

# NorwalkNow

[norwalk.org](http://norwalk.org) The official community publication of Norwalk, California October 2018, Volume 38, #10



## New Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership!

In conjunction with the City's Mini Mr. Sun event clean-ups, the Neighborhood Enhancement Team (NET) has begun canvassing neighborhoods citywide, to educate the community about their responsibility to address simple property maintenance conditions that present visual blight. Conditions such as accumulation of trash and debris, overgrown weeds and grass, parking of vehicles in yards, holiday lights, canopies/tarps, inoperable vehicles, and trash containers left out in public view are common violations seen while driving through any of our Norwalk neighborhoods. Eliminating these conditions will help reduce the perceived state of deterioration in our neighborhoods, and will also increase neighborhood pride. These conditions are minor in nature and generally can be easily addressed by the respective property owner/tenant. That is the City's goal with NET – to achieve cooperative compliance from property owners to abate these conditions without the issuance of fines or misdemeanor penalties. It's a proactive education and compliance effort that will require a positive partnership.

### HOW NET WORKS

NET will be conducting a visual inspection of each property in the subject neighborhood. Inspectors and Officers will place door hangers on each property to show violations for any visible blighted condition or that zero violations exist. The property owner/resident will have 20 days to comply and take corrective action to abate the condition(s). Note the 20-day timeframe will fall within the neighborhood's Mini Mr. Sun clean-up day, to allow persons to utilize the program bins at no cost. If compliance is not achieved by the 20th day, citations and fines for each violation will be issued thereafter.

Please take a look at your yard/property, and identify if any of these blighted conditions exist now. On behalf of improving the quality of life in your neighborhood, we ask that you please take proactive action to address these concerns. Your simple actions can and will make our Norwalk community a better place!

*Para optimizar la calidad de vida en nuestra comunidad, el equipo de mejora del vecindario (NET) ha comenzado a inspeccionar vecindarios por toda la ciudad para educar a los residentes sobre su responsabilidad de abordar condiciones simples de mantenimiento en sus propiedades, como la acumulación de basura y céspedes descuidados, que dan mal apariencia.*

## Painting Norwalk Pink

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the City of Norwalk, along with the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and American Cancer Society, are partnering in a "Paint the Town Pink" campaign during the month of October. Pink ribbon signage will be placed at the entrances to Norwalk, pink lighting will be used to illuminate City facilities and median trees, along with several other activities meant to raise awareness of the importance of health screenings and early detection. Residents will also play a part in the campaign, with Senior Center volunteers wrapping trees in pink crochet.



*Para ayudar a aumentar la concientización sobre el cáncer de seno y la importancia de las evaluaciones físicas para la detección temprana, la Ciudad de Norwalk se "pintará de rosa" durante el mes de octubre.*

### 35<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Arturo Sanchez Sr., Halloween Parade

**Saturday, October 20 • 11 a.m. Norwalk Blvd & Mapledale St.**

The Halloween season kicks off in Norwalk on Saturday, October 20 at the 35th Annual Arturo Sanchez Halloween Parade. Norwalk families are invited to dress up in their costumes and join elected officials, schools and local businesses for this Norwalk tradition. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. at the corner of Norwalk Boulevard and Mapledale Street and will feature high school marching bands from throughout Southern California, floats, classic automobiles, equestrian and military units. The highlight for many is watching local children in costume marching along in the parade!

There will be a costume contest held at Waite Middle School prior to the parade at 9:15 a.m. Pre-registration is not required. Winners of the costume contest will be announced at an awards ceremony at Hermosillo Park at the conclusion of the parade.

The Recreation and Park Services Department is still accepting applications for participants for the Halloween Parade. Businesses, clubs and other unique units are invited to take part in this year's program and there is no fee to participate. Interested parties should complete the parade application and return it to the Recreation and Park Services Department by Friday, October 5 at noon. Applications are available at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex or online at: [www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services/special-events/halloween-parade](http://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services/special-events/halloween-parade)

For more information, please call 562-929-5702.

*Se invita a las familias de Norwalk a disfrazarse y unirse a funcionarios electos, escuelas y negocios locales en el 35º Desfile Anual de Arturo Sanchez Sr. el sábado, 20 de octubre. El desfile comenzará a las 11 a.m. en la esquina de Norwalk y Mapledale y contará con bandas de marcha de las escuelas secundarias, carrozas, automóviles clásicos, y unidades ecuestres y militares.*



### 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

Phone 562-929-5700

### Norwalk City Council

**Mayor** Jennifer Perez  
**Vice Mayor** Margarita L. Rios  
**Councilmember** Tony Ayala  
**Councilmember** Leonard Shryock  
**Councilmember** Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk  
12700 Norwalk Blvd.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

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Get Involved

## NLMUSD Hosts Career Expo

High school students, especially those in upper grades, have a lot of important decisions ahead of them, including what and where to study after graduation. To help them, the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District is hosting their annual College and Career Expo on Tuesday, October 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at John Glenn High School, located at 13520 Shoemaker Avenue. The mission behind the event is to get students career and college ready and to expose them to a variety of pathways, including vocational training, for their success. Representatives from over 50 colleges and universities will be on site to provide information on admission requirements, programs and campus activities. In addition, students will have the opportunity to network with over 25 businesses and learn about available opportunities.



*Estudiantes pueden reunirse con representantes de universidades y empresas para obtener información valiosa para su éxito futuro en una Exposición de Colegio y Carreras el martes, 16 de octubre de 6 a 8 p.m. en la escuela John Glenn.*

## Food Donations Needed

Thanksgiving, a time to appreciate all that we have and to share with those who are less fortunate, is quickly approaching. The Norwalk Social Services Department is preparing for the annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Program, which depends greatly on sponsor contributions to meet the needs that exist in our community. We hope you will consider joining our efforts to assist Norwalk families by donating food items to the Food Pantry. Monetary donations are also accepted.



Some of the most needed items include: canned vegetables and fruit, mashed potato mix, stuffing, beans, cereal, crackers, tuna, rice and soups.

Please call 562-929-5544 or visit the city's website at [www.norwalk.org](http://www.norwalk.org) to upload a donation form.

## Norwalk Transit Offers GO RIO Program & Reloadable TAP Cards

Since 2006, Norwalk Transit System (NTS) has partnered with Rio Hondo College to provide transportation services to students through the GO RIO program. GO RIO has facilitated increased access to public transportation for students commuting to and from Rio Hondo College. Moreover, NTS utilizes clean technology buses which means these students are doing their part to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in the southeast Los Angeles County region.

NTS buses used for the GO RIO program are powered by cutting edge Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) technology buses. Not only will NTS be helping to introduce more full-time students to mass transit, but it will be simultaneously raising awareness of alternative fuel technology.

The Go Rio program has incorporated the University Pass (U-Pass), which is a sticker placed on Rio Hondo student IDs to be used in lieu of cash fare. This sticker includes a smart chip to enable students to tap the farebox on board to receive a



*En asociación con el colegio Rio Hondo, el Departamento de Transportación de Norwalk ofrece servicios de transporte gratuitos a los estudiantes actualmente matriculados. Para obtener más información, llame al 562-929-5550.*

free ride for commuting to and from school. The Go Rio U-Pass/Sticker is now valid for use on NTS on Saturday and Sunday.

**For more information on the GO RIO program** or other services offered by NTS, please call Customer Service at 562-929-5550 or e-mail us at [transportation@norwalkca.gov](mailto:transportation@norwalkca.gov)

### Reload TAP Cards on Norwalk Transit Buses

Norwalk Transit System (NTS) passengers can now add funds to their Transit Access Pass (TAP Card) at the farebox on-board the bus. The TAP card can be utilized to pay the fare on NTS buses, as well as twenty-four (24) other transit agencies in the LA County region. Patrons can re-use and re-load their card as Stored Value (cash value).

#### Reloading your TAP card is easy! Simply:

1. Board the front of the bus and tell the operator that you would like to add Stored Value (cash) to your TAP card. Please note TAP cards can also be purchased on all buses for \$2.
2. Wait for the driver to press a button on the farebox.
3. Tap your card on the farebox.
4. When the green indicator light comes on, put your money in the farebox, then tap your card again.

For more information, please contact NTS Customer Service at 562-929-5550 or **e-mail:** [transportation@norwalkca.gov](mailto:transportation@norwalkca.gov)

## Residents of Norwalk

# FREE COMPOST

*Trate su patio o jardín con abono rico en nutrientes! El nuevo proveedor de servicios de colección de basura de la ciudad, Athens Services, proporcionará abono gratuito a los residentes el sábado, 13 de octubre de 8 a.m. a 12 p.m. en el estacionamiento de la oficina municipal, hasta agotar existencias. Lleve su propia pala y contenedor.*

**Saturday, October 27th  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Norwalk City Hall Parking Lot  
12700 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

Athens' compost is a blend of organics material including a mix of green waste, wood waste, and food scraps.\* Our compost is OMRI Listed® and licensed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. (\*May contain small particles of glass.)

▶ **NORWALK RESIDENTS ONLY**  
(ID OR BILL REQUIRED)

▶ **BRING SHOVELS, DOLLY, AND STURDY CONTAINERS**  
(SELF-SERVICE EVENT)

▶ **NO PLASTIC BAGS ALLOWED**

▶ **WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**  
(30 GALLON LIMIT FIRST HOUR)

▶ **NO CONTAINER LARGER THAN 32 GALLONS**  
**DUE TO SAFETY & WEIGHT CONCERNS**

▶ **DRIVE UP ONLY (NO WALK-INS)**

▶ **GLOVES AND EYE PROTECTION RECOMMENDED**



Participation in the event and all items accepted are at your own risk. It is the attendees' responsibility to practice safe lifting and take all protective measures to guard against injury or any other loss.

## E-Waste Collection, Shred-A-Thon & Rain Barrel Distribution



The City will be hosting an Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Collection and Shred-A-Thon on Saturday, October 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Hall parking lot located at 12700 Norwalk Blvd (please enter via Ave Manuel Salinas).

E-waste may contain lead, copper, and other heavy metals or potentially toxic substances and should never be placed in trash carts or dumped out in the street or alley. Bring your old, unwanted e-waste for recycling and up to five boxes of documents for secure shredding on site.

### E-Waste accepted:

TV's  
Computer Monitors

Cell Phones  
Printers

Fax Machines  
DVD players

That same day, the City in partnership with the Norwalk Library, will be sponsoring a Rain Barrel Distribution event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Norwalk Library parking lot, located at 12350 Imperial Highway. Rain barrels can be used to collect and reuse rain water to irrigate landscaping while reducing the amount of drinking (or potable) water used. We encourage you to purchase rain barrels in advance at [www.rainbarrelsintl.com](http://www.rainbarrelsintl.com) under the events tab. Only rain barrels purchased in advance are guaranteed to be available for pick up. Rain barrels sold at the event on first come, first served basis.

Barrels are \$65 plus tax at time of purchase; but are only \$30 plus tax after a \$35 rebate! There is a max of two rain barrel rebates per household and they must be submitted in one single application.

### To receive a rebate:

Submit an online application at [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).

*Haga su parte para mantener a Norwalk limpio y verde en el evento de colección de desperdicios electrónicos y destrucción de documentos el sábado, 13 de octubre. Deshágase de sus electrónicos viejos y no deseados y destruya hasta cinco cajas de documentos gratis en la oficina municipal. Al mismo tiempo, se llevará a cabo una distribución de barriles de lluvia en el estacionamiento de la Biblioteca de Norwalk. Los barriles se deben comprar previamente para recogerlos y son elegibles para un reembolso de \$35.*



Athens Services

[CS@athensservices.com](mailto:CS@athensservices.com)

(888) 336-6100

[AthensServices.com](http://AthensServices.com)

## Save Money in the Kitchen

There's something heating up in the kitchen and it's not just food. Your kitchen appliances might be burning more energy than necessary causing your electric bill to rise. Southern California Edison offers these tips to help reduce energy consumption in the kitchen.



**Refrigerator** – Check and clean the coils regularly, especially during or after the summer. The hot weather makes your refrigerator work harder to keep cool. Also, make sure the door seals are air tight. You can check this by closing a piece of paper in the door, if the paper pulls out easily it may be time to make adjustments. If the seals aren't air tight, cool air can leak out causing your refrigerator to use more energy.



**Dishwashers** – Save energy when washing dishes by only running full loads. Save even more by turning off the dishwasher after the final rinse and let your dishes air dry. This easy step can reduce your energy use by 40%!



**Electric Stoves** – Save energy when cooking simply by not using the stove (at least not every day). Microwaves, slow cookers, toaster ovens and electric skillets can be used to cook your meals and use less energy than the stove.

Visit [www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/rebates-savings/energy-savings-tips](http://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/rebates-savings/energy-savings-tips)

## City of Norwalk Strikes Gold with Conservation Efforts

Community News



On September 13, on the behalf of the Institute for Local Government's Beacon Program, the City was presented a Gold Level Award for achieving a 12% Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction. The Beacon Program has encouraged, supported and recognized voluntary action by local governments throughout California to address climate change, promote energy innovation and create more sustainable communities.



## New Exercise Equipment Coming to Sara Mendez

In order to promote a healthy lifestyle and provide free access to workout equipment, the City of Norwalk is installing new outdoor fitness equipment at Sara Mendez Park! Three brand new machines will be installed along the walking path that encircles the park, providing residents a great opportunity to get their heart rates up. Our community will be able to enjoy a new cardio stepper machine, elliptical and a multi-functional crunch machine. Equipment installation is expected to be completed by late October, 2018.

The equipment was funded by monies received from Caltrans for park improvements due to the construction of the I-5 freeway that impacted Sara Mendez Park.



Se está instalando un nuevo equipo de ejercicios en el parque Sara Mendez para ayudar a los residentes a aumentar su actividad física. Se espera que la instalación se complete a fines de octubre.

## GREAT SHAKE OUT 2018

On Thursday, October 18 at 10:18 a.m., City staff will be participating in the Great California ShakeOut, an earthquake preparedness activity practicing "Drop, Cover, and Hold On," the most common and recommended way to protect oneself during an earthquake. We encourage all residents and businesses to participate in this statewide drill at their homes/facilities.

During an earthquake, you may only have seconds to protect yourself before strong shaking knocks you down -- or drops something on you. Most earthquake-related injuries and deaths are caused by collapsing walls and roofs, flying glass and falling objects. However, it is extremely important for a person to move as little as possible to reach a safe place because most injuries occur when people try to move more than a short distance during the shaking.

Look around you now to identify safe places such as under a sturdy piece of furniture or against an interior wall in your home, office or school so that when shaking starts you can respond quickly. An immediate response to move to a safe place can save lives.

On the day of the drill or during an actual earthquake, if you are inside a building, move no more than a few steps, then:

**DROP to the ground (before the earthquake drops you!), Take COVER by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and HOLD ON to it until the shaking stops.**

Stay indoors until the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit. In most buildings in California, you are safer if you stay where you are until the shaking stops.

If you are outdoors when the shaking starts, you should find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and power lines, then Drop, Cover and Hold On. Stay there until the shaking stops.

If you are driving, pull over to a clear location, stop and stay there with your seatbelt fastened until the shaking stops. Once the shaking stops, proceed with caution and avoid bridges or ramps that might have been damaged.

For more information on the Great California ShakeOut, please visit [www.shakeout.org/california/index.html](http://www.shakeout.org/california/index.html).

Additionally, Public Safety will soon begin recruiting for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers. Volunteers receive training on how to manage utilities, put out small fires, basic disaster medical aid, victim search and rescue. Please contact Eric Wosick at 562-929-5732 for more information regarding this upcoming program.

## PETS FOR TROOPS PROGRAM

Juan Santana, a US Marine Corps veteran, named his Pets for Troops rescue Schnauzer mix "Harvey Keitel" (also a Marine). Juan says Harvey is a mellow dog and a great addition to his household. He encourages other veterans to participate and calls the program "a great experience" because not only does pet ownership fill a void for veterans, providing a loving home gives the shelter animals another chance at life. For info and to apply, visit [www.norwalk.org/pets-for-troops](http://www.norwalk.org/pets-for-troops) or call SEAACA at 562-803-3301.



# PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER

## Multi-Agency Focus Team Kickoff!



The Public Safety Department has reinstated its Norwalk's Multi-Agency Focus Team (MAFT), originally started in 1989! The team consists of members from Norwalk Public Safety, Recreation, Norwalk Sheriff Station, Norwalk-La Mirada and Little Lake School Districts, District Attorney, Probation, Department of Children and Family Services, and Department of Mental Health.

MAFT's goal is to increase partnerships and collaboration between agencies in order to increase school and community safety. Together, we provide resources to children and their families to establish positive youth behavior that will lead to improved school attendance, good grades, and reduced delinquent behavior. MAFT meets on a monthly basis throughout the school year.



## Neighborhood Block Party at Norwalk Park



*Disfrute de un almuerzo mientras se conecta con sus vecinos y la policía local, tal como usted puede involucrarse en su comunidad, en una fiesta de vecindario en el Parque Norwalk el sábado, 29 de septiembre de 1 a 3 p.m.*

The final Neighborhood Block Party of the season takes place on Saturday, September 29 at Norwalk Park. From 1 to 3 p.m., residents can enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers and connect with Public Safety and Sheriff's personnel to share their concerns and learn more about available programs and services to improve quality of life.

The Neighborhood Block Party program was initiated this summer with events held at parks

throughout the City, including Vista Verde and Sara Mendez, to give residents an opportunity to become better acquainted with their neighbors and local law enforcement to help lay the foundation for stronger, safer communities. Visit our Youtube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/Norwalktelevision/videos](http://www.youtube.com/user/Norwalktelevision/videos) for highlights of past events.

Norwalk Park is located at 13000 Clarkdale Avenue. For more info, please call 562-929-5732.



## Alondra Library Events

### CHILDREN

**Illusions by Allen**

Wednesday, October 31 • 4-5 p.m.

Ages 3 & up

Join us for an exciting and interactive magic show with Allen Oshiro. Children and families will be amazed with his fantastic illusions and fun. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. For families with children of all ages.

### Toddler Storytime

Every Friday • 10:30 - 11 a.m.

Join us for a lively time enjoying books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills in an encouraging environment. Toddlers and caregivers will have fun while preparing for school together!

## Enter the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Bookmark Contest

Norwalk & Alondra Libraries

Deadline: October 13

Calling all artists! The Norwalk Library and Alondra Libraries are hosting their annual bookmark contest and we want you to submit your art! This year's theme is "Shine Bright...READ!" Anyone from grades K-12 is encouraged and welcome to submit an entry either in person at one of their branches or by mail. Start thinking of fun ideas now because you only have until October 13 to enter the contest. For more information and to download a submission form, visit [www.lacountylibrary.org/bookmark-contest/](http://www.lacountylibrary.org/bookmark-contest/).

Show us what reading for fun means to you!

**Norwalk Library**  
12350 Imperial Hwy  
(562) 868-0775

**Alondra Library**  
11949 Alondra Blvd  
(562) 868-7771

## October Events

### Santa Sleigh Volunteer Meeting

Wednesday, October 24 • 7 p.m.

Norwalk Transportation / Public Services Building – Public Services Breakroom, 12650 E. Imperial Hwy.



The City of Norwalk and the Santa Sleigh Foundation will help spread joy as Santa Claus visits Norwalk neighborhoods during the holiday season. To make this possible, volunteers (ages 15 and older) are needed to assist as line monitors, elves, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and as general helpers. If you would like to volunteer for this worthwhile program, please attend the volunteer meeting. For more information call 562-929-5956.

### FREE Halloween Festival & Scarecrow Contest:

A Scarecrow's Harvest

Wednesday, October 31 • 6 – 9 p.m.

City Hall Lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.



Don't miss the annual Halloween Festival and a night of music, dancing and celebration at this costume-themed event. There will be game booths, a costume contest, a Spooky Trails Hay Ride, lots of candy and much

more! There will also be food available for purchase. Scarecrow Contest Info: All are welcome (residents, businesses, schools, organizations) to participate by assembling a homemade scarecrow within one of the two categories: Most Traditional or Most Original. There will be one "Most Spirited/Best in show" award given. Winners will be awarded gift cards to local businesses. Scarecrows must be dropped off at City Hall between 1 to 7 p.m. at Scarecrow Row (near "Spooky Trails") on the City Hall Lawn. Applications are now available at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave. or at [www.norwalk.org](http://www.norwalk.org). Please call 562-929-5521 for more information and full details, rules and guidelines.

## FREE Flu Shot Clinic at the Norwalk Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Dr.

Staying healthy and getting your flu vaccine helps prevent flu in our community. The Norwalk Senior Center is hosting a free Flu Shot Clinic, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, on Thursday, October 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It is especially important to get a flu vaccine if you are 50 years of age or older, living with a weakened immune system or a chronic medical condition like diabetes, heart disease or lung disease. If you have a severe egg allergy or are sick the day of the clinic, check with your doctor before getting vaccinated.



*Los niños, las personas mayores y aquellos con enfermedades crónicas son especialmente vulnerables a la gripe. Mantenga a usted y a sus seres queridos sanos en nuestra clínica gratuita contra la gripe el jueves, 25 de octubre de 9 a.m. a 12 p.m. en el Centro de Personas Mayores.*

# Photo Highlights: September 2018 City Council Meetings

