


Norwalk Now

The official community publication of Norwalk, California

July 2014, Volume 32, #7



City Takes Action to Protect Local Revenues and Local Services

Will consider asking voters to modernize outdated ordinance



It is important to keep our residents informed on critical local issues. As you may have already heard, Sacramento has taken significant resources from cities in recent years to balance their own budget. For Norwalk, that amounts to over \$12 million. In addition, extraordinarily costly regulations continue to be placed on local agencies with no funding from Sacramento.

On June 17 the City declared a fiscal emergency as the first step in bringing a ballot measure to voters to modernize the City's 22 year old utility users' tax to ensure no tax increases without voter approval, fair treatment of all taxpayers, and to ensure exemptions for low-income disabled and blind residents and senior citizens are protected.

In a recent independent community survey, residents overwhelmingly supported protecting services for seniors, disabled and blind residents, school safety programs, and after-school programs among

others. They also conveyed strong support for protecting local revenues that Sacramento can't take away.

At its July 15 meeting the City Council will consider placing such a revenue protection measure before Norwalk voters in November. The measure would ask voters to approve modernizing the City's

22 year old utility user tax without raising taxes and adding new protections for taxpayers.

More information will be provided in the upcoming editions of the Norwalk Now to ensure Norwalk residents are kept informed on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact the Administration Department at 929-5944.



Independence Day Pageant & Locks of Love Hair Drive

Thursday, July 3
Civic Center Lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Hair Drive: 1-8 p.m.
Pageant: 6-9 p.m.

FREE

Locks of Love

Call 929-5922 for details

Zero Tolerance Could Cost \$1,000 and More
The City's "zero tolerance" toward discharging firearms and illegal fireworks could result in maximum penalties for violations.

Citations will be issued to anyone possessing, discharging, or distributing illegal fireworks. Violators are subject to arrest and fines of \$1,000.

In addition, nuisance locations that violate the policy can also be billed for the costs of the law enforcement or public safety services related to the call.

Visit the City's website for a complete list of helpful hints to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday, and all year long. For more information, contact Public Safety at (562) 929-5732 or the Sheriff's Department at (562) 863-8711.

(See Page 2 for Safety Tips)

National Night Out

Wednesday, August 6 at 7 p.m.
City Hall Lawn • 12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Music by: Poncho Sanchez

National Night Out is an annual event intended to bring communities across America together to take a stand against crime, drugs and disorder in their neighborhoods.

Call 929-5685 for more information on how you can get involved in Neighborhood Watch and "Make a difference!"



Norwalk City Council

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

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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To Postal Patron

Simple Rules for a Safe, Sane Celebration

- No one shall possess fireworks at any time other than 10 a.m. July 1st through 10 p.m. July 4th.
- Fireworks are prohibited from being discharged on any days other than July 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- Fireworks can only be sold July 1st to July 4th, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- You must be 18 years or older to purchase fireworks. Those under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible person 21 years of age or older.
- No minor under the age of 18 shall possess, fire, set off, discharge or use any fireworks unless they are physically supervised by a person over the age of 21.
- Only Safe and Sane fireworks are to be discharged in the City of Norwalk; these fireworks contain the State Fire Marshall Seal of Approval.
- Minors under age 18 who possess fireworks and not directly supervised by someone age 21 years or older can have those fireworks confiscated by any law enforcement officer, Fire Department employee or any adult. The confiscated fireworks must be delivered to the Fire Department within one hour after confiscation.
- No one shall possess or discharge fireworks on City property, including City parks, streets, and sidewalks.
- Blocking City streets is prohibited; all streets must remain clear for emergency vehicles to respond if needed.



Firestone Bridge Replacement Continues

Construction on the Firestone Bridge, underway since mid-April, continues with traffic lanes reduced to the following:



Now to September
one lane in each direction

September to May 2015
two lanes in each direction

May 2015 to September 2015
three lanes in each direction

- Bridge open to vehicles and pedestrians
- River bike trail open but detoured during some construction
- Bridge slated for completion in September 2015

Details: (562) 929-5744



Norwalk residents can dance the night away with Jonestone Entertainment's "A Very Hot Motown Night" Featuring Mike Ingram & The DooWoopers and The 5 Tempting Men.

Saturday, July 4 & 5

Doors open at 7 p.m. • Show Starts at 9 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door.

Guest House Hotel

12500 Firestone Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650

BECOME A PUBLIC SAFETY CADET



The City of Norwalk Public Safety Department is looking for a strong core of dedicated, hard-working young people to help make Norwalk a better place to be.

If you are between the ages of 13-21 years old, and love helping others, the Public Safety Cadet program is for you.



CALL 929-5685 TODAY

Celebrating More than a Half Century of Japanese Culture



The Southeast Japanese School Community Center is bringing Japan to Norwalk for their 51st annual cultural festival. Families and friends can enjoy free entertainment and homemade food on Saturday July 26 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday July 27 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 14615 Gridley Road, in Norwalk. Families can enjoy music and dancing of the Hawaiian Delites while eating delicious won ton or the famous Dango. Later, families can play bingo or shop for bargains at the boutique and plant sale or enjoy numerous games for kids including goldfish bounce, basketball shooting and of course "fishing." For more information, contact H. Ernie Nishii, at Nishii@aol.com or (714) 553-3663.



Slickers Exceed Expectations



The Norwalk City Slickers finished the June 7th Relay for Life with an Emerald win. Team Captain Vicki Dilley reported a total collection of \$25,118 towards cancer research, beating last year's Platinum Level collection of \$20,400.

Thanks to the City, staff, the community and friends and family for their donations and support! Let's win the fight.



ATTENTION! FEE INCREASES

Effective July 7: Many Department of Recreation and Park Services user fees have been increased to help maintain quality programming. Fee increases are listed in the Summer Schedule of Events booklet, available at norwalkca.gov. If you have any questions, please call 929-5702.



TOO TOXIC TO TRASH



Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup

Saturday, July 19, 2014
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Cerritos College
Stadium Parking Lot C-1
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk



Scan this code for a schedule of upcoming events and a complete listing of what you can and cannot bring, or contact:

1(888) CLEAN-LA • www.CleanLA.com
or 1(800) 238-0172 • www.lacsd.org

Open to all Los Angeles County residents

Having a Yard Sale? Remember to Get Your Permit

If you're looking to hold a yard sale, garage sale or estate sale, be sure to get a permit from City Hall. Permits are free of charge.



To obtain a permit, present a valid photo I.D. and a current utility bill showing the property address, a map of the area, and a list of participating addresses along with names and contact phone numbers.

Yard sales may be held for a maximum of two

consecutive days, and each property is allowed two events per year. For safety and aesthetics, yard sale signs may not be posted on telephone poles, traffic signals, street signs, street lights, city trees, or in the public right-of-way.

Please be courteous to neighbors by removing all signs when the sale is not in progress. Yard sales can generate more vehicle and pedestrian traffic than normal, so be sure that vehicles are legally parked to avoid any safety issues. Also, be sure to watch for neighborhood children who might be playing in the street while your sale is underway.

For more information about holding a yard sale in Norwalk, or to obtain a permit to schedule a yard sale in your neighborhood, visit the City's website at norwalkca.gov, or call the City of Norwalk Public Safety Department at (562) 929-5732.

Emergency Preparedness Seminar

Presented by Norwalk Office of Emergency Management

Wednesday, July 9 at 6:30pm
Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex
13000 Clarkdale Ave
Info and to register call
(562) 929-5335 or
email oem@norwalkca.gov



Applications Available for Affordable Senior Housing

Starting July 7, applications will be accepted for Soroptimist Village, a Section 8 building in Norwalk that is designated for seniors age 62 and older.

Soroptimist Village features studio and one-bedroom apartments. The rent is based on 30% of the household's monthly income. Soroptimist Village is located at 12657 Foster Road in Norwalk.



Applications for the Soroptimist Village waiting list available at the following locations:

- Senior Center
14040 San Antonio Boulevard, Norwalk
- Social Services Center
11929 Alondra Boulevard, Norwalk
- Housing Authority Office at City Hall
12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Room 11, Norwalk

Submit your completed application by mail or in person at:

Norwalk Housing Authority
12700 Norwalk Blvd., Room 11
P.O. Box 1030
Norwalk, CA 90651-1030

There is no application deadline. However, the waiting list may close at any time. Assistance is provided on a first come, first served basis. Preference on the waiting list is available to Norwalk residents and to veterans.

To qualify, an applicant's total annual income cannot exceed the following amounts:

1 person (studio apartment) \$23,840
2 people (1-bedroom apartment) \$28,120

For more information, contact the Norwalk Housing Authority at (562) 929-5588.

Federal and State laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, familial status, national origin, disability & handicap in the sale or rental of most housing. Tenants are urged to report any instances of discrimination.



Gardening from the Masters

The Norwalk Library will teach you how to promote environmentally responsible and sustainable horticultural practices in the home, community and school.

The program, called Master Gardener, will be held Saturday, July 5 from 2-3 pm at Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.
Details: (562) 868-0775.



Work In Town



City of Norwalk
12700 Civic Center Drive
Norwalk, CA 90650



Office Assistant II (Full-Time/General Unit) \$3,412 - \$4,147 per month

This recruitment will be limited to the first 75 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, or the closing deadline of Friday, July 11, 2014, 5:00 p.m., whichever occurs first. A completed employment application and supplemental questionnaire is required. Faxed and emailed materials will not be accepted. This recruitment is open and promotional.

Applications can be downloaded at:
norwalkca.gov/employmentservices.asp

Job Hotline
(562) 929-5771

Norwalk Pitcher Wins College World Series



Anthony Gomez, a Norwalk resident who just completed his senior year at Cumberland University in Tennessee, pitched a shutout game for his Cumberland Bulldogs to win the Division III World Series in Lewiston, Idaho. The senior left-hander threw his second-complete game of the World Series to beat No. 2 Lewis-Clark State (Idaho), 3-0, and win the 2014 Avista-NAIA Baseball World Series championship. Gomez finished the regular season with a 7-4 record, and the team ended 49-20 overall. Gomez also earned a place on the World Series All-Tournament Team.

NCCC Award Recipients

Youstina Salama - Youth of the Year



Youstina Salama, a Senior at John Glenn High School, came to the U.S. from Egypt at the age of 10. She learned English, studied hard, and finished as Valedictorian of her graduating class. She will attend college in the fall with hopes of becoming a doctor. Youstina has been involved with the Teen Alliance Program, Summer Reading Program, and Norwalk Library Teen Advisory Group.

Ramon Puentes Luna - Citizen of the Year



Ramon Puentes Luna, born in Mexico the oldest of 10 siblings, spent his early years working on the family farm. After studying accounting in Guadalajara, he met his wife, Isabel, and they moved to California in 1968. In 1972, he began working at a restaurant in Norwalk, learning all operations, from dishwasher to cook to manager, and finally, owner. His ongoing involvement and volunteer efforts span more than 40 years.

COLLEGE TOWN News from Cerritos College



Revving Up for Success

Todd Leutheuser, executive director of the Southland Motor Car Dealers Association (SMCDA) presented Ryan Evangelista of Norwalk with the Jeannie M.T. Yang Scholarship in the amount of \$500. The scholarship awards a total of \$2,000 each year to four students in the automotive department.

Norwalk Vet Pursues Sciences

Biology major and the United States Air Force veteran John Kwak of Norwalk received the \$500 Dennis Schechinger Memorial Scholarship. Established this year by Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Linda Waldman in memory of her father, this scholarship is awarded to a veteran pursuing a career in sciences.



Good Grant!

Cerritos College received a \$2.8 million grant from the California Department of Education for expanding career pathways in engineering technology and advanced manufacturing. The award is part of the California Career Pathways Trust grant, which was established in 2013 to connect employers, K-12 schools, and community colleges and provide students with knowledge, skills and pathways in high-demand fields.



Norwalk's Community TV Show Tapes 50th Episode



The City's popular community television report series "Now You Know" this month completed its 50th consecutive episode. Hostess Jacqueline Toueg scours Norwalk to get exclusive stories about the people, places and things that distinguish the community. Watch all all 50 episodes. You're sure to see friends, neighbors, and maybe even yourself. "Hey, I saw you on TV!" All video reports are posted to the City's YouTube Channel. Plus, see dozens of community events and catch the City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Click to www.youtube.com/norwalktelevision

50 to Watch

- Sewer Project
- Public Works Week 2013
- Memorial Day 2013
- Recreation Programs
- CNG Buses & Norwalk Transit
- Independence Day 2013
- Captain Patrick Maxwell, LASD
- Teen Center Mural
- Talia's Coffee Grand Opening
- Duke's Car Club
- Disaster Preparedness
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Families of The Fallen
- Caltrans Advocacy Office
- Creative Lil' Hands
- Halloween Parade 2013
- Senior Serenaders
- Thanksgiving Food Basket
- Small Business Saturday
- Feeding Those In Need
- Angel Tree
- Lancers Football
- Oil Recycling Kids
- Year in Review
- Hot Spots in Norwalk
- Time Capsule
- Smoking Ban
- Summer Youth Work
- State of the City
- Website Redesign
- CNG Station Groundbreaking
- Tax Tips
- Artistic 2014
- Soroptimist International
- Looking Back
- Caricature Celebrity Artist
- Norwalk/Downey Bridge
- Senior Volunteer Dinner
- Easter Egg Hunt 2014
- Time Capsule Reveal
- Arbor Day Event
- Child Care Help
- Special Olympics
- Relay For Life
- Memorial Day 2014
- Shoemaker Bridge Opens
- Cerritos College Radio
- Habitat ReStores
- TAP (Teen Alliance Program)
- Youth Festival of Arts

Alondra Library Summer Reading Program 2014

Wednesday, July 9, 4:00 pm

The Magic of Tony Daniels
A fun filled magic show.

Thursday, July 17, 4:00 pm

Make Your Own Birdhouse
Pre-registration is required.
For kids ages 5 and up.

Thursday, July 24, 4:00 pm

Fun with Sand Art! Create your own sand art bottle. Preregistration is required. For kids ages 5 and up.

Wednesday, July 30, 4:00 pm

Reptile Family Show
Lizards, snakes, turtles and more!

