City is Optimistic but Alert to Challenges

In the State of the City address, City Manager Mike Egan stressed the year's accomplishments, urged continued focus on the "2020 Vision" strategic action plan.

Things are looking up for the City of Norwalk, according to City Manager Mike Egan, but it's not time to relax just yet. Unemployment is

down, construction is up, and City revenues continue to climb out of recession depths. However, issues still face Norwalk, the surrounding region and State, and call for planning, collaboration and commitment to clearly set goals.

Egan expressed that the City has come far in the last year, taking on major projects that have minor fiscal impacts. Firestone Bridge construction, traffic safety upgrades Citywide, Transit Center improvements and replacement of diesel buses with energy-efficient CNG versions are just a few of the programs paid for through \$31 million in grant funding, preserving general fund resources.

With the I-5 freeway widening project ahead of schedule, park upgrades occurring at all parks, and the 20-year effort to obtain tank farm property for expansion of Holifield park winding to a close, the City is progressing along the path set in the "2020 Vision" strategic action plan.

With the launch of the City's new website, as well as the improved accessibility of City social media, the public may be served more quickly and efficiently.

The City's Economic Development Plan, now in the works, will revitalize Norwalk communities and businesses through job training, education and entrepreneurship. In turn, the City's household incomes will increase, stabilizing the local economy and creating more jobs.

If you missed the State of the City event, click on the City's website, youtube channel, or tune in to the City's cable channel to view it. (More photos on pg. 6)









Learn more at: womenshistorymonth.gov

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Highlights

Former Marine and Purple Heart recipient Tim Lee had the full attention of attendees at the 45th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on February 11. The Doubletree Hotel's ballroom was filled to capacity for Mr. Lee's keynote speech. He lightened



the crowd with observations on family and daily life. But it was Mr. Lee's miraculous story of survival following a land mine explosion during the Vietnam War, and his subsequent commitment to ministry that had the biggest impact on his audience. Losing both legs during the explosion, enduring countless surgeries with his weight dwindling rapidly to just 80 pounds, Mr. Lee found the courage to live through faith. He speaks to thousands across the globe each year, traveling over 350 days annually. (More photos on pg. 5)



Recreational Vehicle Ordinance

Taking your recreational vehicle or trailer on a road trip? Will your vehicle be parked on the street before or after your trip? Don't forget to get your parking permit.

Norwalk requires all recreational vehicles and trailers to have a permit to be parked on the street. The permit process reduces the number of recreational vehicles and trailers parked on the street improving safety and appearance in neighborhoods.

Permit regulations include:

- Residents must show their vehicle/trailer registration to obtain a permit.
- The permitted vehicle/trailer must be parked within 100 feet of the resident's address.
- Each permit is good for a total of three consecutive days. Permits may be obtained ahead of time.
- Each residence is limited to 20 permits per calendar year.
- Trailers are to be attached to an appropriately sized tow vehicle at all times while parked on the street.
- Permits are to be displayed in the front windshield of the permitted vehicle. In the case of trailers, the permit should be displayed in the front windshield of the tow vehicle.

RVs and trailers found parked without a permit are subject to a parking citation and fine of \$45.

Permits may be obtained at no charge from the Public Safety office, Rm. 15, Norwalk City Hall. For more information, contact Public Safety at (562) 929-5732.



Norwalk Thanks Deputy for Service and Sacrifice

During its regular meeting of February 9, the Fundraising took place in October 2014 as part of Community Promotion Commission presented Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Love with a \$1,000 donation and an over-sized card bearing get-well wishes from the Norwalk community. Deputy Love sustained life-changing injuries as a result of a domestic violence call in Lakewood.

the Annual Appreciation Luncheon held in honor of Sheriff's and Fire Departments, CHP, and Public Safety. Lt. Daniel Beringer (acting Captain) and Sgt. Tom Vernola of the Lakewood Sheriff's Department, Deputy Love's father, uncle and aunt were also in

Small but Mighty

Josie Vazquez, a senior at John Glenn High School has always marched to the beat of her own drum.

Recently millions also saw and heard the 5'2" 107 pound tenor drummer march and play her heart out at the Rose Bowl

Frank Hinojoz, an alumnus of John Glenn High School has been band director at John Glenn for ten years. Josie is the 15th student of his to participate in the Tournament of Roses Honor Band.

Hinojoz tells us the audition committee was concerned about Josie's size. Most of the instrumental

auditions last only about ten minutes. The drummers go through an intense five hour audition process that includes one elimination round. The tenor drums she

plays not only require tremendous skill, but the six mile parade route would require tremendous strength

and endurance for the 60 pound instrument. In addition, the drummers are the only musicians in the ensemble that do not get a break from playing!

When asked by the committee whether she felt she could handle the challenge, Josie responded, "I have previous experience in long distance parades with my high school band. I can handle it."

Josie's moms says, "She really always liked tinkering with the drum harness and helping to repair any of her drums. It

was not surprising to find out that she wants to major in Engineering in college." Currently she takes the Aerospace Engineering class at John Glenn High School.

Norwalk City Council

Mayor Marcel Rodarte

Councilmember

Vice Mayor **Leonard Shryock**

Councilmember Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650

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Councilmember **Cheri Kelley**

Mike Mendez



Cal Fire Tree Planting in Norwalk Update

Public Services staff have been busy planting trees throughout Norwalk. City staff along with Arturo Sanchez Elementary School staff, coordinated a tree planting event at Sanchez Elementary School on Thursday, February 5. Two fifth grade classes assisted City staff with planting 13 Tristanias (or Brisbane Box) trees along Elaine Avenue adjacent to the school. In addition, staff distributed educational materials on the benefits of trees. School staff were very appreciative of City efforts to increase the urban canopy and have the students actively involved in greening the school environment.

Additionally, City staff planted 93 Canary Island Pines on Bloomfield Avenue, north of Imperial Highway, adjacent to the Metropolitan State Hospital. There were no trees along Bloomfield Avenue so the new landscaping has made a big difference to the aesthetics of this major thoroughfare.

Interested in a City tree? Residents may choose from a select species of trees (including Australian Flame, Tristania, Canary Island Pine, Chinese Flame, Southern Magnolia, Fern Pine and Camphor) to have planted adjacent to their property through the Cal Fire Grant. Tree species information and photos can be found on the City's website. Please contact the Public Services Department at publicservices@norwalkca.gov or call (562) 929-5511 to submit your planting request. Tree planting is expected to be completed by the end of March 2015.

Tree Fact: Trees Save Water Shade from trees slows water evaporation from thirsty lawns. Most newly planted trees need only fifteen gallons of water a week. As trees transpire, they increase atmospheric moisture.



Curb Address Painting in April

Every two years, the City selects an independent contractor to repaint the curb addresses citywide. Care for the Children (CFC) has been selected to repaint curbs beginning early April.

Residents will receive a flyer from CFC representatives informing them of painting procedures prior to the painting taking place. Once the painting is completed, CFC will be soliciting voluntary donations which are tax deductible; however, residents are not required to give a donation for the work. More information on the curb painting program will be available in the April Norwalk NOW as well as on the City's website, norwalk.org. For questions, please call the Public Services Department at (562) 929-5511.

Please be advised that curb painters contracted with the City must always carry their identification badges and a copy of their City business license when painting addresses or soliciting donations. Report any unauthorized painting activity by calling the Public Safety Department at (562) 929-5732 during the following hours: Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. After these hours, please contact the Norwalk Sheriff's Station at (562) 863-8711.

Need Subsidized Childcare? We may be able to assist you

What is Subsidized Childcare?

Our programs can help pay for all or part of your childcare expenses. Varieties of childcare options are available throughout the community.

Who can be served?

Children from birth through 12 years of age. Older children with exceptional needs may also receive services.

Do I qualify?

Are you currently:

- Working
- Seeking Employment
- Enrolled in college or vocational training
- Receiving Cash Aid (TANF) within the last 24 months

How do I apply?

You may apply directly at Social Services Center. For more information, call (562) 462-1713



Home Improvement Guidelines

Spring and Summer are popular seasons for homeowners to tackle home improvement projects.

For residents planning to reroof their homes, replace windows, replace water heaters, or build a new patio, here are some helpful tips on obtaining permits for these projects. The information is intended as a guideline only – the process described may change depending on the complexity of the project. Call the Building & Safety Division if you have any further questions regarding this information.

Why are permits required and how do they benefit me?

The State adopts Building Codes to establish minimum construction standards and requires cities to adopt and enforce those codes for all construction activity in the community. The permit process ensures that each project meets a minimum set of safety standards and provides a legal record of the work performed. Having a permit is of benefit when selling your property or if you need to submit an insurance claim.

Who may obtain a permit?

Permits may be issued to a property owner or state-licensed contractor. An owner may obtain the permit whether or not he intends to perform the work or hire a contractor. If a contract is negotiated for the work, care should be taken to assure that all necessary work is specified to meet code standards. The owner

is ultimately responsible for code compliance. Work may not start until a permit is obtained.

Where do I obtain a permit?

Permits are issued by the Community Development Department, Rm. 12 at City Hall.

How do I obtain a permit for these projects?

In general, permits can be issued in one visit to City Hall for reroofing and water heater replacement projects. This also applies to window replacements, as long as the window is not increasing or decreasing in size. Regarding new patios, please contact Building & Safety staff to find out what plans need to be submitted and approved before permits will be issued.

Why does the work need to be inspected?

Inspections are performed to check that the work performed is properly completed. Re-roofing

and window permits typically need two inspections, and water heater replacements need one. A new patio project may need multiple inspections depending on the scope of the work. If an inspection does not pass, a reinspection will be needed. A good tip for homeowners hiring contractors is to make sure the project passes its final inspection before the contractor finishes the project and receives final payment. It would be beneficial for the property owner if the contractor is still available in case corrections need to be made.

How long are permits valid?

Permits are valid for 180 calendar days. They expire and become void if the work is not begun within 180 days of issuance or if work is suspended for a period of 180 days.



This information is intended as a guideline only. If you have any additional questions or would like to speak to an inspector please contact the Building & Safety Division at (562) 929-5733 or visit us in Room 12 at City Hall.



CHAMBER NETWORKING WORKSHOP & BREAKFAST

oin the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, March 26, from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m., for a networking breakfast featuring a "Social Media and Online Marketing Success Workshop." The workshop, which takes place at the Doubletree Hotel, will be provided by Mark Mikelat of Constant Contact. Mark is a small business growth consultant, author, corporate trainer and college business faculty member. Cost for the breakfast meeting is \$20 presale or \$25 at the door. Non-Chamber members pay an extra \$5. RSVP by Monday, March 23 at info@norwalkchamber.com or by calling (562) 864-7785. Tickets may also be purchased online at http://bit.ly/1Cm9J3H



City Wide Egg-normous Egg Hunt (All Ages)



Week of March 29

This is not your average Egg Hunt, this is an Eggnormous Egg Hunt! The week of March 29, residents can scour the City looking for the Egg-normous Eggs. Eggs will be placed randomly throughout

the City. It is up to you to find them! Eggs will be redeemed at the Egg-stravagant Egg Hunt event at City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, on April 4.

Winners must be Norwalk residents and only one egg may be redeemed per family (positive I.D will be required) on Saturday, April 4 at 12:00 p.m. For more information, please call (562) 929-5702.

Egg-stravagant Egg Hunt (Ages 10 & under)



Saturday, April 4 • 12:30-3:30 p.m. Norwalk Civic Center Lawn 12700 Norwalk Boulevard

Bring the whole family and enjoy an afternoon of fun. After the arrival of the Easter Bunny there will be four (4) egg hunts, one for each of the age groups listed below. Arrive early so your child

does not miss their designated hunt. Don't forget to get your photo taken with the Easter Bunny, photos are only \$3 each. There will also be fun, entertainment, games, and crafts. For more information, please call (562) 929-5702.

Egg Hunt Schedules

Tiny Tots (Ages 1½-3) 12:30 p.m. Funny Bunnies (Ages 4-5) 1:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. Egg Heads (Ages 6-7) Wacky Wabbits (Ages 8-10) 2:00 p.m.



"Coffee with a Cop"

Starbucks Coffee 10716 Firestone Blvd., Thursday, March 19 8:00-9:30 a.m.

The Public Safety Department is teaming up with Starbucks to kick off "Coffee with a Cop," bringing the community and local law enforcement together to provide information on department services and programs. For more information call (562) 929-5732.

Parkway Trees & Sewer Lateral Lines The City of Norwalk strives to protect and



enhance the urban forest as it is an essential element of the City's green infrastructure and provides a variety of benefits to the community, including cleaner air, reduced energy usage and higher property values. An Urban Forest Management Plan was developed to help address tree care, maintenance, and establish policies that are responsive to resident concerns to help address any issues that may arise while protecting the urban forest.

Residential and commercial sewer lines are the sole responsibility of the property/business owner. Owners are responsible for the maintenance and

repair of the sewer lateral line that connects from the building/house to the City's sewer main line, which is located near the street or sidewalk. The City recommends property owners periodically inspect their sewer lateral line for any blockage

In the event of a blockage in the lateral line, property owners are responsible for determining the cause and clearing the blockage of the line between the building and the City's sewer line. If the property owner believes a City owned tree has caused the problem, the owner should contact the City with evidence of such cause.

For more information, please contact the





Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup

Saturday, March 7, 2015 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Southern California Gas Company 8101 Rosemead Blvd. Pico Rivera

Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste the right way on Saturday: **MARCH 7, 2015**

BUSINESS WASTE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

What you CAN bring to an event (examples):

 Brake fluid, paint* paint thinner, cleaners with acid or lve, pesticides or herbicides, household batteries and car batteries, pool chemicals, motor oil, oil filters, expired pharmaceuticals anti-freeze and fluorescent light bulbs

can also recycle paint at participating retailers th

Household electronic waste including: Computer monitors, televisions, computer CPUs, keyboards, printers, cell

What you CAN'T bring to an event:

- · Hazardous waste and electronic waste from businesses.
- · Explosives, ammunition and radioactive materials
- · Trash and tires.
- · White goods such as refrigerators, stoves and washing machines,etc.

How to prepare items for transportation:

- Bring the items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.
- · Do not mix the items together.
- There is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip.
- · Be prepared to leave your containers and boxes. Remove all other items from your trunk.

Scan this code for a schedule of upcoming events and a complete listing of what you can and cannot bring, or contact: 1(888) CLEAN-LA www.CleanLA.com, or 1(800) 238-0172 • www.lacsd.org.

needles, pen needles, syringes, lancets, and intravenous eedles SHOULD NOT be placed in your trash. Bring them to the Roundups or visit www.CLEANLA.com for alternate disposal options. You can also take your used motor oil to more than 600 oil

of Public Works and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County in cooperation with the cities of Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Commerce,

Cudahy, Downey, La Mirada, Lynwood, Maywood, Montebello, Norwalk,

Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Vernon, and Whittie

Home-generated sharps waste such as hypodermic

recycling centers in Los Angeles County. Call 1(888) CLEAN-LA



Enter this Roundup

on S. Cal Gas

CERRITOS COLLEGE STELLAR SPORTS SEASON!

The Falcons have three state championships to add to their highlight reel. The men's soccer, women's soccer, and men's wrestling teams wrapped up their 2014 season as stars. At the February 17 City Council meeting, they were issued a commendation for their significant accomplishments.

All three teams won the California Community College Athletic Association State Championships. This is the second time in the school's history that both the men's and women's soccer teams captured the CCCAA State Championship in the same year. The last was in 2008.



Men's soccer head coach, Benny Artiaga was also named the National Coach of the

Year. Artiaga says, "By the end of the season we've got their respect and it's a lot easier to make demands that are not that far from our reach, which was the state championship."

Attaining a "three-peat" was the goal of the women's soccer team this season. Assistant coach



Patrick Rossi says, "These kinds of moments when you have a great team that works together, you take stuff away from it that makes choosing your profession rewarding."

When it comes to the wrestling team, the coach and



players are experiencing a win for the first time during their in dividual careers. 2002

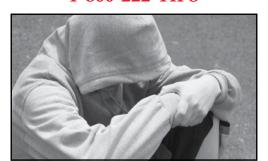
was the last time the wrestling team received the title of state champions. Wrestling coach Don Garriott, named the state's Coach of the Year, tells us what made this year, their year. "It's a very different group of guys, they have a little edge to them. We had to work on maintaining them and keeping them focused. Once we were able to do that, their talent came through."

Cerritos College holds 39 state championships titles.

CRIME STOPPERS

The Los Angeles Regional area offers a helpful tool in the fight against crime: Crime Stoppers. Crime Stoppers provides a safe and effective way to report criminal activity anonymously. Residents can safely and securely have two-way communication with law enforcement officials regarding crime that occurs within the City of Norwalk. You may also report crimes that occur within Los Angeles County. Crime Stoppers allows you to follow-up on your original tip by uploading images and adding additional information. You can report crimes online, via telephone, and via text. Rewards are offered if the information provided leads to the arrest or criminal filing of a felony or misdemeanor offender. As of January 3, 2015 Crime Stoppers has received over 42,000 tips. From those tips they have made over 1,600 arrest, solved 17 homicides, and have recovered over 100 weapons. The information provided will assist our Norwalk Sheriff's Department Detectives when investigating criminal activity. For more information regarding Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers visit:

www.lacrimestoppers.org
or call
1-800-222-TIPS



Upcoming Activities at the Norwalk Social Services Center 11929 Alondra Blvd.

*Free Income Tax Preparation

Now through April 13 Monday's 2:30 – 6:30 p.m. Saturday's 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. *Appointment Required

For an appointment call (323) 384-9549 Sponsored by Helpline Youth Counseling in conjunction with South Bay Center for Counseling

Free Blood Pressure Screening
Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Sponsored by Golden Outlook and Pioneer Medical Group

at the Norwalk Senior Center 14040 San Antonio Dr.

Benefits of a Good Night'sSleep - "Good Sleep for Emotional Well-Being"

Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Getting a good night's sleep is key for emotional well-being. Seniors will also learn about the importance of sleep and tips on healthy sleep habits.

Sponsored by: L.A. County Department of Mental Health

Neighborhood Watch - "Now You Know"

Wednesday, March 11, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Norwalk Public Safety will conduct a Neighborhood Watch meeting focused on the "Now You Know" program. Participants will learn about how this program helps inform residents of programs, events and important information pertaining to the City of Norwalk.

Healthy eating for diabetics - "Eating Healthy Never Tasted So Good"

Tuesday, March 31, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Learn proper, healthy nutrition for diabetics. The instructor will give meal ideas and recipes that are nutritious and delicious!

Sponsored by Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital (PIH)

Got Tires?

City of Norwalk Tire Recycling Event

The cities of Cerritos, Downey, La Mirada, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, and Santa Fe Springs are hosting a FREE used tire collection event at Norwalk City Hall Parking Lot, 12700 Norwalk Blvd. on Saturday, March 7, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Stop by to dispose of your used tires and help keep your city clean!

All Cerritos, Downey, La Mirada, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, and Santa Fe Springs residents are welcome! Proof of residency is required.

Help ensure that all used tires are collected safely and recycled. Residents can transport up to 9 tires maximum per trip. Multiple trips are okay. Please bring passenger and light truck tires only. NO semi truck, construction equipment or agricultural tractor tires are accepted. Tires from businesses and non-profits will not be accepted. ALL tires must be removed from the rims.

Help keep the cities Clean and Green! For more information about this event please call (562) 801-4368 or (562) 944-4766.



The Latest Stuff from Norwalk Regional & Alondra Libraries

Master Gardener Help Desk Every first Saturday of the Month

2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Meet one-on-one with Master Gardener

Monica Gross from the Los Angeles

County, University of California
Cooperative Extension.
Questions about what to plant
where or why a certain plan is
dying? Problems with slugs or bugs?

Bring all questions and plant problems to the Master Gardener!

Free seedling or seed packets for all who use the Master Gardener's services.

For ADA accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter or materials in an alternate format, call (562) 940-8462 (voice) or (562) 940-8477 (TTY), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at least six days prior to event.

Book Discussion: Where'd You Go, Bernadette Monday, March 30, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.



In March, Norwalk Library's book group will read and discuss Maria Semple's Where'd You Go, Bernadette. When the harried wife of a Microsoft executive goes missing, her teenage daughter pieces together clues to solve her mother's disappearance. Written by a television comedy writer

(whose credits include "Saturday Night Live" and "Arrested Development"), Bernadette is screwball satire of wealth and privilege. Copies of the book are available at the Information Desk. New members are always welcome.

Free Music Downloads with your Library Card

Here's a list of just a few of the Grammy winners available free with your County of Los Angeles Public Library card, available through both Norwalk and Alondra Libraries:



Miranda Lambert Platinum (record)



Pharrell Williams G I R L (record)



Beyoncé Drunk in Love (song)



Weird Al Yankovich Mandatory Fun (record)



Carrie Underwood Something in the Water (song)



A Great Big World Say Something (song)

Five free songs a week are available to all card holders at colapublib.org/music.

Millions of titles, thousands of labels!



Like us on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/LACountyLibrary



Follow us on Twitter

@LACountyLibrary







Highlights from 45th Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, February 11



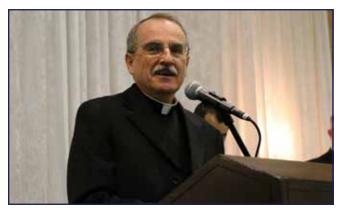








































Highlights from State of the City Address Friday, February 20



































