



# A PLACE TO IMAGINE

JANUARY 2019

## FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS - JANUARY THROUGH MAY

2018 may be over, but Norcross entertainment sure isn't! First Friday Concerts are still going strong in the Cultural Arts & Community Center. Come 'get down' with the sounds of jazz, rock, Motown and more on the 'First Friday' of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. It all starts with the smooth jazz of Luis Alas y La Calle Ocho Funk on January 4th!

Seating is limited, so reserve yours now by calling 678-421-2049. Feel free to bring your own food and favorite beverages, or make it a perfect night on the town with dinner to go from one of the great downtown Norcross restaurants.



### JANUARY 4: LUIS ALAS Y LA CALLE OCHO FUNK

A smooth jazz group that incorporates Latin Rhythms and Funk into its style.



### MARCH 1: XTREME PARTY BAND

A dynamic multi-genre band consisting of a 6 piece ensemble of male and female vocals, sax, keys, drums, bass and lead guitar. Covering everything from Motown to Beach, 70's, 80's, 90's, POP, Classic Rock, R&B, Blues and 'THE NOW HITS.'



### APRIL 5: CHI-TOWN TRANSIT AUTHORITY

A high-octane show celebrating the music of the Rock Group Chicago.



### FEBRUARY 1: BROWN DOG BAND

Atlanta's premier Rhythm & Blues band for fans of Classic Blues.



### MAY 3: EMERALD EMPIRE BAND

A high-energy band focused on getting you up and out on the dance floor with music including Rock, Dance, Old School, Jazz, Funk and Motown.

**Mayor:** Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Andrew Hixson  
**City Council:** Josh Bare, David McLeroy, 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](http://www.norcrossga.net)

# Toasty TOES & Cozy COATS



We are so thankful to have a community of such giving hearts. All together we collected 24 coats and 134 pairs of socks for the Norcross Co-Op, but don't let that stop you from continuing to give--the campaign is ongoing! As the weather gets colder in these winter months, please remember those that need help and drop off coats and socks at Public Works when you bring by your glass for recycling.

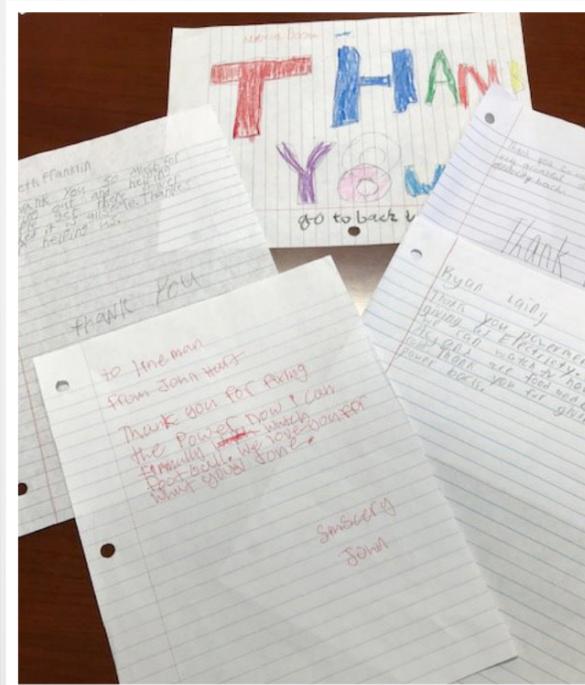
**HELP A FELLOW NEIGHBOR OUT - DONATE COATS AND SOCKS TODAY!**

## SUSTAINABLE NORCROSS SEEKS BOARD MEMBER – LET'S KEEP NORCROSS PLATINUM

Are you a youth seeking a connection to the community? Are you bilingual? Or, are you a person interested in the idea of assisting a community maintain its Platinum Green Cities certification? The Sustainable Norcross Commission has a seat opening for you. If interested, please continue reading a few of the benefits and consider submitting an application:

- Meet once a month – second Wednesday 6 p.m. at City Hall
- Assist city staff with achieving Bike and Walk Friendly national recognition certifications
- Advise City of Norcross employees, Mayor and Council on maintaining and improving activities related to sustainability
- Promote volunteerism

Simply visit the [norcrossga.net](http://norcrossga.net) website and search for Board and Commission Application. Follow directions provided in paperwork. Questions about the position can be addressed to [info@sustainablenorcross.net](mailto:info@sustainablenorcross.net).



## NORCROSS POWER RECEIVES APPRECIATION FROM CITY OF ALBANY

Norcross Power linemen received letters of appreciation from local children while helping the City of Albany during Hurricane Michael. These thank you letters were on their hotel beds each evening when they came in from 16 hour days. Thanks Norcross Power for all you do for Norcross!



## JOIN OUR TEAM

Hey Norcross! Looking for a way to better impact your city? Come work for us! We have many immediate positions available, so check out the HR page on our website: <http://norcrossga.net/Jobs.aspx>

## DRAFT NORCROSS 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The draft Norcross Comprehensive Plan is now available for review! The plan and the technical addendum can be accessed at [www.imagineourfuture.org](http://www.imagineourfuture.org).

The public is now welcome to visit the plan page, view both documents and provide comments via that page directly to the planning team. In addition, a paper copy is available at City Hall for review and comment by the public.

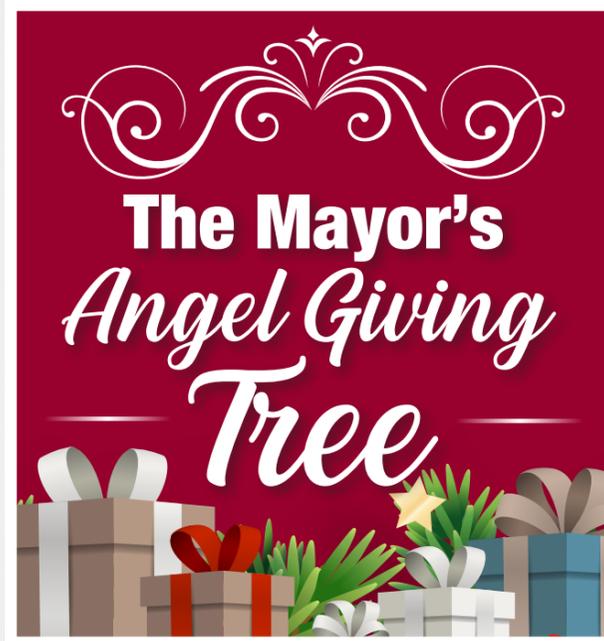


## GEORGIA WALKS SUMMIT - MARK YOUR CALENDAR: THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

The 2019 Georgia Walks Summit is the fourth annual statewide gathering of transportation and public health professionals, elected officials and community advocates committed to making our streets and communities great places to walk. We're thrilled to announce that this year Norcross will be co-hosting the event with Peachtree Corners!

For more information visit, [www.peds.org/georgia-walks-summit/](http://www.peds.org/georgia-walks-summit/)





## MAYOR'S ANGEL GIVING TREE

The mayor's first ever Angel Giving Tree was an unqualified success! With your help we supported 22 families from the Norcross location of Sheltering Arms, which statewide provides high-quality early education, childcare and comprehensive family support services to more than 3,600 children and their families annually.

We look forward to next year and expanding our reach to include many more organizations and charities to lend a helping hand during the holiday season!

### FROM MAYOR CRAIG NEWTON:

*"It brought me great pleasure to have our first annual Angel Giving Tree! This initiative assists local families that are struggling to provide Christmas for their families, while spreading the true meaning of Christmas throughout our community. So glad we were able to help these families for the holiday season."*



## NORCROSS HAS MOXIE!

Created as a day to celebrate great women, the Gwinnett Chamber recently developed an exciting new program that recognizes women to watch and the outstanding organizations with which they are engaged.

The Moxie Awards, as they are called, recognized a great many names who have and continue to benefit the City of Norcross in many ways.

These awards provide an opportunity to bring to mind all the women who provide invaluable talent and leadership to boards, organizations and businesses throughout our city.

We encourage you to check out our full write-up about them on the homepage of our website, [www.norcrossga.net](http://www.norcrossga.net).

## IT'S A NEW YEAR FOR DOING BUSINESS IN NORCROSS!

We'd like to extend a special welcome to some of our newest local businesses--make sure to drop in and say hello!

- Advanced Disposal (long-time partner, but newly annexed in city limits!)
- Boga Latin Cuisine
- Caduceus USA
- Carolee's
- Haggard Home Kitchen & Bath Design Studio
- Juicy Crawfish
- Office Creations
- Quickly Color
- And many more!



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**"Now that you have joined the Norcross team, what are you most excited about?"**



### STEVEN SHEPARD IT MANAGER

"I have been thankful to have been a part of the Norcross team thus far for almost four years. I am very grateful for the recent promotion and am looking forward to bringing a fresh look to the IT Department but, to also continue bringing the same great support that our employees have grown accustomed to."



### NIKI GRAHAM, MHRM, PHR, SHRM-CP, CHRMP, HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

"I'm excited to be a part of a team that wants to succeed for its employees and citizens. It's a rewarding opportunity to make a difference and an impact on those I serve, and for that I'm grateful."

## NORCROSS 2019 PLANS

BY: MAYOR CRAIG NEWTON

The city of Norcross is certainly on the move with big plans for 2019. We have several major projects in process, including others soon to be announced. Alliance Residential's Broadstone Norcross project, The Kelly at Historic Norcross, as well as the Gateway Ventures LLP project, along with the LiveNorcross initiative are part of our overall plan to increase housing options here in Norcross.

Expanding access to parks and greenspace is essential in providing recreation and a sense of place in our city. Completion of park projects like the Pinnacle Park in east Norcross, Veterans' Park, LCI greenway and trail development, enhancements to Johnson Dean Park and Phase 2 of the Discovery Garden Park are all very much in our view.

People and businesses relocate and remain here because of our parks, family-oriented events, walkability, quality restaurants and shops in an authentic historic Downtown, along with entertainment and access to interstate transportation and the fact that our city is safe and clean – all contributing to an appealing quality of life. These features help to define and distinguish us from other cities. To increase our economic viability and vitality in our Downtown, we must expand our city center. The area on the south end of our Downtown is the one and only pocket of under-developed property in downtown Norcross. We will look for opportunities to attract a quality development with a focus on sustainability on this site.

Revitalization and redevelopment within the Buford Highway corridor and toward East Norcross will be made more of a real possibility, once connectivity with this project is underway and surrounding property owners see the value in enhancing their property. Additional outside capital investment is also anticipated to be directed toward projects within designated Federal Opportunity Zone areas of the City.

Envisioning outside the sphere of our Downtown area, we will continue to encourage high-wage, technology-oriented businesses into our city. We have done that with FedEx, Hyundai and others. Staff are making concerted efforts to attract new businesses, in addition to retaining and expanding current businesses.

The City will also continue to support our local schools, including our most recent addition – the Paul Duke STEM High School. Fostering individual, organizational, and business engagements with our schools will make meaningful and lasting impacts on our students and future workforce! Norcross continues to be a place to imagine!

# ✓ IN THE KNOW



## NORCROSS *Night to Remember*

**FEBRUARY 14,  
DOWNTOWN NORCROSS**

Downtown Norcross restaurants will be offering romance specials for those who would like to wine and dine their significant other. Whether you would like to dine al fresco under the stars or enjoy the warmth of a candlelit dinner inside one of our unique bistros, the restaurants of downtown Norcross have the perfect ambiance for a romantic evening.

If you are looking for the perfect gift for the one you love, you won't have to look far. While you are meandering through the romantic streets of downtown Norcross, you may find yourself doing more than just "window shopping." Shops of one-of-a-kind antiques, boutique apparel, whimsical home and garden accessories, original artwork and custom fine jewelry will open your heart and wallet to the unique treasures offered by the assortment of merchants in Norcross.

## WHO NEEDS A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Many people make resolutions at the beginning of a new year, but not the Walking Group of Norcross. The group has been walking since August 2016 and continues to meet each Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 a.m. rain or shine, hot or cold. If interested, the group meets at Thrasher Park pavilion area.

For more information, please contact Jolyn Barrow at [susnorbp@gmail.com](mailto:susnorbp@gmail.com).



# SPARKLE! CELEBRATION

The Sparkle Celebration once again lit up the nights of Downtown Norcross! The event included carriage rides, photos with Santa, a Christmas tree lighting in the park, holiday entertainment, Mayor's motocade and more, between Dec 4th and 21st. Thank you for making Norcross sparkle this holiday season! Bring on the new year!



## JOE WATKINS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

We want to give a huge shout out to Joe Watkins who has been providing carriage rides for the City of Norcross for 20 years. Thank you for your service!



### EUGENIO DERBEZ ANNA FARIS OVERBOARD ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK



## MOVIE MONDAYS FOR JANUARY

JANUARY 14: BOOK CLUB

JANUARY 28: OVERBOARD

Free movie showing at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Norcross Community Center. Free popcorn and drinks.



## INTRODUCING THE “SENIORS CORNER!”

As part of our Age-Friendly Community Initiative, we’ve developed a new page on NorcrossGa.net to serve as a hub of information and resources for our local seniors. Access to the Senior’s Corner is available under Popular Links on the homepage.

The city council and staff have made a strong commitment to actively work toward making our city a great place for all ages, and this is one step in that direction, so stay tuned for more exciting news about upcoming initiatives and programs!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JANUARY 4:** First Friday Concert - **Luis Alas and La Calle Ocho Funk Band**, Norcross Community Center, 7 - 9 p.m. *Seating is limited, so reserve yours now by calling 678-421-2049*

**JANUARY 5:** Awkward Selfies Improv at Lionheart Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

**JANUARY 14:** Movie Monday - **Book Club**, Norcross Community Center, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

**JANUARY 18:** Sketchworks Original Show Vape (A Grease Parody) at Lionheart Theatre 7:00 & 9:00 p.m

**JANUARY 28:** Movie Monday - **Overboard**, Norcross Community Center, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 1:** First Friday Concert - **Brown Dog Band**, Norcross Community Center, 7 - 9 p.m., *Seating is limited, so reserve yours now by calling 678-421-2049*

**FEBRUARY 8:** Valentine’s Father/Daughter Dance, Norcross Community Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 14:** Norcross Valentine’s Night Out, Downtown Norcross, 5 - 9 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 14-17:** Lionheart presents Pie In The Sky by Lawrence Thelen 7:30 p.m. on Thursday-Saturday; Sunday - 2 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 15- MARCH 11:** Arbitrary Echoes Art Exhibit - A Reflection of the World Around Us, Artist from the Echo Gallery and Artist Colony, Opening Reception Feb. 15th, The Rectory, 6 - 8 p.m.



For more event information: [www.aplacetoimagine.com](http://www.aplacetoimagine.com)