

Norwalk^eNow



www.norwalk.org

The official community publication of Norwalk, California

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City Council Recognizes Fifth Graders for Arbor Day Artwork

At a recent regular council meeting, six fifth grade students from New River Elementary School were recognized for their hand-drawn illustrations depicting the benefits of trees. 70 entries were received in the City's first "I Love Trees Because..." contest. Two winners were chosen from each fifth grade classroom.

Designated a Tree City USA for the second year in a row, the City of Norwalk is home to an urban forest of over 17,000 trees that protect, shade and beautify the community.



Eliza Rodriguez
5th Grade
Mr. Cosgrove's Class



Darlene Macasa
5th Grade
Mrs. Acosta's Class



Cynthia Huynh
5th Grade
Mrs. Murray's Class



Shadday Cornejal
5th Grade
Mrs. Murray's Class



Amy Bonilla
5th Grade
Mr. Cosgrove's Class



Tatiana Valdovinos
5th Grade
Mrs. Acosta's Class

Community Comes together to Keep Norwalk Green

On April 19 volunteers from the local Century 21 Real Estate office put their garden gloves on to work alongside City staff.

The group collaborated in a cleanup held along the Foster Greenbelt in front of New River Elementary school. They spruced up the area by picking up trash, raking leaves, and gathering debris.

The following day students from New River Elementary participated in a tree planting project. Fifth graders, with guidance from the City of Norwalk Public Services Department, put in 25 trees before lunchtime.

Fifth grader Angel says, "I think that it's nice that we're having trees and people here to help us plant them."



Their teacher, Ryan Cosgrove tells us, "It's a great memory for them, I had these kids in second grade and they still remember from three years ago when they were bringing the space shuttle. It flew right over our school, this is just another thing similar to that, they will remember beyond just this year."

The students, excited to be part of this experience, learned how important trees are to the environment.

On Saturday, April 30, over 100 volunteers joined in the City of Norwalk's Third Annual Arbor Day event at New River Park. Neighbors, kids, TAP volunteers, and organizations pitched in along with City staff to plant 57 trees.

To see a full recap on the City of Norwalk's Arbor Day and New River Elementary School tree planting events go to the City's YouTube channel and look for "Now You Know" Arbor Day.

Norwalk City Hall Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Alternating Fridays 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sundays Closed

Norwalk City Council

Mayor
Mike Mendez



Vice Mayor
Cheri Kelley

Councilmembers
Marcel Rodarte Leonard Shryock Luigi Vernola

"Honor. Remember."

Memorial Day event calls for a moment of reflection to acknowledge and appreciate sacrifices made

Monday, May 30 at 11:00 a.m.
**Patriot's Concourse,
Norwalk Civic Center Lawn**

Coordinated by the City of Norwalk and American Legion Post 359, this year's event will include the Southeast Academy color guard, rifle volley by the National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, music performed by the Norwalk All-City Youth Band, and a keynote address by James L. Gabrielli, Brigadier General (CA), Commander of the State Military Department's Youth and Community Programs Task Force and former US Marine.

The event is free and open to the public. Complimentary refreshments will be served, and parking is available onsite.

Award Winning Finance Department

The City's Finance Department has shown it excels in terms of government accounting and financial reporting. The Department has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the twenty-ninth consecutive year.

In order to receive this recognition, the City met the high standards of the program, demonstrating clear communication when presenting their annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 and motivating potential users to read the report.

Jana Stuard, Director of Finance says, "The GFOA Award demonstrates City's commitment to fiscal responsibility and stewardship. It is the recognition of professionalism, diligence and hard work by the Finance team, supported by all the City departments."

To see your City's annual report, go to <http://norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/finance/accounting>.



City of Norwalk
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Norwalk, CA 90650

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Exceptional Academics Recognized

Two Norwalk High School students selected for The Gates Millennium Scholarship

Celeste Larios and Kethzia Higuera, who have been best friends since freshman year, push each other academically and have supported one another throughout their high school careers. Their friendship and unique collaboration were featured on CBS News last month. <http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2016/05/05/best-friends-from-norwalk-high-school-earn-exclusive-college-scholarships/>

The Gates Millennium Scholarship, named for Bill Gates, is awarded to only 1,000 of 56,000 applicants nationwide, and will pay for both young ladies' educations through advanced degrees.



This award offers incredible opportunities for Celeste, who will attend Stanford in the fall to study environmental engineering; and Kethzia, who will attend UC Irvine to obtain her nursing degree.

Principal Ryan Smith says, "I couldn't be any prouder of Celeste and Kethzia for earning the Gates Millennium Scholarship. These two young ladies will be able to continue their educations all the way through an advanced degree for free, which is incredible! It is great to see students from the City of Norwalk earning this type of reward for their hard work."

Join the CCC



Are you between 18 and 25 years old and looking for full-time, paid work with great prospects? The California Conservation Corps is looking for you. The CCC provides opportunities to find adventure while helping to protect and conserve our state's environment. Earn scholarships, gain leadership experience and learn valuable skills. Apply online at www.ccc.ca.gov/join or call (213) 744-2248. The Corps have locations in Norwalk and Los Angeles.

PROTECT NORWALK



Norwalk Neighborhood Watch



In the Neighborhood Watch Program, "Success relies on residents taking an active role in their community, joining together with Public Safety Officers and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies," says Michelle Norwood of the City's Public Safety Department. When neighbors are keeping an eye on their neighbors, including reporting any activity that might look suspicious in the area, this can prove to be an effective crime fighting tool.

During Neighborhood Watch meetings, neighbors are also given the opportunity to address and resolve any neighborhood problems.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings enable residents to:

- Bring community issues to a neighborhood forum.
- Get to know your neighbors and form community bonds.
- Develop a plan of action to resolve problems.
- Learn about crime issues and trends.
- Discover how to identify and report suspicious activities.
- Develop a communication network.



To schedule a Neighborhood Watch Meeting, contact the Norwalk Public Safety Department at (562) 929-5732.

The kids are Watching

Only safe and sane, **LEGALLY PURCHASED FIREWORKS** permitted in the City.



Report illegal fireworks to:

Norwalk Public Safety
(562) 929-5732

Norwalk Sheriff's Station
(562) 863-8711

Announcing Transit Route Modifications



Norwalk Transit System (NTS) introduces Route 7 service between the Norwalk Green Line Station and the El Monte Bus Station, effective June 27, 2016. This service results from NTS assuming operation of the Southern segment of the Metro Line 270 bus route.

NTS Route 7 will serve major transit hubs in the cities of Norwalk and El Monte and will be

a primary public transit service to and from Rio Hondo College.

NTS will also be implementing a modification to Route 1, effective June 26, 2016: The current NTS Route 1 will be revised and will no longer operate north of Rio Hondo College (3rd/Workman and Workman/Don Julian) on weekdays. Currently, Route 1 serves the cities of Bellflower, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier and connects with Rio Hondo College; continuing to the border of the City of Industry south of Valley Blvd. on weekdays. On weekends, the service terminates at Rio Hondo College. NTS will eliminate Route 1 weekday service beyond Rio Hondo College. This area will be serviced by the Foothill Ranch 270 line.

NTS will be implementing a modification to Route 3, effective September 2017: Currently, NTS Route 3 originates at the Whittier Historic Depot (located in Downtown Whittier) traveling southbound through Santa Fe Springs to 166th Street in Norwalk. Route 3 service will be discontinued between the Whittier Depot and Telegraph/Carmenita due to low ridership.

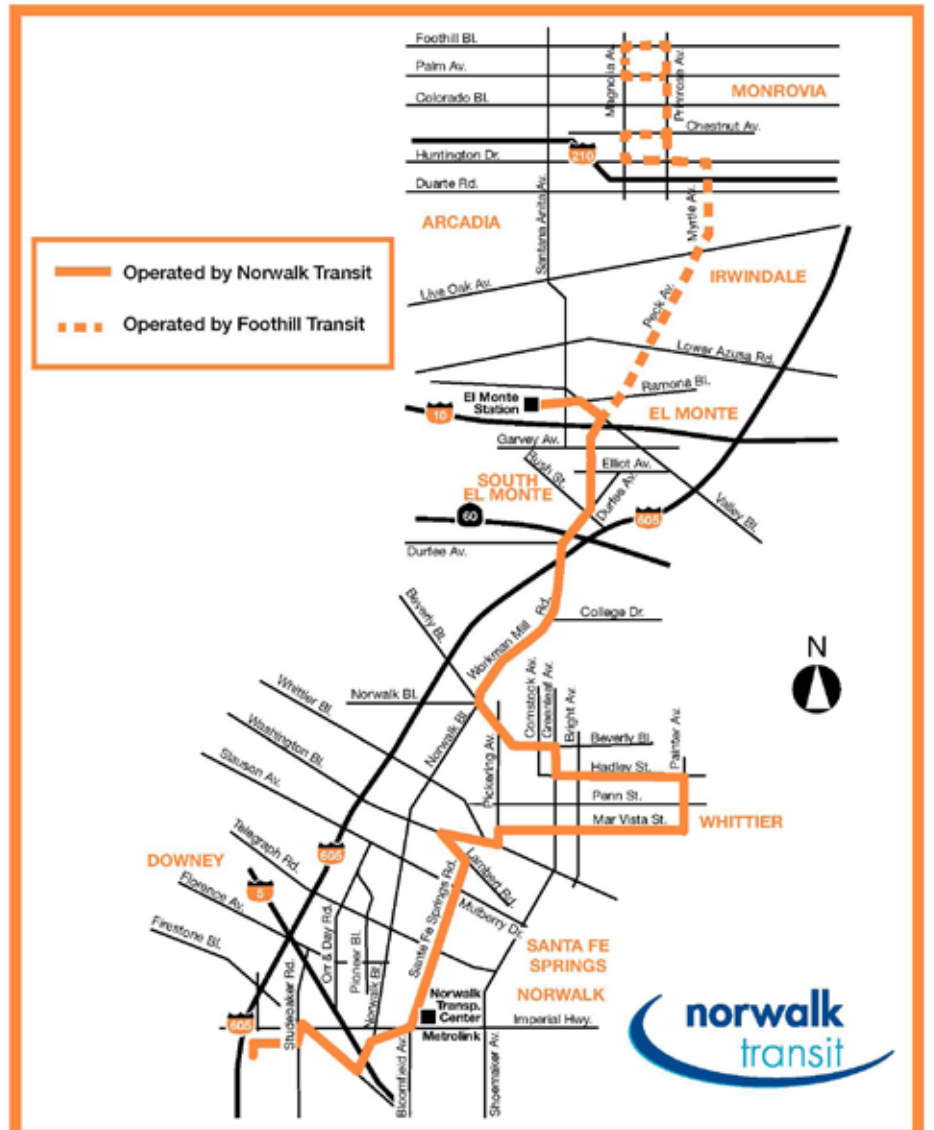
NTS will also modify Route 4, effective June 26, 2016. NTS will discontinue the last two late evening trips from the Metrolink Station to the Green Line Station (11:00 p.m. and 11:10 p.m.) and from the Green Line Station to the Metrolink Station (11:20 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.).



For additional detailed information on the new Route 7 and changes to other NTS routes, please contact our Customer Service Department at (562) 929-5550 or e-mail: transportation@norwalkca.gov



NTS/Foothill Transit (Metro Line 270)



NTS Route 7 will serve major transit hubs in the cities of Norwalk and El Monte and will be a primary public transit service to and from Rio Hondo College.

NHS Parent Field Trip!

A group of 30 parents went on a field trip last month, but they weren't accompanying students. Instead, passengers on the school bus were parents, school counselors, and Principal Ryan Smith. Their destination? Cal State LA.

Norwalk High School provided this unique opportunity for parents to experience a college campus firsthand. Principal Smith tells us, several parents had never been to college, so it was new for them, while others who have attended college were curious to see what CSULA has to offer.

Principal Ryan adds, "This was such a rewarding visit, and our parents appreciated it. It was great for them to learn more about what college is all about and to see the possibilities for their students."

They were personally greeted by Yasmine Velasco, a 2015 NHS graduate who volunteered to give the group a campus tour. As part of the visit, Yasmine arranged for parents to have one on one time with CSULA Communications Professor Eric Siberio, who's also a Norwalk High alumni.

Next year the high school plans to have a minimum of two parent field trips, one visiting a UC campus and the other a Cal State campus.



Success Story at Southeast Academy

Senior and Norwalk resident Marissa Gutierrez will be attending the United States Military Academy at West Point in the fall. She is the first graduate from the Southeast Academy to earn this distinction.

Marissa tells us her motivation to apply came after speaking to a former Academy cadet who went on to attend West Point after going through preparatory school. Once he had shared his experiences at the service academy, she made the decision to apply. Marissa began the application process early last year and received a nomination and an interview from Congresswoman Linda Sanchez. In April, the Congresswoman personally called Marissa to share the good news of her acceptance.

Master Sergeant Marty Schafer says, "Marissa is an outstanding cadet, always motivated to embrace leadership development with an unwavering desire to serve her country and humanity. I am certain she will be capable to lead our military members and meet our nation's challenges."



West Point, which is located in the state of New York, has an acceptance rate of just 9% as they look for the country's top students. With an overall 4.04 GPA, Marissa, the class of 2016's Valedictorian, Battalion Commander, and Senior Color Guard Team member, met the challenge. Upon graduation from West Point, Marissa will be commissioned to the United States Army as a second lieutenant. She plans to major in psychology at West Point. The Academy's Class of 2016 holds a 100% graduation rate and overall GPA of 3.04 as a class. In addition, 64% of the cadets will be graduating with honors.

To see more on Southeast Academy, click on our YouTube "Now You Know" link at <https://youtu.be/BjV6WiJyI9E>.

Making a Difference

American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Norwalk

June 25 through 26, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at Cerritos College



Cancer survivors, caregivers, volunteers, and community members will unite for the annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Norwalk to help save lives. Relay for Life is the world's largest fundraising event aimed at fighting every cancer in every community, with four million participants in 6,000 events worldwide in 2015.

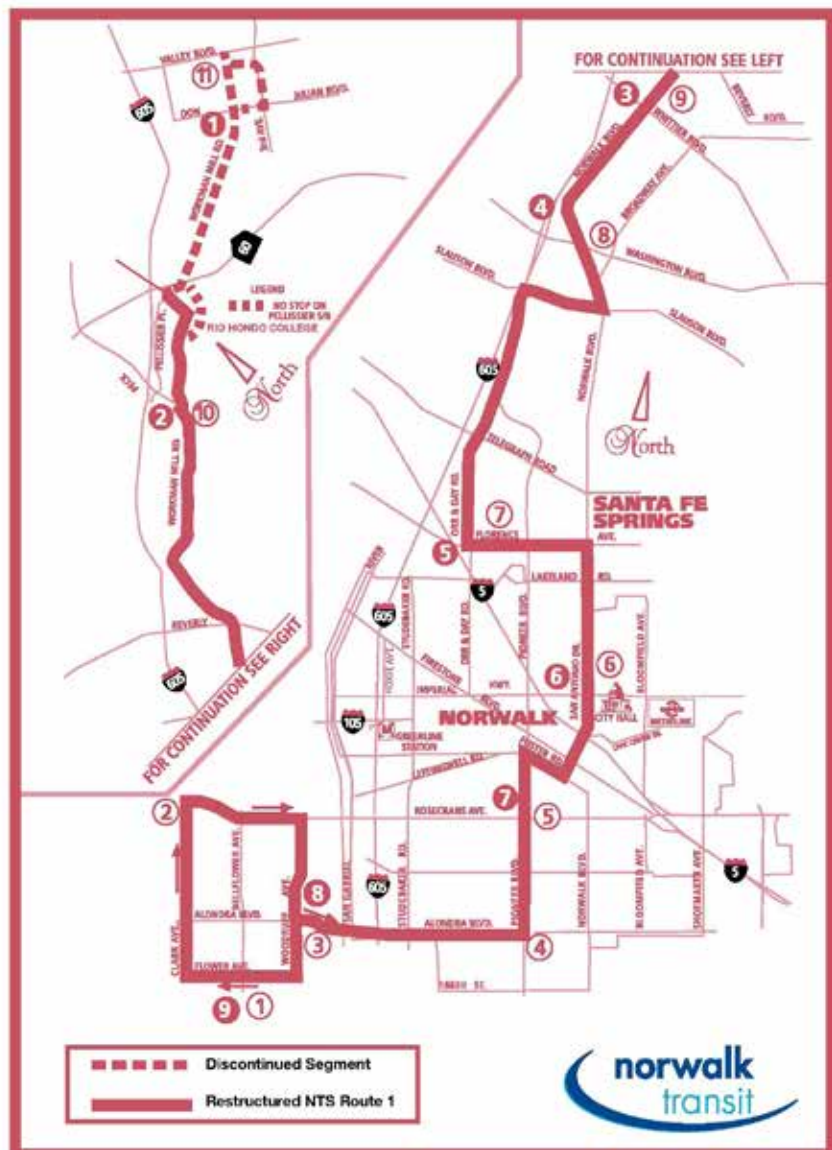
Funds raised help the American Cancer Society

save lives by funding groundbreaking cancer research, providing free information and critical services for people with cancer, and supporting education and prevention programs.

Opening Ceremony begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 25 at Cerritos College Utility Field with a celebratory cancer Survivors Lap, with the Luminaria Ceremony at 9:00 p.m. that evening. Candles are lit in honor and memory of those who have battled cancer.

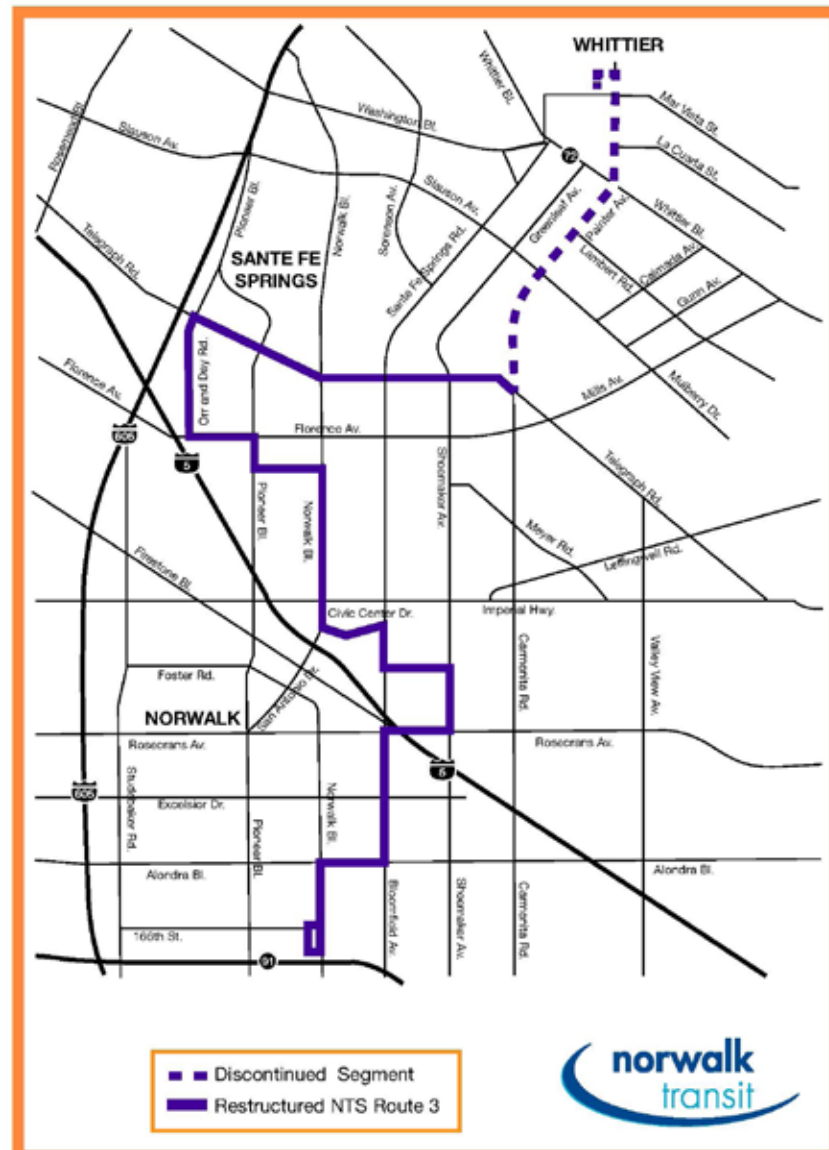
Announcing Transit Route Modifications

Restructured NTS Route 1



The current NTS Route 1 will be revised and will no longer operate north of Rio Hondo College (3rd/Workman and Workman/Don Julian) on weekdays.

Restructured NTS Route 3



Route 3 service will be discontinued between the Whittier Depot and Telegraph/Carmenita due to low ridership.

See & Do

Celebrate Fourth of July a Day Early!



Enjoy an evening of fun at the City of Norwalk's Independence Day Pageant on Sunday, July 3. The Civic Center Lawn, located at 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, will be filled with music, games, and food booths from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Don't miss our spectacular fireworks show, beginning promptly at 9:00 p.m. Admission is free! For more information, please call (562) 929-5702.



Free Hair Cuts to Benefit Those in Need

Sunday, July 3 from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Sport that summer look and provide a new outlook for patients undergoing treatment. The annual hair drive, which coincides with Norwalk's Independence Day Pageant, continues to draw hundreds of people, some who grow their hair specifically for the event.

Hairstylists will set up shop on Civic Center Lawn to provide free blunt cuts for donors of all ages. All hair gathered will be used to make hairpieces for people suffering from hair loss due to medical treatment.

Donation Guidelines:

All hair must be a minimum 10 inches long, measured from tip to tip.

Bleached or highlighted hair is not usable.

Colored or permed hair is acceptable.

Curly hair may be pulled straight to measure minimum length needed.

Hairpieces can also be dropped off at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex located at 13000 Clarkdale



Program Schedule for June 2016
Charter Cable TV Channel 3
Frontier FiOS TV channel 32

Mondays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting Rebroadcast
- 3:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Rebroadcast)
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. Artastic 2016
- 7:00 p.m. "The City at your Service" Social Services Department
- 8:00 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 2016

Tuesdays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting Rebroadcast
- 3:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 4:00 p.m. Artastic 2016
- 5:00 p.m. "The City at your Service" Public Safety Department
- 6:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Live 1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

Wednesdays

- 12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting Rebroadcast
- 3:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: Mariachi Divas
- 4:00 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 2016
- 5:00 p.m. Artastic 2016
- 7:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 7:30 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Live 2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

Thursdays

- 12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Rebroadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. City Council Meeting Rebroadcast
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service" Social Services Department
- 7:00 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 2016
- 8:00 p.m. Artastic 2016

Saturdays

- 11:00 a.m. Curiosity Quest
- 12:00 a.m. Curiosity Quest

Sundays

- 9:00 a.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 2016
- 11:00 a.m. City Council Meeting Rebroadcast
- 2:00 p.m. Artastic 2016



At Norwalk Library

12350 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 868-0775 • colapublib.org

Read for the Win at Norwalk's Libraries

This summer, Norwalk and Alondra Libraries invite the community to "Read for the Win!" The Summer Reading Program begins in June, and 2016's theme centers on a celebration of sports and achievement. During the summer every age group, from baby to adult, can earn rewards for reading. Registration begins June 21 and program ends August 13. The libraries will also have special events for all ages throughout the season. Listed below are June's kickoff programs.

Children: Norwalk Library

SRP Kickoff: *Fantastic Patrick*

Wednesday, June 22, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Fantastic Patrick mixes circus skills and comedy in a hilarious and exciting show.

Teens: Norwalk Library

Video Game Pixel Art

Tuesday, June 18, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Create special sports themed art from fuse beads.

Adults: Norwalk Library

Coffee, Cookies & Cross Stitch

Thursday, June 2, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Enjoy coffee and cookies while learning the basics of cross stitch.

At Alondra Library

11949 Alondra Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 868-7771 • colapublib.org

Children: Alondra Library

SRP Kickoff: *Balloon Fun with Mr. Twister*

Tuesday, June 21, 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

Learn to make your own balloon animals with Mr. Twister, the Balloon Man!



RABIES CLINIC



Friday, June 10 & Friday, July 8
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

City Hall Lawn • 12700 Norwalk Boulevard

Low-cost rabies vaccinations (\$6, compared to \$10 throughout cities in California and the nation), as well as individual vaccines, microchipping and flea control products. Vaccinations are required by state law, and important for the health and safety of pets.

Dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers. For those renewing dog licenses, renewal letter must be in-hand at the clinic.

For details call Dog Licensing at (562) 929-5711.



Kids Adventure Camp

The Recreation Department offers a nine-week Summer Day Camp for children ages 6 to 12. The camp provides a wide variety of activities planned for youth including swimming, games, arts and crafts, and a weekly excursion. Registration is now open. The program will be held Monday through Friday, June 20 through August 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Extended hours are available from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The fee is \$145 per child per week for Norwalk residents and \$20 per child per week for extended hours. The non-resident fee is \$195 per child per week and \$30 per child per week for extended hours. Day camp will be held at the Sproul Reception Center at 12239 Sproul Street. For information including deposit procedures please call (562) 929-5521.

Visit <http://norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services/day-camp> for themes and excursions.

Important Reminders:

• In order to be eligible for resident rates, parents must provide proof of residency* at time of registration. Parents must also verify their child's age**.

* (Utility bill, driver license, or tax information) ** (Birth certificate, medical records, or school registration).

• No Camp on Monday, July 4. Fees for the week of July 5-8 are reduced by \$20 and extended hours will be adjusted to \$16 per child for residents and \$24 per child for non-residents.

• Programs may be changed or canceled without notice. Refunds will be issued for any program canceled by the City of Norwalk.

MAY 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

