



the BELLFLOWER CITIZEN

Volume 16 Issue 3

ONLINE EDITION

March 2016

Streetscape Elements Support Vision for Vibrant Downtown

Construction recently began on the Bellflower Boulevard Streetscape Project and is expected to continue through July. Upgrades include roadway resurfacing and new trees, which will improve traffic flow and pedestrian walkability within the Downtown area. There are a few temporary impacts to parking along the Boulevard and some side street closures and detours throughout the construction phase.



This project includes but is not limited to: removal of existing decorative concrete crosswalks and installation of decorative asphalt crosswalks, resurfacing of Bellflower Boulevard from Flower Street to Flora Vista Street, a new traffic signal at Bellflower Boulevard and Walnut Street, a scramble intersection at Bellflower Boulevard and Belmont Street (A scramble intersection allows all pedestrians to cross at the same time



including diagonally while all vehicles are stopped), installation of pedestrian rectangular rapid flashing beacons at Laurel and Mayne, removal of existing palm trees and installation of Maidenhair and Sweet Shade trees, removal and replacement of curb ramps and sidewalks, removal of some existing bulb-outs, installation of new bulb-outs, installation of left turn lanes on Bellflower Boulevard at Oak Street.

The City's contractor for this project, Excel Paving Company, is committed to reducing and minimizing impacts as much as possible. To reduce the impacts on the residents and business in the area, the work will be performed during normal working hours Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and lane closures will be limited to the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Local access to driveways will be maintained except during repairs and concrete pouring operations. Having said that, due to the extent of the work necessary, there will be temporary impacts on traffic during construction, and therefore, alternate routes are suggested.

For comments or questions contact the Public Works Department at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2233, or Excel Paving Company at (562) 599-5841.

*Download New
Bellflower App*



Bellflower's new APP is now available for download beginning March 1st for all smartphone and mobile devices (Android, iPhone, BlackBerry or iPad). If you're not too sure what an APP is, it's a software application for your device that does specific tasks, such as check email, set an alarm, retrieve sports scores, play a game or even easily contact the City for information or a service request. Visit www.bellflower.org.

Please Note
**Daylight
Saving Time**
begins at
2:00 a.m.
on Sunday,
March 13



February Filled With Awards & Applause

The 22nd annual BRAVO Awards welcomed Keynote Speaker Louis Gossett, Jr. to the Bristol Auditorium stage on Thursday, February 4th. Ten citizens were honored for their acts of valor or dedicated public service to the Bellflower community. Additionally, two BUSD students each received a scholarship award for their noteworthy essay about how residents can improve safety in their neighborhoods.

The State of the City, themed Embracing the Future, was presented by Mayor Scott A. Larsen on Thursday, February 18th. He reviewed recent City accomplishments and discussed upcoming projects with community leaders and local residents who attended the event. A delicious lunch was served by Cafe Camellia. The event will air on Time Warner Ch. 36 and on the City's Youtube this month.

Bellflower's Parks & Recreation held a grand re-opening of the newly improved Caruthers Park Fitness Center on Thursday, February 25th. The new installation is made up of 9 pieces of exercise equipment, 3 wheelchair accessible pieces, decomposed granite hardscape and a monument sign. This project was funded by the City of Bellflower, Kaiser Permanente, and the Kiwanis Club of Bellflower.



Thank you to all the BRAVO Awards Sponsors

Your generosity made the annual event possible



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DEVELOPMENT, INC.



Empire Transportation, Inc./Pronto Fleet Maintenance
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Admiral Pest Control BLF Kiwanis Club BLF Noon Lions Club BLF Masonic Lodge #320
J&J Liquor Kamashian Engineering MGB Services, Inc. Mr. Termite

Scott A. Larsen Dan Koops Ray Dunton Sonny R. Santa Ines Ron Schnablegger
Bellflower Soroptimist Christina's Uniforms Hails Family Furniture John Paul Drayer
Laser Precision Tooling & Engineering, Inc. Ray Hamada Ray Smith Realty
Sheldon B. Pitluk, O.D. Stonebridge Funeral Randy Bomgaars

French Quarter Serves Up Louisiana-based Family Recipes

The French Quarter Bar & Grill is set to host zydeco music at their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, March 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

The Mud Buds 10-piece dixie band will entertain the crowd with traditional New Orleans music and second line dancers will give a twirl of the parasol and handkerchief to keep the festivities going. Food samples and refreshments will be provided.

"I'm thankful and blessed to

be able to share my creole heritage and family recipes with the Bellflower community," said owner and cook Ernest McIntyre.

The French Quarter is located at 16728 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower. For more information call (562) 867-1744.



Bellflower Chamber of Commerce
Networking Mixer
Thursday, March 17, 2016
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Don't Forget To Wear Green

Sponsored by Flux
17817 Lakewood Blvd, Bellflower, CA 90706
Refreshments • Raffle Prizes • Networking
For more info: (562) 867-1744

WORKAROUND TOWN

City of Bellflower

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower
(562) 804-1424 ext. 2240

For a full job description visit
www.bellflower.org

Maintenance Worker I (P/T) Public Works Department

\$19.22 - \$23.37/hr

Applications due: 3/8/16 - 3:00 p.m.

To perform a variety of unskilled or semi-skilled maintenance work, and operate a variety of equipment in the construction, operation, repair, maintenance, and replacement of City park, sewer, street, and storm drainage facilities and systems. To perform required labor involving construction and maintenance projects as part of a crew, including: pavement cutting, ditch digging, manhole and line cleaning, main and pipe repair, laying and backfilling; routine inspection and preventative maintenance on City property and equipment. Graduation from high school or GED equivalent and one year of recent, related experience in construction, maintenance, or repair.

Accounting Technician I (P/T) Finance Department

\$20.00 - \$24.31/hr

Applications due: 3/24/16 - 4:00 p.m.

The primary duty of this position will be to act as City cashier accepting payments for a variety of permits, licenses, and other items at the front counter in City Hall. Also, under immediate supervision, to perform a variety of technical accounting duties involved in the preparation, review, and maintenance of financial and statistical records including payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, fixed assets, health benefits, and cash receipting.

High school diploma or equivalent is required. Recent, responsible experience with public sector finance is highly desirable. Related college level coursework is desirable.

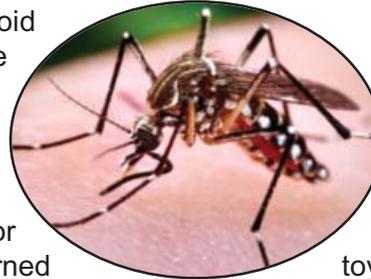
What You Need to Know About Zika and Mosquitoes

In response to the concerns raised by the threat of Zika virus, the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District wants to remind L.A. County residents that, to date, the virus has not been identified in Los Angeles County mosquitoes.

The virus is transmitted primarily through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes, which have been detected in numerous California communities. The mosquitoes can spread the virus only after feeding on infected travelers.

The link between Zika virus and

microcephaly in pre-term infants has not yet been confirmed, however there is currently a strong correlation. Pregnant women, or women planning to get pregnant in the near future are cautioned to avoid travel to areas where Zika is active. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have issued Travel Advisories and updated guidance for pregnant women concerned about this risk. Anyone returning from areas of concern are asked to take precautions against mosquito bites once they return home to avoid spreading disease locally.



Vector control urges all residents to eliminate eggs and immature stages of the day-biting Aedes mosquitoes. Eliminating them now will reduce our exposure to mosquito bites, and potential infection with imported viruses like Zika, dengue, and chikungunya.

"This is a community effort, and we need every resident to do their part. What you do today will benefit your family and community tomorrow," advised Kelly Middleton, community affairs director for the District.

Provided below are a few tips to help protect your community:

- Remove any container that is

holding, or has held water in the past where dormant eggs can be found. Drill holes in these containers so they cannot hold water and dispose of them securely in sealed trash bags.

- Get rid of all saucers or pans under potted plants – it's a favorite place for mosquitoes to lay eggs.
- Drill drain holes in tire swings, children's toys, tubs, trash cans, and any other item that holds water.
- Tightly seal fill-holes on portable basketball hoops.
- Clean up trash, debris and recyclables around the yard.

The District will continue controlling populations of invasive Aedes mosquitoes. These tiny mosquitoes are aggressive biters and can be readily identified by their black and white colorations. For more information call (562) 944-9656 or visit www.glacvcd.org.

Your Life, Your Legacy

Learn about the benefits of a prearranged funeral service for yourself or for a family member. Determining funeral preferences in advance help ease financial burdens, ensure peace of mind and eliminate emotional overspending. Whites Funeral Home will host hourly presentations in English and in Spanish, covering all aspects of funeral services on Thursday, March 3 from 11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. (*presentaciones se harán en español*). The event will be hosted in the Brakensiek Library Community Room located at 9945 E. Flower Street, Bellflower, CA.

Staff will be on site to answer questions and provide information about dealing with grief.

Whites Funeral Home has served the Bellflower community since 1938. The event is free and open to the public 18 and over. Refreshments will be provided.

For more info call Allison Crawford at (888) 755-0690, RSVP'S appreciated.

Your life.
Your legacy.
Plan to make it Right

Good Friday Breakfast Friday, March 25th 7:15 a.m. - Simms park \$20 ticket

Info: www.bellflower.org

The Arc's 20th Walk For Independence

A one or three mile Walk to raise funds for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Registration: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Opening Ceremonies: 8:00 a.m.

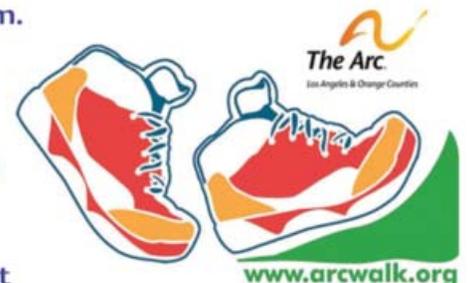
Walk Starts at: 8:30 a.m.

Stonewood Center

251 Stonewood St. Downey, CA 90241

Free Breakfast Burrito!

Courtesy of Acapulco Restaurant



www.arcwalk.org

*Registration: Adults \$25.00, 11-17 yrs \$15.00 & children under 10 are free

Community Selects 2016 Summer Movie Lineup

Residents were invited to cast their vote to help select the final two movies for this summer's Food Trucks & Flicks series. Two movies were already programmed (*Minions* and *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip*) and the final two that received the most votes are *The Sandlot* and *Inside Out*. Food Trucks & Flicks premieres on Friday, July 8th.

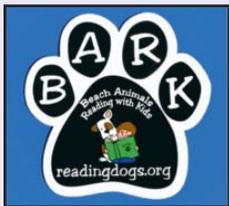
Simms Park Easter Egg Hunt

Join the Bellflower community for
Easter eggs, crafts and games!



Saturday, March 26 • 10:00 a.m.
16614 Clark Ave. Bellflower, CA 90706

Hosted by Kingdom Causes Bellflower



Brakensiek Library Events

9945 E. Flower St. Bellflower (562) 925-5543

Aesop's Fables

Wed, March 2, 2016
6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

BARK Read with Dogs

Tue, March 1, 2016
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Practice your reading skills by reading to a Therapy Dog from Beach Animals Reading with Kids (BARK)! Beginning readers are welcome.

This theatrical showcase of Aesop's Fables by Enrichment Works will inspire children and teach them the timeless morals of Aesop. Learn about "The Turtle and the Hare," "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," and "The Fox and the Crow." All ages are welcome. *Made possible by the Fourth District Arts Education Partnership Programs.*



Meditation Yoga

March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy an hour of restorative meditation yoga. This class is geared towards beginners. It is recommended that you bring your own mat. For adults only.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Bellflower Library.

Thompson Park Garden Club

This free club is looking for adults that share a similar passion for gardening. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month (Sept-May) from 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. at Thompson Park. Share plant cuttings, garden tips, and display your blooms. Club will also feature occasional guest speakers & demonstrations. For more info call Kay Erns at (562) 920-2983.

Volunteer Center Seeks Donations for Spring Basket Program

The Bellflower Volunteer Center is working hard this season to provide Spring Baskets for local families in need. The Volunteer Center partners with Caring Connections and also, works closely with schools, community groups, case managers and residents to make this program a success.

There are several ways to get involved:

- **Adopt a child** - the Volunteer Center will provide details of the child's information (name, age, gender) to enable you to build a custom basket catered to their needs.



- **Donate items** - such as school supplies, books, toys, candy, socks, underwear, toiletries, etc. **Please include only new items.*
- **Volunteer your time** - help put baskets together.

For details call (562) 925-9003 or visit www.bellflower.org. **Deadline: March 8, 2016**

COLUMBIA SPACE CENTER ADVENTURE AGES 10-13

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. • Fee: \$30

Registration/Refund Deadline: Monday, March 21, 2016

Register in person at Simms Park 16614 S. Clark Ave.
Check in time is 30 prior to listed departure time
Space is limited! Info: (562) 866-7510

