

Norwalk *Online* Now

The official community publication of Norwalk, California



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City's Annual State of the City Address Slated for February 20

In 2014, Norwalk's "2020 Vision" began with a clear focus on people, programs, business and technology.

City Manager Mike Egan joins the Mayor, members of City Council, and the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council for the 2015 State of the City Address on Friday, February 20 at 11:30 a.m. at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel, 13111 Sycamore Drive. Tickets are \$45 and must be purchased by February 16. Doors open at 11 a.m. for silent auction item preview.



Proceeds from the event will help upgrade Norwalk seniors' nutrition program, benefit the City's Food Pantry, and provide Kindle e-readers for Norwalk libraries. Last year, the NCCC donated \$7,500 to help Norwalk families and children through funding of new medical supplies for the Wesley Health Center dental clinic, as well as replenishing Norwalk's Food Pantry.

For tickets, or to make a donation, contact Gordon Stefenhagen at (562) 400-8188, email ncc@usa.com or pay online at www.ncconline.us. Make checks payable to NCCC, Post Office Box 521, Norwalk, CA 90651-0521.



CNG Gas Station is Finished

Construction has been completed on Norwalk Transit's new Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) station, which has the capacity to provide the City's fleet of 14 CNG vehicles with a cleaner, more environmentally friendly fuel source.



Clean Energy Inc. was awarded the contract to design, build and operate the new private CNG fueling station for the City of Norwalk Transit System. Following the groundbreaking ceremony, construction began in May 2014. Also, in order to maintain NTS' growing fleet of compressed natural gas vehicles (NGVs), Clean Energy completed upgrades to the maintenance facility with a code-compliant methane detection system in July 2014.

The current fleet of 14 NGVs is forecasted to consume approximately 150,000 gasoline gallon equivalents (GGEs) of CNG per year, reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 316 metric tons, the equivalent of removing 65 passenger cars from the road each year. This volume is expected to double once the fleet is fully-deployed.

45th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

Mark your calendar for February 11, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. for a special community gathering. The 2015 Norwalk Mayor's Prayer Breakfast takes place at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel. Master of Ceremonies Mayor Marcel Rodarte will open the event, featuring keynote speaker Tim Lee, a Vietnam War veteran and Purple Heart recipient. Mr. Lee will convey his incredible message of courage and hope.

Tickets are \$25 per person. For more information, contact Prayer Breakfast Committee Chair Reverend Oscar Fisher at (562) 443-0655.

Firestone Corridor Reopens at Rosecrans Boulevard



Norwalk residents and commuters alike can rejoice, as the corridor from Firestone Boulevard to Rosecrans Boulevard has reopened, providing a route for navigation through Norwalk that is more efficient and convenient. Thanks to all residents who have endured the traffic delays and inconveniences construction has caused.

Norwalk High School Represents in the Rose Parade!

Many people can only hope to land a coveted position at the Rose Parade. But Norwalk High School Alto Saxophonist, Jennifer Sanchez was front and center. Jennifer landed a spot in the Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor Band. More than 600 students from all over California audition, but only about 200 make the final cut.

"Being able to participate in the Pasadena City College Tournament of Roses Honor band was the most rewarding experience of my life, and I'm so grateful to have been a part of such an amazing band. It was the best way possible to start off a great year and the sacrifices made were well worth it," Jennifer says.



Norwalk High School Band Director Doris Doyon says, "I am very proud of Jennifer for taking the initiative to audition for such a high profile group. She was surprised that she made it, but knowing Jennifer's talent, I knew she had a very good chance! I am excited to see what Jennifer does in the future with music."

The students not only practiced their musical skills, they also practiced marching, since their route down Colorado Boulevard runs six miles. Before the parade on January 1st, they had already marched over 25 miles during their winter break rehearsal!

It's been several years since Norwalk High School has participated in the Rose Bowl Band.

Holiday Street Sweeping & Trash Collection Schedule



In observance of *Presidents' Day* on February 16, Monday's street sweeping will not take place. Trash collection will occur as scheduled.

The City of Norwalk proudly observes Black History Month



Learn more at:
africanamericanhistorymonth.com
blackhistory.com

Norwalk City Council

Mayor
Marcel Rodarte

Vice Mayor
Leonard Shryock

Councilmember
Cheri Kelley

Councilmember
Mike Mendez

Councilmember
Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk
 12700 Norwalk Blvd.
 Norwalk, CA 90650

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To Postal Patron

Cal Fire Tree Planting in Norwalk

As part of the Cal Fire Green Trees for the Golden State program grant, Public Services staff, along with Edmondson School staff, coordinated a tree planting event at the campus on Wednesday, December 17, 2014.

The three fifth grade classes assisted City staff with planting 18 Australian Flames along Hopland Street and Highdale Street. In addition, staff distributed educational material touting the benefits of trees. Edmondson students were invited to watch. There were no trees along Hopland and Highdale Street, so the new landscaping made a big difference by increasing the urban canopy and helping to beautify the neighborhood.

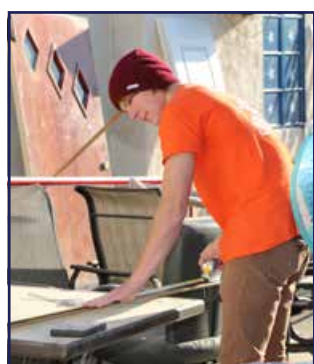


Veterans in Norwalk Now Have an Updated Facility

American Legion Post #359, located at 11986 Front Street, serves veterans and their families from all branches of the military. The post just received a grant from Home Depot for \$36,000 to renovate and update their facility. The grant includes labor and materials, including Home Depot employees and contractors donating their time and services to make this possible. A portion of the updates include new flooring, paint, ceiling fans, and lighting. Four restrooms have been completely remodeled.



Luis Ramirez, Commander of the Norwalk American Legion Post, is an Iraq War veteran and says he hopes this will bring in a younger pool of veterans returning from war. This "Makeover" took five days from start to finish. Friday January 16, was the "Big Reveal" of the American Legion Building. Veterans and their families are invited to come and enjoy the camaraderie. For more information on events and services call (562) 864-9021.



Tree Talk Tidbit

Trees Help Prevent Water Pollution

Trees reduce runoff by breaking rainfall, allowing the water to flow down the trunk and into the earth below the tree. This prevents stormwater from carrying pollutants into the ocean. When mulched, trees act like a sponge that filters this water naturally and uses it to recharge groundwater supplies.



Get Help with

Is your roof leaking? Are your windows drafty? The City of Norwalk, through funding provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), can help qualified households with making needed home repairs.

Home Repair Costs

Assistance is available to City of Norwalk property owners who have owned and lived in the property for minimum of 2 years and whose household income is within certain limits (see chart below). Homes must be Single Family residences, condominiums, mobile homes, or 1-4 unit apartment complexes*.

Household Size	Maximum Income
1 Person	\$45,650
2 Persons	\$52,200
3 Persons	\$58,700
4 Persons	\$65,200
5 Persons	\$70,450
6 Persons	\$75,650
7 Persons	\$80,850
8 Persons	\$86,100

*For rental properties, tenant incomes are used to establish eligibility.

The following types of assistance are available based upon income and other qualifications:

Grants
Rebates
Deferred Loan
0% Interest Loans

Eligible Improvements include:

Electrical
Plumbing
Roofing
Heating
Painting
Masonry
Carpentry
Windows & Doors
Fumigation
Garages & Carports
Bedrooms & Bath Additions (under limited conditions)

For details call (562) 929-5951.

Family Intervention Academy

Tuesdays, February 10-April 21 • 6-8 p.m.

Wings Program-Youth Counseling Group

Instructor: Ken Menchaca

Ages: 13-18 yrs



This eleven week counseling program will help your child

understand the importance of an education as well as helping them get back on the right track, whether at home or at school. This program discusses various topics including:

- Decision Making
- Peer Pressure
- Behavior Issues
- Anger Management
- Drug & Alcohol Education

Program also is geared to help youth set short and long term goals.

The Parent Project-Parenting For Parents with Difficult Teens

Instructor: Anthony Garcia

Parents with children ages 13-18 yrs

Classes are offered in Spanish & English

Is your teen giving you troubles at home? Are his/her grades slipping? School attendance problems? Do you find yourself arguing more with your teen? Join The Parent Project and learn how you can gain a respectful relationship with your teen. This

program discusses topics and focuses on teaching parents how to:

- Decrease Arguing
- Identifying Alcohol or Drug Use
- Improve School Attendance & Performance
- Find Resources to Help Your Family

Cost: There is a \$10 fee for parenting book that is required as part of the program.



Please Note: These programs are open to Norwalk residents only and are both held at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue

Norwalk Woman's Club Provides Scholarship & Food to Hungry

To help feed hungry families, Norwalk Woman's Club members donated canned goods for the Norwalk Food Pantry at their November and December meetings. The Norwalk Woman's Club has been helping meet community needs since 1922.

Kaiesha Johnson, a Cerritos College student, received a \$500 scholarship on December 10, 2014. The Norwalk Woman's club annually gives one scholarship to a Re-Entry Student at Cerritos College. Kaiesha Johnson is a Psychology major with a 3.28 GPA. She is a single mother of four children, and chose Cerritos College

because of the support services offered, such as financial aid and the Student Health Center. Norwalk Woman's Club scholarship judges Arlene Besst and Helen Anderson were impressed by Ms. Johnson's educational goals, self-motivation and her volunteerism at Faith Harvest Church to help other families in need.



Norwalk Woman's Club meets the second Wednesday of each month, September to June, at 10:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 12345 Rosecrans Avenue, in Norwalk. For more information, contact Linda Kelly, Membership Chair, at (562) 864-0384.

Senior Center Programs & Activities

Candle Light Dinner

Thursday, February 12 at 5:45 p.m.

Entrée: Chicken Cordon Bleu

Early Bird Special: \$6.00

\$7.50 after Saturday, February 7

Last day to purchase tickets, Monday, February 9

Pool Tournaments

Level A: Wednesday, February 11 at 12:30 p.m.

Resident Registration Begins: Tuesday, January 27

Open Registration: Tuesday, February 3

Level B: Wednesday, February 18 • 12:30 p.m.

Resident Registration Begins: Tuesday, February 3

Open Registration: Tuesday, February 10

Karaoke

Saturday, February 14 • 1-4 p.m.

Wednesday, February 25 • 2-6 p.m.

Lunar New Years Dance & Food Drive

Saturday, February 21 • 1- 4 p.m.

Free: With Canned* Food

*For a list of acceptable food items, call (562) 929-5780

Older American Nominee

The City of Norwalk is looking for an Older American Nominee to be recognized in May in observance of Older American Month.

Nominees must be 65 years of age or older; provide volunteer services for an organization that enhances the lives of others and/or the Norwalk community at large.

Applications are available for pick up at the following locations: *Norwalk City Hall, Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, Norwalk Social Services Center, Norwalk Senior Center*, and are due by Monday, February 9.

For details call (562) 929-5580.

Seminars & Screenings

FREE Blood Pressure Screenings

The Norwalk Senior Center will be offering free blood pressure screenings by Apple Care Medical and Pioneer Medical. No appointment necessary.

Wednesday, February 4 • 9:30 a.m.-12 noon

Tuesday, February 17 • 9:30 a.m.-12 noon

FREE Senior Center Seminar:

“Preserving Your Memory”

Tuesday, February 10 • 10 a.m.

The L.A. County Department of Mental Health presents this seminar focusing on presenting ways to improve memory through brain exercises.

FREE Dental Screening

Friday, February 20 • 10 a.m.

Northeast Dental will provide a free dental screening at the Norwalk Senior Center. No appointment necessary for this screening. Seniors with dentures can also attend this screening.

Weekly Bereavement Group

1st, 2nd & 3rd Friday of each month • 10 a.m.

Anyone who has suffered a loss, whether a spouse, family member or friend, is welcome at this weekly meeting. The focus of the group is “Reflection.”

One Breath Foundation Support Group



The One Breath Foundation is hosting a support group for individuals and their families who are referred and wait listed for solid organ transplant such as heart, lung, liver and kidney. Their goal is to help educate patients and caretakers to prepare for the transplant. The group meets at the Norwalk Social Services Center every third Sunday of the month from noon – 2:30 p.m. For more information contact Gloria Rodriguez at (562) 447-4785.

Free Income Tax Preparation & Family Resource Fair

As part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, the 3rd District of the California State Board of Equalization, partnership with the Franchise Tax Board and the Internal Revenue Service, will help residents file their tax returns and provide qualifying participants the opportunity to apply for and receive a broad range of family services. Make your appointment now to attend a Family Resource Fair Assistance at one of the following locations:

Saturday, February 14

Cal State Dominguez Hills • Welch Hall

1000 East Victoria Street, Carson, CA 90747

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(866) 910-9559

Friday, February 27

Rio Hondo College • Business Building

3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(562) 463-7359

Tax assistance is also offered free of charge BY APPOINTMENT ONLY every Wednesday, January 28 through April 8, at the Norwalk District Office located at 12440 East Imperial Highway, Suite 200. Call (562) 466-1694 for an appointment or more info.

Bring in a used oil filter and get a new one for FREE*



Saturday, February 14

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

O'Reilly Auto Parts

11559 Rosecrans Avenue

Limit one filter per resident, while supplies last. Residents exchanging filters are also eligible for other related giveaways. For more information, call (562) 944-4716.

Used oil must be properly stored in a clean, uncontaminated container.

This program is funded by a grant from CalRecycle.



COVERED CALIFORNIA

February 5, 2015 • 4-7 p.m.
Congresswoman Linda T. Sanchez

Norwalk Social Services Facility
11929 Alondra Blvd.

www.CoveredCA.com

One Day Only!



SEAACA
Dedicated to Quality Animal Care & Control

\$14
Adoption fee

All dogs & cats 1 year and older.

Saturday, February 14, 2014
10:00 am—5:00 pm
9777 Seaaca St. Downey, CA 90241

Adoption fee includes:

- Spay/Neuter
- Micro-chip
- First set of vaccines
- Flea Treatment

*Promotion does not include “Boutique Buddies”.
Some animals may require a spay/neuter deposit.



www.seaaca.org

562-803-3301

Valentine's Day Trivia

Many different theories exist on the origin of Valentine's Day. Some believe that Emperor Claudius II of the Roman Empire forbade young men to marry because he believed unmarried men made better soldiers. But, a priest named Valentine secretly married young couples in the name of love.

Did You Know???

- More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.
- On Valentine's Day, men spend an average of \$160. Women spend \$80.
- 15% of U.S. women send themselves flowers on Valentine's Day.
- In the 1800's, a Valentine's Day card cost up to \$35.
- An average of 110 million roses are delivered on Valentine's Day.
- California produces 60% of America's roses, but the vast number sold on Valentine's Day in the US are imported from South America.

Students in the Spotlight

Norwalk Softball Star headed to Italy!



Norwalk resident and Santa Fe High School student Carly Gutierrez, hits a home run with her softball skills. She started playing at age four on the Norwalk Girls Softball Team. Now at age 17, her talent on the field will be taking her to Italy this summer. She's been invited to join the 14 member USA Softball team and compete in the 2015 Italy tournaments.

Carly says, "It's a privilege to play the sport I love and to be able to represent Norwalk is just awesome! I am so excited to make new friends and meet new people. I thank god for the blessings."

Until then, the Chiefs are happy to have her on their senior softball team at home.

Good Luck! Buona fortuna!

Winter Retreat Grows Young Artists

For five days in December, twelve students from local 4th and 5th grade classes participated in the City's first Winter Art Retreat, where they learned different art approaches and took part in a mentoring program. Students were selected through the "I Am Somebody Program," with the help of school counselors and principals. Students are shown here, modeling their latest creative work, silk screened shirts.



City of Norwalk * Recreation and Park Services Department

Adult Slow-Pitch Softball Leagues

Leagues Offered:
Wednesday Night- Men's Div.
Friday Night- Co-Ed Div.

Umpire Fees:
\$12.50 per game

All leagues will begin in March.

\$425 per team
+ \$50 forfeit deposit fee

Games will be played at
Holfield Park, 12500 Excelsior Dr.

Registration will be conducted through February
at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

For more information, please call (562) 929-5567.

Upcoming Events at Norwalk & Alondra Libraries

Valentine's Day Art For All Ages

Tuesday, February 3 at 4 p.m.

Norwalk Regional Library • 12350 Imperial Hwy.



Come participate in a neat arts & crafts activity at the Norwalk Library. Valentine's Day themed art supplies and materials will be available for children, teens, and adults to make memorable Valentine's Day gifts for family and loved ones. All materials provided by the library. Be sure to sign a special Valentine's Day card for the Norwalk Senior Center!

Book Discussion: The Big Sleep

Monday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Norwalk Regional Library • 12350 Imperial Hwy.

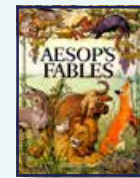


Each month Norwalk Library's book group meets to discuss books of all kinds. In February the group will read and discuss Raymond Chandler's classic noir mystery *The Big Sleep*. A landmark of crime fiction, *The Big Sleep* is credited with inventing the modern detective story. Copies of the book will be available for checkout at the Info Desk beginning January 26.

Enrichment Works' Aesop's Fables

Wednesday, February 4 at 4 p.m.

Alondra Library • 11949 Alondra Blvd.



Join Alondra Library for a musical number that will transport youth to the world of Aesop's Fables and their famous morals. With students' help, performers enact the stories of "The Tortoise and The Hare"; "The Boy Who Cried Wolf"; and "The Fox and the Crow". Students will be inspired and taught the timeless morals of Aesop. This program is funded by Supervisor Don Knabe.

Assemblymember Cristina Garcia



All community members are invited to attend the 58th Assembly District Community Swearing in Celebration for Assemblymember Cristina Garcia on Saturday, February 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Celebration takes

place at the Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12700 Columbia Way in Downey.

Special guest California State Controller Betty Yee will preside over Saturday's festivities, which include music and FREE food in celebration of the 58th District's rich culture and heritage.

The 58th Assembly District includes the cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Cerritos, Commerce, Downey, Montebello, Pico Rivera and Norwalk.

RSVP at Dennise.Silva@asm.ca.gov or call (562) 862-5803 for more information.



58th District Office: 8266 Firestone Blvd.
Suite 203, Downey, CA 90241

Tel (562) 861-5803 Fax (562) 861-5155

Email: assemblymember.garcia@assembly.ca.gov

Website: www.asmdc.org/garcia

Meet Your State Officials

State Senator Tony Mendoza



Newly elected State Senator for the 32nd District, Tony Mendoza, was sworn into office by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti at Norwalk's Civic Center Lawn on Saturday, December 13, 2014. No stranger to public service, Tony, a former school teacher, has served on the Artesia City Council and as

Assemblymember for the former 56th District, which included the City of Norwalk and surrounding cities.

Senator Mendoza has already met with community leaders and constituents to discuss areas of concern, including education, jobs, economic development, public safety, water, transportation and healthcare.

The 32nd Senate District includes the cities and communities of Artesia, Bellflower, Buena Park, Cerritos, Commerce, Downey, Hacienda Heights, Hawaiian Gardens, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Lakewood, Los Nietos, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Rose Hills, Santa Fe Springs, South Whittier and Whittier.



32nd District Office: 400 N. Montebello Blvd.
Suite 100, Montebello, CA 90640

Tel (323) 890-2790 Fax(323) 890-2795

Email Senator.Mendoza@sen.ca.gov

Website: sd32.senate.ca.gov

Assemblymember Ian Calderon



Assemblymember Ian C. Calderon was re-elected in November 2014 to represent the 57th Assembly District. He continues to serve as the Chair of the Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism and Internet Media. Calderon is a member of the following

Assembly Committees: Appropriations, Human Services, and Insurance. He was recently appointed by Speaker Toni Atkins to serve on the newly formed Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee, which will address the rapidly evolving concerns over the safety of personal data on the Internet.

The 57th Assembly District includes the cities of Industry, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Puente, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, South El Monte, Whittier and the unincorporated communities of Avocado Heights and Hacienda Heights.



57th District Office: 13181 Crossroads Pkwy. N.
Suite 160, City of Industry, CA 91746

Tel (562) 692-5858 Fax (562) 695-5852

[facebook.com/AssemblymemberIanCalderon](https://www.facebook.com/AssemblymemberIanCalderon)

twitter.com/IanAD57

Sheriff Jim McDonnell Takes the Helm of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department



Elected officials from fourteen cities, as well as South Patrol Division Sheriff's Deputies, filled the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex to welcome newly elected Sheriff Jim McDonnell. A native of Boston, Massachusetts, McDonnell moved to the West Coast to serve in both the Los Angeles and Long Beach Police Departments. With over 30 years of policing experience, Sheriff McDonnell brings a reputation of solid leadership and the ability to build collaboration between law enforcement and the diverse communities they serve.

