

a partnership
for sustainable
community
development
between the people
of nagarote,
nicaragua and the
greater norwalk
area in connecticut

Norwalk)) Nagarote

SISTER CITY PROJECT

Autumn
15

Visit Our Web Site at www.sistercityproject.org

Healthy Living



A cucumber plant in a kitchen garden created as part of the Healthy Children Program in Nagarote.

KITCHEN GARDENS AND COOKING CLASSES are in full swing in Nagarote as we implement the Healthy Children Program.

Fourteen of our teachers and staff, plus our college scholarship students, have been trained in healthy eating. As we write this, Marina, the chef at our favorite Nagarote restaurant who also attended

the nutrition classes, is teaching our students and their parents to cook nutritious, delicious and inexpensive meals. In addition, we've encouraged 20 families to grow their own produce

in kitchen gardens by giving them tools, seeds, plants and technical support. All this healthy living is thanks to a very generous grant from the International Foundation for our Healthy Children Program.

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Is Nicaragua Calling You?

NICARAGUA IS ALL THE RAGE

in travel magazines these days. Beautiful scenery, warm weather, great beaches and friendly people make it a popular destination. Best of all, there's the Norwalk/Nagarote Sister City Project right between Managua and Leon. Our board will be visiting Nagarote from March 10th to the 15th 2016 and will be joined by Intake Music's Angie Durrell and a group of musicians who will be teaching and performing.

We'd love to have you join us. If the idea appeals to you, contact Bill McCarthy 203-853-6655 or billmcca@optonline.net for details.

Norwalk Celebrates Nagarote Day, Joins Sister Cities International

NORWALK'S MAYOR, HARRY RILLING, proclaimed June 19, 2015, Nagarote Day in Norwalk at a ceremony in the Mayor's Art Gallery in City Hall and announced that Norwalk has established a formal relationship with Nagarote through membership in Sister Cities International. His proclamation commends the Project on it's 29-year relationship with Nagarote and states in part:

"The Greater Norwalk area has demonstrated its caring support through service to the Nagarote community and generous donations by individuals and area businesses, and as a result of this generous support, an entire barrio has seen a sharp drop in drug and alcohol abuse, the elimination of teen gangs and a significantly reduced rate of teen pregnancy, and hundreds of severely disadvantaged Nagarote children have been able to attend school with scholarships from preschool through college."



Joan Parris, Mary Oster and Virginia Auster at the Nagarote photo exhibition in the Mayor's Art Gallery in Norwalk City Hall where Mayor Harry Rilling proclaimed Nagarote Day in Norwalk and announced the city's joining Sister Cities International.

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION COUPON

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Friend \$50 Sustaining \$200 Benefactor \$1,000 Hero \$5,000 Other \$ _____

Please make your tax deductible check payable to NNSCP and return it with this form to:

John Woyke, Treasurer, P.O. Box 382, Norwalk CT 06852 • Or use your credit card to donate on line at www.sistercityproject.org

Finally, A New Preschool Classroom

I T TOOK A WHILE, but we finally have a new classroom and library at the Smile of Darling Preschool which we lovingly support in Barrio Jeronimo Lopez in Nagarote. With enrollment at 65, one room for preschool was just not adequate even with morning and afternoon sessions.

The Holcim Cement Company, the Mayor's office, the Ministry of Education, preschool parents and our dedicated staff, pulled apart a mountain of shipping palettes and used the wood to make not only the preschool but also tables and chairs. Holcim donated the palettes as well as books for the library.

With enrollment at 65, one room for preschool was just not adequate even with morning and afternoon sessions.



The new classroom and library at the Darling Preschool. At right is part of the playground and playhouse built by the Staples students.

Special Benefit Performance

A
Little
Night Music
A Cabaret Evening of
Gifted Singers and Musicians

Sunday, November 8, 2015

245 Post Road East, Westport CT

Doors open at 6:00, music begins at 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$40

Bring food, beverage and friends

To reserve contact Tom Kretsch
203-227-1528 or kretsch@yaho.com

Teen Teams Tackle Tough Tasks

TWO JUNIORS FROM STAPLES HIGH SCHOOL in Westport, Lilly and Olivia and Lilly's mom Karen Howes, visited Nagarote in April and built a bright and exciting playground next to the preschool using recycled tires and other found materials. It was hard work, but the toddler's joy and excitement was more than enough reward.

In July, five Key Club students from Northampton High School, MA, travelled to Nagarote with board member, Joan Parris, doing the hard labor of digging kitchen gardens out of packed soil and helping to build the new preschool. They also painted a mural and enjoyed an afternoon swimming with some of the project kids at a nearby lake. They're planning a return trip next year.

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