



## Louis Gossett, Jr. to Appear at Upcoming BRAVO Awards

The City of Bellflower is pleased to announce that award winning actor Louis Gossett, Jr. will serve as the keynote speaker for the 22nd annual BRAVO Awards. The event will take place Thursday, February 4th, 2016 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the William and Jane Bristol Auditorium inside Bellflower City Hall located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA.

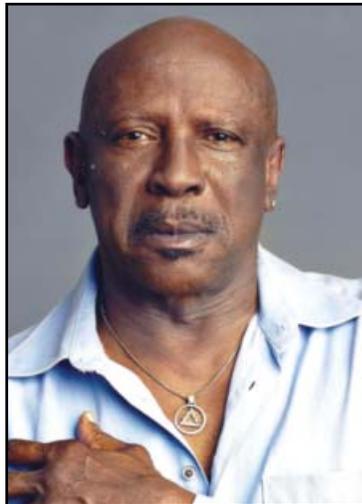
The BRAVO Awards recognize individuals based in Bellflower from the L.A. County Sheriff's Department, the L.A. County Fire Department and community

heroes who performed outstanding acts of valor, heroism and community service in support of public safety in Bellflower during the past year.

Louis Gossett, Jr. remains one of the most sought after and busiest veteran actors in the film and television industry. His unique talent for portraying powerful and charismatic characters has charmed audiences worldwide, resulting in an impressive amount of coveted awards, including an Oscar, Emmy, and Golden Globe.

Gossett captured an Emmy, television's highest honor, in 1977 for his compelling portrayal of "Fiddler" in the historic television mini-series, Roots. He electrified the screen in 1982 with

his unforgettable portrayal of a relentless military sergeant in the hit film An Officer and a Gentleman, earning him the ultimate acting honor, an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor. Gossett struck gold again in 1992 for his poignant work in HBO's The Josephine Baker Story, and garnered a Golden Globe. Even in a guest-starring role for the popular CBS series Touched by an Angel, Gossett's work was singled out and he received the 1998 NAACP Image Award.



His passion for his work is matched only by his strong belief in helping others by giving back to the community. He serves as a spokesperson and a behind the scenes leader for many charitable organizations. Gossett also developed a nonprofit foundation, The Eracism Foundation, with the aim of developing and producing entertainment that brings awareness and education to issues such as racism, ignorance, and societal apathy.

Gossett first gained recognition in the New York theatre scene where, at the age of 16, he won a Donaldson Award for Best Newcomer, beating out a young James Dean. Soon he was offered a prestigious Broadway role

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### *State of the City Program Set For February 18, 2016*

Join the community to learn about the City of Bellflower's recent accomplishments and future goals hosted by Mayor Scott A. Larsen at the Annual State of the City Address. The event will take place on Thursday, February 18 at 11:30 a.m. in the Simms Park Auditorium located at 16614 South Clark Ave.

Details about the program will be announced next month on [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org) or call (562) 804-1424, ext. 2267.

**City Hall Closed  
Dec. 24, 25, 30 & 31  
Jan. 1, 2016**

**Regular City Council  
Meetings Resume  
Jan. 11, 2016**

No trash collection on

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25 or  
New Year's Day - Friday, January 1.  
Collection will be delayed one day for the  
remainder of the week. (e.g. Friday's  
route will be collected on Saturday)

No street sweeping on

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25 or  
New Year's Day - Friday, January 1.

CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
  
**SEAACA**  
 Dedicated to Quality Animal Care & Control  
 Presents

**Vaccination Clinic &  
 Pet Care Fair**

**Sunday, January 31, 2016**  
 11:00 am—2:00 pm  
 Simms Park  
 16614 S. Clark Ave., Bellflower  
 Leashed Pets Welcome!

**Rabies, Vaccinate & License all in one place!**

Free Admission!  
 Rabies Vaccination \$6.00 +  
 \$2.00 Disposal fee

- Humane Education
- Fun
- Family Activities
- Disaster Preparedness
- Pet Adoptions
- Low Cost Vaccinations

Bellflower Symphony Orchestra  
**Night at the Opera**  
 Saturday, January 30, 2016 • 7:00 p.m.  
 Free admission for members or Bellflower residents

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

Bristol Civic Auditorium  
 16600 Civic Center Dr.,  
 Bellflower

For info call (562) 867-4871

**BRAVO cont**

opposite Sidney Poitier in A Raisin in the Sun and went on to star in the film version, paving the way for a long and rewarding career.

Recently, Gossett received an NABOB Pioneer in Entertainment Award, a Community Advocates Award from St. Vincent de Paul Council of Los Angeles, and the American Legacy Men of Honor and Distinction Awards from Legacy magazine. He has also received two Lifetime Achievement Awards, one from the Palm Beach International Film Festival and another from the 14th Annual African American Marketplace. Gossett's memoir is entitled An Actor and a Gentleman.

"We are honored to have legendary actor Louis Gossett, Jr. speak at our upcoming 22nd annual BRAVO Awards ceremony. Gossett exemplifies the spirit of the BRAVO awards through his community efforts behind the scenes and we look forward to his visit to the City of Bellflower as we pay tribute to our local community heroes," said Mayor Scott A. Larsen.

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 or available sponsorship opportunities, visit the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org) or contact Kristen Smith at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267 or [ksmith@bellflower.org](mailto:ksmith@bellflower.org).

**Christmas Tree Lighting • December 4, 2015**



# Safety Preparations for El Niño Weather

With El Niño storms estimated to be their strongest in years, agencies throughout Los Angeles County are already preparing for the gloomy forecast.

The County of Los Angeles would like to provide residents a few tips for surviving the rain.

1. Create an emergency kit. If you've already got an emergency kit prepared, check it regularly.

2. Be sure your car's tires have good tread, and your windshield wipers and headlights work well.

3. Clear your outdoor drains and gutters of any leaves, dirt or debris. Secure trash, recycling bins and any other items that have the potential of blowing or floating away. Have weakened trees inspected by an arborist.

4. Got flood insurance? Consider purchasing flood insurance. Keep in mind, most flood policies have a 30-day waiting period.

5. Sandbags can be utilized to help protect your home and property before a storm. (Bags are free at the City of Bellflower Public Works Yard and most Los Angeles County Fire Departments.)

6. During significant storm events, avoid waterways, flood control channels and the ocean, which can all rapidly well and become extremely dangerous. NO PLACE outside is safe when lightning is in the area!

7. Have Emergency Alerts sent to your mobile phone and email. Register at [lacounty.gov/emergency](http://lacounty.gov/emergency), or simply search "Alert LA County" on the web.

8. Download "The Works," LA County's FREE app (iPhone & Android), to report storm-related problems.

9. Prevent stormwater pollution. Rain washes everything into storm drains that lead to our rivers and

ocean. Secure household hazardous waste with tight-fitting lids and store these items in covered areas.

10. Capture rainwater. Prepare your landscaped areas to capture and retain more water by using compost. Collect rain that falls on your roof by installing rain barrels.

Modified from  
[www.lacounty.gov/elnino](http://www.lacounty.gov/elnino)



## Your Safety Is Our Priority

**DOWNED WIRES:** Stay away. Do not approach or touch the wire or any person or object in contact with the wire. Call 911 and inform the operator it's an electrical emergency.

**POWER LINES AND WATER:** Water conducts electricity, so don't touch or step in water near a downed wire.

**OVERHEAD POWER LINES:** Always be aware of overhead power lines. For example, when working or playing in or around trees, check to make sure you are not close to overhead power lines. SCE recommends always staying at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines and electrical facilities. Do not approach or touch overhead power lines or any person or object in contact with the lines. Coming into contact with electrical wires can cause serious injury or even death—keep all objects away from overhead power lines.

**STAY CLEAR ZONE MINIMUM OF 10'**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [ON.SCE.COM/STAYSAFE](http://ON.SCE.COM/STAYSAFE)

Stay Connected With Us  SCE  @SCE  @SCE

## 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

\$4,720- \$5,737/month plus benefits  
**Applications due:** 1/21/16 - 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.

**Code Enforcement Supervisor (F/T)**  
\$65,124 - \$79,152/annual + benefits  
**Applications due:** Open until filled

Plans, organizes, oversees, and reviews the work of technical and clerical staff of the Code Enforcement Division; sets priorities and directs the work of assigned staff on a project or day-to-day basis; performs routine to complex duties involved in the enforcement and communication of municipal codes. This is the supervisory-level class in the code enforcement inspector series. For a full job description, supplemental questions and to view position requirements visit the City's website.

# Lighting up the Holidays



Above: Longtime Bellflower resident Nancy Nelson celebrates the holidays by decorating her home with festive lights. Jeanette Gosden, a resident on the same street, enjoys the annual display

## Tree Recycling Begins December 28

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, be sure 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 must be clear of all the lights, ornaments and tinsel. A "flocked" (white painted) tree is not compostable.

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

## What is FOG?

FOG stands for fats, oils and grease and are found in common food and food ingredients such as meat, butter, fish, cooking oil, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise and leftover food scraps. The Los Angeles County Public Works Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District maintains sewer lines to ensure proper drainage for residential and commercial properties.

During the holiday season, families are cooking a variety of dishes. FOGs are great for frying or coating pots/pans, but can also cause sewer pipes to clog up. To help keep the pipes flowing smooth, avoid dumping food scraps into the garbage disposal. Use sink strainers to help catch food waste while washing dishes. Be sure to pour cooled fats, oils and grease into a covered disposable container soak up remaining FOG with a paper towel, and throw it in the trash. If you are experiencing a sewer backup, sewer overflow, or smell foul odors, see vermin or roaches coming out of man holes or drains in your area, call (800) 675-4357 and an employee will help determine if the County's lines need to be serviced. For questions or more information call (626) 300-3399.

## Library Offers Business Series

The Brakensiek Library has teamed up with the Small Business Development Center in Long Beach to offer a free 5-week seminar series on best practices of owning, opening and operating a small business. Current or potential small business owners will benefit from this seminar series designed to present a range of concepts. The schedule of programs is as follows:

**1/26 - Starting a Small Business**    **2/2 - Target Marketing**  
**2/9 - Marketing Technologies**        **2/16 - Access to Capital**  
**2/23 - Financial Management/Bookkeeping**

Register for the entire series of seminars or individual classes that fit your needs. These courses are designed to be hands-on and interactive, and are taught by local practitioners who serve as experts in their respective fields. The workshops are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. and space is limited. Please register online at [www.longbeachsbdc.org/focus](http://www.longbeachsbdc.org/focus)

For more info call the Brakensiek Library at (562) 925-5543.



**DO NOT** dump cooking oil, poultry fat and grease into the kitchen sink or the toilet bowl.  
**DO NOT** use hot water and soap to wash grease down the drain, because it will cool and harden in your pipes or in the sewer down the line.



**DO** place cooled cooking oil, poultry and meat fats in sealed non-recyclable containers and discard with your regular garbage.  
**DO** use paper towels to wipe residual grease or oil off of dishes, pots and pans prior to washing them.

## Library Events

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

**Royalty Tea Party**  
**Saturday, January 16th**  
**2:00 p.m.**

Miss Bellflower and her court will be having a tea time and storytime for little princesses and princes at the Brakensiek Library.

Come dressed up and enjoy treats with Bellflower's very own royalty!

Open to all ages.



## Boy Goes Door-to-Door Raising Money for Local Heroes

In appreciation of his hard work for the City of Bellflower's Public Safety Team, the U.S. flag was raised on Tuesday, December 10th at Esther Lindstrom Elementary School in honor of 10-year-old Diego Ulloa.

Ulloa took it upon himself to go door-to-door collecting cash donations from the Bellflower community to donate toward local deputies assigned to the City's Special Assignment Team.

During a fundraising discussion at a Bellflower Noon Lions Club meeting, Ulloa told his father, Sergio Ulloa, he wanted to raise money for the Lakewood Station deputies. Ulloa expressed gratitude towards deputies risking their lives to protect members of the community and he wanted to pay-it-for-



ward by creating a fundraiser. Several months later, Ulloa had collected over a thousand dollars.

Bellflower's Public Safety Director Joel Hockman accepted Ulloa's gift on behalf of the Special Assignment Team which will be used to purchase tactical equipment and help fund events for the Citizen's Academy.

## Puppets Entertained Families at YCAF's Annual Holiday Show



**Above:** The Youth Cultural Arts Foundation's (YCAF's) cast in the recent holiday puppet show at the Bellflower Theater. **Below:** Thank you to the Bellflower restaurants for participating in the Restaurant Promotion and for supporting local youth in our community.



## Landlord Workshop

**Wednesday, January 6, 2016**

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Brakensiek Library

9945 Flower St. Bellflower, CA

**Cost: FREE**

**RSVP: (800) 446-FAIR ext. 1104**

## Bring Home a Friend for the New Year

The South East Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) continues the Happy Pawlidays Discounted Adoption Promotion through January 2, 2016. SEAACA's adoption fees for dogs and cats include spaying and neutering (8 weeks & up), vaccination and permanent-ID microchip. INFO: visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).



# 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 • 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 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 pm - 7:00 pm  
 Sat. • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Sun. • 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## February (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.

## 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 18 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 February 12 • 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 February 15 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 March 25 • 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 March 27 • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 March 28-31 • 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 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

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.

### 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 18 • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 February 15 • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 March 27 • 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

January 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 H	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 C	16
17	18 H	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 C	30
31						

February 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 C	13
14	15 H	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 C	27
28	29					

March 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 C	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 C	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### 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)