

FRONT STREET FRIDAY NIGHTS & SUMMER CONCERTS

The City of Norwalk hosted their first of three events on historic Front Street on July 22nd. The "Front Street Friday Night" included entertainment by "No Duh", nonprofit organization booths, a kid's zone, food trucks, food booths, a car show and the Norwalk Elks Lodge hosted a BBQ & Beer Garden. This event was well attended by families of all different shapes and sizes along with many of our community leaders. Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez, Vice Mayor Ana Valencia and Council Member Jennifer Perez were on hand to open the event and welcome all who attended. Norwalk City Manager Jesus Gomez and his wife Tina were also in attendance, enjoying the dancing and the many vendor booths. Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks Board Members Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist, Jason Perez, Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant, and Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, were also at the event showcasing their organizations while raising money for good causes. Ambassador Irma Macias provided support at the Norwalk Chamber Booth, where our fun prize wheel was a big hit with all of the kids that attended. We also met up with a number of our Chamber Members who visited our booth! Special thanks to Rosie Lozoya and all of the staff of the Recreation and Park Services Department and our TAP members for setting up this great event for our local community. The next event will be on Friday, August 26th on Front Street from 5pm to 9pm and will feature a Bruno Mars tribute band, along with all of the other festivities.

The summer concert series continues through August. The last concert is Wednesday, August 17th at the Norwalk City Hall Lawn and is in conjunction with the Norwalk Chamber Business Expo. Come out at 4:30pm to visit our businesses and stay for all of the activities of the evening!



Attending the Front Street Friday Night event are (l to r) Tina Gomez, City Manager Jesus Gomez, Toni Grijalva, Cerritos College, Natalie LeGaspi, Soroptimist Norwalk/SFS and Board President Rich Legaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Getting ready for the Front Street event with a food booth is Norwalk Chamber Board Member Jason Perez of Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant and his staff.



Board Member Gary Murphy of Norwalk Florist helping Ambassador Irma Macias, Community Family Guidance Center and Chamber volunteer Dan Spilsbury with the fun prize wheel at the Chamber Booth at Front Street Friday Night.



605 Kiwanis Club members Michael Silva, Secretary and Dora Sandoval, President getting ready to open their Agua Frescas Booth at the Front Street Friday Night Event.



Board President Rich LeGaspi of TNT Fireworks pictured with Norwalk City Manager Jesus Gomez at the summer concert on the City Hall Lawn.



Enjoying the Front Street Friday Night festivities are Essen Menjivar, Kustom Made Graphics, Denise Urriaga, Money Mart and Chamber President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Norah Gamboa, Shajira Hope and Claudia Cardenas of Primestor Development at the Front Street Friday Night sharing information about "The Walk."



Norwalk Elks Lodge hosts a Car Show and BBQ at the Front Street Friday Nights. Pictured here is Exalted Ruler Scott Ludwick.



Board Member Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, working the Norwalk Chamber booth at the summer concert on the City Hall Lawn.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Norwalk Chamber held our bi-monthly Coffee & Conversation morning networking event at Chick-fil-A Norwalk on June 29th. Attendees were treated to complimentary coffee by Farid Khansarinia, owner/operator and were able to spend time finding out more about each other through conversation. These meet ups are designed to bring together business and community leaders and other guests to share information about their businesses and learn more about others in the community. With the support of Farid, we are able to do this every other month on the last Thursday. Consider joining in on the next Coffee & Conversation which will be on Thursday, August 25th at 9am. Bring your business cards to share and attend to find out about different happenings in Norwalk!



Enjoying Coffee & Conversation at Chick-fil-A Norwalk.



Board Member Patty Contreras with community member Al Archuleta and a representative of the United States Army networking over coffee.

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

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AUGUST 2022



Joining in for Coffee and Conversation are Pastor Eddie Cuen, Preschool Director Debbie Torres and Principal Debbie Love of Trinity Christian School, Board Member John Alba, Alba Professional Services, Heather Ramirez, Chick-fil-A, Ambassador Joe Derthick and Board Member Patty Contreras, The Sterling Insurance and Financial Group.

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

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

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PRESIDENT

RICH LEGASPI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EDITOR, NCBC

CAREN SPILSBURY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, August 10th

Summer Concert Series
7pm @ City Hall Lawn

Wednesday, August 17th

- Board of Directors Meeting
9am via ZOOM
- Annual Business Expo
4:30pm @ City Hall Lawn
- Summer Concert Series
City Hall Lawn @ 7pm

Friday, August 19th

Annual State of the Nation Luncheon
12 noon @ Doubletree Hotel

Thursday, August 25th

Coffee & Conversation
9am @ Chick-fil-A

Friday, August 26th

Front Street Friday Night
5pm-9pm @ Historic Front Street

Monday, August 29th

Angels Baseball Mixer
5pm-6:38pm Mixer
6:38pm Angels Game
@ Angel Stadium

Friday, September 9th

Front Street Friday Night
5pm-9pm @ Historic Front Street

Saturday, September 17th

Relay for Life, Norwalk, Bellflower,
Downey & Paramount, Quad Cities
@ Paramount Park

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 7th

Fall Festival
@ So Cal Pizza

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.

41 Years

Okimoto's Automotive Center
Roy Okimoto
16400 Pioneer Blvd.
562-926-7317

35 Years

Norwalk La Mirada USD
Dr. John Lopez
562-868-0431
www.nlmusd.k12.ca.us

28 Years

American Cancer Society
Lawrence Sandoval
562-437-0793
lawrence.sandoval@cancer.org
www.cancer.org

27 Years

DeJon Management Inc
Aaron Briones
714-827-3730

17 Years

Small Business Development Center
Bradley Pollak
562-938-5100
www.longbeachsbdc.org

3 Years

Jacobsma Law, APC
Laila Havre Jacobsma
562-219-2747
www.jacobsmalaw.net

Innocosma, Inc.

Matthew Shin
866-970-9898
innocosma@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

Primestor Development

Claudia Cardenas
9950 Jefferson Blvd, Bldg 2
Culver City, CA 90232
213-223-5526
www.primestor.com

CERRITOS COLLEGE OPENS NEW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Cerritos College held the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for their new state of the art Performing Arts Center on Thursday, July 14th at 11am. This event was well attended by many in the local communities that the College serves. President Dr. Jose Fierro welcomed everyone to the event, and shared some information about the new facilities before the Ribbon was cut. After the official Ribbon Cutting all were invited inside to hear from additional speakers in the new theater. Board of Trustees President James Cody Birkey shared information about the new theater and thanked all for attending. Dr. Gary Prichard, Instructional Dean of Fine Arts and Mass Communications also shared information about the new theater, the various activities that would be taking place and the excitement of the entire Cerritos College campus about the opening of the new Performing Arts Center.



Attending the Ribbon Cutting at Cerritos College are (l to r) Tina Gomez, City Manager Jesus Gomez, Alberto Ruiz, Communications Director Assembly Member Lisa Calderon, Ambassador Joe Derthick, Board Member John Alba, Deborah Alba, Bertha Chavez, Ambros Construction and Board Member Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis.



Getting ready to cut the ribbon for the new Performing Arts Center. In this photo are Cerritos College Board of Trustee President James Cody Birkey, Clerk Dr. Sandra Salazar, Trustees Zurich Lewis, Mariana Pacheco, Marissa Perez and Hector Ledesma, Student Trustee along with President Dr. Jose Fierro.



Jacob Wolak of Congresswoman Linda Sánchez presents a certificate of congratulations to Trustee President James Cody Birkey and Cerritos College President Dr. Jose Fierro.



Alberto Ruiz of Assembly Member Lisa Calderon, presents a certificate of congratulations to Trustee President James Cody Birkey and Cerritos College President Dr. Jose Fierro.



Fidel Vasquez of Assembly Member Cristina Garcia, presents a certificate of congratulations to Trustee President James Cody Birkey and Cerritos College President Dr. Jose Fierro.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Norwalk Chamber members,

As we enter into our second month of the fiscal year our Chamber continues to build a stronger foundation. This last month we welcomed new members and celebrated returning members. Thank you to our new members for helping to strengthen our Norwalk Chamber and to our renewing members for continuing to build with us as we move into this new year!

We are looking forward to our upcoming events for the month of August. Join us at our Annual Business Expo on August 17th in conjunction with the last of the City of Norwalk's summer concert series. The Expo will be on the City Hall lawn next to the concert and will run from 4:30pm to 7pm. Our Annual State of the Nation luncheon will feature Congresswoman Linda Sánchez and is taking place at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel. Tickets can be purchased by visiting our Chamber website at www.norwalkchamber.com/shop/. Our next Coffee and Conversation will be on Thursday, August 25th at Chick-fil-A Restaurant at 9am. Come out and join in the networking with complimentary coffee from our host Farid Khansarinia. Last is our Angel's Baseball Multi Chamber Mixer on Monday August 29th. Come out and join in the networking from 5 to 6:30, then into Field Section 106 for the Angels vs. the Yankees. Meet business and community leaders from other local Chambers while rooting on the home team!

You can also meet up with the Chamber by visiting our booth on August 10th at the next Summer Concert on the City Hall Lawn and or on August 26th at the Front Street Friday Nights. Come on out, we hope to see you at one of these August events and learn more about your business!

Remember to support our businesses by shopping local in your Norwalk Neighborhood.

Respectfully,

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

NETWORKING IN NORWALK

AMERICAN LEGION POST 359 HOSTS A NETWORKING MIXER

Norwalk American Legion Post 359 and Commander Melissa Braicov welcomed Norwalk Chamber members, community members and the Legion members to an after-hours networking mixer on Wednesday, July 6th. Board Member Jason Perez of Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant provided the refreshments while the Legion shared information about their facilities. Did you know that the American Legion is not only a support to our current and veteran military members, but they also have a hall that they rent out to other organizations and individuals for their events? Their main hall will seat about 100 people and your rental includes tables and chairs. They also have a Bistro Room that is available for smaller meetings.

The American Legion's Mission Statement is:

To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America." The American Legion's value principles are as follows:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN - which means The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities.

SELFLESS SERVICE - which means The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM - which means The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - which means The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities.

ADVANCING THE VISION - which means The American Legion educates, mentors and leads new generations of Americans.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US - which means The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations.

The American Legion's motto is "Veterans Strengthening America."

If you would like to know more about the American Legion Post 359 or the Auxiliary or Color Guard visit their website at <https://nalp359f.org/>.



Board President Rich Legaspi, TNT Fireworks presents Commander Melissa Braicov of the American Legion Post 359 with their new member plaque.



Networking at the after-hours mixer are Ambassadors Joe Derthick and Sue Arthur, Board Member Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist and members of the American Legion Post 359.



Mixing it up at the American Legion are Commander Melissa Braicov, Ambassador Sue Arthur and Board Member Gary Murphy, Norwalk Florist.



Meeting new connections at the Mixer are Norwalk Senior Citizens Commissioner Esperanza Serrano, Commander Melissa Braicov and Board Member Jason Perez and President Rich LeGaspi.



New Members of the Norwalk Chamber, American Legion Post 359 and Trinity Christian School and Preschool.



Working on the Event Committee plan are (l to r) President Rich LeGaspi, Ambassador Sue Arthur and VP Communications Amanda Blanton.



Planning for Chamber Development are Ambassador Lori Herrera, President Elect Farid Khansarinia and Past President Jose Rios.



Brainstorming about our Ambassador Committee are Board Member Dora Sandoval, VP Finance Karla Butler and Ambassador Co-Chair Irma Macias.

NORWALK CHAMBER BOARD PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Norwalk Chamber, like any organization holds an annual planning meeting each year to address the needs of our members and sets strategic goals for the Chamber to achieve over the next year and additionally looks at a three-to-five-year plan. This year was our first in person planning meeting since 2019. It was a hybrid event, offering both in person and ZOOM to our Board of Directors and Ambassadors. Looking at governmental affairs, leadership, membership, events and our committees the group came up with solid goals to achieve this next and year and into the future. As the Norwalk Chamber heads into what will be our 100th year as a leading business organization in Norwalk, we are taking a good look at how we can better serve our members and the community at large for the next 100 years. Visit our website at www.norwalkchamber.com to stay on top of both our planning goals and how we will be positioning the Chamber to support business and the entire community well into the future.

AMBROS CONSTRUCTION INC. RIBBON CUTTING

Ambros Construction Inc. held a Ribbon Cutting event on Wednesday, June 29th. Attendees were able to meet the owners and employees of Ambros Construction and find out about their different projects and the work they have been doing in the Norwalk community.

Ambros Construction Inc. was established by Andy Chavez in 2017 on a foundation of genuine respect for clients, suppliers, and employees. Pride in a job well done is the mark of every Ambros project. They are CSLB A, B, and C-34 Licensed #1037467 (General Building, General Engineering, Pipelines) meaning we are capable for handling any construction project ranging from ground-up new builds, to repairs & renovations, underground plumbing, electrical, and utility work to finished flooring, fixtures, furnishings, trim, paint, and coatings, from new framing, drywall, and retrofitting, to modernizing existing properties with repartitioning, and everything in between.

If you have a need for any of these projects, reach out to Ambros Construction Inc. for a quote at 562-741-3778 or visit their website at <https://www.ambrosconstructioninc.com/>.

- Residential & Commercial Building
- Public Works (including sidewalks)
- Curb, Gutter, and Driveway Parking Lots with Striping
 - Pavement and Asphalt Laying
 - Flooded Home Restoration
- Demolition and Disposal Services
- Kitchen and Bathroom Renovation
- Walk In Shower, Cut in Framing, Hotmop
- Cabinets, Vanity, and Custom Millwork
- Plumbing, Electrical, HVAC rough ins
- Plumbing, Electrical, HVAC fixtures
- Architectural planning and permitting
- Drywall, acoustics, and insulation
- Wood Framing and Metal Stud Framing
- T-bar and hardlid ceiling installation
- Custom designs and projects



Norwalk Chamber presents a Ribbon Cutting certificate to Ambros Construction. Past President Jose Rios and Board Member Dora Sandoval with owner Andy Chavez and Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez.



Past President Jose Rios present the new member plaque to Andy Chavez of Ambros Construction Inc. Also pictured here is Norwalk Mayor, Rick Ramirez.



Cutting the Ribbon to welcome Ambros Construction Inc. to the Norwalk Chamber!



Presenting a certificate on behalf of LA County Assessor Jeffrey Prang. (l to r) Past President Jose Rios, TNG Realty, Aldo Arellano of Assessor Prang's office, Ambros Construction owner Andy Chavez and Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez.



Presenting a certificate on behalf of Congresswoman Linda Sánchez. (l to r) Past President Jose Rios, TNG Realty, Jacob Wolak of Congresswoman Sánchez, Ambros Construction owner Andy Chavez and Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez.



Presenting a certificate on behalf of Senator Bob Archuleta. (l to r) Past President Jose Rios, TNG Realty, Fred Zermeno of Senator Archuleta, Ambros Construction owner Andy Chavez and Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez.

JERSEY MIKE'S OPENS THEIR DOORS IN NORWALK

Jersey Mike's Subs held their soft opening for friends and family on Tuesday, July 19th here in Norwalk. They are located at 12623 Norwalk Blvd, Building A across the street from Norwalk City Hall. Jersey Mike's was founded in 1956 in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. In the 1970's the sandwich shop was purchased by Peter Cancro who then began to open more sandwich stores. Then in 1987 Peter began to franchise the stores, and he is the current CEO of Jersey Mike's Franchise Systems Inc., overseeing more than 2,000 locations open and under development. Jersey Mike's also believes in giving back to the communities that they are in. They believe that making a great sub sandwich and making a difference can be one in the same. Every store they open starts by partnering with a charity in the local community. The organization that the Norwalk Jersey Mike's supported is Cancer for College whose Mission is to provide need-based college scholarships and educational experiences to cancer survivors. Visit Jersey Mike's website at <https://www.jerseymikes.com/> to find out more about the business.



Jersey Mike Sub's supporting Cancer for College at their soft opening. In this photo are: Angel Velasquez, Jersey Mike's, Greg Flores, Executive Director Cancer for College, Charlotte Hauenstein, Cancer for College, Corina Zatarain, Vienna Lozano CFC Scholar, and Jorge Hernandez, Franchisee Jersey Mike's.



Jersey Mike Sub's staff getting ready for their official opening!



Pictured here are (l to r) Jersey Mike GM Emily Estrada, District Manager, Jake Frailing, Dave Barrett, Area Director, Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi, Jersey Mike Franchisee Jorge Hernandez and Ambassador Sue Arthur.



Norwalk Public Safety team is visiting the new Jersey Mike Sub's.



Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez presents a city plaque to the new Jersey Mike Sub's team. Also in this photo is Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi.



At the soft opening are Jersey Mike Sub's franchise owner Jorge Hernandez, President Elect Farid Khansarinia, Chick-fil-A, Ambassador Sue Arthur and President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Celebrating the opening of the new Jersey Mike's Subs here in Norwalk!


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