

Norwalk *Online* Now

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Norwalk to Host Veteran's Day Ceremony Honoring Heroes



On Wednesday, November 11, the City will hold its annual Veterans Day Ceremony on the Civic Center Lawn. This year's keynote speaker, Master Sergeant (MSgt.) Marty Schafer, retired US Marine and Director of the Southeast Academy in Norwalk, will present his message on the importance of values learned in the military.

After graduating from Gahr High School in Cerritos, Schafer enlisted in the United States Marine

Corps, where he was assigned to Camp Pendleton as a Field Radio Operator and Forward Observer, jumping out of planes and working with Army Rangers.

Schafer went on to attend Marine Corps Drill Instructor School, Jump Master School, Army Ranger School and Primary Marksman Instructor School, was deployed twice with 1st and 2nd Battalion 11th Marine Regiment in Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and returned to train Marine Reservists as Communication Chief in Long Beach. After twenty years of service, MSgt. Schafer retired from his last assignment as Communication Security Chief.

Following his extensive military career, Schafer became Director of the Southeast Military and Law

Enforcement Academy, where his leadership and experience has contributed to the growth and development of 15 graduating classes and over 3,000 students. The Southeast Academy is known throughout Southern California for its highly structured leadership based education program, which prepares cadets for futures in public service and related fields.

Veteran's Day Ceremony
Wednesday, November 11 • 11:00 a.m.
Free to the Public

Energy Saving Upgrades Earn Rebates for Norwalk

In October, the City of Norwalk received an \$8,000 rebate check from SoCal Edison for energy saving upgrades made to two HVAC units at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex (NASC). In fiscal year 2014/15 energy efficient installations, including LED light replacements at several City facilities and upgrades to Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion's pool pump, added up to a total 199,500 kilowatt hour savings—enough to power 20 homes for an entire year, microwave 2.6 million meals or charge more than 55 million cell phones, one for every resident of California, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah combined.

These projects, worth \$20,511 in additional



Edison rebates, are part of the City's strategic action plan goal to support and invest in new and environmentally friendly technologies and lower long-term costs.

A park lighting study, park lighting upgrades, additional HVAC replacements, and other facility LED installations are among projects slated for this year, with the City anticipating elevation to Gold Tier status for reaching the highest energy conservation standards by 2016.



Waste Contract Up

On October 15, the City of Norwalk released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste Services, seeking a single contractor for Norwalk trash collection and recycling beginning in 2018. City Council's goal, to "reduce rates for residents and businesses, while obtaining high quality service that achieves the City's recycling goals," led them to bring a 1996 agreement with Republic Services and CR&R to a close. Potential changes include: a rate freeze for the first two years of the contract, new carts at start of service and cleaner fuel collection equipment, low-income discounts for qualifying seniors, sharps mail-back program, varying rates for residents choosing smaller cart sizes, mulch giveaway events, backyard compost program, two free additional residential pickups per year and free bulky item collection for single and multi-family dwellings.

Final proposals are due to the City by February 11, 2016, with contract award scheduled for September 2016. New service begins in March 2018, giving both the City and the contractor sufficient time to plan and communicate the transition process to residents and businesses, and put the transition into place. To view the RFP, go to <http://www.norwalk.org/businesses/rfp-posts-list>.

Help Transit Fill the Bus and Cupboard



On Tuesday and Wednesday, November 17 and 18, Norwalk Transit passengers will be given a free ride in exchange for one canned food item. Throughout the years, the drive has been a great success, bringing in a plethora of different edibles. The Transportation Department will provide these donated goods to the City of Norwalk's Social Services Department - Community Emergency Food Cupboard for distribution to families in need.

The City of Norwalk's Transportation Department is also getting ready for the 14th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Holiday Toy Drive. Between November 30 and December 18, Norwalk Transit's decorated,

holiday-themed 40 foot bus will be traveling on various routes and visiting other locations, including local schools, to collect unwrapped toys for children in need. Items collected will be donated to the City of Norwalk's Social Services Department's Angel Tree Program for distribution to families in our community.

The goal is to have this holiday bus "stuffed" full of gifts by the end of the event. For more details regarding canned food drive or to find out about having the Stuff-A-Bus appear at your location, please contact Customer Service at (562) 929-5550 or e-mail transportation@norwalkca.gov.

**Upcoming Holiday
 Trash & Street Sweeper
 Schedule on Page 2**



Norwalk City Council

Mayor
Leonard Shryock

Vice Mayor
Mike Mendez

Councilmember
Cheri Kelley

Councilmember
Marcel Rodarte

Councilmember
Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk
 12700 Norwalk Blvd.
 Norwalk, CA 90650

PRSR STD
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To Postal Patron

Field Trip Fun at City Hall

City Hall hosted more than 50 first and second grade students from Lakeland Elementary for a memorable field trip on October 13.



The children began their tour in the City Council Chambers with a special question and answer session.

After an introduction to city government, the students were off to another station, exploring Los Angeles

“Recycle Today”, stressed the significance and long term benefits of caring for the environment. One of the lessons learned: There are more than 5,000 tons of material a month recycled throughout the nation.

Seven-year-old Samantha Rosales says, “If you recycle, it helps you clean the earth.” Her schoolmate, Liam Renteria was excited after seeing MRFy in action saying, “He is really cool and I learned to recycle. I’m going to go home and tell my mom and dad about recycling.”

Mrs. Lucia Andrade, who teaches 1st/2nd grade combo class says, “This is a great experience

for the students. It bridges the gap, we’re learning about community and leadership. We actually just finished our unit on this so it applies the classroom learning exercised to the real world.”

County Sheriff’s Department’s squad car and motorcycle. Next, Public Safety Officer Raudel Perez explained how the City’s mobile unit serves as a first aid and lost and found station for children during special events.



When the kids arrived at the Public Services area, they saw the signal aerial truck in action and learned how graffiti is removed. Fire Department personnel also demonstrated the functions of their vehicle and equipment.

The students took a tour of the Norwalk City TV studio. With help from staff, students learned to control and operate the professional cameras and video equipment. An interactive, talking robot, provided by Republic Services, reinforced the importance of recycling. MRFy (Materials Recovery Facility), pronounced *Murphy*, danced, sang and talked to the six- and seven-year-olds. The message,



Noisy Animals



Many Norwalk residents enjoy the benefits of having dogs as pets. Dogs can serve as loyal companions and keen watchdogs for the home. However, in some cases, continuous, unprovoked barking, perhaps a result of the pet being left alone at home or left outside at night, may pose a nuisance to neighbors. The noise may prevent a resident from sleeping or cause undue alarm or concern. Now, rather than a benefit, the pet has become frustrating for those living close by.

The City of Norwalk Municipal Code Section 6.12.160 states that no person shall keep, maintain or permit any animal(s) to make excessive noise that interferes with the “comfortable enjoyment of life or property by any individual.”

Residents are encouraged to be good neighbors and attentive dog owners. If you find that your pet’s barking is uncontrollable, additional training or attention may alleviate the problem.

If you experience continued excessive barking or have questions about the reporting process, please contact SEAACA at (562) 803-3301. An Animal Control Officer will respond to your concern and evaluate if the dog barking is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood, following up if necessary with additional action. Visit <http://seaaca.org/field-services/barking-dogs> to find out more.

Get Ready for Rain

With winter just around the corner, it’s time to get ready for the rain. Forecasters are predicting a very strong El Niño, resulting in a wet winter for Southern California, and the City of Norwalk wants to be prepared. Experts are projecting storms dropping large amounts of rainfall in a relatively short period of time. City staff is preparing by keeping informed and taking action. Employees have attended training seminars on El Niño weather conditions, and have cleaned out catch basins and surface drains to help water flow and limit flooding.

The City wants the community to be ready, too. Prepare your home before the rain hits. Inspect your roof for possible leaks, clean out rain gutters and drains, clear out standing water or items that can hold water to prevent mosquito breeding, reinforce single pane windows by sealing sides using painter’s tape or duct tape, and stock up on sandbags. During storms, monitor your radio and television news closely for information concerning weather conditions and flooding in your area.

To help minimize damage that can be caused by flooding, the City of Norwalk, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Fire Department, is offering sandbags and sand for Norwalk residents. These items are free and offered on a first come, first served basis. Bags can be picked up at one of two Norwalk fire stations: Fire Station 20, located at 12110 Adoree Street off of Norwalk Boulevard; and Station 115, located at 11317 Alondra Boulevard. Sand is available at self-serve stations located at the following City parks:

Norwalk Aquatic Pavilion • 12301 Sproul St
Gerdes Park • 14700 Gridley Road
Hermosillo Park • 11959 162nd St.
Bob White Park • 12120 Hoxie Avenue
Holifield Park • 12500 Excelsior Drive

Holiday Street Sweeping & Trash Collection

Observed Holidays	City Hall Closed	Sweeping	Trash
Veterans Day	Wednesday, November 11	No	Yes
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 26	No	No
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 27	No	Yes

Street Sweeping

When there is no street sweeping, it will NOT be made up. Streets can only be swept on the posted day.



Trash Collection

When there is no trash collection, it WILL be made up. Trash will be collected the day after the normal collection day for the remainder of the week. For example, Monday’s trash will be collected on Tuesday. Friday’s trash will be collected on Saturday.

Important:

On a few of the holidays, this altered schedule causes trash collection to be on the same day as street sweeping. During these times, trash barrels MUST be placed up on the parkway in order for the sweeper to properly clean your street.

Help Keep Our Sidewalks Safe

Have you ever been on a walk and detoured due to a vehicle blocking the sidewalk?

Many City residents must do this every day, and

The Department of Public Safety is seeking your

cooperation in ensuring the safety of pedestrians by keeping the sidewalks clear of parked vehicles. Vehicles blocking sidewalks are in violation of the California Vehicle Code and are subject to a citation.

When pedestrians are forced to walk in the street and share the road with motorists, it subjects them to dangerous conditions; additionally, those with walking aids are often unable to easily maneuver up or down the driveway apron or street curbs.



For more information, please contact the City of Norwalk Department of Public Safety at (562) 929-5732 if you would like to report a safety concern.

WHAT DOES A 20% REDUCTION in water use look like?



OUTDOOR WATER USE

The average Californian uses 196 gallons of water per day and 30-60% of their water outdoors. Here are some easy outdoor tips to reduce water use. Find the right combination for you to reduce by 20% or 39 gallons a day.



USE A BROOM TO CLEAN OUTDOOR AREAS

saves **8-18 GALLONS** per minute



ADJUST SPRINKLER TO WATER PLANTS, NOT DRIVEWAY

saves **12-15 GALLONS** each time you water



USE MULCH ON SOIL SURFACE

saves **20-30 GALLONS** per 1,000 sq. ft. each time



WATER PLANTS EARLY IN THE AM

saves **25 GALLONS** each time you water



SET MOWER BLADE TO 3" (ENCOURAGES DEEPER ROOTS)

saves **16-50 GALLONS** per day



PLANT DROUGHT-RESISTANT TREES AND PLANTS

saves **30-60 GALLONS** per 1,000 sq. ft. each time



INSTALL DRIP-IRRIGATION

saves **15 GALLONS** each time you water



INSTALL A "SMART" CONTROLLER

saves **24+ GALLONS** per day

For more tips on reducing water use, visit saveourwater.com!



Benefits of Trees:

Cool Streets, Cool City



Trees can help keep you cool by shading homes and streets. Trees deflect sunlight which reduces the heat island effect caused by pavement and buildings. The leaves on trees absorb and filter the sun's radiant energy, keeping things cool. So if you want to beat the heat, look no further than a tree. Plant a tree, water your trees appropriately, keep them healthy and reap the cool rewards.

HHW & E-Waste Round Up

Saturday, November 7 - 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Simms Park, 16614 Clark Ave., Bellflower,
(On the corner of Clark Ave. & Oak St.)
For more info: (888) CLEAN-LA

Drop off household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronic waste (e-waste) at a free HHW and E-Waste Round up. Drop off hazardous waste, such as paint, brake fluid, anti-freeze, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, expired medications, home-generated sharps, pesticides, and any household electronic waste such as computers, TV's, keyboards, and printers, cell phones for safe disposal.

*Brought to you by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and the Sanitation Districts of LA County



New to Norwalk?



Go to norwalk.org/residents/community-resources/new-resident-guide to find out about schools and churches in your area, who to contact for services, and how the City of Norwalk can help you.



Master Carver!

Meet fine artist and designer, Joseph Yakovetic, a Norwalk resident and award winning talent who has appeared on the Hallmark Channel's Home and Family show and Access Hollywood, as well as on Telemundo and Univision. He's also been the subject of one of Norwalk's "Now You Know" television programs, talking about his caricature exhibit on display at the Mary Paxon Gallery.

Joseph has another talent grabbing national attention, especially this time of year—Master Pumpkin Carver! Joseph and his teammates were featured on Food Network's "Halloween Wars" series, where teams of three created Halloween-themed food art for a panel of judges. Team Spell Binders included Joseph as pumpkin carver; Kristen Louvullo, cake artist; and sugar artist Charity George. This trio's extraordinary efforts helped them to make it through to the finals, surviving three difficult team eliminations.



Joseph enjoyed the collaborative process of "Halloween Wars." "I have been privileged to work side-by-side with several tremendously talented people and make new friends along the way. I have been able to challenge myself to try new things, accomplish better work, raising my own bar and hitting the mark. It has presented me with possibilities to do things that I might not otherwise experience. And the added bonus, it's great fun!" Although the Scream Team took the win on the final show, the public has expressed tremendous support and appreciation for Spell Binders' creations.

Joseph has been carving award winning pumpkins for ten years. His creations have been a huge audience draw at Disneyland's Big Thunder Ranch Jamboree, featuring everything from Alice in Wonderland to Iron Man carvings. This year his chiseled sculptures brought him to Roger's Gardens, and he appears at Santa Anita Park Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 30 through November 1 for "Rise of the Jack O' Lanterns."

Congratulations on your extraordinary work!



Arturo Sanchez Halloween Parade Highlights



Go to: [flickr.com/photos/norwalkca/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/norwalkca/) to see additional parade photos.

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

Mondays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (rebroadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (rebroadcast)
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: Mariachi Divas
- 7:00 p.m. Halloween Parade 2015

Tuesdays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (rebroadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 4:00 p.m. Halloween Parade 2015
- 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 (rebroadcast)
- 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 (rebroadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. City Council meeting (rebroadcast)
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. Halloween Parade 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 a.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: Mariachi Divas
- 4:00 p.m. Halloween Parade 2015

Upcoming Events & Activities at Norwalk Alondra Library

Teen College Talk: Start Your Future
Tuesday, November 17 • 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A presentation for teens who have thought about starting at a community college instead of a four-year university will be given by a Cerritos College Student Ambassador.

From a higher salary to a fulfilling career, this presentation will cover all the facts, including everything needed to make an informed decision about an academic future beyond high school.

Registration is not required, and this informative presentation is free. For teenagers, grades 8 – 12.



Alondra Library

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

Upcoming Events & Activities at Norwalk Regional Library

Teen Video Game Pixel Art

Saturday, November 21 • 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Create fun designs every month of 8-bit pop culture and video game characters using Fuse Beads. All materials will be provided. Some design patterns will be available for reference, but feel free to bring your own ideas. For TEENS, grades 6 - 12.



Norwalk Regional Library

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

Used Oil Filter Exchange

Saturday, November 14 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

O'Reilly Auto Parts
12233 Norwalk Blvd.

For more info: (562) 944-4766



Bring in a used oil filter and receive a new replacement oil filter for free. Residents may also bring in used motor oil in a clean, uncontaminated container for recycling. Participating residents may also be eligible for free recycling items.



*This event is brought to you by a CalRecycle grant



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@LACountyLibrary



