

Norwalk^eNow

The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California
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Emergency Powers *Update*

California's COVID-19 State of Emergency is scheduled to end on February 28, 2023. The State of Emergency declaration gave Governor Newsom broad powers to issue mandates and temporary orders to protect health and life.

The Los Angeles County Public Health Department is recommending that all residents wear masks and comply with any masking mandates that are in effect. Masks are still required indoors at healthcare and congregate-care facilities, for anyone exposed to the virus in the past 10 days, and at businesses where they are required by the owner.

For more information on mask wearing rules and recommendations in Los Angeles County, visit <https://tinyurl.com/LACMRR>



Angel Tree Thank You

The Norwalk Social Services Department would like to thank all the donors and volunteers who helped make the Angel Tree Project possible. The generous donations and time contributed by volunteers in our community helped spread holiday cheer to underserved children and families throughout the community. Thank you to all who donated and to our sponsors.



Diamond

Tom and Marie Jackson

Silver

Golden State Water Co.
Norwalk Lions Club
Norwalk Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
United Parents Club

Major

Gordon & Marilee Stefenhagen
International Seniors Club
Norwalk Auto Auction
Shin IL Presbyterian Church



General

Al & Luella Steele
Andrew Potzler
Anthony & Celia Soto & Family
CEA – HOW
Costco #410 Norwalk
Jana Stuard
Koehling & Lopez Family
Marjorie O'Leary
Norm Reeves Honda Cerritos
Norwalk Presbyterian Church
Norwalk Printing
Ron King

Save the Date: Las Posadas



The Norwalk Recreation and Park Services Department will host the Las Posadas event on Saturday, January 7 at the Norwalk City Hall Lawn at 5:30 p.m. The event will have caroling of traditional holiday songs, activities and candy bags for children, and special performances by Mariachis and ballet folklorico dancers. For more information, call 562-929-5702.

Blood Drive

Did you know every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood?

The City of Norwalk in partnership with the American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, January 10 at Norwalk City Hall from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. To schedule an appointment to donate blood visit www.redcrossblood.org enter and enter Sponsor Code: CityofNorwalk. For more information, call 562.929.5720.

Council Reorganization

On Tuesday, December 13, Norwalk's City Council held the reorganization ceremony which recognized the accomplishments of outgoing Mayor, Rick Ramirez, and the re-election of Councilmember Tony Ayala and Councilmember Jennifer Perez.

At the meeting, by a unanimous vote, Councilmember Ana Valencia was appointed as the new mayor and Councilmember Margarita Rios was selected as the vice mayor. They will both serve in their roles for one year. Congratulations to the new mayor, vice mayor and re-elected council

Holiday Festival Recap

On Saturday, December 3, the City of Norwalk held its annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Festival at the Norwalk City Hall Lawn. Santa and his elves brought snow from the North Pole for event attendees to enjoy sled rides on the lawn. Thank you to all who attended and helped ring in the holiday season in the community.



Santa's Sleigh Magical Come Back!

A Huge Thank You to the Santa's Sleigh Foundation for a Sweet Return!



Norwalk City Council

Mayor Ana Valencia Vice Mayor Margarita L. Rios
Councilmember Tony Ayala
Councilmember Jennifer Perez
Councilmember Rick Ramirez

Norwalk City Hall Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Alternating Fridays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

562-929-5700

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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Recycling & Litter Prevention Artwork Contest

Every year the City of Norwalk hosts a Recycling and Litter Prevention Artwork Contest to promote recycling and sustainability in the community. Students from local school districts are encouraged to submit artwork that inspires the community to recycle. This year, over 180 artwork designs were submitted and city staff selected 12 artwork entries to create a 2023 recycling and sustainability calendar. Thank you to all who participated in the contest. The City of Norwalk would like to congratulate the 12 winners of the 2023 Recycling and Litter Prevention Artwork Contest. Thank you for helping spread the message that recycling matters in our community!

2023 Recycling & Litter Prevention Artwork Contest Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Xitlalli Abonza | 7. Jordan Pimentel |
| 2. Isabella Chavez | 8. Raylyn Rodriguez |
| 3. Sofia Cisneros | 9. Andrew Sanchez |
| 4. Jacob Correa | 10. Kaylee Sanders |
| 5. Victoria Gutierrez | 11. Destiny Solar |
| 6. Anniston Lopez | 12. Hailey Valle |

New Year, New You?

Are you committing to a healthier lifestyle in 2023?

The Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex (NASC) gym facility offers memberships to Norwalk residents for only \$37.50 quarterly or \$150 annually. The NASC facility membership offers access to the gym and various daily activities. To sign-up and get started today visit the NASC or call 562-929-5566.

CITY OF NORWALK
A Connected Community

Improving our Infrastructure

The Norwalk Municipal Water System (NMWS), which is one of three water providers in the City of Norwalk, is committed to delivering high quality water and reliable service. The City is focused on improving and expanding its existing water distribution system. The 2015 Water Master Plan recommended construction of a new water distribution main along Pioneer Blvd. between 166th St. and 160th St. as well as the replacement of existing water main pipes along several commercial and residential cross streets between Pioneer Blvd. and Clarkdale Ave.

Project NO.7442
Water Main Replacement Project on Pioneer Blvd. from 160th to 166th St

The City will move forward with installing approximately 3,335 feet of new 12-inch pipeline, 3,610 feet of new 8-inch pipeline, and 11 new fire hydrants. After construction on Pioneer Blvd. is complete, the work will continue towards Clarkdale Ave. The streets affected by this work will be 166th St., 165th St., Cedarvale St., 164th St., Chesterton St., 163rd St., 162nd St., 161st St., and Algardi St.

The pipeline project is anticipated to begin Spring 2023 and will approximately take six months to complete. Construction will be phased in order to minimize the impact to City residents and businesses. Those affected by construction or delays will be notified in advance of work in their area.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS: New Businesses in Town

Hanami Teppanyaki Grill - 11770 Firestone Blvd. offers hibachi-style meals, dine-in, meals to-go, party trays, and catering.

Mariachi Bakery - 11042 Rosecrans Ave. is a Mexican cafe. They serve breakfast, lunch, baked goods, hot and iced coffees, teas, and more!

Movita Juice Bar - 12417 Norwalk Blvd. offers freshly made juices, smoothies, acai bowls and other products that can help "detoxify and tune-up your metabolism."

Nely Preciado Restaurant - 15718 Pioneer Blvd. offers delicious Mexican cuisine options. They are open 7 days a week.

Make sure to stop by and support these new local businesses in our community.

Career and Technical Training Scholarship

The City of Norwalk has scholarships available to assist low income residents with the cost of technical training in health sciences, medical technology, or welding/metal fabrication programs.

The training programs are offered through the Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School and they are scheduled to begin January 2023. For more information on the programs, contact the Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School at 562-210-3990.

Funding for the scholarship program is limited and a scholarship application must be submitted at least a week before the selected training program begins. The scholarships range from \$1,050 to \$2,600 and are strictly for tuition. Students are responsible for the cost of books, uniforms, background checks, and exams.

To learn more about the scholarship or to obtain an application, visit the City of Norwalk's Community Development website or call the Housing & Neighborhood Development Division at 562-929-5951.

Keepin' It Norwalk Business Spotlight

What are the best Gym and Wellness Centers in Norwalk?

The nomination period runs from **Sunday, January 1 to Sunday, January 8**
Scan the code to submit your nomination!

Norwalk Little League

Norwalk Little League is currently accepting sign-ups for the Spring 2023 season. Norwalk Little League has been serving Norwalk and the surrounding communities for over 60 years. The league focuses on teamwork, discipline, social skills and exercise. For more information on sign-ups or the league, call 562-274-1839.

First Time Homebuyer Program Community Workshop

The City of Norwalk is hosting a First-Time Homebuyer Community Workshop on Thursday, January 19 from 5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. at the Norwalk Sports Complex – Sproul Room, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

The workshop will provide information to interested potential first-time homebuyers about the program. The First Time Homebuyer Program (FTHB) is made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOME funds for Down payment and Closing Costs Assistance to help low-income households buy their first home in the City of Norwalk. The City's investment of HOME funds will be limited to down payment and closing costs assistance through no interest deferred loans.

Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Resident of the City of Norwalk
- Not have owned a home in the past 3 years
- Meet HUD income qualifications based on household size (see chart below)

For more information, contact Housing & Neighborhood Development Division at 562-929-5951 or CDBG_@norwalkca.gov.

Household Size	Maximum Income
1 Person	\$66,750
2 Persons	\$76,250
3 Persons	\$85,800
4 Persons	\$95,300
5 Persons	\$102,950
6 Persons	\$110,550
7 Persons	\$118,200
8 Persons	\$125,800

Qualifications of the scholarship:

- You must be a Norwalk resident. Proof of residency is required.
- You must be 18 years of age or older.
- You must submit a completed application and essay during the City's application period.
- Your total combined household income cannot exceed the following income limits:

Number in Household	Income Limits
1 person	\$66,750
2 people	\$76,250
3 people	\$85,800
4 people	\$95,300
5 people	\$102,950
6 people	\$110,550
7 people	\$118,200
8 people	\$125,800

for the Nurse Assistant Pre-Certification (C.N.A.), Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant: Administrative & Clinical and Welding/Metal Fabrication

Property Information Portal

The City of Norwalk's Community Development Department recently launched a property information portal where building permits of completed work at residential and commercial properties can be accessed online. For more information, visit Norwalk's Community Development Department page at www.norwalk.org

BUILDING PERMITS OF COMPLETED WORK AT RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES CAN NOW BE ACCESSED ONLINE VIA THE PORTAL.





COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

- KEEPING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFE -



The City of Norwalk would like to recognize the Public Safety Department for their efforts and accomplishments in 2022.

Public Safety Department Accomplishments

- Responded to 16,434 calls for service.
- Responded to approximately 65 crime scenes to provide latent fingerprinting services resulting in criminals being identified and apprehended. Fingerprints are often lifted from crimes such as, burglaries, robberies, stolen vehicles, and thefts.
- Assisted in recovering 81 reported stolen vehicles.
- Assisted the Norwalk Sheriff's Department with 285 traffic collisions.
- Hosted 4 Coffee with a Cop events to offer opportunities for residents to engage with the law enforcement personnel who serve their community.
- Hosted 41 cadet meetings to provide insight on officer operations, career exploration, and educational safety.
- The Code Compliance Division is responsible for enforcing the Norwalk Municipal Code to upkeep property maintenance and zoning requirements.

Accomplishments Made Throughout 2022

- 12 Mini Mr. Sun Clean-ups where Norwalk residents were able to dispose of bulky items at no cost.
- 948 cases reviewed and 472 cases closed
- 73 business license inspections were conducted.
- Initiated an education campaign to deter and prevent illegal dumping by mailing out educational letters and mailers to residents, property owners, and managers in the City. The letters provided information on the free bulky item pickup services provided by Athens Services.



Coffee with a Cop began as a grassroots initiative in Hawthorne, California back in 2011. The initiative was an effort to better understand the needs and concerns of local residents. Since then, Coffee with a Cop events have expanded throughout the nation and into the City of Norwalk.

Stop by the next Coffee with a Cop event on January 24 at Coffee Code from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. This is a great opportunity for local residents to get to know the law enforcement personnel who patrol their neighborhoods.

For more information on the event, call 562-929-5732.



Holiday Street Sweeping & Trash Collection Schedule

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, there will be no street sweeping on Monday, January 16. Trash collection will take place as regularly scheduled.



Public Safety & Community Safety Partnerships

Throughout the month of December, the Public Safety Department collaborated with the Norwalk Recreation and Parks Services Department and the Santa Sleigh Foundation for the Santa's Sleigh events. Thank you to all the Public Safety Officers who helped keep Santa and his elves safe as they visited the City of Norwalk!



Community Clean-Up

Are you looking to make a difference in your community?

The Public Safety Department will be conducting a Community Clean-up on Saturday, January 21 from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. to beautify the area of Pioneer Blvd. and Imperial Hwy. All supplies will be provided. For more information, or to sign-up for the event contact Public Safety at 562-929-5732.



Christmas Tree Recycling

Norwalk residents can recycle their Christmas trees at no cost from December 26 through January 13. Trees must be placed by trash containers on the designated trash collection day.

Please note, all decorations and stands must be removed. Trees should not be placed in a bag and flocked trees can not be recycled, they are considered trash. Trees that are over eight feet tall need to be cut in half. For more information, call the City of Norwalk at 562-929-5964 or Athens Services at 888-336-6100.



L.A.D.Y.

Leadership & Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women
Second & Fourth Thursday of every month
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

L.A.D.Y is a mentorship program for young women ages 15-23, who have struggled with any of the following, due to the COVID-19 pandemic: Mental/physical health, financial stability, personal growth, relationships, and education. L.A.D.Y. will focus on proactive techniques to manage these issues.

Youth Intervention Services

Youth Intervention services are offered to Norwalk families whose youth are experiencing dysfunction in today's society. Intervention Workers are trained counselors who work with at-risk adolescents experiencing negative behaviors at school, home, or community. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Norwalk Social Services.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

First Tuesday of every month • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Free educational program designed for parents, family members, and caregivers of children and adolescents, with emotional or behavioral difficulties. This support group is available in Spanish only. For more information or to register, please contact Silvia, (562) 448-4816.

Free Zumba Classes

Wednesday • 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Free Zumba classes are available for all seniors at Norwalk Social Services. Seniors are encouraged to come and enjoy an active morning.

Loteria
Fridays • 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
 Seniors are encouraged to join our free loteria mornings at Social Services.

CEA-H.O.W.
Tuesday • 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
 CEA-H.O.W. is a fellowship of men and women who meet to share their Experience, Strength and Hope. Our purpose is to help others and ourselves who suffer from the self-destruction of compulsive eating. Spanish Only.

Cal Fresh
Thursdays, by appointments only • 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
 A Cal Fresh Outreach worker, from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, will be available to assist community members with their Cal Fresh Application. To schedule an appointment, please call the Norwalk Social Services Center.

Community Legal Aid
Second & Third Wednesday of every month, by appointment only • 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Free legal services will be available for Norwalk residents who meet income eligibility guidelines. To schedule an appointment, please call Norwalk Social Services Center.

Promotores
Fridays • 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
 Promotores will be presenting on topics related to mental health, to bring awareness to our community. To register or for more information, please call Norwalk Social Services Center.

Los Angeles County Mental Health
Every other Wednesday, by appointment only.
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
 A representative from DMH will be available for one on one cocounseling, and referrals. To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call Norwalk Social Services Center.

Senior Movie Days
Second & Fourth Tuesday of every month
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
 Free movie matinee days at the Social Services Center for seniors. Popcorn will be served. For movie showing information, please call Norwalk Social Services Center.

RECYCLE A USED OIL FILTER AND GET A NEW ONE FOR FREE!*

Saturday, January 14
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

O'Reilly Auto Parts
11559 Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650

Open to Norwalk residents only. Limit one (1) filter per person. Maximum filter price of \$14.99. While supplies last. Limited to stock on-hand.

Residents who bring in used oil or a used filter are eligible for a Free motor oil drainer container!

Residents must bring a used oil filter to the store to receive a new FREE oil filter.

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

For more information, please call (888) HEY-SLICK.

USED MOTOR OIL & FILTER RECYCLING

THERE ARE TWO EASY WAYS FOR NORWALK RESIDENTS TO RECYCLE

- 1** SCHEDULE A FREE CURBSIDE PICKUP RIGHT FROM YOUR HOME. CALL (800) 449-7587 TO SCHEDULE.
- 2** DROP OFF USED OIL AND FILTERS AT A CERTIFIED COLLECTION CENTER:
 - AUTO ZONE - 13927 S. PIONEER BLVD. - (562) 863-8794
 - AUTO ZONE - 12124 S. STUDEBAKER RD. - (562) 526-3840
 - O'REILLY'S AUTO PARTS - 12233 NORWALK BLVD. - (562) 406-2466
 - O'REILLY'S AUTO PARTS - 11559 ROSECRANS AVE. - (562) 465-0131



Weekly Mental Health Support Group

Every Monday • 2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Call-In Number: 1 (978) 990-5176
Conference ID: 695849#

This support group will meet by phone on a weekly basis. Some of the topics discussed are depression, anxiety, stress management, self-care, grief & loss, mental well-being, and the aging process.

CalFresh

First & Third Tuesday of every month
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

A CalFresh outreach worker from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank will be available on site to assist seniors with their CalFresh application. CalFresh Outreach worker is also available via phone to assist seniors throughout the week. For assistance, call 323-855-0496.

HICAP

First Wednesday of every month
10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) will provide free counseling and advocacy on Medicare and related health care coverage issues for patrons age 50 and older. Call the Norwalk Senior Center to make an appointment.

Veteran Service Officer (VSO)
Weekly meeting with Veterans
Every Wednesday • 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 A Veteran Service Officer from Los Angeles County Department of Military & Veterans Affairs is available to meet with Veterans on a weekly basis. Veterans are able to make an appointment or walk in to meet with a Veteran Service Officer to get assistance with their VA benefits. To make an appointment or for more information, call the Norwalk Senior Center.

"I Have a Dream" Writing Contest

Wednesday, January 4 – Friday, January 13
Cost: Free

Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous speech has inspired many through the years, now it is time for you to get inspired! "I Have a Dream" writing contest will have you write your very own "I Have a Dream" speech on how to make the world a better place, all while honoring Dr. King's legacy. Last day to submit content is Friday, January 13 to be entered into a raffle. For more information, call the Norwalk Senior Center.

Senior Safety Program: Personal Security

Tuesday, January 10 • 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

City of Norwalk Public Safety Department staff will be conducting a presentation on Personal Security. A public safety officer will provide information on how to stay safe while on the streets, in the car and while waiting for a bus.

Movie Night

Tuesday, January 10 • 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Join us for a showing of "Back to the Future" in the senior center lobby. Space is limited to the first 30 seniors and reservations are required. For more information, call the Norwalk Senior Center.

Keeping It Crafty: New Year's Resolution Scrapbook Journal

Thursday, January 12 • 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Cost: Free

Happy New Year! Whether your goal is to be healthier or try a new hobby, we can assist in making sure you stay motivated. Join us as we create a personalized journal scrapbook that will place all your goals on paper for you to track periodically throughout the year. Norwalk *resident registration begins Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Open registration begins Thursday, January 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.*Photo identification with proof of residency required. For more information, call the Norwalk Senior Center.

Senior Smart Phone (Android) Training (Spanish)

Wednesday, January 18 • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Do you have difficulty seeing, hearing, your smartphone? Join a Free Senior Smart Phone training (Android models only) to help make smartphones work better for you. Seniors will learn how to adjust their smartphone and how to send and receive text messages.

Mad Scientist Laboratory Series

Thursday, January 26 • 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Get mad and messy, colorful and creative, splashy and splashy as we journey together through the world of science. Norwalk *resident registration begins Thursday, January 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Open registration begins Thursday, January 12, 2023. *Photo identification with proof of residency required. For more information, call the Norwalk Senior Center.