

Norwalk Now

The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California
September 2024, Volume 45, #9 • @cityofnorwalkca



50 YEAR MILESTONES IN NORWALK

50 Years of Community Care: Norwalk Social Services Center's Legacy

Did you know the Norwalk Social Services Center officially turns 50 this year?

This center plays an important role in providing community support and assistance since the building was first established in 1974.

Daily services offered include Emergency Food Bank & Senior Nutrition Program, Case Worker Agency Referrals, Utility/Rental Assistance, Support Groups, Child Development, Youth Intervention Programs, and Family Recreation Events. The Social Services staff build connections with the community and provide high-quality assistance to those in need.

When asked about his experience at the center, long-time Norwalk resident Alberto Alonso shared, "People take notice of how society may see them, but the workers see everyone who comes in here as human, treat them with respect, and offer very kind service to the community."

**Events will be held at the Social Services Center:
11929 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650**

Celebrate this milestone with us!



Open House

Tuesday, September 24 • 1:30 – 6PM

Join us for this special occasion to meet dedicated staff, recognize key services, and learn about resources for Norwalk residents.

Community Celebration Reception

Thursday, September 26 • 5 – 7PM

Renaming Ceremony

Saturday, September 28 • 10AM – 2PM

Celebrating 50 Years of Norwalk Transit System (NTS)



Fifty years ago, on August 1, 1974, Norwalk Transit System (NTS) began as a small community service, affectionately called the "Hustle Bus."

With just 12 diesel-powered buses and a 10-cent fare, NTS served Norwalk residents on three routes that all met at the "Five Points" intersection. Today, it operates a fleet of 34 eco-friendly buses, including battery electric, compressed natural gas, and hybrid models, connecting Norwalk with neighboring communities.

NTS has grown from its humble beginnings to become a vital part of our community's transportation network. As we celebrate their 50th anniversary, we're proud to reflect on our journey and look forward to continuing to serve you for many years to come.



Unlock Your Dream Home with the CalHome Program: How to Apply



The City is excited to offer the CalHome Program, designed to help first-time homebuyers achieve their dream of homeownership.

This program provides deferred-payment loans for down payment assistance and home rehabilitation. The CalHome loans are secured by the property or manufactured unit, and no monthly payments are required, with principal and interest payments deferred for the loan's term.

HOW TO QUALIFY

- ✓ Property must be your primary residence, located within Norwalk city limits: includes condominium, townhouse, manufactured home, or single-family home
- ✓ Maximum loan amount is 40% of the purchase price, up to \$200,000 for homes and \$100,000 for manufactured units
- ✓ Must not have owned or been on the title of a home in the last three years
- ✓ Completion of a CalHome Approved Homebuyer Education Class

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET STARTED, REACH OUT TO US TODAY!



(626) 545-2234

NORWALKCALHOME.COM

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Norwalk takes pride in its diverse community. As we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15th to October 15th, we invite you to join us in honoring the history, culture, and contributions of our Hispanic and Latino residents. Stay updated on events and activities by following us on social media at:

[f](#) [@cityofnorwalkca](#) [@recnorwalk](#)



Transform Your Future with Norwalk's Scholarship Program

The City of Norwalk is thrilled to offer scholarships for low-income residents seeking technical training in health sciences, medical technology, or welding and metal fabrication.

The scholarships will cover tuition costs ranging from \$1,224 to \$2,475 at the Norwalk-La Mirada Adult School (NLMAS).

Training programs include Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA), Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, and Welding/Metal Fabrication. Classes are held in various locations, and successful completion

opens doors to certifications and career opportunities.

For more information or to apply, contact NLMAS at (562) 929-5951 or visit their website at www.nlm.as.org.

Scholarships awarded on a first-come, first-served basis

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Norwalk residency
- Submit a completed application with an essay
- 18 years & older



To apply, visit the City of Norwalk website for full details and to view the application form

Breast Cancer Awareness Paint the Town Pink: October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

As October approaches, Norwalk is gearing up to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

This October, we encourage everyone to wear pink in solidarity with those affected by breast cancer and to raise awareness about early detection and prevention. Follow us on social media for updates on how you can get involved.

Norwalk City Council

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

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

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September Business Spotlight

f @cityofnorwalkca

Happy National Chicken Month! Tell us where to find the best chicken. Follow us on social media to vote for September's spotlight.

Where is the best place to go for any type of Chicken?



"You Voted, We Visited!"

August: Top Rated Sandwich Spots

Every month, we ask for your top Norwalk business recommendations. The Norwalk Community Promotion Commission is proud to present the August 2024 Business Spotlight.

LEE'S SANDWICHES
12209 Norwalk Blvd.

JERSEY MIKE'S SUBS
12623 Norwalk Blvd.

SUBWAY
12301 Imperial Highway

SAVE THE DATE

39th Annual Arturo Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade

Save the date for the 39th Annual Arturo Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 11 AM!

Don't miss out on a spook-tacular celebration filled with fun for all ages. Check the flyer for more info and join us for a frightfully good time!



PARADE BEGINS: CORNER OF NORWALK BLVD. & MAPLEDALE ST.
PARADE ENDS: HERMOSILLO PARK • 11953 162ND ST.

FOLLOW US AT @RECNORWALK #RECNORWALK | FOR MORE INFO, CALL (562) 929-5702 OR VISIT WWW.NORWALK.ORG

Construction Corner

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

Civic Center Plaza's Multi-Use Property Progresses with Structural Enhancements

The ongoing development at Civic Center Plaza is making significant strides, with the structural framework now fully in place. Insulation installation has commenced, marking the next phase in preparing the property for its diverse commercial uses.



McKenna BMW Showroom Expansion Gains Momentum with Foundation and Steel Work

The expansion and remodeling of the McKenna BMW showroom are advancing steadily, with foundation work now complete. Structural steel is being installed, paving the way for the next stages of the showroom's transformation.



CITY OF NORWALK
A Connected Community
Recreation and Park Services Department

FRONT STREET

Every 3rd Friday of the month *friday nights*

JULY 19 Dance Dance Evolution	AUGUST 16 Soto Band	SEPTEMBER 20 Adelaide Pilar's Latin Divas Show Los Colibri Mariachi - 8-9:30PM
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FRIDAYS • 6-9PM
5PM DJ JAMMIN - 6:30PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
FOOD • 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

FINAL Front Street Friday Night Concert of Summer!

This FREE Concert will be on September 20 from 5 – 9 p.m. and will feature Adelaide Pilar's Latin Divas Show. 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, art vendors, exhibitors, a photo booth, and more! For more information, please call (562) 929-5566, or visit Norwalk.org/FUN.

Este Concierto GRATUITO será el 20 de septiembre de 5 – 9 p.m. y contará con el Show de Divas Latinas de Adelaide Pilar. El concierto tendrá lugar en la histórica calle Front de la ciudad de Norwalk, entre San Antonio Dr. y Funston Ave.

También habrá puestos de comida, una zona para niños, expositores, vendedores de arte, un puesto de fotos, ¡y mucho más! Para más información, llame al (562) 929 - 5566, o visite Norwalk.org/FUN.

CITY OF NORWALK
A Connected Community
Recreation & Park Services Department

Youth VOLLEYBALL League

AGES 8-13

OCTOBER 7-DECEMBER 6, 2024

\$40

IMPORTANT DATES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 AT 9 AM REGISTRATION BEGINS IN PERSON AT THE COMPLEX OR ONLINE AT NORWALK.ORG/CLASSES WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25 AT 7 PM PARENT/COACHES MEETING AT THE NORWALK ARTS & SPORTS COMPLEX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPECIAL REQUEST WILL ONLY BE TAKEN DURING REGISTRATION. ACCOMMODATIONS MAY NOT BE MADE FOR PRACTICE DAYS. NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 7, 2024

PRACTICE DAYS/TIMES*	GAME DAYS/TIMES*
MON, TU, WED OR TH • NASC GYM 6:30 PM, OR 7:30PM	SATURDAY • NASC GYM BETWEEN 8AM-1PM

*DEPENDENT ON THE NUMBER OF TEAMS FORMED

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

CITY OF NORWALK
A Connected Community
RECREATION & PARK SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Youth FLAG FOOTBALL League

OCTOBER 7-DECEMBER 6, 2024

\$40

CO-ED AGES 5-13

IMPORTANT DATES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 AT 9 AM REGISTRATION BEGINS IN PERSON AT THE NORWALK ARTS & SPORTS COMPLEX OR ONLINE AT NORWALK.ORG/CLASSES WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25 AT 6 PM PARENT/COACHES MEETING AT THE NORWALK ARTS & SPORTS COMPLEX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPECIAL REQUESTS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN DURING REGISTRATION. ACCOMMODATIONS MAY NOT BE MADE FOR PRACTICE DAYS.* NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 7, 2024.

Practice Days/Times	Game Days/Times
MON/TU/WED OR TH AT 5:30 PM, 6:30 PM, OR 7:30 PM AT HOLIFIELD PARK	SATURDAYS AT HOLIFIELD PARK BETWEEN 8 AM-2 PM

*PRACTICE TIMES ARE CHOSEN BY VOLUNTEER COACHES.

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

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

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:



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



Prepare supplies (including for pets) – food, water, first aid, flashlights, radio



Sign up to receive RAVE emergency alerts by simply texting “NORWALK” to 77295



Make copies of Medicare and other insurance cards



Prepare supplies for your pets – extra food and water



Pack extra medicines, medical supplies, batteries, and chargers



Plan for your transportation if you need help evacuating



Beware of hazards, identify local risks, and locate gas and water shut-offs







Visit www.ready.gov/kit to view the full checklist and stay prepared







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.

PEDESTRIANS

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

DRIVERS

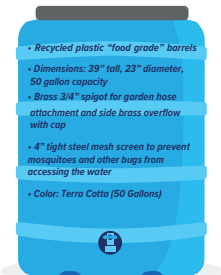
-  Obey school zone speed limits
-  Follow all drop-off & pick-up rules
-  Don't pass loading and unloading school buses
-  Give a 10ft space for buses to allow a safe bus entry and exit for children

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.

RAIN BARREL Distribution & Rain Harvesting Workshop

Rain Barrels have many benefits. They divert water from municipal storm drain systems, conserve a vital natural resource, protect our ocean from runoff pollution and help you save money by reducing water bills. Norwalk Municipal Water, along with Golden State and Liberty Utilities, are hosting a one-day rain barrel distribution event. Customers will be given the opportunity to easily pre-order a rain barrel and pick it up from the location below. The cost of the rain barrel is \$20 plus tax. Maximum 2 rain barrels per household.

Pre-Order Required:
Visit RainBarrelsIntl.com, click the "EVENTS" tab and select "City of Norwalk" or call 919-602-6316



Date: Saturday, September 21

Location: Norwalk City Hall
12700 Norwalk Boulevard

Workshop: 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Distribution: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Discussion Topics Include:

- Rainwater Harvesting
- Installation of a Rain Barrel
- Water Conservation Techniques
- Benefits of a Rain Barrel

If you have purchased 2 barrels from us at previous events, or received a rebate from SoCalWaterSmart for 2 barrels, you will not be eligible for the discounted rate, but can purchase for full price.

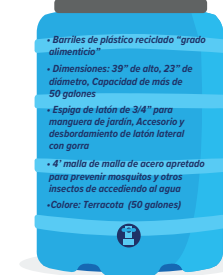


For Information Contact: Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com or 919-602-6316

Distribución DE BARRILES DE LLUVIA y Taller de Cosecha de Lluvia

Los barriles de lluvia tienen muchos beneficios. Desvían el agua de los sistemas de drenaje de tormentas, conservan un recurso natural vital, protegen nuestro océano de la contaminación de la escorrentía y ayudan a ahorrar dinero al reducir las facturas de agua. Norwalk Municipal Water, junto con Golden State y Liberty Utilities, están organizando un evento de un día de distribución de barriles de lluvia. Los clientes tendrán la oportunidad de pre-ordenar fácilmente un barril de lluvia y recogerlo de la ubicación de abajo. El costo del barril de lluvia es de \$20 más impuestos. Máximo 2 barriles de lluvia por hogar.

Pre-pedido requerido:
Visite RainBarrelsIntl.com, Haga clic en "EVENTOS" y seleccione "Ciudad de Norwalk" o llame al 919-602-6316



Fecha: sábado 21 de septiembre

Ubicación: Ayuntamiento de Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Boulevard

Taller: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Distribución: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- Los temas de discusión incluyen:**
- Colección de agua de lluvia
 - Instalación de un barril de lluvia
 - Métodos de conservación de agua
 - Beneficios de un barril de lluvia

Si compró 2 barriles en un evento anterior, o recibió un reembolso de SoCalWaterSmart por 2 barriles, no será elegible para participar, pero podrá comprarlos por el precio completo.



Para información, comuníquese con: Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com o 919-602-6316



JOIN US!

SEP 6TH 6PM -9PM

SEP 7TH 9AM -3PM

SEP 14TH 9AM -4PM

NORWALK CITY HALL

12700 NORWALK BLVD

NORWALK CA, 90650



Contact Us

(662)929-5919

oem@norwalkca.gov

Pre-Register here by scanning the QR code

SCAN





Senior Center

14040 San Antonio Dr • 562-929-5580

Peer Support Group: Hope and Well-Being

Every Monday • 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.
(No session on Monday, September 2)

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 join in discussions 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 via telephone by dialing the number above and Conference ID #.

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.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE



Social Services Center

11929 Alondra Blvd • 562-929-5544

Piñata Party

Thursday, September 5, 2024 • 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Space is limited, first come-first serve

To register: call (562) 929-5544

Brighten up your day and make your own mini Piñata at the Social Services Center's Piñata Party! Our recreation staff will lead a class with systematic instructions on how to create a colorful sculpture. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided. To register, please call (562) 929-5544. Space is limited.

Senior Scam Prevention Series: Wills and Trust Scams

Tuesday, September 10 • 10:00 A.M.

An Estate Plan should protect your interests, assets, and loved ones. What it should not do is cause harm or distress. Staff from the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation host a presentation on wills and trust scams. You will learn important tips that should be followed to decrease your chances of becoming a victim of an estate planning scam/fraud.

Grief and Loss Presentation

Wednesday, September 4 • 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Grief that comes with loss is a common stressor facing older adults and can be a challenging experience. Join us, as the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health hosts a presentation addressing grief and loss, the components of the grief process, and the symptoms of grief to prepare participants on what to expect from loss. Tips will be shared on ways to improve our ability to cope and move on from loss.

Senior Scam Prevention Series: Wills and Trust Scams

Tuesday, September 10 • 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.

An Estate Plan should protect your interests, assets, and loved ones. What it should not do is cause harm or distress. Unfortunately, there are people and unscrupulous companies out there that prey on vulnerable individuals who don't understand Estate Planning. Join us, as staff from the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation host a presentation on wills and trust scams. You will learn important tips that should be followed to decrease your chances of becoming a victim of an estate planning scam/fraud.

The Basics of the Flu Presentation

Wednesday, September 11 • 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

The Department of Public Health will host a presentation on the basics of the Flu. You will learn to define what the flu is, how to describe the flu symptoms, how it spreads, when treatment or medical care is needed, and things you can do to prevent from getting the Flu. A discussion will also be held on the flu vaccine and how to protect yourself by getting vaccinated.

New Men's Support Group

Starting soon, TBD

Are you interested in joining a Men's group ages 15-25 where mental health is key and maintaining a healthy lifestyle is a priority? This group will hold mindfulness practices and discussions will be held on all topics related to Men's mental health.

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.

Senior Movie Matinee

First & Third Tuesday Monthly • 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Free movie matinee days at the Social Services Center for seniors. Popcorn will be served. For movie showing information, please call (562) 929-5544.

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

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.



16th of September Celebration

Monday, September 16 • 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

There is no time for a siesta, so come to our Fiesta! Join us to celebrate Mexican Independence Day with the sounds of live music! Indulge in complimentary sweet bread and coffee. No registration required. Call (562) 929-5580 for more information.

Cardiovascular Disease

Wednesday, September 18 • 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the leading cause of death globally. CVDs are a group of disorders of the heart and blood vessels and include coronary heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, rheumatic heart disease, and other conditions. A health educator from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will make a presentation on risk factors, signs, and symptoms, and how to prevent and control cardiovascular disease.

Senior Safety Program: Emergency Preparedness

Wednesday, September 25 • 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Join us, as the City of Norwalk Public Safety Department conducts a presentation on emergency preparedness. Valuable information will be provided on how to protect yourself, your family, and your home during an earthquake by identifying risk factors. Come to this important presentation to learn how to stay safe before, during, and after an earthquake as well as other disasters.

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.

L.A.D.Y. (Leadership and Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women)

Second & Fourth Thursday Monthly
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Mentoring program for young women ages 15-25, who have struggled with any of the following: Mental/physical health, financial stability, personal growth, relationships, and education. L.A.D.Y. will focus on proactive techniques to manage these issues.

Cal Fresh

Second & Fourth Thursday Monthly
9:00 – 11:00 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.

Senior Karaoke Mornings

First & Third Friday Monthly • 9:30 – 11:00 A.M.

Showcase your singing in the form of Karaoke as Seniors are encouraged to participate and sing their hearts out in this judgment free environment.

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.