



Norwalk's Own City Clerk is BMW's Local Hero



Norwalk City Clerk Gail Vasquez-Connolly and McKenna BMW General Manager Greg Connor greet the crowd at the ninth annual BMW Ultimate Drive in Norwalk.

The City of Norwalk's City Clerk Gail Vasquez-Connolly was honored as Norwalk's local hero at the ninth annual BMW Ultimate Drive on May 19. Norwalk's McKenna BMW dealership was one of 240 sites for the car manufacturer's nationwide breast cancer fundraising event.

The Ultimate Drive is an event held in partnership with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to help fund research, education, screening, treatment, and outreach programs for breast cancer patients. BMW customized a fleet of 19 vehicles for its Western tour lead by the event's Signature 645i car. Each silver vehicle was painted with a pink ribbon wrapped around the side panel reading "Driven to Find a Cure For the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation."

The fleet goes from city to city where eligible drivers may test-drive the vehicles and then sign their name directly on the Signature 645i. BMW donates \$1 to the foundation for every mile driven. Over the last eight years the Ultimate Drive has raised more than \$8 million for the Komen Foundation. This was the ninth year McKenna has participated in the event. This year, the dealership had 122 participants who drove a total of 2,207 miles.

At each city, BMW honors a person as its local hero. Vasquez-Connolly was selected for her activism for the fight against breast cancer. She has served as Norwalk's City Clerk for the past eight years and dedicates herself to helping others win the fight against breast cancer and to improve their quality of life. As a breast cancer survivor herself, Vasquez-Connolly donates her time and money by participating in fundraisers and recently participated in the Revlon Run/Walk. She is also President Elect for the Soroptimist International of Norwalk.

Vasquez-Connolly, along with the other local heroes, has her picture attached to the hood of the Signature 645i vehicle with her signature underneath. At the end of the day, she drove the signature vehicle to the Ultimate Drive's next destination, in this case the City of Torrance. When the event ends its Western tour in October in Nashville, TN, the signature vehicle will have become a living memorial to the lives lost to breast cancer and a sign of hope and inspiration to those who are currently fighting that battle.



On May 19, 122 drivers test drove Ultimate Drive vehicles at the McKenna BMW dealership in Norwalk. A total of 2,207 miles were driven that day and BMW donated \$1 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for every mile driven.



NORWALK CITY COUNCIL Mayor GORDON STEFENHAGEN
Vice Mayor JESSE M. LUERA Councilmember CHERI KELLEY
Councilmember MICHAEL MENDEZ Councilmember RICK RAMIREZ

Corporate Variety is Booming in Norwalk

On May 13, the Mayor of Norwalk presented Community Spotlight Awards to Norwalk businesses NTMA Training Centers of Southern California and White Knight.



Pictured from left to right are NTMA Training Centers of Southern California representatives Steve Albers, Gina Marinello, and Michael Kerwin.

Since 1968, NTMA Training Centers of Southern California has educated and trained over 50,000 men and women for a career in the machining, tooling, and manufacturing industry. The Norwalk location, along with three other centers in the cities of North Hollywood, Ontario, and Costa Mesa, offer machinist training through classroom sessions, state-of-the-art machinery for hands-on practice, and knowledgeable and experienced instructors.

There are seven machinist training programs students may choose to take depending on their chosen field. Program graduates may return to the center for additional training in order to increase their abilities and stay up-to-date with current machinist processes. NTMA is also an employment liaison between potential employers and employees by connecting trained students with companies seeking to hire qualified machinists.

NTMA Training Centers of Southern California in Norwalk

is located at 14926 Bloomfield Ave. For more information, please call (562) 921-3722 or (800) 962-NTMA or visit www.trainingcenters.org.



Pictured from left to right are White Knight representatives Eva Sung, Wayne Hou, Sonny Gan, Maria Delgado, and Ziggy Roller.

White Knight is a wholesaler of wheel accessories. It carries a wide range of lug nuts and bolts, locks, washers, valve stems, installations kits, caps, simulators, spinners, ABS covers, and other accessory products.

The company became incorporated in 1994 while in the City of Santa Fe Springs. It then moved to Cerritos in 1995 and finally settled in Norwalk in May 2004 where it currently operates out of a 24,000 sq. ft. warehouse. White Knight serves customers nationwide with a large percent of its customer base in the Los Angeles area.

White Knight is located at 15325 Blackburn Ave. For more information, call White Knight at (562) 483-5217.

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