

# Norwalk<sup>e</sup>Now

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California September 2019, Volume 40, #9



*Save the Date!*

## Join us for the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Arturo Sanchez Sr., Halloween Parade & Costume Contest

Saturday, October 19 • Costume Contest: 9 a.m., Parade 11 a.m.  
Parade will start at the corner of Mapledale St. and Norwalk Blvd.

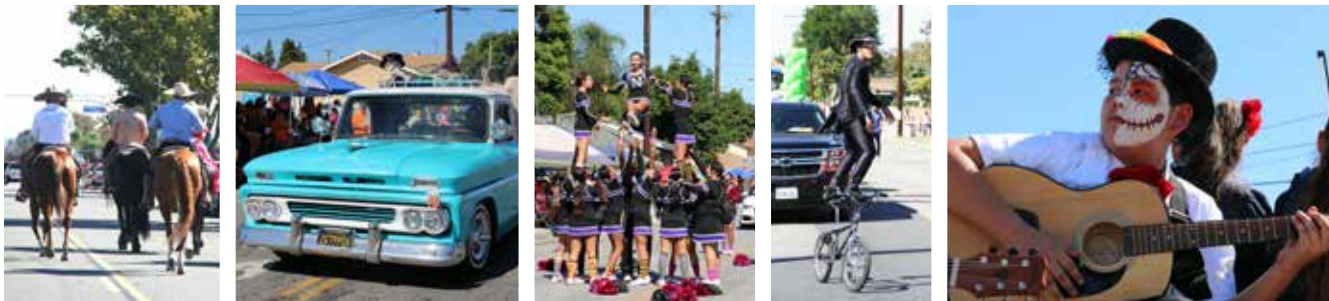
Marching bands from throughout Southern California are expected to perform alongside ghosts and goblins of all kinds during this year's Halloween Parade. The parade begins at the intersection of Norwalk Boulevard and Mapledale Street and will conclude at Hermosillo Park.

Residents are encouraged to participate by dressing up in their favorite Halloween costume and marching in the parade. A costume contest will be held at 9:15 a.m. at Waite Middle School field on the

corner of Norwalk Boulevard and Mapledale Street.

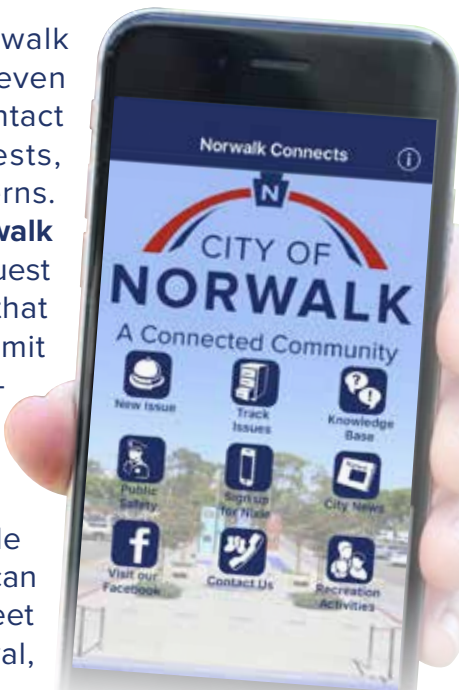
Pre-registration is not required to participate in the costume contest. Businesses, service organizations and clubs are encouraged to participate in this free program. For more information or to request an entry form, please call 562-929-5702 or visit [www.norwalk.org](http://www.norwalk.org).

*Marque su calendario para el 19 de octubre comenzando a las 9 a.m. y únase con nuestra comunidad para el desfile anual de Halloween Arturo Sanchez Padre, que incluirá un concurso de disfraz.*



## Connect with Us 24/7 via our NEW Mobile App

The City of Norwalk is about to make it even easier for you to contact us with your requests, questions, and concerns. We have launched **Norwalk Connects**, a citizen request management system that will allow you to submit inquiries 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week in whatever way is most convenient, online or via the mobile application. Residents can submit requests for street repairs, graffiti removal,



landscape maintenance and much more! The system also features a dynamic FAQ list of popular topics, which may answer resident's questions immediately.

**Norwalk Connects** allows users to submit inquiries anonymously or with contact information. Download our app today, available for both iPhone and Android users; search **Norwalk Connects**. For more information, contact the Public Affairs Division at 562-929-5735.

*La Ciudad de Norwalk ha lanzado un sistema de solicitud ciudadana donde residentes pueden solicitar una variedad de servicios, incluyendo la eliminación de grafiti y el mantenimiento del paisaje, las 24 horas al día, 7 días por semana en cualquiera manera más conveniente, por sitio web o aplicación móvil.*

## Our Community Joins Efforts to Make a Difference!



With sincere appreciation, the City of Norwalk extends a heartfelt note of gratitude to our community members, City employees, volunteers, businesses and special donors, who made the Norwalk Student Headstart Project so successful! Held at the Social Services Center, the event provided over 200 young schoolchildren with necessary school clothing, underclothing, backpacks, school supplies and haircuts. They also left with smiles and appreciation!



## Connect with Local Law Enforcement

Saturday, September 14 • 12 - 2 p.m.  
Ramona Park, 13244 Mapledale Street

Saturday, September 21 • 12 - 2 p.m.  
Norwalk Park, 12203 Sproul Street



Join us for our two upcoming Neighborhood Block Parties! Meet and connect with your neighbors, elected officials and Public Safety/

Sheriff teams while enjoying savory hamburgers and hot dogs.



Conéctese con nuestra policía local de 12-2 p.m. el sábado 14 y 21 de septiembre en el parque Ramona y el parque Norwalk.

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

City of Norwalk  
12700 Norwalk Blvd.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

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## Norwalk Students, Dance the Night Away!

(Ages 11 – 14)

Friday, September 13

6:30-9:30 p.m.

Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex,  
13000 Clarkdale Ave.

\$5/person payable at dance

Join us and wear your favorite Marvel, Star Wars, Warner Brothers, or Nickelodeon shirt as you dance the night away. There will be a DJ, photo booth, food for purchase and an area to hang out with friends. Dress code will be enforced. Please note: The event is only open to Norwalk students in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Students will need to show a current school I.D. to verify current grade level.

## Plan a Family Date with Us!

Painting & Pancakes Brunch Date  
for Adults & Kids!

Saturday, September 21

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

Norwalk Cultural Arts Center,  
13200 Clarkdale Ave.

Fee: \$14/person

Come enjoy a morning with your favorite little painter while savoring a tasty pancake breakfast. The workshop features an instructor who will provide step by step instruction on painting a beautiful masterpiece on canvas that both you and your little one can take home. We welcome all family members and any adult-kid combination. The event will sell out; get your tickets asap! For more info, please call 562-929-5521.



## Join us for Free Friday Movie Night!

Friday, September 27 • 6:30 p.m.

Glazier Park, 10810 Excelsior Dr.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a fun-filled spooky night! We'll be screening a Halloween favorite, "Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween" on a 500 square-foot screen. Prior to the movie at dusk, we'll have games and activities. Food will also be available for purchase to help support the Teen Alliance Program Scholarship Fund. For more information, please call 562-929-5516.



## Celebrating 45 Years of Mobility with the Transit Department

On August 1, 2019, Norwalk Transit System (NTS) celebrated its 45th anniversary. As a municipal transit agency serving the City of Norwalk and surrounding cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, El Monte, La Habra, La Mirada, Santa Fe Springs, South El Monte, Whittier and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, NTS has accomplished a great deal over the past four decades. Here are just some of their many achievements.

- 1974**
  - The Norwalk Transit System (NTS) began as a municipal operation.
  - Demand-responsive transit service (DAR) for people with physical disabilities was initiated.
- 1995**
  - NTS implemented bus-rail shuttle service with the opening of the Metro Green Line I-105/I-605 Studebaker Station in Norwalk (for direct access to the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Transportation Center and Metrolink service).
- 1996**
  - NTS implemented taxicab voucher service for DAR patrons who had transportation needs during the evening hours.
- 2002**
  - Held Grand Opening for the Transportation/Public Services Facility that features a 20,639 sq. ft. three-story building, a 15,680 sq. ft. maintenance facility and a 31,334 sq. ft. Public Services building complete with a storage warehouse. The main lobby, Customer Service Center and Dispatch Center occupy the first floor. The Public Services Department's Administration division operates on the second floor with the Transportation Administration division occupying the third floor.
  - NTS launches Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive.
- 2006**
  - Bus Stop Improvement Program Phase I was completed, transforming original bus stops with new benches, signs and shelters, incorporating a new distinct NTS logo.
- 2007**
  - NTS assumes Whittier's bus Routes 1 & 2 and integrates them as Route 6 and 7.
  - NTS incorporates Metro's bus line 275 into Route 8.
- 2009**
  - NTS implements the Transit Access Pass (TAP), which replaces Metrocards and allows passengers to add cash value to the pass.
- 2014**
  - NTS purchases fourteen Gillig Low Floor, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses.
  - NTS re-designs its branding and logo and decals all buses with the new design scheme.
  - Completed construction of a complete CNG Refueling Station.
- 2015**
  - Implemented a complete upgrade of the Transportation/Public Services Facility including reconstruction of the entrance via Imperial Hwy., to provide a direct, safe and continuous pedestrian walkway and bicycle pathway. Construction of a pedestrian plaza at the Metrolink Station parking lot. Installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras around entire site, as well as additional, improved lighting. Improvements to the Customer Service Center lobby and Equipment Maintenance Division, including a new bus wash station, new bus lift and reconstruction of storekeeper area and parts room.
- 2016**
  - NTS assumes operation of the northern segment of Metro's line 270, connecting the El Monte Bus Station to the Norwalk Green Line Station. This new service becomes Route #7.
- 2019**
  - Began design and implementation of the Intelligent Transportation System to include automatic vehicle location, automated passenger counting, GPS based computer automated dispatch, and automated travel information system for all fixed-route buses.

NTS continues to strive for excellence as a regional resource for public transportation and supporter of our community's mobility needs. Through the years, NTS has met these needs by expanding routes and transit services. As the City of Norwalk celebrates this historic milestone, its leaders, the community, and transportation staff are looking forward to see what lies ahead in the next 45 years.





## Did you Know...Voting Experiences Will Change March 2020

The Voting Solutions for All People project, commonly referred to as VSAP, is the LA County's initiative to improve and modernize the voting experience. In March 2020, the County will move away from a precinct-based model to the Vote Center model made possible through the California Voter's Choice Act. This will create an 11-day period of voting and will allow voters to vote at any Vote Center in the County during that period. In addition, the County will move to a new fully accessible Ballot Marking Device (BMD), which incorporates a modern



touchscreen interface, but still retains a paper ballot for security. Although those features are the most significant, there will be several other changes that will improve the voting experience.

We will be hosting a demo center in your area giving you the opportunity to test out Ballot Marking Devices (BMDs) and an ePollBook (replaces paper roster), along with an outreach table with materials and information on the VSAP project.

For more info, please contact City Clerk at 562-929-5720.

## Help your Business Grow, Participate in a Free Workshop

The Collaborative Community Network, in collaboration with **Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board**, is hosting a Business Resource Symposium at the **Cerritos Library on Thursday, October 3**, to help you find the missing piece to the puzzle. The interactive event will help you discover outstanding resources for your business, and allow you to examine best practices for continuity and growth, discover competitive advantages and engage in

onsite mentoring. Brief workshops blending theory and practice, including topics such as business credit repair, ADA and reasonable accommodations, prevailing wage information, and small business start up tips, will be offered, in addition to roundtables on LinkedIn and Crowdfunding.

The free event will take place in the **Skyline Room from 4 to 7 p.m.** and is open to the public. For more information, please call 562-402-9336.

Community News

## Business Spotlight Stinkin Crawfish

Calling all seafood lovers! Stinkin Crawfish is opening a new location in Norwalk, at 11752 Firestone Boulevard, just west of Pioneer Boulevard. Stinkin Crawfish serves up great Cajun seafood, and features catfish meals and shrimp with customized spice choices to suit your taste buds, not to mention tons of starters and non-seafood options. Stop in for happy hour, lunch with friends, or a fun dinner with the family. Don't forget to save room for dessert and try their famous deep fried Oreos and delicious ice cream. Stay tuned for additional information on the City's social media pages for the restaurant's official opening date.



The City's trash hauler, Athens Services, will be hosting a FREE compost/mulch give away on **Saturday, October 5 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the City Hall** parking lot located at 12700 Norwalk Blvd. The event is open to all Norwalk residents and proof of residence is required. This is a self-service event so please bring your own containers and shovels (no plastic bags will be allowed or filled). There is a limit of 30 gallons per resident for the first hour, compost will be available while supplies last. No walk-ups will be allowed. Please call 562-929-5964 or email [recycling@norwalkca.gov](mailto:recycling@norwalkca.gov) for more information.



## "Paint the Town Pink" is coming this October

City of Norwalk, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and American Cancer Society (ACS) will be Painting the Town Pink again this October to promote breast cancer awareness and the resources that are available to you through the many events that will take place during the month of October. Plans for this year's campaign include a Coffee with the Mayor kick off, a canister campaign, a Paint the Town Pink Expo and an all day fundraiser at So-Cal Pizza. Look for the City of Norwalk to once again turn the lights pink throughout the City and place pink ribbons in strategic locations. ACS will be providing collection

canisters to local businesses to facilitate fundraising, and the Norwalk Chamber will serve as a hub for events and collections. Funds raised through the Paint the Town Pink campaign provide much needed resources for local residents who are affected not just by breast cancer but all cancers. This includes cancer research and the 1-800-227-2345 phone line, available 24 hours a day to answer questions and concerns regarding cancer. If you would like to get involved in the Paint the Town Pink campaign, please contact the Chamber at [info@norwalkchamber.com](mailto:info@norwalkchamber.com) or 562-404-0909.

## Prepare for Emergencies, Join us for CERT Training

Public Safety is teaming up with the Los Angeles County Fire Department to bring Norwalk residents a 3-day Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training on **September 27-29**. This 20-hour, free course will teach residents disaster medical aid, basic fire suppression, light search and rescue, and team organization skills to be better prepared for emergencies. Graduates receive CERT equipment and a FEMA certificate upon completion of the training. Join us to learn life-safety skills that can apply to all hazards and help make Norwalk a more resilient and prepared community! For more information, workshop times or to sign-up for the Friday through Sunday training, please contact Eric Wosick at [ewosick@norwalkca.gov](mailto:ewosick@norwalkca.gov) or 562-929-5732.



## RAIN BARREL DISTRIBUTION & Rain Harvesting Workshop



Rain barrels help conserve our resources by collecting water that would otherwise be lost to runoff. Water collected in a rain barrel can then be used to water your yards and gardens. An added bonus is that rainwater is actually better for plants because it's free from added chemicals, such as chlorine and fluoride!

The City of Norwalk has partnered with Golden State Water and Liberty Utilities for a Rain Barrel Distribution and Workshop on **Saturday, September 14 at City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.**

Rain barrels can be purchased for the discounted rate of \$20 plus tax, two max per household, and picked up from City Hall on September 14. Residents can also participate in a free workshop, covering topics such as the installation of a rain barrel and water conservation techniques.

**Workshop 1: 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.**  
**Distribution 1: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

**Workshop 2: 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.**  
**Distribution 2: 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.**

Rain Barrels must be purchased at [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com) in advance to ensure availability. Click the "Events" tab and select "City of Norwalk".

*\* If purchasing day of, please bring a water bill.*

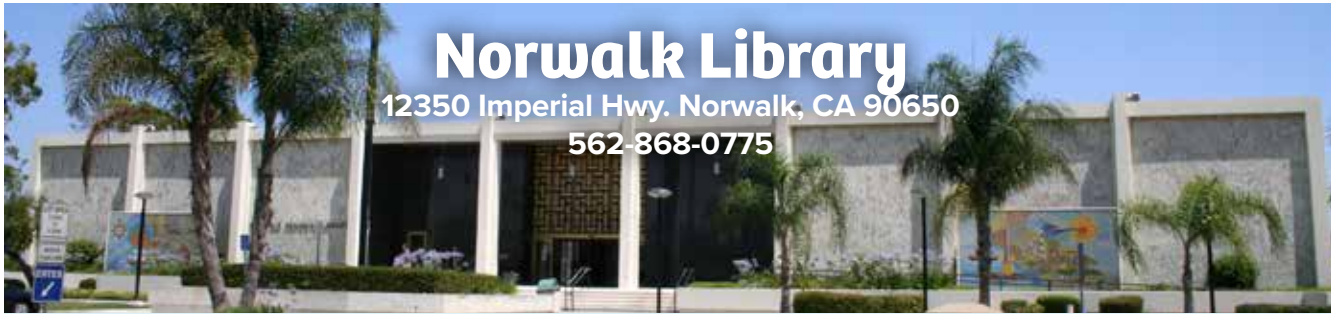
For additional information, please call 919-602-6316.





# Norwalk Library

12350 Imperial Hwy. Norwalk, CA 90650  
562-868-0775



## Mexican Cooking Demo Lite

Thursday, September 19 • 3 – 4 p.m.

Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with Chef Marco Zapien who will give an hour-long cooking demonstration of various Mexican recipes including salsa, chicken chile verde and arroz con leche. Participants will have a chance to taste everything on the menu (first come, first served). For adults 18 and up.



## Family Place Parent Child Workshop

Mondays, September 30 - November 4  
(excluding October 14) • 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

This five-week program provides space and toys for parents and their young children to play together. A professional resource person will be available to provide information on designated topics each week. Family Place is a program that supports parents and caregivers of children 0-5 years old in their role as their children's first and most important teacher through free programs and a dedicated space within the children's area. Registration is required.

# Alondra Library

11949 Alondra Blvd, Norwalk,  
CA 90650 • 562-868-7771



## Classic Book Club

Tuesday, September 10 • 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The Classic Book Club is reading Daniel Defoe's Moll Flanders. Published in 1722, it's the story of the rise and fall of a beautiful woman who was born in prison and her struggles with poverty and sin in search of property and power. Refreshments will be served. Copies of the book are available at the library.

See & Do

## Social Services Center

11929 Alondra Blvd  
562-929-5544



## CalFresh Outreach Assistance

Wednesday, September 18  
9 a.m. - 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

## Protect your Life and Home; Free Smoke Alarm Installation & Workshop



The Federal Emergency Management Agency notes that the risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.

The Red Cross is collaborating with the Norwalk Public Safety Department to host a smoke detector installation event, Sound the Alarm, on **Saturday, October 5, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hermosillo Park**, 11959 162nd Street. This event is part of the Red Cross home fire safety campaign and will provide fire

prevention and safety education, along with the installation of 500 smoke alarms to Norwalk residences that are in-need. The smoke alarms and installation services will be available free of charge. Be on the lookout for Red Cross volunteers who will be canvassing the area prior to the event to make appointments for smoke alarm installations and battery replacements. Then join us during the Sound the Alarm event to help save lives, prevent residential fires and make Norwalk homes safer!

To volunteer for the event, visit: <http://bit.ly/STA-Norwalk>.

To make an appointment for a smoke alarm installation, visit: <http://bit.ly/AlarmRequests>.

*El Departamento de Seguridad Pública, en colaboración con la Cruz Roja, estará facilitando la instalación gratuita de alarmas de humo el sábado, 5 de octubre en el Parque Hermosillo. Para más información, llame al 562-929-5732.*



# SENIOR CENTER

*Happenings*

14040 San Antonio Drive  
562-929-5580



## Bereavement Support Group

Meets every Friday  
10 - 11 a.m.

The Bereavement Support Group provides a safe and supportive environment to those who have gone through the loss of a loved one. The group is led by a trained mental health professional from Telecare Corporation in Norwalk.

Sponsored by: Telecare Inc.

## Senior Safety Program: "Earthquake Preparedness" Seminar

Tuesday, September 10 • 10 - 11 a.m.

Living in Southern California has its challenges and one of those is living with earthquakes. Come to the Senior Center to hear one of our Public Safety Officers talk about how to prepare for an earthquake. The focus will be on what seniors can do around their home to make them as safe as possible and how to prepare an earthquake emergency kit.

Sponsored by: Norwalk Public Safety

## AARP Smart Driver Renewal Course

Tuesday, September 10 • 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 for AARP Members and \$20.00 for Non-members payable to AARP by cash, check, or money order. Register at the Senior Center for the AARP Refresher Course. This course condenses eight hours of information into four hours. The Refresher Course is only for those who have previously taken the eight hour class.

## September Candlelight Dinner

Theme: Grease Lightning

Tuesday, September 10 • 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$8.50

Stop by and enjoy a hot and hearty meal and share an evening of warmth with friends and family. Meal service will consist of country fried steak, vegetables, baked potato, salad, dinner roll and butter, dessert and Beverage. Doors open at 5 p.m. and meal service ends at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded. Dine-in only. Tickets will not be sold on the day of the dinner. Registration is currently being taken.

## Balance Screening

Thursday, September 12 • 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Balance plays an important role in preventing seniors from falling. Staff from Regal Medical Group will provide seniors with a free balance screening. Individual results will be discussed with each senior, and if needed, a plan of how they can improve their balance will be presented to them.

Sponsored by: Regal Medical Group

## Karaoke Cabaret

Saturday, September 14 • 1 - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, September 25 • 2 - 5 p.m.

Cost: Free

Join us for Karaoke Cabaret and enjoy an afternoon of singing, laughter and fun with friends. You can even bring your own Karaoke CD's to sing along to or use our songbook to choose your favorite hits. Opportunity drawing for all brave souls who sing on stage!



# Photo Highlights: August 2019 City Council Meeting

