

LOCAL

The Hour

NEWS HOTLINE 354-1062

News Briefs Holiday garbage pickup schedule

NORWALK

There will be no city garbage pickup today, the Norwalk Department of Public Works has announced. Today's garbage will be picked up Saturday.

There will also be no citywide recycling on today. Today's recycling will be picked up Saturday.

The transfer and recycling station on Crescent Street will be closed on today and open Saturday. The yard waste disposal site on South Smith Street will be

News at Norwalk High to be 'up-to-the-minute'

NORWALK By NINA SEN

Hour Staff Writer

Norwalk High School news could soon be as up-to-the-minute as CNN.

The school will soon receive an outdoor electronic marquee with a student-designed base. The Norwalk High School Marquee Committee raised \$67, 600 for a marquee through a combination of donations and a \$20,000 state grant.

Rose Emro, a parent at the school formed the marquee com-

mittee last fall after feeling that communications needed improvement between NHS and area residents.

"I saw the need for Norwalk High School to have a state-of-the-art communications system like other high schools, so I researched this further and learned how LED (light-emitting diode) digital marquee's helped other schools raise awareness, create more school spirit and communicate effectively and successfully," Emro said. "I also learned that students are able to program and manage the digital content on the signs."

Currently, Norwalk High puts their news on an outside chalk board.

With help from Parents of Norwalk High School, school Principal Lenny Mecca, former Principal Tony Daddona, and the Norwalk Education Foundation, a mailing campaign was organized.

In addition, she enlisted help from School Superintendent Salvatore J. Corda, former Chief Operating Officer Stuart Opdahl, and Purchasing Manager George Giannatti.

State Rep. Larry Cafero Jr., R-142, minority leader, and state Rep.

Toni Boucher, R-143, worked to secure a state grant of \$20,000 for the project.

Cafero said that the \$20,000 will come from the surplus contingency account in the state's 2008-09 budget. He noted there will be no recurring interest costs to the state because the amount is not bond money.

"I look forward to seeing the new marquee project add to the quality of life of this great Norwalk institution," Boucher said. "In today's often complicated

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Norwalk High to get electronic marquee

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and challenging times, the new Norwalk High School marquee and computer link-up could potentially become a life-saver.”

The money will be used for a seven by ten feet LED digital outside sign and base to be designed by NHS students. Students plan to draw a bear mascot next to the school crest and donor recognition to be etched on the granite-like material. The sign itself will be operated by students through a newly formed technology class.

In addition, the school is also receiving 15 wireless laptop computers for the library and two internal

LED display boards for the career center and main lobby.

One family made the donation for both the internal and external displays as well as the new computers after seeing a presentation by Emro.

“The students at the high school continue to be the inspiration for projects such as this,” said Jill Griffin, committee member. “We want to always do what we can to upgrade, enhance and improve the quality of learning.”

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Hour photo/BEN GANCSOS

Lauren Rosato, Rose Emro, Tony Daddona, Salvatore Corda, Lawrence Cafero and Toni Boucher with donation checks for the Norwalk High School Marquee Project.