

### LIVING WITH COVID-19

As you are reading this, you will likely be about two weeks into the State of California declared "Safer at Home" order. Hopefully the panic buying will have slowed down and all of you will have found toilet paper to purchase! We also hope to see that the infection curve for COVID-19 is spreading out over a longer period of time so that we do not overwhelm our health care system. What we are most concerned about is the long term affect this will have on our local business community and our Norwalk Chamber Members. Our Chamber is focused on supporting local businesses through our social media and email blasts, providing important information and answering the many questions that folks call the Chamber to ask. We are not the experts, but we are doing the most we can to share what the experts are telling us all. As information and updates come out hourly from all of our government officials, we are trying to stay on top of those so that we can share critical information with all of you. As we write this information, diagnosed cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County have risen to 3581 with 21 known case here in Norwalk. In order to keep that number low, you should all be following the CDC guidelines with regards to helping slow the spread of the virus and to keep you safe from contracting it. Wash your hands, use hand sanitizer if you cannot wash your hands, avoid touching your face and stay 6 feet away from others. Be serious about this and you can help save lives. Every age category is suffering from this, not just older citizens or those with compromised immune systems. Our Chamber office is only open for essential business, which includes producing our newspaper and providing Certificates of Origins to Logistic companies who need these to ship goods and merchandise. You can call us, email us, Facebook or Instagram message us, but please do not come to our office. We intend to continue to do our part to help slow any spread. And being the only staff here at the Chamber, I am practicing social distancing.

As we move further into the stay at home order, please support each other in any way that you can. If you need a meal, we have many options for you to purchase to go orders. Our Chamber started a BINGO game that anyone can participate in for a chance to win gift cards. That game is here in our paper, and also on all of our Social Media. If your business is open and you would like us to share that information with others, send us an email or call. Info@norwalkchamber.com or 562-404-0909. Together we can make it through this unforeseen and challenging time.



Northgate Gonzalez Market is open for business, with many items back on their shelves, including great produce to help keep you healthy. Pictured here are Heidi and Ismael Lara and Store Manager Epigenio Villegas.



Jorge Lizarraga, Grocery Outlet, sharing their Spring merchandise that is available now.



Grocery Outlet is also stocked up on fresh product! Every day new items are delivered to the store, so visit to see what you can purchase for your stay at home order!

### NORWALK CHAMBER BINGO

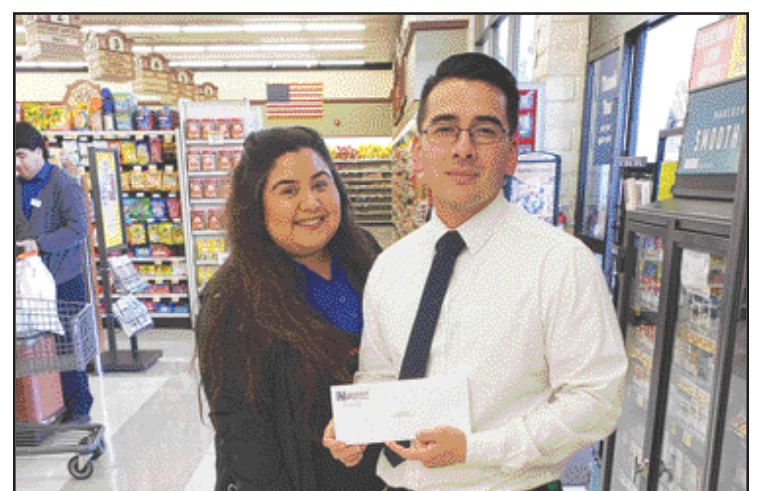
Play Bingo with the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and our members that are open during the COVID-19 "SAFER AT HOME" initiative! Visit any of these members, spend a minimum of \$10.00 and save your receipt. Each receipt will go in a different square. When you get a "BINGO" take a photo of your receipts on the Bingo card and email it to info@norwalkchamber.com. At the end of the "SAFER AT HOME" initiative, we will draw five winners, and you will receive a gift card valued at \$25.00 to one of our Chamber members! And if you get a "black out" (all squares have a receipt) then you are in a drawing for a \$100.00 gift card! Good luck and let us know if you have any questions! 562-404-0909 or info@norwalkchamber.com.



These members provide essential services and allowed to stay open during this time.



Stater Bros produce section showing a wide variety of fresh fruits.

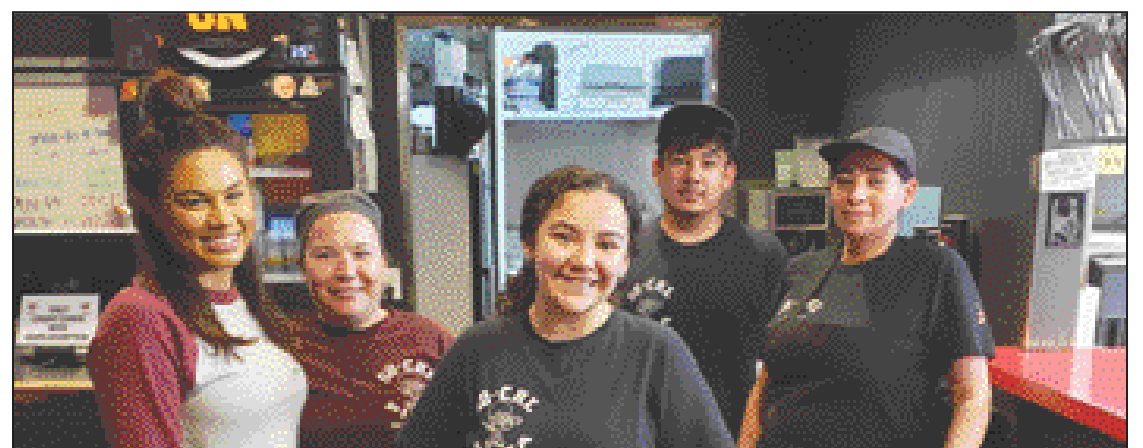


Stater Bros Markets are open for business. Employees are working hard to keep our community fed with great options.

Norwalk Chamber starts our chamber BINGO game! Purchase something from a Chamber member valued at more than \$10, save your receipts and when you get a BINGO, take a photo and email it to info@norwalkchamber.com. You will be entered into a drawing for 5 free \$25.00 gift cards! Get a black out (entire board) and you will have a chance to win a \$100.00 gift card!

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

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



So Cal Pizza staff are ready to cook your take out order of fresh pizza, pasta, salads, sandwiches and more.



## 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 AMANDA BLANTON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
EDITOR, NCBC  
CAREN SPILSBURY



## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

### New Members

#### American Lung Association In California

Nelly Nieblas  
3325 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 900  
Los Angeles CA 90010  
213-296-224  
Nelly.Nieblas@Lung.org

### 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.

#### 44 Years

Stater Bros Market  
12523 Alondra Blvd  
562-921-3908

Stater Bros Market  
11300 Firestone Blvd  
562-929-1878

#### 40 Years

Norwalk Records  
Richard Sneed  
562-863-6681  
www.norwalkrecords.com

#### 29 Years

Norwalk Dialysis  
Carlos Jacobs  
562-929-7430  
carlos.jacobs@davita.com

#### 22 Years

Tam's Super Burgers  
Angelos Makris  
11700 Rosecrans Ave  
562-864-3373

#### 21 Years

New Harvest Christian Fellowship  
Pastor Richard Salazar  
562-929-6034  
www.newharvestnorwalk.com

#### 21 Years

Norwalk Printing & Graphics  
Steven Ives  
562-864-3216  
norwalk.ive@verizon.net

#### 21 Years

John's Sweeper Repairs  
John Ozonian  
562-860-0604  
info@nes-sweeping.com

#### 21 Years

Pawnmart  
C. Rae Goldsmith  
562-929-2377  
http://www.pawnmartonline.com/

#### 16 Years

AFLAC  
Joseph Derthick  
310-415-5693  
joseph\_derthick@us.aflac.com

#### 13 Years

Susan Arthur  
Community Member  
sa92849@aol.com

#### 9 Years

Personal Care Medical Clinic  
Robert Salatinjants  
562-406-7070  
robjants@yahoo.com

#### 5 Years

Dr. Lawrence Goodwin  
Coast Plaza Eye Clinic/Good Eyes  
562-863-7000  
LTimJr@yahoo.com

#### 4 Years

Don Knabe Golf Center  
& Junior Academy  
Neil Sauer  
562-921-7047  
www.playknabegolf.com

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE:  
THESE DATES COULD  
BE SUBJECT TO  
CHANGE

#### May 14th

7th Annual  
9-Hole Golf Tournament  
Don Knabe Golf Center  
4pm to 8pm

#### June 14th

Norwalk Community  
Coordinating Council  
Annual Luncheon  
Norwalk Arts &  
Sports Complex  
11:30am

#### June 24th

97th Annual Business  
Awards & Installation  
Norwalk Arts &  
Sports Complex  
12noon

#### July 15th

Women's Leadership  
Brunch  
DoubleTree Hotel  
10:00am

#### August 5th

Annual Business Expo  
4:30pm to 7:00pm  
Norwalk City Hall Lawn

#### August 12th

State of the Nation Luncheon  
12noon - 1:30pm  
Location To Be Announced

## 32ND SENATE DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2020

While the celebration ceremony has been put off to sometime in the fall State Senator Bob Archuleta has honored long time Norwalk Resident Theresa (Teri) Bazen as his City of Norwalk Woman of the Year for 2020. Teri was also recognized by the Norwalk Community Coordinating Council as their Citizen of the Year in 2018 and by the SFS Chamber as their Business Person of the Year in 2020.

Teri had worked for Norwalk La Mirada Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning for many years. During that time she served as President of the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and has continued to participate as an Ambassador for the Chamber. She has also served in many different positions for other local Chambers of Commerce and was a long time member of the Norwalk Rotary Club. Her favorite project with that organization was the Nuffer School Christmas Project. The club brought presents, singers and Santa to Nuffer School and the students. Seeing their excited faces and grateful hearts was the impetus for Teri to help keep that project going, even though the Norwalk Rotary had closed.

Teri has volunteered many hours for local non profits, providing her famous gift baskets of toilet paper with a hidden surprise inside. As the Community Representative for Norwalk La Mirada Plumbing, she spent countless hours working events, putting labels on donated water and providing door prizes at our Chamber events. Teri is married to her husband Chris and two children and three grandchildren. She recently retired to help take care of her grandchildren and is loving her new role. While she will no longer be representing NLM Plumbing, we know that Teri will still be active in the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce as she is able and will be an involved resident of this community. We congratulate Teri on this award and look forward to the future ceremony where it will be presented. Special thanks to State Senator Bob Archuleta and his staff for recognizing the important contributions of women in our community.



2020 Woman of the Year Teri Bazen, recognized by State Senator Bob Archuleta, 32nd District.

## CalChamber Updates

### Disaster Assistance Available to Small Businesses Affected by COVID-19

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced March 16 that it is offering low-interest federal disaster loans to small businesses in California "suffering substantial economic injury" due to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Small businesses, private nonprofit organizations, and small agricultural and aquacultural enterprises facing considerable economic hardship may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help with financial obligations and operating expenses. The Economic Injury Disaster Loans can be used to help pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and any additional bills that cannot be paid due to the virus. Eligibility for the loans is predicated on the financial impact of COVID-19, according to the SBA. The interest rate is 3.75% for small businesses and 2.75% for nonprofit organizations. Long-term repayments up to a maximum of 30 years are available.

#### Eligible Counties

The SBA loans are currently available to the following California counties: Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Imperial, Kern, Lake, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Mono, Napa, Orange, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tuolumne, Ventura, and Yolo.

#### Application

The application for SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans, as well as other disaster assistance information, can be found at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants also may call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information. Completed applications can be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76155. The deadline to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan is December 16, 2020.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I hope that this issue of the Norwalk Chamber Business Connections finds all of you making it through this difficult time. We are in uncharted territory and dealing with something that none of us thought could happen in today's world. We ask that you all try to support each other during this COVID-19 outbreak and find ways that you can continue to operate your business. Many of you are considered essential services, so you are open, but many are not and cannot be open. We here at the Chamber will do our best to provide support and information during this time to help you either keep your doors open or reopen when the time comes.

We have had to postpone our Annual 9-Hole Golf Tournament to Thursday, May 14th and we hope that we will be able to host you on that day. We cannot predict the immediate future but are hoping that by then we are all back at our different businesses, schools and more so that we can get together socially and support each other that way.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all as we navigate this tough time together. Please consider purchasing takeout orders from a member restaurant, or using a delivery service to get your food, shop for groceries at one of our member stores or buy a gift card that can be used for a future purchase to help each other out.

Stay safe and healthy,

**Amanda Blanton**

*2019-2020 President, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce  
Farmers & Merchants Bank*

## Labor Law Corner

### Wage and Hour Considerations for Remote Workers

#### How do an employer's pay obligations differ when an hourly/nonexempt employee is working remotely from home?

It's important to keep in mind that when having a nonexempt employee work remotely, your obligations under California's wage-and-hour laws remain the same, and you need to ensure you have measures in place to maintain accurate records of the employees' hours worked. In addition to accurately tracking all hours worked by your nonexempt remote employees, it's critical to ensure they take required meal and rest breaks, get paid for any overtime hours, and are not engaging in "off-the-clock" work (there is no such thing in California). Establishing a remote work/telecommuting policy is a great way to communicate your expectations to your remote employees, particularly when it comes to keeping an accurate record of their hours worked, including overtime, as well as taking their appropriate meal and rest breaks. In addition to having a telecommuting policy, you may choose to have your remote employees sign a telecommuting agreement, acknowledging their work schedule and other parameters within the telecommuting policy itself, such as whether they need approval to work overtime.

#### Accurate Timekeeping

Many employers already use some type of software that allows them to accurately record hours worked

by an employee, and this should be no different for an employee working remotely. By making sure your remote employees have access to your software or time-keeping system on their remote devices, you can accurately track and monitor your remote employees' daily and weekly hours worked.

#### Meal and Rest Breaks

In California, nonexempt employees' uninterrupted meal break of at least 30 minutes must begin no later than 4 hours and 59 minutes into their shift. Additionally, a nonexempt employee whose total daily work time is at least 3.5 hours must be permitted a rest break of at least 10 "net" minutes for every four hours worked, or "major fraction thereof." Because remote employees aren't supervised in the same way that an on-site employee is, there can be some added challenges to monitoring breaks; however, having a clearly written meal and rest break policy can help combat those challenges. In addition to your standard meal and rest break policy, your telecommuting policy can reiterate that employees are expected to take their uninterrupted, off-duty meal and rest breaks.

#### Overtime

In addition to ensuring that your remote employees take their meal and rest breaks, you also need to track and pay for any overtime hours worked. As a

reminder, California law requires all overtime hours to be paid (1.5 times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked beyond 8 hours in a work-day or 40 hours in a work week), even if that time was not approved. Having a clearly written telecommuting policy and agreement in place can help you to manage your remote employees' work schedules and expectations regarding overtime.

#### Business Expenses Reimbursements

Employers must reimburse employees (whether nonexempt or exempt) for all "necessary expenditures or losses incurred" in the performance of their job duties (Labor Code Section 2802). This could include an employee's personal cell phone, computer equipment and other services and/or supplies required for a remote employee to work. When looking at whether an employee is entitled to reimbursement, the question will be whether it is "necessarily incurred." A clearly written telecommuting policy can help establish guidelines surrounding which expenses are reimbursable, as well as provide a method for employees to submit for reimbursement. Another approach might be to provide all necessary equipment for a remote worker, such as computers/laptops, printers and a phone—which could eliminate or reduce an employee's need to use personal devices.

## News from Dianne Feinstein, United States Senator for California

### Filing Tax Return Necessary to Receive Individual Coronavirus Payments

#### Filers should sign up for direct deposit for faster payment

Washington—Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) released the following statement on the upcoming direct payments to Americans that are part of the coronavirus response legislation signed into law today:

**"Getting cash into the hands of Americans families will help them through this difficult time and help stabilize the economy. The legislation passed by Congress includes direct payments – up to \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child – to help them get by during this pandemic.**

**"Anyone who filed a return for tax year 2018 or 2019 doesn't need to do anything to receive the funds. They will automatically receive the appropriate amount based on the income in their latest tax return. Social Security recipients will also be automatically enrolled if they received benefits either year.**

**"However, individuals who didn't file a return for 2018 or 2019 should file a return for the 2019 tax year now. When filing a return, you should also sign up for direct deposit to receive recovery payments as quickly as possible.**

**"Even if you don't expect to receive a rebate or owe any taxes, filing a return is the only way to**

**receive recovery funds."**

#### Frequently Asked Questions

(compiled by Democratic committee staff):

#### Who qualifies to receive a check and how much will an individual receive?

Anyone who filed a tax return this year or last year. Individuals receive \$1,200, married couples receive \$2,400, and child dependents (under 17) receive \$500.

#### What are qualified income levels based off of?

There is no qualified income threshold or requirement to receive the rebate. However, the rebate phases out at a 5 percent rate above adjusted gross incomes of \$75,000 for single filers, \$112,500 for heads of household, and \$150,000 for joint filers.

#### Can those collecting Social Security or disability receive a check?

Yes, if they filed a tax return this year or last year, or received a form SSA-1099. Otherwise, they need to file a tax return.

#### How does an individual claim their check?

They do not need to claim their checks (unless they have not either filed a tax return this year or last year) – IRS will send out rebates automatically to

their direct deposit or to the address provided on the last tax return submitted.

#### How long will it take for this check to be delivered?

Rebates sent via direct deposit will take a few weeks. Rebates sent via checks may take a few months.

#### Will I be taxed on this check?

No, rebates are not taxable.

#### Will I be eligible if I haven't finished filing my 2018 taxes?

You need to have filed either a 2018 tax return or a 2019 tax return. If you have not filed either, you will not be eligible. You can file a 2019 tax return now to claim the rebate.

#### Will I be eligible if I have a lien against me, but I am in non-collect status?

Yes. Rebates will not be subject to garnishment, except if back child support is owed.

#### I withdrew my retirement in 2018- so my income that year was inflated. Is there any waiver for one time sources of income?

In this case, the taxpayer should file a 2019 tax return.

## NORWALK GOAL CAR WASH

Up to \$5 OFF

\$1 off the basic wash

\$3 off the supreme wash

\$5 off the premiere wash

FULL SERVICE CARWASH,  
WAX AND DETAIL

(562) 466-0033

www.goalcarwash.com

11565 Firestone Blvd Norwalk, CA 90650

St. Lic. #271767

## NORWALK/LA MIRADA

### Plumbing

### Heating & Air Conditioning

11661 Firestone Blvd. • Norwalk

(562) 868-7777

info@laplumber.com

\$20

OFF

WITH

THIS

AD!



## SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS DURING COVID-19



Zen's Tea House Manager Sidney Ramos showing that they are still open for takeout orders! They are located at 12848 Pioneer Blvd.



Jimmy Johns is open and providing takeout orders or delivery within a 1 1/2 mile radius from 12431 Norwalk Blvd. Suite D, in Paddison Square.



Angelo Markis of Tam's Super Burgers showing that they are open for drive through and takeout orders.

### Creating a Strong Local Economy - and - Promoting the Community

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

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

Public Safety Services

Recreation Programs

Street Repairs & Much More



Samuel Ortiz of Dulce Canella Churros is open for takeout orders. You can call in and pick up at 15012 Pioneer Blvd.



Art Sanchez of Sanchez Restaurant shows off his sign, they are open for takeout orders! Address is 12061 162nd.

## THE Y IS HERE FOR YOU

The YMCA of Greater Whittier is committed to being a resource to ALL during times of uncertainty. As your community partner, we will be expanding our childcare services during school closures, and offering meals to all children in the community.

School Closure Child Care	Meals for Children	Commitment to Health and Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starts Monday, March 16</li> <li>Monday-Friday, 6:30am-6:30pm</li> <li>Preschool program (Ages 2-5) and School-age (K-7th grade)</li> <li>Spots are limited and first-come, first-serve. Priority will be given to children of First Responders.</li> <li>Financial Aid Available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The YMCA will be serving free, healthy meals to ALL children under the age of 18 in our community at both branches.</li> <li>Breakfast served from 7:30-8:30am</li> <li>Lunch served from 12:30pm-1:30pm</li> <li>*"Grab and Go" meals are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are committed to the health and safety of our members and our community; it's rooted in our mission.</li> <li>Our regular cleaning processes have been expanded to include hospital-grade sanitation and cleaning processes</li> <li>Children will be kept in small groups for social distancing as recommended by the Los Angeles County Department of Health</li> </ul>

YMCA OF GREATER WHITTIER

Uptown Whittier YMCA Family Center - 12510 Hadley St. Whittier, CA 90601 - 562.907.6530  
East Whittier YMCA Family Center - 15740 Starbuck St. Whittier, CA 90603 - 562.943.7241

Visit us online! [ymcawhittier.org](https://www.ymcawhittier.org)

## Norwalk Chamber of Commerce 7th Annual 9-Hole Golf Tournament "Spring Swing"

Join us on  
Thursday, May 14th, 2020  
4pm to 8pm

At the  
Don Knabe Golf Center &  
Junior Golf Academy  
18717 Shoemaker Ave.  
Norwalk CA

Seeking Golf Teams and Individual Golfers:

Golf Teams \$250.00 (5 persons) includes golf, dinner, beverages  
Individual Golfers: \$55.00, includes golf, dinner & beverages

Sponsor Opportunities

Title Sponsor	\$1000: 2 Golf Teams (10 persons) 3 Tee Signs, Program Recognition Pre Tournament Publicity, Banner, BBQ Dinner for 10, Logo on Chamber website for 6 months, Business Card in Chamber Newsletter For 3 months.
Gold Sponsor	\$550: 1 Golf Team (5 persons) 2 Tee Signs, Program Recognition Banner, BBQ Dinner for 5, Logo on Chamber website for 3 months
Silver Sponsor	\$350: 1 Golf Team (5 persons) 1 Tee Sign, Group Banner, BBQ Dinner for 5, Logo on website for 1 month
Bronze Sponsor Tee Sign	\$250: 2 Golfers, 1 Tee sign, Group Banner, BBQ Dinner for 2

Questions?? Contact the Norwalk Chamber at 562-404-0909 or by email to [info@norwalkchamber.com](mailto:info@norwalkchamber.com) Register & Pay online at [www.norwalkchamber.com](http://www.norwalkchamber.com) and click on the Chamber store.