

Norwalk^eNOW

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California January 2018, Volume 36, #1



City Elections Moving to Even-Numbered Years

The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 17-1698 on December 5, which changes the City's elections to March of even-numbered years and extends City Council terms by one year.

This move complies with Senate Bill 415, which mandates that cities with low voter turnout (25% less than the four-year average statewide general elections), consolidate with either a statewide general or primary election by November 2022. Senate Bill 415 has impacted most cities and special districts in California.

At a study session held on November 7, 2017, City Council considered options available to combine elections, including switching to November or March of even-numbered years before the 2022 deadline. City Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance which would change the City's future elections to coincide with the new State primary date of March of even years beginning in 2020. This move only impacts Regular Municipal Elections. Special elections may be held on other authorized election dates found in the California Election Code.

Beginning in 2020 municipal elections will be consolidated with the County of Los Angeles along with statewide primaries, which are moving from June to March of even-numbered years. Future elections will be as follows: in March 2020 three Councilmembers will be up for election and in March 2022 two Councilmembers will be up for election.



Fourth Community Forum to Focus on Residents in Northern Part of City

As part of their goal to increase engagement with the public, City Council established the Community Forum town hall series, one of their first initiatives following the seating of three new members in March. The forums, which take place in locations throughout Norwalk, provide open discussion opportunities for residents who want to share concerns or questions with Councilmembers—on any topic of their choosing.

Earlier meetings, held at New River, Sanchez and Moffitt Elementary Schools, opened the floor to community members living and working in the surrounding neighborhoods. Topics included traffic concerns, infrastructure and public safety,

with the last event heavily attended by residents opposing the potential use of the former California Youth Authority correctional facility as a winter homeless shelter. The shelter has since been reassigned outside of Norwalk.

Residents in and around the northern segments of the city (and those in other areas) are invited to attend the fourth Community Forum, scheduled for Tuesday, February 27 at Lakeland Elementary School, located at 11224 Bombardier Avenue. The event, which opens at 6 p.m., will include light refreshments and translation services for Spanish speakers in the audience. For more information, visit norwalk.org or call (562) 929-5735.



Ground Breaking at Norwalk Fitness Village: Creating Opportunities in Norwalk

On the morning of November 20, Norwalk City Council, along with Global Pacific and their partners, broke ground on Norwalk Fitness Village, a new commercial center to be constructed at the northwest corner of Bloomfield Avenue and Imperial Highway. The project will include a 37,000 square foot state-of-the-art development including LA Fitness, Chick-fil-A and Panera Bread, as well as space for additional



retail and restaurant tenants. The center will also feature a promenade area with outdoor seating areas and a stage, offering opportunities for families and visitors to connect and enjoy live performances.

In addition to providing dining and entertainment options for the community, the center promises to create additional jobs in Norwalk and enhance the local economy.



Norwalk City Hall Hours of Operation

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

Norwalk City Council
Mayor Luigi Vernola
Vice Mayor Leonard Shryock
Councilmember Tony Ayala
Councilmember Jennifer Perez
Councilmember Margarita L. Rios

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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

To Postal Patron

Get Involved

Over 1,000 toys Collected on Stuff-a-Bus



Norwalk Transit System's (NTS) 16th Annual Stuff-A-Bus visited Nettie Waite and Ross Middle Schools, John Glenn and Norwalk High Schools, the ABC Channel 7 Spark of Love Event at Los Cerritos Center, and the City of Norwalk's Snowfest & Tree Lighting event, where over 1,000 new toys were collected from students, faculty and Norwalk residents.

These toys, along with other donations, were distributed to approximately 1,500 children at the City of Norwalk's Angel Tree Project Event on December 9, 2017. Thanks to all of the wonderful

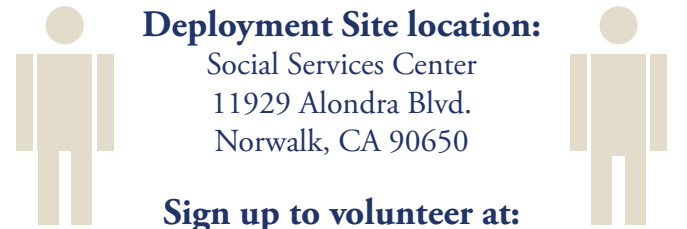
organizations and individuals who contributed to the Stuff-A-Bus this year! The City of Norwalk plans to recognize participants at a Council meeting in February.

The Stuff-A-Bus continued to service various NTS routes throughout the month of December and accepted additional toy donations at their Customer Service Center. If you would like information about next year's Stuff-A-Bus Program, please contact NTS Customer Service at (562) 929-5550 or e-mail: transportation@norwalkca.gov.

2018 Homeless Count

Sign up to participate in the 2018 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count in Norwalk!

All across Los Angeles County, every January we embark on a mission to count our homeless neighbors. The City of Norwalk is gearing up for the 2018 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count taking place on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 8 p.m.



Deployment Site location:

Social Services Center
11929 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

Sign up to volunteer at:

www.theycountwillyou.org/norwalk18

*...because everyone counts,
no matter where they live.*

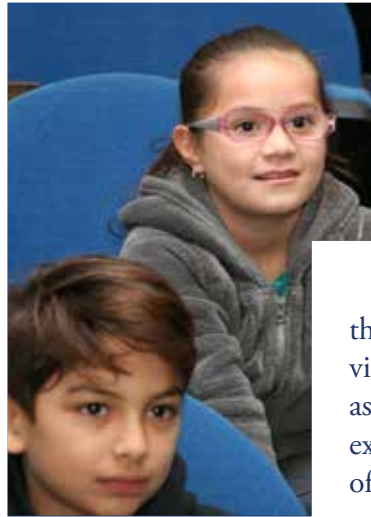
The City of Norwalk is located in SPA 7 area-East Los Angeles County.

For more information please contact: Mayra Garcia, Social Services Worker at mgarcia@norwalkca.gov or (562) 929-5582.



On Saturday, December 2, the City of Norwalk hosted 4,000 residents for its annual SnowFest and COMMUNITY CONNECT! event. 308 boxes of holiday lights were distributed to Norwalk families showing payment of a Southern California Edison bill. SCE and the Gas Co. offered opportunities to sign up for a variety of programs, as well as information on home upgrades and energy-saving shower kits. Liberty Utilities and Golden State Water companies were also on hand to provide residents with conservation tips, and the Liberty Water Drop stopped by to take photos with the kids. The City of Norwalk Public Services, Social Services, Public Safety and Code Compliance Departments were on hand to answer resident questions regarding City services.

Feedback from each of the participant booths was overwhelmingly positive for this "one stop" event and the chance to have a "one-on-one" dialogue with community members. The City of Norwalk looks forward to hosting similar events in the future.

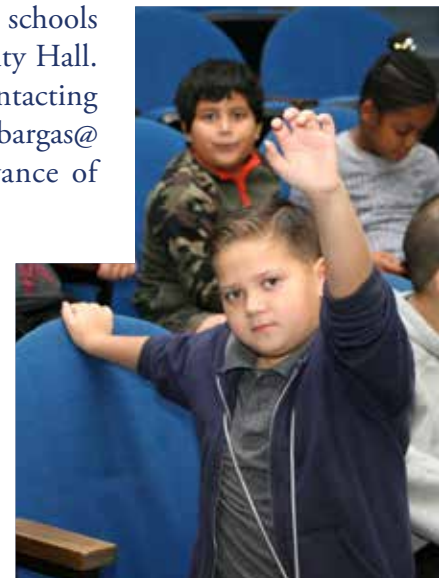


D.D. Johnston Elementary School Students Tour Norwalk City Hall

On November 28, approximately 54 second and third graders from D.D. Johnston Elementary School visited City Hall, learning about essential City services as part of the City Hall Tour program. The students explored the City's Cable studio, stepping in front of and behind the camera to participate in the video production process. A hands-on stormwater pollution presentation demonstrated that debris of all types can find its way to our oceans and rivers. They also met Signal and Graffiti maintenance staff to see how work performed in the public right of way help keeps the city clean and safe for everyone. Lastly, the students enjoyed getting up close and personal with Public Safety and Sheriff's personnel and their vehicles.

In addition to Johnston, the City has also hosted Paddison and Lakeland Schools this school year. Altogether, 176 students received a first-hand civics lesson and came away with a better idea of how the City serves their families. According to Rosi Padilla, a Johnston teacher, this is "sure to be an unforgettable trip for many of the students".

Tours are free and open to second through fifth grade students from area schools, however, schools must provide their own transportation to City Hall. Interested parties can request a tour by contacting Jessica Bargas-Jimenez at (562) 929-5944 or jbargas@norwalkca.gov, at least one month in advance of requested date.



Blood Drive

Give the gift of Life

January 9, 2018

12 - 6 p.m.
Norwalk City Hall
Lower Level Conference Room



Schedule your appointment today!

Call 562-929-5720 or email tcopen@norwalkca.gov

Donors can sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org using the sponsor code: CityofNorwalk.



Together, we can save a life



A Connected Community



Connect over a Cup

Our next "Coffee with a Cop" event will be held on Thursday, February 8 from 9-11a.m. The event will be held at Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant located at 10640 Rosecrans Avenue. For more information contact Public Safety at (562) 929-5732.





Trotters Get Exercise and Give Back

Runners, walkers and strollers alike all participated in Cerritos College's 20th annual Turkey Trot on November 16. This Thanksgiving tradition asked students, faculty, staff and community members to give cash or canned food as their entry fee. A total of 1,431 non-perishable food items and \$110 were collected by the college and the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council during the event! These were donated directly to Norwalk's Food Pantry to help local families experiencing difficult times during the holidays. The event offered a great way to combine fitness, fun and the spirit of giving.



California School Boards Association 2017 Golden Bell Award



Businesses and homebuyers are attracted to areas with rising incomes and strong educational opportunities.

Recognizing this connection, the Norwalk City Council established the Norwalk Education Alliance in 2015 – a collaboration of the City, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, Little Lake City School District, Santa Fe High School, Cerritos College, Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce, and the Long Beach Small Business Development Center – to promote education, training, and entrepreneurship as pathways to successful careers. Since inception, the Norwalk Education Alliance has worked together to define Universal Soft Skills – key character traits for success in any profession, connected students to business and professionals by conducting “mock job interviews,” and created Career Exploration Night to expose youth to various industries and career possibilities. These innovative efforts to define Norwalk as a place for youth to become career-ready has earned recognition by the California School Boards Association, which conferred the prestigious Golden Bell Award “for an outstanding program that highlights best practices in education.” City and School Officials received the award on November 30, and will continue to collaborate to expand educational and career opportunities for Norwalk residents.

Two Person Scramble Golf Tournament

In a scramble format, each player tees off on each hole. The best of the tee shots is selected and all players play their second shot from that spot. The best of the second shots is determined, then all play their third shot from that spot and so on, placing more emphasis on friendly fun rather than making the perfect shot.

Join the fun on Sunday, January 28. Check-in begins at 9 a.m., with shotgun start at 10 a.m. at the Don Knabe Golf Center & Junior Academy,

located at 13717 Shoemaker Avenue. The price? Only \$10 per team (14 years of age and under) or \$20 per team (15 and older). Awards will be presented in both age categories. Cost includes 18 holes of golf and a barbecue luncheon. Space is limited, so register early by visiting the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue. For more information, please call (562) 929-5566.



Protect Your Citrus Trees from Pests

A plant disease called Huanglongbing, or HLB, has recently been found in Los Angeles County. A pest called the Asian citrus psyllid feeds on citrus tree leaves and can spread the disease. Once a citrus tree is infected with HLB, it will inevitably die. Diseased trees must be removed in order to protect other citrus trees on the property, neighbors' trees and other citrus trees in the community.



Agriculture officials are visiting homes throughout the county to look for affected trees and evidence of the psyllid. The City of Norwalk asks the community to work with these officials to help save our community's citrus trees. Visit CaliforniaCitrusThreat.org to learn more, including inspection tips and what to expect if agriculture officials ask to access your property. Report detections at (800) 491-1899.

Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule

Observed Holidays	City Hall Closed	Sweeping	Trash
New Year's Day	Monday, January 1, 2018	No	No
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, January 15, 2018	No	Yes

Trash will be collected the day after normal collection day for the remainder of the week if not collected on a holiday. Street sweeping will continue as scheduled for the rest of the week.

For questions about trash, contact CR&R Waste Services at (562) 944-4716 and Republic Services at (800) 299-4898.

For street sweeping questions, call Public Services at (562) 929-5511. For parking enforcement info, call our Public Safety office at (562) 929-5732.

TreeCycle this Holiday Season!

From December 26 through January 13, Christmas trees will be picked up and recycled (reused as compost or landfill cover) at no cost to Norwalk residents.

Curbside Collection Customers: Trees placed on the curb the day before collection day will be picked up by a separate truck. Didn't get your tree out in time? Please wait until the following week. Trees left out for days are a fire hazard and an eyesore.

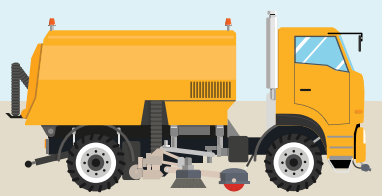
Multi-Family Dwelling Customers: Trees placed next to the trash container(s) will be picked up by a separate vehicle.

Important Guidelines

- No decorations (including tinsel, lights, etc.), tree bags or tree stands.
- Wooden stands must be removed and disposed of as trash.
- Flocked trees cannot be recycled and are considered trash.
- Trees over 8 feet tall must be cut in half.



For more info, contact your hauler: CR&R (562) 944-4716 or Republic Services (800) 299-4898



See & Do

SnowFest & Tree Lighting Connects Families with Winter Fun



A wintry scene replaced the lawn and parking lot surrounding City Hall on December 2. Adults and children glided down hills of ice, dug in the snow, participated in holiday themed games, face painting, entertainment, crafts and rode a colorful train decorated with seasonal scenes and characters. As SnowFest came to a close, families turned their attention to the stage and enjoyed performances by a variety of local dancers, singers and musicians. The crowd of nearly 4,000 patiently awaited the Tree Lighting Ceremony and arrival of Santa Claus, leaving with lasting memories and new friends.



Las Posadas at City Hall Lawn

Saturday, January 6 • 6 to 9 p.m.
12700 Norwalk Boulevard

A candle-lit procession at the City Hall lawn joins the community together in cultural celebration of the holidays. This event will feature caroling of holiday songs, activities for children and special performances by Mariachis and ballet folklorico dancers. Everyone is welcome to participate in this free event. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, please contact the Recreation and Park Services Department at (562) 929-5702.

FREE! Senior Center Events & Activities

14040 San Antonio Drive • (562) 929-5580

CalFresh Outreach Assistance

Monday, January 8 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

CalFresh is the new name for Food Stamps. Under new eligibility criteria, those who are age 65 and older may now qualify to receive CalFresh services. A representative from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank will be available to assist seniors with applying for the CalFresh program.

Sponsored by: Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

Neighborhood Watch

“Emergency Preparedness for Seniors”

Wednesday, January 10 • 10 to 11 a.m.

A Public Safety Officer will be at the Senior Center to speak with seniors about being prepared for emergencies. Topics will include what supplies to have ready as well as steps to take to stay safe in the event of an emergency/natural disaster.

Sponsored by: Norwalk Public Safety

“Healthy Tamales”

Cooking Demonstration

Thursday, January 18 • 10 to 11 a.m.

Here is your chance to find out how to make healthy tamales. Staff from Regal Medical Group will lead this cooking demonstration on the how-to's for making this tasty dish.

Sponsored by: Regal Medical Group

Blood Pressure Screening

Thursday, January 18 • 9:30 a.m.

Pioneer Medical Group provides this monthly blood pressure screening to seniors free of charge. Blood pressure is taken by a licensed/certified medical staff and the results are discussed with the senior afterward.

Sponsored by: Pioneer Medical Group

FREE Oil Filters for DIY'ers!

Bring a used motor oil filter in to AutoZone at 13927 Pioneer Boulevard on Saturday, January 13 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and receive a brand new filter for FREE! Norwalk residents may receive up to two new filters in exchange for two used ones, while supplies last. Residents may also bring in used oil stored in a clean, uncontaminated container for recycling. Recycling patrons are eligible for a free motor oil change kit. For more info, contact us at (562) 944-4766.



Social Services Distributes 170 Thanksgiving Baskets

With the help of our partners, Thanksgiving dinner, including a turkey or a grocery store gift card and all the essential sides and trimmings were provided to Norwalk seniors and families in need. Every year during the holiday season individuals, schools, service organizations and the business community come together to show their support for the Thanksgiving Basket program. Some of our partners include, but are not limited to:

Majority Leader Ian C. Calderon's Office

Supervisor Janice Hahn

Golden State Water

The Vogel Family and Friends

Metropolitan State Hospital

Registrar-Recorder's Office Employees

Cerritos College Turkey Trot

Norwalk Presbyterian Church

CEA HOW

NLMUSD Expanded Learning Program

The Norwalk Elks Lodge #2142

Norwalk Transit Department

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

Norwalk Community Coordinating Council

Norwalk Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Norwalk Recreation and Park Services

Medical Specialties Distributors

Knights of Columbus 3678

Neuroticos Anonimos

Lakeside Middle School

United Parents Club

Alondra Senior Citizens Club

International Seniors Club

A.A. Grupo Gratiud

And many more.....



Alondra Library

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



Norwalk Library

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

Photo Highlights: December 2017 City Council Meetings

