<u> The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California</u> August 2024, Volume 45, #8 • @cityofnorwalkca













**Back-to-School Tips: Make This Year the Best** and Check Out Some **Events!** 

With school just around the corner, here are some friendly tips for you and your family. Start by setting a consistent bedtime so everyone is well-rested and ready for the day. Have a family chat about goals for the school year and make sure to put together a fun school supply list with all your essentials.

Summer might be coming to an end, but check out the Recreation and Park Services Brochure for our events taking place in August and September. And don't forget, safety first! Let's make this school year enjoyable.





Scan to view the Recreation and **Park Services Summer Brochure!** 

### **Community Listening Session**

August 22, 5-7 PM - Senior Center

Join us for a Community Listening Session on August 22 from 5-7 PM at the Senior Center. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to gather and contribute to the Connected Community. Your voice matters, and we want to hear from you!



### **Meet the Mayor: Paletas y Pláticas**

August 26, 5-7 PM - La Michoacana

Come meet Mayor Margarita L. Rios for "Paletas y Pláticas" or Popsicles and Conversations on August 26 from 5-7 PM at La Michoacana, located at 11788 Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650. Enjoy delicious paletas and engage in meaningful conversations with the Mayor. This event is a blend of fun and dialogue—don't miss it!

### **Introducing the City's New Online Public Requests Portal**

We are excited to announce the launch of the City's new online Public Requests portal, designed to streamline access to public records. This userfriendly platform provides a convenient way for residents to request and obtain the documents they need.

The new portal is now live and can be accessed through the City's website, simply scan the QR Code. Follow the instructions on the portal to detail the documents you are seeking.

The City Clerk's Department will handle your request promptly, ensuring you receive the information you need in a timely manner. For assistance, email recordsrequests@norwalkca.gov or call (562) 929-5720.





Scan to submit a request for public records.

www.norwalk.org/publicrecords

NORWALK CITY HALL **Save the Date: General Municipal Election** on November 5, 2024

Don't miss your chance to vote for three City Council members, each serving a full four-year term. If you're interested in running for office, the nomination period is July 15 to August 9, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. Schedule an appointment with City Clerk Theresa Devoy at (562) 929-5720 for more details. If an incumbent fails to meet the nomination deadline, it extends to August 14, 2024. Appointments will follow §10229 of the California Elections Code if there are one or no nominations. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on election day.

No pierda la oportunidad de votar por tres miembros del Consejo Municipal, cada uno de ellos para un mandato completo de cuatro años. Si está interesado en presentarse como candidato, el periodo de nominación es del 15 de julio al 9 de agosto de 2024, a las 5:00 p.m. Concierte una cita con la Secretaria Municipal Theresa Devoy en el (562) 929-5720 para más detalles. Si un titular no cumple con el plazo de nominación, éste se extiende hasta el 14 de agosto de 2024. Los nombramientos seguirán el §10229 del Código Electoral de California si hay una o ninguna nominación. Las urnas estarán abiertas de 7:00 a.m. a 8:00 p.m. el día de las elecciones.





Scan the QR code for more facts in getting started.

Escanee el código QR para obtener más información sobre cómo empezar.





Mayor Margarita L. Rios Vice Mayor Tony Ayala **Councilmember** Jennifer Perez

**Councilmember** Rick Ramirez Councilmember Ana Valencia

City of Norwalk 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650

PRSRT STD **US** Postage PAID Permit No. 1139 Whittier, CA

To Postal Patron

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Alternating Fridays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(562) 929-5700

### **Business Spotlight:**



### "You Voted, We Visited!"

### - Top Mini-Mart Spots

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

#### **July - Top Rated "Mini-Mart" Spots**

7-Eleven

**Various Locations in Norwalk** 

**Drinking Water and Food Mart** 

12836 1/2 Rosecrans Ave **Durkins** 

12128 Foster Rd.

### **August Business Spotlight**

Which place has the best Sandwiches?

Celebrate National Sandwich month! Tell us where to find the best cold/hot sandwiches!

The nomination period runs from August 1 - August 10.



### **Recognize a Hometown Hero**

The City of Norwalk is honored to be home to many individuals serving our country. If you are 1) on active duty or are an active reservist currently serving in any of the six branches of the United States Armed Forces, and 2) a Norwalk resident or immediate family of a Norwalk resident, a personalized banner will be created and displayed along the Imperial Highway corridor to recognize your service and daily sacrifices in the name of freedom.



### **Deadline to apply: August 15**

Applications are available online or in person at the City Hall Information Center, Room 1 at 12700 Norwalk Blvd.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (562) 929-5566 OR EMAIL RECSPORTS@NORWALKCA.GOV

\*PRACTICE TIMES ARE CHOSEN BY VOLUNTEER COACHES.

### **Construction Corner**

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

#### Veterans Villas Progress

Veterans Villas on San Antonio Drive is really starting to come together! The fresh exterior colors are looking amazing. Crews are underway with electrical work to bring power to the site. For more details, including leasing information, please visit www.norwalkveteransvillas.org.





### **Raising Cane's is Raising the Roof**

Construction is nearing the final phases for the highly anticipated Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers at 12618 Studebaker Rd, Norwalk, CA 90650. We are excited to welcome their grand opening, expected by fall 2024.





### Get ready to sing, dance, and connect with your neighbors!









City Hall: (562) 929-5700 Public Safety: (562) 929-5732 Sheriff's Station: (562) 863-8711 Graffiti Hotline: (562) 929-5555



Transit: (562) 929-5533
Recreation & Parks Services (562) 929-5702
Senior Center: (562) 929-5580
Social Services Center: (562) 929-5544



# COMMUNITY SAFETYZONE



Recently, there have been traffic problems near Los Alisos Middle School and Nuffer Elementary School. As students return to school, let's make an effort to drive safely. Here are some common mistakes to avoid:

- Blocking entrances, driveways, or streets
- Speeding over the 25 MPH school zone limit
- · Not using pedestrian crossings properly
- Ignoring parking rules, like red curbs
- Loading or unloading passengers while blocking traffic
- · Not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks
- · Passing buses with stop signs out

The Norwalk Public Safety Department, Norwalk Sheriff's Station, and NLMUSD School Safety are committed to keeping everyone safe—students, staff, and the whole community.

### **Stay Safe and Have Fun** in the Parks!

The new dog park at Robert "Bob" White Park is a hit! People love exercising with their furry friends. All twelve of our parks are great for workouts, but safety is key. Here are some fun tips to keep your outdoor activities safe and enjoyable:

#### **Dress Comfortably**

- Cool Clothes: Wear light, moisture-wicking clothes when
- Be Seen: Choose bright, reflective clothing, especially near traffic or in low light.
- Perfect Shoes: Pick the right shoes for your activity.

#### **Shield Yourself from the Elements**

- Sun Smart: Use SPF 30 sunscreen, wear a hat, and sunglasses.
- Stay Hydrated: Drink lots of water.

### **Stay Aware of Your Surroundings**

- Plan Ahead: Stick to well-lit, busy areas and use maps or apps for new routes.
- Use Sidewalks: Walk or bike on sidewalks or bike lanes and look both ways before crossing.
- Stay Connected: If alone, tell someone your route and carry a phone.

### **Follow Personal Safety Measures**

- Stay Social: Exercise where there are other people.
- Trust Yourself: Leave if something feels off.
- Be Prepared: Carry a whistle or pepper spray

Enjoy your outdoor workouts and stay safe!

### **Stay Safe in the Water: Pool and Safety Tips**

As summer heats up, cooling off at the pool is a favorite activity. Whether you're at the Aquatic Pavilion at Norwalk Park or any other pool, it's important to stay safe while having fun. Here are some key water safety tips to keep you and your loved ones safe this summer:

Always Have an Adult Present: Always have a responsible adult watching when kids are in or around the pool. Never swim alone. Constant supervision is the best way to prevent accidents.

Use Pool Barriers: Make sure your pool has a fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate to prevent unsupervised access. This helps reduce the risk of accidental drowning.

Learn to Swim: Swimming lessons are essential for everyone, especially children. According to the CDC, learning to swim reduces the risk of drowning by 88% in kids aged 1-4.

**Know CPR:** Knowing CPR can save lives. If someone is pulled from the water and isn't breathing, performing CPR until help arrives can make a huge difference.

By following these safety tips, you can make sure your time at the pool is both fun and safe. A little preparation and vigilance go a long way in enjoying a worry-free summer with family and friends.

### **Smart Tips: Urban Critters**

Summer is here and so are sightings of urban critters such as raccoons and skunks. Lately, more coyotes have been seen in the northern part of our City. Here are some important tips and guidelines, from the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA).

#### **COYOTES**

Coyotes are highly adaptable and can thrive in urban environments. To minimize encounters:

- Keep small pets indoors, especially at dawn and dusk.
- · Avoid feeding wildlife, including squirrels and birds.
- Remove pet food and water from outside.
- Install motion sensitive lights around your house, especially near fruit treet and pet areas.



#### **RACCOONS**

Raccoons are nocturnal and often attracted to easy food sources. To deter them:

- Feed pets inside your home instead of outdoors. If you must feed your pets outside, make sure the food is removed as soon as your pet is finished eating.
- Remove water sources and place screens or netting over outdoor ponds.
- Manicure your yard, trimming back trees and bushes will help create a more open space, which is less inviting to our wildlife friends.
- Do not leave pets outdoors unattended.

#### **SKUNKS**

Skunks are known for their distinctive odor and can be a nuisance if they take up residence near your home. To prevent skunk issues:

- Do not leave pet food outdoors at night. Store pet food in animal proof containers.
- Secure garbage cans and if needed, sprinkle ammonia or pepper on top of the trash can to deter skunks.
- · Seal up entry holes in and around buildings. Seal up crawl spaces and pick up loose debris and brush on your property.
- Keep pet access/doggy doors closed and locked at night.



Visit Out Website OEM@NORWALKCA.GOV

For more information, visit the SEAACA website at www.seaaca.org. Working together, we can ensure a safe and enjoyable community.

### **Emergency Preparedness Corner**

The Norwalk City Council is dedicated to keeping our community safe, especially in emergencies. In June, the Norwalk Public Safety Department's Office of Emergency Management had a soft opening for the new Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Guided by the City Council, we will recognize September as Preparedness Month and participate in a month-long preparedness campaign.

Celebrating 35 years of service, the Norwalk Public Safety Department unveiled the EOC as a milestone achieved with the City Council's support. This facility will enhance our emergency preparedness and response, benefiting the community in times of need.

Follow the Public Safety Department's social media for updates as we approach September.



### **4 NORWALK HAZARDS**



Floods can occur from rain, infrastructure failure, or similar events. floods can happen at any time



**FLOODING** 

. California is seismically active due to the North American Plate and Pacific plate Norwalk was included in three Los Angeles countywide FEMA declarations fo



City of Norwalk is exposed and vulnerable to drought and extreme heat



The Probable Maximum Flood area may result of 4-6 feet of flood depths





Blvd, Norwalk CA



14040 San Antonio Dr • 562-929-5580

### Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Weekly meeting with Veterans

Wednesdays Weekly • 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Veterans, their spouses, and dependents can schedule an appointment to meet 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 will allow veterans the ability to get individualized assistance with their VA benefits.

#### **CalFresh**

## First Third Tuesday of every month 9:00 - 11:00 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 telephone to assist seniors throughout the week (323) 855-0496.

#### **Diabetes Presentation**

#### Wednesday, August 7 • 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Diabetes is a chronic health condition that affects how your body converts food into energy. If untreated, diabetes can cause serious health issues such as heart disease, vision loss, and kidney disease. Join us, and a health educator from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, if you are interested in learning about the signs and symptoms of diabetes, and how to prevent, and manage it.

### Senior Scam Prevention Series: Consumer Protections

Tuesday, August 13 • 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Join us, as Staff from the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation hosts a presentation on consumer protection. Learn how to stop unfair, deceptive, and fraudulent business practices. Come learn about your rights and responsibilities.

#### **The Keystone Karaoke Lounge**

Thursday, August 15 • 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Take the stage and sing your favorite songs in front of your friends. Enjoy an afternoon of singing, laughter, and fun. Come listen to all the performances provided by all the brave souls who take the center stage! No pre-registration required.

### **Keeping It Crafty: Seashell Wind Chimes**

Tuesday, August 20 • 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$5

Sign up to create a beautiful handmade natural melody seashell wind chime that is the perfect addition to any beach themed home décor. As the wind blows, you will

be surrounded by magical soothing sounds, for a calm and relaxing atmosphere. Pre - registration is required, and space is limited.

#### **Understanding Vision Loss**

Wednesday, August 21 • 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Join us and staff from the Braille Institute for a presentation on understanding vision loss. You will learn statistics and definitions of the different kinds of vision loss, eye diseases and their effects on vision. In addition, you will learn about the Braille Institute's purpose and its various departments. Living a fulfilling life with vision loss is possible.

#### **Late-Life Transitions**

#### Monday, August 26 • 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

As we age, we all face key social, physical, and psychological changes. Join us and the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health for a presentation that identifies late-life transitions which can affect the way we function. The presenter will offer tips on maintaining a positive self-view, feeling good about our past, and making the most of life in the face of these changes.

#### **End of Summer Bash**

Thursday, August 29 • 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Cost: \$15

Join us for an evening of food, fun, and great music. As the season of stunning sunsets ends, most of us experience that inevitable feeling of disappointment. Fight the urge by joining us at our awesome End of Summer Bash. Pre-registration is required, and space is limited.

### **REOPENING MONDAY, AUGUST 5**



11929 Alondra Blvd • 562-929-5544

### Pack 2 School Event

Thursday, August 15, 2024 • 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Welcome Back to School! Students will pack and decorate tote bags, pencil cases, bookmarks and other supplies to get ready for the upcoming school year. To register please call (562) 929-5544. Space and school supplies are limited.

### **Family Zumba Night**

First Four Wednesdays of the month • 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. A fun and easy way to keep your family active with Zumba.

### **Neurotics Anonymous**

Thursdays Weekly • 6:00 - 8:00 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.

### **Senior Karaoke Mornings**

First & Third Friday Monthly • 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

You're going to Hollywood! Showcase your singing in the form of Karaoke as Seniors are encouraged to participate and sing their hearts out in this judgment free environment. For more information please call (562) 929-5544.

#### **Senior Scam Prevention Series**

Second Tuesday Monthly • 10:00 a.m.

The City of Norwalk Social Services Department is collaborating with the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation for the Senior Scam Prevention Series. Every second Tuesday of the month, seniors will learn about ways to prevent common scams.

#### **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)**

Every Monday & Tuesday • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Peer support group intended to guide and encourage individuals trying to recover from alcoholism. Spanish Only.

#### L.A.D.Y.

(Leadership & Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women)

Second & Fourth Thursday Monthly

6:00 - 8:00 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.

### **National Alliance on Mental Illness**

(NAMI)

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

### Loteria

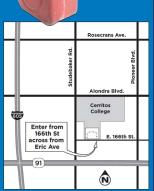
Second & Fourth Friday Monthly 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

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

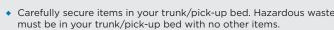


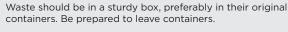
FREE Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Drive-Thru Collection Event

Saturday, July 27 • 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Cerritos College, Stadium Parking Lot 10
11110 Alondra Boulevard
Norwalk, CA 90650



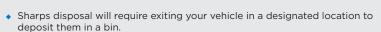




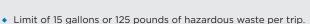




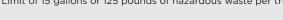








Open to Los Angeles County residents. No business waste accepted









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