VOLUME 12 ~ NUMBER 8

info@norwalkchamber.com

CREATING CONNECTIONS IN NORWALK

The motto for the City of Norwalk is a "Connected Community" and the Norwalk Chamber consistently strives to offer opportunities to our members to get and stay connected with different networking events. We host a Coffee and Conversation meet up on the 4th Thursday of every other month so that business and community leaders can come together and find out what is going on in Norwalk. This event is hosted by Chick-fil-A at the Norwalk Fitness Village and Farid Khansarinia. This month at Coffee and Conversation we welcomed new member Subway and Yash Vaidya along with City of Norwalk Economic Development Director John Ramirez. Look for additional opportunities to connect with local business and community leaders during the months of August and September by viewing the Calendar section in this newspaper, visiting our website at www.norwalkchamber.com of find us on Facebook.



Norwalk Chamber Board Enjoying President Rich LeGaspi of fil-A raffle prize is TNT Fireworks with new John Ramirez, City of member Yash Vaidya of Norwalk Subway 49655 at the Development Director



the Chick-**Economic** Coffee & Conversation. and Heather Ramirez, **Marketing Director with** Chick-fil-A.



Networking at Coffee Conversation and Deleon, Cynthia Department Rehabilitation, Karinna **Alatorre and Kimberly** Peck with the American Lung Association.



Building connections of at Chick-fil-A **Ambassador** Denise and Graphics 605 Kiwanis.



Urtiaga of Kustom Made Getting the conversation started at Chick-fil-A are (I Board to r) Ambassador Sue Arthur, Yash Vaidya of Subway, Member Dora Sandoval, Board Member Dora Sandoval and 100th Anniversary Committee Chair Toni Grijalva of Cerritos College.

MEET THE MAYOR AT THE NASC

Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia and the Norwalk Recreation & Park Services Department hosted another "Meet the Mayor" event on July 25th at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex. Visitors were able to speak directly with Mayor Valencia and share thoughts and concerns with her. They were also able to enjoy light refreshments and a beautiful cake celebrating the Mayor's birthday. Tables were set up with information about the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training this August. For those that are interested the upcoming training is August 11th, 5pm to 9pm; August 12th, 8:30am to 4pm and August 19th, 8:30am to 4pm. Participants must attend all three session in order to become part of the CERT team. What is CERT? CERT is the Community Emergency Response Team program that educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains you in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Volunteers must be 18 or older, a Norwalk resident and pass a background check. There is no cost to participate. If you would like to sign up for this program, contact the Norwalk Office of Emergency Management at 562-929-5919 or email oem@ norwalkca.gov. Make plans to attend the next Meet the Mayor event when the details are shared with the community.



Attendees at the Meet the Mayor include Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia, California Assembly Commissioners, Norwalk.



Wishing Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia Happy Birthday are State Assembly Enjoying the "Meet the Mayor" event Rich LeGaspi.

14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

Norwalk Chamber of Commerce



Member Blanca Pacheco, City of Sharing Norwalk information at Public the "Meet the Mayor" event are (I Safety Officers, Norwalk Chamber to r) Nandy Santana, Field Director Board Members and residents of for State Senator Bob Archuleta, Board President Rich LeGaspi, Board Members Dora Sandoval, Jose Rios and Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia.



Member Blanca Pacheco, and Norwalk are Norwalk Commissioner Patti Board Members Dora Sandoval and Hoskins and her granddaughter Anna Hansen.

PRESORTED STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA PERMIT NO. 1000

DREAM BIG PROJECT 5TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The Dream Big Project 5th Annual Scholarship Awards Celebration was held at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex on Sunday, July 30th at 3pm. Dream Big Project provides scholarships to students in the Norwalk area. This year students that were honored with scholarships attended La Mirada High School, Norwalk High School and Santa Fe Springs High School. Luncheon was provided by the team from Skills USA and Norwalk High School Culinary Arts supervised by Ken Cook and Chef Tracy Horton. Next the audience heard from keynote speaker Martha Pelayo of the Cerritos College Foundation and student guest speaker Carlee Romero, a former scholarship recipient. They both shared wise advice to the current scholarship winners. Following the keynote speeches attendees met the scholarship winners. Executive Director/ President Miguel Rivera Jr. introduced the first two scholarship recipients, who each then got up and shared their thoughts on not only the scholarship but on their past and future endeavors. Dr. David Olea, Principal of Norwalk High School introduced the next group of scholarship winners who also spoke and thanked their families and everyone who had helped them get to where they are today. We also had David Gallegos and Pedro Ruezga introduce the remaining students. These students are going on to attend Cerritos College, Rio Hondo College, UCLA, Middlebury College, Cal State Fullerton, USC, Cal State Long Beach, and UC San Diego. We congratulate the Dream Big Project on another successful year of providing student scholarships. If you would like to support this organization and the good work they do in the community, visit their website at https://dreambigproject.org/ to find out about future events or how you can donate.



Miguel Rivera Project getting Dr. Cathy 2023 Scholarships.



Jr, Attending the Dream President/Executive Big Project luncheon are Director of the Dream 605 Kiwanis members Alavarez, ready to present the Claudia Martinez- Olea and Principal of Norwalk High School Dr. David Olea.



605 Kiwanis members attending Luncheon Scholarship supporting the Dream Big Project. In this photo are (I to r) Dr. **Cathy Alvarez, Miguel** Rivera Jr. President Dora Sandoval, Wendel Cook, Dr. David Olea, Millie Casillas, Ken Cook and Esperanza Serrano.



The 2023 Scholarship winners with Dream Big Board Members. Pictured here (I to r) Maximilian Villanueva, Santa Fe High School, Miguel Morales, Norwalk High School, Rayanna Campos, Norwalk High School, Heidi Valencia, Norwalk High School, Melissa Flores, Santa Fe High School, Yolanda Rivera, Miguel Rivera Sr. Miguel Rivera Jr. Yolanda Gallegos, David Gallegos, Leilani Juan, Norwalk High School, Kayla Romero, Norwalk High School, Janelle Peralta Norwalk High School, and Nicolas Toselli, La Mirada High School. (Not pictured Hyerin Shin, Norwalk High School)

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

Norwalk **Chamber of Commerce**

14783 Carmenita Road Norwalk, CA 90650 Phone: 562.404.0909 FAX: 562.404.0911

Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5:30pm www.norwalkchamber.com info@norwalkchamber.com

Facebook:

http://on.fb.me/oB5EUM

PRESIDENT

RICH LEGASPI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EDITOR, NCBC

CAREN SPILSBURY

CALENDAR **OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, August 9th

City of Norwalk

Summer Concert Series

Civic Center Lawn 5pm to 9pm

Neon Nation

Wednesday, August 16th

Board of Directors 9am via ZOOM

Norwalk Chamber Annual Business

Expo & City of Norwalk

Summer Concert

Civic Center Lawn 4:30pm to 9pm

Friday, August 18th

Front Street Friday Night 5pm to 9pm **Historic Front Street**

Tuesday, August 22nd

Gateway Chambers Alliance 12noon via ZOOM

Friday, August 25th

Annual State of the Nation Luncheon 12noon

Thursday, September 7th

After Hours Networking Mixer 5pm to 7pm

Outback Restaurant

Tuesday, September 12th

Creating Connections Lunch 12noon

Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant

Thursday, September 28th

Coffee & Conversation 9am

Chick-fil-A Norwalk Fitness Village

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 13th

8th Annual Fall Festival

SPONSORS



















Family



Restaurant

Lucy Rodas & StateFarm











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.

48 Years Golf n' Stuff

Ken Garcia kengarcia@golfnstuff.com

562-864-7706 www.golfnstuff.com

42 Years

Okimoto's Automotive Okimoto Family 562-926-7317 okimotoautoctr@gmail.com

37 Years

Little Lake City School District

Jonathan Vasquez 562-868-8241 https://www.llcsd.net/

35 Years Doubletree by Hilton, Norwalk Los

Angeles Jason Pena 562-863-5555



Norwalk Chamber Board Members and Ambassadors at the Annual Planning Meeting. Pictured here are (I to r) Essen Menjivar, Shana Crittenden, Danika Mendoza, Amanda Blanton, Gary Murphy, Joe Derthick, Frank Zepeda, Karla Butler and Rich LeGaspi.



Norwalk City Council declares July as Parks and Recreation Month in Norwalk. Pictured here are Recreation and Park Services Staff along with **Norwalk City Council Members.**



Youth leaders from the Door of Hope Family Foundation visit the City **Council meeting to share information** on their various activities. Staff and Youth are pictured here with Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia.

30 Years Atkinson, Andelson, Loyo, Ruud & Romo

James Romo 562-653-3200 https://www.aalrr.com/

17 Years **Lorraine Neal**

Community Member

11 Years

Advanced Performance Parts Yuri Marquez yuri@appincusa.com

Mercury Legal Assistance

Ana Torne

tornelda@gmail.com 562-929-2180

4 Years

Advanced Network Consulting

Chris Staples chris@ancsite.com 562-903-3992



Door of Hope Foundation staff and youth pictured with Norwalk City and School Board Leaders.

Jacobsma Law

Laila Havre Jacobsma 562-219-2747 www.jacobsmalaw.net

3 Years

American Lung Association

Karinna Alatorre karinna.alatorre@lung.org www.lung.org

2 Years **Ambros Construction**

Jose Chavez 562-200-0816 ambrosconstructioninc@gmail. com

NEW MEMBERS

Adi and Company, LLC **Gladis Magana**

11642 Rosecrans Ave. Norwalk, CA 90650 info@adiandcompany.com 562-651-1600

Walker International Transportation Ajay Rathod

2399 E. Pacifica Place Rancho Dominguez, CA 90220 rathod@wtlogistics.com 424-427-5877

NORWALK CHAMBER

Annual Business Expo With City of Norwalk Summer Concerts

Wednesday, August 16th, 2023 NORWALK CITY HALL LAWN 4:30 to 7:00 pm 12700 NORWALK BLVD, Norwalk 90650 RWALK 12700 NORWALK BLVD, NORWALK SOLUTION DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS AUGUST 11th



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS PLATINUM \$1,500.00 **GOLD \$1000**

TITLE SPONSOR \$2500 Supreme Exhibit Space Two 6' Tables w/ 4 chairs

Easy Up Individual Sponsor Sign Featured in Expo Media **Banner Recognition** Social Media (6) Logo on Website 9 months Logo on Website 6 months **Newsletter Recognition**

Prime Exhibit Space Preferred Exhibit Space 6' Table w/ 2 chairs 6' Table w/ 2 chairs Easy UP Listed in all Expo Media **Banner Recognition Banner Recognition** Social Media (2) **Newsletter Recognition** Social Media (4)

SILVER \$500 Reserved Exhibit 6' Table w/2 chairs **Group Banner** Social Media (1) Logo on website 3 month Logo on website **Newsletter Recognition** 1 month

You Can Sign Up Today! Why wait until the last minute? Make your reservation today!

Business Name Contact Yes, I would like to be a Sponsor (Circle One) Platinum Yes! Please reserve my space (includes 6' table & 2 chairs) (\$100) Members Yes! Please reserve my space (includes 6' table & 2 chairs) (\$125) Non Members Yes! Please reserve my space (includes 6' table & 2 chairs) (\$75) Member Non Profit Organization (provide Tax ID) Yes! Please reserve my space (includes 6' table & 2 chairs) (\$100) Non Member Non Profit Organization (provide Tax ID) I will be bringing my own Easy Up (NO EASY UP PROVIDED UNLESS

I will need an Easy Up at \$ YOU RESERVE AND PAY FOR ONE) Please email my invoice to

Card Type: Card# csc# Exp. Date: ZIP _Signature:

Please charge my Visa, Master Card, Discover or American Express

Print Name: Phone: 562-404-0909 Fax: 562-404-0911 Email: info@norwalkchamber.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Norwalk Chamber Members,



We are well into the summer and there are activities going on all over our community. From summer concerts, Front Street Fridays and family movie nights, there is something for everyone. We invite you to participate in our upcoming Business Expo on Wednesday, August 16th on the Civic Center Lawn. Come out for the Expo and meet local businesses then stay for the entertainment of the summer concert.

September will bring you lots of networking opportunities. You can join us for an After Hours Mixer at Outback Restaurant on Thursday, September 7th from 5pm to 7pm. Or you can meet up with us for lunch with three Chambers at Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant on Tuesday, September 12th at 12noon. And if those don't work for you, we will be having Coffee and Conversation on Thursday, September 28th at Chick-fil-A in the Norwalk

We encourage you to take advantage of all the opportunities to promote your business here in Norwalk. Are you new to the community? Reach out to the Chamber office to schedule your Ribbon Cutting event. You can call them at 562-404-0909 or email info@norwalkchamber.com.

Be safe and have a great month.

Respectfully,

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

SUMMER EVENTS IN NORWALK

Summer is in full swing and there are many opportunities for you to get out and enjoy community activities this Summer. From concerts on the Civic Center Lawn to Friday Nights on Front Street, there is something for everyone. Each year the City of Norwalk provides musical entertainment for the residents on the lawn. The concerts begin with the 4th of July event and run through mid-August. You still have two more opportunities to attend the summer concerts. Wednesday, August 9th and Wednesday, August 16th. Also on August 16th is the Norwalk Chamber Business Expo. Come at 4:30 to visit the different vendor booths and stay through 9 for the food trucks and the music. Then on Friday, August 18th is the next Front Street Friday Night. Many sports organizations will have booths for you to visit and find out how to get your children involved in local sports. There will be music, food trucks a beer garden at the Elks Lodge and a kid's fun zone. This runs from 5pm to 9pm, so mark your calendars for August 18th. There are also many other activities going on during the summer for you to participate in. Visit the City of Norwalk Recreation and Park Services page on the website www.norwalkca.gov to find out about the different activities going on in the community.



Ashley Gomez, Board Member Member Jennifer Perez. Dora Sandoval, Past President Toni Grijalva and Board President Rich LeGaspi.



Heather Ramirez of Chick-fil-A at the City of Norwalk Summer Concert.



Member Jennifer Perez and her husband Mike with Toni Street Friday Night.



At the City of Norwalk Summer Ready to spin the wheel at the Concerts getting ready to enjoy the Chamber Booth are Toni Grijalva, music are (I to r) Joshua Cabebe, Cerritos College and City Council



Laulira Creations & Designs provided the balloons for the Front Street Friday Night.



Enjoying the music and crowd at **Front Street Fridays are City Manager** Jesus Gomez, Board President Rich LeGaspi, TNT Fireworks and Natalie Grijalva getting ready for Front LeGaspi, Soroptimist Int'l Norwalk/ SFS.



Summer nights in Norwalk at the Concert. In this photo is City Manager Jesus Gomez and Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia.



Getting ready for the crowd at Front Street Friday Night are Norwalk Mayor Ana Valencia with Toni Grijalva and Rich LeGaspi.



Chamber Interns Aubrey Spilsbury and Ashley Gomez with Joshua Cabebe at the Summer Concert.



Fernando and Laura Lira, Toni Grijalva of Cerritos College at Front Street Friday.

Creating Connections Luncheon

With the

Bellflower, Downey and Norwalk

Chambers of Commerce

When: Tuesday, September 12th

Time: 12noon to 1:30pm

Location: Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant

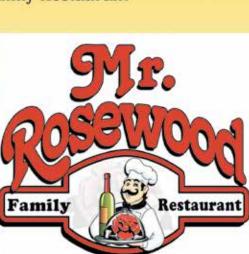
10640 Rosecrans Ave.

Norwalk CA 90650

Cost: \$20.00 includes lunch and a beverage **RSVP** to your Chamber

Norwalk:

info@norwalkchamber.com













The Norwalk Chamber of Commerce Invites you to...

AN AFTER

HOURS MIXER

Outback Restaurant | 12850 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk CA Thursday, September 7th - 2023 from 5pm to 7pm



Great Opportunity to Connect

Norwalk Chamber Mixers are a great way to reconnect and build new relationships. Enjoy networking with and professionals!



Make a Reservation

- When making a reservation please
- 1. Your Full Name 2. Your Company's Name
- 3. Your Company's Address
- 4. Phone Number 5.Email
- email your reservations to the Commerce

Reservation

Your

Light refreshments will be

served and make sure to bring plenty of business

cards. Take advantage of

this social opportunity to promote your business and network with business

and community leaders!

Where to Send

EMAIL: INFORNORWALKCHAMBER.COM

Bereavement Leave for Complex Family Relationships

Employees with 30 days of service may take up to 5 days of job-protected bereavement leave upon the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, domestic partner, or parent-in-law. The new law uses the definitions of those terms from the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) regulations. Complex family relationships can make it quite a challenge to figure out exactly for whom an employee may legally take bereavement leave.

Spouse or Domestic Partner

A spouse is someone to whom your employee is currently married. It does not include a former spouse. A domestic partner is not merely an individual with whom your employee lives; the couple must be registered as a domestic partnership with the California Secretary of State. California does not recognize common-law marriages, even for couples who have lived together for many years. Therefore, your employee is not entitled to bereavement leave for the father of her child because they were neither married nor registered as domestic partners.

In-Laws, Stepparents, Stepchildren

An employee may use bereavement leave for current parents-in-law, stepchildren or stepparents, as well as the parents and children of their current registered domestic partner. An employee's divorce or dissolution of a registered domestic partnership would by law end the other linked relationships, so your employee would not be entitled to use bereavement leave for her former father-in-law. Similarly, if your employee is widowed, they would not be entitled to use bereavement leave for the individuals whom they still may consider to be their in-laws and stepchildren. This is because they are not legally related to those individuals after the death of their spouse or domestic partner. Note that if your employee stood "in loco parentis" to a child while that child was growing up, protected bereavement leave could apply despite the end of a legal relationship as a stepchild. "In loco parentis" means a person who stands in responsibilities to care for and financially support a child even without a biological or legal relationship.

Designated Person

It's important to note that although the CFRA was expanded recently to allow a leave of up to 12 weeks to care for a designated person (any individual "related by blood or whose association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship") with a serious health condition, the bereavement leave law does not provide employees time off after the death of a designated person.

Employer Policies May Be More Generous

Given the many complex family relationships that can arise, an employer certainly could choose to extend bereavement leave beyond what is required by law. Seek legal counsel if you wish to extend your bereavement policy beyond the relationships covered by the new law.

SB 770 Paves Way for Massive Tax Hikes, by Preston Young

A proposal moving its way through the Legislature seeks to eliminate Medicare in California and pave the way for massive tax increases on California workers and employers. SB 770 would create a workgroup to petition the federal government to redirect hundreds of billions of dollars in annual Medicare and Medicaid funding that currently flows to California to a new health care system known as "single payer" instead. In doing so, SB 770 would set in motion a complicated scheme envisioned by its proponents that would result in the elimination of Medicare and all private health coverage in California, replace it with a costly, untested health system run by state government, and require the largest tax increase in state history.

Concerns to Consider

For those who think dismantling our health system is a good idea, here are a few specific concerns to consider:

SB 770 / single payer proponents seek to eliminate all private health coverage in California and force all Californians into a new untested health system — with no ability to opt out or choose private coverage instead. Study after study shows Californians like their health coverage and Medicare, and strongly support protecting their right to choose it, and strongly support protecting the Medicare coverage seniors have earned. The waiver sought by SB 770 would redirect roughly \$200 billion annually to the new single payer health system. But that system is projected to cost more than \$500 billion/year. The missing \$300+ billion a year would be raised by new, higher taxes on payroll, employers, and the goods and services Californians purchase. Many people and employers in our state are already struggling with the high cost of living here — a recent Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) survey showed 57% of adults are experiencing some form of financial hardship due to rising costs. We cannot afford any kind of tax increase, much less one that is bigger than the entire state budget — especially to fund a massive new untested health system they don't want or need. SB 770 gambles California's health care on the whims of Congress. The waiver SB 770 seeks is not permanent — it is dependent on approval by future Congresses, who could decide to withdraw it. This would immediately deprive the new single payer health system of more than \$200 billion a year (roughly 40% of its funding), throwing it into chaos and forcing even more massive tax hikes on Californians.

Ultimately, single payer would cause overwhelming disruption in the health care some 38 million Californians rely on, all paid for by tax increases and questionable federal funding. We do not need to embark down this path. California is already on the cusp of ensuring everyone has access to health coverage. There are changes we can make to improve California's health care system, including quality improvements and lower costs, but dismantling our health system is unnecessary, costly, and harmful.

Preston Young is a policy advocate for the California Chamber of Commerce.

SB 553 Impact Touches Every Industry in California

With this week's amendments and the upcoming hearing in the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee, it's worth taking another look at SB 553 (Cortese; D-San Jose), a California Chamber of Commerce-opposed bill that has been getting national attention for its potential implications on retail theft. This article briefly summarizes what the bill does, what the amendments changed, and which employers (hint: all of them) should remain very concerned going forward.

What Is SB 553?

SB 553 creates a new workplace violence regulation for every public or private employer in California, regardless of their size. Its provisions include requiring employers to:

- Perform annual detailed assessments of their workplace for potential violence risks;
- Potentially re-organize their workplace, including installing new security equipment, lighting, and alarm systems;
- Assess access to employees by members of the public and visibility for employees across the workplace;
- Consider hiring additional staff, including security personnel.

Based on Hospital Rule

Most of these provisions were copied directly from Cal/OSHA's hospital-focused workplace violence regulation, and were never intended to be applied to nonhealthcare employers. However, SB 553 would do just that, applying these hospital-level provisions to all employers in California. Interestingly, Cal/OSHA staff specifically considered applying the hospital regulation to all employers, and rejected that text. Instead, Cal/OSHA has been working since 2017 to prepare a workplace violence regulation that is feasible for all employers ... but SB 553 does not use that proposed text.

What Did Amendments Do?

The recent amendments to SB 553 were aimed at one of the more bizarre provisions of the bill, which specifically prohibited employers from having a policy of having employees "confront" suspected shoplifters or active shooters. This provision generated national news because it was widely viewed as further encouraging retail theft in California. In effect, this provision ensured that no one could speak to or interfere with suspected shoplifters. Recent amendments in Assembly Labor and Employment attempted to address this issue by exempting "dedicated safety personnel." Although the exemption theoretically would permit loss prevention personnel to speak to shoplifters, it notably does not help small employers who do not have "dedicated safety personnel" on staff. For example: if a small retail boutique employee sees a customer stealing merchandise, normal employees would be unable to "confront" that shoplifter, because they would not specifically be designated "dedicated safety personnel."

Concern for All

Who should still be concerned about SB 553? Everyone. Because of the bill's broad reach, the coalition opposing SB 553 touches every industry in the state, from tech and manufacturing to agriculture and from restaurants to public sector employers. The amendments removed none of that opposition because the

amendments failed to address the core problem with SB 553: that not even Cal/ OSHA thinks this language is feasible for every employer in the state. And, as frequent readers of CalChamber articles will know, Cal/OSHA's drafting team generally are not friends of the business community ... so when even Cal/OSHA staff think something isn't feasible for employers, it probably isn't. The bill will be heard in Assembly Labor and Employment, and then heads to the Assembly Judiciary Committee, and then to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The CalChamber expects to continue opposing SB 553 unless amendments make it feasible for the majority of California's employers.

St. Lic. #271767 11661 Firestone Blvd. • Norwalk (562) 868-7777 info@laplumber.com