wintery” feel is not compostable.

For more info or to schedule a pickup, call CR&R Waste Management at (562) 944-4716.

Christmas & New Year's Holiday Schedule

NO trash collection on Christmas Day (12/25/15) or New Year's Day (1/1/16). Collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

NO street sweeping on Christmas Day (12/25/15) or New Year's Day (1/1/16).

WORK AROUND TOWN

City of Bellflower

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower
View full job description at:
www.bellflower.org

Recreation Specialist (P/T)

Range: \$12.40 - \$15.09/Hr.
15-20 Hrs per week, M-F
Deadline: Open Until Filled

Performs a variety of specialized and responsible recreation duties and assignments; assists with special events, projects and clerical work; may supervise assigned staff as needed; and provide technical assistance to administration, program and event supervisors. Possess knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and social media platforms.

Possession of a valid California Driver License. Must also possess valid First Aid and CPR certification, or be willing to obtain certification within the first three (3) months of employment. Completion of two (2) years of college & two (2) years of leadership/participation in recreation activities.

Executive Assistant I

(F/T benefitted position)
\$3,908 - \$4,749 / Month
Deadline: 12/17/2015 @ 2:00 p.m.

Perform a variety of responsible, confidential, and complex administrative and secretarial duties for an appointed City Clerk and staff. Relieves City Clerk and staff of a variety of administrative details; independently responds to routine letters and general correspondence; composes and prepares letters, memoranda, and reports pertaining to standard policies.

Equivalent to a high school diploma supplemented by specialized course work in management, business admin, office practices, or a related field. Ability to type at a corrected rate of 50 words per minute.

Free Rides Aboard Holiday Shoppers Express

To help reduce holiday stress, all Dial-A-Ride members will receive FREE transportation to and from the Lakewood Shopping Center on **Thursday, December 3 and Friday, December 11 (only)** between 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Be sure to make your reservation 72-hours in advance; call (562) 865-7433.



Chamber Mixes It Up in December

Join the Chamber of Commerce and many Bellflower business owners and operators at the Annual Holiday Mixer on December 10th at the Chamber Office, 16730 Bellflower Blvd., from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stop by after work to enjoy festive food, delicious desserts, meet new and old friends alike. This event is free to Chamber Members and is sponsored by ServiceMaster Professional Home & Disaster Cleaning Service.

www.seaaca.org

“Happy Pawlidays”

“Give us the gift of a “furr-ever home.”

Reduced Pet Adoption Fees
December 15, 2015 - January 2, 2016

9777 Seaaca St. Downey, CA 562-803-3301

Dogs 5 years & older \$37.50
Dogs 1-5 years old \$55.00
Puppies \$135.00

Cats & Kittens \$5.00

“Oh what fun it is to adopt!”

Adoption Fee includes: *Spay/Neuter *1" Set of Vaccinations *Micro-Chip *Deworming * Flea Treatment
Promotion Excludes: Puppies and Boutique Buddies

An additional spay/neuter deposit may be required if animal leaves unaltered.



Above: Students from Las Flores Educational Center toured City Hall to learn about local government and the City of Bellflower. Students ranged from K-6th grade and had an opportunity to meet staff, walk through various departments and sit in the Council Chambers to learn about City Council Meetings.

Bellflower Symphony to Hold Concerto Competition

The Bellflower Symphony Association is now accepting applications for the upcoming 2016 Concerto Competition for Young Artists. Joseph R. Taylor, Conductor of the Bellflower Symphony Orchestra, encourages all children and young adults who play any woodwind, brass, string and piano instrument to audition for the competition. Winners will be chosen from three age groups: Juniors are 13 years and younger, Intermediates are ages 14-17 years, and Seniors are 18-22 years old. Each audition may not be longer than 7 minutes. Winners will perform in the final concerto on February 20, 2016 at the Bristol Civic Auditorium. Applications are due by February 5, 2016. For more info and/or audition details visit www.bellflowersymphony.org.

Holiday Library Events

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

Teen Art Activity - Snow Globes

Tuesday, December 1
4:00 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Free & open to the public
All teens are invited to be creative and design a winter

wonderland inside a snow globe using a large assortment of small objects! All materials provided. For grades 6th-12th.



Holiday Extravaganza with Swazzle

Saturday, December 19 • 2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Free & open to the public



All ages are welcome to celebrate the Holiday Season with Swazzle's

puppet performance. Even an energetic Elf wishes that his snowman were alive. In this adventure, a zany Sugar Plum Faerie agrees to grant his wish if he can find three magical objects... be entertained by whimsical winter characters and a misunderstood Peppermonster.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Bellflower Library

Mark Your Calendar

All County of Los Angeles Public Libraries are closed Nov. 26th-27th for Thanksgiving

Children's HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 12, 2015
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.




FREE

- Crafts
- Holiday Activities
- Refreshments
- and Much More!

"Visits with Santa"
10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Note: Gifts are not distributed at this event!

This event will take place at John S. Simms Park - 16614 S. Clark Ave. - (562) 866-7510

Donate to Holiday Food & Toy Drive

The Bellflower Volunteer Center is asking residents to reach out to those less fortunate and donate a new, unwrapped toy, canned goods or non-perishable packaged food this holiday season. Donations can be dropped off at Simms Park or the Volunteer Center located at 16610 S. Clark Ave. no later than Thursday, December 10th. If you are unable to deliver your items, volunteers will be happy to assist. For suggested item list or more info call (562) 925-9003 or visit www.bellflower.org

YCAF



HOLIDAY SHOW FOR KIDS

Someone stole Santa's cookies!

Help the cast uncover who stole the cookies & find the true meaning of the holiday season.

Join in the fun at the *interactive puppet show*. Sing holiday favorites and be entertained by iconic characters. Who knows, **YOU** may **STAR** in the show!

Present your ticket stub for a dining discount at participating restaurants

Buy 1 entrée, Get 2nd entrée 50% off



To purchase tickets: City Hall, 2nd floor Economic Development Department or at the Bellflower Theater Box Office prior to showtime

Bellflower Theater • 9831 Belmont St. www.bellflowertheater.org

DECEMBER PERFORMANCES

Thursdays 12/3 & 12/10 @ 7:00pm, 7:30pm, 8:00pm & 8:30pm

Fridays 12/4 & 12/11 @ 7:00pm, 7:30pm, 8:00pm, 8:30pm & 9:00pm

Saturdays 12/5 & 12/12 @ 10:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm, 1:00pm, 1:30pm, 2:00pm, 2:30pm & 3:00pm

Sunday 12/6 @ 1:30pm, 2:00pm, 2:30pm, 3:00pm, 3:30pm & 4:00pm



In cooperation with the City of Bellflower

www.bellflower.org