



## City of Norwalk Appoints Jesus M. Gomez as New City Manager

Following a five-month recruitment process, the Norwalk City Council unanimously appointed Jesus M. Gomez as the new City Manager for the City of Norwalk on January 9. Mr. Gomez' employment contract was finalized by City Council at the regular meeting of January 16. Mr. Gomez will assume the duties of City Manager on February 1, 2018.

Jesus returns to the City of Norwalk, where he began his career in public service in 1989 as a Planning Intern. Mr. Gomez served in various capacities in several departments over the course of ten years, first as a Management Assistant in Public Works, then as a Budget Analyst in the City Manager's office and ultimately, as a Revenue and Budget Coordinator in the Finance Department. Mr. Gomez comes to Norwalk from the City of El Monte, where he served as City Manager and prior to that, as Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director.

Under his guidance and the leadership of the El Monte City Council, Mr. Gomez was proactive in leading and implementing numerous development projects, including El Monte's "Billion Dollar Investment Initiative," which resulted in the approval and construction of over a billion dollars of private and public investments; "The Exchange at Gateway," a transit-oriented mixed-use project adjacent to El Monte's Metro Transit Station, with 550 housing units and 25,000 square feet of retail; "Magellan Gateway," a new 500,000 square foot, \$55 million light industrial business park; Santa Fe Trails Plaza, a 15-acre retail center with national stores and restaurants comprising



110,000 square feet in its first phase; a new 133-room Holiday Inn; the Gibson Mariposa Butterfly Park, a 4.5 acre facility featuring splash pads, playground, picnic area, basketball court and amphitheater; and the Baldwin Rose Family Veteran Housing facility, a 55-unit affordable veterans housing project to be built by a non-profit housing developer, which broke ground within the last three months.

Mr. Gomez also has ten years of private sector experience as a financial consultant to cities and was an investment banker specializing in municipal bonds. Mr. Gomez worked with "The Seidler Companies" where he marketed and brought to sale various types of public debt obligations, both tax-exempt and taxable. He then moved on to the position of Senior Vice President at Kinsell, Newcomb & De Dios Inc., where he continued his work as an investment banker for municipalities in addition to serving as a municipal bond underwriter.

"I am excited and honored to have the unique opportunity to come back to the City of Norwalk where I started my career in public service," said Jesus M. Gomez. "With my experience both in the public and private sector,

I believe I bring value to the City in being both creative and innovative in my approach towards economic development, infrastructure and finance. I look forward to working with the Mayor and City Council in spearheading new and collaborative ways to improve public safety and provide the high quality services that Norwalk residents expect and deserve."

## Lap Robe Ladies Bring Warmth and Cheer to Local Patients

Each Tuesday, a group of ladies meet at the Norwalk Senior Center with one goal in mind...making a difference for others. The Lap Robe Volunteers begin their work in January and meet weekly through December to make uniquely crafted blankets from donated materials. The volunteers are dedicated and committed to ensure that enough lap robes are sewn to accommodate patients currently under care at local facilities. This year, 1,248 volunteer hours were dedicated to this project. Maria Butcher, Martha Castro, Helen Durenberger, Emelia Gonzalez, Maria Lopez, Carmen Montoya and Senior Volunteer Instructor Lupe Ginez are happy to devote this time in order to spread good cheer and holiday joy to special people in our community.

In December, the ladies donated 216 lap robes to the Norwalk Senior Center. These gifts are delivered to local convalescent homes, children's hospitals and the Veterans Administration Hospital in Long Beach. The Lap Robe Ladies began this tradition of giving over 15 years ago to let patients know that seniors from the Center care about them and that they are not alone during the holidays.



## Transit's Three New CNG Buses



Norwalk Transit System (NTS) continues to emphasize its commitment to quality service, including replacement of equipment that has reached its useful life expectancy. In January 2018, NTS acquired three (3) brand new buses in its ongoing effort to update its current fleet.

These 40-foot buses were manufactured by the Gillig Corporation and are powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). ADA ramps have been upgraded to allow for easier and safer boarding of wheelchairs and other mobility devices.

Additional buses help to serve the many passengers who use NTS for public transportation to various destinations in Norwalk and surrounding communities. It is anticipated that these new buses will especially benefit our ability to facilitate the needs of commuters requiring connecting service to the Green Line Station in Norwalk, the Metrolink Station in Norwalk and the transit station in El Monte.

Also, furthering the City of Norwalk's commitment to being environmentally friendly, these buses are equipped with technology that results in nearly zero emissions, as CNG burns cleaner than petroleum and contains significantly less pollutants than gasoline. NTS anticipates adding an additional six new buses by 2021, which may include all electric vehicles.

More information on Norwalk Transit System services can be obtained by contacting Customer Service at (562) 929-5550 or e-mailing [transportation@norwalkca.gov](mailto:transportation@norwalkca.gov)

### 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

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Get Involved

## Neighborhood Watch Association Program

In partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the City of Norwalk will host the first Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting of 2018 on Thursday, February 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at John Glenn High School.

The Neighborhood Watch Association Program organizes the community into twelve associations, with meetings scheduled twice throughout the year in each association. Meetings allow residents to get to know their neighbors, law enforcement officers and city personnel serving the community and learn more about crime trends, prevention tips and strategies that can help reduce criminal activity and keep neighborhoods safe.

Additionally, meetings provide an open forum for residents to discuss crime-related or quality of life issues impacting the community. Each meeting concludes with "coffee and conversation," with community members having an opportunity to speak one-on-one with city staff, officials and law enforcement officers on hand.

For additional information, please contact Public Safety at (562) 929-5732.

### Neighborhood Watch Association Meeting Schedule:

#### Association #6 & 7

Thursday, February 22 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
John Glenn High School  
13520 Shoemaker Ave.

#### Association #11 & 12

Thursday, April 12 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Edmondson Elementary School  
15121 Grayland Ave.

#### Association #8, 9, 10

Thursday, March 8 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Gerdes Park  
14700 Gridley Rd.

#### Association #1, 2, 3

Thursday, April 26 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Lakeside Middle School  
11000 Kenney St.

#### Association #4 & 5

Thursday, May 10 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Morrison Elementary School  
13510 Maidstone Ave.

## Start off the Day with "Coffee with a Cop"



The Department of Public Safety invites the community to join them for a morning of conversation and complimentary coffee. The next "Coffee with a Cop" will be held on Thursday, February 8 from 9 to 11 a.m. The event will take place at Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant located at 10640 Rosecrans Avenue.

This community outreach program aims to build partnerships among members of the community and law enforcement officers patrolling Norwalk neighborhoods. Public Safety and Sheriff's Department staff will be available to discuss any issues or concerns residents may have.

For more information, please contact the Public Safety Department at (562) 929-5732.

## Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule

Observed Holidays	City Hall Closed	Sweeping	Trash
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 19	No	Yes

Sweeping will not be made up as streets can only be swept on the posted day. Trash collection will occur as scheduled.

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.

### E-Waste and Shred-a-Thon

Drop off old unwanted electronics for recycling and shred documents for FREE during the City of Norwalk's E-Waste and Shred-A-Thon Event on Saturday, February 17.

Accepted items include: television sets, computers, monitors, cell phones, laptops, printers, fax machines, DVD players, VCR's, video game systems, and radios. In addition, residents can bring up to five boxes/bags of documents for secure on-site shredding.

The event takes place at City Hall parking lot, 12700 Norwalk Blvd., from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Questions? Please call (562) 929-5964 or email [recycling@norwalkca.gov](mailto:recycling@norwalkca.gov)

## Mother/Son Western Roundup Dance

Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.  
Saturday, February 10 • 5 to 8 p.m.

Cost: \$15/Couple, \$7 per each additional child  
For more information, please call (562) 929-5566.

(Ticket deadline is Friday, February 2.)



## Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast comes to Norwalk's DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel bright and early on Valentine's Day, February 14 at 6:30 a.m. This special event, hosted by the Door of Hope Youth and Family Resource Center, gathers local officials, community members, and middle and high school students for a warm meal and an uplifting message of inspiration. This year's keynote speaker, Kay Butterfield, will share how "Love Builds Community."

Pastor Kay is well-known throughout the world for her teaching and ministry. Ordained in 1973, she graduated from Southern California Community Bible College with a Bachelor's degree in Theology. She also achieved her Doctorate in the same subject. Kay teaches several classes at California Bible University and serves as Senior Pastor of Community Chapel World Outreach in Norwalk. Pastor Kay has traveled the globe giving seminars and completing missionary projects.

Tickets for the event are \$25 each, and table and student sponsorships are available. For more information, contact Arthur McKibben at (310) 809-7679.

The DoubleTree is located at 13111 Sycamore Drive in Norwalk.



Keynote Speaker Pastor Kay Butterfield  
Community Chapel World Outreach Church



## Optimize Energy Efficiency at Home or at Work

Did you know Southern California Edison offers help to make your home or business more energy efficient? The SCE website offers a home energy advisor where you can obtain information on home energy use and personalized ways to conserve energy. For more information visit [www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/home-energy-guide/home-energy-advisor](http://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/home-energy-guide/home-energy-advisor).

The company also has a tool lending library which offers easy to use resources and useful knowledge to save energy at home or work. The tools are free to borrow and can help troubleshoot, test, diagnose problems and even analyze system performance. Log into [www.sce.com/tools](http://www.sce.com/tools) to learn more or fill out a tool lending request.



# Las Posadas Celebration

On Saturday, January 6, the City hosted a Las Posadas Celebration at City Hall Lawn from 6 to 9 p.m. There were approximately 700 people in attendance. This traditional cultural celebration was free for all to enjoy and included a candle-lit procession, caroling of holiday songs, light refreshments, cultural activities for children, such as piñatas, and special performances by mariachis and ballet folklorico dancers.



## Holiday Décor Contest Winners

Norwalk residents caught the holiday spirit, decorating their homes and yards with lights, familiar characters, moving sculptures, snow and other imaginative elements. Eleven residents entered their homes in the 2017 Holiday Home Décor Contest put on by the City of Norwalk's Community Promotion Commission. This year's winners are:



1<sup>st</sup> Place: William Stapley



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cliff Westerlin



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Henry Fuentes



Honorable Mention: Kevin & Wendy Forsberg

## Home Games on the Horizon

Community News



On January 18, the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District and School Board officials, staff and students came together to break ground on a much anticipated synthetic turf sports field development at John Glenn High School. The project includes the installation of a synthetic track and play fields, concrete walkways, bleacher seating for 2,500 spectators, a press box, lighting, several accessory buildings, and a ticketing booth. The project budget is estimated at \$25 million and is funded through Measure G. The district bond was passed by voters in 2014 to address needed upgrades of school facilities, as well as provide safe and healthy learning environments to ensure a high quality education for every student.

Southeast Academy provided the color guard, and the John Glenn High School band, flags, cheer and the Eagles baseball team were present to watch as officials shoveled the first dirt onsite, heralding the opening of construction. Principal Francisco J. Ramirez described the school as very

family-oriented and says the project provides an opportunity to bring the community together. Moreover, the world-class facility is something students deserve and will validate all the hard work they put into their practice. Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Hasmik Danielian highlighted the significance of the event, calling it a special day for the entire community and a "dream come true." Asking for the community's patience during the year-long project, she added that when completed, the current field will be a sports venue to be proud of and will motivate students towards academic and athletic excellence.

The school's athletics facilities had not been renovated since 1962, offering students and coaches limited options. The project is anticipated to be completed December 2018. Students are looking forward to project completion for many reasons; one of them being that they will now be able to host evening football games on their home turf.

## Ready for the Rain?

**Winter is here and so is the rain. Make sure you are prepared.**

The City, in collaboration with Los Angeles County Fire Department, offers sandbags and sand for Norwalk residents. These items are free and offered on a first come first served basis. Bags can be picked up at either fire station in the City. Fire Station 20 is located at 12110 Adoree Street off of Norwalk Boulevard and Station 115 is located at 11317 Alondra Boulevard.

**Sand is available at self serve stations located at these City parks:**

**Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion**  
12301 Sproul Street

**Gerdes Park**  
14700 Gridley Road

**Hermosillo Park**  
11959 162<sup>nd</sup> Street

**Bob White Park**  
12120 Hoxie Avenue

**Holifield Park**  
12500 Excelsior Drive

## Find True Love!

The Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) offers low cost adoptions for Norwalk residents just in time for Valentine's Day. On Saturday, February 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., pet adoption fees will be reduced to \$14 for dogs one year old and above and cats eight weeks old and above.

**This discounted rate includes:**

Spay/Neuter

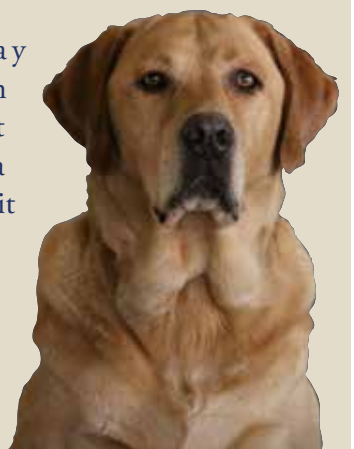
Microchip

First set of vaccinations

Flea treatment

Promotion does not include "Boutique Buddies." Some animals may require a spay/neuter deposit. Offer cannot be combined with other promotions or programs. Additional fees may apply.

This one-day only special adoption event takes place at SEAACA, 9777 Seaca Street in Downey. Visit [seaaca.org](http://seaaca.org) or call (562) 803-3301 for more information.



## Homeless Plan Community Meeting

In an effort to address our homeless challenges, the City of Norwalk is in the process of creating a plan to address homelessness. Please join us at the Norwalk Social Services Center to be part of the process. Your comments, concerns and solutions will be heard. Your Voice Counts.



**Location: 11929 Alondra Blvd**

**Date: Thursday, February 1**

**Time: 6:30 p.m.**

**Date: Tuesday, February 6**

**Time: 2 to 4 p.m.**



See & Do



## Alondra Library

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

### Children's Events

#### Toddler Storytime

**Fridays • 11:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Bring your toddlers for stories, songs, and fingerplays. They'll be introduced to early literacy in a fun environment and will socialize with new friends at storytime. For ages 1 – 3.

#### Family Storytime

**Thursday, February 15 • 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, and art activities with the whole family. For ages 4 and up.

#### Children's Book Club

**Tuesday, February 20 • 5 to 6 p.m.**

February's selection is Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson. Copies of the book can be found at Alondra and other County of Los Angeles Public Libraries. For ages 8 – 12.

#### Fake Mustache Day

**Thursday, February 24 • 2 to 3:30 p.m.**

Do you have a mustache, wish that you had one, or even love to accessorize with fake ones? Come celebrate National Fake Mustache Day and share your love of mustaches at our event. For ages 4 and up.

#### Tibetan Sand Mandalas

**Tuesday, February 27 • 4:30 to 6 p.m.**

Create an amazing Tibetan sand mandala with the help of a professional artist. For ages 4 and up.

### Teen Events

#### Teen/Adult Ukulele Strum Along

**Wednesday, February 7 • 5 to 6 p.m.**

Teens and adults, come rock out and learn a few simple songs with our librarian. Ukuleles will be made available during the programs on a first come, first played basis. Feel free to bring your ukulele if you have one. Beginners always welcome. For ages 12 and up.

#### Teen Book Club

**Wednesday, February 21 • 5 to 6 p.m.**

February's selection is Neal Shusterman's Unwind. Copies of the book can be found at Alondra and other County of Los Angeles Public Libraries. For ages 12 – 18.

### Adult Events

#### "Classics I Always Said I Was Going to Read" Book Club

**Tuesday, February 13 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

Alondra Library's classic book club will read And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie for February. Read or listen to the book and then join the light discussion. Refreshments are served. New members are welcomed.

#### Pet Safety and Emergency Preparedness

**Saturday, February 17 • 2:30 to 4 p.m.**

In this class, a certified instructor will talk about pet safety, pet obedience, travel, emergency preparedness, and more. Please leave pets at home; this class is for owners only. Program is for ages 18 years and up.

# City of Norwalk Angel Tree Supporters 2017

A special thanks to those involved in making the Holidays special for the many children selected to participate in the Angel Tree Project. The success of Angel Tree would not be possible without the

support of each and every one of YOU!

THANK YOU for caring enough to make a difference in the lives of children and families in our community!

### Gold

Goodman Dean, Inc.  
Norwalk Community Coordinating Council  
Norwalk Senior Citizens Center, Inc.  
Tom & Marie Jackson

### Silver

Gordon & Marilee Stefenhagen  
Kurt & Melissa Anderson  
Norwalk Golden Trowel  
Norwalk Lions Club  
Pawnmart Jewelry & Loan  
United Parents Club  
Wal-Mart #5164

### Major

57<sup>th</sup> District Assemblymember Majority Leader Ian Calderon  
Alba Professional Services/H&R Block  
Alondra Senior Citizen Club  
Marilyn Escutia (Farmers Insurance)  
Norwalk Auto Auction  
Norwalk Motorcycle Club  
Norwalk Knights of Columbus #3678  
Norwalk Stingrays  
Norwalk Transit Stuff-A-Bus  
Richards, Watson & Gershon  
Studebaker Elementary School  
Tam's Burgers #33

### General

AA Group  
Al & Luella Steele  
Al-Anon  
Arise International Church  
Artesia Transmission & Woody's Muffler Shop  
Carol B. Price  
CEA – HOW #72  
Comedores Compulsivos/HOW  
Karen Bender  
In-N-Out Burgers  
Jana Stuard  
Metropolitan State Hospital  
Narcoticos Anonimos  
Norm Reeves Honda Cerritos  
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce  
Norwalk/La Mirada Plumbing  
Norwalk Printing  
Norwalk Records  
Norwalk Superior Court Employees  
OneMain Financial  
Paddison Elementary Student Council  
Soto Family  
St. Linus Knights of Columbus #10623  
Tak Hamabata  
United Methodist Church  
W.G. Zimmerman Engineering

### Elementary Schools

Chavez  
Cresson  
Dolland  
Edmondson  
Glazier  
Johnston  
Lakeland  
Lampton  
Moffitt  
Morrison  
New River  
Nuffer  
Orr  
Paddison  
Sanchez  
Studebaker

### Angel Tree Sites

Alba Professional Services/H&R Block  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit #359  
Applebee's  
Arise International Church  
Collins Sunny Daycare  
Communication Workers of America  
Corral Family Daycare  
Doris Hair Design  
Faith Reform Church  
John Glenn High School  
Joyland Preschool  
L.A. County Fire Department Station #20  
Lowe's  
Northgate Gonzalez Market #24  
Norwalk Beverage Company  
Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District  
Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex  
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce  
Norwalk Child Development Program  
Norwalk Community Hospital  
Norwalk City Hall  
Norwalk High School  
Norwalk Presbyterian Church  
Norwalk Regional Library  
Norwalk Senior Center  
Norwalk Sheriff Station  
Norwalk Social Services Center  
Norwalk Superior Court  
Ordiway Family Child Care  
Pioneer Medical Group – Corporate  
Pioneer Medical Group – Long Beach  
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk  
Ruiz Family Daycare  
Salas Family Daycare  
Social Security Administration  
St. John of God Catholic Church  
TJ Maxx  
TLC Learning Center  
United Methodist Church  
Verizon

### \$1 Supporter Sites

American Legion Post #359  
Applebee's  
Señor Baja  
Corral Daycare  
Cerritos College Bookstore  
Douglas Burgers  
El Paraiso Juice Bar #2  
Familia Pawn  
Norwalk Toyota  
Salas Daycare  
So. Cal. Pizza  
TNT Tacos & Tortas  
AND MORE THAN 200 VOLUNTEERS!!!



# Photo Highlights: January 2018 City Council Meetings

