

# NorwalkNow

norwalk.org The official community publication of Norwalk, California February 2020, Volume 41, #2



## City Council Supports Veterans, Approves Affordable-Veteran Housing Development

*The City of Norwalk has taken a step forward in its commitment to veterans and affordable housing by approving construction of a 60-unit residential development on the southwest corner of San Antonio Drive and Foster Road during the January 21 Council Meeting.*

The proposed four-story development will feature one, two and three bedroom units for income-qualified veterans, veterans and their families, and veterans who have experienced homelessness. Proposed onsite amenities include a laundry facility, community room, over 16,300 square feet of open space, barbecue/patio and children play areas, and 108 parking spaces. Other features include onsite property management and supportive services, such as counseling and training.

The proposed development is reflective of the community's vision. Mercy Housing, the project developer, conducted comprehensive public outreach, including community meetings and tours of existing projects.

Mercy Housing is a national nonprofit that has extensive experiencing developing affordable housing units.

For more information, contact Community Development at 562-929-5744.



## 2020 State of the City

The community is invited to learn about Norwalk's upcoming goals during the State of the City Address on Friday, February 28. The annual event, held at the DoubleTree Hotel located at 13111 Sycamore Drive, provides a recap of the past year's accomplishments and updates on upcoming projects and potential challenges and includes informative presentations by the Sheriff's Department and Norwalk Chamber of Commerce. The event, hosted by the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council, also serves as a fundraiser with proceeds distributed to local support organizations, with Kingdom Causes and Su Casa as this year's beneficiaries.

Doors open at 11 a.m. with event scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$49 and will be sold through February 22, with no tickets sold at the door.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities or to make a donation, please contact 562-400-8188 or bluecamino85@yahoo.com



## Notice of Nominees for Public Office

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following persons have been nominated for the offices designated to be filled at the General Municipal Election to be held in the City of Norwalk on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

For Member of the City Council  
Vote for no more than three

**Rick Ramirez**

**Margarita Rios**

**Harvey Cardenas**

**Richard LeGaspi**

**Ana Valencia**

**Luigi Vernola**

*Se da aviso que las siguientes personas han sido nominadas para los cargos designados para ser ocupados en la Elección Municipal General en la Ciudad de Norwalk el martes 3 de marzo de 2020. Los votantes registrados podrán votar por no más de tres nominados.*

## Norwalk Essential Services & Public Safety Measure

**MEASURE P** The Norwalk Essential Services and Public Safety Measure – is a three-quarter-cent local sales tax that, if passed by Norwalk voters, would generate approximately \$7 million annually to support essential City-services and community programs. The increase in sales tax rate from the current 9.5% to 10.25% would also prevent cuts to the services residents and businesses rely on every day.

If passed, Measure P will help ensure Norwalk remains a desirable place to live and raise a family – as the funds generated from this measure will support a variety of youth programs. These programs include afterschool and summer programs used by thousands of Norwalk children, as well as neighborhood school sheriff patrols and anti-bullying programs for at-risk youth. Programs like such keep our community's kids off the streets, safe, and away from gangs and out of trouble.

Moreover, all the revenue generated by

Measure P would stay local, and cannot be taken by Los Angeles County, Sacramento or Washington, D.C. This will ensure funds are used only to benefit City-services and neighborhood programs, keeping Norwalk's streets, parks, and schools safe and clean for further enjoyment and increased quality of life.

The City Council's number one priority is to ensure Norwalk's future is strong for generations to come.

The City of Norwalk will continue engaging and educating all community members about Measure P and the impacts on City services and programs if voters approve the measure.

For additional information on Measure P and the March 3, 2020 election, please visit <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/measure-p> or call 562-929-5735.

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



City of Norwalk  
12700 Norwalk Blvd.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 1139  
Whittier, CA

To Postal Patron



# Improving our Community's Infrastructure

## Brighter Lights throughout Norwalk

The LED Street Light Project is progressing quickly and expected to be completed this month. As of today, the City's contractor, Siemens has installed 2,203 LED street light fixtures, representing 55% project completion. Siemens is currently working in the southern area of the City.

The project involves the install of 3,800 LED fixtures in streetlights throughout our community. The new LED streetlights will provide more illumination and promote safer streets. For additional information, please contact Public Services at 562-929-5511.

## Improved Water Quality & Distribution

The new water main pipeline project along Alondra Boulevard and Pioneer Boulevard has been completed one month ahead of schedule. The project included the installation of 2,675 feet of new 12 inch pipeline, which connected the City's municipal water system to the west and south service areas, improving the reliability of the system and residual pressures.

## Signal Improvements Coming Soon

As part of our efforts to modernize our intersections and improve safety and traffic flow, the City is embarking on several signal improvement projects. Up first is the Studebaker Traffic Signal Improvement Project, which will include the installation of new pedestrian countdown signals and ADA compliant curbs, as well as updating signal timing coordination along Studebaker Road between Rosecrans Avenue to Alondra Boulevard. The project is expected to begin in March. Following will be signal improvements on Rosecrans Avenue from Studebaker Road to Carmenita Road and San Antonio Drive/Norwalk Boulevard between Rosecrans Avenue to Civic Center Drive. These two projects are anticipated to begin Spring 2020.



## Metrolink Station Additional Parking Coming Soon!

As part of the commuter parking expansion project, the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station is currently undergoing construction of an auxiliary parking lot to add additional parking spaces,

Currently, the Metrolink Station Park and Ride lots consist of 239 parking spaces in the City of Norwalk (west side) and 343 parking spaces in the City of Santa Fe Springs (east side) and continues to be at maximum capacity. The expansion lot will include approximately



122 additional commuter parking spaces. The additional parking spaces will help alleviate growing need for commuter parking.

The expansion lot is located on the Santa Fe Springs side of the station, adjacent to the existing parking lot. It is anticipated that the construction of the Metrolink Station auxiliary lot will be completed March 2020.

For more information, please contact Norwalk Transit Customer Service at 562-929-5550.

## A New Way of Voting

Registered voters across LA County will have a new voting experience for the March 3 election. Rather than casting ballots at assigned neighborhood polling centers, registered voters may now cast their ballot at any Vote Center throughout the County. Moreover, voting will be available for an extended period of up to 11 days prior to election and March 3 at certain locations. Vote centers operating hours: Mon-Sun, 8am-5pm from Feb 22-March 2 and 7am-8pm on March 3.

### Below are the Vote Centers located in Norwalk:

Voting Period	Vote Center	Address
11-Day	Norwalk Masonic Center	12345 Rosecrans Ave
11-Day	Sanatan Dharma Temple	15311 Pioneer Blvd
11-Day	Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex	13000 Clarkdale Ave
11-Day	Norwalk Social Services Center	11929 Alondra Blvd
11-Day	Norwalk Senior Center	14040 San Antonio Dr
11-Day	Sara Mendez Park	11660 Dune St
11-Day	Hermosillo Park	11959 162nd St
11-Day	Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder / County Clerk	12400 Imperial Hwy
4-Day	Norwalk Presbyterian Church	11345 Rosecrans Ave
4-Day	American Legion Post 359	11986 Front St
4-Day	Cerritos College	11110 Alondra Blvd
4-Day	Studebaker Elementary	11800 Halcourt Ave
4-Day	Paddison Elementary School	12100 Crewe St

For more information, including other changes to your voting experience, please visit [vsap.lavote.net](http://vsap.lavote.net)

*Los votantes registrados tendrán una nueva experiencia de votación para las elecciones del 3 de marzo. En lugar de emitir boletas en los centros de votación asignados, los votantes ahora pueden emitir su boleta en cualquier centro de votación en todo el condado. Además, la votación estará disponible por un período prolongado de hasta 11 días antes de la elección y el 3 de marzo en ciertos lugares.*

## Keepin' it Local: New Eats at the Norwalk Plaza

Good news for those looking for new places to dine in Norwalk. There are a couple of new additions to the Norwalk Plaza, located on the corner of Firestone and Pioneer.

Stinkin' Crawfish is now open! The eatery offers diners an extensive menu of tempting fish, shrimp, and starter items. Order a signature plate or pick your preferred catch, flavor ranging from stinking special, garlic butter and lemon pepper, and spice level. A variety of appetizer happy hour specials are offered throughout the week as well as beer selections.

If you're looking for something a little lighter, stop by Culantro & Basil Pho Bistro. The restaurant offers a variety of pho and stir fry plates, rolls, Vietnamese chicken wings and garlic fries. Enjoy a Thai ice tea or Vietnamese coffee with your meal or as a pick me up in the afternoon.

Visit these new restaurants and discover your favorite lunch spots!







# COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

## Join Wildlife Watch, Attend Our Training

Public Safety is partnering with the California Department Fish and Wildlife to launch the City's first Wildlife Watch group aimed at mitigating coyote encounters/issues. To join Wildlife Watch, Norwalk residents must complete an 11-hour training program to become knowledgeable about urban wildlife and managing wildlife issues in the community.

Following completion of the program, the trainee will be certified as a Wildlife Watch Conservation Coach who will be asked to assist the City in educating residents about:

- Coyote behavior and activity
- Identifying & removing coyote attractants
- Proper reporting procedures
- Assist with proper coyote hazing



Each Conservation Coach must be willing to commit 3-5 hours each month to the Wildlife Watch program and meet outlined expectations. (Hours can be completed in your own neighborhood)

This **free 11-hour training** will take place over the course of 3 days: **Monday, Feb. 24, 6-9pm, Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6-9pm** and **Saturday, Feb. 29, 8am-1pm** at City facilities. Please feel free to join us at an informational meeting prior to the training, on Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Hargitt Room at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, located at 13000 Clarkdale Ave, to learn more about the program.

For more information or to sign-up for the free information meeting/3-day training, please contact Amanda Moreno at [amoreno@norwalkca.gov](mailto:amoreno@norwalkca.gov) or 562-929-5732.

## ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A CRIME!

Illegal dumping damages neighborhoods, threatens the environment and is against the law. California Penal Code 374.3 makes illegal dumping on private and public property punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000, and/or up to six months in jail. If you witness illegal dumping in progress, report it by calling the Public Safety Department at 562-929-5732. When reporting illegal dumping, obtain as much detail as possible (date, location, time, vehicle color / make / suspect clothing details).

Residents can also contact Athens Services at 855-577-1007 to request removal of ANY illegally dumped items in the City, even if dumped by someone else. Single-family homes may pre-arrange collection of up to

FIVE bulky items once a week at no additional charge by calling Athens Services.

The City of Norwalk also requests that you be a courteous neighbor when disposing of landscape debris. Lawn clippings and leaves blown into the street can cause stormwater pollution. It is a violation of the Norwalk Municipal Code 18.04.070 to sweep or blow grass clippings, leaves, and other debris into the street and gutters.

*¡El vertedero ilegal, o abandono de basura en áreas públicas, es un crimen! Ayude proteger la salud pública y mantenga nuestros vecindarios limpios y atractivos solicitando servicios de colección de artículos voluminosos. Los residentes de casas unifamiliares pueden programar la colección de hasta CINCO artículos una vez por semana sin cargo adicional llamando a Athens Services.*

## Family Intervention Academy

The teenage years can be difficult for both teens and parents. This is a time of rapid growth for young people and they may end up feeling disoriented or lost, while parents may find themselves at a loss for how to connect with their children.

The Public Safety Department offers a Family Intervention Academy aimed at providing parents and teens (ages 13-18) with resources to better communicate and deal with social and academic concerns. Parent and teens will meet with their respective peers in a safe and supportive environment. Teens will learn

decision making skills, how to set realistic goals, steps to achieve academic success and the importance of staying away from drugs and alcohol. In turn, parents will learn how to decrease arguing, increase trust and positive communication and resources available to help the entire family.

The next session takes place from February 3 to April 20. Classes for both the Youth Empowerment Group and Parent Education Program are held on Mondays from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex.

For more details, please call 562-929-5765.

## You Can Make Norwalk Safer

As part of our ongoing crime prevention measures, the City asks for your commitment to get involved in your Neighborhood Watch (NW) program. This year-round program brings neighbors, and law enforcement together to address existing issues, and help ensure a safer neighborhood.

Join us for the next neighborhood watch summit, where you'll meet Public Safety and LASD personnel, provide input on the NW program, and learn crime prevention tips. Light dinner will be provided.

**Thursday, February 13 at 6 p.m.**  
**Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex**  
**13000 Clarkdale Avenue (Sproul Room)**

To RSVP, contact Norma Cruz at 562-929-5963 or [ncruz@norwalkca.gov](mailto:ncruz@norwalkca.gov)



## Join the Junior Park Rangers!



The Junior Park Ranger (JPR) Program is a free community outreach program for children ages 7 to 12. JPR is focused on providing children with life skills and values that will allow them to be successful at home, in the classroom and in the community. The goal is to educate youth on the importance of teamwork, responsibility, decision-making and effective communication skills, while making them aware of social issues such as peer pressure, cyberbullying, gangs and illegal drugs. JPR incorporates fun outdoor games, arts and crafts activities and excursions. JPR is offered twice a year as a winter and summer session.

The Winter session runs from February 29 through March 28. Meetings will take place every Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Norwalk Park, located at 13000 Clarkdale Avenue.

For more information, please call the Department of Public Safety Community Safety Partnership Team at 562 929-5686.



# Senior Center Activities

14040 San Antonio Dr.  
562-929-5580

## HICAP

Wednesday, February 5 and February 19  
10 a.m. to 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.

## Bereavement Support Group

Meets every Friday • 10 – 11 a.m.

The Bereavement Support Group offers support to participants who have gone through a loss of a spouse, family member or friend and want to share their experience in a safe environment. The group is led by a trained mental health professional from Telecare Corporation in Norwalk.

## Home Medication Safety Seminar

Tuesday, February 11 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Properly managing medications can be difficult for seniors, especially those who take multiple medications a day. This seminar will teach seniors the best way to manage and store their medication and when to speak with a physician about their medications.

Sponsored by: Independence at Home

## Mardi Gras-Themed Candlelight Dinner

Tuesday, February 11 • 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$7 (before Saturday, February 8)  
\$8.50 (after Saturday, February 8)

Enjoy a hot and hearty meal and connect with friends and family. Meal service will consist of spaghetti and Italian sausage, salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. Doors open at 5 p.m. and meal service ends at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded. Purchase tickets in advance as tickets will not be sold at the door.

## Paint Palate

Wednesday, February 12 • 6-8 p.m. • Cost: \$10

Take a break away from your typical night and release your stress with the stroke of your brush. Come alone, bring a family member or a friend and reconnect face to face, as you enjoy an evening of painting. Our instructor will have a predetermined painting that all levels of painters can follow. You don't have to be artistic to be creative! Light refreshments and snacks will be served.

## Manage High Blood Pressure Seminar

Thursday, February 13 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Understanding high blood pressure and its causes can actually help improve your health and well-being. By learning more, seniors can take steps to reduce their blood pressure, and learn strategies to keep their blood pressure at a normal level.

Sponsored by: Regal Medical Group.

## The 2020 Census is Close!

We want to remind you that everyone counts, and it's essential that you participate as there is so much at stake for our community.

**It's about \$675 billion.**

The distribution of federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and cities is based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

**It's about fair representation.**

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

**It's about redistricting.**

After each census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for changes in population.

**Census data are being used all around you.**

Businesses use census data to decide where to build offices and stores, which create jobs and real estate developers use data to build new homes and revitalize properties. For more information visit: [Census.gov](http://Census.gov)

*¡El Censo 2020 está cerca! Queremos recordarle que todos cuentan y es esencial que participe ya que hay mucho en juego para nuestra comunidad, incluyendo la distribución de fondos federales para obras públicas y programas vitales, y la representación a nivel estatal en la Cámara de Representantes.*

Census Corner

## Let's Celebrate the Arts!

The community is invited to join us for Artastic on Friday, March 20. The FREE special event highlights the Cultural Arts Center and the diverse programs offered to the community. The event is for the entire family and will feature art exhibits, live entertainment, food trucks, painting demonstrations, and much more!

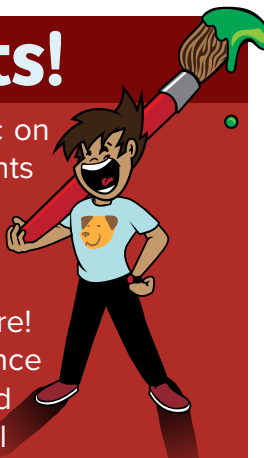
As part of Artastic, we are pleased to announce our 11th annual Community Art Competition and Scholarship Program. The program is open to all middle and high school students who reside in the City or attend a school in Norwalk or the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District.

Applications are available at [norwalk.org](http://norwalk.org) and at City facilities. A total of \$500 in scholarships will be awarded to top artists.

Friday, March 20 • 6-9 p.m.

Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue

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



## Free Waste Collection Event at City Hall

Norwalk residents may dispose of unwanted items, including electronics and expired medications, at our Waste Collection event on Saturday, February 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Hall parking lot located at 12700 Norwalk Blvd (please enter via Ave Manuel Salinas).

Electronics, or e-waste, may contain lead, copper, and other heavy metals or potentially toxic substances and should never be placed in trash carts or dumped out in the street or alley. E-Waste accepted includes tv's, computer monitors, printers and cell phones. Likewise, prescription medications should not be dumped down drains as they may contaminate our water systems.

Residents may also bring up to five boxes/bags of documents for secure shredding on site.

The event is first come, first served and may end earlier if trucks are at capacity. Questions? Please call 562-929-5964 or email [recycling@norwalkca.gov](mailto:recycling@norwalkca.gov)



The Little Lake Educational Advancement Foundation (LLEAF) is participating in

**amazon smile**

When consumers shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to LLEAF. Consumers can use the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3545059> to create or log into their Amazon account and LLEAF will automatically be designated as the charity of choice.

The mission of LLEAF is to enrich and support the educational programs of the Little Lake City School District through community fundraising, active involvement, and awareness of the district's and students' needs.



## Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule

In observance of Presidents' Day on February 17, street sweeping will not take place. Sweeping will not be made up as streets can only be swept on the posted day. Trash collection will occur as scheduled.

For questions about trash, contact Athens Services at 888-336-6100. For street sweeping questions, call Public Services at 562-929-5511, with parking enforcement inquiries for Public Safety at 562-929-5732.

## Norwalk Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, February 22 • 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sproul Room at the NASC

13000 Clarkdale Avenue

Enjoy breakfast and opportunity drawings while you support local efforts to help make a difference in our community. Tickets are \$5 and include pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee and milk/orange juice. Funds raised will support eye care services, scholarships and other programs.

For info, please call 562-508-0075 or 562-356-7918.





# Photo Highlights: January 2020 City Council Meeting

