

# NorwalkNow

The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California  
 March 2024, Volume 45, #3 • @cityofnorwalkca



## Promote Home & Business Beautification Contest

Are you proud of your home or business looking clean, well-kept, and attractive? If so, enter the Community Promotion Commission's Annual Home and Business Beautification Contest!

The submission period is March 1 - 22

To submit your property, head to [www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest](http://www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest), scroll down to the Home & Business Beautification Contest section, and submit the form.

The contest is an opportunity for residents and businesses to showcase the time and hard work they invest in maintaining their home or business.

Contest winners are chosen in four categories:

- Curb Appeal
- Home Improvements
- Multi-family Dwelling
- Interior Business Appeal



Submit a property for the contest by visiting: [www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest](http://www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest) or scan this QR code



Entries can be self-nominated or nominated by other individuals as long as the City can contact the property owner. The Community Promotion Commission selects the winners, who are then recognized at a City Council Meeting.

### Some things to know:

- Nominations are accepted at [www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest](http://www.Norwalk.org/communitycontest).
- If the submission is a business, the property must have a valid, current business license in the City of Norwalk.
- Homes and business properties to be judged must be in good standing per City of Norwalk's municipal code.
- Beautification elements must be visible from a public right-of-way (such as a sidewalk).

## Mayor Kicks Off Meet and Greet Events

On February 12th, Mayor Margarita L. Rios held a "Meet the Mayor Event" as a chance for residents to come out and pour their hearts out with her and have their voices heard. There was a great turnout of residents and the community attending.

A special thank you to the Social Services Center for allowing the City to utilize its facility for the event. Stay tuned to the City's social media pages for future upcoming events!

### Shamrock Social:

#### Meet the Mayor and Make Connections!

Get ready for a jolly St. Patrick's Day themed social at our "Meet the Mayor" event on March 11th from 5-7 pm! Join us at El Baja California Bar and Grill (11521 Firestone Blvd.) for an evening filled with community spirit and friendly chats. Meet Mayor Margarita L. Rios, where you can ask questions, swap ideas, or simply soak up the good vibes with the community. Light refreshments will be served first come, first served. Don't miss out on this fantastic chance to mingle with your Norwalk neighbors.



## Important Information: Norwalk Utility User Tax (UUT)

If you are a senior citizen or someone who qualifies for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for the blind and disabled, you may be eligible for an exemption from the UUT!

To apply for the exemption, all you need to do is return the completed application. It's a simple process that could make a big difference for those who qualify. You can access the application at [www.Norwalk.org/uut](http://www.Norwalk.org/uut). For questions, call (562) 929-5750.

## A Connected Community on Nextdoor

Norwalk is on Nextdoor! Connect and engage with your local community through this hyperlocal social network and hear about the amazing things going on in Norwalk. Adding Nextdoor to how you receive information from the City is part of Norwalk's dedication to keep you connected. Sign up for free at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com).



Recreation and Park Services Department

## ARTASTIC

Friday, March 15, 2024  
 6-9 p.m.

Cultural Arts Center  
 13200 Clarkdale Avenue,  
 Norwalk, CA 90650

Student Art Exhibit	Chalk Art Competition	Arts and Crafts
Entertainment	Book Fair	Food Trucks
	Dance	

Follow us on social media for the latest updates! [@recnorwalk](https://www.instagram.com/recnorwalk)

For more information, please call (562) 929-5521.

## Care for the Children Curb Painting Project

Nestled in our vibrant city of Norwalk, Care For The Children has been making a difference and impacting lives during the past 14 years. Our Engineering Department plans to roll out a curb painting project that is estimated to roll out by March/April of this year!

Care for the Children is a charity that uses address painting on Cities' curbs as a way of fundraising, with the mission to provide food for senior citizens and provide clothing to families in need.

Their Food Baskets for Seniors Program delivers 40 pounds of fresh food monthly to 378 homebound seniors, serving 93 in Norwalk and 285 across six other cities. Their dedication extends to various cities including Norwalk, La Mirada, La Habra, Bellflower, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, and Pico Rivera. Care For The Children sets itself apart with a commitment to give back, donating 20% of net proceeds to local charities, notably supporting the Norwalk Food Pantry. Residents are invited to support their noble cause with a tax-deductible donation.

Let's join hands in supporting their invaluable work, because it's our community's care that truly makes us shine! For more information, please call (562) 929-5778.



## Norwalk City Council

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

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

PRSR STD  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit No. 1139  
 Whittier, CA

To Postal Patron



## “You Voted, We Visited!”

### Top Menuo Spots

Every month, we ask for your top Norwalk business recommendations. The Norwalk Community Promotion Commission is proud to present the February Business 2024 Spotlight. Follow us on social media (@cityofnorwalkca) to vote for the next spotlight in March!

#### February - Top Rated “Menuo” Spots

##### Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant

10640 Rosecrans Ave.

##### Noemi’s Mexican Food

14350 Pioneer Blvd.

##### Angie’s Mexican Food

14346 Pioneer Blvd.

## March Business Spotlight

### Who serves the Best Bagels in Town?

The nomination period runs from March 1 - 10



## Construction Corner

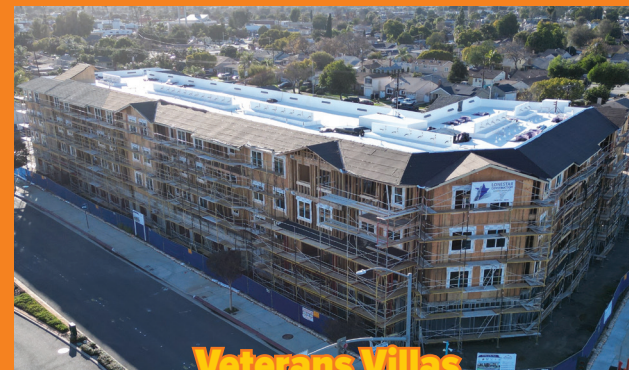
Be sure to follow us on social media (@cityofnorwalkca) to see regular updates about improvements in progress or completed in your community!



### Tesla Dealership

#### Setting a New Standard in Innovation

The Tesla dealership at Imperial Highway and Woods Avenue is going above and beyond! They have started to install top-notch air conditioning systems, showing their commitment to excellence. This progress highlights Tesla's dedication to providing a fantastic customer experience. You can find this forward-thinking dealership at 11729 Imperial Highway, setting a new standard in automotive service.

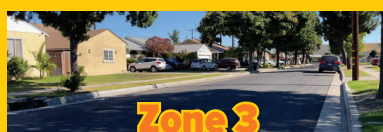


### Veterans Villas

#### Construction Continues, Anticipated Opening Late 2024

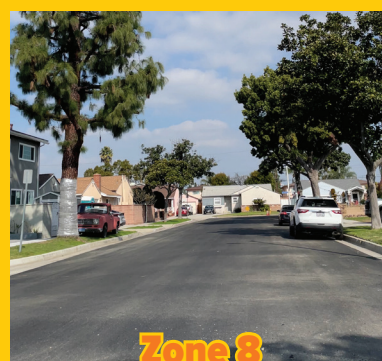
Despite weather-related setbacks, construction of Veterans Villas persists, building anticipation for its opening as early as Fall/Winter this year! The project for affordable veteran housing perseveres, showing commitment to progress. Scheduled for unveiling later this year, it promises a profound impact on veterans' lives, including providing vital housing and resources. For more information, including leasing details, please visit [www.norwalkveteransvillas.org](http://www.norwalkveteransvillas.org).

## Paving the Way to Progress



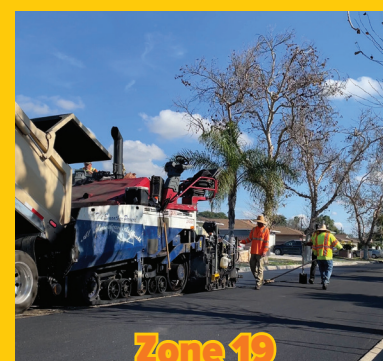
### Zone 3

In Zone 3, significant strides have been made in completing contracted work, marking a milestone in the ongoing project covering Dollisson Drive to Gravestone Ave, north of Imperial Highway. Everyone can enjoy the fresh road markings, smooth surfaces, ADA-accessible ramps, and new asphalt. As the contract close out progresses, the contractor is required to touch up minor repair areas before the City will accept the project as complete and initiate the warranty period.



### Zone 8

Despite facing unexpected weather challenges, Zone 8 has demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination in its pavement improvements. The project continues to advance steadily and nearing completion.



### Zone 19

Zone 19, near Bloomfield, Rosecrans Ave, and Shoemaker Road, is getting its final touches. Despite the recent rain, completion is pending suitable temperatures! Additionally, pavement striping work is also underway.

## Upcoming Recreation Events & Activities



### Save the Date: Artastic 2024

Friday, March 15, 2024; 6-9 p.m.

Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Ave.

Join us for “ARTASTIC”, a free community festival celebrating the arts and highlighting the Cultural Arts Center’s programs and classes. This free event will feature interactive art activities, music and dance performances, chalk art competition, student art exhibit, and much more! This year, make sure to join us for “Dancing in the Streets!”

Our local dance instructors will be at the event, teaching participants to bachata, merengue and salsa! For more information, please call (562) 929-5521.

### Youth Basketball

The Youth Indoor Basketball League provides fundamental instruction and friendly competition in a safe and structured environment. Registration is currently being accepted at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave. The fee includes a jersey and a participation award. Registration will close on March 27 or when all available spots are filled. For more information, please call (562) 929-5566.

### Volunteer Coaches Needed!

The City of Norwalk Recreation and Park Services Department sponsors a year-round youth sports program, and a successful program depends on you! These programs are conducted solely with the support of volunteer coaches. Volunteer coaches are needed for the upcoming soccer, baseball and volleyball programs. If you would like to volunteer, please visit the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex (NASC), 13000 Clarkdale Avenue, and complete a Volunteer Coach form. This will be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life! Be sure to attend the coaches meeting to review the rules and philosophy of our program.

#### Coaches’ Meetings\*:

Basketball W, Mar 27, 7 p.m., NASC

Kickball W, Jun 26, 7 p.m., NASC

\*Please Note: In accordance with State regulations, the City of Norwalk fingerprints all volunteer coaches and their assistants at no cost during the coaches meeting. Please bring a valid photo I.D.

### Norwalk Stingrays Swim Team

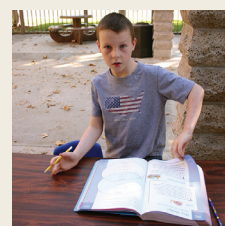


Are you interested in competitive water sports? The Recreation Department offers a great swim program for ages 6-18. The Norwalk Stingrays is a novice swim team designed to teach and encourage young people to participate in watersports on a competitive yet fun basis. In addition, it aims to enhance swimming techniques and develop endurance in the water. Team members will learn the basic competitive skills and train to compete in swim meets all year round.

Team practices are held Monday-Friday from 6-8 p.m. at the Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion located at Norwalk Park. The registration fee is \$70 per month/swimmer. You may register in person or online at [tinyurl.com/norwalkaquatics](http://tinyurl.com/norwalkaquatics). For more information, please call the Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion at (562) 929-5622.

### Afterschool Park Program

Visit a local park near you for afterschool homework help, arts and crafts, games and more! Recreation leaders are staffed at the parks below Monday through Friday after school dismissal to 5:30 p.m. Post daylight savings time, the parks will be staffed to 7 p.m. Parks are currently staffed 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Hope to see you there!



Gerdes Park, 14700 Gridley Rd  
Hermosillo Park, 11959 162nd St  
Holifield Park, 12500 Excelsior Dr  
New River Park, 13432 Halcourt Ave  
Ramona Park, 13244 Mapledale St  
Sara Mendez Park, 11660 Dune St  
Vista Verde Park, 11459 Ratliffe St

### Egg-Stravagant Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30, 2024 from 12-4:30 p.m.  
City Hall Lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

Bring the whole family and enjoy an afternoon of fun, egg hunts, games, crafts, and entertainment. Don't forget to take a memorable photo with the Easter Bunny for only \$5. Arrive early so your child does not miss their designated egg hunt time. For more information, please call (562) 929-5702.

#### Egg Hunt Schedule:

Egg hunts will have scheduled time slots and be categorized by age. Families are encouraged to arrive early before their child’s scheduled time slot.

1 PM	Children with Disabilities	
	Tiny Tots (Small Hunt Area)	2-3 years*
1:30 PM	Egg Heads	6-8 years
2 PM	Funny Bunnies (Small Hunt Area)	4-5 years
	Wacky Wabbits	9-12 years

\*\*Participants must be accompanied by a legal guardian to participate.



# COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE

## Norwalk Public Safety 35 Years of Serving Our Community



Neighborhood Watch 1986



Neighborhood Law Enforcement Center 1990



Junior Park Rangers 1999



Public Safety 2000



Public Safety School Visit 2004



Public Safety Department 2004



Christmas Shopping Spree 2019



Senior Center Workshop 2023



Coffee With a Quadrant Officer 2024



Business Watch 2024



Neighborhood Watch 2024



Public Safety Department 2024

Saturday March 23 9-11 am

11729 Imperial Hwy.

Volunteers Needed!

## COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Join the City of Norwalk and your neighbors as we spruce up the Corner of Imperial Hwy and Pioneer Blvd.

For more information, or questions call (562) 929-5732 or e-mail us at: PublicSafety@norwalkca.gov.

Scan this QR code to sign up.

## Join Us for Spanish CERT Training and Disaster Preparedness Sessions!

Norwalk residents, mark your calendars for some exciting events aimed at enhancing your disaster preparedness skills and making a difference in your community! The Operations Emergency Management department will host a Spanish CERT Training session on April 5th. This session aims to equip attendees with the knowledge and tools needed to contribute to something bigger and make a positive impact in times of emergency.

But that's not all! On April 6th, the session will cover a wide range of topics, including disaster preparedness, life-safety support techniques, and light search and rescue techniques.

And for those who cannot make the first two events, don't worry! On April 13th, the Community Emergency Response Team will be back to educate volunteers on disaster preparedness and community hazards. Be sure to check out the flyers for these events and scan the QR code for more information.

## LOOKING FOR CADETS!

POST 421

Calling all teens! Are you ready to join a program that is both exciting and enriching? The Public Safety Cadet Program is your chance to enhance your work ethic, master valuable leadership skills, and polish your sense of responsibility. Join us today and start your journey with Norwalk Public Safety. For more information, call (562) 929-5732.



# Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Dr • 562-929-5580

## Peer Support Group Hope and Well-Being

Mondays Weekly • 10 - 11 a.m.

Cost: Free

Call-in Number: 1 (323) 776-6996

Conference ID: 283 956 208#

The Service Area 7 Peer Resource Center is proud to bring services to the Norwalk Senior Center. Participants are invited to join in discussing topics intended to support community growth and well-being through peer support, art, and personal experiences. This group is bilingual in English and Spanish. You may participate in-person at the Norwalk Senior Center or on phone by dialing the number above and Conference ID #.

## CalFresh

First & Third Tuesday 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.

## Laughter Yoga

Wednesday, March 6 • 2 - 3 p.m.

Do you have enough laughter in your life? Did you know that you could turn laughing into exercise? Join us for Laughter Yoga where staff from Scan Independence at Home will teach you how to combine laughter with yoga breathing to make exercise fun! This presentation will be in a classroom setting; therefore, yoga mats are not required or needed to participate.

## Keeping It Crafty - Gnomes Galore

Tuesday, March 12 • 3 - 5 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00

There is no place like gnome, you gnome what I'm saying? Join us at our home, the senior center as we create gnome-inspired crafts for the spring season. Enjoy the colorful, artistic pieces you create and gift them or display them. Light refreshments will be served. Register now, space is limited.

## On the Move Riders Program

Wednesday, March 13 • 10 - 11 a.m.

Join us while Metro staff conduct an informative presentation on the On the Move Riders Program. You will learn how to ride public transportation and about fun destinations, benefits of having a Senior TAP card, how to be part of a travel club, trip planning and informative rider tips.

## Shamrock Shuffle Mixer

Thursday, March 14 • 6 - 8 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00

May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness comes through the door. Join us through the door of the senior center for some Irish kisses and shamrock wishes. Enjoy an evening of everything green, dancing and fun! Ticket sales are now open, space is limited.

## Succulents' Terrarium Workshop

Tuesday, March 19 • 3 - 5 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00

Green thumbs up! Our terrarium workshop provides an opportunity to connect with nature, unleash creativity and learn about the art of terrarium making. Let your creativity flourish and watch your living space come alive with your very own DIY terrarium. Light refreshments provided. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Norwalk residents may register now. Open registration begins on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

## Bunny Palooza

Thursday, March 28 • 3 - 5 P.M.

Cost: \$5.00



To all my peeps, don't worry, be hoppy! Sign up for this egg-stravagant event hosted at the Senior Center. This multi-activity event includes arts & crafts, games, and a center wide egg hunt! Perhaps, a special guest will join in on the fun. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

Norwalk resident\* registration begins Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Open registration begins Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

\*Photo identification with proof of residency required.

## Senior Safety: Personal Safety

Wednesday, January 27 • 10 - 11 a.m.

City of Norwalk Public Safety Department staff will be conducting a presentation on personal safety, how to remain safe while on the streets, whether in the car, walking, or while waiting for public transportation. The presentation will provide important safety tips, a safety tip video presentation, and a Q&A opportunity on personal safety. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE



# Social Services Center

11929 Alondra Blvd • 562-929-5544

## Family Movie Night - Space Jam

Thursday, March 7 • 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



Bring the family out for entertainment with a March Madness themed showing of "Space Jam." Donations of five canned foods are encouraged to help with the City's efforts in supplying food for those in need. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided.

## Flower Hour Crafts

Thursday, March 21 • 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Our Recreation staff will be leading and teaching participants how to create different types of flower crafts that can be used as home décor for the spring season. All ages are encouraged to participate. To register, please call (562) 929-5544.

## Family Zumba Night

Second & Fourth Wednesday Monthly  
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.



## Neurotics Anonymous

Tuesdays 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 & Advocacy

for the Direction of Young Women

Second & Fourth Thursday Monthly • 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 Monthly • 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 Wednesday 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

Date: 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.

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

Second & Fourth Thursday Monthly • 9 - 11 a.m.  
by appointment only

A Cal Fresh Outreach worker, from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, will be available to assist community members with their application. To schedule an appointment, please call (562) 929-5544.