

NorwalkNow

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California December 2019, Volume 40, #12



New Supermarket Comes to Norwalk!

Hundreds of residents lined up early on Thursday, November 14, anticipating the opening of Grocery Outlet Bargain Market located at the Norwalk Town Square. The City celebrated the addition of the value retailer alongside Grocery Outlet Independent Owners, Cynthia and Jorge Lizarraga; NewMark Merrill Companies, the property managers; Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and hundreds of residents.

The opening celebration included gift card giveaways for the first 200 shoppers,

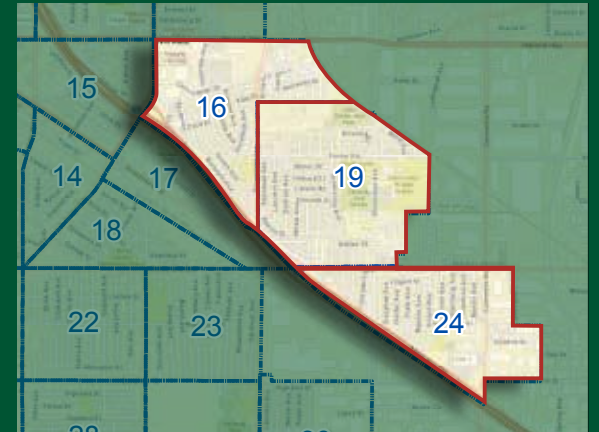
presentations by local stakeholders and a shopping receipt ribbon cutting!

The addition of Grocery Outlet Bargain Market is a result of market research and the community's need for additional supermarkets. In October 2018, the City conducted a study to identify areas with lower grocery store concentration. The study found that the area surrounding Norwalk Town Square needed a grocery store, and just one-year later, Grocery Outlet Bargain Market opened its doors!



New Street Lights: Project Update

The City is moving forward with the installation of more than 3,800 LED fixtures in street lights throughout the community. In November, the City received the first of five semi-trucks delivering a total of 150 pallets of light fixtures! The installation of light fixtures is scheduled to begin at the beginning of December in zones 16, 19 and 24. The project contractor, Siemens Mobility, will be installing up to 100 light fixtures per day! Tune into our social media pages for more information about the installation locations! For further information, please contact Public Services at 562-929-5511.



Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure

Norwalk is a safe, family-oriented community. The City provides exceptional public safety and neighborhood services that are responsive to the community through honest, efficient and fiscally-responsible leadership. The City Council and staff are dedicated to maintaining the high-quality of life that our residents and businesses have enjoyed for decades.

As part of that dedication to keeping Norwalk strong for generations to come, on March 3, 2020, Norwalk's voters will decide if they want to approve a three-quarter-cent local sales tax that would generate approximately \$7 million annually to support Norwalk's essential services and community programs.

The Norwalk City Council unanimously decided to place this measure, called the Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure, before voters to empower the community.

If passed by a majority of Norwalk voters in March 2020, the Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure would bring the current local sales tax rate of 9.5%

to 10.25%. This increase would allow the City to continue supporting and maintaining essential public safety and neighborhood services while also preventing cuts to the services residents and businesses rely on every day.

This revenue would allow for the continued investment in community services and will help keep Norwalk's schools, parks and streets safe and clean for further enjoyment and increased quality of life.

Money generated from this measure would go to the City's general fund, which the City Council could use to support all City-services, including Sheriff response times and neighborhood patrols, gang prevention and youth anti-violence programs, repairs to streets and sidewalks, parks and recreation programs and facilities, and homeless prevention services, as well as expanding important emergency services like traffic and pedestrian safety, amongst others.

Should voters not approve the Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure, the City forecasts its operating budget deficit will increase from over \$2 million in 2021 to a cumulative total of almost \$18 million in just five

years unless additional revenues are secured or the City's operating expenses are not reduced accordingly.

The City Council's number one priority is to ensure Norwalk remains strong and an ideal place to live, work and play. Our goal is to continue engaging and educating all community members about the Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure and the impacts on City services if voters approve the measure through Election Day in March 2020.

For additional information on the Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure and the March 3, 2020 election, please continue to visit the City's website www.norwalk.org, under the City Hall tab, Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure or call 562-929-5735 to learn more about this measure and the effect it would have on the operation of Norwalk's daily services.

The statements provided herein are solely for informational purposes. The City cannot take a position to ask voters to vote either "yes" or "no"

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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To Postal Patron

Bringing the Community Together through a Thanksgiving Meal

The Social Services Department hosted the Second Annual Thanksgiving Day Luncheon at the Senior Center on Thursday, November 28. A traditional Thanksgiving meal, including turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, pies and more, was served to approximately two hundred seniors. Seniors who could not make it to the event were not left out; arrangements were made to have meals delivered to homebound or frail residents to ensure they had a hot meal.

City Council and staff led the luncheon preparations and were supported by an all-

volunteer crew. Local vendors and businesses donated supplies and ingredients for the luncheon. Thus, the collaborative spirit and outpouring of support reflected the true meaning of Thanksgiving for hundreds of appreciative individuals.

For many seniors, the Norwalk Senior Center is like a second home, and this event, as well as other festive gatherings hosted through the holiday season, provide a great opportunity for our senior community to connect and celebrate with friends and neighbors.



Improving Water Quality and Distribution

With a focus on providing the highest water quality to residents, the City is improving infrastructure by installing new water mains along Alondra Boulevard and Pioneer Boulevard. The project is estimated to be completed by mid January 2020, one month ahead of schedule.



Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive

The Norwalk Transit System is happy to announce the 18th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Holiday Toy Drive scheduled between December 1 to December 30, 2019.

During this period, Norwalk Transit's holiday themed, decorated bus will be traveling on all routes, as well as making visits to local spots, including high schools, middle schools and the City of Norwalk Snow Fest Event. Our goal is to stuff the bus full of toys for local children in need. All toys collected will be donated to the City of Norwalk's Social Services Department's Angel Tree Program for distribution to families in our community.

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

El Sistema de Transito de Norwalk anuncia la anual colecta de juguetes, Stuff-A-Bus. Un autobús decorado con temática navideña viajera por toda la ciudad, tal como lugares locales, con el objetivo de llenar el autobús de juguetes. Todos los juguetes colectados serán distribuidos a familias de nuestra comunidad.



Welcome the New Year with Las Posadas

Saturday, January 4, 2020
6 – 9 p.m.

Norwalk City Hall Lawn, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard

Let's begin the New Year with a traditional cultural celebration that brings the entire community together! The event begins with a candlelit procession at the City Hall Lawn and will feature caroling of holiday songs, light refreshments, cultural activities for children such as piñatas, and special performances by Mariachis and ballet folklorico dancers. For more information, please call the Recreation Department at 562-929-5702.

La comunidad está invitada a las Posadas el 4 de enero en celebracion del año nuevo. El evento se llevara a cabo en el césped de la oficina municipal de 6 a 9 pm e incluirá actuaciones culturales, refrescos ligeros y actividades para los niños.



Recycle Your Christmas Tree

Don't forget to put out your trees for recycling on your trash day! From December 26, 2019 through January 16, 2020, Norwalk residents can have their Christmas trees picked up and recycled. Trees will be reused as compost and landfill cover.

Single-family residential customers:

Christmas trees will be picked up on the same day as your trash collection. Please place trees out by your trash bins the night before your trash collection. A separate truck will collect the trees at a different time than the rest of the trash. If you forget to place your tree by your trash containers 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 placing your tree out:

- Remove decorations (ornaments, tinsel, lights, etc.)
- Remove metal and plastic stands.
- Remove wooden tree stands and dispose as trash.
- Flocked trees are NOT acceptable and are considered 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.

Comenzando el 26 de diciembre del 2019 hasta el 16 de enero del 2020, los residentes de Norwalk podrán tener su árbol navideños reciclados. Simplemente deje su árbol, sin decoraciones y soporte, cerca de la banqueta la noche anterior al día habitual de colección de basura. Los arboles serán colectados por un camión especial. Si se le olvida colocar el árbol en la banqueta, por favor espere hasta la próxima semana tal que el árbol solo será colectado en su día designado de colección de basura.

Holidays at the Hargitt House

Saturday, December 21 • 6 – 8 p.m.
D.D. Johnston Hargitt House Museum
12426 Mapledale St.

Visit our nationally registered landmark, the Hargitt House Museum, for a jolly time filled with holiday entertainment and refreshments! Enjoy touring the beautiful Victorian home, which will be decorated just for this special occasion. For more information, please call the Cultural Arts Center at 562-929-5521.



¡El 21 de diciembre, visite el histórico Museo Hargitt para una celebración navideña! De 6 a 8 p.m., disfrute de música en vivo, actividades, refrescos ligeros y un visitante especial desde el Polo Norte.



COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

A Word from the Experts: Holiday Vacation Tips

The winter holiday season is one of the most popular seasons to travel. Heading out of town to visit relatives, explore the outdoors, or road trips are some ways people enjoy the holiday break. In order to fully enjoy your travels, the Public Safety Department advises residents to follow these security tips:

- **Mail** – Cancel mail and newspaper delivery for the duration of your absence. If you're unable to cancel, have a trusted friend/family member bring in mail daily.
- **Lights** – Use automatic timers on lights; some can even be set to turn lights on/off at random times to make it appear as if you are home. Outside motion detector lights are also beneficial.
- **Doors and Windows** – It is a good idea to have a deadbolt lock on doors that lead into and out of the house. For sliding glass doors and windows, a dowel or steel rod can be placed in the track to help protect against forced entry.
- **Get to Know Your Neighbors** – Establish trust with your neighbors as soon as you move into an area; good neighbors can help keep an eye on your home and report any suspicious activity while you are away.
- **Public Safety Patrol** – The Public Safety Department offers vacation patrols while you are away. Residents can contact Public Safety at 562-929-5732 in order to request these patrols.



Safe Holiday Packages

As you check off names from your holiday gift list, please keep package theft prevention strategies in mind when ordering online. With the increasing volume of home deliveries comes more opportunities for thieves to strike. Here are some tips to consider when making online purchases for home deliveries:

- Use tracking numbers and delivery notifications.
- Ask nearby family or trusted neighbors to accept packages on your behalf.
- Invest in a front door camera system to monitor your packages.
- When possible, request specific delivery times that are suitable to when you will be home.
- Request for packages to be delivered in discreet locations on the property.
- Request signature deliveries as a requirement to avoid packages being left unattended.

Source:
LA City Attorney

Fire Safety During the Winter Holiday

Holiday season decorations are a great way to display the holiday spirit. Follow these safety guidelines to make sure you and your loved ones have a safe holiday.

- Place Christmas trees away from sources of heat. Roughly one in four Christmas tree fires are caused by proximity to heat sources.
- Only use non-flammable decorations.
- Always be sure to inspect lights for frayed wires or defects before use.
- Please do not leave lights on unattended.
- Keep natural tree stands filled with water at all times.
- When the Christmas tree becomes dry, discard it promptly.
- Do not use multiple extension cords strung together and do not run them under carpets or furniture.
- Never leave a space heater on unattended and turn it off when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- More than one third of home decoration fires are started by candles. Monitor candles when lit and extinguish when not in-use.
- Keep decorations away from heat sources.
- Forty-two percent of decoration fires start due to their proximity to a heat source. Inspect electrical outlets and connections before use.
- One of every three home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.

Reducing Crime Promoting Safe and Secure Neighborhoods

The City of Norwalk actively works to create a safe and secure community. Supported by the Public Safety Department and the LA County Sheriff's Department, the City has reduced crime within the last year and more significantly in the last 20 years.

Within the last year, Norwalk has reduced overall crime by 17% and violent crime by 5%. Reflecting on the last 20 years, overall crime is down 34%.

Working with the LA County Sheriff's Department and resources from across the County, the City has increased crime suppression patrols by 35%, resulting in an additional 40 gang related arrests and recovery of nine firearms.

The reduction in crime is a reflection of the City's ongoing efforts to maintain a positive quality of life for its community.

Community Food Drive

Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

YOU can help eliminate hunger in the Norwalk community during the holidays by contributing to Norwalk's Community Food Drive. Deposit your non-perishable and canned food donations in the collection container located at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex by December 21. Donations will be distributed to local families experiencing hardship.

Most Needed Items: Canned meat, canned soup, canned tuna, canned beans, dry cereal,

granola/cereal bars, juices, mac n cheese, instant potatoes, instant noodles, hamburger helper, 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.

Usted puede ayudar a nuestras familias necesitadas esta temporada. Ahora, hasta el 21 de diciembre, el Complejo de Arte y Deportes de Norwalk está aceptando donaciones de alimentos enlatados.

Census Corner

2020 Census: Keeping Information Secure

For decades, the Census form has been completed via phone, by mail or in person. Next year, the U.S. Census Bureau (Bureau) will be introducing a new form of response, online submissions. Regardless of response format, submissions to the 2020 Census are secure. The Bureau has a team of cybersecurity experts who protect the agency technology through strong authentication and authorization methods.

Additionally, Bureau employees take an oath for life to protect respondents information. Any violation is subject to a fine of up to \$250,000 and/or up to five years in prison.

For details, visit 2020census.gov



Las respuestas al Censo 2020 son confidencial. Los empleados del Censo toman un juramento de por vida para proteger la información de los encuestados. Cualquier violación está sujeta a una multa de hasta \$250,000 y/o hasta cinco años de prisión.

Be Rain Ready



To help you stay safe and able to protect your homes during the rain, the City of Norwalk, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Fire Department, offers sandbags and sand for Norwalk residents. These items are free and offered on a first come, first served basis. Bags can be picked up at either fire station in the City; Fire Station 20 is located at 12110 Adoree Street, off of Norwalk Boulevard, and Station 115 is located at 11317 Alondra Boulevard.

Sand is available at self-serve stations located at these City parks:

Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion 12301 Sproul Street	Hermosillo Park 11959 162nd Street
Gerdes Park 14700 Gridley Road	Bob White Park 12120 Hoxie Avenue
Holifield Park 12500 Excelsior Drive	

For more information, please call the Public Services Department at 562-929-5511.

Recreation and Park Services Department

Santa Sleigh

Saturday, December 7
Tree Lighting Ceremony
7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 9 Cresson Elementary School 12144 Harvest Ave. Vista Verde Park 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Monday, December 16 Cesar Chavez Elementary School Mollette St. & Bechard Ave. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 10 Orr Elementary School Studebaker Elementary School Lakeside Middle School 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Tuesday, December 17 Volunteer Ave. & Crewe St. Paddison Elementary School Lakeland Elementary School 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 11 Glazier Elementary School 12641 Kalnor Ave. 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday, December 18 Sanchez Elementary School 15502 Allingham St. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 12 Edmondson Elementary School Gerdes Park Barnwall & Flatbush Ave. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Thursday, December 19 14729 Clarkdale Ave. Silverbow Ave. & Sproul St. Moffitt Elementary School 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Friday, December 13 Spry St. & Curtis and King Rd. US Soccer 5 6:00 p.m.	Friday, December 20 Cheshire St. & Belshire Ave. 11243 Lakeland Rd. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 14 New River Elementary School Morrison Elementary School 12122 Kenney St. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Saturday, December 21 14314 Crossdale Ave. 5:00 p.m.

Photos with Santa \$2.00

CITY OF NORWALK
A Connected Community

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

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

Give the Gift of Life

The Norwalk community is invited to participate in the annual American Red Cross Blood Drive at Norwalk City Hall to help ensure an adequate supply of blood for individuals facing serious illnesses or unforeseen emergencies. The drive will take place on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 from 12 to 6 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room.

Donors may schedule their appointments online at www.redcrossblood.org using the sponsor code: CityofNorwalk.

Norwalk City Hall is located at 12700 Norwalk Boulevard. For more information, please call 562-929-5720.



2020 Holiday Street Sweeping and Trash Collection Schedule

When trash is not picked up on a holiday, service is delayed one day for the remainder of that week. If a holiday occurs on Monday, trash pick up is a day later for the entire week.

Observed Holidays	Date	Will trash be picked up?
New Year's Day	Wed., Jan. 1	No
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Mon., Jan. 20	Yes
President's Day	Mon., Feb. 17	Yes
Memorial Day	Mon., May 25	No
Independence Day	Sat., July 4	No
Labor Day	Mon., Sept. 7	No
Veterans Day	Wed. Nov. 11	Yes
Thanksgiving Day	Thur., Nov. 26	No
Day after Thanksgiving	Fri., Nov. 27	Yes
Christmas Day	Fri., Dec. 25	No

Important
On a few of the holidays, the schedule causes trash collection to be on the same day as street sweeping. Trash barrels must be placed up on the parkway for street sweeping to occur.

Street Sweeping
On holidays noted above, there will be no street sweeping.

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

For more information call 562-929-5964 or email recycling@norwalkca.gov

Holiday Schedule & Enforcement for Trash & Street Sweeping

The Public Safety Department will suspend parking citations for street sweeping from December 23, 2019 – January 3, 2020. Enforcement will resume January 6, 2020.

Observed Holidays	City Hall Closed	Sweeping	Trash
Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25	No	No
New Year's Day	Wednesday, 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, Wednesday's trash will be collected on Thursday.

Questions?

Trash Collection
Street Sweeping
Parking Enforcement

Athens Services
Public Services Department
Public Safety Department

888-336-6100
562-929-5511
562-929-5732

El barrido de calles y recolección de basura no se llevará a cabo en Navidad o en el día de Año Nuevo. La recolección de basura se retrasará un día a partir del miércoles 25 de diciembre y el miércoles 1 de enero por el resto de estas semanas. La aplicación de estacionamiento será suspendido del 23 de diciembre del 2019 hasta el 3 de enero del 2020.

Photo Highlights: November 2019 City Council Meetings

