

# NorwalkNow

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California December 2018, Volume 38, #12



## Public Encouraged to Visit Properties Nominated in Contest

The City of Norwalk's Holiday Home and Business Décor Contest invites Norwalk home and business owners who have decorated their properties to share their seasonal spirit and neighborhood pride by entering to win in one of three categories: Best Display-Residential, Best Display-Business and Best Group Entry (three or more consecutive homes or businesses decorated in a unified theme). Winning residential entries receive a lawn sign commemorating their award and a Lowes Home Improvement Store gift card. All winners are also recognized at a City Council meeting.

New this year... Qualified entries will have block numbers released to the public via our social media during the second week of December so that families can visit and view the holiday displays.

Enter now by going online at [Norwalk.org/HHBDC](http://Norwalk.org/HHBDC) or visiting any city facility for an application. Hurry, contest deadline is December 7.



Inscriba su propiedad en nuestro Concurso de Decoraciones Navideñas de Casa y Negocios antes del 7 de diciembre. Los formularios de inscripción están disponibles en cualquier oficina de la Ciudad o en la pagina web [Norwalk.org/HHBDC](http://Norwalk.org/HHBDC).

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



On November 12, the community gathered at the Freedom Memorial to pay tribute to men and women of the United States Armed Forces during the City of Norwalk's annual Veterans Day Ceremony. This year's theme, "Honoring our Heroes," emphasized the importance of showing gratitude for the untold sacrifices and selflessness of not only those who served, but for their families, who must also forgo many of the comforts civilians take for granted.

Musical performances by the Norwalk All City Youth Band and presentation of colors by the combined California State Military Reserve 6th Calvary Honor Guard, American Legion Post 359 and City of Norwalk Public Safety Cadets highlighted a morning of tributes, including a reading by Paddison Elementary School second and third grade students expressing what their fathers' military service means to them.

Three currently serving Norwalk residents, US Army Specialists Justine Bulatao Aragon and Gilbert Arzate Jr. and US Marines Private First Class Nicholas Joseph Vera were presented with personalized Hometown Heroes military banners that had flown for one year in their honor.

Keynote speaker US Navy Reserve Senior Chief Frank Medrano, who also serves as a deputy working out of the Norwalk Sheriff's Station, told the audience

of the unique "shared experiences of the men and women who wear the uniform," including enduring wounds both visible and invisible, seeing the worst and best of humankind, and missing irreplaceable moments and long periods of time with loved ones. Medrano also spoke of the connection that veterans have in the community, and left the audience of over 200 with the challenge to "continue to matter," making a clear difference for family, friends, our communities, and for our youth who often need an encouraging word.

The morning's program came to a close with the swearing in of fourteen young men and women whose next step would be entering basic training with the United States Army. Lt. Col. Laura Skinner, who administered the oath of enlistment, expressed her amazement at the young generation taking the oath, saying "I have so much pride and joy...seeing the courage and commitment of these seventeen and eighteen year olds."

*Nuestra ceremonia del Día de los Veteranos el 12 de noviembre destacó los innumerables sacrificios de aquellos que sirven, así como de sus familias, quienes también deben renunciar a muchas de las comodidades que los civiles dan por hecho. El presentador principal, jefe de la Reserva de la Marina de los Estados Unidos y diputado de Norwalk Frank Medrano, pidió a los veteranos que sigan haciendo una diferencia después de su servicio compartiendo sus habilidades y experiencias con familia, amigos y la comunidad.*

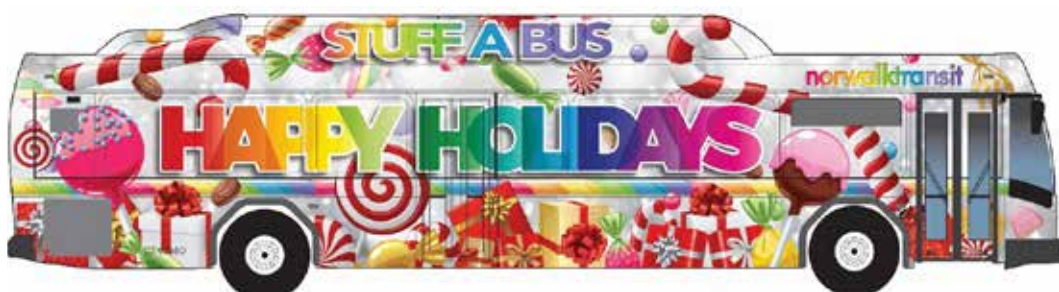
## Norwalk Transit System 17th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive

The City of Norwalk's Transportation Department is happy to announce the 17th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Holiday Toy Drive. From December 1 through December 30, Norwalk Transit's holiday themed, decorated bus will be traveling on all routes, as well as making visits to local spots, including middle schools, high schools and the City of Norwalk's Snowfest Event. Our goal is to stuff the bus full of toys for local children in need. All toys collected will be donated to the Social

Services Center's Angel Tree Program for distribution to families in our community.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, over 1,000 toys were collected last year.

If you or your school/organization/employer would like to schedule a visit from the Stuff-A-Bus, or to find out more about the program, please contact NTS Customer Service at 562-929-5550 or e-mail: [transportation@norwalkca.gov](mailto:transportation@norwalkca.gov)



*You are INVITED to*

HOLIDAYS AT THE  
D.D. JOHNSTON - HARGITT HOUSE  
12426 MAPLEDALE STREET

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15  
5:00-8:00 P.M.

¡El 15 de diciembre, vea el histórico Museo Hargitt decorado para las fiestas! De 5 a 8 p.m., disfrute de música en vivo, actividades, refrescos ligeros y un visitante especial desde el Polo Norte.

### 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

## WANTED

### Canned Goods at the NASC!

You can help eliminate hunger in our community this holiday season by contributing to Norwalk's Community Food Drive. Drop off your non-perishable and canned food donations in the collection container located at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, at 13000 Clarkdale Avenue, up until Saturday, December 22. Donations will be distributed to local families experiencing difficulties.

**Most needed items include:**

Canned meat and soup, dry cereal, granola/cereal bars, juices, instant potatoes, instant noodles, hamburger helper, canned beans, tomato sauce, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jam/jelly, cookies, crackers, baby food, baby diapers and baby formula.

For more information, please call 562-929-5566.

*Ahora, hasta el 22 de diciembre, el Complejo de Arte y Deportes de Norwalk está aceptando donaciones de alimentos enlatados para familias necesitadas.*

### Stay Informed



Norwalk in Focus

Tune in to our latest installment of "Norwalk in Focus" on our youtube channel at [www.youtube.com/norwalktelevision](http://www.youtube.com/norwalktelevision), where we discuss the challenges law enforcement faces as a result of State legislation, and find out how the public can help keep crime out of our neighborhoods.

*Vea nuestro segmento de video en el internet, "Enfoque en Norwalk", para aprender cómo nos puede ayudar a prevenir el crimen.*



### Stay Warm this Winter

The weather outside is getting frightful but inside can be delightfully warm. Heating is the number one energy expense for most homes in the winter, but there are simple steps you can take to stay warm, while conserving energy and saving money. Start by eliminating drafts by adjusting door thresholds and sealing window frames. Proper insulation, sealing and window maintenance reduce heat loss. If you have central heating, be sure to seal duct joints and seams and insulate air ducts with fiberglass insulation to prevent heat from escaping or cooling off before reaching your space. Make sure to clean or change filters. You can also save by turning down your thermostat a few degrees or you can turn off your thermostat and use a portable heater. For electric-powered heaters, check to see if your model has a tip-over safety switch, and only operate on a level surface. Use models with built-in thermostats to save energy and avoid overheating the room.

For more energy saving tips, please visit [www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/home-energy-guide](http://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/residential/home-energy-guide)

*Manténgase calentito y ahorre energía y dinero asegurándose de que las puertas y ventanas estén bien selladas y de que los filtros de calefacción se limpien o se cambien. Para más consejos, visite [www.sce.com/es/residential?from=/residential](http://www.sce.com/es/residential?from=/residential).*

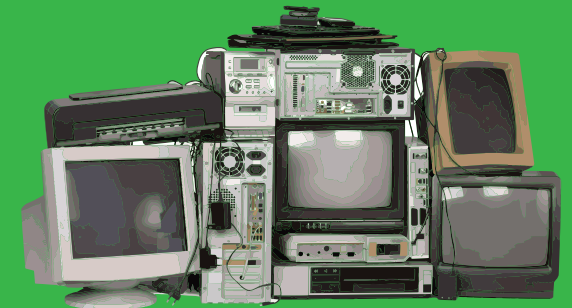
## Norwalk Residents Go Green!

The Norwalk community definitely went green this past October. The City of Norwalk's fall Electronic Waste Collection, Shred-A-Thon and Rain Barrel Distribution event took place on Saturday, October 13. Despite the rain, a whopping 558 vehicles came through City Hall, demonstrating the ongoing popularity of the event and residents need for free, convenient shredding and disposal services. 21,180 pounds of paper were shredded on site, 11,836 pounds of e-waste were collected and 71 rain barrels were sold.

Just two weeks later, the City's first Compost and Mulch Giveaway brought out 234 residents, with 40 tons of compost and 20 of mulch distributed. Feedback for this event was extremely positive, with residents expressing interest in the next giveaway events.



The next E-Waste/Shred-A-Thon is scheduled for February 16, with the next Compost and Mulch giveaway tentatively scheduled in spring. For additional information on our recycling programs, please visit [norwalk.org/residents/community-resources/environmental-and-recycling-services](http://norwalk.org/residents/community-resources/environmental-and-recycling-services).



### Green Waste 101

*Are palm fronds, succulents or birds of paradise considered green waste?*

We recently surveyed Norwalk residents' knowledge of green waste recycling on our Facebook page. We learned that everyone knows that green waste containers have a green lid, but only 41% knew that palm fronds, succulents and birds of paradise should not be placed in green waste containers. These types of plants should be disposed of in trash containers since green waste recycling facilities won't accept these plants due to the potential of fibers getting caught in machinery. Other items that should not be placed in your green waste containers are plastic bags, rocks, dirt or large pieces of wood.

Remember, ... the cleaner the green, the better the compost!

For more information on green waste recycling, please contact Athens Services at 888-336-6100.

*Por favor, no coloque hojas de palmeras, aves del paraíso o nopales en su contenedor de basura verde, ya que las fibras en estas plantas dañan la maquinaria de reciclaje.*

## Learn How to Save Energy & Money

On Saturday, December 1 from noon to 5 p.m., during the City of Norwalk's SnowFest event, residents can meet with City staff and utility representatives to learn ways to reduce their energy use. Southern California Edison (SCE), Southern California Gas (SoCalGas), Golden State Water and Liberty Utilities will be on site. SoCalGas and SCE representatives will share ways to lower your monthly bill through participation in various programs such as family energy savings assistance, bill-reducing rates, one-time bill assistance and the energy assistance fund. You'll also have the opportunity to ask SCE about residential solar, energy efficiency programs and electric vehicle (EV) rebates. Income-qualified households can sign up on-

the-spot to receive monthly discounts on gas and electric bills. SoCalGas will be giving away free gas savings kits to residents with their gas bill on hand.

Look for free faucet aerators, low-flow hose nozzles and water-saving tips from Golden State Water and Liberty Utilities.

Brighten your season by participating in the 3rd Annual LED Holiday Light Exchange at COMMUNITY CONNECT! Bring in two (2) old strands of holiday lights, a current Norwalk SCE bill and a valid form of identification to receive two (2) new strands of LED holiday lights per household. Program offered to the first 180 households in attendance.

*Aprenda cómo puede ahorrar energía y dinero en Comunidad Conectada durante el evento de SnowFest.*



DECEMBER 1, 2018 | 12-5PM AT CITY HALL  
STOP BY AND VISIT COMMUNITY CONNECT!



# Stay Safe this Holiday Season!

The City of Norwalk Department of Public Safety bring you some safety reminders to help you protect yourself, your loved ones and home during the busy holiday season

## When Shopping...

- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in, or out of, your car.
- Always set your car alarm. If you shop at night, park in a well-lit area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. This creates temptation for thieves.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to walking to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put them down while shopping or on top of your car to open the door.
- When leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, do not exit your vehicle. Drive to another location away from the person(s).
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area; if in doubt, ask store security or employees for an escort before leaving your shopping location.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

Call the Public Safety Department at 562-929-5732 or Norwalk Sheriff Station at 562-863-8711 to report any suspicious activity observed through your shopping travels. This holiday season, Public Safety Officers and Norwalk Sheriff Deputies have increased patrols of our retail centers citywide to help keep our shoppers safe and to serve as a deterrent to theft.

## At Home...

- Be extra cautious about locking doors, windows and garages when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail. You can also contact the Public Safety Department to request a vacation patrol check.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. Do not open your door unless you are expecting a delivery or call the company to verify the delivery being made.

- It is not uncommon for criminals to take advantage of the generosity of people during the holiday season by soliciting donations door-to-door for charitable causes. Ask for their identification and copy of their City license. Contact the Public Safety Department if you suspect the solicitor is not properly licensed.

## For a fire-safe holiday season:

### Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.
- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

### Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.

### Christmas Trees

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand on a daily basis.
- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home or in street. Athens will pick up trees on December 26, 2018 to January 16, 2019. Place the tree next to your trash containers on your scheduled pick up day.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## Blood Drive

The holiday season provides us with the opportunity to reflect and give thanks for all that we have, including time with our loved ones. Make a difference in the lives of others at an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 from 12 to 6 p.m. at Norwalk City Hall, located at 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

### Did you know:

- Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.
- Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S.
- Nearly 7,000 units of platelets and 10,000 units of plasma are needed daily in the U.S.

Donors may schedule their appointments online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) using the sponsor code: CityofNorwalk or by calling 562-929-5720.

*Cada dos segundos alguien en los Estados Unidos necesita sangre. Haga una diferencia en la vida de los demás con una donación en el banco de sangre en la oficina municipal el 8 de enero de 12 a 6 p.m.*

## 1Million Project

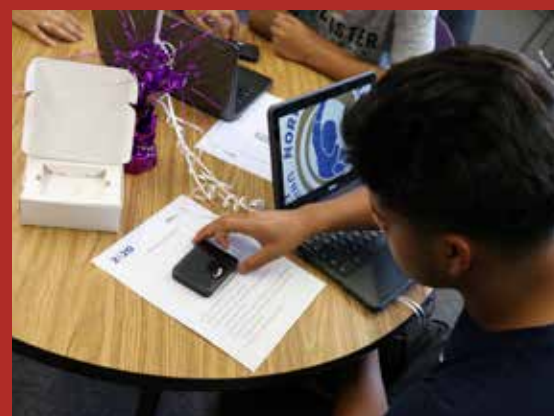
The Sprint Foundation and the Sprint 1Million Project has awarded a grant to the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, which will provide free mobile hotspots for high school students to use at home, beginning with the 2018/19 school year and continuing for the next four years. Students in the district are already part of a laptop distribution program, created to prepare them for college learning and today's careers. The new mobile hotspots will ensure that they also have the online connectivity at home that they need to complete their school work.

Students interested in receiving the free service took a short four question survey to determine their home internet access and eligibility. Information meetings and distribution events were held at John Glenn, Norwalk and La Mirada High Schools.

Sprint launched the 1Million Project after the company's CEO learned 5 million families of school-aged families in the U.S lack internet connectivity at home. The goal is to connect 1 million students over five years. Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District is one of the 118 school districts in 30 states chosen to participate in the program. Almost 400 students in district qualified to receive the free mobile hotspots.

Watch the Sprint 1Million Project Video on YouTube.

*Gracias a una beca de Sprint, 400 estudiantes en el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Norwalk-La Mirada recibieron puntos de acceso WIFI móviles gratuitos para hacer más accesibles las tareas.*



**12:00 to 8:00 p.m.** **Snowfest & Tree Lighting Ceremony** **Saturday, December 1, 2018**

Norwalk City Hall Lawn • 12700 Norwalk Boulevard

**Schedule of Events:**

<b>12:00-5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>5:00-6:00 p.m.</b>
Snowslides	Stage Entertainment
Food Booths	Continues
Face Painting	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
Snow Play Area	Tree Lighting Ceremony & Santa Claus Visit
Arts & Crafts	
Stage Entertainment	

Disfrute de la maravillas de invierno con nieve, juegos navideños, manualidades y presentaciones en vivo al mediodía el sábado 1 de diciembre en la oficina municipal. A las 6 p.m., el consejo municipal ilumina nuestro hermoso árbol de 30 pies.

# Christmas Tree Recycling

Don't forget to put your trees out for recycling on your trash day! From December 26, 2018 through January 16, 2019, Norwalk residents can have their Christmas trees picked up and recycled. Trees will be reused as compost and landfill cover.

### Single-family residential customers:

Please place trees by the curb, along with your regular trash containers, the night before your trash collection. A separate truck will collect the Christmas trees at a different time than the rest of your trash. If you forget to place your tree on the curb on your regular collection day, please hold off until the following week to do so; trees will only be collected on your trash collection day.

### Multi-family dwelling (apartment) customers:

Residents of multi-family buildings can recycle their trees by placing them out next to regular trash containers. A separate truck will pick them up.

### Guidelines for having your tree picked up for recycling:

- Remove decorations (ornaments, tinsel, lights, etc.).
- Remove metal and plastic stands.
- Remove wooden tree stands and dispose as trash.
- Flocked trees cannot be recycled and should be disposed as trash.
- Do not place your tree in a bag.
- Trees over eight feet need to be cut in half.

For more details, please call Athens Services at 888-336-6100. You may also contact the City at 562-929-5964 or recycling@norwalkca.gov

*Deje su árbol de Navidad, sin decoraciones y soporte, cerca de la banqueta la noche anterior al día habitual de recolección de basura para su reciclaje.*

## Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule

Observed Holidays	City Hall Closed	Sweeping	Trash
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 25	No	No
New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1	No	No

### Street Sweeping

When there is no street sweeping due to a holiday, sweeping will NOT be made up. Streets can only be swept on the posted day.

### Trash Collection

When there is no trash collection due to a holiday, trash collection WILL be made up. Trash will be collected the day after the normal collection day for the remainder of the week.

For example, Tuesday's trash will be collected on Wednesday.

### Questions?

Trash Collection	Athens Services	888-336-6100
Street Sweeping	Public Services Department	562-929-5511
Parking Enforcement	Public Safety Department	562-929-5732

*El barrido de calles (y aplicación de estacionamiento) no se llevará a cabo en Navidad o en el día de Año Nuevo, pero continuará como de costumbre durante el resto de la semana. La recolección de basura se retrasará un día a partir del martes 25 de diciembre y el martes 1 de enero por el resto de estas semanas*



## "The Diary of Anne Frank" comes to the Norwalk Stage



In this gripping new adaptation, newly discovered writings from the diary of Anne Frank, as well as survivor accounts, are interwoven to create a contemporary impassioned story of the lives of people persecuted during the Nazi occupation. The themes of bonding together in a quest for survival and finding the light within the moments of darkness are brought together in a unique staging by John Glenn's newest director and drama teacher Jonathan D. Mesisca. The show is presented by students of Glenn's advanced drama class, with scenic and lighting design from members of its very prominent drama club.

The play will be held December 5, 6, and 7 at 7pm for the cost of \$8.

Tickets are available at the door or by emailing [JohnGlennHSDrama@gmail.com](mailto:JohnGlennHSDrama@gmail.com).

John Glenn High School is located at 13520 Shoemaker Road.

For more information, call 562-210-3000.

## Norwalk Library Event

12350 Imperial Hwy (562) 868-0775

### The Source

Monday, December 17

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Source is free, monthly event that provides personal one-to-one assistance to homeless or low income individuals with a variety of services, including housing, Medical, Social Security and Disability Insurance, mental health care, legal aid, and much more. Refreshments, haircuts and gently used clothing are also provided.

### Ms. Claus in a Winter Wonderland

Tuesday, December 18 • 4 - 5 p.m.

Mrs. Santa will be telling stories from Santa's great big Storybook, featuring storyteller Nicole Tibbetts. Best suited for ages 4 and up.

### Veteran Benefit Check Up

Tuesdays • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Thursdays • 1 - 3 p.m.

Fridays • 3 - 5 p.m.

Are you a veteran or a family member of a veteran? There may be benefits to which you are entitled. Meet with a Benefits Coach at the Norwalk Library, no appointment necessary. However, it is recommended you call ahead to confirm Benefit Coach availability.



Recreation and Park Services Department

# SANTA SLEIGH

Saturday, December 1

Tree Lighting Ceremony 6:00 p.m.

Monday, December 3

Cresson Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

12144 Harvest Ave. 7:00 p.m.

Vista Verde Park 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 4

Orr Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

Studebaker Elementary School 7:00 p.m.

Lakeside Middle School 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 5

Glazier Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

12641 Kalnor Ave. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

Edmondson Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

Gerdes Park 7:00 p.m.

Barnwall St. & Flatbush Ave. 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 7

Spry St. & Curtis and King Rd. 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 8

New River Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

Morrison Elementary School 7:00 p.m.

12122 Kenney St. 8:00 p.m.

Monday, December 10

Cesar Chavez Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

Molette St. & Bechard Ave. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11

Volunteer Ave. & Crewe St. 6:00 p.m.

Paddison Elementary School 7:00 p.m.

Lakeland Elementary School 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12

Sanchez Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

15502 Allingham St. 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 13

14729 Clarkdale Ave. 6:00 p.m.

Silverbow Ave. & Sprout St. 7:00 p.m.

Moffitt Elementary School 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 14

Cheshire St. & Belshire Ave. 6:00 p.m.

11243 Lakeland Rd. 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

14314 Crossdale Ave. 5:00 p.m.



Please Note: In the event of rain or inclement weather, some stops may be cancelled or rescheduled.

Photos with Santa \$2.00

For more information, please call 929-5702.

*No te pierdas el trineo de Santa cuando aterrice en varios lugares de la ciudad durante diciembre. Santa leerá y contestará todas las cartas entregadas antes del 8 de diciembre al buzón de correo en el Complejo de Artes y Deportes de Norwalk.*

# Photo Highlights: November 2018 City Council Meetings

