

NORWALK CHAMBER MINIATURE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Norwalk Chamber brought back our fun filled "Mini Golf Tournament" event on Thursday, May 13th at Golf n' Stuff located at 10555 Firestone Blvd. here in Norwalk. While not as competitive as our 9-Hole Classic, there was still tough competition on the mini golf greens. Nine teams competed for the ultimate prizes of our traditional golf ball trophies while enjoying the outdoor space on a beautiful afternoon in the city. Each time our Norwalk Chamber holds a fundraising event, we offer sponsor opportunities and without the support of these generous sponsors, the events would not be as successful. We would like to thank our following sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor:
Nationwide Environmental Services

Gold Sponsors:
Liberty Utilities
Florence Homes

Silver Sponsors:
Farmers & Merchants Bank
U.S. Bank
Norwalk Realty, Gordon Stefenhagen

Award Sponsor
Golden State Water

Dinner Sponsor
Norwalk Community Coordinating Council

Beverage Sponsor
Café n' Stuff Catering

As this was our first in person event in over a year, our Event Committee was very excited to see such a great turnout for not only golfing, but also for networking. The committee worked hard to make sure everyone followed Los Angeles County health directives, staying socially distant, wearing masks, but still being able to connect with people in person. Special thanks to our Event Committee members: Amanda Blanton, Sue Arthur, Irma Macias, Trisha Gutierrez, Ric Ochoa, Joseph Derthick, Teri Bazen, Lynda Fisher and Yovani Flores. Special thanks to Norwalk Chick-fil-A for bringing a great lunch for all attendees!

This year's awards went to the following golf teams:

1st Place Team
TNG Realty, Rios & Garcia Team

2nd Place Team
Community Family Guidance Center Team

3rd Place Team
AFLAC & Thompson & Associates Team

Spirit Award Team
Chick-fil-A Team

If you are interested in finding out about upcoming events for the Norwalk Chamber and opportunities to either be a sponsor or participate, visit our website at www.norwalkchamber.com and click on our calendar.



Norwalk Chamber Event Committee & volunteers helping set up for the Mini Golf Tournament. Pictured here (l to r) President Elect, Jose Rios, Ambassador Sue Arthur, Past President Trisha Gutierrez, President Amanda Blanton, Ambassador Irma Macias and community volunteer Dora Sandoval.



Community Family Guidance Center team, (l to r) Bill Sinko, Chellette Harden, Victor Sanchez and Kenny Aguirre.



Golf Sponsor, Norwalk Community Coordinating Council (l to r) Christina Roberto, President Gordon Stefenhagen and Elizabeth Rock.



TNG Realty, Rios & Garcia Team. (l to r) President Elect, Jose Rios, TNG Realty, Norwalk City Council Member Margarita Rios, Alejandra Peregrina, Mila Rios and Christian Rios.



A great time was had by all who attended the golfing event!



Third place Team, Ambassador Joe Derthick, Dan Spilsbury, VP Finance Karla Butler and Marcella Derthick.



Pictured here are David Rosas, Gilari Aguilar, Leslie Anguiano and Heather Ramirez. Our Spirit Award winning Team from Chick-fil-A.



NCCC Team, (l to r) Natalie LeGaspi, Elizabeth Rock, Christina Roberto and Board Member Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Farmers & Merchants Bank Team (l to r) Paul Sena, Aria Sena, Board President Amanda Blanton and Marie Sena.



Golfing team from ABCUSD, pictured here (l to r) are Natalie Sanchez, Dr. Crechena Wise, Melinda Ortiz and Scott Smith.



Norwalk Chamber Team (l to r) Melissa Ramirez, Aubrey Spilsbury, Fabian Ramirez and Juan Miguel Ramirez.

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

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Team Mr. Rosewood, pictured here is owner Jason Perez and his daughters.



Getting ready to welcome our golfers are Ambassadors Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center and Sue Arthur.

NORWALK CHAMBER BUSINESS CONNECTIONS (NCBC) is the Official Publication of the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce.

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

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Facebook:

http://on.fb.me/oB5EUM

PRESIDENT

AMANDA BLANTON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EDITOR, NCBC

CAREN SPILSBURY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE:

THESE DATES AND LOCATIONS COULD BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

June 4th

Paint Night Fundraiser
Via ZOOM
7pm to 9pm

June 10th

Ribbon Cutting Event
Sal Psychiatry Services

June 23rd

Norwalk Chamber Annual Awards & Installation Event

July 8th

Ribbon Cutting
Sal's Psychiatry
10am

July 9th

Executive Committee Meeting
12noon via ZOOM

July 21st

Board of Directors
9am via ZOOM

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, October 23rd

9am to 10pm
Norwalk, Bellflower, Paramount
Relay for Life Reunion
Location: Norwalk City Hall Lawn



RENEWING MEMBERS

Renewing Members

The following companies and individuals renewed their membership with the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and the services we provide are made possible by their support.

58 Years

Norwalk La Mirada Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning
Don Skala
562-868-7777
www.laplumber.com

46 Years

Chapel of Memories
Anthony Nunes
562-863-8731
www.chapelofmemoriesfuneral.com

32 Years

Norwalk Florist
Gary Murphy
562-863-4478
www.floristnorwalk.com

25 Years

West Coast Arborist
Patrick Mahoney
714-991-1900
www.wcainc.com

22 Years

El Taco Locco
Delia Castro
562-929-0071

22 Years

Villa Elena Healthcare Center
John Javier
562-868-0591
www.progressivecarecenters.com

22 Years

El Taco Locco
Delia Castro
562-929-0071

15 Years

El Clasificado/EC Hispanic Media
Martha DeLaTorre
323-278-5310
www.elclasificado.com

12 Years

State Farm Insurance
Lucy Rodas
562-868-6218
www.lucyrodas.com

8 Years

Preservation Partnership Development III, LLC
William Szymczak
310-802-6670
www.ppmginc.com

7 Years

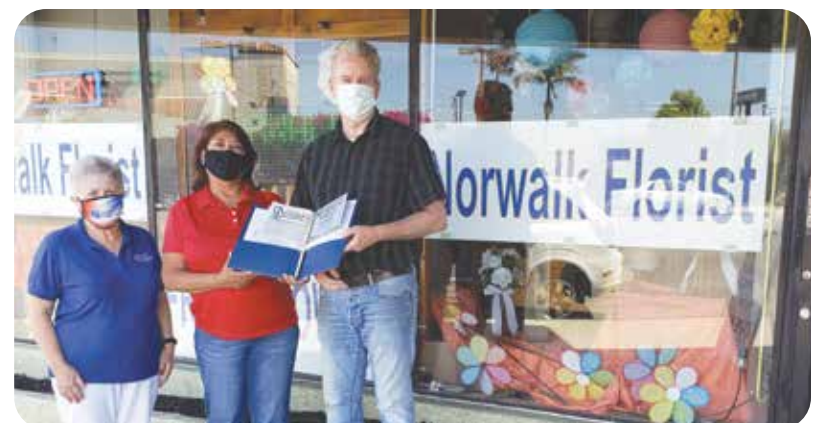
Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant
Jason Perez
562-868-1553

MEMBERS RENEW!

Norwalk Chamber Board Members & Ambassadors were able to get out into the community again to visit our businesses and bring them their membership renewals! As our county continues to reopen our team is able to make more visits to our members and we look forward to the time when we can begin to visit all businesses here in Norwalk!



El Clasificado/EC Hispanic Media receives their membership renewal plaque. Pictured here (l to r) VP Finance Karla Butler, Thompson & Associates, Joe Badame, Martha de la Torre, Marina Brito and Frank Zepeda of El Clasificado and Ambassador Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center.



Receiving his 32nd year membership renewal from Karla Butler and Irma Macias is Gary Murphy of Norwalk Florist.



Irma and Karla were able to present the membership renewal to our longest serving member of the Norwalk Chamber, Don Skala and Norwalk La Mirada Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning.



Visiting Northgate Gonzalez Market with their membership renewal. Pictured here (l to r) Karla Butler, Thompson & Associates, Store Manager Yanira Delacruz, Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center and Assistant Manager Arthur Robles.



Visiting State Farm Insurance, Lucy Rodas and presenting her membership renewal.



Delivering the membership renewal to Best Buy Tire Pros.



President Amanda Blanton, Farmers & Merchants Bank presents the membership renewal to Marie Sena of ABC Unified School District.



Bringing the membership renewal to Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant. In this photo is owner Jason Perez.

NORWALK CHAMBER NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome our new Board Members to the Chambers governance team and we would like to introduce them to the Norwalk community.

- Jason Perez, Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant
- Dora Sandoval, Norwalk Lions Club
- Cynthia Lizarraga, Norwalk Grocery Outlet

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



While it is bittersweet to say that this will be my last article as your Norwalk Chamber President, it is also exciting to welcome new President Jose Rios for this next year. I want to congratulate Jose and the new Executive Board on their election and the Chamber looks forward to seeing what the new year will bring. I also want to welcome our newest Board Members who will start on July 1st: Jason Perez, Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant, Cynthia Lizarraga, Grocery Outlet and Dora Sandoval, Norwalk Lions Club. Thanks to our renewing Board members for committing to serve another term as Board Members for the Chamber: John Alba, Alba Professional Services/H & R Block, Karla Butler, Thompson & Associates, Yovani Flores US Bank, Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist, and Jose Rios, TNG Realty. (And I get to serve another term also!)

The last two years have been challenging and fulfilling at the same time. We have weathered the pandemic with both losses and gains. Our team has developed new skills utilizing new platforms to communicate with and stay in contact with. Some of these we will continue to use even after restrictions have lifted because we have found them to be time effective and of benefit to our businesses. But we do look forward to the time when the state and county completely lift restrictions so that we can get back to the basic business of the Chamber!

We recently held our first in person event in over a year and it was great! To see everyone in person safely was without a doubt a great time! Thank you to those that attended and participated in the Mini Golf Tournament. Thank you Sponsors, golf teams, volunteers, and those who donated raffle prizes for helping make this a great event. We could not have done it without you! Thank you to all of our Event Committee who meet on a regular basis to plan and implement all of our special events. I appreciate your time and commitment to the Chamber.

While I will be removing my "hat" as President, I will still remain on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past President and look forward to supporting the new team as we head into the 2021 - 2022 year!

Sincerely,

Amanda Blanton

2020-2021 President, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
Farmers & Merchants Bank

LABOR LAW CORNER

I have a business with approximately 40 employees, and I just read something that said California passed a law making COVID sick leave retroactive to January 1 of this year. Is that true? Do I need to go through all my employees' absence records and pay out this sick leave to employees who were absent during the first quarter of this year?

The answer to your first question is yes. In March of this year, the California Legislature passed SB 95, which provides for supplemental paid sick leave for employees of businesses with more than 25 employees for absences related to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Absences

The bill enacted California Labor Code Section 248.2, which, in pertinent part, requires employers to provide up to two weeks of paid time off to employees for absences related to COVID-19. The bill goes into detail as to the specific reasons for which an employee can receive the paid sick leave, but generally speaking, the reasons are similar to those provided last year under the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), with the addition of time off to get vaccinated or to recover from the side effects of getting

vaccinated for the coronavirus. As to the retroactivity piece, Section 248.2(e)(1) states that the provisions of this section are retroactive to January 1, 2021.

Due Upon Request

There is some good news for employers, however. Subsection (e)(2)(A) states that the retroactive sick leave becomes due only upon the oral or written request of the employee. As such, you needn't perform a self-audit to determine if you owe monies to your employees for absences earlier in the year. You need address the issue only on a case-by-case basis, once an employee makes an oral or written request for the retroactive pay. If you choose, you can conduct an audit so that you are prepared for the requests and can identify your potential liability, but the obligation to pay out the retroactive supplemental paid sick leave becomes mandatory only if one or more of your employees makes the request for the back pay.

David Leporiere
HR Adviser

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE RELAY FOR LIFE REUNION 2021

The American Cancer Society will once again host the Tri Cities Relay for Life for the cities of Norwalk, Bellflower and Paramount. This year the event will take place on the Norwalk City Hall Lawn on Saturday, October 23rd from 9am to 10pm. The theme for the Relay is a 2021 Relay Reunion. The goal is to bring back as many teams as possible that have participated in the Relay for Life over the last ten years. This year's event will celebrate the survivors and continue to encourage all residents to get the various cancer screenings that are available for early detection of cancer.

Studies show that you can help reduce your risk of cancer by making healthy choices like eating right, staying active and not smoking. But they also show that it is important to follow recommended screening guidelines. This behavior can help detect certain cancers early and the earlier that cancer is detected the better the chance you have to have a positive outcome for survival.

Here are some screening guidelines from the American Cancer Society for the early detection of cancer:

Breast cancer

- **Women ages 40 to 44** should have the choice to start annual breast cancer screening with mammograms (x-rays of the breast) if they wish to do so.
- **Women age 45 to 54** should get mammograms every year.
- **Women 55 and older** should switch to mammograms every 2 years, or can continue yearly screening.
- Screening should continue as long as a woman is in good health and is expected to live 10 more years or longer.
- **All women** should be familiar with the known benefits, limitations, and potential harms linked to breast cancer screening.

Colon and rectal cancer and polyps

For people at average risk for colorectal cancer, the American Cancer Society recommends starting regular screening at **age 45**. This can be done either with a sensitive test that looks for signs of cancer in a person's stool (a stool-based test), or with an exam that looks at the colon and rectum (a visual exam). Talk to your health care provider about which tests might be good options for you, and to your insurance provider about your coverage. No matter which test you choose, the most important thing is to get screened.

If you're in good health, you should continue regular screening through **age 75**.

For people ages **76 through 85**, talk with your health care provider about whether continuing to get screened is right for you. When deciding, take into account your own preferences, overall health, and past screening history.

People **over 85** should no longer get colorectal cancer screening.

Cervical cancer

• **Cervical cancer screening should start at age 25.** People under age 25 should not be tested because cervical cancer is rare in this age group.

• **People between the ages of 25 and 65** should get a primary HPV (human papillomavirus) test* done every 5 years. If a primary HPV test is not available, a co-test (an HPV test with a Pap test) every 5 years or a Pap test every 3 years are still good options.

• **People over age 65** who have had regular cervical cancer testing in the past 10 years with normal results should not be tested for cervical cancer. Once testing is stopped, it should not be started again. Those with a history of a serious cervical pre-cancer should continue to be tested for at least 25 years after that diagnosis, even if testing goes past age 65.

• **People whose cervix has been removed by surgery** for reasons not related to cervical cancer or serious pre-cancer should not be tested.

• **People who have been vaccinated against HPV** should still follow the screening recommendations for their age groups.

Endometrial cancer

The American Cancer Society recommends that at the time of menopause, all women should be told about the risks and symptoms of endometrial cancer. Women should report any unexpected vaginal bleeding or spotting to their doctors.

Lung cancer

The American Cancer Society recommends yearly lung cancer screening with a low-dose CT scan (LDCT) for certain people at higher risk for lung cancer who meet the following conditions:

- Are aged 55 to 74 years and in fairly good health

and

- Currently smoke or have quit smoking in the past 15 years *and*
- Have at least a 30 pack-year smoking history. (A pack-year is 1 pack of cigarettes per day per year. One pack per day for 30 years or 2 packs per day for 15 years would both be 30 pack-years.)

Before getting screened, you should talk to your health care provider about:

- Your risk for lung cancer
- How you can quit smoking, if you still smoke
- The possible benefits, limits, and harms of lung cancer screening
- Where you can get screened

Prostate cancer

The American Cancer Society recommends that men make an informed decision with a health care provider about whether to be tested for prostate cancer. Research has not yet proven that the potential benefits of testing outweigh the harms of testing and treatment. We believe that men should not be tested without first learning about what we know and don't know about the risks and possible benefits of testing and treatment.

Starting at age 50, men should talk to a health care provider about the pros and cons of testing so they can decide if testing is the right choice for them.

If you are African American or have a father or brother who had prostate cancer before age 65, you should have this talk with a health care provider starting at age 45.

If you decide to be tested, you should get a PSA blood test with or without a rectal exam. How often you're tested will depend on your PSA level.

These are just a few recommendations about cancer screenings. It is always recommended that you speak with your doctor prior to getting any screenings and you speak to your insurance about coverage of any screenings. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have put cancer screenings on hold, but as our community begins a complete reopening you are encouraged to once again look at the various screenings you should be getting. If you would additional information about screenings, support, or information, please visit the American Cancer Society website at www.cancer.org.

Relay Reunion 2021

WELCOME!

Norwalk, Bellflower, Paramount

Come Relay with us on **On The Lawn @ Norwalk City Hall**
October 23, 2021
9 am - 10 pm **12700 Norwalk Blvd**

Relay Happenings that day:
A Celebration of Cancer Survivors
Honor Frontline workers
DJ Charles Davis & other
Entertainment; Food;
Cancer Awareness Information
Kids Games & More

Help us Save Lives,
Celebrate Lives, and Lead
the world in the Fight
Against Cancer

Join Our Relay go to
www.relayforlife.org/
tricitieca

RSVP: TO LYNDA FISHER:
LMFISHER714@GMAIL.COM

COVID CORNER

Governor Aims Grant Relief at Struggling Small Business CalChamber Chair: Explain Essential Role of Business

Small business was in the spotlight this year at the 95th Annual Virtual Sacramento Host Breakfast on May 13. Governor Gavin Newsom, speaking to the virtual audience via Zoom from his office, announced his proposal to add \$1.5 billion to the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program. The added funding takes the program total to \$4 billion, the largest in the nation. CalChamber Chair Donna L. Lucas, preceding the Governor in the virtual presentation, emphasized that lawmakers need to hear the voices of small businesses and major employers. "If more businesses successfully explain their essential role in fueling the California dream, there will be more creative thinking about fostering a business climate in which innovation, initiative, and entrepreneurship flourish," she said.

Governor Newsom outlined his \$100 billion California Comeback plan, a sum that combines the record \$76 billion state budget surplus and about \$27 billion coming to the state from the federal government. He unveiled the plan in a series of stops up and down the state. The Governor credited the small business community with making possible his plan's ability to "reimagine, reinvigorate the California economy." Pointing at the camera, the Governor emphasized: "The fact that the State of California is roaring back is because of each and every one of you." It is "the resilience of small business men and women that create the jobs that are the real economic engine" of the state, the Governor said. The Governor cited positive indicators for California including:

- February numbers showed California as accounting for 41% of U.S. jobs.
- The state has the lowest COVID-19 positivity rate in the nation. (The rate was 1% the day of the breakfast and as of May 20).
- Only five nations have administered more COVID-19 doses than California. (More than 35 million had been administered as of May 19.) If California continues at its current pace of doses delivered per day, the Governor said the state will move beyond the COVID-19 Blueprint. The Governor thanked the California Chamber of Commerce and its Board of Directors for their partnership with businesses to address the issue of vaccine hesitancy. In April, the CalChamber and other business groups launched a public service announcement (PSA) campaign encouraging Californians to get vaccinated when it's their turn. The PSA aired statewide on TV, radio and social media, reaching millions of California residents in both English and Spanish.

Comeback Investments

The Governor moved on to an overview of the historic investments in his California Comeback plan (detailed in the May 14 special edition of CalChamber Alert) to deal with "stubborn and vexing" issues facing the state. The investments include:

- \$12 billion to address homelessness.
- \$1.5 billion to clean up and beautify highway onramps and exits, an effort to help the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) that is estimated to create 15,500 jobs.
- \$7 billion to convert hotels and motels to provide housing for the homeless.
- \$5.2 billion to help renters pay off back-owed rent and reduce their anxiety.
- \$2 billion to help Californians pay overdue water and utility bills, another source of anxiety.
- \$5.1 billion to address drought, which has become a perennial concern. The Governor noted that the state has learned from the 2012-2016 drought and is advancing strategies to deal with the systemic issues on safe drinking water, conveyance, groundwater replenishment, recycling and more.
- "transformative investments" in public education, including universal pre-kindergarten and after school programs.
- \$4 billion for adolescent mental health.
- adding \$1.5 billion to enhance the small business grant program for a total of \$4 billion.
- \$250 million in small business relocation incentives.
- \$250 million to help the state's ports with their revenue losses and position them to be more competitive.
- nearly \$100 million for Visit California to support marketing the California brand and help the hard-hit hospitality industry get back on its feet.
- \$895 million in new credit enhancements for small business.
- funding to provide \$10,000 seed grants for people to start businesses, regardless of their immigration status.
- an increase in the film tax credit. The Governor touted California's record venture capital investments compared to other states and its ranking as the No. 1 state for innovation on the Bloomberg index. When it comes to creative endeavors, such as the merger of technology and entertainment to spawn new forms of entertainment, "No one comes close to the State of California," the Governor said. In closing, the Governor emphasized his "deep pride in California" and confidence that the state would be "roaring back. That California dream — we're going to make it alive and well for everyone. Growth and inclusion."

Governor Proposes Additional \$1.5 Billion in Small Business Relief Grants

During remarks to the Sacramento Host Breakfast audience on May 13, Governor Gavin Newsom announced a proposal to expand California's small business relief grants to \$4 billion, representing the largest small business grant program in the country. The expansion is part of the Governor's "California Comeback Plan," a \$100 billion COVID-19 economic recovery plan that addresses some of the state's most challenging issues, such as drought infrastructure, public education and homelessness. The plan also proposes a number of investments and strategies focused on helping businesses recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the Governor's announcement, CalChamber President and CEO Allan Zarembek said: "We applaud the Governor's proposal to provide an additional \$1.5 billion in COVID-19 relief grants to small businesses. Legislators should adopt the Governor's proposal and not diminish the positive impacts by enacting costly, onerous new regulations. "Let's not forget, it is California's successful businesses that have provided a once-in-a-generation budget surplus that will allow the state to address some of its most pressing needs."

Help for Businesses

The Comeback Plan supports businesses by:

- Providing an additional \$1.5 billion for the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program, bringing the total investment to \$4 billion;
- Increasing the CalCompetes Tax Credit to \$360 million, and establishing a \$250 million CalCompetes grant program to incentivize businesses to relocate to California;
- \$250 million to address revenue impact on ports to drive economic activity, goods movement, and regional employment;
- \$147 million for the Main Street Small Business Tax Credit to assist small businesses that have hired and retained workers since the second quarter of 2020; and
- \$200 million to expand sales tax exclusions through the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority to promote, grow and incentivize green manufacturing in California.

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors
Invites you to attend our virtual
98th Annual Installation of Officers &
Salute to Business Awards Event

—
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
12:00 pm ~ 1:00 pm
Via ZOOM

Registration required
Visit <https://bit.ly/3aK1JEY>
To complete your event registration

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Creating a
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— and —
Promoting the Community

The Norwalk Chamber of Commerce urges you
to spend your money locally to support the
business community
and protect jobs.

Local sales tax dollars support basic city services
When you shop in Norwalk,
you are paying for...

Public Safety Services
Recreation Programs
Street Repairs & Much More