

Norwalk *Online* Now

The official community publication of Norwalk, California

www.norwalk.org October 2015, Volume 33, #10

AMC Theaters to Bring “Experience” to Moviegoers

Company will invest \$9 million in theater improvements to be completed by the holiday season

AMC Norwalk 20 Theaters received approval in September from the City Council for a comprehensive, state of the art upgrade to include reclining seats, improved sound system, updated restrooms, reserved online seating, enhanced menu and limited alcohol service. With the increase of entertainment options including online and expanded cable, AMC has taken significant steps to provide guests with an improved viewing experience that emphasizes comfort, ease, service and expanded guest options.

Frank Lewis, Director of Alcohol, Food and Beverage for AMC Theatres, spoke to City Council’s concerns about the proposed renovation, addressing



questions regarding security and safety. Mr. Lewis stated that AMC is committed to keeping the adult beverage as an amenity to the movie going experience by maintaining a safe and comfortable atmosphere. Auditoriums will be monitored for patrons causing any type of disturbance, including prevention of underage drinking, and will remove moviegoers that exhibit signs of intoxication. With the completion of the remodel, AMC will hire over 30 additional managers and associates to increase staffing levels to execute new aspects of the business. All managers and staff will be certified by a third-party alcohol monitoring organization, including training and certification about the responsible service, sale and consumption

of alcohol. The theater group, said Mr. Lewis, has a zero tolerance policy for managers or associates serving guests without valid identification.

The theater, which has remained the same since the 1990’s, will undergo a complete interior remodel in phases, so that movies may still be viewed by residents while the upgrades take place. Construction is expected to begin next month.

The theater group hopes to regain an evolving, more sophisticated audience, many who have migrated to full-service theaters in other cities. AMC promises to bring a “new and exciting, customized experience to moviegoers.”



Southeast Academy Remembers 9/11

Law enforcement officials and fire department personnel deal with disasters and emergencies on a daily basis, but none have surpassed the grief and tragedy of 9/11 in the United States. Each year, the heroes are recognized and those who made the ultimate sacrifice are remembered and honored.

The Southeast Academy held a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, allowing students to take the lead and conduct the entire event.

In addition to the keynote speech, morning colors, a flag folding ceremony, a timeline of terrorism and a special bell ceremony honoring firefighters were presented in tribute. The John Glenn High School Band performed ceremonial music. Hundreds of cadets and their families watched, listened and reflected.

MSgt. Marty Shafer, Director of Southeast Academy says, “The entire day was planned for those wishing to pay tribute to the fallen heroes of September 11, 2001. I would like to thank our community, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District and the Norwalk City Council for their support.”



Art in Public Places Adds Splashes of Color to Norwalk’s Streets

Norwalk’s latest public art, the second in a series of revitalized utility boxes, was completed at the southeast corner of Studebaker and Leffingwell in late August. Four Norwalk High School art students, Alexis Zendejas, Danielle Alvarez, Brandon Martinez, and Brittanie Richard, submitted designs that they felt most creatively depicted “iconic Norwalk locations,” including Paddison Farm, the Norwalk water tower, the Norwalk Square marquee sign, and the old Bank of Norwalk on Front Street. Under the supervision



of artist Candice Galvan, the designs were carefully drawn, then painted onto the vault’s four panels by Danielle, Alexis and Celine Noriega. This colorful piece of urban art follows the completion of the initial utility box project located at the intersection of San Antonio and Firestone, painted in November 2014. Under the utility box art program, vaults are chosen throughout the City for revitalization, and artists are selected by the Art in Public Places Committee. The first location was chosen due to its proximity to Norwalk’s Cultural Arts Center, and was painted by “Artastic” contest winners. This second box, selected due to its proximity to Norwalk High School, was created by Lancer artists. The City hopes to have John Glenn art students take on a utility box near their campus.

Remember to Bring in Your Trash Cans



Keep our neighborhoods clean. Trash containers should not be placed at the curb earlier than 24 hours before your trash collection day, and must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the morning after trash day. Containers should also be stored in a place not visible from public view and not in alleys. Bringing in trash cans after trash day helps maintain the aesthetics of your neighborhood and makes it safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers overall. Questions? Please call (562) 929-5730.

Norwalk City Council

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City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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Spotlight Shines on Santa Fe Graduate

A recent Santa Fe High graduate and Norwalk resident shined on stage in a solo performance. Anthony Ayala, Jr. was selected as one of 2015's top three high school monologists by the Educational Theater Association, a national non-profit organization honoring student achievement in theater. This comes after a sold-out performance in Lincoln, Nebraska where he faced the International Thespian Festival judging panel.

"He set a goal to win the 'Main Stage' at the festival in Nebraska and he achieved it. He always gives it his all," says Santa Fe theatre arts instructor Alison Johnson.

On August 18, Anthony was recognized by the City of Norwalk for his accomplishments. "I am deeply honored that the City of Norwalk commended me for my success as a thespian," Anthony says. As a lifelong Norwalk resident, the City award means



more to me than anyone could imagine."

Prior to attending Santa Fe, Anthony never acted on stage. It was only during his sophomore year that he was cast in lead roles and began developing into a standout monologist. Anthony credits mentors along the way for helping him reach his goals, like Alison Johnson, who inspired him to act and take part in competitions throughout the state. He won top honors each time.

Theatre has played an important role for Anthony and has changed the course of his life. He adds, "You can't take any performance lightly; you never know who you're inspiring."

Currently Anthony is attending California State University at Fullerton, studying Theatre Arts with an emphasis in acting. He's also a lead guitar virtuoso, writing contemporary music and a play.

Remember his name. It'll be rolling in the credits on a big screen soon.

Social Services Center

FREE Diabetes Prevention Seminar

Friday, October 16 • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital – Health Education Department will be giving the presentation "Diabetes – Know The Basics". Members of the community are invited to come and learn what risk factors lead to diabetes and practical ways to help prevent this disease. This seminar is open to the public.

FREE Social Security Presentation

Tuesday, October 20 • 5:00 p.m.

An introduction to the program for those that have questions about the application process.



Construction Brings Improved Facilities to Customers

The Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Transportation Center, which includes the Transportation/Public Services Facility and the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station, is undergoing several upgrades to benefit customers, commuters and the City's infrastructure.

Performed by KEMCORP Construction, the project, which started in June, is scheduled to be completed by March 2016, and includes:



Reconstruction of the Transportation/Public Services Facility and Metrolink Station entry, adding a new, direct and continuous safe pedestrian walkway and bicycle path leading to the Station and visitor parking enhancements.



A Pedestrian Plaza at the Metrolink Station parking lot, including a pick-up and drop-off area, shelters and enhanced signage.



Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras installed around the entire site, as well as additional lighting, to improve security and safety.

Tenant improvements to the Customer Service Center lobby, including counter reconfiguration for more efficient operation, improved Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) enhancements and security.

Equipment Maintenance Division improvements: a new wash station, lift, and storekeeper area, parts room and office spaces.

Law Enforcement Luau



A Hawaiian Luau was held on the City Hall Lawn to honor those who serve and protect the community every day. The appreciation luncheon, an annual event,

brought out Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies, Norwalk Public Safety Officers, California Highway Patrol and the County of Los Angeles Fire Department.

The City of Norwalk's Director of Public Safety, Carlos Ramos, says, "This luncheon gives the City an opportunity to show its appreciation for the dedication and service law enforcement and fire department personnel provide to our residents and businesses. They put their lives on the line to keep our community safe. This is our way of saying 'thank you' for all they do."

The event was sponsored by the Norwalk City Council, Friends of the Norwalk Sheriff's Station, former Councilmember Gordon Stefenhagen and wife Marilee, and the Community Promotion Commission who organized the Luau.



St. Linus Catholic Church 2015 Fall Fiesta

October 9, 10 & 11

Friday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Saturday 1:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 - 11:00 p.m.

13915 Shoemaker Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650

Way to go, Destiny!

The recent 2015 Special Olympics World Games was the single biggest event held in Los Angeles since the 1984 Olympic Games, with more than 7,000 athletes from 177 countries meeting to compete in 27 sporting events.

Norwalk's own superstar athlete, Destiny Sanchez from Team Norwalk, has been on the City's Special Olympic team for four years. Last year, she was selected to participate with Team USA and compete in the biggest event of her life so far.

A junior at John Glenn High School, Destiny proudly represented Norwalk and the nation in the 2015 World Games, competing in track and field. Destiny took the spotlight from the



opening ceremonies, where she lit the ceremonial torch—to the closing ceremonies where she walked the torch out of the Coliseum.

And while hundreds of thousands stood in the stands cheering her on and even more watched her on television, Destiny exemplified bravery and tenacity, giving one hundred percent. She competed in the 100 meter and 200 meter sprints and the 4 x 100 meter relay, where she won the Bronze!

Destiny was presented with a commendation recognizing her courage, spirit and athletic achievements

at the September 15, City Council meeting, where she and her supporters—her family, coaches and teammates—had the opportunity to take the stage.



Upcoming “Stuff” at the Norwalk Senior Center

FREE “Healthier Habits for a Healthier You” Seminar

Tuesday, October 6 • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Seniors age 50 and older will have an opportunity to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help them incorporate these recommendations.

Sponsored by: Alzheimer’s Association

FREE Blood Pressure Screenings

**Wednesday, October 7 • Tuesday, October 20
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

This monthly blood pressure screening is provided to seniors age 50 and older free of charge. Blood pressure is taken by a licensed/certified medical staff and the results are discussed with the senior afterward.

Sponsored by: Apple Care Medical & Pioneer Medical Group

FREE “Power Over Stress” Seminar

Friday, October 9 • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Stress is a part of life that everyone has to face. This seminar will help seniors age 50 and older learn better coping skills to help them combat stress as well as meet the challenging events in their lives.

Sponsored by: PIH Health

*HICAP

Monday, October 12 & 26 • 10:00 – 1:00 p.m.

HICAP is the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program that provides free community education, counseling and advocacy on Medicare and related health insurance issues. *APPOINTMENT REQUIRED.

Sponsored by: Center For Health Care Rights

FREE Vein Disease Screening

Monday, October 12 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Chronic Venous Insufficiency Disease (CVI) is a serious vascular disease that if not treated can become serious and even life threatening. If detected early, CVI can be easily treated. Seniors age 50 and older are invited to come and receive this screening free of charge.

Sponsored by: Beverly Garden Medical Group

Candlelight Dinner Theme: “Creepy Crawlers”

Tuesday, October 13 • 5:45 – 6:30 p.m.

\$6.00 before Saturday, October 10

\$7.50 after October 10

Seniors age 50 and older are invited to stop by and enjoy a hot and hearty meal. Share an evening of warmth with friends and family. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and meal service ends at 6:00 p.m. Prizes awarded. Dine-in only.

CalFresh Outreach Assistance

Wednesday, October 14 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

CalFresh is the new name for Food Stamps. Under new eligibility criteria, those who are age 65 and older can now qualify to receive CalFresh services.

Sponsored by: Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

FREE “Aging & Vision Loss” Seminar

Thursday, October 15 • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

As we age, it is normal to experience changes in our vision. But there are other changes that can signal that something is wrong. If you are 50 years of age or older, come and learn all about vision changes with aging and find out the signs of more severe vision changes and what you need to do to combat those.

Sponsored by: SCAN Health

FREE Dental Screening

Friday, October 16 • 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The purpose of the screening provided by Northeast Dental is to provide seniors with a basic dental health screening. The Dental Assistant will then discuss with the senior any findings that need to be addressed with their regular dentist.

Sponsored by: Northeast Dental

“Senior Home Repair Program”

Wednesday, October 21 • 10:00– 11:00 a.m.

The City of Norwalk’s Community Development Department will be here to assist people age 50 years and older who have questions about or who want to apply for the Home Repair Program, a program available to eligible homeowners living in the City of Norwalk.

“Making Home Safe” Training

Thursday, October 22 • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This training is to help family caregivers understand manage and improve the safety risk factors at home that can seriously impact their loved one with Alzheimer’s or a related dementia’s ability to stay at home and in the community for as long as possible.

Sponsored by: Alzheimer’s Association

FREE Bone Density Screening

Friday, October 23 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

This free screening is being sponsored by PIH Health/Boomer’s Insurance. This will help seniors age 50 and older find out the basic condition and health of their bones. A health professional will be available to briefly discuss the results with each senior receiving the screening.

Sponsored by: PIH Health/Boomer’s Insurance

Two Exciting Halloween Events Coming Up

32nd Arturo Sanchez Sr., Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 17 • 11:00 a.m.

Pioneer Boulevard & Mapledale Street

Marching bands from throughout the southland are expected to perform alongside ghosts and goblins of all kinds in this year’s parade.

The parade begins at the intersection of Pioneer Boulevard and Mapledale Street and will conclude at Hermosillo Park. Residents are encouraged to participate in the parade by dressing up in their favorite costume and marching in the parade.

A costume contest will be conducted at the corner of Pioneer Boulevard and Mapledale Street beginning at 9:15 a.m. Pre-registration is not required. Businesses, service organizations, and clubs are encouraged to participate in this free program. Please call 929-5702 for an entry form.

Halloween Festival Dia De Los Muertos

Saturday, October 31 • 5:00-9:00 p.m.

**Norwalk City Hall Lawn
12700 Norwalk Boulevard**

Don’t miss this annual Halloween event. All ages are welcome to attend. There will be food and game booths, a costume contest, raffles, music, crafts, and much more. The festival provides a safe alternative to door-to-door trick-or-treating for children.

Event Schedule:

- 5:00 p.m. Festival Opens
- 7:00 p.m. Costume Contest (Must arrive at 6:45 p.m.)
- 9:00 p.m. Festival Closes

Volunteers Needed for Festival

Holding free community events would not be possible without volunteers. If you, your club or organization are interested in volunteering, go to: norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services/special-events/halloween-festival to fill out a Volunteer Reply Form. Forms are due by Friday, October 9 in person or by mail at:

City of Norwalk

**Parks and Recreation Services Department
13000 Clarkdale Avenue
Norwalk, CA 90650**

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

Reception for Retired Director Lee Mitchell

**All-City Band & Flags,
Family & Friends Welcome!**



Join alumni of the All-City Band in honoring director Lee Mitchell at a reception on Saturday, October 17 (following the Arturo Sanchez, Sr. Halloween Parade) at Bruce’s Restaurant, located at 12623 Imperial Highway in Santa Fe

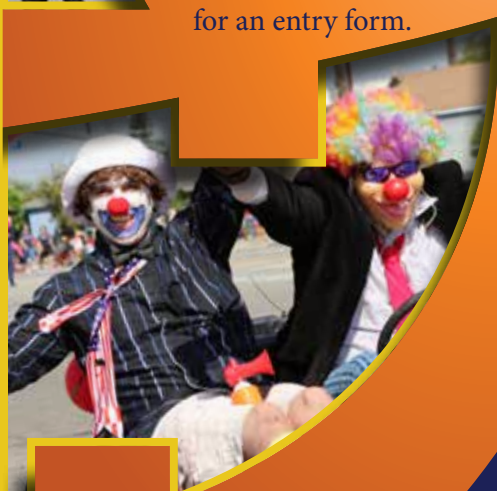
Springs. The event, hosted by Mayor Leonard Shryock, includes an appetizer buffet and soft drinks, entertainment by Soto Band, and plenty of All-City Band memories from days past. Advance tickets are available for \$15 each at Norwalk City Hall, Room 5, or online at <http://www.flavorus.com/event/Mr-Lee-Mitchell-Reception/301994>. Tickets may be sold at the door for \$20, but are limited, so buy yours now to ensure a spot.

The reception includes a “meet and greet” beginning at 5:00 p.m., with the evening’s program opening at 7:00 p.m.

Discounted accommodations for those attending from out of town are available at the DoubleTree Hotel. Contact Virginia at (562) 483-2708 and reserve under “Mr. Mitchell Band.”

Those who participate in the Halloween Parade receive a free commemorative t-shirt. Call (562) 929-5702 to enter. Don’t miss this opportunity to reconnect and recognize Mr. Mitchell’s leadership.

To find out more, call: Steve Ortega at (562) 322-5424, Leonard Shryock at (562) 754-4926 or Soto Entertainment at (562) 923-9800.



Norwalk City Television
Schedule for October 2015
 Charter Cable Channel 3
 Verizon FiOS TV Channel 32

Mondays

12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
 3:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting
 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
 6:00 p.m. Artastic 2015
 7:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas

Tuesdays

12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
 3:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
 4:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 The Rising
 5:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas
 6:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
 (Live on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

Wednesdays

12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting
 3:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas
 5:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: The Rising
 7:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
 7:30 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting
 (Live on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays)

Thursdays

12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting
 3:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
 6:00 p.m. Artastic 2015
 7:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: The Rising
 8:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas

Saturdays

11: 00 a.m. Curiosity Quest
 12: 00 p.m. Curiosity Quest

Sundays

11:00 a.m. City Council Meeting
 2:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
 3:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: The Rising
 4:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas
 5:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015:
 Mariachi Divas



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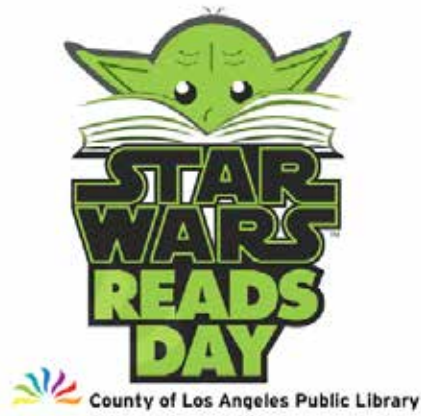
Norwalk.org

Government 2.0 app on iTunes or Google Play

[facebook.com/cityofnorwalkca](https://www.facebook.com/cityofnorwalkca)

[flickr.com/norwalkca](https://www.flickr.com/norwalkca)

[youtube.com/norwalktelevision](https://www.youtube.com/norwalktelevision)



Star Wars Reads Day!

Saturday, October 10 • 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

All Ages Welcome

Fans of all ages are invited to celebrate Star Wars Reads Day at the Alondra Library. There will be art activities, Star Wars books for check out, an intergalactic photo booth, giveaways and maybe a few special guests. Costumes are encouraged, so come get your geek on.

For full details please call the library at (562) 868-7771 or visit online at www.colapublib.org/libs/alondra. Also follow us at twitter.com/LACountyLibrary or facebook.com/LACountyLibrary.

Alondra Library

11949 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650
 (562) 868-7771

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Saturday 8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events & Activities at Norwalk Regional Library

For the little ones... Personal Safety Workshop at Norwalk Library

Learn to be more aware of your surroundings to increase personal safety. The Norwalk Library presents a free workshop providing techniques for dealing with unsafe situations and what to do during an unwelcome approach. This workshop is designed to help participants identify risks and evaluate options for dealing with threats of violence. The Personal Safety Workshop will be held at the Norwalk Library on Saturday, October 3 from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for children ages 4-10 with their parents and caregivers. Parent/caregiver participation is required.

Arty Loon's Spooky Adventure Show



Join the Norwalk Library on Thursday, October 29 at 4:00 p.m. for a spooky Halloween show featuring Magic Castle Magician, Arty Loon. Arty's Halloween Magic Show will delight, excite and yes even FRIGHT! The Arty Loon show is a fun-filled adventure through the world of magic, puppetry, balloons, and juggling – all in one amazing show! The program is followed by Norwalk Library's annual costume parade. Children are encouraged to dress up in their favorite costume and trick-or-treat throughout the library.

Teen Chess Meetup

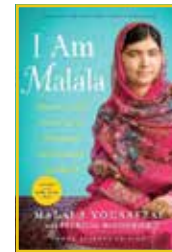


Drop in every first Monday of the month from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. to play chess, test your endgame skills and meet other enthusiasts. All skill levels are welcome, and all chess materials will be provided. For teens, grades 6-12.

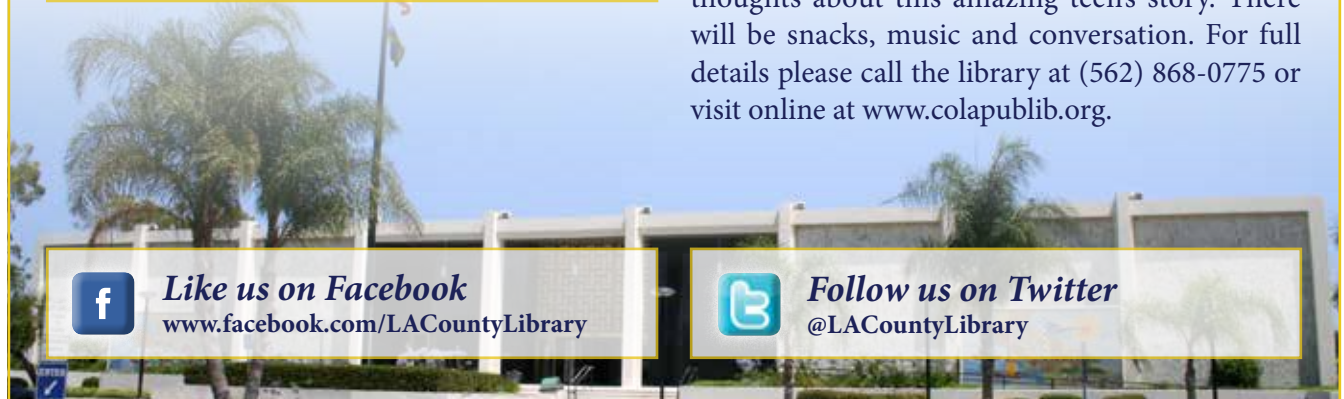
Norwalk Regional Library

12350 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, CA, 90650
 (562) 868-0775

Teen Book Discussion



On Wednesday, October 14 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m., teens (grades 6-12) can join a book discussion of I Am Malala, written by and about Malala Yousafzai, girl's rights advocate and female education activist. After a Taliban attack in 2012, 18 year old Malala recovered and went on to fight for educating young girls, and became the youngest Nobel Peace Prize recipient ever. Copies for checkout will be available at the Information Desk. Come share your thoughts about this amazing teen's story. There will be snacks, music and conversation. For full details please call the library at (562) 868-0775 or visit online at www.colapublib.org.



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VETERAN'S DAY
"HONORING ALL WHO SERVED"
NOVEMBER 11, 11:00 A.M.
NORWALK CIVIC CENTER LAWN
12700 NORWALK BOULEVARD



NORWALK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FUNDRAISER



Willkommen! Join us for the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce's First Annual Oktoberfest Fundraiser and Mixer on Thursday, October 1, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. \$40 ticket (per person) includes admission, appetizers, games, music, beer tasting (must be 21 to be eligible) and commemorative glass. Das fest (the fun!) takes place at So Cal Pizza, located at 12253 Imperial Highway. To RSVP, for more info or to purchase tickets, contact the Chamber at (562) 864-7785.



City Council Meeting September 1



City Council Meeting September 15

