

Norwalk

Now

The official community publication of Norwalk, California

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City Website Redesign Underway

Vision Internet has assembled a team of their best designers and developers to begin phase two of the new City website, which includes site mapping, navigation, and graphics.

The project is slated to be completed in the Spring. New features are based on feedback from residents and businesses. The City asked and you answered. Users want more online payment options, easy access and navigation to landing pages, robust content, and social media options that allow sharing and posting of comments. The City has already augmented its community information program to include more cable programming, web streams, links to other agencies, and archived data to help visitors to the site get what they need fast. For details about the new website, call the Public Affairs office at (562) 929-5753.

City Adopts '2020 Vision' Strategic Action Plan

The City of Norwalk knows where it's going. The Norwalk City Council adopted a comprehensive strategic action plan, 2020 Vision, to guide progress and priorities through 2019 and into the new decade. Initiated by the City Council and drawn from extensive community input, the plan sets clear, measurable goals to guide Norwalk's operations up until the year 2020. The plan reflects a shared community vision that sustains organizational excellence and empowers residents to shape the City's future. Cohesive, adaptable, and highly focused on delivering optimal service to the community, the plan

centers on six core strategies that strengthen existing programs and create new opportunities for residents and businesses. Focus is placed on expanding public safety programs; operating transparently to achieve prudent fiscal management; delivering superior customer service; revitalizing the City's economic development base; increasing staff training and collaboration; and updating critical infrastructure to ensure a sustainable future.



Copies of the plan will be posted to the City's website, and hard copies will be available at all major City facilities, later this month. For more information, call (562) 929-5753.

Father Greg Boyle Headlines 2014 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast



He is one of the nation's most sought after inspirational speakers. His story will touch your heart. His message will stir your soul.

Wednesday, February 12th
6:30 a.m.
Norwalk Double Tree Hotel
Tickets: \$25 (at City Hall)

Call Ken and Mary Johnson at (562) 896-1526 or Pastor Arthur Mckibben at (310) 809-7679.

Residents Share Their 'Personal Strategic Plans' for the New Year

Strategic plans aren't just for organizations. Experts say a personal plan for success is essential to help establish goals and set actions in motion. Several Norwalk residents shared their strategic plans for a healthy, prosperous 2014.



"To find a very wealthy man and to spend my life happily ever after."
- Helena Hansen



"Enjoy life and learn to be happy and share the planet."
- Dexter Bass



"The plan for the new year is to stay healthy and to stay positive."
- Virginia Ramirez



"Keep on going as long as I can and spend more time with my family."
- Ray Contreras



"To get more involved in the community. I want to give back."
- Cruz Contreras



"Be a better person and help my family as best I can."
- George Cortez



"To finish school and to stay fit and healthy throughout the year."
- Marci Encinas



"More fit financially and spending more time with family and friends."
- Kathleen Neilson



"Overall just to do the same thing I'm doing now and not to change."
- Brian Meninga



"Have a better life for my family, me, my husband and my kids."
- Selena Colon



"Stay healthy and contribute to the Norwalk community."
- Mercedes Zepeda

HAPPY
NEW YEAR
from the
City of Norwalk

Norwalk City Council

Mayor Luigi Vernola Vice Mayor Marcel Rodarte
Councilmember Cheri Kelley Councilmember Mike Mendez
Councilmember Leonard Shryock

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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US Postage
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Permit No. 162
Norwalk, CA

To Postal Patron

Year in

By the Numbers:

- Installed efficient induction lighting at City parking lots
- Replaced 392 public signs
- Painted 506 feet of crosswalks
- Painted 45,892 feet of curbs
- Restriped 2,985 feet of road lanes
- Painted 14,942 feet of traffic legends
- Planted 120 new trees
- Removed 153 hazardous trees
- Removed graffiti from more than 25,000 locations



Streets:

- Patched 300 raised sidewalks
- Repaired 376 curbs and gutters
- Applied 252 tons of asphalt to repair streets

Water:

- Initiated water system master plan
- Issued Water Revenue Bonds to finance water rights
- Completed sewer system rate study



Transportation:

- Acquired fourteen clean-burning natural gas buses
- Upgraded 17 bus stops with lighting, benches, and trash bins
- Realized operating surplus of nearly \$900,000
- Installed CENTRACS traffic management system to improve traffic flow
- Maintained LED lighting at 81 traffic signals citywide
- Received \$2.9 million grant to upgrade signals and intersections.

Building & Safety:

- Remodeled public counter to improve accessibility and service

Planning:

- Updated Norwalk's Housing Element
- Revised land use regulations for hotels and motels

Engineering:

- Rehabilitated Pioneer Boulevard from Imperial to Lakeland
- Rehabilitated Hoxie Avenue from Imperial to Firestone



Review

Is the Sun Coming Out?

Mr. Sun neighborhood cleanups have netted more than 140 tons of trash, e-waste and debris. Twelve events are held throughout the year. Info: (562) 929-5511.



Imperial Art Project

The City commissioned painting a faux stone design on 54 columns of the Imperial Highway underpass between Firestone Boulevard and Studebaker Road. The project began last month.



Housing Authority:

- Housing Authority ranked as a “High Performer” by Urban Development’s Section 8 Management Assessment Program

CDBG and HOME Programs:

- Rehabilitated 76 homes for low-income residents

Recreation & Parks:

- Secured grant from L.A. First 5 for new playground at Gerdes Park
- Replaced roof at Arts & Sports Complex Multi-Purpose Room
- Installed new software to improve class registration for the public
- Expanded Youth Sports by adding division for ages 3 to 5
- Completed Vista Verde Building Rehabilitation Project
- Installed wireless internet for public use at the Arts & Sports Complex
- Replaced window coverings in the Arts & Sports Complex Meeting Center
- Installed new sound system in the Arts & Sports Complex Dance & Exercise Room



Social Services:

- Installed interior surveillance cameras at the Senior Center
- Relocated Child Care Programs to the Social Services Center

Finance:

- Refinanced Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds realizing \$1.16 million in present value of savings
- Received top award for financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Assoc.

Community Outreach:

- Added three additional issues of the Norwalk Now community newsletter
- Introduced a dedicated City of Norwalk YouTube Channel
- Introduced new programming covering exclusively Norwalk.
- Completed 20 installments of ‘Now You Know’
- Began complete redesign of community website
- Initiated first stages of comprehensive community information program
- Completed ‘2020 Vision’ Strategic Plan



City Presents E-Waste and Shred-a-Thon

You can dispose of your old or unwanted electronics and documents for FREE during the City of Norwalk's E-Waste and Shred-A-Thon Event. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 25, 2014 the City will accept television sets, computers, monitors, cell phones, laptops, printers, fax machines, DVD players, VCR's, video game systems, cables, cords, radios, and microwaves for recycling. In addition, residents can bring up to five boxes of documents for an ensured, secure disposal by having them shredded on-site. Event takes place at 12700 Norwalk Blvd., City Hall parking lot.



City of Norwalk • Recreation and Park Services Department

Parks Make Life Better!

Play Norwalk

Come visit your local park and see what PLAY opportunities Norwalk has to offer you.

- 10 Outdoor basketball Courts
- 1 Weight Room
- 1 Boxing Gym
- 9 Baseball/Softball Fields
- 10 Outdoor Handball Courts
- 1 Cultural Arts Center
- 1 Teen Center
- 1 Skatepark
- 1 Walking Trail
- 1 Campsite
- 1 Aquatic Pavilion
- 3 Spray Pools
- 12 Parks
- 1 Indoor Basketball Gym
- 2 Picnic Shelters
- 3 Rental Patios
- 1 Golf Course
- 2 Historical Museums
- 4 Banquet Rooms
- 12 Playgrounds
- 4 Indoor Racquetball Courts
- 3 Park Rental Facilities
- 1 Sports Complex

For more information, please call (562) 929-5702.

Time to Open the Capsule: Can You Guess What's Inside?

On April 19, 1964, the community buried a time capsule on the grounds of the new Norwalk City Hall constructed the following year. Exactly 50 years later - on April 19, 2014 - the capsule will be unearthed by the community. Until then, you're invited to guess what's inside the capsule. The "Mayor John Zimmerman Time Capsule Contest," named for John Zimmerman,

Jr., the Mayor of Norwalk at the time of the original burial, will be judged on accuracy, i.e. the first entry received with the



most accurate answers (detail, such as "black scarf," as opposed to "scarf," will be given more weight). Because so little information is available on the capsule or events surrounding it, the City seeks anyone who attended the commemoration ceremony in 1964, or anyone who can share information about the capsule. Contest entries are due to City Hall by Thursday, April 11, 2014, and should be typed or written legibly, with the contents numbered. Entries may be submitted in person to Room 1 at City Hall, by mail at 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Room 1, Norwalk, CA 90650, or by email at capsulecontest@norwalkca.gov. After the unearthing of the capsule, contents will be revealed, with a full list posted online at www.norwalkca.gov/timecapsule. Items will be placed on display at City Hall through the month of May 2014. For more information: (562) 929-5964.

the Nugget

Which Norwalk do you mean?

Three other US cities are named Norwalk. One's an affluent Connecticut suburb, one's a working town in Ohio with lots of maple trees, and one's an up and coming arts destination in Iowa. They are listed along with the city motto. What would your ideal motto be for your Norwalk? Share at (562) 929-5753.

- The City of Norwalk, CT
"On the water, on the move."
- The City of Norwalk, OH
"The Maple City"
- The City of Norwalk, IA
"Noticeably Norwalk"

NORWALK ARTS & SPORTS COMPLEX

15000 Clarkdale Avenue

JUMP START
Live Healthy
EXERCISE MORE
GET FIT DRINK WATER
TAKE A CLASS MORE
JOIN THE GYM

2014 NEW YEAR
Personal Trainers
Live in the Moment
Reach your goals

Stay Strong
LOSE WEIGHT & BUILD MUSCLE
TRY SOMETHING NEW
MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

For more information, call (562) 929-5566.

Work in Town

The City of Norwalk is recruiting for:

Coach Operator Trainee
\$9.00 Per Hour

This recruitment is open to the public. A completed employment application and supplemental questionnaire is required.

Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.norwalkca.gov/employmentservices.asp>.

Last day to apply is:
Monday, January 13, 2014 by 6pm.

Movers, Shakers & NEWSMAKERS

City Accepts American Express



In addition to Visa and Master Card, the City now accepts the American Express® Card. Pay for your licenses, permits, classes and services using any of these three major credit cards.

How Many Trees Did You Say?

The City of Norwalk's Public Services Department maintains about 17,000 trees. Mature trees remove carbon dioxide, air pollutants, and catch more than 200,000 gallons of rainwater.



Join Special Olympics Team Norwalk



Team Norwalk, open to all athletes age 8 and up, will hold a kickoff party and fundraiser at Shakey's Pizza, 11403 Firestone Blvd., Norwalk. For more information, call (562) 929-5924.

Get Skilled in Emergency Response



The City will offer CERT training to give residents the skills to better cope with a disaster. Classes are set for February 1, 8, and 15. For details, call (562) 929-5335.

Save Money by Recycling



As part of the state's Mandatory Commercial Recycling program, your business or multi-family complex can participate in an enhanced recycling effort. For more information, call (562) 929-5964 or email Recycling@norwalkca.gov.

Norwalk Students Perform in London

Four John Glenn High Cheer and Stunt Team members performed in the London New Year's Day Parade. Sophomore Kadence Golightly, junior Krysta Diaz and seniors Leslie Barron and Gabriela Salazar represented the All-American Cheer team.



Enroll in Small Businesses Education Program



Goldman Sachs program helps owners develop skills to grow with classes, scholarships, one-on-one sessions and a tailored business plan. Deadline to enroll is Jan. 14th. Info: <http://www.SoCal10KSB.com>

Collaborating for Jobs

The Collaborative Community Network connects businesses and service agencies to promote a skilled workforce. If you want to develop career pathways for skilled and unskilled workers, contact Marjean Clements at (562) 402-9336, x. 1252 or marjeanc@selaco.com

Five New Norwalk Graduates



Cadets Shelley Diaz, Leonardo Gutierrez, Bianca Martinez, Rene Pineda, and Derick Villafuerte graduated from the Tri-Cities ROP Administration of Justice Law Enforcement Cadet Academy. The academy is an 18-week program for youth ages 13 to 21. Interested? Call (562) 929-5685.

Norwalk Marine Earns Veterans Scholarship

Student Jorge Prado of Norwalk received the \$250 Cerritos College Veterans Scholarship to support veterans who are returning home. He is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corp, serving four years as an artillery technician in Fallujah, Ramadi.



So Cal Pizza Celebrates Lancers



So Cal Pizza of Norwalk celebrated the NHS Lancers' unforgettable season by donating at cost 60 pizzas, along with sodas, for players, coaches and families.

Cookie Maker Expresses Pride in Lancers

Liz of Sugar Expressions donated nearly 200 cookies decorated with helmets and footballs to the community reception honoring the 2013 NHS Lancer football team. "I'm a proud alum, and I'm so happy for the team and the school."



Submit someone you know to be included in future sections by calling (562) 929-5753.