2020 Vision: Objectives Met

Utilize new technology to improve customer service.

The City website “Re-Booted” in November, bringing new capability and faster service to users.

Support neighborhood and community preservation efforts

The City reinstated the Mini Mr. Sun Neighborhood clean-up program, helping residents to maintain their properties and properly dispose of hazardous materials.

Stuff-a-Bus Makes a Difference

The City’s 13th Annual Stuff-a-Bus Holiday Toy Drive collected over 630 toys. Norwalk Transit’s decorated, holiday-themed, 40 foot bus travelled various routes throughout December, and visited other locations, including local schools, to collect unwrapped toys.

40th Annual Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast on the Horizon

Join Master of Ceremonies Mayor Marcel Rodarte and Keynote Speaker Tim Lee at the 2015 Norwalk Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast. This year’s event will be held at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel on February 11, 2015, from 6:30-8:30 a.m. Tickets are $25 per person.

Tim Lee grew up a rebellious teen in southern Illinois. In 1969, he joined the Marine Corps and was deployed to Southeast Asia. Apprehended along an abandoned trail in Vietnam, a land mine explosion damaged his legs beyond repair. In a wheelchair for life, Tim Lee was to carry a message from God to a damaged world.

Since 1979, Mr. Lee has devoted himself to a full-time ministry of evangelism, engaging and inspiring people of all ages across the country. Tim Lee brings with him a clear, uncompromising message grounded in the Word of God.

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Improve parks, public facilities and open space and identify opportunities to enhance community resources

The Norwalk Park Master Plan was updated in December, after a thorough site analysis and needs assessment, including resident feedback through surveys, interviews and a community workshop. Gerdes Park underwent a renovation project including new paint, landscaping and playground.

Support and invest in energy efficient and environmentally friendly strategies to develop sustainable infrastructure, reduce City’s carbon footprint and lower long-term costs

Norwalk installed new technology to improve customer service. The City website “Re-Booted” in November, bringing new capability and faster service to users.

Norwalk Transit’s decorated, holiday-themed, 40 foot bus travelled various routes throughout December, and visited other locations, including local schools, to collect unwrapped toys.

The City installed 282 new safety lights at all City intersections, saving nearly 336,000 kilowatt hours. In addition, utilization of alternative fuel methods eliminated 182 metric tons of emissions from the air.

Resolutions of Fellow Norwalk Residents for the New Year

“I wish everybody a prosperous New Year and be thankful we are here.”
- Louis Lovato

“I hope the gas prices stay down. More compassion... We all have to live here on Earth, and unless we get along, Earth won’t be ours.”
- Lathon Holmes

“I have never gone fishing in my life. So that’s what I want to do this year.”
- Diego Ramirez

“I hope my family is together and we’re healthy. Also that my husband continues with his job.”
- Blanca Hernandez

“More money, not only for me and my family, but for everybody!”
- Jesus Hernandez

“I am going to make sure to enjoy every day of the new year.”
- Sarah Marquez

March Election Cancelled

At the December 16, 2014 meeting, City Council voted to cancel the March 3, 2015 Municipal Election, as no challengers filed to run for the three seats.

At the close of the nomination period on December 5, 2014, only the three incumbents (Marcel Rodarte, Leonard Shryock and Luigi Vernola) filed Nomination Papers to run for office. When the number of nominees for an election does not exceed the offices to be filled, the City Council has the option to either cancel the election and appoint the nominees, or to proceed with an election.

City Council discussed utilizing the approximately $120,000 saved in election costs for City improvements. The incumbents will be sworn into office on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 to serve new four-year terms.

Norwalk City Council

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

Tickets are $25 per person.

Proceeds will go to the Oldtimers Foundation for upgrades to nutrition equipment for Norwalk seniors, to the City’s Food Pantry, and Norwalk Libraries for the purchase of Kindle e-readers. Any and all donations appreciated, including silent auction items.

Tickets or sponsorship info: Norwalk Community Coordinating Council (562) 400-4188, (562) 888-1936 or ncc@usa.com. Pay online at www.nnockline.us. Checks made payable to NCCC, Post Office Box 521, Norwalk, CA 90651-0521.

Enjoy lunch and a special presentation on Norwalk’s progress and goals by City Manager, Michael J. Egan. Tickets are $45 per person, and are available until Thursday, February 16, 2015.

Make a difference. Be a sponsor or donor:
$1,000 Keystone Sponsor:
Reserved Table for 8, Full Page Ad in Program
$500 Blue & Gold Patron:
4 Tickets, Half Page Ad in Program
$250 “On the Move” Benefactor:
2 Tickets, Business Card Ad in Program

2015 State of the City Address

Friday, February 20, 2015 - 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Norwalk Doubletree Hotel - 13111 Sycamore Dr.

Enjoy lunch and a special presentation on Norwalk’s progress and goals by City Manager, Michael J. Egan. Tickets are $45 per person, and are available until Thursday, February 16, 2015.

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Gifting Ladies

The Norwalk Woman's Club is focused on making a positive impact in the community. This holiday season and decades prior, they've organized their members for the "Gifts for Giving" program at the Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk. Patients who wouldn't have the means to give a gift to a loved one are able to do so through the club. Members will buy, wrap, and ship out holiday gifts on behalf of the patients. Marie Carter, a longtime member, says the patients' families have written heartwarming letters, "One letter said thank you for giving my son the dignity to remember his family at Christmas."

In addition to the "Gifts for Giving" program, the Norwalk Woman's Club is busy throughout the year volunteering and giving back. Among the organizations they're involved with are the March of Dimes, Operation Smile, and Paul Newman's Painted Turtle Camp. The club also grants scholarships to students. The longest standing member, Alice Allen, joined in the early 1950’s. At age 92 Alice says, "I love to be with the ladies, it's a friendship and at my age, you stagnate if you don't get out and do things. And I've learned a lot, from arts and crafts to government."

For more information on the Norwalk Woman's Club, you can contact their membership chair, Linda Kelly (562) 644-8411.

To see the full video of this story, go to our youtube station at www.youtube.com/norwalktelevision and click on the "Now You Know" link of this feature.

Clean Up in 2015

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, in conjunction with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County asks residents to properly dispose of waste that is "Too Toxic to Trash." Bring household hazardous waste, such as automotive fluids (oil, antifreeze, brake fluid), cleaners and pesticides, pool chemicals, expired or unused medications or sharps, household batteries, acid or base products, fluorescent lights bulbs, and e-waste (computer monitors, keyboards, cell phones, cell phone batteries) to one of three events for FREE and safe disposal.

Saturday, January 10
Paramount Swap Meet
7900 All America City Way
(Off Paramount Blvd.)

John Anson Ford Park
7800 block of Scout Ave., Bell Gardens
(Swimming Pool Parking Lot)

Saturday, January 17
Rio Hondo College Fire Training Academy
11400 Greenstone Ave., Santa Fe Springs

Items should be in original containers, sealed, and placed in a sturdy box.

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

Trash & Street Sweeping

In observance of the upcoming January holidays, please note the following schedule changes for trash pick up and street sweeping.

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1, 2015
(No street sweeping/No trash collection)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 19, 2015
(No street sweeping)

Trash collection will resume following New Year's Day, one day later than your regular scheduled date. For example, if your regular trash date is Thursday, pickup will be moved to Friday. For Friday trash pickup, trash will be collected on Saturday. Please note that street sweeping will not take place during the week if your regular sweeping date lands on a holiday. Sweeping will resume the following week as scheduled.

In some cases, the modified schedule may cause trash collection to fall on the same day as street sweeping. During these times, trash barrels MUST be placed up on the parkway so street sweeping is not disrupted. Please do your part to make sure our streets are kept clean.

*aPlease Note: On regularly scheduled days, street sweeping will occur, even in the rain. Please make sure vehicles are moved on street sweeping days in your neighborhood, rain or shine, to allow for safe and efficient cleaning.

2014 Angel Tree Sponsors

The Giving Season

Dolores Huerta Elementary School buzzed with excitement and holiday cheer as the City of Norwalk's Social Services Department hosted over 1,350 children and their families at this year's Angel Tree celebration on Saturday, December 13, 2014. The Angel Tree Project, a Norwalk tradition for over 20 years, began as a much smaller "Gift of Clothing" project and has grown over time into a holiday themed party supported by the entire community. Through this program, children are provided with a gift of new clothing, toys and a fun holiday party. Attendees enjoyed games, face painting, arts and crafts. Entertainment at the holiday party included magicians, storytelling, and puppeteers. Of course there was a special visit by Santa. The City of Norwalk was privileged to have the talents of the John Glenn High School Jazz Band and the Norwalk All City Band, who provided musical entertainment. Special thanks go out to the donors, sponsors and volunteers that made this event a success.

2014 Angel Tree Sponsors

Angel Tree Sites
American Legion Auxiliary Unit #359
Applebee's
Cerritos College Bookstore
Communication Workers of America
Doris Hair Design
Faith Reform Church
L.A. County Fire Department Station #20
L.A. County Sheriff's Department – Norwalk Station
Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District
Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
City of Norwalk City Hall
Norwalk High School
Norwalk Presbyterian Church
Norwalk Regional Library
City of Norwalk Senior Center
Norwalk Sheriff Station
City of Norwalk Social Services Center
Norwalk Superior Court
Registar-Recorder/County Clerk
Social Security Administration
St. John of God Catholic Church
United Methodist Church
Verizon
Wal-Mart #5164

$1 Supporter Sites
American Legion Post
Cerritos College Bookstore
City of Norwalk City Hall
City of Norwalk Senior Center
City of Norwalk Social Services Center
City of Norwalk Child Care
City of Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex
Douglas Burgers/Tacos
Familia Pawn
Joyal Preschool
Leche Café & Bookstore
Señor Baja Restaurant
So. Cal. Pizza
Tam's Burgers #33
TNT Restaurant

And More Than 200 Volunteers!!!

2
FREE! Christmas Tree Recycling

From December 26, 2014 through January 16, 2015, Norwalk residents can have their Christmas trees picked up. Trees will be reused as compost and landfill cover.

Curbside collection program customers:
As a safety precaution, please place your tree on the curb the day before trash pickup. Trees will be picked up on the same day as your trash collection. A separate truck will collect the trees at a different time than the rest of the refuse. If you forget to place your tree on the curb, please hold off until the following week to do so; it will be collected on your trash collection day.

Multi-family dwelling customers:
Residents of multi-family buildings can recycle their trees by placing them out next to the regular trash containers. A separate truck will pick up the trees.

Guidelines for Placing Your Tree Out:
- Decorations (ornaments, tinsel, lights, etc.) and metal stands must be removed.
- Wooden tree stands must be removed and disposed of as trash.
- Flocked trees are NOT acceptable and considered trash.
- Do not place your tree in a bag.
- Trees over eight feet need to be cut in half.

For details, please call the City of Norwalk at (562) 929-5964 or email at recycling@norwalkca.gov.

H&R Block & Alba Professional Services
John Alba and his son Taylor Alba were presented with the “2014 Rookie Franchisee of the Year Award” at the H&R Block National Convention in Dallas, Texas. With more than 2,500 people in the crowd, John proudly represented the Norwalk community.

Let’s Go, Eagles, Let’s Go!
Two cheerleaders from John Glenn High School, Jasmine Jackson and Krysta Diaz cheered in front of millions at the 88th Annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. They performed alongside the iconic band KISS! Having the chance to be a part of this parade is a memory neither will soon forget. Woohoo!!

Computer Re-Boot Reminder
The City of Norwalk just launched a brand new website! It’s faster, more efficient, and graphically enhanced. The biggest difference is the responsive design. Now the layout will adjust and resize depending on the type of device you’re viewing it on. There are plenty of other functions the new site offers, including paying some of your bills online. To learn more about the new website, go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxYLMm4y_FQ

Talented Norwalk Teen Receives High Honors
Steve Rodriguez, a Junior at Santa Fe High School, was recently presented with the Gold Medal of Achievement from the Royal Rangers youth organization at New Harvest Church. Upon achieving his goal of seven years, Steve says, “It was one of the greatest moments of my life!” Along with the medal, he was presented a “Book of Honors,” which included letters from President Barack Obama, United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez and Mayor Marcel Rodarte. Steve also plays guitar for his band, The Breakroom Band, who put out their first album on iTunes earlier this year!

Public Services Department Announcement

SANDBAG INFORMATION
With WINTER and rain here, be prepared!

Sandbags are available at the local Fire Stations. (Limited supply)

Fire Station 20 - 863-0214
12110 Adoree St., c/o Norwalk Blvd.

Fire Station 115 - 868-5212
11317 Alondra Blvd.

Sand is available in the parking lots of the following five locations within Norwalk.

Aquatic Pavilion
12301 Sproul St.
14700 Gridley Rd.

Hermosillo Park
11959 162nd St.
12120 Hoxie Ave.

Holifield Park
12500 Excelsior Dr.

Sand and bags are on a first come, first serve basis. If you need more information, please call the Public Services office at (562) 929-5511.
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia will be launching her second “There Ought to Be a Law” contest for residents of the 58th Assembly District. Constituents from the cities of Montebello, Pico Rivera, Commerce, Bell Gardens, Downey, Norwalk, Bellflower, Cerritos and Artesia are invited to submit ideas or proposals for a new state law.

Entries can cover a wide range of issues that can be addressed by legislation, with the intent of improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods throughout the state of California. The contest is open to people of all ages and school aged children and college students are especially encouraged to participate. “I want my constituents to be my partners in setting my legislative agenda,” Garcia said. “I encourage my constituents to share with me their bill ideas, inspired by their daily experiences - ideas that will make all of California better.” Last year's proposal submitted by Sally and Ron Hoyt from Bell Gardens was introduced as Assembly Bill 1596. The bill required all vote-by-mail applications, when completed, to be mailed directly to the county registrar's office and not to middlemen or political campaign organizations. This measure was passed through the legislature, signed by the Governor and will become law on January 1, 2015.

Assemblymember Garcia will choose at least one winner from the contest. The winner will have the opportunity to travel to Sacramento, testify before an Assembly Committee on the merits of the bill, and have lunch with Assemblymember Garcia.

Remember, the deadline for entries is Friday, JANUARY 16, 2015. Submissions will be accepted by mail, e-mail, or fax. Applications can be submitted online at: http://asmdc.org/members/a58/other-resources/there-ought-to-be-a-law-form, faxed to (562) 861-5158 or mailed to: Office of Assemblymember Garcia, 8255 Firestone Blvd., Suite 203, Downey, CA 90241

If you have any questions, please see Assemblymember Garcia’s website or call her district office at (562) 861-5803.
If you don’t see your photo? Go to the City of Norwalk’s official Flickr page and browse through for your photo: https://flic.kr/s/aHsk39REA2