

NORWALK EDUCATION ALLIANCE ANNUAL MOCK INTERVIEWS

Norwalk Education Alliance hosted our Annual Mock Interviews for local high school students on Thursday, April 20th at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex. This event brings together business owners, community leaders, elected officials, and volunteers for the purpose of providing high school students a practice job interview. Students have months of training and practice on their campus to put together a resume and get prepared for the interview by learning about "soft skills." They then prepare for the mock interview by learning about dressing for success, how to shake hands and more. The day of the event they come by bus to the NASC and have a 15 minute practice interview with one of our many local leaders. They are provided with feedback on their interview that can help lead them to success in obtaining a job in the future. The Norwalk Chamber is one of the partners in the Norwalk Education Alliance, along with the City of Norwalk, Cerritos College, Norwalk La Mirada USD, Santa Fe High School, and Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board.

This year Norwalk City Council Member Jennifer Perez and City Manager Jesus Gomez were on hand to welcome the volunteer raters and thank them for supporting this project for the students and the community. After an orientation, our volunteers moved into different locations and waited to meet the students. Norwalk High School was the first group that arrived and 45 of their students were able to have an opportunity to meet different leaders that provided the interviews. Later in the day students from John Glenn High School, Santa Fe High School, La Mirada High School Southeast Academy and El Camino High School all came to the Arts & Sports Complex to participate in the event. Thank you to all who provided interviews, those who planned out the event and the Norwalk Education Alliance for working together to help our local students find success in their next job interview.



Norwalk High School students attend and participate in the Norwalk Education Alliance (NEA) Annual Mock Interviews.



Business and Community leaders participate in the NEA Mock Interviews. In this photo (l to r) Nancy Gonzalez-Rios, NLMUSD, Toni Grijalva, Cerritos College, Ben Sandoval, SELACO WDB, Nancy Rhodes, NLMUSD, Anna Apoian, NLMUSD, Tara Luna, SELACO WDB, Norwalk City Council Member Jennifer Perez, Ambassador Lori Herrera, Norwalk Doubletree Hotel, Board Member Yovani Flores, US Bank, Bob Arthur, former Trustee, Cerritos College, Colleen McKinley, Director Cerritos College, Board Member Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, NLMUSD Superintendent Dr. John Lopez, Irene Rifilato, NLMUSD, Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks, Gerald "Buzz" Mitchell, NLMUSD and Dr. Joanne Jung, NLMUSD.



Students from Southeast Academy after they have completed their Mock Interviews.



Our afternoon group of raters. In this photo are (l to r) Dr. Jessica Medrano, NLMUSD, Tara Luna, SELACO WDB, Dr. Christine Cvar, NLMUSD, Tony Nahale, NLMUSD, Jamie Quiroz, Cerritos College, Christopher Hargraves, NLMUSD, Board Member Dora Sandoval, 605 Kiwanis, Board Member Lucy Rodas, State Farm Insurance, Dr. Joanne Jung, NLMUSD, School Board Member Narcis Brasov, Esq, Toni Grijalva and Belle Gomez.



N L M U S D Superintendent Dr. John Lopez is conducting a mock interview at the NEA event.



Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi provides input to a student after the mock interview has taken place.



Bob Arthur is finishing up his mock interview and providing great feedback to a student from Norwalk High School.



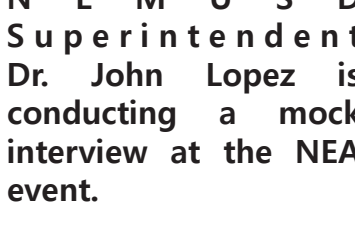
Colleen McKinley from Cerritos College continuing to support the NEA Alliance by providing an interview experience for a local student.



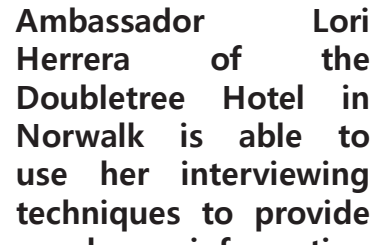
Board Member Yovani Flores of US Bank in Norwalk gives the student tips on successful job interviews.



Gerald "Buzz" Mitchell of NLMUSD is able to share good information on interview skills with a student.



Benigo Sandoval of Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board, an experienced rater, sharing ideas with a local student for future job interviews.



Ambassador Lori Herrera of the Doubletree Hotel in Norwalk is able to use her interviewing techniques to provide good information about the interview to her student.



Norwalk Chamber Board Member Dora Sandoval as she interviews a Norwalk student and provides feedback.



Providing a panel interview experience are Toni Grijalva and Belle Gomez of Cerritos College.

CREATING CONNECTIONS IN NORWALK

Norwalk Chamber offers our members and potential members a variety of opportunities to connect locally. From Creating Connections Lunches to Coffee and Conversation and networking mixers. By providing these events at different times in the day we give all business and community members a chance to participate in at least one type of networking meet up. On April 24th we had our monthly connection event at Kung Pao Bowl for a Creating Connections lunch. Members and guests were able to network over delicious Chinese food from a local business that has been a part of the Norwalk landscape for over 35 years. Owner Steve Chun welcomed all the attendees and shared a little bit of the history of the restaurant. All who attended were able to connect or reconnect with each other. Thank you to Steve and his staff for providing a great experience for the group! Visit our Chamber website at www.norwalkchamber.com or follow us on our Social Media links for upcoming networking opportunities. Our next Coffee and Conversation meet up is May 25th, 9am at Chick-fil-A in the Norwalk Fitness Village.



Networking over a great lunch at Kung Pao Bowl are (l to r) Jay Shah, Joe Frometa and Janelle Garcia, Budget Car Rentals and Sales and Danika Mendoza, IBE Digital.



Making new connections at Kung Pao Bowl are (l to r) Margot Halsey, Door of Hope, Board Member Amanda Blanton, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Ambassador Sue Arthur and Mercedes Quintanilla, Door of Hope.



Enjoying the food and conversation at our Creating Connections Lunch are (l to r) Ambassadors Joe Derthick and Essen Menjivar, Kustom Made Graphics, Board Member Jason Perez, Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant and Dean Lockwood, Su Casa Ending Domestic Violence.

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

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Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

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http://on.fb.me/oB5EUM

PRESIDENT
RICH LEGASPI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EDITOR, NCBC
CAREN SPILSBURY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 6th

WRD Groundwater Festival
10am to 2pm
WRD Offices

Sunday, May 7th

Whittier Regional Symphony
Spring Garden Tour
2pm to 5pm

Thursday, May 11th

Community Family Guidance Center
Children's Benefit Dinner

Saturday, May 13th

Dream Big Project
7-9-W Charity Golf Tournament
Break Creek Golf Course

Thursday, May 18th

Norwalk Chamber 100th Anniversary
Mini Golf Tournament
4pm to 7pm
Golf n' Stuff

Wednesday, May 24th

Norwalk Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
6:30am
Doubletree Hotel

Thursday, May 25th

Coffee and Conversation
Chick-fil-A
Norwalk Fitness Village
9am

Wednesday, June 14th

100th Anniversary Diamond Gala
Doubletree Hotel
6pm

SPONSORS



Gordon Stefenhagen



Lucy Rodas State Farm



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.

47 Years
Stater Bros Alondra
Charlotte Wall
562-921-3908
www.staterbros.com

Stater Bros Firestone
Charlotte Wall
562-929-1878
www.staterbros.com

45 Years
Norwalk Elks Lodge 2142
Fran Rios, Lodge Secretary
562-864-2142
elks2142@gmail.com

24 Years
Goodwill Southern California
Kimberly Hall
562-435-3411
https://www.goodwillsocal.org/

23 Years
Villa Elena Healthcare Center
John Javier
562-868-0591

22 Years
Thompson & Associates
Mia Chung
562-868-2231
mia@frontstreettax.com

6 Years
Door of Hope Youth and Family Resource Center
Mercedez Quintanilla
562-972-1927
mq@doorofhopecenter.org

2 Years
Laulira Creations & Decorations
Laura Lira
562-219-8022
laulira22@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

Dream Big Project, Inc.
Miguel Rivera
P.O. Box 1976
Norwalk, CA 90650
562-682-5196
miguel@dreambigproject.org
www.dreambigproject.org

Subway 49655
Yash Vaidya
10995 Rosecrans Ave.
Norwalk, CA 90650
562-716-1273
yash.vaidya@outlook.com
www.subway.com

Interested in becoming a Norwalk Chamber Member?

Visit our website at www.norwalkchamber.com or give us a call at (562) 404-0909

NORWALK CHAMBER NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

Norwalk Chamber celebrates our member renewals by visiting the business to personally thank them for their continued investment in the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce. As we head into our 100th year here in Norwalk we continue to welcome new businesses into the Chamber while providing support and connections to our current members. Investing in the Norwalk Chamber helps build a robust community of business leaders that contribute to the overall success of Norwalk. Do you want to find out how you can get involved? Contact the Chamber office at 562-404-0909 or by email to info@norwalkchamber.com and one of our staff, Board Members or Ambassadors can share with you the benefits of being a Norwalk Chamber member.



Visiting Best Buy Tire Pros to deliver their 30 year membership renewal. In this photo are (l to r) Ambassador Mary Montes, C & E Upholstry, Marty Kasbarian, Best Buy Tire Pros, Ambassador Chair, Karla Butler, Andy Kasbarian, Best Buy Tire Pros and Norwalk Chamber Intern Ashley Gomez.



Joel Apericio and the staff at Norwalk True Value Hardware receive their 20 year membership renewal from our Ambassador Team.



Our Ambassador Team visits Norwalk Business Services to deliver their 47 year membership renewal plaque.



Debbie of Best Western Norwalk Inn receives the 40 year membership renewal from our team on behalf of the business.



Angelo Makris of Tam's Super Burgers gets their 25 year membership renewal from Ashley Gomez, Karla Butler and Mary Montes.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

NORWALK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100th Anniversary

Diamond Gala

2023

WEDNESDAY | 14 | JUNE

6:00 PM

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
13111 SYCAMORE DR. NORWALK CA

RSVP TO
INFO@NORWALKCHAMBER.COM
BY JUNE 7TH, 2023
TICKETS \$65.00
FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS
CALL 562-404-0909
COCKTAIL ATTIRE, BLACK TIE
OPTIONAL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Norwalk Chamber members,

So let's talk Golf. First, I would like to thank all the sponsors of our 9-hole Golf tournament and also all who played in the event. We had a great time, the weather cooperated and we raffled lots of prizes. If you were not able to make it out to the 9-Hole Tournament you now have a chance to come out to our Miniature Golf Tournament on May 18th at Golf-N-Stuff here in Norwalk. Come on out with your friends and family and have a good time while supporting our Norwalk Chamber. Call the office at 562-404-0909 or go online at www.norwalkchamber.com sign up to participate.

We are still working on our \$100 for 100 years donor program. Each donor will receive a 100-year pin and be recognized at our 100th Anniversary Diamond Gala when you donate \$100, so don't miss out. Speaking about 100, please don't forget to mark your calendars for June 14th when our 100th Anniversary Diamond Gala will take place at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel. Tickets are available on our website at www.norwalkchamber.com/shop/. Attend and find out all about our Chambers 100 years in Norwalk. It will be a lot of fun and you may get to meet many of our past Presidents of the Chamber. Make sure you plan to attend.

I also would like to thank all the people that are working hard to put these events on especially our 100th Anniversary committee and Chair Toni Grijalva. Come on out and support your Norwalk Chamber and be a part of the centennial celebration!

Your Chamber Board and Staff are here to help your business succeed in our community. If you need any resources, reach out to the office to see how we can help.

Be safe and have a great month.

Respectfully,

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

CalChamber Job Killer List

Costly Policies Stifle Job Creation, Reduce Investment

California Chamber of Commerce has released its 2023 job killer list, which includes bills dealing with labor and employment issues, taxation, housing costs, environmental, and climate and energy policies. "California's robust private sector economy creates and maintains more than 17 million jobs, paying \$1.6 trillion in annual wages and salaries," said CalChamber President and CEO Jennifer Barrera. "Yet, cost pressures, workforce challenges, litigation threats, and California's pernicious housing shortage are an ever-present threat to our continued success. Costly policies — like the ones on CalChamber's job killer list — stifle job creation, reduce investment in our economy, and drive outward migration. "Job killing policies make California unattractive both to current employers and entrepreneurs who, incidentally, generate the preponderance of the state's tax revenue, and to those who might want to come here to invest in our future economy." The CalChamber will periodically release updates to the job killer list as legislation changes. Readers are encouraged to track the current status of the job killer bills on www.calchamber.com/jobkillers or by following @CalChamber on Twitter.

The 2023 CalChamber job killer list includes the following bills:

Labor and Employment

- **AB 524 (Wicks; D-Oakland) Expansion of Litigation Under FEHA.** Exposes employers to costly litigation under the Fair Employment and Housing Act by asserting that any adverse employment action was in relation to the employee's family caregiver status, which is broadly defined to include any employee who contributes to the care of any person of their choosing, and creates a de facto accommodation requirement that will burden small businesses.
- **AB 1156 (Bonta; D-Alameda) Expands Costly Presumption of Injury.** Significantly increases workers' compensation costs for public and private hospitals by presuming certain diseases and injuries are caused by the workplace and establishes an extremely concerning precedent for expanding presumptions into the private sector.
- **SB 525 (Durazo; D-Los Angeles) Costly Minimum Wage Increase.** Imposes significant cost on health care facilities and any employer who works with health care facilities by mandating increase in minimum wage to \$25.
- **SB 365 (Wiener; D-San Francisco) Undermines Arbitration.** Discriminates against use of arbitration agreements by requiring trial courts to continue trial proceedings during any appeal regarding the denial of a motion to compel, undermining arbitration and divesting courts of their inherent right to stay proceedings.
- **SB 399 (Wahab; D-Hayward) Bans Employer Speech.** Chills employer speech regarding religious and political matters, including unionization. Is likely unconstitutional under the First Amendment and preempted by the National Labor Relations Act.
- **SB 616 (Gonzalez; D-Long Beach) Costly Sick Leave Expansion on All Employers.** Imposes new costs and leave requirements on employers of all sizes, by more than doubling existing sick leave mandate, which is in addition to all other enacted leave mandates that small employers throughout the state are already struggling with to implement and comply.
- **SB 627 (Smallwood-Cuevas; D-Los Angeles) Onerous Return to Work Mandate.** Imposes an onerous and stringent process to hire employees based on seniority alone for nearly every industry, including hospitals, retail, restaurants, movie theaters, and franchisees, which will delay hiring and eliminates contracts for at-will employment.
- **SB 723 (Durazo; D-Los Angeles) Onerous Return to Work Mandate.** Imposes an onerous and stringent process for specific employers to return employees to the workforce for specified industries, including hotels and restaurants that have been disproportionately impacted by this pandemic, and removes guardrails on existing law by making mandate permanent and significantly broadening the applicability of the law.
- **SB 809 (Smallwood-Cuevas; D-Los Angeles) Prohibits Consideration of Conviction History in Employment.** Prohibits nearly every employer from considering conviction history of an applicant or existing employee in employment decisions and imposes cumbersome process on employers that are legally not allowed to hire individuals with certain convictions.

Taxation

- **AB 259 (Lee; D-San Jose) / ACA 3 (Lee; D-San Jose) Wealth Tax.** Seeks to impose a massive tax increase upon all forms of personal property or wealth, whether tangible or intangible, despite California already having the highest income tax in the country. This tax increase will drive high-income earners out of the State as well as the revenue they contribute to the General Fund.

Housing

- **AB 68 (Ward; D-San Diego) Quashes Housing.** Worsens California's existing housing crisis by preventing local governments from permitting new housing units in most of their jurisdictions.

Environmental

- **AB 1000 (Reyes; D-San Bernardino) De Facto Ban of Warehouses.** Mandates a statewide setback of 1,000 feet from sensitive receptors for all new or expanded logistics use facilities, regardless of environmental impacts, establishing a de facto ban. Also creates a new private right of action in California.

Climate/Energy

- **SB 12 (Stern; D-Canoga Park) Arbitrary Greenhouse Gas Target.** Arbitrarily changes the State's greenhouse gas reduction goal from 40% of 1990 levels by 2030 to 55%. By the State's own estimate this proposal will force 17 million gas-powered cars off the road in the next 10 years.
- **SBX1 2 (Skinner; D-Berkeley) Windfall Profits Tax.** Sets an arbitrary cap on the amount of profit that a refiner operating in the state of California can earn over a quarterly basis. This measure would further diminish supply, discourages operational efficiencies, and would limit the amount of capital a refiner could reinvest into their infrastructure to support California's long-term climate goals. *Signed. Chapter 1, Statutes of 2023-24 First Extraordinary Session.*



Congresswoman Linda Sánchez hosts a roundtable for local Chamber of Commerce leaders.



Alba Professional Services/H & R Block congratulate the Norwalk Chamber on their 100th Anniversary.

Connect with the Norwalk Chamber over "Coffee + Conversation" Join us for a networking event at Chick-fil-A in Norwalk.

Date: Thursday, May 25th, 2023
Time: 9am
Location: Norwalk Chick-fil-A
12555 Imperial Hwy, Norwalk



RIBBON CUTTING AT SO CAL BARBER'S

Paul Luna and So Cal Barber's were excited to open their second location here in Norwalk with a Ribbon Cutting on Saturday, April 29th, 2023. The event consisted of the team of barbers providing free haircuts to attendees, the Ribbon Cutting ceremony and then a meal of delicious tacos all while listening to music provided by DJ Demo. Norwalk Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi served as MC for the event which was attended by Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia, Norwalk Vice Mayor Margarita Rios, City Council Member Rick Ramirez, and representatives from State Senator Bob Archuleta, State Assembly Member Blanca Pacheco and Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn. The Luna family were all on hand for the ceremony led by owner Paul Luna. After all of the certificates and plaques were handed out, everyone gathered behind the ribbon to officially open the doors of the business to the community. Thank you to all who attended to support this new business here in Norwalk. Keep watch for our next celebration event for another new business as we welcome them to Norwalk.



Getting ready to cut the ribbon at the new location for So Cal Barber's.



Attending the Ribbon Cutting for So Cal Barber's are (l to r) Board President Rich LeGaspi, Vincent Morales, Field Rep LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Nandy Santana, Field Rep State Senator Bob Archuleta, and Norwalk Vice Mayor Margarita Rios.



Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi presents a plaque to So Cal Barber's to celebrate their Ribbon Cutting event.



Nandy Santana of State Senator Bob Archuleta presents a certificate of recognition to So Cal Barber's at the Ribbon Cutting event.



Vincent Morales of LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office presents a congratulations scroll to Paul Luna and his family on the opening of the new So Cal Barber's location.



Celebrating with So Cal Barber's at their Ribbon Cutting are Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia and Chamber Ambassador Mary Montes, C & E Upholstery.



Council Member Rick Ramirez is getting a hair cut at So Cal Barber's Ribbon Cutting event.



Council Member Rick Ramirez is getting a hair cut at So Cal Barber's Ribbon Cutting event.



Attending the Ribbon Cutting for So Cal Barber's are (l to r) City Council Member Rick Ramirez, Board President Rich LeGaspi, Ambassador Mary Montes, C & E Upholstery, Business Owner Paul Luna, Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia, Vincent Morales, Supervisor Hahn's office, Business Owner Edith Luna, Norwalk Vice Mayor Margarita Rios, Nandy Santana, Senator Archuleta's office and Kayla Terraza, Assembly Member Pacheco's office.



Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia presents a Business Spotlight Plaque to So Cal Barber's for their Ribbon Cutting. Also pictured here are the owners, family and staff of So Cal Barber's and Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi, City Council Member Rick Ramirez and Norwalk Vice Mayor Margarita Rios.



Mayor Ana Valencia helps Pablo Luna cut the ribbon to open So Cal Barber's.



Paul Luna (barber on right) and his team offered free haircuts to all the attendees at the Ribbon Cutting for So Cal Barber's.

MEET THE MAYOR AT BOB'S PIZZA

Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia has continued the tradition of a "Meet the Mayor" by hosting a gathering at Bob's Pizza located at 14505 Pioneer Blvd in Norwalk. Norwalk residents, business owners and other stakeholders were invited out to meet Mayor Valencia in a social setting while enjoying the food items at Bob's Pizza. While attendees were able to speak one on one with the Mayor, they were also asked to write down their questions or concerns that could later be shared with City Staff. The Mayor then shared the list of questions with the City Staff to follow up on. Bob's Pizza owner Gabriela Camarena and her staff provided refreshments to those that attended the event and everyone commented on the great tasting food. Check out the City of Norwalk's website at www.norwalkca.gov or their Social Media for the next Meet the Mayor event.



Attending the first "Meet the Mayor" for this year are Juan Lezama and Chamber Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks.



Bob's Pizza business owner Gabriela Camarena at the first "Meet the Mayor" for 2023.



Norwalk residents and the business community come out to meet our Mayor Ana Valencia at Bob's Pizza.

LABOR LAW CORNER

I own a cabinet making and installation company. Last year, my employees spent several days installing cabinets in the offices of a large tech company. I recently received a letter from that tech company asking me for the wages of my employees that worked on the project at the tech company. My customer is claiming that under the new rules for pay data reporting, it must report to the state the wages of all its labor contractor employees. I don't feel comfortable turning over this information to my customer. Does this new law require me to provide this information to my customer?

The Pay Data Reporting Act does require a company with 100 or more "labor contractor employees" to report those wages to the state. A "labor contractor employee," however, is an individual "who performs labor for a client employer within the client employer's usual course of business."

In this situation, your customer would be the "client employer," but because it is in the technology business, and your employees are in the cabinet installation business, your employees were not performing work in your customer's usual course of business, and therefore, they don't meet the definition of "labor contractor employees."

This has been a common misconception by businesses in preparing their pay data reports for the state. Businesses need report only the wages of employees of other companies when those employees are performing work in the usual course of business of the company where the services are being performed.

If you are unsure about whether you should disclose wage information of your employees to third parties, you should always consult legal counsel first in order to avoid any possible privacy issues with your employees.

• Creating a Strong Local Economy • 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 • Street Repairs • Recreation Programs
- And Much More


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Plumbing

Heating & Air Conditioning

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