

Upgrades Give Parks Around Town a Fresh Look

“Enhancing community resources is one of the City’s Vision 2020 action plan goals, and our staff is focused on providing maintained open spaces, equipment and amenities that are up to date and accessible for everyone,” says Christine Roberto, Superintendent of Public Services. Crews began rehabilitation projects early last year, and continue to move aggressively through City parks.

Buildings Updated



Several park facilities received a complete overhaul. New fixtures were installed in the men’s and women’s restrooms at Gerdes, Glazier, Ramona and Zimmerman. Old floors were acid-washed or replaced with new tile, and concrete stall partitions were removed and switched out to comply with ADA requirements.

On the exterior, these structures, along with Lakeside Park’s snack bar, were cleaned, painted and given anti-graffiti coating, resulting in an updated, brighter look.

Fresh paint, new sinks and color-coordinated counter finishes were added to Ramona Park’s picnic shelter, and new composite benches were installed in place of worn wooden benches near the splash pad.

At New River Park, renovation projects are just beginning. ADA compliant double doors now provide easier access to the park facility, and painting is slated to start soon.



Attention to Sports Fields

Outfields at Gerdes, Holifield, Lakeside, Ramona and Zimmerman Parks were laser levelled for safer, better play. Handball courts at Gerdes and Ramona were sandblasted to remove layers of old paint, and blue striping matching the court’s surface, along with graffiti-coating, were applied. A new tetherball court at Ramona Park gave visitors an additional sport to enjoy.



Landscaping and Signage

At Bob White Park, overgrown vines and weeds were cleared off the perimeter walls in preparation for new paint this spring.



The monument sign at Lakeside Park was re-landscaped with new plant material. Picnic tables received a new updated color scheme. Additional tables, benches and trash receptacles are scheduled for placement throughout the park.

Staff will soon begin landscaping at New River, where they are working with the school to install signage.

New projects, including new playground equipment installations at Glazier, Ramona and Zimmerman, are slated for this year. Christine says that staff has received positive feedback from the community, and they look forward to hearing how park visitors feel about the rehabs. “We’re proud of the work we’ve put in, and hope that residents will be, too.”

Breakfast to Bring Inspiring Message



On Wednesday, February 17, community organization U.N.I.T.E. presents the 46th Annual Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast. This year’s keynote speaker, David Rosales, is a military veteran, and lived in Norwalk for 26 years.

Rosales, a Pastor at Calvary Chapel Chino Valley, will share his uplifting message of transformation and hope. Despite a life filled with tragedy and adversity, he was able to overcome the challenges, find inspiration, and go on to encourage and empower others. David can be heard weekdays on KWAV 107.9 FM.

The breakfast begins at 6:30 a.m. at the Cerritos College Student Center, located at 11110 Alondra Boulevard. Tickets are \$20 per person. To sponsor a table or purchase tickets, call (562) 864-1353 or contact Rev. Oscar Fisher at (562) 554-0655.

2016 State of the City Address

**Friday, March 4 at 11:30 a.m.
Norwalk Doubletree Hotel**



Join community leaders, non-profits, local businesses, students and others in this annual luncheon hosted by the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council and the City of Norwalk.

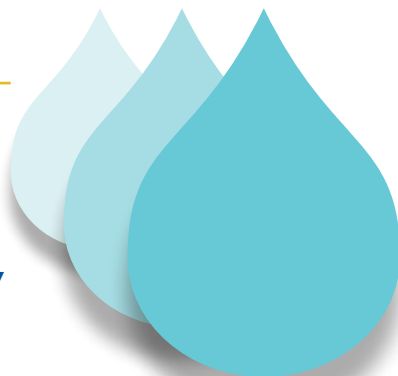
Presentations by the Norwalk Chamber, Norwalk Sheriff’s Station, and City Manager Mike Egan celebrate accomplishments and give a look into Norwalk’s future.

Tickets, at \$45 per person, are available until February 29. The popular silent auction, now in its eighth year, will help support local assistance programs and LA County Fourth District Supervisor Don Knabe’s campaign against child sex trafficking. Three levels of sponsorship are also offered, at \$250, \$500 and \$1,000. Email gs3day@yahoo.com or call (562) 400-8188 for tickets and information.



Be Water Wise....Check for Leaks!

On average, 10 to 20 gallons per day of your water footprint (or 14% of your indoor use) is lost to leaks. If installation of new, water-efficient fixtures is not possible, one of the easiest and most effective ways to cut your footprint is by repairing leaky faucets and toilets.



Norwalk City Hall Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Alternating Fridays 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sundays Closed

Norwalk City Council

Mayor
Leonard Shryock



Vice Mayor
Mike Mendez

Councilmembers
Cheri Kelley Marcel Rodarte Luigi Vernola

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

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Senior Center Celebrates 15 Year Anniversary



When it comes to Norwalk seniors, the Senior Center knows they need to keep their fifty and over residents active and engaged in the community. The Center offers a regular nutritious lunch program, health screenings, seminars and classes for both mind and body. Since the building has been open, the facility continues to bring quality programs to older adults in the community.

Nearly 200 patrons, dignitaries, and guests turned out for the anniversary ceremony on January 12. Special presentations acknowledged how far the center has come in its 15 years, specifically highlighting the importance of seminars, classes and activities offered. To those who enjoy the amenities, it's about staying active, meeting new people and feeling purposeful.

Nida Ferrer, a volunteer at the Senior Center says, "I've been here seven years. I volunteer as the greeter and I'm proud of all the resources we have available to seniors. From the first time I stepped through the doors, I realized this is an awesome place."



Sandra Benavides, Senior Center Manager says, "This ceremony is a time to remember and reflect. It brings old memories and traditions built among the seniors to the forefront. It's also a time to look to the future. We want to continue to grow and expand our programs and services, while keeping up with the latest trends impacting the older adult community."

The spacious center has been referred by many seniors who frequent the building as a home away from home. If you'd like to see a calendar of the Senior Center's upcoming programming, log onto www.norwalk.org and click on Senior Services/Senior Center. You can also call (562) 929-5580.



All in a Day's Work

Crews working on the freeway expansion project were travelling northbound on I-5 at Imperial Highway when they observed a plume of smoke. A vehicle was quickly becoming engulfed in flames. Security Paving employees jumped into action, rushing to the scene to pull the driver to a safe area until help arrived. At the same time, Superintendent Jason Mattivi called for a company water truck to assist in battling the car fire. Jason says, "My guys put the fire out. We're glad to help. There also was combustible materials nearby from the construction and we wanted to make sure the fire was contained."

Kudos for your quick thinking!



CDBG Social Services

Agency Funding Application

Applications for the City of Norwalk Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Social Services Program Funding for the 2016-17 program year are now available. Applicant must be a 501(c)3 agency providing direct services to Norwalk.

Find them online at:

norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/social-services

Due by: Monday, February 8 • No later than 5:00 p.m. at the Social Services Center, 11929 Alondra Blvd.

Kids Create at Winter Retreat

Twenty-one students from local fourth and fifth grade classes participated in the City's second annual Winter Arts Retreat, where they found their inner artist. Led by Recreation Leaders Hannah Matus and Alyssa Wynne, the students explored several fields of expression, including dance techniques, baking, painting and silk-screening.



Get Involved

Serve on the Measure G and S Citizens' Oversight Committee.

The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District is accepting applications from residents within the District who are at least ONE the following:

- Parent or guardian of a student in the district
- Parent or guardian of a student in the district and active in a parent-teacher organization, such as the P.T.A. or a school site council
- Bona-fide taxpayers association
- Business organization
- Senior citizens' organization
- Two at-large members of the community

For more information, contact:

Isela M. Vazquez, Director in the Facilities Planning & Construction Department
(562) 868-9014 ext. 2301

or log on to the district website at www.nlmusd.k12.ca.us
Applications are due on February 19, 2016 by 2:00 p.m.

Norwalk Students in the Limelight

The Annual Tournament of Roses Parade, attended by tens of thousands and seen by millions, put students from all over Southern California in the spotlight. Four band members from Norwalk were chosen to be in the Rose Parade Honor Band. Out of 600 auditioning students, only the top 200 are invited to march in this Pasadena tradition.



Leo Barcenas, John Glenn High School



Giovanni Gallegos
John Glenn High School



Jennifer Sanchez
Norwalk High School



Gabriela Perez
John Glenn High School

Thanks to our Local Heroes

Each pint of blood has the potential to save up to three lives. Every two seconds, someone needs a blood transfusion. Blood cannot be manufactured, so it can only come from volunteer donors.

On January 12, 40 people gave the gift of life to complete strangers. The City Hall/American Red Cross blood drive was held from noon to 6:00 p.m., with donations coming from all over southeast Los Angeles County. Erika Rodriguez, a Downey resident, has been giving blood since she graduated from high school, several times a year, for a total of nearly 30 times so far, and says she will continue to donate blood because "people need it to live." Erika, who makes an appointment each time she becomes eligible, has saved close to 100 lives with her donations.

Denise Becerra, a student at La Mirada High School, planned to give blood at her school drive. But because she was ill that day, Denise came out to City Hall to do



her part. This was her first time giving, and the start of a lifetime of blood donations. City employees Teresa Copen, Joey Alviso and Jim Jimenez contributed using the special Alyx machine, which, according to American Red Cross Team Supervisor Nora Whitehouse, RN, collects only red blood cells. The plasma is separated from red blood cells, and distributed back into the donor's system. This product is used to treat trauma patients during open heart surgery and other urgent procedures, where there is no time to wait for the separation process. Nora tells us that "We are low on stockpiles due to the holidays, so there is a national appeal for blood." Thank you to our local lifesavers for stepping up and making the difference.

Making a Difference



Casual conversation. Important information.



McDonald's
10841 Imperial Highway & Hoxie Avenue
(next to Food 4 Less)
Wednesday, February 24 • 8:00-9:30 a.m.



Holiday Street Sweeping

In observance of Presidents' Day on February 15, Monday's street sweeping will not take place. Sweeping will not be made up as streets can only be swept on the posted day.

Trash collection will occur as scheduled.

E-Waste & Shred-A-Thon

Dispose of unwanted electronics (e-waste) and shred documents for FREE!

Saturday, February 6, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Norwalk City Hall Parking Lot

E-waste accepted includes:

- Televisions • Computers
- Cell Phones • Fax Machines
- Printers • VCRs
- DVD Players • Radios

*Shredding is limited to 5 boxes per vehicle.

*Event is first come-first served basis.

For more info, please call (562) 929-5964 or email recycling@norwalkca.gov



Norwalk Woman's Club Unstoppable in Giving

In December, the Norwalk Woman's Club demonstrated their giving holiday spirit by donating canned goods and non-perishable food to the City of Norwalk Food Pantry. They voted to purchase a goat through Heifer International to provide a family overseas with milk and much needed income. The Woman's Club also awarded a \$500 scholarship to a Cerritos College student. And they did it all during the busiest time of the year.

Scholarship committee members Arlene Best and Helen Anderson reviewed more than 20 applications and interviewed nine students prior to selecting Cerritos College Re-Entry student Beatriz Ortiz. Ortiz, a

single mother of three, is studying Nursing and is very grateful for the financial assistance afforded through the Woman's Club scholarship.



Norwalk Woman's Club is one of 12 women's clubs in the Los Cerritos District, and part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs serving communities throughout the United States.

Norwalk Woman's Club has helped the community since 1922, and meets the second Wednesday of each month, September through June, at the Masonic Lodge, 12345 Rosecrans Avenue at 10:30 a.m. For membership information, call Linda Kelly (562) 644-8411.

L.A. County Sheriff's 100 Year's of Identification



The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department celebrated 100 years of identification techniques at Norwalk City Hall on Friday, January 8, 2016, with a museum exhibit and ceremony. Sheriff Jim McDonnell, along with other department officials, provided insight on ways fingerprinting and identification has evolved and the importance of this art not only in confirming those who are guilty, but in exonerating the innocent.

See & Do

Centennial Celebration

Metropolitan State Hospital (MSH) in Norwalk celebrates 100 years of service with a Centennial Celebration February 16-19



Public Information Officer Bin Plume says, "For the 100 years Metropolitan State Hospital has been in operation, we have provided quality care and treatment to California's increasing population of those with mental health challenges. We are very proud of the hospital's accomplishments as a resource of recovery to our patients."

The hospital has served the community and the City in diverse ways. In addition to providing treatment for patients, MSH employs approximately 1,500 individuals, many of them Norwalk residents. The hospital staff are annual contributors to the City's Angel Tree and Food Pantry programs. The campus also serves as a training facility for interns, nurses and medical school graduates, and works with partner agencies to increase public awareness of mental health issues and accomplishments in the field.

Today, MSH rests on 161.2 acres of land, has 112 structures, 15 units, 729 patients and 7 1/2 miles of road within the hospital grounds. One of the buildings, the Governor's Mansion, was reportedly used years ago by the highest state official whenever he visited Southern California.

As part of the Centennial Celebration the hospital is converting a former residence into a museum. The contents and artifacts will be unveiled to the public

in a ribbon cutting ceremony during the Centennial celebration week. MSH is located at 11401 South Bloomfield Ave. in Norwalk.

James Hall, MSH's official auditorium, has been utilized by various governmental agencies and community organizations to host events, conferences, and meetings. Bin tells us, "James Hall is available to organizations interested in partnering with MSH to raise awareness on important issues of mental health."

The week's highlights include:

Tuesday, February 16 • Main Ceremony
James Hall Auditorium • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Museum Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Residence #10 • 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17 • Hospital Retiree Alumni Tea & Social*
James Hall Auditorium • 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
*Open to former staff

Thursday, February 18 • Mental Health Conference
James Hall Auditorium • 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday, February 19 • Unveiling the Centennial Wall
Administration Building • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Norwalk City Television

February Program Schedule

Charter Cable TV Channel 3
Verizon FiOS TV Channel 32

Mondays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: Mariachi Divas
- 7:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Social Services Department"

Tuesdays

- 12:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 4:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Public Safety Department"
- 5:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Social Services Department"
- 6:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Live 1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

Wednesdays

- 12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: Mariachi Divas
- 5:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Public Service Department"
- 7:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 7:30 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Live 2nd and 4th Wednesdays)

Thursdays

- 12:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 3:00 p.m. City Council Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 5:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 6:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Social Services Department"
- 7:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Public Safety Department"
- 8:00 p.m. Summer Concert 2015: The Rising

Saturdays

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

Sundays

- 11:00 a.m. City Council Meeting (Re-Broadcast)
- 2:00 p.m. The Best of "Now You Know"
- 3:00 p.m. "The City at Your Service: Social Services, Public Safety and Public Services Departments"



It's All Here

Educate, explore, experience. Norwalk libraries offer exciting activities for all ages, from gaming to arts and crafts, movies and books (both traditional and digital). Events are free and open to the public.

Kids

Valentine's Day Cookie Decorating
Tuesday, February 9 • 4:00 p.m.

Use your imagination to make unique Valentine's Day cookies you can show off and eat! Children may bring their own Valentine's Day cards to exchange with others. All materials are provided by the library, and each child attending receives a special Valentine's Day chef hat.

Teens

Chess & Tabletop Gaming

Monday, February 1 • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Otaku Club

Wednesdays, February 3 & 17 • 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Video Game Pixel Art

Saturday, February 20 • 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

TeenFlix

Movie based on a 2010 graphic novel starring Michael Cera

Wednesday, February 24 • 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Adults

Lit Wits

Monday, February 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Read Julie Otsuka's "The Buddha in the Attic," available at the Info Desk. New members are always welcome!

Events take place at the Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway. For additional details call (562) 868-0775.



For information regarding Alondra Library, please call (562) 868-7771.

Fall in Love...with a New Family Pet

Research suggests that pets improve the health of their owners by decreasing stress levels and depression and increasing physical activity.

SEAACA helps potential pet parents find a purrfect fit during their "Have a Heart" Super Saturday Adoption Event at their campus located at 9777 SEAACA Street in Downey. From 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on February 13, receive one-day only special pricing covering plenty of important services.

A \$14 adoption fee includes spaying or neutering, micro-chipping, the first set of vaccinations and a flea treatment. Some restrictions apply. Call SEAACA for more info (562) 803-3301.



L.A. County Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Round Up Event

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, in conjunction with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, urges residents to properly dispose of household hazardous waste and electronic waste (e-waste). Bring HHW, such as automotive fluids (oil, antifreeze, brake fluid), cleaners and pesticides, pool chemicals, expired or unused medications or sharps, household batteries, fluorescent lights bulbs, and e-waste (computer monitors, keyboards, cell phones, cell phone batteries) to a Round Up for FREE and safe disposal.

Saturday, February 27

Southern California Gas Company
8101 Rosemead Boulevard, Pico Rivera

Please bring items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.

Events run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and are open to all Los Angeles County residents. Call 1-888-CLEAN-LA for more information

JANUARY 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS



SENIOR CENTER 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

