

ARTURO SANCHEZ SENIOR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE RETURNS TO NORWALK

On a cloudy day in October, after a two-year hiatus, the Arturo Sanchez Senior Halloween Parade returned for the 37th year. This parade is a collaboration between the Arturo Sanchez Senior Halloween Parade Foundation (ASSHPF) and the City of Norwalk. The parade was originally founded by Arturo Sanchez Senior, and the Sanchez Family continues to help bring the parade to the community each year. The ASSHPF was founded to help support the parade financially, but also to provide scholarship to local high school students. They raise money with different fundraisers each year to be able to provide those student scholarships. The ASSHPF is a 501(c)3 organization, approved by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to accept donations for both the parade and the scholarship which are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you would like to find out more about the ASSHPF and how you can support their cause, you may contact Arturo Sanchez Jr at 562-754-4628.

This year the Grand Marshall for the parade was Elijhaa Penny, who recently became a free agent with the NFL after spending four years playing for the New York Giants. A graduate of Norwalk High School, he attended both Cerritos College and the University of Idaho before he was signed by the Arizona Cardinals. Elijhaa and his brother Rashaad (also an NFL player) founded the 2 Cents Family Foundation here in Norwalk in 2018 to provide recreational experiences and educational resources to children. The Foundation offers a football camp that teaches young players about sportsmanship, teamwork and hard work while incorporation mentorship from both Elijhaa and Rashaad. Also attending and participating in the parade were many members of the Norwalk Chamber, and our Norwalk Council Members.



Members of the Arturo Sanchez Sr. family as they get ready to participate in the 37th Annual Arthur Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade.



Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez and Little Lake City School Board Clerk Gina Ramirez getting ready for the start of the parade.



Norwalk Vice Mayor Ana Valencia with Chamber President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks and David Arellano, of Preferred Auto Design.



Getting ready for the Halloween Parade are City Council Member Jennifer Perez, her husband Mike and Norwalk City Manager Jesus Gomez.



City Council Member Margarita Rios as the Halloween Parade is getting ready to start.



Elijhaa Penny, Grand Marshal, getting ready to kick off the parade.



Cerritos College is in the Halloween Parade. Pictured here are (l to r) Student Trustee Hector Ledesma, Trustee Dr. Sandra Salazar, Clerk and President Dr. Jose Fierro.



Norwalk La Mirada USD getting ready for the parade. In this photo are (l to r) Superintendent Dr. John Lopez, Board Members Jose Rios and Chris Staples, Board President Norma Amezcua and Gerardo Altamirano, HVAC Technician.



Norwalk Chamber getting ready for the parade to start. Pictured here are (l to r) Ambassador Craig Wicks, Budget Car Sales & Rentals, Board Vice President Karla Butler, Thompson & Associates and Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Members of the 605 Kiwanis Club riding in the Halloween Parade.



Norwalk Lions Club members are waiting for the Halloween Parade to start.



Athens Services are participating in the Annual Halloween Parade.

NETWORKING WITH THE NORWALK CHAMBER

Norwalk Chamber had the opportunity to network at a multi chamber event hosted by Rose Hills Memorial Park on Wednesday, October 12th in the new Hua Yuan facilities. Participating in the event were the El Monte/South El Monte, Montebello,

Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Pomona, Seal Beach and Whittier Chambers of Commerce. Our members were able to meet and network with members of the different Chambers while enjoying refreshments from Rose Hills. Raffle prizes were provided by each Chamber of Commerce along with the opportunity to win the 50/50 raffle. Thank you to Rose Hills Memorial Park for hosting our Chambers for this event! We look forward to next year's mixer and hope to invite more local Chambers to participate.



Attending the multi chamber mixer at Rose Hills Memorial Park are (l to r) Arturo and Ofelia Sanchez of the Arturo Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade Foundation and Chamber Ambassador Bertha Chavez of Ambros Construction.



Attending the Rose Hills Multi Chamber Mixer are Denise Urriaga and Essen Menjivar of Kustom Made Graphics.

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

**Norwalk
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PRESIDENT

RICH LEGASPI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EDITOR, NCBC

CAREN SPILSBURY

**CALENDAR
OF EVENTS**

Tuesday, November 1st

Apple Tree Early Intervention Center
Ribbon Cutting Event @ 11am
12375 Imperial Hwy

Friday, November 4th

Day of the Dead Bingo
Diana's Restaurant
6pm to 9pm

Friday, November 11th

City of Norwalk Veterans Day
Celebration @ 11am

Wednesday, November 16th

Board of Directors Meeting
9am via ZOOM

Thursday, November 17th

Creating Connections Lunch
El Taco Locco @ Noon

Saturday, November 26th

Small Business Saturday
9:30am @ Chamber Office

Friday, December 2nd

Christmas Prayer Breakfast
Uptown Whittier YMCA
7am to 9am

Wednesday, December 7th

Annual Holiday Mixer
5:30pm to 7:30pm
Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex
Sproul Room

Thursday, December 15th

After Hours Mixer
DoubleTree Hotel

Tuesday, December 20th

Creating Connections Lunch
Outback Restaurant
12 Noon

SPONSORS



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.

25 Years

CAPC, Inc.
Shana Epting
www.capcinc.org

18 Years

NTMA
Gina Marinello
562-921-3722
gmarinello@trainingcenter.org

15 Years

Water Replenishment District
Angie Mancillas
562-275-4233
amancillas@wrd.org

Norwalk Community Coordinating Council

Gordon Stefenhagen, President
bluecamino85@yahoo.com

10 Years

Shree Pashupatinath Foundation
info@pashupatinathfoundation.org

9 Years

Southern California Pizza
Ric Ochoa
rochoa32@msn.com

8 Years

Thinkers 4 Autism
Chante Wise
chante@thinkers4autism.org

IPPCO

Shim Santos
shimt@paramountglobal.com

NEW MEMBERS

Apple Tree Early Intervention Center

Carol Thompson, Director
12375 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650
562-202-3524
www.appletreekidz.com
appletreekidz@gmail.com

Whittier Regional Symphony

Fred Zermeno, President
7740 Painter Ave. Suite 105
Whittier, CA 90605
562-698-8626
whittierregionalsymphony@gmail.com
www.whittierregionalsymphony.org

MEMBER EVENTS IN NORWALK

October was a busy month for both the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and for the entire Norwalk community. We celebrated with Cerritos College as they received a donation from Assembly Member Cristina Garcia to provide bus passes to students so that they are able to get to the campus for classes. They also received a \$16 million donation from Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon to be used for improvements on campus. At the Board of Trustees meeting both the Assembly Members were recognized and thanked for their support of the college. Next Thinkers 4 Autism held a Fall Fun Festival at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, where families were able to attend and meet with different organizations that provide resources for the Autism community. There were games, activities, a costume contest, face painting, food and more. Chante Wise is the founder of Thinkers 4 Autism, which holds a spring Autism fair every year, and now will be having a fall event each year also. To find out more about resources available through the non-profit, visit <https://thinkers4autism.org>. Our LA County Wears Pink & Paint the Town Pink campaign continued throughout the entire month of October with fundraising events held at different member restaurants. Additionally our participants in the LA County Wears Pink fundraising pages can be found at <https://bit.ly/3DG9QRT>. You can visit their page and make a donation to help in the fight against breast cancer through the rest of this year. October also found the Norwalk Chamber attending the Mayor's Inspirational Breakfast on the Norwalk City Hall Lawn. Door of Hope Foundation coordinated this event with help from City Staff, the California Conversation Corp and the faith-based community. The keynote speaker for this was Dr. David Olea, principal of Norwalk High School. Dr. Olea shared his personal story of overcoming a rough upbringing and young adulthood to where he is today. His words were inspiring and motivational to all who attended. As you can see October was a busy month for the entire Norwalk community! We look forward to upcoming opportunities to network in Norwalk and support our businesses by shopping local on Small Business Saturday which is November 26th or by attending our Creating Connections Lunch at El Taco Locco on November 17th. Visit our website at www.norwalkchamber.com to find other opportunities to connect with the Chamber.



Cerritos College accepts a check on behalf of Speaker Rendon. Pictured here are (l to r) Student Trustee Hector Ledesma, Trustee Zurich Lewis, Trustee Vice President Dr. Shin Liu, Trustee President James Cody Birkey, Speaker Anthony Rendon, Trustee Dr Sandra Salazar, Trustee Mariana Pacheco and Cerritos College President Dr. Jose Fierro.



Supporting LA County Wears Pink at the fundraiser at Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant are (l to r) Natalie LeGaspi, Norwalk Soroptimist, Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks, Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, Norwalk City Council Member Margarita Rios, Larry Sandoval, American Cancer Society, Jason Perez, Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant and Jose Rios, Norwalk La Mirada USD Board Member.



At the Thinkers 4 Autism Fall Fun Festival are Jesse Wise and Founder/President Chanté Wise.



At the Mayor's Inspirational Breakfast are (l to r) Board President Rich LeGaspi, Board Member Dora Sandoval, Board Vice President Karla Butler, Margaret Scantlebury and Ambassador Sue Arthur.



Attending the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast are Pastor John and Myrna Brito and Pastor Jack Miranda.



The 605 Kiwanis and their guests supporting LA County Wears Pink at Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Norwalk Chamber members,

This year is moving by so fast, we are already into holiday season! October was our 7th Annual Fall Festival which was once again held at So Cal Pizza. It was a great event where everyone had a great time networking, eating, and connecting. I want to thank our Sponsors for their support: Athens Services, Water Replenishment District, City of Norwalk, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Southern California Gas Company, TNT Fireworks, and Gordon Stefenhagen. Without your support our event would not have been the success that it was.

We are gearing up for our upcoming events for the holidays and we hope that you will join us at one of these. Small Business Saturday is coming on November 26th, where we encourage you to all shop local. December 7th is our Holiday Mixer at the Norwalk Arts & Complex from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Drop by for some holiday cheers and take a chance on winning our Ice Chest O' Holiday Cheer. Then on December 20th our traditional creating connections lunch will be at Outback Restaurant at 12noon.

I want to welcome our new members to the Norwalk Chamber: Casa Artesenal, Besteas Boba, Chick-fil-A, 605 & Firestone, Mitch Clemmons Plumbing, Primestor Development, Inc., LuTec High School, Apple Tree Early Intervention Center, and Whittier Regional Symphony. If you know a business that is opening here in Norwalk let us know so that we can reach out to them and welcome them to the community.

Be safe and have a great month.

Respectfully,

Rich LeGaspi
2022-2023 President, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
TNT Fireworks

NORWALK CHAMBER ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Norwalk Chamber held our 7th Annual Fall Festival on Friday, October 7th, at So-Cal Pizza. This annual event features German food and beverages, fun games, raffle prizes, music and more. We want to thank our sponsors for this event: Farmers and Merchants Bank, City of Norwalk, Athen Services, Water Replenishment District, Southern California Gas Company, TNT Fireworks and Gordon Stefenhagen. Thank you all for your ongoing support to the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce. The evening started off with a great buffet dinner served by owner Ric Ochoa and his staff. After refreshments the games began! Attendees competed in the "move the cups" game and the ring toss game. After fierce competition the competitors were narrowed down to the top four in each category where they then played off for first place. Winning the move the cups games was Geovani Zavala, of Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant and the ring toss was won by Norwalk La Mirada USD School Board Member Karen Morrison.

Our Norwalk Chamber event committee worked for the last few months to put together a great event for our members and guests. Thank you to Chair Amanda Blanton, Farmers & Merchants Bank and your committee for all of the work that was put in to create a successful event: Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center, Sue Arthur, Ambassador, Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist, Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, Ric Ochoa, So-Cal Pizza, Joe Derthick, AFLAC, Jose Rios, TNG Realty and Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks. And a special thank you to our DJ Jose Rios, who came out of "retirement" to provide the music for the night and all of the staff of So-Cal Pizza for making the night special!



Attending the Fall Festival are (l to r) Norwalk City Council Member Jennifer Perez, Board President Rich LeGaspi and Norwalk Vice Mayor Ana Valencia.



Working check in at the Fall Festival are Ambassador Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center and Board Member Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist.



Networking at the Fall Festival are John Ramirez, Director of Community Development, Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks and Rosie Lozoya, Recreation and Park Services Supervisor.



Enjoying the refreshments and conversation at the Fall Festival are Christian Rios and Norwalk City Council Member Margarita Rios.



Getting set up and ready for the Fall Festival to begin are (l to r) Cristal Dickens, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Melissa Ramirez, Aubrey Spilsbury, Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist, Ric Ochoa, So-Cal Pizza, Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks, Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center and Jose Rios, TNG Realty.



Getting ready to compete in the "moving the cups" game are (l to r) NLMUSD School Board Member Karen Morrison, Christine Roberto, City of Norwalk, Norwalk Vice Mayor Ana Valencia and Geovani Zavala of Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant.



Hoping to get into the finals of the "moving the cups" game are (l to r) Ismael Castro, Government Affairs Manager Athens Services, Iso Nakasato, Director of Government Affairs, Athens Services, and Joe Hernandez and Betty Gonzalez of Imperial Barbershop.



Winners of the Ring Toss Game at the Annual Fall Festival.

ELECTIONS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce hosts Candidates Forums during each election cycle. Sometimes they are in the form of a networking meet and greet, where the candidates have an opportunity to speak with attendees individually while also having a few minutes at the podium to share their platform or we hold a traditional candidates forum in the Council Chambers at Norwalk City Hall. The Chamber has been the host of candidate's forums and meet and greets over the last 20 years plus. Our goal is to provide candidates an opportunity to speak to both the business community and residents about their goals and objectives in running for office and how they will best serve the entire community if elected. This year we hosted a Candidates Meet & Greet for the Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District Candidates on Thursday, October 6th and a Candidates Forum for Norwalk City Council Candidates on Thursday, October 20th. We appreciate the candidates who attended these events and appreciate their dedication to the community that they wish to serve. Best of luck to all candidates on November 8th.



Candidates for the NLMUSD School Board at the Candidates Meet & Greet. Pictured here (l to r) Casey P. Chattle, Rudy O. Miranda, Roberto "Rob" Cancio, Norma Amezcua, Jorge Alberto Tirado, Narcis Brasov, Lorena E. Vidaurre and Becky Landenwalter.



At the Norwalk City Council Candidates Forum are (l to r) Timekeeper Tracy Polley, City Council Candidates Jennifer Perez, Tony Ayala, Dora Sandoval and Moderator Scott Smith.

ANNUAL STATE OF THE CITY LUNCHEON

The Annual State of the City Luncheon was held on Friday, October 21st at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex. Attendees of the event were able to hear from new Norwalk Sheriff Captain Chris Johnson, Norwalk Chamber Executive Director Caren Spilsbury and Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez about the past year's accomplishments and also upcoming challenges. Captain Johnson provided details about various crime levels during this last year along with information on new personal that are here in Norwalk to help with the different issues that both businesses and residents have with the increases in crime. While crime is up this year compared to last, our city does have lower crime rates than many of our surrounding cities. Bringing new deputies to Norwalk with the help of the Measure P funding has been part of the reason that Norwalk has been able to keep the crime levels lower than our neighboring cities. Captain Johnson hopes to keep working with the City of Norwalk and his Sheriff staff to keep Norwalk as safe as possible. Caren Spilsbury shared information from the business community on what are the top priorities for the businesses over the next few years and the major issues are that businesses are facing today. Mayor Rick Ramirez finished up the event with a number of different slide shows on Public Safety, Infrastructure, Economic Development and an overview on the different activities that the City has held over this last year. To view the videos and find out more about the accomplishments visit the City of Norwalk website at www.norwalk.org.



Norwalk Chamber members attending the State of the City Luncheon. Pictured here (l to r) Ambassadors Lori Herrera, Doubletree Hotel, Chante Smith, Thinkers 4 Autism, Bill Sinko, Executive Director Community Family Guidance Center (CFGC), Ambassador Irma Macias, CFGC, President Elect Farid Khansarinia, Chick-fil-A, former Mayor Bob Arthur and Ambassador Sue Arthur.



Attending the State of the City Luncheon are Senior Citizen Commission Chair Esperanza Serrano, Board Member Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, Board Vice President, Karla Butler, Thompson & Associates, Ambassador Joe Derthick, AFLAC, Andrea Wittig, Cerritos College, Board Member Tracy Polley, Kelco Sales and Cerritos College Board of Trustees Vice President, Dr. Shin Liu.



Norwalk La Mirada USD representatives at the State of the City Luncheon. Pictured here are (l to r) Board Vice President Jorge Tirado, Board Member Karen Morrison, Estuardo Santillan, Assistant Superintendent, Board Member Jose Rios, Chris Moton, Director, Student and Family Services, Board Member Dr. Robert Cancio, Beth Nishida, ED of Special Education and Board Member Narcis Brascov.



At the State of the City Luncheon are Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez, City Manager Jesus Gomez and Deputy City Manager Richard Rojas.



Little Lake City School representatives at the State of the City Luncheon. Included in this photo are Board Clerk, Gina Ramirez, Manuel Cantu, Board Vice President, Board Member Janet Rock and Superintendent Dr. William Crean.



Our first responders are attending the State of the City Luncheon.

RIBBON CUTTINGS & GROUND BREAKINGS IN NORWALK

Norwalk Chamber has once again been busy welcoming new businesses to the Chamber and to Norwalk. There are many opportunities to visit these new businesses by following them on social media, viewing our Chamber membership directory online or attending the City of Norwalk events and Chamber Ribbon Cuttings. Finding out what a new business provides to the community is just one aspect of holding a welcoming event like a Ribbon Cutting for that new business. This also introduces them to the community as they begin to open their doors for the first time and hopefully gets our residents and business members to visit them. Visit our Chamber website calendar or sign up for our email blasts to stay connected on the opportunity to welcome a new business to Norwalk.



Norwalk Chamber with our partner Chambers of La Mirada and Santa Fe Springs, hosted a Ribbon Cutting event for the new location for Brasov Law.



American Legion Post 359 is on hand to celebrate the Ground Breaking of the new Veterans Villas. In this photo is Legion Commander Melissa Braicov along with other Legion members.



Congresswoman Linda Sánchez and her staff are attending the State of the City Luncheon.



City of Norwalk Staff at the State of the City Luncheon.



Getting ready to cut the Ribbon at the new Jungle Jumpers location in Norwalk. In this photo are (l to r) Board Member Jason Perez, Board President Rich LeGaspi, Mayor Rick Ramirez, Owners Carlos and Sandra Bejarano, Board Member Karla Butler, City Council Member Margarita Rios, Board Member Jose Rios and Public Safety Commissioner Michael Rosoff.



Presenting a Ribbon Cutting certificate at the Casa Arsenal Grand Opening is Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi.



Ivan Sulic of Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office presents a Ribbon Cutting certificate to Gabby Valenzuela and her family at the grand opening event.



City of Norwalk held a ground breaking event for the new Veterans Villas at San Antonio Dr, which will provide affordable housing to our Veterans. At the ground breaking was Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez, and City Council Members Jennifer Perez and (np) Tony Ayala.



Getting ready to cut the ribbon at the grand opening of Casa Artesanal.



Spending time shopping at Casa Artesanal after the Ribbon Cutting are Lori Ochoa and her granddaughter.


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