



the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

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ONLINE EDITION

May 2016

Bellflower's Economic Development Department Focuses on Small Business Synergy

Over the past several years, Bellflower's Economic Development staff has provided assistance to established local businesses and worked to attract new retailers and restaurateurs to the City. Programs and upcoming projects are being spotlighted to further development interest in the community.

One of the ways Bellflower markets to developers, brokers and shopping center industry leaders is by attending three regional conferences hosted by the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC). The upcoming global convention in May provides opportunities for networking and deal-making for over 36,000 attendees

and 1,000 exhibitors.

The City continues to seek out new food options for the Downtown area and promote the Downtown Attraction Program. This program provides restaurateurs with the opportunity to

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Community Invited to Join in Prayer

Kingdom Causes Bellflower and the Ministerial Association will recognize National Day of Prayer with a public prayer event on Thursday, May 5th at the Town Center Plaza (16521 Adenmoor Ave. Bellflower). The annual event is set to begin at 11:55 a.m. and light refreshments will be provided.

The 65th annual National Day

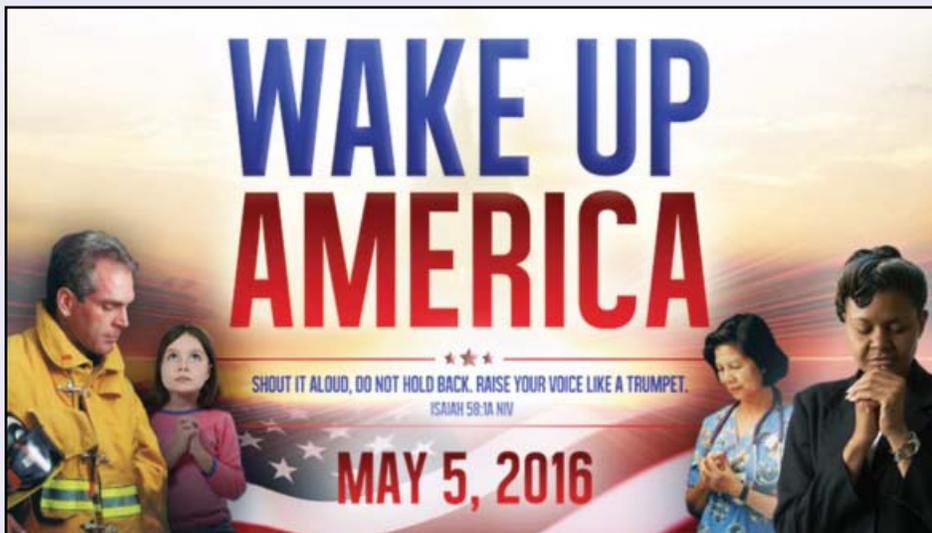
of Prayer theme, Wake Up America, emphasizing the need for individuals, corporately and individually, to return to the God of Fathers in reverence for His Holy Name.

For more info about National Day of Prayer visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org or for information about the local event, call (562) 804-2189.

Mark your
calendar



City Hall
Will Be Closed
May 30th In
Observance Of
Memorial Day



Public Encouraged to Turn in Your Old Drugs

The National Drug Take-Back Day disposal event takes place on Saturday, April 30th from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Office (9400 E. Rosecrans Ave. Bellflower, CA 90706 - please enter from Clark Ave).

Turn in unused or expired medication for proper disposal by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Drop offs are anonymous; no questions will be asked.

Free Services Available for Young Children with Developmental Delays

If you have concerns about the development of your young child (birth to age 3), the California Early Start Program can help. Sponsored locally by the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Early Start provides special services to infants and toddlers who may have a developmental delay or disability. The goal is to help children obtain their full potential by reaching them during the all-important first 3 years of life. Services are free to eligible children



and families. Programs within the Bellflower School District provide Early Start services for infants and toddlers who have vision, hearing, and orthopedic impairments or a combination of these disabilities. For more information about the school district's free program, contact California Early Start at (800) 515-BABY (2229) or request a referral at www.lacoe.edu/EarlyLearning/EarlyStart.aspx.

Thirty Citations Written in April

The Bellflower Substation invited over 30 volunteers to meet with Public Safety staff to collect their "good citizen" citation. This special citation was given to residents to thank them for working to make Bellflower the best city around. This positive program provides a platform to publicly recognize great volunteers, and an opportunity to thank Cindy Van Meeveren for her dedication and leadership at

the Bellflower Volunteer Center. The citation can be redeemed for a complimentary meal at Pizza USA or Bellflower Bagels. Way to go Bellflower!



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apply for a no-fee Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for establishing on site sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages associated with a restaurant.

In addition to restaurant and dining opportunities, the City also invites small retail businesses or the first-time entrepreneurs to apply for the Belmont Small Business Kiosk Program. This program is currently seeking two new tenants for the blue kiosks in Downtown. This unique opportunity offers limited free and low-cost rent, a 2-year



lease term and is an ideal location for a startup business. Additionally, Economic Development staff teamed up with Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) of Los Angeles to offer free one-on-one mentoring to business owners and entrepreneurs seeking help with a variety of topics such as social media marketing, crafting a business plan, seeking funding, etc. Appointments will be available late May. For details call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2249 or visit www.bellflower.org



New Homes to Be Constructed

Habitat for Humanity plans to build four to six new for-sale townhomes in the City exclusively for low-income or moderate-income households. Partnership Housing Inc., an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, is purchasing .45 acres of city-owned land located at 8809 Ramona Street, where the townhomes will be built. Each of the townhomes will have three bedrooms and two-baths. As part of the deal, the City has committed \$506,529 of HOME funds towards the construction of the development. Project details are still pending approval by the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Three information sessions (TBA) will be scheduled in early June for prospective applicants who live and/or work in Bellflower and are interested in purchasing a new home. For more information about the sessions visit www.bellflower.org.

A principios de junio se programarán tres sesiones de información para futuros solicitantes que viven o trabajan en Bellflower y están interesados en la compra de un nuevo hogar. Para más información visite www.bellflower.org



Finding Success on YELP Social Media Platform

The City of Bellflower hosted a social media pilot program to encourage Bellflower businesses to establish or update their company profile on the Yelp platform. Objectives of the program were to increase the amount of dialogue with customers by responding to positive, as well as negative reviews, hoping to yield a higher star rating and bring more customers to Bellflower. Additionally, businesses were encouraged to post photos of products or services and to verify address, contact information and hours of operation.

The City's Economic Development staff monitored Yelp for the 2015 calendar year and based on the results, the City would like to recognize Johnny Rebs' as the overall winner of the social media program.

Johnnys Rebs' is located at 16639 Bellflower Blvd. in the heart of Downtown Bellflower.

Established in 1984, Johnny Rebs' serves up an authentic southern menu including favorites such as BBQ, Catfish and Hushpuppies, Collard Greens, Fried Okra, Black-eyed Peas, Fried Green Tomatoes, Peach Cobbler, Pecan Pie and even Dixie Beer. For info visit Yelp or www.johnnyrebs.com



WORK AROUND TOWN

City of Bellflower

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower (562) 804-1424 • For full position description: www.bellflower.org

Maintenance Worker I

Full-Time: \$3,333 - \$4,052/mo.

Deadline: 5/12/16 at 3:00 p.m.

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. 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.

High school diploma or GED equivalent and one year of recent, related experience in construction, maintenance, or repair. City maintenance experience preferred. Application, supplemental questionnaire, as well as **proof of your high school diploma/GED**, must be submitted.

Management Assistant (Human Resources)

Full Time: \$4,359 - \$5,298/mo.

Deadline: 5/18/16 at 2:00 p.m.

Perform a wide variety of entry level professional, technical, clerical and administrative duties in the Human Resources Department, including assisting with recruitments, employee benefits, employee events, preparation of correspondence, maintaining personnel files, answering phone calls and assisting the public at the counter.

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in Public Administration. Application, resume, cover letter and a **copy of the required degree** must be submitted.

Every Monday at Farmers Market

Farmers:

Aunt Willies Apiary - honey and honey sticks

Beatty Citrus Farms - variety of citrus including, oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, avocados

BuMa Farms - variety of fresh vegetables and strawberries

Cazares Nursery - Plants, flowers and fruit trees

Chavez Farms - variety of vegetables

Garcia Farms - variety of seasonal fruits, raisins, sweet potatoes, melons

Mike's Produce, Inc. - variety of fresh sprouts and wheat grass

Raphael Cardenas - variety of fresh berries and vegetables

Ricardo Farms - variety of fresh vegetables

Rodriguez Nursery - fresh cut flowers

Food Vendors:

Alex's Fruit & Nuts - variety of dried fruits and nuts

Me Gusta Tamales - tamales, pork, chicken, beef, vegetable, pineapple

Old Town Baking Co. - variety of fresh breads and pastries

The Tiny Peanut - freshly roasted peanuts

Yalla Hummus - variety of hummus, pita bread, baked pita chips



City of Bellflower Congratulates Class of 2016

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 Alamitos



Congratulations Poster Contest Winners

1st Place - Natalie Campana

St. Dominic Savio

2nd Place - Angela Padua

St. Dominic Savio

3rd Place - Don Le

St. Dominic Savio



New Court Takes Reign in April



A new Miss Bellflower and Miss Teen Bellflower Court were crowned on Saturday, April 16th at the Bristol Civic Auditorium in City Hall. The two new Courts will represent the Bellflower community at a variety of public events and provide volunteer services throughout the upcoming year.

Nicole Bonnette earned the title Miss Bellflower Queen 2016

and her court is composed of princesses Jalyssa Alejos, Dominique Gordon and Elizabeth Graham.

The new 2015 Miss Teen Bellflower Queen is Laura Alicia Ramirez and serving with her are princesses Megan Huckins and Desiree Reyes.

For more info about the Bellflower Court call (562) 565-3942.

Free Events at the Library

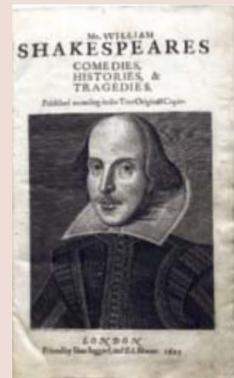
9945 Flower St, Bellflower, CA 90706 • (562) 925-5543

Lady Elizabeth Shakespeare

Wednesday,
May 18, 2016
6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

A special storytelling program commemorating 400 years of William Shakespeare!

Actress Nicole Tibbetts, performing as Lady Elizabeth, will entertain with her interactive show based on Shakespeare's plays. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers, but all ages are welcome.

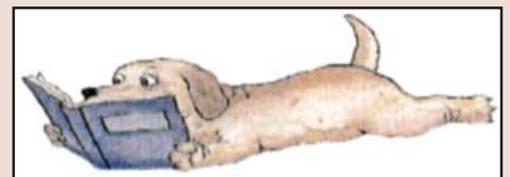


Bark! Reading with Dogs

Tuesday, May 3, 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, call to reserve a spot!





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Bellflower
Economic Development

Your customers are going to be looking for you, so it's important to make it as easy as possible for them. Google is a big part of this so you need to make sure that Google knows who you are and where you are. It only takes 10 minutes and does a LOT to boost your position in Google search results. Google is the most popular search engine by far. Find out how to claim your business here.

Free Google Workshop **Wednesday, May 4 • 8:30 a.m.**

Green Room, 2nd Floor City Hall
16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower
INFO: (562) 804-1424 ext. 2010

To Direct RSVP visit: www.bellflower.org (click on the homepage story to find the link)



Show people you're open for business.
Get your business hours, phone number, and directions on Google Search and Maps — with Google My Business.

Make sure your business info is accurate.
When people search for you, does your phone number show up? Is the right address and website listed? Control how you appear on Google Search and Google Maps — for free. Really.

Show what's unique.
Add pictures, respond to reviews, engage with customers and share what's best about your business.