

Norwalk^eNow

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California April 2019, Volume 40, #4



State of the City

Hosted by the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council, Mayor Jennifer Perez shared the forward progress of Norwalk during the State of the City, as well as the accomplishments that took place throughout the year.

The City's priorities in 2018 pertained to projects affecting residents' quality of life, such as increasing the number of businesses, fostering community-public safety relationships, strengthening infrastructure and implementing community programming. After hearing from residents through community forums and public meetings, Mayor Perez shared that residents will soon be able to enjoy three new supermarkets, Smart Choice, Grocery Outlet and El Super as well as new restaurants moving into our community, including Stinkin Crawfish, Buffalo Spot, BurgerIM, Tacos El Gavilan and Panera Bread. As the City anticipates the arrival of new businesses, attendees also learned of businesses who recently celebrated grand openings, such as Chick-fil-A and LA Fitness.

For the public safety aspect, attendees learned about the City's efforts to fortify the relationship between residents, public

safety officials and the LA County Sheriff's Department. For example, earlier in the year, the City hosted a luncheon with the new L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva. In addition, the City reestablished task force activity addressing nuisance properties and juvenile delinquency, and enhanced programs such as Coffee with a Cop and Neighborhood Watch Parties.

The most recent projects in infrastructure and community programming highlighted included the design project to widen Firestone Boulevard, advancement of the local streets rehabilitation project, continuation of community forums, completion of a Park Master Plan for Norwalk Park and Hermosillo Park, and upgrades to the weight room in the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex.

Representatives from the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and the LA County Sheriff's Department also provided an update on business development and public safety statistics.

Visit the City's YouTube channel (Norwalktelevision) to view the complete event.

FREE Egg-Stravagant Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20
12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Norwalk Civic Center Lawn,
12700 Norwalk Blvd.

Join us on the Norwalk Civic Center Lawn on Saturday, April 20 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. for the largest egg hunt in town! The whole family can enjoy an afternoon of fun, egg hunts, games, crafts, and entertainment. Photos with the Easter Bunny will be available for only \$3. Don't forget to arrive early so your child does not miss the hunt. For more info, please call Recreation at 562-929-5702.



2018 Distinguished Coach Operators

The Norwalk Transit System (NTS) is committed to providing safe and quality transportation services to the community, getting them to and from work, school and other important destinations. The Distinguished Coach Operator of the Year recognition program honors top bus drivers for their excellent driving records and customer service. Implemented in 1995, the program, enhances employee morale, maintains a high level of department performance and safety awareness.

The 2018 Distinguished Coach Operators were recognized at the March 5th City Council meeting.

Jose Moran has quickly demonstrated his commitment to providing outstanding services to the community having already received several quarterly service awards. 2018 represents the first Coach Operator of the Year honors, with other distinctions sure to follow!

Hoang Le joined NTS in 2003 and was promoted to Full Time Coach Operator in 2005. He has fourteen quarterly service awards and this year represents the second time he has been recognized as a Distinguished Coach Operator of the Year, having first been honored in 2013. Hoang shares that he appreciates his co-workers and the amazing support system in place at NTS.

Michael McCall is an On Call Coach Operator who has been with Norwalk since 2003. He was recognized as a Coach Operator of the Year in 2013, in addition to many quarterly operator service awards. One of the things he most enjoys about his job is collaborating with other transit staff to enhance services to the public.

Exemplifying her dedicated work ethic and continued delivery of excellent customer service, this marks the fifth time Kindria McLemore has received the recognition as a Coach Operator of the Year. Kindria was hired in 2004 and promoted to full time in 2013. She also serves as a Department Line Instructor, working with coach operator trainees.

Gus Cordova has almost twenty eight years of service, having joined NTS in June 1991. This is his first Distinguished Coach Operator of the Year honor; however, he has been the recipient of eleven quarterly service awards.

Congratulations to all the Distinguished Coach Operators!



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

To Postal Patron

Get Involved

Medication Disposal

Expired and/or unwanted prescription medications should never be disposed of in trash receptacles or flushed down drains. These items are considered household hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly to avoid contamination of our waterways. Moreover, these items should be removed from homes as soon as they are no longer needed to prevent their misuse by others, particularly young children.

To make it easy for residents to dispose of unwanted medications, the Norwalk Sheriff's Station hosts monthly Medication Disposal events. The next event takes place on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please note that the event is only open to Norwalk residents and that no clinic or business drop offs will be accepted.

The Norwalk Sheriff's Station is located at 12335 Civic Center Drive. For more info, please call 562-863-8711.



Citywide Egg-Normous Egg Hunt

Week of April 14

For the second year in a row, residents can get a jump start on Easter by looking for giant eggs that have been strategically hidden throughout the City! Find an egg and turn it in at our Egg-stravagant Egg Hunt event for a wonderful prize.

Please see below for egg hunt rules:

- Must be Norwalk Resident
- Only one egg may be redeemed per family/household (ID Required).
- Must be redeemed during the Egg-Stravagant Egg Hunt on April 20 at 12 p.m. at the Norwalk Civic Center Lawn.
- City Employees and their family members may not participate.

For more information, please call Recreation at 562-929-5702



COFFEE WITH A COP



FREE coffee mug to first 10 people in attendance!

Join law enforcement officers for a cup of coffee. Converse over community topics and concerns.

Tuesday, April 9
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Chick-fil-A
Norwalk Fitness Village
12555 Imperial Hwy

Thursday, May 9
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Sanchez Elementary
11960 162nd Street

Comparta una taza de café con nuestra policía local y proporcione comentarios sobre las formas en que podemos trabajar juntos para mejorar la calidad de vida.

For additional information, please call 562-929-5732.

Safety Tips for Parents and their Children on Recent Social Media Trends

Recently, various social media and web based challenges have emerged that promote self-harm, and other dangerous activities to our young and impressionable

youth. The best way to protect our children is by being involved and teaching them about online safety on a daily basis.

Below are some internet and social networking tips for parents to use:

- Be Involved! Talk to your kids and monitor what they are watching on the internet and social media.
- Develop a strong relationship with your children and communicate with them.
- Talk to your children about online predators and what to do if they are contacted by one.
- Have access to, and inspect your child's phone, tablets or computers on a regular basis.
- Have access to your children's social media passwords.
- Ensure your child's social media privacy settings are set to the appropriate levels.
- If your child has a certain social media account, you should also have an account.
- Limit the information your children post online: including birth dates, home addresses, and phone numbers. These can lure predators and identity thieves.
- Make sure your children know it is not safe to share passwords and accounts with others outside of the family.



Source: LA County Sheriff's Department crime alert
If you have any questions, please contact the Public Safety Department at 562-929-5732.

Voting Changes Coming Our Way

Voting in the City's March 2020 election will be a totally different experience. As a result of California legislation in 2018, cities across the state have begun to consolidate elections with counties. As such, the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder/County Clerk's office (LACO) will be responsible for distributing and counting all ballots and establishing voting locations for the City of Norwalk beginning in 2020. LACO is also implementing a new voting system to accommodate the millions of voters in Los Angeles County. A representative from LACO will be in attendance at the April 16 City Council meeting to introduce the new way of voting. Interested citizens may come to the meeting or watch it live on the City's website or cable TV.



Tea at the D.D. Johnston-Hargitt House Museum

Saturday, April 6 • 1 – 4 p.m.
12426 Mapledale Street

Please join us for a special tea party. An assortment of teas, good old fashioned lemonade and pastries will be served. Stop by and take a tour of our nationally-registered landmark, built by one of Norwalk's founding families. The Victorian Eastlake home was built in 1891 and at one time held up to 200 acres of grape, avocado and citrus trees.

For more info, please call 562-929-5521.



ARBOR day

Arbor Day is an annual observance that celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care. On Saturday, April 27 from 8 to 10 a.m., the City will be hosting its sixth annual Arbor Day event at Holifield Park, located at 12500 Excelsior Drive.

Make plans to join us for this great family event. You will be able to visit information booths and take part in a community planting event to help make Norwalk a "greener" City! All tools will be provided. For more information please contact Pamela Torres at 562-929-5514 or ptorres@norwalkca.gov.

El sábado 27 de abril de 8 a 10 a.m., celebraremos nuestro evento anual del Día del Árbol en el Parque Holifield. Los residentes y organizaciones están invitados a plantar árboles y embellecer a nuestra comunidad. Para más información o para inscribirse como voluntario, por favor llame al Departamento de Obras Públicas al 562-929-5514.

ENERGY corner

Calsense Controllers

City staff have begun installing Calsense controllers at eight (8) City Parks through a grant the City received. Calsense controllers allow staff to monitor irrigation remotely and the flow meter will provide additional controls for the overall irrigation of the parks. This efficient technology senses watering requirements and volume of water necessary as well, which will reduce the amount of water used. CalSense technology will not only help the City conserve water, but also lower our water bills.



Earthquake Preparedness Month

It's not a matter of if, but when the next big earthquake will strike.

The reality of these words is what makes it so vital that we take this opportunity to prepare for the next big earthquake ahead of time. Help us recognize April as Earthquake Preparedness Month and create a more disaster-resilient community by following some simple safety tips:

What to do before an earthquake – Prepare:

- Create a Disaster Supply Kit for your home filled with at least three days of supplies: include non-perishable food, water (one gallon per person per day), a first aid kit, flashlights, a radio, and batteries.
- Make a Go-bag filled with portable necessities in case you have to leave in a hurry: include cash, important documents, clothes/shoes, personal hygiene items, family photos, and baby/pet/special needs items.
- Create a Family Communication Plan: Choose a safe place for everyone to meet in case you're separated or your home must be evacuated. Maintain an emergency contact list including someone from out of town that everyone can check in with.



What to do during an earthquake – Protect Yourself:

- Drop, Cover, and Hold-On
- Most injuries in earthquakes occur from falling or flying objects, so the best way to protect yourself is: Drop to the ground, Cover your head and neck with one arm, and Hold On to a sturdy table, desk or piece of furniture nearby. Don't get in a doorway! Don't run outside!
- Plan ahead: look around your home, school or office to identify safe places that you can Drop, Cover and Hold-On in the event of an earthquake. Look for any hazards or overhead items that could potentially cause injury as well.



How to reach out – Community Support:

- Make connections with your local community to form personal support networks.
- Identify two neighbors and agree to watch out for each other.
- Contact your local Neighborhood Watch Block captains and places of worship to help engage others and prepare together.
- Public Safety has begun recruiting Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers as it develops a program to train community members on how to practice basic disaster medical aid, perform victim search and rescue, put out small fires and manage utilities in the event of a disaster. Please consider becoming a CERT volunteer and sign up now! For more information on Norwalk's CERT Program, please contact Lt. Eric Wosick at 562-929-5919.
For more information on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Readiness, please visit www.ready.gov

NEW: Boards, Brushes and Beverages

(Ages 21+)

Friday, April 5 • 7 – 9:30 p.m.
Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex
Rich Rehearsal Hall,
13000 Clarkdale Ave.



Join us for this social crafting experience!

Transform unfinished wood into beautiful, personalized works of art. We will offer a variety of designs to choose from. You will leave with a décor item ready to install in your home or office, or provide as a gift for Mother's Day, wedding or any special occasion. The cost is \$25 per person and includes materials, appetizers and soft drinks.

Register at the NASC or online at www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services. For more info, please call the Cultural Arts Center at 562-929-5521.

Breakfast with Mom

(Ages 3-12)

Saturday, April 27 • 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Registration Deadline: Saturday, April 20
Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex,
13000 Clarkdale Avenue

Mothers can spend a fun morning bonding with their child, and enjoy a pancake breakfast, crafts and games. Fee is \$15 per couple and \$7 per additional person. Adult participation is required and may include any female guardian. Register at the NASC or online at www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services. Tickets will be sold until supplies last or Saturday, April 20. For more information, please call the Sports Complex at 562-929-5516.

Kids Adventure Camp Registration

Begins: Saturday, April 13

Location: Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex,
13000 Clarkdale Avenue
Weekly Fee: \$155 Residents
\$205 Non-Residents

Coming this summer is our Kids Adventure Camp providing youth an opportunity to enjoy arts & crafts, games, swimming, cooking lessons, and so much more! The program takes place Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 10 through August 9 and is open to youth ages 6 to 12. Register early because space is limited. Extended hours are available. For more information please call the Cultural Arts Center at 562-929-5521.

Smoke Alarms

A smoke alarm is critical for the detection of a fire in your home. The earlier a fire is discovered, the more time that is available for escape. These items are fairly inexpensive and easy to install and should be a



basic component of your emergency preparedness efforts at home. Please take the necessary steps to ensure the safety of yourself and your family members.

- Make sure the smoke alarm has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Always save and follow the alarm manufacturer's instructions for testing and maintenance.
- Smoke alarms should be installed on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep at least 10 feet away from a cooking appliance.
- Install alarms in every bedroom and outside each sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of house.
- Consider using interconnected smoke alarms. When one alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure they are working.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or don't respond properly when tested.
- There are special alarms, utilizing strobes or bed shakers, for those who are hard-of-hearing or deaf.
- Get everyone in your household together and make a home escape plan. Walk through each room to determine ways out. Make sure escape routes are clear and doors and windows open easily. Designate a meeting place where everyone will gather.

For more information, please visit www.fire.lacounty.gov/
Source: National Fire Protection Association

Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Drive
562-929-5580

Arts & Crafts

Monday, April 8 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Come and join in on the fun and have an opportunity to explore your artistic side.

Sponsored by: AppleCare Medical Group

April Candlelight Dinner

Theme: Shanghai Nights

Tuesday, April 9 • 5:45 – 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$7.00 (before Saturday, April 6)
\$8.50 (after Saturday, April 6)

Stop by and enjoy a hot and hearty meal and share an evening of warmth with friends and family. Meal service will consist of Chicken Stir Fry, Rice, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, Beverage, and Coffee. Doors open at 5 p.m. and meal service ends at 6 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.

HICAP

Wednesday, April 17 • 10 a.m. – 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.

Body Fat Analysis Screening

Thursday, April 18 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Being overweight can impact a senior's health in many ways. This screening will help seniors know if they are overweight, what their target weight should be and if they need to make important changes to their diet.

Sponsored by: Regal Medical Group

FREE Thyroid Screening

Tuesday, April 23 • 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

HealthCare Partners will be providing seniors with a free thyroid screening. Symptoms of thyroid problems can easily be missed. This very important screening is the first step in being able to detect if an individual has an existing thyroid problem. The screening is on a first come, first served basis to the first 55 participants to sign up the day of the screening. Sponsored by: HealthCare Partners

Santa Barbara Land and Sea Tour

Wednesday, April 24

Depart: 8:30 a.m.

Return: Approximately 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00/person (Lunch not included)

Location: Santa Barbara, CA

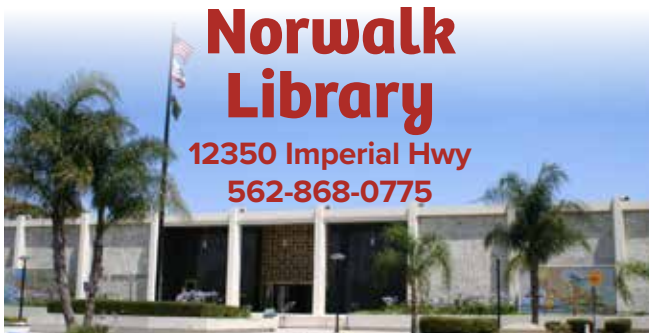
Walking required: High

View one of the most historical beachside cities on a boat with wheels designed for both land and sea cruising! This 90-minute, narrated adventure first begins on ground as you see all the historic landmarks and attractions in town. Then for the second portion of the tour, we will splash into the beautiful Santa Barbara harbor and cruise the magnificent coastline. We may encounter sea lions, dolphins, and maybe even whales! After the tour, you will have time to walk the streets of Santa Barbara for lunch on your own and shopping.



Norwalk Library

12350 Imperial Hwy
562-868-0775



Children's Events

Mākmō Tuesday: Bee Hotel

Tuesday, April 16 • 4 – 5 p.m.

Unlike honey bees that live in large hives, mason bees live alone, and need places to shelter and lay their eggs. They pollinate more plants than honey bees do, and are less likely to sting you! So become a friend to these helpful bees, and learn to build a bee hotel for your garden. For ages 5 – 12.

The Bubble Chef

Tuesday, April 23 • 4 - 5 p.m.

Join Chef Rebecca Martin as she shares her recipe of household ingredients like water and soap can bake up beautiful bubbles. The sweet hook of the bubble theme song incorporated with a side dish of stories has everyone asking for seconds! For ages 5-12.

Adult Events

Veterans Resource Center

Every Wednesday • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Every Friday • 3 – 5 p.m.

Did you or a family member serve in the military? Visit our Veterans Resource Center and meet with a benefits coach. Our trained volunteer will help you and your family locate benefits you may qualify for. No appointment necessary. Please call ahead for volunteer availability.

Slip-a-Stitchers

Every Wednesday • 12:30 – 3 p.m.

Do you like to knit or crochet? Join the Slip-a-Stitchers every Wednesday and share your ideas, patterns, tricks, and techniques! All levels of experience are welcome. Bring your own needles, hooks, and yarn.

Citizenship Class

Saturday, April 6 • 2 – 4 p.m.

Would you like to learn more about the naturalization process? During our Citizenship Class, you will learn about the application process, interview, citizenship test, and swearing-in ceremony. This program will be conducted in Spanish.

Mākmō: Intro to Machine Sewing

Wednesday, April 10 • 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Join us for our Introduction to Machine Sewing workshop to learn the basics of using a sewing machine. We will provide all the materials needed to create your own sewing project! Pre-registration is required as materials are limited. Visit the Information Desk or call the library to sign up.



Lit Wits Book Club:

The Broken Girls

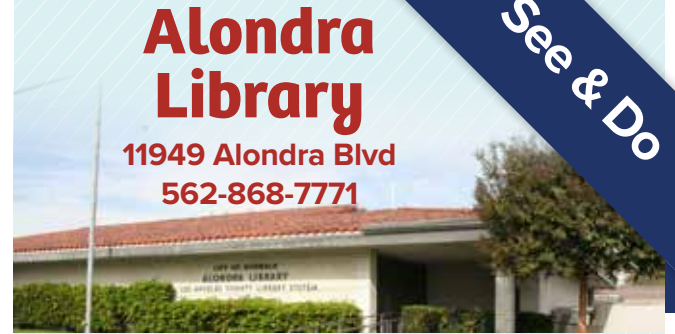
Monday, April 29

6:30– 7:30 p.m.

In April, our monthly book club the Lit Wits will read and discuss *The Broken Girls* by Alexis Simone St. James. *The Broken Girls* tells a story of a place for the girls whom no one wants—the troublemakers, the illegitimate, and the too smart for their own good.

Alondra Library

11949 Alondra Blvd
562-868-7771



See & Do

Children and Teen Events

Adult 101: Stress Management

Tuesday, April 16 • 4 - 5 p.m.

Tired of being stressed out? Take a break and join us as we learn healthy ways to effectively reduce stress. You will also create your own stress ball that can help you relax when you find yourself in a tense situation. Ages 12-18.

Dr. Electric Takes Over the World

Tuesday, April 30 • 4 - 5 p.m.

Join author Annie Banannie, Balloon Storyteller, in a live "Balloon Theater" retelling of this silly mad scientist adventure. Ages 3-12. Teen Events

WIC Assistance at the Social Services Center

The WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is once again assisting the Norwalk Community at the Social Services Center, 11929 Alondra Blvd. This service provided through the local WIC office, is available on the second Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local families can receive assistance applying for this beneficial program that gives access to healthy foods, family resources, nutrition information and breastfeeding support. Please call 562-929-5544 for more information.



Parking and Storing of Vehicles on Private Property



The Norwalk Department of Public Safety actively enforces all parking rules and regulations to ensure safe and accessible parking throughout the City. We ask that you please be mindful of your neighbors when parking your vehicles along residential streets. Help alleviate on-street congestion by parking your vehicle in available garage and/or driveway spaces. Reserving parking spaces on the street in front of your home by use of cones, trash receptacles, or similar items is not allowed; it is also a violation of Norwalk Municipal Code section 8.12.160.

Under the Municipal Code, vehicles parked on residential properties must be fully operable, completely assembled, supported by inflated tires and legally parked on an approved driveway (residential parking space). They must also be currently registered for operation on public street. NOTE: registration with the DMV as a PNO (planned non-operation) is not acceptable by law to show compliance for abandoned vehicle violations.

If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Safety at 562-929-5732.