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
Mike Mendez
Vice Mayor
Cheri Kelley
Councilmembers
Leonard Shryock
Luigi Vernola

CivicSpark, a Spark for Norwalk’s Environment

Preserving the environment is a topic that CivicSpark, a Governor’s Initiative AmeriCorps program, dedicates itself to finding solutions in order to manage and support projects in California.

The City of Norwalk will be part of this endeavor for the next 11 months in a fellowship program. Noe Martinez Diaz, a graduate from Humboldt State University, recently received his degree in environmental resource engineering.

Some of the projects set to take shape while Noe works on his fellowship include: researching grant opportunities to establish energy goals and examining savings achieved through implementation of projects, building benchmark studies, and audits of facilities to identify energy efficient projects. He is also set to implement energy action plans during his tenure.

Noe will be compensated by the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and Gateway Cities Energy Leader Program.

The goal of CivicSpark is for local communities to accelerate their climate and water response in order to build resiliency. To learn more, go to civicspark.lgc.org/

Restoring the Hargitt House to her Former Glory

Once the residence of one of Norwalk’s founding families, the museum served as home to three generations and survived two world wars, the Great Depression, earthquakes and floods throughout the many decades of its lifetime. The Hargitt House Museum is on the National Registry of Historic Places and was built in 1891.

In 1975, the Hargitt family designated the home to be donated to the City of Norwalk as a museum, and Norwalk residents have been visiting and learning about its rich history ever since.

Now 125 years old, the home requires tender care and maintenance. Crews began working on restoring the home’s exterior last month, with project completion expected by the end of the year.

The restoration includes removal of lead based paint, replacement of parts and glass to make windows operable again and structural reinforcement of the water tower. For safety, the stairs leading to the tower have been rebuilt, with wood being replaced where necessary. A new roof and new exterior paint will be added as well.

Public Services staff discovered old photos of the home in its original shade of blue prior to it being painted yellow in 2002. Workers salvaged original nails and located the blue color on pieces of wood that had been covered up for more than 30 years.

The yard will also undergo improvements, with new landscaping and a new gazebo. The goal of the restoration project is to make necessary renovations without compromising the integrity and historical details of the home. Once the facelift is completed tours will be scheduled for the public.

For more on the Hargitt House Museum and family, check out our video, “Highlight in History” https://youtu.be/7raV58OesOY

October is NeighborWoods Month

NeighborWoods Month is an annual campaign to plant and care for community trees. Each year, thousands of volunteers across the nation make their neighborhoods greener and healthier by planting trees.

On October 29, 2016 the City will be holding a NeighborWoods event in the area north of City Hall. Gettysburg Drive, Evereset Street, Spy Street and Crewe Street between Norwalk Boulevard and Volunteer Avenue will be getting the ‘green’ treatment, as volunteers from the P.R.I.D.E program, City staff and residents from the area plant trees in the parkways throughout the neighborhood.

Trees improve air quality, increase property value and make Norwalk a greener, greater place to live.

Parkway Tree Planting

Trees are an important part of our community. Trees in urban areas can deflect the sunlight which reduces the heat island effect caused by pavement and buildings. Trees also provide shade to landscape which helps reduce water needs, increase water quality, helps recharge groundwater and reduce soil erosion.

The Public Services Department’s Greenscape division plants trees from November to May. Resident may request to have a tree planted in the parkway adjacent to their home. Request are taken year round. If you would like a tree planted in your parkway please call (562) 929-5511. You may view pictures of the trees available for planting on the City’s web site at http://norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/public-services/greenscape-and-tree-maintenance.

Go Rio Program

Since 2006, Norwalk Transit System (NTS) has partnered with Rio Hondo College to provide students with pre-paid transit passes as part of their GO RIO program. GO RIO enables NTS to provide increased access to public transportation for Rio Hondo students commuting to Rio Hondo College. In addition to increasing access to clean, efficient, and safe public transportation, these students will be doing their part to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in the southeast Los Angeles County region.

NTS buses used by GO RIO students are powered by cutting edge CNG, clean-air technology. Not only will NTS be helping to introduce more full-time students to mass transit, but it will be simultaneously raising awareness of alternative fuel technology.

Starting in the fall semester of 2016, Go Rio will introduce the U-Pass sticker, which is a transit pass placed on the Rio Hondo student IDs. This sticker includes a smart chip that enables students to tap the farebox to receive a free ride for commuting to and from school. Additionally, the Go Rio Pass/Sticker is now valid on NTS on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information on the GO RIO program or other services offered by NTS, please call Customer Service at (562) 929-5550 or e-mail us at transportation@norwalk.ca.gov.
It’s a Win Win!
Norwalk is beautified one house and one business at a time. City Council recognized the winners of the 2016 Home and Business Beautification Contest on September 6 with a special awards presentation. The four categories include: Home Beautiful, Home Improvement, Multi-Family, and Business.

Congratulations to all the home and business owners who are working to make Norwalk the best it can be!

1st Home Beautiful
14529 Halcourt Avenue

2nd Home Beautiful
14721 Benfield Avenue

2nd Home Improvement
11549 College Drive

1st Home Improvement
12139 Chesterton Street

1st Multi-Family
Plantation Apartments, 12809 Kalnor Avenue

1st Business
Norwalk Family Optometry, 12138 Firestone Boulevard

2nd Business
Miller Oh, 12106 Front Street

What’s that Gonna be?
Demolition at the site of the former Senior Center at San Antonio Drive and Foster Road is underway. When completed, the project planned for this location will provide a single facility where residents can learn about and get connected to career opportunities. Access to higher education programs, vocational training and certificates, job placement, and business resources will be available at no cost. The project reflects the City’s 2020 Vision Strategic Action Plan goal to stimulate the local economy by helping residents obtain education and training that will lead to stable careers and result in higher incomes, which can be used to support local commerce, attract new businesses and create more jobs.

Open Mic Night Back by Popular Demand
Open Mic Night at the Cultural Arts Center is just the venue for comedians, poets and musicians to share their talent. Artists of all types and styles are welcome to step on stage on Friday, October 21. Sign-ups will begin at 7:30 p.m., with open mic running from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. Sleep Disorder, a local band of students from John Glenn High School, will end the night with their featured performance. The Cultural Arts Center will provide a microphone, microphone stand, 2 speakers, and an auxiliary cord. Please keep in mind that family-friendly environment does not tolerate any profane words or messages of hate.

The event is free, so friends and family are welcome! The Cultural Arts Center is located at 13200 Clarkdale Avenue. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please call (562) 929-5521.

33rd Annual Arturo Sanchez, Sr., Halloween Parade
Saturday, October 15, 11:00 a.m.
Pioneer Boulevard and Mapledale Street

Pokemon fever has hit Norwalk! Pikachu and friends are traveling all the way from Japan to visit their Norwalk friends at the 33rd Annual Arturo Sanchez, Sr., Halloween Parade! Pikachu, Squirtle, and Charmander will make their debut at the Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 15, and they can’t wait to see all of Norwalk smiling back at them. The parade steps off at 11:00 a.m. at the corner of Pioneer Boulevard and Mapledale Street and concludes at Hermosillo Park. Arrive early for a good seat.
College Expo: Get on the Path to Success

Admission representatives from over 50 colleges will offer workshops and information at the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District’s 2016 College Expo. The event was created by counselors in the district to connect students with college and career readiness. Topics including financial aid, community college transfer options, admissions and entrance exams, among others, will be covered by specialists to help young people plan to meet their goals.

The Expo runs from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19 at John Glenn High School, located at 13520 Shoemaker Avenue. Food will be available for purchase from clubs.

E-Waste Collection, Shred-A-Thon & Rain Barrel Distribution Event

October 8, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
City Hall Parking Lot
12700 Norwalk Boulevard

The City will be hosting an Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Collection and Shred-A-Thon on Saturday, October 8, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at City Hall parking lot located at 12700 Norwalk Blvd (please enter via Ave Manuel Salinas). E-waste may contain lead, copper, and other heavy metals or potentially toxic substances and should never be placed in trash carts or dumped out in the street or alley. Bring your old, unwanted e-waste for recycling and up to five boxes of documents for secure shredding on site.

E-Waste accepted:
- Televisions
- Printers
- Computer Monitors
- Fax Machines
- Cell Phones
- DVD players

** Please note that a portion of City Hall parking lot is under construction which may impact the wait times during the event. We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Rain Barrel Distribution

October 8, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Norwalk Library Parking Lot
12550 Imperial Highway

Rain barrels can be used to collect and reuse rain water to irrigate landscaping while reducing the amount of drinking (or potable) water used. Rain barrels must be pre-purchased at www.rainbarrelsintl.com under the events tab. Only rain barrels purchased in advance are guaranteed to be available for pick up. Barrels are $35 at time of purchase; but are only $25 after $75 rebate! There is a max of two rain barrel rebates per household and they must be submitted in one single application.

To receive a rebate:
Submit an online application at www.socalwatersmart.com. Application is quick and easy!

Within 60 days of your online application, please send (either mail, fax or email) a copy of your online application confirmation page, as well as a copy of a recent water bill and your rain barrel receipt to SoCal Water Smart. Contact information and address can be found at www.socalwatersmart.com.

A rebate check will be mailed to your home within 10 weeks of the submission of your supporting documentation. Please submit your rebate application by December 31, 2016 to ensure you receive the $75 rebate. Rain barrel rebates will decrease in 2017.

Questions? Please call (562) 929-5964 or email recycling@norwalkca.gov
Pancake Breakfast  
Benefits Cerritos College Veterans  
On Saturday, October 8, enjoy a hearty breakfast at Applebee’s and help raise money for veterans’ scholarships while you’re at it. $10 purchases a full pancake breakfast with a beverage. The event runs from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the restaurant located at 12129 Imperial Highway. No tickets will be sold at the door. Call (562) 400-8188 for tickets or more information. Donations are welcomed.

Last year, the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council awarded $5,000 to vets attending Cerritos College. They hope to be able to provide even more funding this year.

IN A NUT SHELL  
The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is implementing an accessible and transparent program for Vote by Mail (VBM) voters to easily and securely drop off their VBM ballot. There are dozens of locations spread throughout Los Angeles County that will ensure voters have a convenient place to drop off their VBM ballot for the November 8th Presidential General Election. Beginning October 3, use the link below to find the drop-off location closest to you.

vote.by.mail@lavote.net  
www.lavote.net  
1-800-852-8287  
www.lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voting-options/vote-by-mail

SAVE THE DATE  
VETERAN’S DAY CELEBRATION  
NOVEMBER 11  
11:00 A.M.  
NORWALK CITY HALL  
KEYNOTE: SHERIFF JIM McDONNELL

Vote By Mail Drop-Off

IN A NUT SHELL

IN A NUT SHELL  
Vote By Mail Drop-Off  
Who  
Voters

Why  
Continuously provide convenient options for Los Angeles County voters to cast their ballot on, and make it easier for voters to vote by mail.

What  
Acceptable Ballots  
Voters must complete and sign their ballots. When the ballot is folded or otherwise damaged, it will be accepted as long as it is legible and the votes can be counted.

Eligibility  
For citizens who are age 18 or older, registered to vote, and a resident of Los Angeles County. They may request a VBM ballot online at lavote.net/vote-by-mail or by phone at 1-800-852-8287.

Registration  
Registration is not required to vote by mail.

How  
Request a Ballot  
Visit lavote.net/vote-by-mail or call 1-800-852-8287 to request a VBM ballot. Your first VBM ballot will be sent by mail; subsequent ballots will be mailed when required.

Return Ballot  
Complete the ballot, sign it, and securely drop it off at one of the dozens of locations in Los Angeles County. You can view the closest location by using the VBM Drop-Off locator on the County website.

WHERE

Los Angeles County  
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk  
400 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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