

Norwalk^eNow

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California April 2018, Volume 38, #4



Officials Share Council's Vision at State of the City

City Council's vision of a safe and engaged community enjoying a high quality of life set the foundation for the afternoon's keynote, given by Deputy City Managers Gary DiCorpo, Kevin Gano and City Manager Jesus Gomez. DiCorpo demonstrated several examples of street, park, lighting and facility improvements made over the past year, adding that staff would be continuing to address additional areas in 2018. Describing specific projects, he shared plans to utilize grant funding to replace dead turf in citywide medians with drought tolerant landscaping. He also showed conceptual drawings detailing the meandering walk and bikeway, colorful plant palette and security enhancements provided in the Foster Road Improvement Project, slated for completion this summer. DiCorpo, who also served as the event's Master of Ceremonies, conveyed that, although the I-5 widening project had been a challenging experience for Norwalk drivers, the end was fast approaching as the project moves north toward the cities of Santa Fe Springs and Downey, with completion set for 2020.

Deputy City Manager Kevin Gano, who reconnected with the City of Norwalk in January after 12 years of semi-retirement, focused on public safety. Outlining the City's goal of providing a "real and perceived sense of safety and security in homes, neighborhoods, schools and in the community," Gano explained that he would be re-establishing

a team approach to improve citizens' quality of life. He discussed working closely with other departments, agencies, non-profits and community members, utilizing all available resources to address issues before they escalated into crisis situations. He outlined plans to increase staff, add or replace outdated equipment



and provide higher visibility as part of the process. Gano presented images of residential areas where staff had improved security by removing nuisances, and explained ways the City was already at work reaching out to homeless encampments with the assistance of field professionals and forming school safety teams to identify behavioral issues before they become viable threats within the schools and the community. He went on to say that breaking the cycle of crime, violence and gang affiliation is the City's long-range

common objective.

"Engagement" was a common theme throughout the afternoon. Captain James D. Tatreau of the Norwalk Sheriff's Station told the audience of over 250 stakeholders that one of the deputies' main goals was to connect with residents on a more frequent basis. City Manager Jesus Gomez discussed the City Council's vision of an engaged community, recapping the recent Community Congress event, Norwalk Education Alliance collaboration and Community Forums as examples of successful outreach and productive, valuable interaction.

Gomez, who also returns to Norwalk, where he began his public service career, also spoke on opportunities for economic development in Norwalk, a recurring topic for residents, indicating potential locations including 35 acres of former tank farm property adjacent to Holifield Park (15 acres has already been promised to the City for park expansion), the Firestone and San Antonio intersection, the southwest corner of Bloomfield and Imperial, and the former California Youth Authority site, as areas where retail, service and other uses could thrive and grow, bringing appealing options and dollars to the city. Utilizing onscreen demographics like household size, median age, top employers and sales tax producers, Gomez provided a profile of Norwalk residents and consumers, explaining the prospects for a metropolitan area ready for change and poised for success.

Norwalk Fitness Village

In November, City Council and development partners broke ground on the Norwalk Fitness Village, located at the northwest corner of Bloomfield Avenue and Imperial Highway. Expected to be completed by early 2019, this commercial development will include an LA Fitness, Panera Bread, Chick-fil-A and other restaurant and retail uses, as well as a promenade with an entertainment area and outdoor seating.



Let's Talk Trash



Keeping neighborhoods clean and maintained keeps neighbors happy and friendly. The Norwalk Municipal Code (8.48.480) states that trash and recycling containers can be brought out no more than 24 hours before the day and time they are to be serviced and must be put away by 6:00 a.m. the following day.

Containers should be removed to a location not visible from the street.



PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER QUIZ

Please choose which agency to call regarding the concerns listed below. Write **a** or **b** next to each situation. Hint: Details can be found in the last issue of the Norwalk Now.

(a) Public Safety (b) Sheriff's Department

Concerns:

- (1) Panhandlers ___
- (2) Roadway Obstructions ___
- (3) Criminal Related In-Progress Calls ___
- (4) Stolen Vehicle Reports ___
- (5) Reckless Driving ___
- (6) Street Vendors ___
- (7) Graffiti ___
- (8) Traffic Safety Concerns ___
- (9) Intoxicated Individuals or Those Who are Under the Influence of Narcotics ___
- (10) Burglary, Robbery, Petty Theft ___

**Remember, if you're experiencing a life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1.*



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

Experience of a Lifetime

The City of Norwalk is looking for volunteers to help us provide successful programs to the community. Our volunteers may serve in a number of different ways: as youth sports coaches, special events assistants, museum docents and more. Contributing a few hours of time will not only impact our residents, but will leave volunteers with lasting experience and lifelong friendships. Visit <http://norwalk.org/i-want-to-volunteer-with-the-city-of-norwalk> to find how you can make a difference.



Coming Soon

On February 28, City Council discussed and approved fiscal year 2017/2018 mid-year budget adjustments. Mid-year budget reviews allow officials to hear current economic conditions and fiscal standing, and make prudent decisions that meet the City's strategic plan goals. As a result, residents can look forward to:

- New playgrounds at Hermosillo and Norwalk Parks.
- Two additional concerts during the popular Summer Concerts on the Lawn.
- Updates to software that allow convenient online payment and registration.



Public Safety Corner - Panhandlers -



Panhandlers drift into town from places unknown. These individuals often solicit for donations, known commonly as "panhandling" or "begging." When this behavior becomes aggressive, it causes concern, intimidation and affects residents' and local

merchants' quality of life.

Panhandling is not only a nuisance, it is a disruption to local businesses and a deterrent for their customers. It is our goal to provide our community with safe places to shop and conduct business. State and local laws prohibit panhandling, trespassing and posing a public nuisance. Our Public Safety Officers and Sheriff's Deputies are continuously addressing these issues to protect the safety and welfare of our residents and our business community.

We need your help. Please don't give money to panhandlers, as this will provide incentive for them to remain in a place where behavior is rewarded. Instead, consider contributing to local non-profit agencies whose goal is to assist individuals in need with housing, food and employment opportunities.

"Rethink Your Drink"

In an effort to help fight childhood obesity, the Recreation and Park Services Department is starting a marketing campaign entitled "Rethink Your Drink." The program is designed to promote the benefits of drinking water instead of sugar-laced soft drinks and sports drinks. A pilot program will begin this spring introducing the concept to members of the youth sports program where participants will be asked to take a pledge



to rethink their drink. The campaign will expand throughout the entire Recreation Department program as we move forward.



For a limited time, individuals taking the pledge will receive a free plastic water bottle promoting the "Rethink Your Drink" campaign. The City is also providing bottles of water to their young athletes as we do our part to encourage everyone to make the right choice of drinking more water!

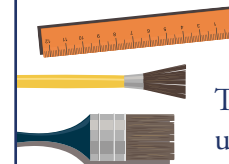
City Staff Trained in Energy Efficiency



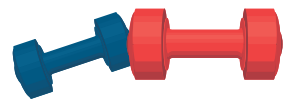
As part of the City's continued commitment to energy efficiency, members of the Public Services Department completed a Building Operators Certification (BOC) Level 1 training. This seven month course covered a variety of building and energy-related topics. Staff was also assigned projects that required participants to demonstrate competence in locating building equipment; calculating facility energy consumption; critiquing HVAC systems operation; and sketching the facility's electrical distribution system. This training will help the City identify opportunities in energy savings solutions in the areas of lighting, HVAC, mechanical systems and other building operations. More information on BOC training can be found at <http://www.theboc.info/>

Find Your Fun

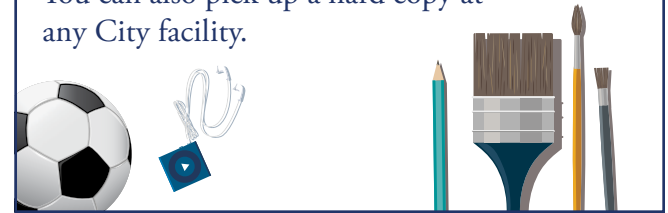
The City of Norwalk has countless activities, classes, events and excursions geared especially for tots, teens, adults and seniors.



Take an art class, get fit, dance, take up a sport, go on an adventure, or learn something new.



Discover all we have to offer in our Spring Schedule of Events online at Norwalk.org/schedule-of-events. You can also pick up a hard copy at any City facility.



The Norwalk Woman's Club Presents: Spring Time In Paris Tea & Fashion Show

Saturday, April 21 • 12 to 3 p.m.
Progress Park, 15500 Downey Ave,
Paramount, CA
\$25/person

Help make a positive change in our community....one teacup at a time. Enjoy a lovely afternoon with great company, tasty fare provided by Café 'N Stuff, and drawings for beautiful prizes. Proceeds will go towards student scholarships. For tickets, call Esther Alejandro (562) 863-6782, or Eloise Velasquez (714) 994-1847.

Founded in 1922, the Norwalk Woman's Club (NWC) is dedicated to bringing about positive change in the community through volunteer service. The NWC meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, at the Masonic Lodge at 12345 Rosecrans Ave. from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Be GREEN for 2018!

SAVE THE DATE!

Earth Day 2018

SATURDAY
APRIL 14, 2018
10 AM - 2 PM

IT'S FREE!

- OVER 50 GREEN EXHIBITORS
- EARTH-FRIENDLY ARTS AND CRAFTS
- WATER RECLAMATION PLANT AND MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY TOURS
- MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCES
- FACE PAINTING AND MUCH MORE!

SANITATION DISTRICTS' PARKING LOT

1955 WORKMAN MILL ROAD
WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA 90601
(562) 908-1288, EXT. 2311 - WWW.LACSD.ORG

SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Converting Waste into Resources

BRING YOUR OLD SHOES TO DONATE TO SOLES 4 SOULS

SO SORRY, BUT NO PETS ARE ALLOWED.

The Wiz Jr - SJOG



The Drama Club at St. John of God, comprised of 4th through 8th grade students attending the church school, invite the community to check out their latest production, The Wiz Jr. The lively musical, a reimagining of the Wizard of Oz, is being performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 29. Tickets are available for purchase at the school office and are only \$10 if purchased in advance or \$12 at the door.

St. John of God is located at 13817 S. Pioneer Boulevard. For more info, please call (562) 863-5722.

Recreation and Park Services Honored by CPRS

During their annual conference the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) presented the City of Norwalk with the Award of Excellence for Recreation and Park Services' Miniachis de Norwalk program. Seen here from left to right are Director Bill Kearns, Miniachis instructor Cindy Lopez, Recreation Supervisor Blanche Grove and CPRS Sponsors.



Community Forum #4 Recap

On February 27, City Council and staff connected with Norwalk residents at the fourth Community Forum held at Lakeland Elementary School. The forum provided residents the opportunity to share their concerns over quality of life issues, with public safety, traffic enforcement, and public infrastructure as main topics of discussion. As a result of these town hall style meetings, the Public Services Department has quickly resolved some of the maintenance issues brought forth by residents. Moreover, as stated by City Manager Jesus M. Gomez that evening, staff know that infrastructure is a major concern. He informed residents that Norwalk would be making headway into street projects with upcoming SB1 funding, estimated at \$1.2 million per year for

several years.

In response to resident inquiries about public safety, recently appointed Deputy City Manager Kevin Gano affirmed that the city's Public Safety Department is in the process of reorganizing and would be utilizing a more solutions-based approach, as well as focusing on teamwork with other City departments and outside agencies, such as the schools, the courts, and non-profits. Mr. Gano stated the department's mission is to contribute to a real sense of security among the public.

Additional forums will be scheduled in the near future, and the public will be notified via the Norwalk Now and social media.



Soroptimist 2018 Education Awards Banquet

Soroptimist International of Norwalk will honor six women at the 2018 Education Awards Banquet at the Norwalk DoubleTree Hotel located at 13111 Sycamore Drive on Saturday, April 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tickets to the luncheon are \$30, available for purchase from members or via credit card at www.sinorwalk.org. Call Amanda Secola at 949-795-2776 for information.

A diaper drive will take place during the "Once Upon a Dream Education Awards Banquet" on April 28th. Donated diapers of all sizes will be distributed to L.A. CADA's Family HOPE Program in Santa Fe Springs. The Family HOPE Program serves pregnant and postpartum women and their babies/toddlers under three years of age.

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that improves the lives of women and girls. Soroptimist envisions a world where women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full



potential. More than 110,000 members and supporters in 20 countries and territories invest in the dreams of women and girls through access to education. Soroptimist's main program, Live Your Dream Education and Training Awards for Women, has disbursed about \$30 million to almost 20,000 women since 1972.

SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Its newest program, Dream It, Be It, targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. Soroptimist also powers LiveYourDream.org, its online community that provides on- and offline opportunities for volunteer action benefiting women and girls.

Special Pet Adoption Rates for Spring

Through April 21, the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) invites you to "Spring on in to Adopt" a new loving family member. Fees, which include spaying or neutering, microchipping, first set of vaccinations and more, are \$55 for dogs five years of age and older, and \$5 for cats one year old or older. Contact SEAACA at (562) 803-3301 for more information, or visit www.seaaca.org.



"Pets are more than just animals, we are family."

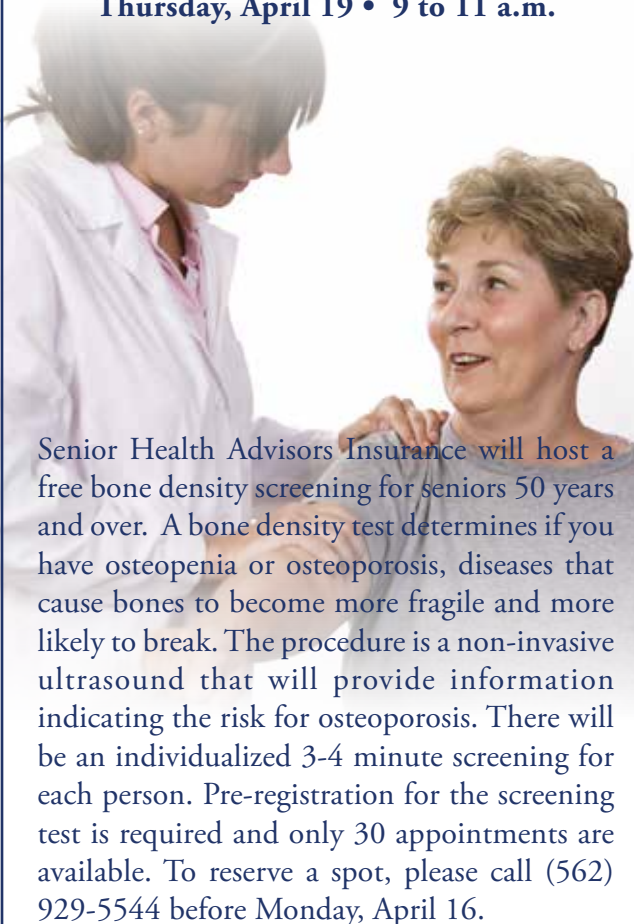
Norwalk Woman's Club Shines At Fine Arts Festival

On February 26, five local General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) competed in various categories at the Fine Arts Festival held in South Gate. Norwalk received six 1st place ribbons for writing, needle work and table decorations and four 2nd place ribbons for needle work, sweat shirt, baby hats and art work entered by grandchildren of members Kathy Leedy and Eloisa Velasquez. President Kathy Cook summed it up, "The Norwalk Woman's Club rocked!"



Bone Density Screening

Location: Social Services Center
Thursday, April 19 • 9 to 11 a.m.



Senior Health Advisors Insurance will host a free bone density screening for seniors 50 years and over. A bone density test determines if you have osteopenia or osteoporosis, diseases that cause bones to become more fragile and more likely to break. The procedure is a non-invasive ultrasound that will provide information indicating the risk for osteoporosis. There will be an individualized 3-4 minute screening for each person. Pre-registration for the screening test is required and only 30 appointments are available. To reserve a spot, please call (562) 929-5544 before Monday, April 16.

PETS FOR TROOPS PROGRAM

FREE pet adoption through the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) for veterans and active military personnel living in Norwalk.

- Pets are:**
 - Microchipped
 - Spayed/Neutered (8 weeks and up)
 - Treated with their first set of vaccinations

The City will provide six week obedience course through Petco.



9777 Seaaca Street Downey, CA 90241 • Seaaca.org (562) 803-3301
For information, go to norwalk.org/pets-for-troops (562) 929-5753

See & Do



Alondra Library

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

Children's Events

MākMō Makerspace: Ozobots
Tuesday, April 10 • 4 to 5 p.m.

Learn through play! Create and explore with Ozobots, which are mini coding robots. The Ozobots will move and follow your commands, depending on how you code them. Great for families and fans of STEAM. Ages 5 and up.

Storyteller Ina Buckner-Barnette

Tuesday, April 17 • 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Families, celebrate Día de los Niños with amazing storyteller Ina Buckner-Barnette. After the stories, families are welcome to create a self-portrait that will help raise funds for a good cause. For ages 5 and up.

Parent-Child Workshops

Saturdays, April 21, 28 and May 5, 12 & 19
10 to 11:15 a.m.

Spend time together, play, make friends, talk one-on-one with specialists in child development during this five-week workshops series. For kids ages 0-3 and their parents/caregivers. Registration is required. Call or sign-up in person.

Adult Events

Introduction to Chinese Calligraphy

Saturday, March 31 • 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn the origins and history of Chinese calligraphy and try your hand at writing the characters. All materials will be provided, while supplies last. For adults, ages 18 and up.

Colesterol: El Asesino Silencioso

martes, 10 de abril • 1 a 2 p.m.

El Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles proporcionará un taller general sobre el colesterol, que incluye cómo se afecta el cuerpo, las señales y los síntomas del colesterol alto, las pruebas, las complicaciones y cómo reducir los riesgos. Esta presentación se llevará a cabo en español.

**This program is for adults and will be presented in Spanish.*

Classics I Always Said I Was Going To Read

Book Club: Kim

Tuesday, April 10 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

April's selection is Kim by Rudyard Kipling. Kim, the orphaned son of Irish peasants, lives a vagabond existence in India during the late 19th century. Copies available at County Library locations and can also be downloaded as an eBook on the County Library website.



Norwalk Library

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

Children's Events

Bubblemania Show

Tuesday, April 17 • 4 to 5 p.m.

Come explore the science and fun of bubbles. Bubblemania and Company will demonstrate and create bubbles of different sizes and shapes, ending with a giant bubble finale! Fun for the whole family! For kids ages 4 and up.

MākMō Mobile Makerspace

Tuesday, April 24 • 4 to 5 p.m.

Build it bigger! With Big Blue Blocks, kids can play on, in, and around structures that they have designed and built themselves. This event is for ages 4 to 12. Kids age 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Adult Events

Meditation for Beginners

Saturday, April 14 • 2 to 3 p.m.

Learn Isha Kriya, a simple, powerful guided meditation for clarity and health. This gentle seated meditation session offers a simple but powerful technique that aligns your body, mind, and inner-energies to become meditative effortlessly. No previous experience of yoga/meditation is necessary. For adults 18 and up.

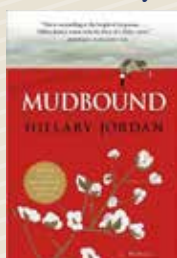
Plan for Your Retirement

Saturday, April 28 • 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Are you retired or about to retire? Not sure how much you need to save to enjoy your retirement? Have you started putting aside money? Attend this workshop to learn the ins and outs of retirement finances. Topics include: planning for the future, pensions, retirement savings, and retirement distributions. For adults 18 and up.

Lit Wits Book Club: Mudbound

Monday, April 30 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



April's selection is Mudbound by Hillary Jordan. Set on a desolate farm in the Mississippi Delta at the end of World War II, the novel explores the complex relations between two families: the owners of the land, and the sharecroppers who live and work on it. Copies are available for checkout at the Info Desk.

FOR SENIORS ONLY!

Norwalk Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Drive • (562) 929-5580

IHSS Help Desk

Friday, April 6 • 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

A representative from Personal Assistance Services Council of Los Angeles will be on hand to provide seniors with information and to answer their questions about In Home Supportive Services (IHSS). IHSS is a program that helps pay for services provided to Medi-Cal recipients who are 65 years or older, disabled adults or legally blind individuals so they can remain safely in their home.

Sponsored by: Personal Assistance Services Council of Los Angeles (PASCLA)

HICAP

Wednesday, April 4 & 18 • 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

HICAP stands for Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program and is provided by trained/certified counselors through the Center for Health Care Rights. A HICAP Counselor will provide seniors with free education, counseling and advocacy regarding their Medicare and related health insurance issues. An Appointment is required.

"Healthy Minds" Seminar

Thursday, April 5 • 10 to 11 a.m.

This educational seminar provided by National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Social Work students from Cal State Long Beach will include information on mental health and available community resources. This seminar will teach seniors about the signs and symptoms of mental illness, along with information on how to support loved ones, while maintaining their own well-being.

Sponsored by: NAMI

CalFresh Outreach Assistance

Monday, April 9 • 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.

Sponsored by: Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

"Diabetes 101" Seminar

Tuesday, April 10 • 10 to 11 a.m.

A physician from Regal Medical Group will be at the Center to teach seniors about the basics of diabetes, including symptoms to look for as well as how to manage it. The physician will also cover the importance diet and nutrition play in managing the disease.

Sponsored by: Regal Medical Group

April Candlelight Dinner

Theme: Soaring into Spring

Tuesday, April 10 • 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$6.50 (before Saturday, April 7)

\$8.00 (after Saturday, April 7)

Stop by and enjoy a hot and hearty meal and share a warm evening with friends and family. Meal service will consist of Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Vegetables, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert and Beverage. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. and meal service ends at 6:00 p.m. Dine-in only. Opportunity raffle will be held at the end of the event. Tickets will not be sold on the day of the dinner. Registration is currently being taken.

Cooking Demonstration

Healthy Breakfast Burritos

Thursday, April 12 • 10 to 11 a.m.

Staff from HealthCare Partners Medical Group will provide a nutritional and tasty breakfast burrito cooking demonstration. The demonstration will also include proper nutrition facts to know and the importance nutrition plays in seniors overall health.

Sponsored by: HealthCare Partners



TAKE YOUR FITNESS

GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL AT THE COMPLEX!

Call (562) 929-5566 for details!



Photo Highlights: March 2018 City Council Meetings

