



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

APRIL 2018



FROM LEFT: State Representatives - Tony Taylor, Pedro Martin and Tom Kirby. Norcross Mayor Craig Newton, Loganville Mayor Rey Martinez and Speaker of the House David Ralston



FROM LEFT: Norcross Mayor Craig Newton, Governor Nathan Deal, Loganville Mayor Rey Martinez and State Representative Pedro Martin

MAYOR NEWTON HONORED ON HIS HISTORIC ELECTION AT THE STATE CAPITOL

On Monday, March 12, Norcross Mayor Craig Newton was honored by Governor Nathan Deal on his historic election as Gwinnett's first African American Mayor. After a visit and pictures with the Governor in his office at the State Capitol, there was also a tour of the House. State Representatives Marin (96th), Hilton (95th), Holcomb (81st), Lopez (99th), and Collins (68th) honored Mayor Newton along with Loganville Mayor Rey Martinez (the first Hispanic mayor elected in Georgia) with a Resolution read aloud from the House floor on day 33 during the active session. Speaker Ralston concluded the recognition by bringing both mayors to the well to give his personal congratulations.

TO READ MAYOR NEWTON'S RESOLUTION IN FULL, PLEASE GO TO:

<http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20172018/173650.pdf>

Mayor: Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Andrew Hixson
City Council: Josh Bare, David McLeroy, Josh Bare, Dan Watch, Chuck Paul
City Manager: Rudolph Smith • **Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works, Utilities & Parks:** Mary Beth Bender • **City Clerk:** Monique Lang

City Hall: 65 Lawrenceville Street, Norcross, GA 30071
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
770.448.2122 | Fax: 770.242.082
www.norcrossga.net



NORCROSS POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HOST A DRUG TAKE-BACK EVENT ON APRIL 28

The Norcross Police Department will be hosting a Drug Take-Back event in front of City Hall/Police Department on April 28th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Visit www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/ for more information and check the city website for a designated drop off location.



STREET CLOSURE

Beginning late March or possibly early April, Bostic Ave will be closed to allow for the construction of the new library. Please make a note for your future travel around the city.

LAST CALL TO BE A PART OF CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY - ENROLL TODAY!

The Norcross Police Department is hosting a 10 week Citizens' Police Academy that will focus on understanding police department operations and enhance partnerships within Norcross. The Citizens' Police Academy will explain how the police department operates and why police do what they do.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Crime Prevention/Personal Safety
- Patrol Operations
- Investigations/Drugs
- Administration
- Internal Affairs/Complaints
- CPR/First Aid
- Legal Process
- HERO Unit/Traffic Stops

For an enrollment application or to request further information, you may contact the Norcross Police Department at 770.448.2111, ext. 2341 or email Sgt. Arelis Rivera at Arelis.Rivera@norcrosspd.com

WHEN:

Every Thursday evening from April 12, 2018 through June 7th, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Norcross City Hall, 2nd Floor Community Room



CITY OF NORCROSS NEW EMPLOYEES SPOTLIGHT



Lori Edelkind Assistant Court Clerk

Lori Edelkind was born in New York and moved to Georgia when she was 5 years old. She attended culinary school in San Francisco, CA and has a degree in Culinary Arts. She also has an Associates in Science with a minor in Paralegal

Studies, and is working on her next degree. In addition to holding multiple degrees, Lori has over 19 years of judicial and legal experience.

Lori has always enjoyed working with and helping people. She also has many hobbies, from traveling with her daughter to gardening and even working on cars!



Sherie Brown Receptionist / Administrative Coordinator

Sherie Brown has been a resident of Norcross for over twenty years. She has come to the City of Norcross from the City of Duluth with nine years of judicial experience. She is a student at Georgia Gwinnett College, and is majoring in Criminal Justice. She will be

furthering her education in the future by going to law school.

Sherie is excited to fulfill the Receptionist/Administrative Coordinator position for the City of Norcross. In her spare time, she enjoys attending her son's basketball games and her niece's cheerleading competitions. She loves spending time with her family, and enjoys studying and watching HGTV.



Erica Madsen, PE, LEED AP, City Engineer

Meet Erica Madsen, PE, LEED AP - Erica is a mother of two little girls, and has lived in Metro-Atlanta all her life. She graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in Civil &

Environmental Engineering and has over 12 years of experience in design and project management for community development, parks, streetscapes and LEED certified design. Her expertise lies in the environmentally efficient and economically effective design of project sites including hydrology analysis, storm water management, trail design, pedestrian and bikeway improvements, erosion control, cost estimation and value engineering.

Erica especially enjoys the "people" side of her work, helping each individual toward success in their projects, and educating the community.

Erica loves outdoor pursuits with her family and friends. On weekends, you will find her out running, hiking, mountain biking and playing at the lake. On occasion, she still chases good whitewater kayaking with her husband.



Sharon Morrow Receptionist

When you call Norcross's Department of Community Development, you'll get to meet the amazing Sharon Morrow, the new Receptionist. Born and raised in Metro Atlanta, she moved to the City of Norcross in 2009.

After retiring from Avon Products with a career in finance and time spent working with Associated Credit Union in Norcross, Sharon was afforded the opportunity to step away from the office to spend quality time with her aging Mother and 2 granddaughters in 2013. She now busily spends her spare time with family, friends and many activities.

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

NORCROSS SPOTLIGHT



The City of Norcross is kicking off the spring season with a Neighborhood Clean-up & Recycling Day on Saturday, April 14. Residents can help keep Norcross 'clean and beautiful' by bringing in documents to be securely shredded, hauling in non-hazardous bulk items and recycling electronics. During the one-day event, the City of Norcross will also be accepting canned or non-perishable goods donations for the 2018 "Can" Do for Hunger Campaign.

During the Clean-up Day, residents can bring in items that are not hazardous material to the Public Works Facility, 345 Lively Street (just off Buford Hwy) from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Clean-up event is free and open to City of Norcross residents only (proof of residency required).

The City of Norcross also asks participants to clean out their pantry and bring non-perishable food items to be donated to local food banks and given to community members in need. We are asking all participants to bring canned or non-perishable goods to support the 2018 "CAN" Do for Hunger Campaign. Donations will be accepted at each cleanup/recycling location.

For complete information, visit norcrossga.net or contact Sonya Isaac at 678.421.2027.



CITY'S TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

The City of Norcross is pleased to tell you that the city's tuition reimbursement benefit has been successful once again. On March 18th, Sergeant Johnny Veasley will have completed his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice (Minor in Homeland Security) from Liberty University. Johnny has spent the past 4 years and 9 months working diligently to obtain his degree and wanted to pass on his thanks to the City of Norcross for allowing him to achieve it.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PROPERTY TAXES/ STORM WATER FEES

NOTICE: Tax Sale is scheduled for Tuesday, July 3rd for all unpaid Property Taxes/Storm Water Fees.

Please contact the Tax Office at 770-448-2122 to make payment on all past due taxes and fees prior to 10 a.m. on July 3rd.

PAUL DUKE: A NEW KIND OF HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT ABOUT PAUL DUKE?

Paul Duke STEM High School is the first cluster theme school in Gwinnett County Public Schools, and it is positively different from other schools. But first, let's see how it's similar. Like other traditional high schools as well as the Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science and Technology, Paul Duke offers all of a student's core academic and elective experiences, from Language Arts and Mathematics to Fine Arts and Physical Education. As a comprehensive high school, students are able to be served at the appropriate level of rigor ranging from Advanced Placement (AP) to the standard college preparatory level.

Now let's delve into those differences, shall we?

First, as an innovative high school designed to provide a technology focused STEM experience, Paul Duke STEM High School has a unique mission and vision, which allows them to be more focused and intentional than other high schools. A focus on technology provides students with extraordinary learning experiences that prepare them for success after graduation. For example, all students learn basic computer programming, how to design a website, how to create digital media, app development for mobile devices, and basic robotics because these are high tech skills that prepare students to be more successful in college and careers regardless of whether this future is in a STEM field or not.

Secondly, Paul Duke has a different attendance model from other schools. As a theme school, they are a school of choice, and therefore do not have an exclusive attendance zone. All students that reside in the Norcross cluster are allowed to select between Paul Duke STEM High School and Norcross High School based on which school would be the best fit for them. The school district provides transportation to the students, so there is nothing to hold back families' ability to choose either school.

Finally, the design of Paul Duke's teaching and learning experience sets them apart from other schools. After studying STEM high schools across the region and country for several years, they designed the experience at Paul Duke STEM to provide students with the opportunity to learn all the essential knowledge and skills expected in Gwinnett County Schools, the technology skills necessary for success in the future, and the relevant experiences that prepare students



for success in college and careers. It is very similar to a college experience in that learning is emphasized through traditional classroom and lab experiences, online learning environment, and internships. Their schedule is further designed to give students the flexibility to do their learning in a digital format every Friday either at school or from home.

WHAT'S THE IDEAL STUDENT FOR PAUL DUKE?

The ideal student for Paul Duke STEM High School is a student that is passionate about technology and/or STEM careers. Paul Duke STEM is an ideal fit for students looking to prepare themselves for success in postsecondary education, regardless of the pathway. Like most schools, Paul Duke has students with various strengths and they aim to teach each and every one of them in a way that maximizes their success and engages them in STEM industries. The ideal student for Paul Duke STEM is truly a student that wants to approach their learning experience in math, science and engineering through the application of technology.

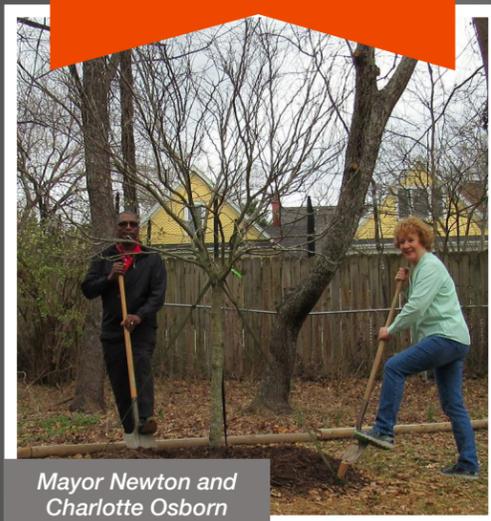
Meet Principal Jonathan Wetherington!

Before being named principal, I served as the Director of Science in Gwinnett County Public Schools for 6 years where I worked collaboratively to help develop and strengthen STEM education in individual schools, the district level, and the state level. As Science Director, I also led the Gwinnett Regional Science and Engineering Fair, which is the largest Science and Engineering Fair in the state. I believe that core academic knowledge, motivation and engagement are the key ingredients for student success.

BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES PAUL DUKE STEM MASCOT!

The Paul Duke STEM Trailblazers will be blazing trails through Norcross and beyond very soon.

NORCROSS IN THE KNOW



Mayor Newton and Charlotte Osborn

ARBOR DAY RECAP

The Norcross Tree Preservation Board celebrated Georgia Arbor Day at Johnson-Dean Forest Park with our Mayor Craig Newton, Councilman Josh Bare and his family, members of the Norcross Garden Club and tree lovers of our community at Johnson-Dean Forest Park on February 16th. A beautiful redbud tree, provided by Blake Manton, was planted at the park by his crew (with finishing touches by Mayor Newton and Charlotte Osborn) in honor of Arbor Day. Norcross - we love our trees!



THIS MONTH A LIONHEART

Don't Dress for Dinner (Fun comedy romp involving mistaken identities, mistresses and dinner)

March 30 - April 15

Fridays & Saturdays 7:30 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m.

Awkward Selfies (Improv/Sketch Comedy Group)

April 21, Two Shows: 5 p.m. Family Friendly

7:30 p.m. (18+)

Drama Camp Registration now open for ages 4 and up. Low-cost Camps include acting, singing, dancing, improv and & creative fun each week in June.

For more information or to buy tickets visit www.lionhearttheatre.org/buy-tickets



The farmers market Opening Day for season three is Saturday June 2: Shop at the Norcross Community Market starting Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The season will run every Saturday in June, July and August from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lillian Webb Park. Help bring farm, food and friends together at this special community venue.

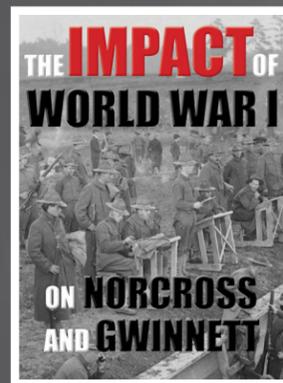


ADULT PROGRAMMING EVENT

Rick Bragg is a Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times bestselling author of *All Over But the Shoutin'*, *The Prince of Frogtown*, *Jerry Lee Lewis: His Own Story* and more. Bragg is back with a new memoir/cookbook titled *The Best Cook in the World: Tales from my Momma's*

Table. A loving tribute to his mother, this book allows the reader/cook to enjoy Bragg family recipes for classic southern dishes passed down through generations. Hosted by the Gwinnett County Public Library, meet Rick Bragg Friday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norcross Cultural Arts and Community Center, 10 College Street, Norcross, GA 30071. A wine bar, silent auction and free recipe sampling will be available as well as books for purchasing and signing. Free and open to the public.

For more information, please call 770.978.5154 or visit www.gwinnettpl.org.



THE IMPACT OF WORLD WAR I ON NORCROSS AND GWINNETT

part of the Gwinnett Bicentennial Celebration

A long-time tour guide for Atlanta's Fox Theater and present-day guide for visitors to Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery, Gene Ramsay KNOWS history. A Norcross resident of 10 years, that love of the past has afforded Gene many opportunities to explore historical endeavors locally, like co-authoring a pictorial history of our fair city, *Images of America: Norcross*, and guiding an annual tour of the Norcross City Cemetery. So it's no surprise another of Gene's endeavors, research into the impact of World War I on Norcross and Gwinnett County, has become an exhibit that will be displayed in Norcross this spring!

The exhibit will focus on Camp Gordon, a major army training base that was located in nearby Chamblee; the associated rifle range where the soldiers there received training in Norcross; and a cross-section of veterans from Norcross and Gwinnett County who served in the war.

The exhibit, *Impact of WWI on Norcross and Gwinnett County*, will open on Sunday, April 8, at The Rectory. The Opening Reception (at 2:30 p.m. in the Norcross Cultural Arts Center) will include remarks by Gene himself! *Impact of WWI on Norcross and Gwinnett County* is part of the year-long Gwinnett Bicentennial Celebration, which culminates on December 18, 2018.



NORCROSS GARDEN CLUB

April 20-21 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Norcross Garden Club Annual Plant Sale & Brown Bag Raffle

Saturday Bluebird Program at 11 a.m.
Location: Norcross Garden Club, 33 College Street



WALKING FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

Weekend walking group meets 8 a.m. (new time starting 4/1) at Thrasher Park Pavilion



FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT

APRIL 6, 2018 | JOHN BURKE AND THE SUPERSTRATUM BAND
7-9 p.m. with doors opening at 6 p.m.
Norcross Community Center

Food and drinks are welcome! Call 678.421.2048/2049 to make your reservation. Tables will be held until 7:15 p.m. After that, they will be given away.

DISCOVERY GARDEN PARK WORKSHOP

Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m.

Grab your favorite bowl or planter and bring your garden indoors! Join local floral and garden designer, Mary Delia Poynter, as she leads a hands-on potted orchid and fern composition class. Cost of class \$65 and includes instruction, the orchid, ferns, willow to stake orchid, moss, soil, supplies and light bites. Just bring your own container and beverage of choice!

Fee: \$65, RSVP to deb.ndgp@gmail.com

HAPPY HOUR IN THE GARDEN

Thursday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Grab your partners and friends and head to the Discovery Garden to tour the garden and mingle with friends old & new. Please bring an adult beverage or an appetizer to share. Free community fun!

Discovery Garden Park, 189 Lawrenceville St.
Free - RSVP to Deb - deb.ndgp@gmail.com

CITY OF NORCROSS TRUCK REGULATIONS

The City of Norcross has several “No Truck” roads/zones. These include all roadways into the downtown area. These locations are marked as prohibited access to trucks via signage, and in some cases, flashing amber lights.

The gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) limit restriction begins at 13,000 pounds and a length restriction of thirty-feet (30'). At no time can a truck larger than that cross the railroad tracks in downtown Norcross. All three applicable crossings (Autry St, Holcomb Bridge, Jones/Park St) are marked with “No Truck” signs. These “No Truck” crossings are enforced at all times and include local delivery trucks also rated the same or larger.

If making a delivery in the downtown area, drivers must use the most direct route in and out, never crossing the downtown railroad tracks. The most direct route is the passable roadways which are the shortest distance to and from the delivery location. This may require the driver go around the City on truck-permitted roads to reach a destination nearer the opposite end of the City.

No truck is permitted to come into the downtown area if not making a delivery and no truck may use the downtown area as a cut through for deliveries elsewhere.

FINANCIAL/SECURITY TIPS FROM THE NORCROSS POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Sign up for free credit monitoring.
2. Limit ATM usage, due to new smaller and advanced credit card skimmers. Whenever possible go conduct banking transactions inside with a teller.
3. Place a security freeze on your social security number with all three credit bureaus.
4. Record all serial numbers for appliances, tools, etc. Consider taking a photo of them to store as a file in your email.
5. Double check vehicle before parking that doors are locked and no valuables are visible in the vehicle.
6. Install firewalls and virus-detection software on your home computer.
7. Place a hold on mail when you will be away from home for an extended period of time.
8. Shred old credit cards, receipts, credit offers and account statements.

2018 EVENT CALENDAR

APRIL

4/6 First Friday Concert -
John Burke and Superstratum
Norcross Community Center, 7-9 p.m.
Call for a reservation 678.421.4028/4029

4/9 Movie Monday, Hacksaw Ridge
Norcross Community Center, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

4/14 Norcross Neighborhood Clean-Up
and Recycling Day - Spring 2018,
Various Times and Locations

4/23 Movie Monday, The Zookeeper's Wife
Norcross Community Center, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

4/20-21 Norcross Garden Club
Annual Plant Sale & Brown Bag Raffle,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

4/22 Discovery Garden Park Workshop,
3 -4 p.m., Fee \$65
RSVP to deb.ndgp@gmail.com

4/26 Happy Hour in the Garden,
Discovery Garden Park, 6:30 p.m.

4/28 Atlanta Track Singleton Race,
Thrasher Park

WEEKEND WALKING GROUP

Meets 8 a.m. (new time starting 4/1)
at Thrasher Park Pavilion