

NorwalkNow

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50th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast



The Norwalk community came together to share in an inspiring message early on February 12 at the 50th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. The event's theme was "Love is the Bridge Towards Healing; Lead the Path."

The event's Master of Ceremonies was Sheriff Captain James Tatreau, which reflected the strong presence of law enforcement, and was poignantly showcased with one officer sitting at each student table to establish positive, meaningful connections.

The testimonial speaker, Ruby Gomez, shared how she overcame years of abuse, homelessness and drug addiction with the support of caring individuals. She shared she was able to turn her life around due to teachers, mentors and employers she met in Norwalk. Ruby is now a Corpsmember with the California Conservation Corps. In the future, she plans to study Criminal Justice.

Next up at the podium to share her experience was Sheriff Deputy Lori Kammer. Deputy Kammer has been serving the Los Angeles County Sheriff's since November 2001, and based out of the Norwalk Station since January 2008. In late September 2017,

Lori's life changed when she was shot during the tragic Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas. Her severe injuries required two surgeries and kept her out of work for over one year.

In her candid discourse, Lori credited her husband and five strangers, who saved her life by getting her to a hospital. Following the incident, Lori spent two weeks in the hospital and described how the Las Vegas community rallied around the victims, providing food, clothing and toiletries for families, as well as support letters from local elementary students. Ultimately, Lori stated that so much good came out of the tragedy and she remains committed to focusing on the positive. More importantly, she doesn't take any day for granted, and faith and belief in community has made her stronger and helped her on her path to healing.

Many thanks to the following sponsors:

Gold Level:

- Global Pacific Imperial LLC
- POPA Federal Credit Union
- Athens Services
- Nationwide Environmental Services

New Deputy City Manager



The City of Norwalk is proud to welcome Richard Rojas to our community. Richard Rojas assumed duties as our Deputy City Manager, and arrives with a wealth of experience in the public sector, having worked in Pico Rivera, Compton, Carson, San Luis Obispo and Henderson, NV. Richard was born in Long Beach and grew up in Santa Barbara County.

Throughout his career in local government, Richard has been active in, and held leadership roles with organizations that support and further the role of local government employees including the American Planning Association and Urban Land Institute.

Richard earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Barbara and Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He is known for problem solving and innovative thinking, and his dedication to solving community issues.

Keepin' it Local: Popeye's

Construction is progressing nicely on the multi-tenant commercial building next to IHOP on Norwalk Boulevard, south of Imperial Highway. This development reflects the City's ongoing commitment to provide the community with diverse dining options and continues our drumbeat of success over the past year. One of the confirmed businesses that residents and visitors will be able to enjoy will be Popeye's.



La construcción avanza muy bien en el centro comercial al lado de IHOP en Norwalk Boulevard, al sur de Imperial Highway. Este desarrollo refleja el compromiso continuo de la Ciudad de proporcionar a la comunidad diversas opciones y continúa nuestro ritmo de éxito durante el año pasado. Uno de los restaurantes confirmados que los residentes y visitantes podrán visitar será Popeye's.

A New Way of Voting

Remember to make your voice heard! Below are the Vote Centers located in Norwalk. Vote Centers operating hours are: Mon-Sun, 8am-5pm from Feb 22-March 2 and 7am-8pm on March 3.

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 162 nd 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

Usted puede votar en 13 Centros de Votación en Norwalk; refiera a la lista prevista.

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

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Infrastructure Projects: Gerdes Park Rehabilitation & LED Street Lights



other scheduled park activities will be allowed as much as possible. On-street parking in the surrounding neighborhood may experience increased demand from both residents and park patrons. Notification letters were sent to residents to advise of project.

Residents with questions may call the Engineering Department at 562-929-5723.

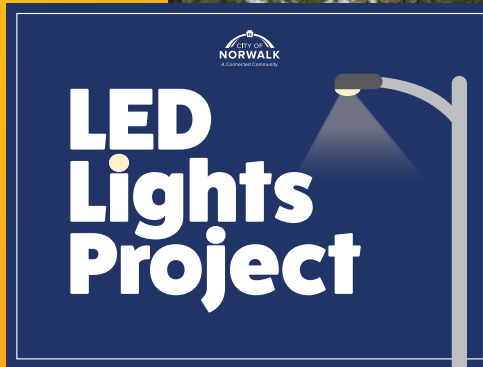
LED Street Lights Project

As of late February, the LED Street Light Project is 92% completed with 3,600 fixtures out of more than 3,800 having been replaced.

The remainder of the fixtures are decorative fixtures and should be completed within a few weeks.

Overall, the Public Services Department has received positive feedback from the community with residents appreciating the brighter illumination throughout the City.

Residents with any concerns may call the Public Services Department at 562-929-5511.



As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance our parks for the enjoyment of Norwalk families, the City of Norwalk has begun the Gerdes Park Rehabilitation Project. The City contracted with PaveWest, Inc. for the project which will include pavement repairs, slurry seal coating, and sidewalk and curb ramp accessibility improvements. Construction is expected to begin the end of February and be completed by the end of April 2020.

Gerdes Park will remain open, but certain areas will be closed off during the construction. Access for Little League and

Celebrate the Arts with Artastic



Friday, March 20 • 6 – 9 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center
13200 Clarkdale Ave

Don't miss the award-winning ARTASTIC, which brings the community together to celebrate the arts, on Friday, March 20. The free event highlights the Cultural Arts Center's programs and classes and will include multiple art

exhibits, live entertainment, book fair, community art competition, fundraising dinner, and much more! For details, please call 562-929-5521.

New Playground to Arrive at Holifield Park

Children in Norwalk will be able to play on a new, modern playground at Holifield Park. The City of Norwalk is a recipient of a \$300,000 grant from the office of LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn for the Holifield Park Project. Currently, Holifield Park has two playgrounds - one was installed in 1996 and is suitable for children ages 6-12, and the other for children ages 3-5 and installed in 2007.

We thank Supervisor Hahn for her partnership in our efforts to ensure that children of all ages and abilities have a safe and accessible playground.



Los niños en Norwalk podrán jugar en un parque infantil nuevo y moderno en el Parque Holifield, debido a una subvención de \$ 300,000 de la oficina de la Supervisadora del Condado de Los Ángeles Janice Hahn.

Baseball Fields on the Horizon

Warmer weather signals the beginning of Spring, and with that baseball season in Norwalk! Our Public Services and Parks Services staff have been diligently at work for weeks preparing our baseball fields and detailing park grounds in advance of beginning of Little League season. Some of the work completed included irrigation work and leveling of fields.



Meritorious Coach Operator Honored



Every year, the Transit Department recognizes operators for exemplary work behavior and having met strict performance criteria as part of the Distinguished Coach Operator of the Year program.

Jose Moran, the 2019 Distinguished Coach Operator, was recognized at the February 4th City Council meeting. Jose joined Norwalk Transit in 2016 as an On-Call Coach Operator and quickly distinguished himself for his commitment to delivering excellent service. Jose has received several Coach Operator of the Quarter honors, as of the year he was hired and designated as a Distinguished Coach Operator of the Year in 2018. Jose is passionate about working with the community and has assisted at special events, including Career Day at Edmondson Elementary.

Congratulations to our 2019 Distinguished Coach Operator, Jose Moran!

Recreation's Reputation of Excellence

The City of Norwalk's Recreation and Park Services Department was recently notified by the California Parks & Recreation Society they had

been chosen as a recipient of a 2019 Award of Excellence. The accolade was recognition for a Teen Center video production entitled "The WE HAVE Project." Produced by part-time recreation staff, James Pedroza and



Alfredo Sandoval, the 12-minute video discusses bullying, suicide, peer-pressure and sexual identity. To view the video, visit <https://bit.ly/2K2AOH8>.

In addition to the Award of Excellence, the CPRS District 10 recognized Norwalk with the "Parks Make Life Better Award" and "Most Valuable Part-Time Player Award" for its exemplary employee, Ervy Rodriguez.



COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

Hazard Mitigation Plan Crucial to Protecting Community

Norwalk received a \$75,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to create and develop a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). This plan will assess Norwalk's risks and vulnerabilities to various local hazards, and identify and prioritize mitigation projects that address them.

Besides helping to protect Norwalk residents, a LHMP will make the City eligible for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that can be used to further improve safety and preparedness in the community. Having an adopted LHMP can also make Norwalk eligible to receive more financial assistance from the State when disasters do occur.

Staff will be conducting community outreach and holding stakeholder meetings to receive public input that will help them identify hazards, prioritize plans, and offer solutions. For more information, please contact Eric Wosick at ewosick@norwalkca.gov or 562-929-5732.

Empowering Residents and Neighborhoods for Emergencies

Public Safety will be hosting its semi-annual Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training on three consecutive Saturdays in April – April, 11, 18, and 25. This 21-hour course will teach residents skills, including disaster medical aid, basic fire suppression, light search and rescue, and team organization skills, crucial for adequately dealing with emergency situations. The goal of CERT is to prepare residents to respond to the needs of their families, neighbors, and communities in the event of a disaster. Upon completion of the training, graduates of the 3-day CERT course will be provided with basic disaster management equipment and issued a FEMA certificate identifying them as community leaders for emergency response. The course is free and is open to all ages and ability levels. Join us to learn life-safety skills and help us make Norwalk a more resilient and prepared community! For more information, or to sign-up for the training, please contact Eric Wosick at ewosick@norwalkca.gov or 562- 929-5732.



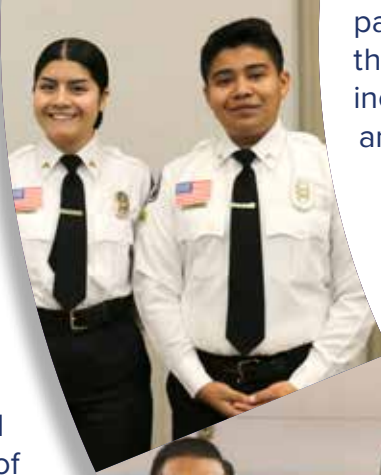
Crime Rates at an All-Time Low

Overall, the 2019 crime rate in Norwalk, La Mirada and unincorporated Whittier saw a 15.7% drop, with the crime rate in Norwalk decreasing 16.24% compared to 2018. Crime is at an all-time low in the last 35 years.

We thank our dedicated law enforcement for their proactive efforts to enhance public safety in our neighborhoods. The combination of effective crime problem solving, cooperative partnerships, and ongoing communication with the community has yielded positive results, including a real and perceived sense of safety and security among the citizens in Norwalk.



El Alguacil de Condado de Los Angeles anuncio las tasas del crimen del año 2019, y la tasa de crimen en Norwalk disminuyó 16.24 por ciento en comparación con 2018. El crimen está en su punto más bajo en 35 años.



Help Address Wildlife Concerns in our Community



In an effort to educate the community, 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. 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) For more information please contact Amanda Moreno at amoreno@norwalkca.gov or 562-929-5732.

Preventing Home Burglaries

Follow these tips to ensure the safety of you and your loved ones.

- Leave ample exterior/interior lights on or use timers.
- Ensure all windows are covered by blinds or shades.
- Lock all doors and windows securely and disable automatic garage doors.
- Do not announce your absence on voicemail, email, or social media.
- Be sure to use home alarm systems, even when at home.
- Record details of valuables and don't keep large amounts of money at home.

Source: LASD



Senior Safety Awareness Seminar: "Scams Against Seniors"

Tuesday, March 10 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Norwalk Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Dr. • 562-929-5580



It seems so many scams taking place these days are targeting seniors. How do you know when it is a scam? How can you tell if it is a trusted and reliable business or agency? What questions should you ask to determine if it is a legitimate business or agency? These are important questions that will be addressed in this informative seminar sponsored by the Norwalk Public Safety Department.



Senior Center Events

14040 San Antonio Dr. • 562-929-5580

March Candlelight Dinner

Theme: **Over the Rainbow**

Tuesday, March 10 • 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Cost: **\$7.00 (before Saturday, March 7)**

\$8.50 (after Saturday, March 7)

Stop by and enjoy a hot and hearty meal and share an evening of warmth with friends and family. Meal service will consist of pot roast, vegetables, mashed potatoes with gravy, salad, dessert and beverage. Doors open at 5 p.m. and meal service ends at 6 p.m. Prizes awarded. The meal is dine-in only. Tickets will not be sold on the day of the dinner.

FREE Blood Pressure Screening

Thursday, March 12 • 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Regal Medical Group will be providing this monthly blood pressure screening to seniors free of charge. Blood pressure is taken by licensed/certified medical staff with the results discussed with senior.

St. Patrick's Mixer

Thursday, March 12 • 6 – 8 p.m.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of music and dancing with family and friends. Attendees will receive a special treat. Cost is \$3 per person. Registration is currently being taken.

Taller sobre "Mantenimiento de Su Salud"

Martes, Marzo 17 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Alguna vez se a preguntado que pasos debe tomar para mejorar su salud y mantenerse saludable. Un miembro de SCAN Health, estara presente para hablar sobre este tema importante que es vital para mantener una buena calidad de vida.

Patrocinado por: SCAN Health

Census 2020 Approaches

In mid-March, homes across the country will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. While a majority of residents will answer online, there are other reporting options for individuals with disabilities.

Census Timeline:

Mid-March: Invitation postcards to the 2020 Census mailed.

Mid-March-early April: Reminder letters & postcards mailed

April 1: CENSUS DAY

Mid-April: Second reminder and hard copy of Census mailed.

May-July: Census takers will visit homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

Let's ensure a complete and accurate count so our community gets a fair share of resources for critical services. For more info, please visit 2020census.gov.

Bring the Family to Egg-Stravagant Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11 • 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Norwalk Civic Center Lawn • 12700 Norwalk Blvd

Norwalk families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of fun, egg hunts, games and entertainment on Saturday, April 11. Don't forget to take a memorable photo with the Easter Bunny for only \$3. Arrive early so your child does not miss their designated egg hunt time.

Egg Hunt Schedule:

1½-3 yrs - Tiny Tots 12:30 p.m. 6-8 yrs - Egg Heads 1:30 p.m.

4-5 yrs - Funny Bunnies 1 p.m. 8-10 yrs - Wacky Wabbits 2 p.m.

Egg-Normous Egg Hunt

Week of April 5

Get ready for our Egg-Normous Egg Hunt! During the week of April 5, residents can search the City looking for hidden gigantic eggs, which can be redeemed for great prizes at the Egg-stravagant Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11. If you find an egg, take a pic and post to social media using the #ShowYourNorwalk!

Rules:

- Must be Norwalk residents. (ID required).
- Only one egg per family/household
- Must be redeemed April 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Norwalk Civic Center Lawn.
- City employees and their family members may not participate.

For more information on both events, please call 562-929-5702.

Environmental Awareness Scholarships Available

Attention high school seniors! The City of Norwalk, in partnership with Athens Services, will be awarding five \$1,000 scholarships to students involved in the community and interested in environmental issues. To qualify, applicant must be a senior from a public or private high school, reside in Norwalk, have a minimum 2.0 GPA and demonstrate community service.

Applications are available on norwalk.org/residents/community-resources/environmental-and-recycling-services and must be submitted via email or in person at City Hall by 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 2.



Inspiring a Love of Reading



Little Free Libraries are coming to Norwalk! City Council approved Keith Aguilar's Little Free Libraries Project at the February 18th meeting. Keith, a Boy Scout with Troop No. 438, contacted the City in May 2019 proposing to donate and install three Little Free Libraries. He is working to achieve the coveted Eagle Scout rank, the highest level in all of Scouting, and selected the City of Norwalk as a recipient of his project.

A different design will be painted on each little library by local artists selected by the City with proposed locations the Cultural Arts Center, Hermosillo Park, and Holifield Park. Currently, there is one existing Little Free Library in Norwalk that was donated to Sanchez Elementary School by Chick-fil-A.

The Little Free Libraries program was created in 2009 to inspire reading and make books more available to the public through book sharing. The Little Free Library organization indicates that there are over 90,000 Little Free Libraries world-wide. The small libraries, located in front yards or public spaces, bring people together through a shared love of books and create communities of readers.

For more information, please contact 562-929-5720.

Rain Barrel Distribution

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

Why purchase a rain barrel? They are easy to install and have several benefits! Rain barrels help conserve our resources by collecting water that would otherwise be lost to runoff. We protect our oceans from pollution and can reuse the water collected to irrigate yards and gardens

Rain barrels can be purchased for the discounted rate of \$20, two max per household, and picked up day of event. 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 in advance to ensure availability. Click the "Events" tab and select "City of Norwalk".

Please note that residents who have previously purchased two barrels at the discounted rate at a Distribution event or received a rebate from SoCalWaterSmart will not be eligible to participate.

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

Photo Highlights: February 2020 City Council Meetings

