

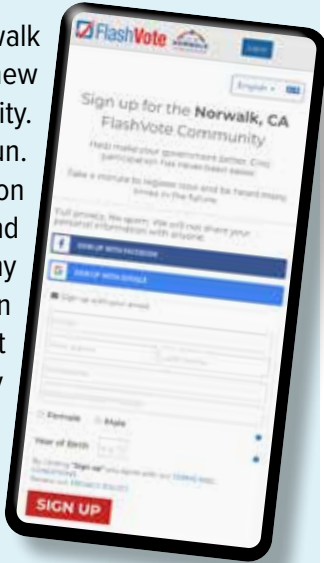
Norwalk^eNow

The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California
September 2023, Volume 44, #9 • @cityofnorwalkca



Do You Have 1 Minute to Improve Norwalk?

You're invited! Norwalk invites you to join its new FlashVote community. It's free, fast, and fun. Community participation has never been easier and we'd love your help! Why join? Give us your input on the issues you care about in seconds, from any device, anytime. Results from the community are shared within days. FlashVote protects your privacy and is independent from the City of Norwalk. Don't miss a survey – sign up today at www.flashvote.com/norwalkca.



FINAL Front Street Friday Night Concert of Summer!

This FREE concert will be on Friday, September 15 from 5 - 9 p.m. and will feature Angeles Mariachi. This group was a favorite last year and they will return to provide some excellent regional Mexican music for attendees to sing and dance the evening away.

The concert will be located in the city of Norwalk's historical Front Street between San Antonio Dr. and Funston Ave.

There will also be food booths, a kids area, exhibitors, art vendors, a photo booth and more.

For more information, please call (562) 929-5566 or visit Norwalk.org/FUN

¡Ven al concierto FINAL del viernes por la noche en Front Street del verano! Este concierto GRATUITO será el viernes 15 de septiembre de 5 a 9 p.m. con Ángeles Mariachi. El concierto será en la histórica Front Street de la ciudad de Norwalk entre San Antonio Dr. y Funston Ave.

También habrá puestos de comida, un área para niños, expositores, vendedores de arte, un fotomatón y más. Para obtener más información, llame al (562) 929-5566 o visite Norwalk.org/FUN

FRONT STREET
Every 3rd Friday of the month *friday nights*

JULY 21 ANYTHING FOR SELENA	AUGUST 18 POP VINYL	SEPTEMBER 15 ANGELES MARIACHI
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FRIDAYS • 5 - 9 P.M.
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD BOOTHS • KIDS AREA
EXHIBITORS • ART VENDORS • PHOTO BOOTH

LOCATED IN HISTORIC NORWALK, ON FRONT ST.
BETWEEN SAN ANTONIO DR. AND FUNSTON AVE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (562) 929-5566
OR VISIT WWW.NORWALK.ORG/FUN

Back to School Safety Tips

With children returning to school, the Norwalk Public Safety Department would like to remind residents to travel safely in school zones. Residents can anticipate congested streets around school zones and, as a reminder, everyone should always obey all traffic laws in these areas.



Drivers:

- Obey school zone speed limits.
- Follow drop-off & Pick-up rules.
- Make eye contact with crossing children.
- Don't pass loading/unloading school buses.
- Give a 10ft space to buses to allow a safe bus entry/exit for children.

Pedestrians:

- Use sidewalks whenever possible.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing.
- Cross at crosswalks and watch for vehicles.
- Stay attentive – avoid distracted walking.



For more school safety tips visit <https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/school-safety/school-safety-home>



More Public Safety Material Inside!



NO Street Sweeping OR Trash Pickup



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
IN OBSERVANCE OF
LABOR DAY



When trash is not picked up on a holiday, service is delayed one day for the remainder of that week. For example, if a holiday occurs on Monday, trash pick-up is a day later for the entire week.

Street sweeping will not be made up for days missed due to the holidays.

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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ENERGY corner

SoCal Gas CARE Program



Are you in need of financial relief for your gas bill? You may qualify for 20% off your natural gas bill with Southern California Gas Company's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program. This program is for eligible customers in need of assistance. It only takes a few minutes to apply, and no additional documentation is required. For more information, visit <https://www.socalgas.com/save-money-and-energy/assistance-programs/california-alternate-rates-for-energy>

SoCal Edison FERA & CARE Program



Are you in need of financial assistance for your electricity bill? You may qualify for 18% or up to 30% off your electricity bill with Southern California Edison Company's Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) program or California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program. These programs are for customers whose income may have recently changed and need financial relief. Both programs have the same application, and it only takes a few minutes to sign up with no additional documentation required. For more information, visit <https://www.sce.com/residential/assistance/care-fera>

Recycle Your Used Batteries



Household battery recycling is free and easy at these drop-off locations during regular business hours:

Norwalk City Hall
12700 Norwalk Blvd.

Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex
13000 Clarkdale Ave.

Norwalk Senior Center
14040 San Antonio Dr.

Norwalk Social Services Center
11929 Alondra Blvd.



Keepin' It Norwalk Business Spotlight

What is your favorite Boba Spot

The nomination period runs from Sunday, September 3 to Sunday, September 10



Be sure to follow us on social media (@cityofnorwalkca) to see regular updates about improvements in progress or completed in your community!

Streets Rehabilitation Project Update

Please pardon our mess! The city is investing in new concrete and asphalt improvements in multiple neighborhoods in the coming months. In Zones 3 and 8, work is underway and is expected to finish Winter 2024, weather permitting.



Mercy Housing & Norwalk Storage Update

Exciting progress is underway at Mercy Housing (Foster Rd. and San Antonio Dr.) and Norwalk Self Storage Facility (Dinard Ave/Off the 5 FWY)! The Mercy Housing development will be the future site of the Veterans Villas at San Antonio Drive. The Villas will be a 60-home, affordable residential apartment development with supportive services. The development will provide much-needed affordable housing for veterans and their families.



Parks & Recreation Department Section

Park Pals



It's back to school time! Visit one of your local parks for free homework help, arts and crafts, and more! Our afterschool park program takes place weekdays (excluding Wednesdays) from 2:30 - 6 p.m., Wednesdays 1 - 6 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. and is held at the following parks: Gerdes, Hermosillo, Holifield, New River, Ramona, Sara Mendez, and Vista Verde.

Spray Pools - Extended



Summer is coming to an end, but the heat is here to stay! Our spray pools will remain open on Saturdays from 12 - 2 p.m. through the month of September. Visit Gerdes Park, Hermosillo Park, Ramona Park, Sara Mendez, and Vista Verde Park for all the water fun!

Art in the Park



Spend your Saturday mornings with us at New River Park channeling your inner artist! The free program features a different art project each week and is open to all ages. Join us at the park every Saturday, September 9 - October 7 from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Toddler Town



Looking for a fun and educational based program for your preschool-aged toddler? Register for Toddler Town's fall sessions taking place September 11 through October 1 and October 23 through November 30. The class options are Monday/Wednesday/Friday or Tuesday/Thursday from 9 a.m - 12 p.m. Spots fill up quickly, so make sure to register today online or in person at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex. The session fee is \$70 for residents and \$80 for non-residents.

HEART Club Saturday Mornings



As part of our Adaptive Recreation program, HEART Club is designed for teens and adults 13 and over with developmental, physical, and/or learning disabilities. The basketball program takes place at Gerdes Park on Saturdays, September 9 through 30 from 8:30-10 a.m. Each morning will end with a 5 on 5 game and a healthy snack. Registration fee is \$15.



Kids & Cops Footgolf Tournament

Don Knabe Golf Center & Junior Academy

Join Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies and Norwalk Public Safety Officers in a new twist to the annual Kids and Cops Tournament with glow in the dark footgolf on Saturday, September 23! The tournament is a fun way to introduce Norwalk youth to their local law enforcement and to create positive relationships between officers and the community. Admission is \$10 per player. Register online at norwalk.org/classes or at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex by September 11.

Movie Night At the Park



Come and enjoy a FREE movie under the stars! There will be two final Movie Nights at the Park event for the summer, so be sure to come and bring your family, friends, blankets, lawn chairs, and favorite snacks. Pre-show starts at 6:30 p.m. and the movie begins at dusk.

The Super Mario Bros. at Holifield Park
(12500 Excelsior Dr.) on Friday, September 8.

Hocus Pocus at Glazier Park
(10810 Excelsior Dr Norwalk, CA 90650) on October 6.

Seating is on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call (562) 929-5566.

Youth Sports Basketball for All!



Our co-ed pee wee basketball program provides children ages 3-5 an opportunity to learn the basic fundamentals of basketball through fun, play activity. Classes take place at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex (NASC) indoor basketball gym every Friday, October 6-27. The fee is \$25 per participant.

Our youth basketball league provides instruction and friendly competition in a safe and structured environment. Sign your 5-13 year old for an unforgettable basketball learning experience. Practices and games will take place at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex (NASC) gym and Norwalk Park's outdoor court from November 4 through December 16. The fee is \$40 per participant.

Registration for both co-ed pee wee basketball and youth basketball opens at 9 a.m. on September 2. Register online at norwalk.org/classes or in-person at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex.



COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

September is National Preparedness Month

When we raise awareness about the importance of being prepared for disasters and emergencies.

Here are some simple steps that you can take to help protect yourself and your loved ones in the event of a disaster.



Plan: Discuss communication, meeting spots, and out-of-town contact with family/friends for emergencies.



Know Hazards: Identify local risks, locate gas/water shut-offs, and review insurance policies.



Kit: Prepare supplies (including for pets) to last days – food, water, first aid, flashlights, radio.



Connect: Get emergency updates via Nixle App, text 90650 to 888-777 for Norwalk alerts.

For more information, visit the United States' Ready website at <https://www.ready.gov/september#2023>

For Spanish, visit <https://www.ready.gov/es/septiembre>

Ready, launched in February 2003, is a National public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural and man-made disasters.

Take Safety Precautions & Be Vigilant At Home
Here are some safety tips to keep you and your family safe at home:

- Keep doors and windows locked.
- Deadbolt locks on doors are highly encouraged.
- For sliding glass doors and windows, place a dowel or steel rod in the track to protect against forced entry.
- Keep porch and yard lights on during the evening.

Following these tips will help your home be less susceptible to break-ins.
If you see something suspicious, say something. Report suspicious activity to Norwalk Public Safety at (562) 929-5732. In the event of an emergency, always call 9-1-1.

Be Cautious with Suspicious Solicitors
The Norwalk Public Safety Department would like to remind residents to stay vigilant against people going door-to-door posing as sales people or utility workers.



• Never open the door to someone you do not know. If you feel uneasy, don't open the door. Call the utility company or the organization the person claims to represent to double check they're supposed to be at your property.

• If solicitors try to approach you while you are outside, do not let them approach. Say, "No thank you," walk back into your house, and close and lock your door.

• Watch where the solicitor goes next, if possible and when you are in a safe location, and notice what they do. Look for suspicious behavior such as looking in car windows, testing doors for locks, or entering back yards.

• Immediately call 9-1-1 to report aggressive individuals who act in a threatening manner to law enforcement or call the Norwalk Public Safety Non-Emergency line at (562) 929-5732 to report suspicious individuals. Remember to provide a description of the individual.

• *Aquí hay algunos recordatorios para estar atentos a las personas que van de puerta en puerta haciéndose pasar por vendedores o trabajadores de servicios públicos.*

• *Nunca abra la puerta a extraños. Si te sientes incómodo, evita abrir. Verifique con la empresa de servicios públicos o la organización reclamada antes de admitir.*

• *Rechazar a los solicitantes externos con un "No, gracias". Vuelve a casa, cierra la puerta.*

• *Observe sus acciones desde adentro para detectar comportamientos inusuales, como mirar dentro de los autos, revisar las cerraduras o ingresar a los patios.*

• *Llame inmediatamente al 9-1-1 para denunciar a las personas agresivas que actúen de manera amenazante a las fuerzas del orden. Para denunciar personas sospechosas, llame a la línea de no emergencia de seguridad pública de Norwalk al (562) 929-5732. Recuerde proporcionar una descripción de la persona.*

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

- Go to www.nixle.com or text NWKREADY to 888-777 to sign up for emergency alerts
- Plan for food, water, and essentials for you and pets or service animals.
- Make a Go Bag for when you have to evacuate quickly
- Include medicines, medical supplies, batteries, and chargers.
- Plan for your transportation if you need help evacuating.
- Make copies of Medicaid, Medicare, and other insurance cards.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN AN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

- ✓ Contact information for important people and care providers.
- ✓ A list of medicines you need, dosage instructions, and any allergies.
- ✓ Contact information for your medical provider.
- ✓ Need-to-know information for first responders and others who might need to help you.

SOUND THE ALARM Save a Life

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Every day 7 people die in home fires. You can help change that.

The American Red Cross has teamed up with fire departments, volunteers, and partners to **Sound the Alarm** with home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events throughout the nation.

Our volunteers want to help you stay safe and will install **FREE** smoke alarms in homes, help create escape plans, and share fire safety information.

Help the **City of Norwalk** Sound the Alarm about fire safety. Request a free smoke alarm installation today!

To schedule an appointment, please call: (310) 445-9914 OR Complete the online form at: www.redcross.org/LAHomeFire

New Traffic Ordinance in Effect

To address safety and nighttime noise nuisance levels, streets in Norwalk designated as "Truck Routes" are now restricted to commercial vehicles over 10,000 pounds (vehicle and load) from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m., per Norwalk Ordinance No. 23-1740U.

This ordinance will be strictly enforced by the Norwalk Sheriff's Department on city streets and non-compliance may result in traffic fines.

During the day, commercial vehicles will be able to continue to use the designated truck routes. By addressing safety and nuisance noise levels, Norwalk continues to enhance our community's quality of life.

BE PREPARED BE READY BE TRAINED BE PART OF THE EMERGENCY TEAM

CERT
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

CERT FOR SENIORS
!!UPCOMING TRAINING!!
Tuesday September 12 1 PM to 3 PM
14040 San Antonino Dr, Norwalk, CA
(NORWALK SENIOR CENTER)

WHAT IS CERT?
The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?
Contact the Norwalk Office of Emergency Management at 562-929-5919 or email oem@norwalkca.gov

JOIN TODAY!



Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Dr • 562-929-5580

CalFresh

First & Third Tuesdays monthly • 9 - 11 a.m.

A CalFresh Outreach worker, from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, is available onsite to assist seniors with their CalFresh application. The CalFresh Outreach worker is also available via phone to assist seniors throughout the week (323) 855-0496.

Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Weekly meeting with Veterans

Every Wednesday • 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Veterans are able to make an appointment to meet one on one with a Veteran Service Officer (VSO), from the Los Angeles County Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (MVA) every Wednesday. The VSO's one on one meetings allow veterans the ability to get individualized assistance with their VA benefits. To schedule an appointment, call the Norwalk Senior Center (562) 929-5580.

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia

Wednesday, September 6 • 2 - 3 p.m.

Staff from Alzheimer's Association will be sharing information about detection, causes, risk factors, stages and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

Senior Smart Phone Training (Android in Spanish)

Thursday, September 7 • 1 - 3 p.m.

Join us for a Free Senior Smart Phone training (Android models only) to help make smartphones work better for you. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

Senior Safety Program: Internet & Phone Safety

Tuesday, September 12 • 10 - 11 a.m.

City of Norwalk Public Safety Department staff will be conducting a presentation on internet and phone safety. A public safety officer will provide information on how to protect yourself against internet hackers and telephone scammers by providing tips on cyber security. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

How to Save Money During the Holidays

Wednesday, September 13 • 10 - 11 a.m.

Staff from the California Department of Financial Protection & Innovation will be conducting an educational presentation on how to save money this holiday season. This presentation will provide valuable tips on how to avoid financial fraud and how to plan your budget to enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

FREE Magical Masquerade Mixer

Thursday, September 14 • 6 - 8 p.m.



Come dressed with your best and celebrate the night! Whatever you do, do not forget your masks! Come and enjoy an evening of music and dancing with family and friends. We will have raffles and guaranteed fun! Light refreshments will be provided.

Registration Now Open. (Space is limited, one ticket per person). Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

AARP Driver Safety Classes

Monday, September 18 • 1 - 5 p.m.

& Wednesday, September 20 • 1 - 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20/AARP members, \$25/non-members

Join us for an in-person course to update your driving skills and your knowledge of the rules, and hazards, of the road. Upon completion of this course, you may qualify for an auto insurance discount*. This 8-hour class is taught over two days, and attendance at both classes is required. Pre-registration is required, call (562) 929-5580 for information. *Check with your auto insurance agent for possible discount information.

FREE Keeping It Crafty: Grandparents Day Hand Art

Tuesday, September 19 • 3 - 5 p.m.

The promise for tomorrow and the hopes of dreams come true, a reminder of the childhood which is still a part of you, the wonder of a miracle from which this love began, there is so much found in the touch of a grandchild's hand. Join us as we create a lasting memory working on a Grandparents Day craft. Light refreshments will be provided.

Norwalk resident* registration begins Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Open registration begins Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. *Photo identification with proof of residency required. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

FREE Karaoke Cabaret

Thursday, September 21 • 2 - 5 p.m.

Come one, come all, to our Karaoke Cabaret and enjoy an afternoon of singing, laughter, and fun. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

FREE Garden Day

Tuesday, September 26 • 2 - 4 p.m.

Did you know the senior center has a community garden? Join us for a day of hands on work and show us your green thumb. We will be planting new flowers, produce and soil on our raised beds. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited.

Norwalk resident* registration begins Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Open registration begins Tuesday, September 19, 2023. *Photo identification with proof of residency required. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.



Social Services Center

11929 Alondra Blvd • 562-929-5544

Mammogram

Tuesday, September 19 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
by appointment only

Alinea MEDICAL IMAGING will be providing mobile mammography services during the month of September. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

Music Mania Karaoke

Thursday, September 7 • 5 - 7 p.m.

Cost: Free

You're going to Hollywood! Showcase your singing in the form of Karaoke. All residents are encouraged to participate and sing their hearts out in this judgment free environment. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided.

Into the Arts Drawing Class

Thursday, September 21 • 5 - 7 p.m.

Cost: Free

Stop by the center for fun in art design as we collectively learn how to draw through quality instruction from an instructor. This creative experience allows beginners to learn how to sketch and get a better understanding of what it is like to draw.

Family Zumba Night

Second & Fourth Wednesday of the month
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

A fun and easy way to keep your family active with Zumba. To register, please call (562) 929-5544.

Foundation for Life

First & third Monday of every month
6 - 8 p.m.

Leadership and mentorship program for young men, ages 14 - 18. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

Neurotics Anonymous

Tuesdays Weekly • 12 - 2 p.m.

Thursdays Weekly • 6 - 8 p.m.

If you suffer from fear, anxiety, loneliness, anger, depression, or other emotions that may make life unbearable, you are encouraged to seek help from Neurotics Anonymous. Spanish only. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Every Monday & Tuesday • 6 - 8 p.m.

Peer support group intended to guide and encourage individuals trying to recover from alcoholism. Spanish Only. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

L.A.D.Y.

(Leadership and Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women)

Second & Fourth Thursday of every month
6 - 8 p.m.

Mentoring 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. For more information please call, (562) 929-5544.

Youth Intervention Services

Youth Intervention services are available 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, please call Norwalk Social Services at (562) 929-5544.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Second & Fourth Wednesday of the month
6 - 8 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. To make an inquiry or to schedule an appointment, please contact Silvia at (562) 448-4816.

Senior Zumba Classes

First & Third Wednesdays Monthly
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. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

Loteria

Every Friday • 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Seniors are encouraged to join our free loteria mornings at the Social Services Center. For more information, please call (562) 929-5544.

CEA-H.O.W.

Every Tuesday • 10 - 11:30 a.m. (Spanish Only)

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.