# NorvalkNow









www.norwalk.org

The official community publication of Norwalk, California

July 2016, Volume 34, #7

# Councilmember Rodarte Honored

On Tuesday, June 21, City Council and Norwalk service organizations bid farewell to Marcel Rodarte, who resigns his seat as Councilmember effective June 30 to take a position as Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association.

Councilmember Rodarte, who began his second term in March 2015, originally took office in 2011, serving as Mayor of Norwalk from 2014 to 2015. Various contributions by City Council to the citizens of Norwalk during his tenure were highlighted in a video montage, including rehabilitation of Norwalk parks, the launch of the city's redesigned website, norwalk. org, and concentration on veterans' assistance through community resources, job assistance and educational opportunities.

Representatives from Congress, the State Assembly and Senate and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognized the Councilmember for his vision and commitment to continued

improvement of quality of life for Norwalk residents. City Councilmembers also praised their colleague for his



passion and perseverance during his service.

The outgoing Councilmember thanked his appointed commissioners, the community, Mayor Michael Mendez, Vice Mayor Cheri Kelley, Councilmembers Leonard Shryock and Luigi Vernola for their support and work towards the common goal of positively impacting the lives of Norwalk residents and businesses. In honor of his contributions to the people of Norwalk, the lights on the Firestone bridge were lit in blue from dusk to dawn on the evening of his last regular Council meeting.

The California Contract Cities Association is an organization of over 60 cities that contract for one or more municipal services. The

Association advocates for legislation that affects those cities and provides collaborative and educational opportunities.

# Kids and Cops Golf Tournament

Law enforcement officers volunteered their time on Saturday, June 4 and put their putting skills to the test as they connected with kids in the community. For more than twenty years, this event was held at the Norwalk Golf Center. This year, it was all about miniature golf. "Golf N' Stuff" hosted the group of nearly 100 participants.

The change of venue didn't change the message officers wanted the children to hear. Sgt. Andy Thompson with the Norwalk Sheriff's Station said, "It's a really great experience for local deputies and public safety officers to get together with the kids. We want them and their parents to see us as regular people just as they are, trying to make it a better place and having fun together."



# "Peter Pan" Draws VIPs

A performance by Glazier Elementary students brought out hundreds of parents and special guests to Excelsior High School, including State Senator Tony Mendoza. Second, third, fourth, and fifth graders presented the play "Peter Pan" based on "The Land of Make Believe." The Glazier Performing Arts students showcased not only their acting, but singing, dancing, and musical talents.

Prior to the play, Senator Mendoza spoke to the students to help ease their nerves and encourge them to enjoy themselves. He said, "You don't know how lucky you guys are, many schools want to have a program like yours, but it's not available to them. You guys have inspiring teachers, a supportive principal, and involved parents who help make this happen for you!"

For more information, visit the Visual and Performing Arts section at www.glazierelementary.org.



# Celebrate Independence a Day Early and Safely



The City of Norwalk's Recreation and Park Services Department hosts the Annual Independence Day Pageant on Sunday, July 3 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the Civic Center Lawn. This highly anticipated and popular event is free to the public and features live performances by award winning international cover band Liquid Blue, games for all ages, fun activities and arts and crafts, a variety of food for purchase, dancing and a spectacular professional fireworks display to cap off an evening of celebration.

The public is invited to participate in the Annual Locks of Love Hair Drive occurring on the same day. The Locks of Love organization provides hairpieces and wigs to help financially disadvantaged children suffering from medical hair loss due to illness or treatment. Stylists will provide participants with a blunt cut free of charge from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. at a salon station on the lawn. Last year, nearly 200 women (and men) between the ages of four

and 77 years of age donated over 2,800 inches of hair to the program. Call (562) 929-5566 for donation details.

The City encourages families to bring lawn chairs and blankets, join family and friends, and enjoy the fireworks show on Sunday. For Norwalk residents who choose to light fireworks at home, please note: **Only Safe and Sane fireworks** may be possessed and discharged in the city, **between Friday, July 1 and Monday, July 4**, only during the **hours of 10:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m.** Any use outside of this time frame is illegal. Illegal fireworks have the potential to cause physical injury and property damage, as well as intense distress for pets and individuals suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Ensure the safe enjoyment of the holidays for everyone by making yourself aware of the law. For more information, go to http://norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/public-safety/fireworks-safety.



### 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
Leonard Shryock Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650

PRSRT STD US Postage PAID Permit No. 1139 Whittier, CA

To Postal Patron

# College Bound

Santa Fe High senior and Norwalk resident Sarahi Garza is saying goodbye

to high school, where she has spent much of her time the last four years. She has excelled academically, ranking in the top five percent of her class each year and recently earned the Award of Merit from the Whitter High School District.

In the community, Sarahi has volunteered more than 200 hours of her time with the Teen Alliance Program and more than 100 hours with church groups and other organizations. She received two local scholarships, the Teen Alliance Program Scholarship

and the Dorothy and Howard P. Hunter Foundation Scholarship.

She says, "Santa Fe High School was a great experience because I was challenged academically,

> but it didn't stop with school work. I was excited to pursue extracurricular activities and ultimately I believe this combination helped to shape me into a stronger leader. I also feel I was able to create a special bond with both my teachers and my school counselor. Many were mentors to me and helped push me beyond what I thought were my limits."

> Sarahi graduated Santa Fe with a cumulative GPA of 4.5 and will be attending UCLA in the fall. She plans to earn her undergraduate degree

in Biochemistry and Neuroscience and continue to medical school to become a neonatal pediatrician.

# LA County Household **Hazardous Waste Round Up**

Cerritos College Stadium Parking Lot C-1 11110 Alondra Boulevard Saturday, July 16, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The LA County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Round Up is coming to Norwalk! Dispose of household hazardous waste in a safe and responsible manner at a FREE HHW

and E-Waste Round Up. Round Up events are open to all LA County residents.

Accepted items include: automotive fluid, cleaners and pesticides, pool chemicals, expired and unwanted medications or sharps, household batteries, and e-waste (computer monitors, keyboards, microwaves, televisions, and cell phones).

Call (888) CLEAN-LA for more information.

This event is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works in conjunction with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County.

# Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule

In observance of Independence Day, there will be no street sweeping or trash collection on Monday, July 4. When there is no street sweeping, it will NOT be made up. Streets can only be swept on the posted day. However, trash collection WILL be made up. Trash will be collected the day after the normal collection day for the remainder of the week. For example, Monday's trash will be collected on Tuesday.

### Important:

The altered schedule may cause trash collection to be on the same day as street sweeping in some areas. During these times, please place trash barrels up on the parkway (grass between sidewalk and street) to allow the sweeper to properly clean the street. We appreciate your efforts in keeping the streets safe and clean by ensuring trash cans do not interfere with sweeping

Street Sweeping

Parking Enforcement

Questions? Trash Collection CR&R Waste Services (562) 944-4716 (800) 299-4898 Republic Services

Public Services Department (562) 929-5511 Public Safety Department (562) 929-5732

# **Rabies Clinic**

Friday, July 8 • 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Norwalk City Hall Lawn • 12700 Norwalk Blvd Rabies Vaccination: \$6

(Dogs must be on leashes and cats in carriers.)

Individual Vaccines, Microchipping and Flea Control products will also be available.

Residents can renew dog licenses. Please bring renewal letters.

For additional information, contact the City of Norwalk Dog Licensing Department at (562) 929-5711.



# **Utility Box Art Program Continues to Grow**

Have you seen them? The third installation in the City of Norwalk's utility box art program, located at Rosecrans and Shoemaker, was completed during the weekend of May 21 and 22. The first and second projects can be viewed at the intersections of San Antonio and Firestone, and Studebaker and Leffingwell. All three uniquely painted works of art were created by Norwalk students ranging in age from 13 to 18 years old. If you are a Norwalk student, can draw or paint in the Anime art form, and would be interested in collaborating with other students to design and paint a box, please contact Theresa Devoy at (562) 929-5720 by July 8



# Celebrate Japanese heritage at the Annual Cultural **Festival and Ondo**



The festival, held by the Southeast Japanese School and Community Center, returns for its 53rd year and features martial arts demonstrations, Taiko drum and cultural dance performances, fun activities

for all ages, music and delicious Japanese cuisine for purchase. Admission is free. Parking is available at Lampton Elementary School, 14716 Elmcroft Avenue, with free shuttle service to the Community Center. Festival hours are Saturday, July 23, 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, July 24, 2:00 to 7:30 p.m. Visit SEJSCC.org for more info.

# **Elementary School Students Go Behind the Scenes**

National Public Works Week was celebrated May 15 through 21, and this year's theme, "Public Works Always There," emphasized reliance on public works professionals operating around the clock in local communities. As part of the celebration, the City's Public Services Department hosted an Open House for 60 third grade students from Moffitt Elementary School on Wednesday, May 18 and 85 fourth grade students from Paddison Elementary School on Thursday, May 19. Students, teachers and staff visited seven different stations where they were given a first-hand look at the important role Public Services plays in their community. Public Services staff provided fun and interactive presentations and equipment demonstrations on everything from landscaping to street maintenance, and graffiti removal to tree trimming. A wood carver from West Coast Arborists showed how to recycle a wooden stump by transforming it into a beautiful owl.



# Get Help with Home Repair Costs

Is your roof leaking? Are your windows drafty? The City of Norwalk, through funding provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), can help qualified households with making needed home repairs. Assistance is available to City of Norwalk property owners who have owned and lived in the property for minimum of 2 years and whose household income is within certain limits (see chart below). Homes must be Single Family residences, condominiums, mobile homes, or 1-4 unit apartment complexes\*.



The following types of assistance are available

depending upon income and other qualifications:

Grants Rebates **Deferred Loans** 0% Interest Loans

### Eligible Improvements include:

Electrical	Windows & Doors	Painting
Plumbing	Garages & Carports	Masonry
Roofing	Bedroom & Bathroom	Carpentry
Heating	Additions (under limited conditions)	Fumigation

For detailed information regarding the programs, please call (562) 929-5951.



# **Welcome Aboard Day** The New Route 7

On Monday, June 27, 2016 – Norwalk Transit System (NTS) officially introduced it newest service - Route 7 (formerly Metro Line 270). This route travels from the Norwalk Green Line Station to the El Monte Bus Station.

NTS Ambassadors were posted at both stations on June 27 to welcome riders aboard, hand out special commemorative gifts, and help patrons transition to Norwalk Transit. The Ambassadors also answered questions and provided details about the new service.

### Schedules/Website

NTS schedules for Route 1 and 4 have been edited, updated and improved to create a smaller, easier and much better way to read and take with you! Also, the new Route 7 schedule is available on our website, NTS buses and at our Customer Service Center. Routes 2, 3 & 5 schedules will also be switching to the improved format in the near future.

### **Service Modifications**

Route 1 – Will no longer operate north of Rio Hondo College on weekdays; effective Monday, June 27, 2016. Currently, the Route 1 serves the cities of Bellflower, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, and Whittier, continuing north beyond Rio Hondo College to Don Julian Rd. (near the City of Industry) on weekdays. This area (between Rio Hondo College and Workman Mill Rd./ Don Julian Rd.) will now be serviced by Foothill Transit Line 274. NTS Route 1 service will continue to terminate at Rio Hondo College on weekends.

Route 4 - Late Evening Weekday Service (11:00 p.m. to 11:45 p.m.) between the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station and Green Line Station will be discontinued; effective Sunday, June 26, 2016.

Therefore, NTS Route 4 weekday late evening service will end at 10:45 p.m. at the Metrolink Station. There are no changes to Route 4 weekend service.

### For More Information

To access current schedules and new ones, please visit our website at www.norwalk.org/norwalktransit

For detailed information on the new Route 4 and changes to other NTS routes, please contact our Customer Service Department at (562) 929-5550 or e-mail: transportation@norwalkca.gov.



# **Enroll in Some Art Classes at the Cultural Arts Center**

Consider spending some time nurturing your art skills at the Cultural Arts Center this summer. The CAC offers a variety of art and craft classes for li'l munchkins (ages 1-2), tots (ages 3-5), youth (ages 6-12), teens (ages 13-17), and adults (ages 18 & up). Classes include cooking, painting, music and movement, gardening, drawing, and just plain being creative. Classes range from \$6-\$20 per session. The Cultural Arts Center also offers two free, drop-in art programs throughout the summer, Art in the Park and Art Stop! For more information, please call (562) 929-5521 or visit the City website, www.norwalk.org, where you can find detailed information in the Recreation Summer Brochure.

### Brush Strokes & Beverages

Artists of all experience levels are invited to an evening of instructor-led painting on Saturday, July 30, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. The session will feature a predetermined painting subject, simple enough for first-time painters or with suggestions and instructions for those with a higher experience level. Tackle your personal artistic angle with the assistance of an experienced instructor and watch your

inner artist come to life on canvas! Brush Strokes and Beverages is open to adults age 21 & up. Registration is \$25 and may be completed upon arrival to the Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Avenue in Norwalk.

# **Open Mic Night** Are you an aspiring singer, comedian, actor

or poet? Now is the time to show your skills! The City of Norwalk's Cultural Arts Center staff will host Open Mic Night on Friday, July 22 at 8:00 p.m. for performers of all types as well as interested spectators. Enjoy an evening of free entertainment provided by local talent, and don't forget to invite your family and friends.

"Stamp Out Hunger"

Sign-ups start at 7:30 p.m. on a first come, first serve basis. Artists will be allowed to perform two selections or a total of seven minutes. A microphone, microphone stand, speakers, and iPod connector will be provided. Participants should bring all other equipment. All types of music are welcome. Lyrics need to be appropriate for all ages. Profane words or messages of hate will not be tolerated. For more information, please call (562) 929-5521.

# Coffee with a Cop

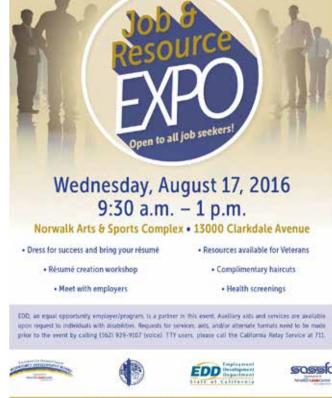
Get to know local law enforcement in a relaxed environment. Join Norwalk Sheriff's Deputies and City of Norwalk Public Safety Officers for a cup of coffee and casual conversation. You call the topic.

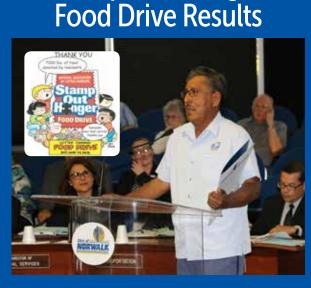


Pepe Jones Cafe 13220 San Antonio Drive Saturday, July 23 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.









The Norwalk Post Office and your Letter Carrier thank everyone who participated in the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive on May 14. A total of 7,200 pounds (over 3.5 tons) of food was collected for local families in need. Way to go, Norwalk!





Wednesday, July 6 Mariachi Cachanilla Mariachi Music



Wednesday, July 13 Como La Flor Band Selena Tribute



Wednesday, July 20 Sgt. Pepper Beatles Tribute



Wednesday, July 27 Smooth Sounds of Santana Santana Tribute



Wednesday, August 3 Soto "National Night Out" Latin R & B



Wednesday, August 10 Sangria Old School Latin & Oldies

Spend your summer evenings with us on the City Hall Lawn for our Summer Concert Series running every Wednesday from July 6 to August 10. Bring your blankets, chairs, and pack a picnic to enjoy live outdoor music with family and friends. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information, please call 929-5702.



# At Norwalk Library

12350 Imperial Highway • (562) 868-0775 • colapublib.org



### Children & Teens: Norwalk Library

Lunch at the Norwalk Library Weekdays June 13 - August 5, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.



This summer youth up to 18 years of age are invited to enjoy a FREE lunch at Norwalk Library! Meals will be served every weekday from 12 PM - 1 PM until August 5. There are

no eligibility requirements to fulfill or paperwork to turn in. Children simply come to the library to receive a free, nutritious meal. Several times throughout the summer, there will also be special programming during lunch hour.

### Don't Go Down the Summer Slide



School may be out, but that isn't a reason to put down the books! Norwalk and Alondra Libraries offer a Summer Reading Program for all ages that rewards participants with prizes for

reading. Besides providing a way to stay busy during summer days, the Summer Reading Program keeps kids mentally engaged when school's out. This combats the "summer slide": the learning loss kids experience while on break from school. To participate, register online at summerreadingla.org or in person at the Norwalk and Alondra Libraries. In addition, both locations are hosting special programs for all ages centered on this year's theme of "Read for the Win". Please visit Norwalk and Alondra's Facebook pages for details.

### **Teens: Norwalk Library**

Teen Video Game Pixel Art: Sports Theme! Tuesday, June 28, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

To kick off the Summer Reading Program, teens can create designs of popular video game characters and sports symbols from fuse beads and make them into magnets or keychains! All materials will be provided. Summer Reading Program Bookmarks can also be turned in all summer for prizes and weekly drawing entries.

### Teen Otaku Club

Wednesdays, July 6 & 20, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Teens who love anime and Japanese pop culture are invited twice a month to the library for the Otaku Club. There will be video games, trivia for prizes and anime screenings of new shows. There will also be new manga from the library for checkout.

### Adults: Norwalk Library

Book Discussion: Beautiful Ruins Monday, July 25, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



This month's Norwalk Library book club selection is Jess Walter's Beautiful Ruins, which tells the story of an almost-love affair that begins on the Italian coast in 1962 and is rekindled in Hollywood fifty years later.

Books and audiobooks are available for checkout at the Info Desk. Digital copies are also available on the County's Overdrive page. Share your thoughts at our discussion meeting. New members always welcome.

### "Picture Yourself" at Disneyland

Help support programming at Norwalk and Alondra Libraries and enjoy a day at the Happiest Place on Earth. Enter now to win two one-day Disney Park Hopper Tickets, which include entrance to both Disneyland Park and Disney California Adventure Park. Prices are \$5 for one ticket, or \$20 for five tickets, available at either library. Two winners will be chosen on August 13. Opportunity drawing sponsored by the Friends of the Norwalk Libraries.



# Save the Date: **National Night Out**

Join Norwalk friends and neighbors in taking a stand against crime on Wednesday, August 3. National Night Out is an annual event intended to bring communities across America together to strengthen neighborhood spirit, support local crime prevention, and build policecommunity partnerships.

Hosted by the City of Norwalk Department of Public Safety and Norwalk Sheriff's Station, the event occurs during one of the City's biggest Summer Concerts, featuring the band Soto on the City Hall Lawn between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

# **Norwalk Senior Center**

14040 San Antonio Drive • (562) 929-5580

The Following Events are for those age 50 and older:

## Old Glory Carnival Games & BBQ

Saturday, July 9, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person (Tickets are on sale now.)

Enjoy an afternoon of food, music and fun. Play challenging and amusing games to earn tickets for a chance to win prizes. Cost includes hamburger or cheeseburger with all the fixings, potato salad, chili beans, ice cream cup and a drink.

### July Candlelight Dinner

Theme: Red, White, Blue & You Tuesday, July 12, 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$6.50 Early Bird, \$8.00 (after Saturday, July 9) Share an evening with friends and family and enjoy a hot and hearty barbecue dinner. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. with meal service ending at 6:00 p.m. (Dine-in only). All attendees are entered in an opportunity drawing. Norwalk resident registration is currently being taken. Open registration begins Monday, June 27 at 9:00 a.m. Tickets will not be sold on the day of

### Neighborhood Watch

"Don't Take Chances on Your Personal Safety" Wednesday, July 13, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Public Safety presents important tips for seniors on how to maintain personal safety at home and out in the neighborhood.

### Senior Home Repair Program

Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

The City of Norwalk's Community Development Department talks to seniors about a program available to Norwalk homeowners to help with costly repairs. Learn about services and the application process.

### FREE Dental Screening

Friday, July 29, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

A Northeast Dental Assistant provides seniors with a basic dental health screening and discusses any findings that need to be addressed with a regular dentist.

Sponsored by: Northeast Dental

### **Bereavement Support Group**

Meets every Friday, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

The Bereavement Support Group offers support to participants who have experienced the loss of a spouse, family member or friend. Share your experience in a safe and reassuring environment. The group is led by a trained mental health professional from Telecare Corporation in Norwalk.



# JUNE 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS











