



the BELLFLOWER CITIZEN

Volume 20 Issue 2

ONLINE EDITION

February 2020

Fifteen Awardees Take the Stage at 26th Annual BRAVO Awards

The City of Bellflower will honor thirteen heroes and two student essay winners at the 26th annual BRAVO Awards held on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Bristol Civic Auditorium. Danny Trejo, actor, activist, and restaurateur, will serve as the Keynote Speaker and provide insight about his passion for food and achieving his goals. Alysha Del Valle is the Traffic Anchor and Reporter for NBC4 Southern California's morning newscast and will return as Host of this year's program. Additional



guest speakers include Los Angeles County Supervisor of the 4th District Janice Hahn, Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva, and Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby.

Trejo, an actor with a prolific career in the entertainment industry with 400

credits to his name, has starred in dozens of films, including Desperado, Heat, From Dusk Till Dawn, Con Air, Spy Kids, Grindhouse, and Machete.

A Los Angeles native, Trejo began building his restaurant empire in L.A. in 2016, opening Trejo's Tacos, followed by Trejo's Coffee & Donuts. He now has eight Trejo's Tacos locations in the Los Angeles area, including two new locations in the Original Farmer's Market and in the Colony in West L.A. Trejo's Coffee & Donuts has also proven to be just as successful and will

continue to expand in the near future.

The BRAVO Awards honor individuals based in Bellflower who performed outstanding acts of valor, heroism and community service during the past year. The award winners this year are as follows: Detective Eric Saavedra, Deputy Ayub Manjra, Deputy Brent Parriott, Deputy Steven Saldivar, Patricia Bateman, Asad Megally, Milt Gilman, Captain Daniel Murchison, Firefighter Paramedic Jason Young, Firefighter Paramedic Jeffrey Poster, Firefighter Paramedic Adam Dominguez, Engineer

Ronald Kusumi, Gregory Delahousaye, Fernando Ruiz, and Andrew Ferrer. This year's ceremony will highlight a variety of acts including deputies' tactics to recover stolen

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Thank you to all
2020 BRAVO
Awards Sponsors

PLATINUM \$3000



17406 Woodruff Ave Bellflower, CA 90706
(562) 925-9531

kennysautoserviceandtowing.com

Sponsors cont PG 3



City Hall Closed
February 17, 2020
Presidents' Day

No changes to the regular
trash collection &
street sweeping
schedules

BRAVO PG 1

goods, a citizen taking initiative to work with local youth and a public safety volunteer dedicated to providing top-notch customer service.

The program will also include posting of the Colors by the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Honor Guard and a National Anthem performance by Lily Hightower, 1st place win-

ner of the 2019 Arts Aloud Talent Show.

The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the William and Jane Bristol Auditorium (16600 Civic Center Dr., Bellflower) and is free and open to the public. 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 about the event visit the City's website at www.bellflower.org or call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2267.

Meet the Winners



Detective
Eric Saavedra



Deputy
Ayub Manjra



Deputy
Brent Parriott



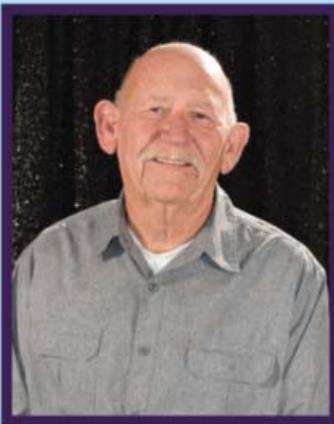
Deputy
Steven Saldivar



Volunteer on Patrol
Asad Megally



Neighborhood Watch Capt
Gregory Delahoussaye



Citizen
Milt Gilman



Operator
Patricia Bateman



Los Angeles County Fire Department - Station 98

Captain Daniel Murchison, Firefighter Paramedic Jason Young, Firefighter Paramedic Jeffrey Poster, Firefighter Paramedic Adam Dominguez, Engineer Ronald Kusumi



Mayfair High School

Student Essay Winner
Andrew Ferrer



Bellflower High School

Student Essay Winner
Fernando Ruiz

Helping Families Cope with End of Life Decisions with Courage

Often, the topic of death is taboo amongst families, and leaves the next of kin unprepared to make end of life decisions.

Christal Vargas-Leyva and Robin Snow are co-owners of Rose Cremation Services in Bellflower and offer affordable direct-cremation services. With over 30 years of experience in funeral services, Robin provides guidance to family members, ensuring all necessary paperwork is properly signed and filed. Christal provides Spanish translation to help comfort families throughout the process and assist families with pre-need and at-need finances.

"We care for our clients as if they are family," says Vargas-Leyva. "We understand how stressful a loss can be and are dedicated to helping every step of the way from the initial phone call to the pick up of the cremated remains."

Even the loss of a beloved pet isn't easy to deal with, especially when it's

unexpected. Rose Cremation also offers a range of services for furry family members which include transportation, a keepsake plaster disc with paw print impressions, a special pet urn, as well as a death certificate for the owner.

In addition to Rose Cremation Services, Robin and Christal staff the office at StoneBridge Funeral Services located in the same commercial center. They offer traditional funeral packages and a small chapel located in the main building.

"I strive to help all families celebrate and honor a special person's life by providing a wide array of service options that represent their personality and culture," stated Snow.

Both women make great efforts to educate and assist the families in Bellflower and neighboring communities. For direct cremation services pricing, visit www.rosecremationservices.com. For funeral services and packages visit www.stonebridgefuneral.com.



Small Business Video Spotlight

Every month during the 2020 calendar year, the City of Bellflower will highlight a local business in the E-Citizen Newsletter and edit a short video for Bellflower's YouTube Channel to showcase our City's business community. Small business owners and operators can participate at no-cost and will be interviewed by city staff. Participation is easy. To nominate your business for this special series, call the Economic Development

at (562) 804-1424 ext 2010 or email direct to Annika Miyashiro-Ruiz at amiyashiro@bellflower.org.



BRAVO Awards Sponsors

(cont from PG 1)

GOLD \$2000

City Ventures
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George Chevrolet
Kaiser Permanente

SILVER \$1000

Azure Development
CR&R
Hensley Law Group

Student Scholarship Funding

Supervisor Janice Hahn

BRONZE \$500

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Admiral Pest Control
Beaver, Menkes & Hass
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Hunt Industrial Properties
Intergraphics Printing Co.
Rotary Club of Bellflower

HONORABLE \$250

Bellflower Noon Lions
Encounter Christian Church
Kiwanis Club of Bellflower
Soroptimist Club of Bellflower

FRIEND \$100

Randy Bomgaars
Hails Family Furniture
Holland International Market, Inc.
Larsen, Gangloff & Larsen, CPA's
TNT Fireworks





Super Saturday Adoption Event

"Have a Heart"

\$14
Adoption Fee*

Saturday, February 8, 2020

10:00am - 3:00pm

9777 Seaaca St., Downey, CA 90241

562-803-3301

*Dogs 1 year and older
*Cats 8 weeks and older

Adoption Includes:

- Spay/Neuter
- Micro-Chip ID
- First set of Vaccines
- Flea treatment

- Cannot be combined with any other offer or promo
- Excludes Boutique Buddies
- Some may require a refundable spay/neuter deposit

www.seaaca.org

Could You Use Extra Income?

The Census Bureau is hiring up to 500,000 temporary, part-time census takers for the 2020 Census in communities across the country. Jobs for the 2020 Census offer competitive wages that are paid weekly, flexible hours, and paid training. Authorized expenses, such as mileage, are reimbursed for employees doing field work.

Anyone age 18 and older, such as recent high school graduates, college students, veterans, retirees, military spouses, seasonal workers, and people who are bilingual are highly encouraged to apply. People who already have jobs and want to earn extra income evenings and weekends are also encouraged to apply. Wages range from \$22.50-\$25.00/hr. For more info visit www.2020census.gov/en/jobs.



NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

What You Need to Know

Coronavirus is a type of virus that causes diseases of varying severities, ranging from the common cold to more serious respiratory disease. A novel (new) coronavirus is a new strain of coronavirus that hasn't been identified before in humans.

How is it spread?

- Through coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands

People who have traveled to or from Wuhan, China since December 1, 2019, could have been exposed to the virus. Seek medical care if you traveled to Wuhan and develop a fever and cough or respiratory symptoms within 14 days of your return.

What are the symptoms?

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Severe illness

How can I protect myself when I travel?

Travelers going outside the US

- Avoid animals (alive or dead), animal markets, and products that come from animals (such as uncooked meat).
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

If you traveled to Wuhan and feel sick

- Stay home and avoid contact with others
- Seek medical care right away. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- Don't travel while sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the trash.



Free Community Events

Bellflower Farmers Market
Every Monday • 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
Corner of Clark Avenue at Oak Street in
the Simms Park parking lot

February 1, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Release, Heal, & Be Free of Emotional Blocks Workshop
4990 Clark Ave. Lakewood, CA. 90712
Register: www.thehealinggarden.us

February 4, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.
YMCA Mayne Preschool Presents Storytime
SteelCraft Bellflower
16500 Bellflower Blvd, Bellflower, CA 90706

February 8, 2020 • 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Valentine's Day Card & Meet Your Local Firefighter
SteelCraft Bellflower
16500 Bellflower Blvd, Bellflower, CA 90706

February 15, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Understanding Grief & Loss Workshop
4990 Clark Ave. Lakewood, CA. 90712

Singing Valentine Phone Calls

Impress your Valentine this year with a sweet song performed by the Mayfair High School Vocal Program for \$5 anywhere in the USA. Singing Valentines have been a long standing tradition for over 50 years, performed in beautiful harmonies by the students of the Vocal Program. If you don't have a sweetheart, brighten the day for friend or relative. The singing Valentine phone calls will be sang live on Friday, February 14, 2020.

Please make checks payable to

Mayfair High School Vocal Boosters and provide the following information: Name and Phone Number of recipient(s), your name and relationship to the recipient (friend, sweetheart, child, relative, etc).

Send the information and donation to Mayfair High School, Attn: Gina Holcomb, 6000 N. Woodruff Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713. The requests must be received by February 13th. The form can be viewed/printed at www.bellflower.org.

MAYFAIR HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL Singing Valentine Phone Calls



\$5.00 (MINIMUM DONATION)

**Friday, February 14th
8:00am-4:00pm**



Spring Basket Program

Celebrate springtime by helping a child in need! The Bellflower Volunteer Center works with our community to provide spring baskets for our most needy students. Partnering with Caring Connections through the Bellflower Unified School District, the Bellflower Volunteer Center takes referrals from case managers who work directly with families in need. If you would like to participate, contact the Volunteer Center at 16610 S. Clark Ave. (562) 804-1424 ext. 2331.

There are several ways to get involved. Volunteer opportunities include:

1) "Adopt" a child – We provide you with the details of the child you "adopt" (name, age, etc.). You create a basket based on the information we provide, and arrange to drop off the basket at the Volunteer Center.

2) Donate items for a basket. - Suggested items to include: books,



balls, puzzles, games, toys, candy, socks, school supplies, gift cards, toiletries (brush, lotion, comb, toothbrush, etc.) *Please include new items only. **NOTE: All donations must be received by March 19, 2020.**

Sponsored by HUD - CDBG, Community Development Block Grant

Personal Safety and Bullying Prevention for Youth & Caregivers

**Wednesday, February 5
6:00 p.m - 7:00 p.m.**

In these interactive programs led by GetSafe USA, youth will learn how to recognize bullying behavior, learn what to do when they are in trouble, and practice self-defense techniques.

Caregivers will learn how to talk, listen, and advocate for their child's safety and well-being. Learn about resources that can help support you and your family when dealing with bullies and related scenarios.

Note: Parent and child sessions will be held in two different spaces in the library.

Most suitable for ages 7-14 yrs and their caregivers.

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



**Doors open February 1, 2020
16123 Bellflower Blvd. Bellflower**