



the BELLFLOWER CITIZEN

Volume 16 Issue 6

ONLINE EDITION

June 2016



Habitat for Humanity
Greater Los Angeles

Why *rent* when you can *own*?

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles is accepting applications for our Homeownership Program. Apply today!

INTERESTED?

Attend one of our upcoming homeownership information sessions to receive an application! No reservations needed.

Wednesday, June 1, 2016
Simms Park, 16614 S Clark Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706
English session: 6:30-7:45pm, Spanish session: 7:45-8:30pm

Saturday, June 11, 2016*
Bethany Church, 17054 Bixby Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706
English and Spanish sessions: 9:00-10:15am, 10:30-11:45am

*PLEASE NOTE: In addition to the information sessions, Habitat LA will host a Pathways to Homeownership workshop from 12:00-2:00pm on June 11th only.

For more information, call (310) 323-4663 x115 or email home@habitatla.org.

Habitat To Build Townhomes

Habitat LA will host two more informational sessions (two English and two Spanish) and one Pathways to Homeownership workshop in the City of Bellflower on the following dates and locations:

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Simms Park,
16614 Clark Ave., Bellflower
Sessions: English & Spanish

Saturday, June 8, 2016

9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Bethany Church,
17054 Bixby Ave., Bellflower
Sessions: English & Spanish

Pathways to Homeownership Workshop

Saturday, June 8, 2015
Time: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Bethany Church
17054 Bixby Avenue, Bellflower

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Bellflower Recognized as 2016 Playful City USA

257 communities exhibiting Playability to be recognized as part of 2016 Playful City USA Program

The City of Bellflower is being honored with a 2016 Playful City USA designation for the second year in a row. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the national recognition program honors cities and towns across the country for making their cities more playable. Bellflower strives to protect and enrich the quality of life for its citizens and businesses by putting forth a consistent effort to increase and improve playability, especially in underserved areas of the city. Some of these efforts include promoting the health and welfare of the community by repurposing underutilized areas into fitness areas, improving our existing playgrounds, and working with organizations that improve opportunities for play.

"The City of Bellflower understands the importance of balanced and active play for the well-being of our children and families, and the City strives to provide safe and creative opportunities for play in our community. We are proud to be recognized for our continuous efforts to achieve this goal by once again being named a Playful City USA community for 2016," said Mayor Dan Koops.

Communities across the country

are creating innovative ways to bring back play and attract residents through family friendly activities. Interactive sidewalk art, designated play spaces on trails, and the transformation of schoolyards into active play areas are just a few examples of how cities are becoming more playful.

"We are thrilled to recognize these communities that have invested their time and efforts to put kids first," said KaBOOM! CEO James Siegal. "Balanced and active

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Mark Your Calendar

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City Hall Will Be Closed
Monday, July 4th
in Observance of Independence Day

Note: City Hall will also be closed
Friday, July 1st

Live It Up the Safe & Sane Way on July 4th

Independence Day will be celebrated next month all across the nation, and the City of Bellflower encourages all residents to have fun in a safe and responsible manner. Bellflower Municipal Code Section 8.16.010 makes it illegal to "use, possess, or transport any fireworks that are not classified as Safe and Sane."

If your celebrations include fireworks, by law, they must bear the "Safe and Sane" label, and the seal must say "State of California State Fire Marshall."

"Safe and Sane" fireworks generally refer to fireworks which do not explode or shoot into the air, such as fountains, sparklers, smoke balls or

snakes. Fireworks not sold at a community sales booth but originally were purchased in Nevada, from another state back east, Mexico, or over the internet, are almost always illegal. If they explode or shoot into the air, they are illegal in California.



storing illegal fireworks, contact the City's fireworks tip hotline at (562) 925-0124 ext. 2532 or log onto www.bellflower.org and send an e-mail using the Safety Citizen Contact Form under the Public Safety Department. If you observe someone discharging illegal fireworks, call the Lakewood Sheriff's Station at (562) 623-3500, and a patrol unit will respond to your area. You may choose to remain anonymous if you'd like.

Penalties for the use or possession of illegal fireworks again will be \$1,000 or more. Last year, 66 individuals received a \$1,000 ticket in the midst of their celebration because they were caught using illegal fireworks.

Possession of a larger amount of illegal fireworks may result in a felony charge. Again this year, Sheriff's deputies will be out in full force in both marked and unmarked cars looking for kids and adults using illegal fireworks.

Bellflower Looking Better Neighborhood Yard Sale

Residents within the target neighborhood of Woodruff Ave. / San Gabriel River / Foster Rd. / Rosecrans Ave. will be participating in the Bellflower Looking Better (BLB) neighborhood yard sale from 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Be sure to stop by and search for a new treasure! For more information call (562) 866-8142.



Bellflower Adds New Web Services

Renew Your Business License Online

To conveniently renew your business license online, all you need is a credit card, debit card, or your checking account information and your business license renewal notice (required PIN located at the lower right hand corner of the renewal notice). Please click on the Renew Business License button below and follow the instructions to pay for your business license online. There is no fee associated with your payment with a checking account (e-check). If paid with a credit or debit card, the convenience fee is 2.9% of



the total amount due and charged, with a minimum fee of \$2.00. For more info visit www.bellflower.org/depts/finance/business.

PLAYFUL Pg 1

play is crucial to the well-being of kids and the communities that they thrive in. By integrating play into cities, the leaders of Playful Cities USA are working to attract and retain the thousands of families that want homes in close proximity to safe places to play."

To learn more about these cities, see the full list of the 257 communities named 2016 Playful City USA honorees, or to gather more information on the Playful City USA program, visit www.playfulcityusa.org. We also encourage you to take part in the conversation on #playability with these thought leaders on Twitter and Facebook.



Visiting Mexico or Latin America?

Here's Something You Need to Know to Stay Healthy

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is urging Californians to protect themselves against mosquito bites if traveling to Mexico or Latin America, where there have been increased reports of the mosquito-borne diseases chikungunya and dengue. Travelers should also be aware that there is currently transmission of dengue on the Big Island in Hawaii, and precautions against mosquito bites are advised; there are no reports of dengue transmission on the other Hawaiian islands.

Chikungunya is a viral disease characterized by acute onset of fever and severe joint pain. Dengue, another viral disease, is character-

ized by high fever, severe headache, muscle and joint pain, rash, and in severe cases bleeding manifestations. For both, treatment is supportive, the disease is not con-



tagious person to person, and there is no vaccine.

CDPH recommends that travelers wear protective clothing and apply insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 according to label instructions. DEET can be used safely on infants and children two months of age and older. In addition, make sure that your hotel or lodging has air conditioning or doors and windows with tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. For more information visit www.glacvcd.org.

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HABITAT Pg 1

Habitat LA's Pathways to Homeownership program was created in response to the thousands of individuals who contact Habitat LA every year about becoming a homeowner. A large percentage of these individuals apply to our homeownership program without meeting the minimum stan-

dards. Our goal is to help these individuals gain a greater understanding of the requirements to purchase a home.

Habitat LA and the City of Bellflower are working together to provide affordable housing opportunities to six, first time homebuyers earning 30-80% of the area median income.

The Ramona Street Housing Development will include;

- Three, three bedroom, two bath duplexes with attached garage. (6 homes in total)

For more info and income qualifying guidelines, call (562) 323-4663 ext. 115 or email home@habitatla.org.



WORK AROUND TOWN

Taco Nazo

10316 Alondra Blvd, Bellflower
(562) 866-3306 • Part-time

Cashier & Customer Service

Responsible and accountable for providing great customer service, food quality and handle monetary transactions. Duties include: Interacting with guests, coworkers / management, opening and/or closing the restaurant, ensuring that orders are accurate & served in a timely manner, restaurant setup, food prep, consistent cleaning. High school degree or equivalent combination of education experience. Restaurant experience preferred. MUST be bilingual English / Spanish.

Blacksmith's Corner

17647 Lakewood Blvd, Bellflower
(562) 531-0386 • Part-time

Animal Caretaker

Current position is part-time and could possibly become a full-time position. Duties include: caring for animals, customer service, carry outs (must be able to lift 75 pounds) and store maintenance. Ideal candidate is a true animal lover and won't mind getting their hands dirty. Experience is preferred but willing to train. Must be available any days/hours including weekends. Must love animals, be personable, approachable, multitasker & responsible.

Dante Valve

15230 Lakewood Blvd, Bellflower
(562) 531-0386 • Full-time + benefits

Bookkeeper

Responsible for computing, classifying and recording transactions to ensure the financial records of the organization are accurate. The Bookkeeper also performs routine financial calculations and general ledger duties. AA Degree in Accounting or Business Administration or equivalent business experience. Proficiency in MS Excel, Word, and Outlook. Three years experience is preferred.

Library Kicks Off Summer with Free Events

9945 E. Flower St. Bellflower, CA 90706 Phone: (562) 925-5543



Kinderwise Music Company

Tues, June 7

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

This fun interactive show features Sparkelina and Busybee. Kinderwise features music, singing, dancing, comedy, and more. Recommended for children under the age of 7 with their caregivers.



Twinkle Time and Friends

Tues, June 14

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Bilingual pop artist, Twinkle and her cast of friends make learning fun as they sing and dance to original tunes. Recommended for children under the age of 10 and their caregivers. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bellflower Library.



ABOVE LEFT: Johnny Rebs' Manager George Ramirez (left) was presented a City certificate from Economic Development Director Jim Dellalonga (right) for participation in the 2015 Social Media Program. Johnny Rebs' Bellflower has improved their rating on YELP and are continuously engaging with reviewers to provide a better dining experience. "We were quite surprised of how much Yelp has actually helped," Ramirez explained. He continued, "We get people all the time looking for lunch or breakfast saying they looked us up on Yelp and chose to dine with us." Congratulations Johnny Rebs' staff!

Downtown Fun

Bellflower's annual Food Trucks & Flicks and Streetfest Concert Series will return to Downtown Bellflower beginning early July. Food Trucks & Flicks will host family-friendly films and a variety of food trucks in the Town Center Plaza located at 16521 Adenmoor Ave., near the intersection of Bellflower Blvd. and Belmont St. Bellflower Recreation In Motion (B.R.I.M) will provide free crafts and fun games for children in attendance prior to showtime. The movie schedule is as follows:

- July 8 Minions
- July 22 The Sandlot
- Aug. 5 Inside Out
- Aug. 19 Alvin & the Chipmunks

Streetfest Concerts are set to Rock Downtown on alternating Thursdays in July and August from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Bellflower Blvd. between Flower St. and Oak St. The street is blocked off for concert-goers, local food vendors and booths. The concerts and parking are free. The band schedule is as follows:

- July 14 The Answer (classic rock)
- July 28 Soto Band (Latin)
- Aug. 11 Smokin Cobras (50s-70s)
- Aug. 25 80z All Stars (80's)

Info call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2261

City of Bellflower Congratulates All Local Graduates



St. John Bosco High School
Sat. May 28
9:00 a.m.
St. John Bosco Campus



Bellflower High School
Thurs. June 16
6:00 p.m.
BHS, Ron Yary Stadium



Mayfair High School
Wed. June 15
6:30 p.m.
BHS, Ron Yary Stadium



Somerset High School
Tues. June 14
6:30 p.m.
Somerset Campus



Valley Christian High School
Fri. June 10
7:30 p.m.
Cottonwood Church, Los Al