

## In Memory of 9/11



A ceremony observing the anniversary of 9/11 will be presented by the City of Norcross on Sunday, September 11, 2011. On this date in 2001, nearly 3,000 victims died in attacks made by terrorists upon the United States. Among the 2,753 victims who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center were 343 firefighters and 60 police officers from New York City and the Port Authority, and 8 private emergency medical technicians and paramedics. Another 184 people were killed in the attack on the Pentagon. The overwhelming majority of casualties were civilians, including nationals of over 70 countries. As a Norcross resident recently observed, "This is the first time that a foreign force has attacked Americans on American soil since the attack on Pearl Harbor. We should never forget either incident and take a moment

not only to remember, but also to pray for those both here and abroad who continue to risk their own lives for our daily safety and freedom."

At 9am, during the time span when terrorists attacked, Norcross churches will ring their bells in tribute for a period of three minutes.

At 2pm, city officials and staff invite the community to join together by the flag pole outside of City Hall for a ceremony commemorating the victims of the attacks on 9/11. The ceremony will include Norcross High School JROTC Color Guard presenting the colors and a performance by the Norcross High Brass Ensemble. Bishop Sheals from Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church will give the invocation and Mayor Bucky Johnson will address the audience.

**For more information about the ceremony, please contact Cate Kitchen at the Norcross Welcome Center, 678.421.2049 or [ckitchen@norcrossga.net](mailto:ckitchen@norcrossga.net).**

**Mayor**  
Bucky Johnson

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Ross Kaul

**City Council**  
Andrew Hixson  
David McLeroy  
Craig Newton  
Charlie Riehm

**City Manager**  
Rudolph Smith

**City Clerk**  
Susan B. Wuerzner

**Deputy City Clerk**  
Monique Lang

**City Hall**  
65 Lawrenceville Street  
Norcross, GA 30071  
Mon. - Fri.  
8a.m. - 5p.m.  
770.448.2122  
Fax: 770.242.0824

## Camp Imagine delivers a great summer

BY DEBORAH HARRIS, PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR, ROBERT D. FOWLER YMCA

What a great time the kids had this summer at Camp Imagine, a City of Norcross / Robert D. Fowler Family YMCA day camp which was held in the Cultural Arts and Community Center in Historic Norcross. During the 10 week summer session, over 385 children enjoyed fun-filled days at Camp Imagine. Campers participated in a number of fun activities, including sports, creating works of art, conducting science experiments, math challenges in the computer lab, and playing in the parks, fountains and fields throughout the city.

One of the highlights this summer was a field trip to Lake Lanier on the "River Keeper's Tour". Campers went out onto the lake in a pontoon boat and participated in cool activities that included testing the water for pollutants, and viewing organisms from the lake water under a microscope. On the way back to camp, one of the campers remarked to Y staff "This was the best day of my life!"

Fowler Y and the City of Norcross have formed a strong partnership over the past few years with one goal in mind—to create a fun, educational and healthy experience for the Norcross and Peachtree Corners communities. Look for more activities for youth and adults in the coming seasons.

To see what's on the calendar, visit <http://fpy.ymcaatlanta.org> or [www.aplacetoimagine.com](http://www.aplacetoimagine.com).



Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Ross Kaul enjoys a group hug from campers at this summer's Camp Imagine.

# Norcross Art Fest – Catch it!

Norcross Art Fest is nearing fast and this year, the festivities are expanding with more art and fun for all ages! Creativity is just around the corner with 180 whimsical and colorful artisans showcasing their work throughout charming Downtown Historic Norcross. Collectors and first-



Art Fest volunteers in 2010 included (l to r) Cathy Padgett and Alice Hinterschied

timers will find imaginative folk art, jewelry, painting, photography, pottery, glasswork, metal sculpture and so much more. Norcross Art Fest 2011 truly offers enthusiastic shoppers the ideal festival experience with a backdrop of boutiques, eateries and galleries. The Norcross Art Fest is Saturday, October 1 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, October 2 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Volunteers will want to get a head start on signing up to participate, as the show promises to be a real treat. To volunteer, simply go to [www.splashfestivals.com/volunteers-0](http://www.splashfestivals.com/volunteers-0), and click on the “Volunteer” tab. Our volunteers make this celebration successful each fall season; without these incredible and gracious workers, Art Fest could not take place.

Thrasher Park will be jumping with continuous live music, and the Kidz Zone will feature the famous free arts pavilion, sand art, face painting and great rides. Tasty food and fun snacks await guests, and the local downtown restaurants will be serving up their great eats as well.

The City of Norcross hosts Norcross Art Fest, and proceeds from the Norcross Art Fest will be paid to the Norcross Lions Club for distribution to charities they graciously support. The Lions will be collecting “gently used” eyeglasses, hearing aids and cell phones. Also, there will be a box at Volunteer Check-in to collect non-perishable food items for the “CAN” DO food drive benefitting the Norcross Cooperative Ministries. The “Chairs for Charity” project will showcase decorated chairs, mailboxes and special surprises. Each school that submits a student creation(s) will receive the proceeds from the sale of the item(s).

**For more information on the festivities and artists and fun, please visit the website at <http://splashfestivals.com/norcross-art-fest>**



## CarMax Annexes into the City

City services were cited as a motivating factor for CarMax Auto Super Store’s recent annexation into Norcross. According to Economic Development Manager Rusty Warner, the dealership was attracted to the increased level of security provided by the Norcross Police Department, as well as the decrease in storm water fees and business licenses. “The city makes it very easy for businesses to get through the processes of permitting,” explained Warner. “Plus, the idea that they could increase the quality of services while decreasing costs was very appealing.”

With over 100 stores across the country, the company is listed on the FORTUNE® 500 list, and has been named one of FORTUNE’s “100 Best Companies to Work For” seven years running. “CarMax is exactly the type of company we’re looking for,” continued Warner. “They have high business principles, a great reputation for service, and a strong job base. Companies of this caliber really add to the community, as well as strengthening its economic portfolio.”

Based out of Richmond, VA, the Norcross store is located at 1975 Beaver Run Road. For more information about the business, visit [www.carmax.com](http://www.carmax.com). For more information about economic development in the City of Norcross, contact Rusty Warner at 678.421.2027 or [rwarn@norcrossga.net](mailto:rwarn@norcrossga.net).

## Experience the World in Gwinnett

Globetrotting can be a rewarding experience, but why pay travel expenses when the world is right here at your fingertips? The Gwinnett Village Community Alliance is hosting its first annual “Gateway Food & Music Festival” on September 24th. The event aims to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of Gwinnett County, while providing visitors a glimpse into the cultures that make up the fabric of local communities.

“This festival is about bringing cultures together and celebrating what makes this community so unique,” says Letycia Pastrana, executive director for the Gwinnett Village Community Alliance. “As the world continues to become more and more global, it’s time that we celebrate the fact that we can access those international experiences right here in our backyard.”

Admission is free for this all-day event. Festivities will take place in Lillian Webb Park on September 24, 10am – 10pm. Entertainment includes upscale international music and dance performances, as well as culinary delights from around the globe. The evening will culminate with the spicy sounds of Alicia Y Rumba Brava.

“The Gateway Food & Music Festival” is sponsored by the City of Norcross, AARP and the Gwinnett Village Community Improvement District.

# Pro-active approach to public safety

Police presence along Holcomb Bridge and in downtown Norcross is ramping up in response to community concerns about pedestrian and vehicular traffic in the area. Several initiatives are being introduced that will provide additional safety to people strolling through the historic commercial district and will improve adherence to stop signs and cross-walks.

"We are increasing foot patrols in the downtown area, as well as conducting more checkpoints at key areas surrounding the downtown area," said Norcross Police Department (NPD) Captain Brian Harr. "And we are making the whole downtown area a designated 'Zero Tolerance Area', which should result in making people more careful when they are traveling through town."

By carefully and regularly monitoring the effectiveness of planned initiatives, the NPD plans to improve local safety without necessarily developing a reputation for enforcement that would potentially deter visitors from traveling through the city. "The goal is to create an environment where people feel safe crossing streets and walking through downtown, so that it's a more positive experience rather than a stressful one," explained Harr.

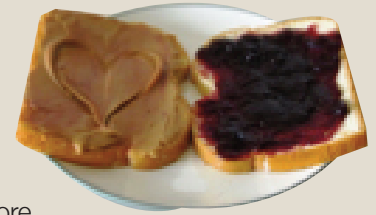
The NPD has been internationally accredited since 1997 by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) and received Flagship Awards in 2007 and 2010. This rating identifies it as one of the top 1% of the top 5% of all law-enforcement agencies in the United States. The agency has also been a State of Georgia certified agency since 2000. With programs like the community alert system Nixle, and the recently implemented Iron Sky cameras placed strategically throughout the community, the NPD takes a pro-active approach to public safety.

"Listening to community concerns and offering our support in a progressive manner is an important part of this department's strategy for maintaining a safe place for residents, businesses and visitors," added Harr.



## The City of Norcross' "CAN" do for hunger September food drive

Charitable donations have tumbled since the economic downturn began, and hunger is still a serious problem, especially with the youngest members of our community. "BACK 2 SCHOOL: SNACKS 4 KIDS" is the theme of Norcross' food drive during the month of September, focusing specifically on filling the grocery shelves at Norcross Co-op Ministry with non-perishable food that children will enjoy. With parents often needing to hold down two or more jobs to make ends meet, many kids are at home by themselves after school – for hours before dinner – sometimes with little to nothing to eat. For some, school-provided lunches are their main source of food for the day, and the weekends mean even less sustenance as they don't get the healthy meals they enjoy during the school week.



Norcross' "CAN" Do Drive for September focuses on collecting foods that children can enjoy without needing to turn on a stove. Snack items such as peanut butter, jelly, fruit cups, juice boxes, cheese/crackers, applesauce, granola bars, fruit snacks, Jell-O cups and raisins are on the list of possibilities. Think of a snack that you enjoyed as a child or something you give to your own children. Any snack type item that is non-perishable would be greatly appreciated.

There are a number of ways to support Norcross' "BACK 2 SCHOOL~SNACKS 4 KIDS" food drive. One easy way is to stop by City Hall at 65 Lawrenceville Street and drop non-perishable snack item(s) in the donation bin located in the lobby. There are also a number of businesses in the city that are supporting this drive – a list of locations is on the city website at [www.norcrossga.net](http://www.norcrossga.net) under the "Code Enforcement" link. Another easy way to help is by hosting a food drive inviting friends, neighbors, and co-workers to make a donation. If you, your civic group, work place or neighborhood would like to host a drive to support this important need, or if you need your donations picked up, contact Philomena Robertson, City of Norcross Code Enforcement Supervisor at 770-448-7327 or [probertson@norcrossga.net](mailto:probertson@norcrossga.net). Help Norcross help our kids and see that no child goes hungry.

**TOGETHER WE "CAN" MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

# Norcross Pictorial History book published

## BOOK SIGNING SEPTEMBER 10TH

Did you know that Norcross was where the first car was manufactured south of the Mason/Dixon line? Or that the famous wrestler "Mountain Man Dean" lived here in town? For over 140-year's worth of scoop, you need to read the new book *Norcross*.

Resident historians Edie Riehm and Gene Ramsay and Norcross Welcome Center Coordinator Cate Kitchen have compiled a fabulous pictorial history of Norcross that tells the story of the city from before its official founding to the late twentieth century.



Not only will you find photos of pioneer "movers and shakers", you'll also find a few more contemporary names and faces that will provide a whole new perspective on "a place to imagine".

The book is part of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series and includes over two hundred photographs that local

families have pulled from their attics and scrapbooks. Come join the authors at a Norcross History/Book Signing Event on September 10th at 7pm at the Norcross Community and Cultural Arts Center. *Norcross* will be for sale at the event and Edie, Gene, and Cate will share favorite stories from the book and will also be on hand to sign books. The book price is \$23.53 (that includes tax) and payment may be made via check or cash. A portion of the proceeds from books sold at this event will benefit the Norcross Arts Alliance and the Norcross Cluster Schools Partnership, and will help fund future projects at the Norcross Welcome Center.

**This event is sponsored by the Norcross Arts Alliance; for more information, contact Cate Kitchen at [ckitchen@norcrossga.net](mailto:ckitchen@norcrossga.net) or 678-421-2049.**

**BILLING ALERT:** Norcross' Mayor and City Council recently voted to not increase 2012 millage rates, a decision supported by City Manager Rudolph Smith. According to Mr. Smith, the city's financial status remains comfortably in the black, making any increase unnecessary. The mailing date for this year's tax bills and storm water fees is September 15, 2011. The payment due date is November 15, 2011 by 5:00pm (postmark date does not apply - they must be received at City Hall by this date). If you have any questions about your bill, please call the city administration offices at 770.448.2122.

## NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP AND RECYCLING EVENTS - START PLANNING NOW!!!

**Mark your calendar – October 15, 2011.**

**Clean-up Day, Electronics Recycling, Shredding  
Event and Paint Recycling will be available, plus a collection  
site for Norcross' "CAN" Do for Hunger Food Drive.  
Visit [www.norcrossga.net](http://www.norcrossga.net) and click under  
"code enforcement" for details!**



## Happenings

**September 2**

A1A: Original & Official Jimmy  
Buffett Tribute Show,  
7:30pm Thrasher Park

**September 10**

British Car Fayre, Downtown  
Historic Norcross, 10am – 3pm

**September 17**

Date Night Downtown, 7pm

**September 17**

Free Movie "Up", Lillian Webb  
Park, 7pm

**September 21**

Author Stuart Woods Book  
Signing, NCACC, 7pm

**September 24**

GateWay Food & Music Fest,  
Lillian Webb Park, 10am – 10pm

**For event details, visit**

**[www.aplacetoimagine.com](http://www.aplacetoimagine.com)**



## CITY NUMBERS

Business Licenses 678.421.2061

Community Center 678.421.2025

Courts & Tickets 770.448.2173

Economic Development 678.421.2023

Yard Debris Pick-up 678.421.2057

Permits & Signs 770.449.4062

Police Non-Emergency 770.448.2111

Property Tax 678.421.2061

Street Lights 678.421.2000

Streets & Paving 678.421.2018

Trash Pick-up 770.448.3447

Utilities Service 770.448.2122

PR/Downtown Manager 678.421.2033