



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

FEBRUARY 2019



TIME TO SHOW THE LOVE!

City of Norcross to Host Valentine-Themed Evenings with Father-Daughter Dance, Carriage Rides, Free Vow Renewals and More

FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

Dads and their girls are invited to a Father-Daughter Dance hosted by the City of Norcross! The event will be February 8 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Norcross Cultural Arts & Community Center, and is open to the public though RSVP is required (visit aplacetoimagine.com). Fathers and father figures can treat the little lady in their lives to an evening of dancing, light appetizers and drinks. Make memories that will last a lifetime as you dance the night away to music provided by a DJ who will be playing songs everyone will enjoy. The event is intended for young ladies between the ages of 5-12.

CARRIAGE RIDES

Your chariot awaits! New this year, we have extended our free carriage ride service to include

the weekend before Valentine's so that all of you lovebirds can have more time to share a special moment together. Climb aboard in front of Taste of Britain between 6:00 and 8:30 p.m. on February 8 and 9!

NORCROSS: A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

With endless options for a romantic outing, an evening spent in Downtown Norcross promises to be a Night to Remember! The streets of historic Norcross provide the perfect romantic backdrop for a Valentine's celebration with its charm and bistro-lined streets. On February 14th from 5-9 p.m., the city is pulling out all the stops for those with love in their eyes. Cozy up in a carriage ride and enjoy being serenaded by a traveling barber shop quartet and take

an opportunity to look in your significant others eyes to renew the vows you exchanged on your wedding day. You can also take a romantic photo, all at no charge. And if that doesn't meet your idea of a night out with your sweetie, Downtown Norcross restaurants will be offering romance specials for those who would like to wine and dine their significant other.

Let the City of Norcross and its downtown merchants cast a romantic spell over you and enjoy all that our captivating city has to offer. We look forward to seeing you and hope you fall more in love with your sweetheart (and the city's downtown merchants)!

Please note that the carriage ride pick-up location will be at Taste of Britain, 73 S Peachtree Street and the photo booth will be stationed on 45 South Peachtree Street.

Mayor: Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Andrew Hixson
City Council: Josh Bare, Elaine Puckett, 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



GEORGIA WALKS SUMMIT

Norcross + Peachtree Corners | March 7-8, 2019

FOURTH ANNUAL GEORGIA WALKS SUMMIT

Norcross and Peachtree Corners are co-hosting the Fourth Annual Georgia Walks Summit on March 7-8, which is a statewide gathering of transportation and public health professionals, elected officials and community advocates committed to making our streets and communities great places to walk. GWS is sponsored by the PEDS organization, a "small advocacy group who goes the extra mile to inspire changes that make communities in Georgia great places to walk." This year's Georgia Walks Summit boasts several well-known speakers including Chuck Marohn, Nisha Botchwey, and Ellen Dunham-Jones as well as several mobile workshops including a walking tour of historic Norcross led by none other than Historic Planning Commission Chair Gene Ramsay, Welcome Center/Downtown Manager Cate Kitchen and Community Development Director Tracy Rye.

For more information and to register, visit www.peds.org/georgia-walks-summit/

ARBOR DAY 2019 WILL BE CELEBRATED ON FEBRUARY 15TH

Community partners, families and friends will be joined together as The City of Norcross, along with the Tree Preservation Board celebrate Arbor Day with a Tree Planting at Discovery Garden at 10:00 a.m. on February 15th.

Some of the benefits of trees include cleaning the air we breathe, keeping our homes and offices cool, increasing our homes value, treating water pollution, reducing stormwater runoff and capturing air pollution.



TRANSIT VOTE IS COMING NEXT MONTH – HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Are you familiar with the proposed plans for MARTA in Gwinnett County? A referendum in March will decide the fate of a transit expansion in the Gwinnett County area, and as Gwinnett residents your vote counts!

See a full summary of the proposed project on the homepage of norcrossga.net so you can help make an informed decision.

AVALANCHE CONSULTING COMPLETES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC MARKETING PLAN AND TARGET INDUSTRY REPORT

In the summer of 2018, the Department of Economic Development contracted Avalanche Consulting, a Texas-based marketing and consulting firm, to assist the department in obtaining a deeper understanding of local and regional markets and to identify growth opportunities. From August 14th-15th consultants Toni DeLisi and Marian Kansas visited Norcross to hold a series of focus groups to gather the thoughts and opinions of residents, city officials, and Gwinnett County leaders about the city's assets, strengths, and challenges.

The company has concluded both a Strategic Marketing Plan and a Target Industry Report to help the economic development department to target marketing and business recruitment efforts. They also provided some suggested messaging and marketing strategies for internal, external and regional audiences.

Some of the findings and recommendations Avalanche made include:

- Industries the City should target: Technology and Innovation, Professional & Business Services, and Culture and Creative
- Job growth in Norcross is outpacing both Gwinnett County and metro Atlanta
- Norcross is a high-wage employment destination
- Norcross has a highly competitive geographic position for logistics and distribution
- Norcross offers a relatively competitive tax environment and affordable utilities
- Various marketing strategies for internal, external, and regional audiences

With a more defined path forward, the economic development staff is now preparing to implement the recommendations. The intended outcomes of executing the plans will be to add more jobs, grow the local economy, and make the city more competitive and attractive to those who would like to live, work, and play in the city of Norcross.

The City extends a sincere 'thank you' to all who participated in group and individual discussions that provided valuable insight into charting our course forward.



CITY COUNCIL PASSES RESOLUTION FOR NEW INITIATIVE

The City of Norcross has recently announced an initiative to bring a neighboring portion of unincorporated Gwinnett County into the city through the process of annexation. It includes much of the area between Buford Highway, Jimmy Carter Boulevard, I-85, and the western Gwinnett County line. If approved by the state legislature and public referendum, this annexation would help residents, businesses, and the City work together to ensure the growth of this area aligns with our values as a livable, diverse community. For more information about the vision, process, and impacts or to submit a question, visit www.joinnorcrossga.net.



ADA COMPLIANCE FOR TRIP HAZARD REPAIR

We're always working to improve Downtown Norcross, and we're excited to have this work completed in time for a fresh new year!

HOLCOMB BRIDGE ROAD RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Visit www.norcrossga.net for more information

The City of Norcross would like to notify residents and visitors that the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation will begin preliminary work for the Holcomb Bridge Road Railroad Crossing Improvement Project. Upon completion of preliminary work, road closures are projected to begin in late February to allow for major grading and other work. The project is expected to be complete in late May 2019. During the construction process, drivers are advised to be patient, cautious, informed and aware. All construction work and estimated timelines are weather permitting.

City of Norcross residents, businesses and visitors may experience minor traffic inconveniences due to the construction and the subsequent detour. During the construction period, the intersection of Thrasher St. and Holcomb Bridge Road will be closed. After construction is completed, merchants and customers will benefit from improved vehicular travel over the railroad tracks and improved driver sight distance at the intersection. During this time, please support our local shops and restaurants in the downtown area. Thank you for your patience.



Holcomb Bridge Rd



N. Peachtree St.

Thrasher St. NW

Thrasher St. NW

Thrasher Park



The Crossing Steakhouse

Wingo St. NW



S. Peachtree St.

Jones St. NW



Dominick's



Mojitos



City Hall

Lawrenceville St. NW

KEY



EASTBOUND



WESTBOUND

Holcomb Bridge Rd

IN THE KNOW



MOVIE MONDAYS FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 11: JUSTICE LEAGUE

BONUS - FEBRUARY 18: MARSHALL
In honor of Black History Month

FEBRUARY 25: I FEEL PRETTY

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



FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS

FEBRUARY 1: BROWN DOG BAND

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

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.'

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.

February 15 - March 11

Arbitrary ECHOES

A Reflection of the World Around Us

Artists from the Echo Gallery and Artist Colony

**OPENING RECEPTION FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
THE RECTORY, 6 - 8 P.M.**

Call 678.421.2049 for more information.

IRISH FEST NORCROSS IS BACK - SAVE THE DATE!

MARCH 16 | 11 AM - 5 PM

Irish Whiskey Tastings, Taste of Britain's Irish Brunch, 2 hour concert featuring Brynmor (A Celtic Rock Band) AND MORE!



NEW THIS YEAR - FREE CARRIAGE RIDES

Your chariot awaits! New this year, we have extended our free carriage ride service to include the weekend before Valentine's so that all of you lovebirds can have more time to share a special moment together. Climb aboard in front of Taste of Britain, 73 S Peachtree St, Norcross, GA 30071, between 6:00 and 8:30 p.m. on February 8 and 9!



2019 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES TABLE SALE ON MARCH 4

The Summer Concert Series table sale will begin on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 9 a.m. The rule is the same as last year, Norcross residents who purchase all eight concerts will have the first shot between 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. After 11 a.m., it will be open to the general public.

Individual Concerts, Table of 6 - \$60 each concert
Individual Concerts, Table of 8 - \$70 each concert

Check out www.aplacetoimagine.com for the complete 2019 concert line-up.

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.

Simply visit the 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.

ARIKA BIRDSONG-MILLER: DEPUTY CITY CLERK



Arika has joined us from the City of Lithonia where she was the City Clerk. She loves the beach and is a foodie.

"I am ecstatic to join the City of Norcross and I look forward to meeting all of my new co-workers!"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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., *RSVP required at www.aplacetoimagine.com*

FEBRUARY 8-9: Free Carriage Rides, Downtown Norcross, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 11: Movie Monday: **Justice League**, Norcross Community Center, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.

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

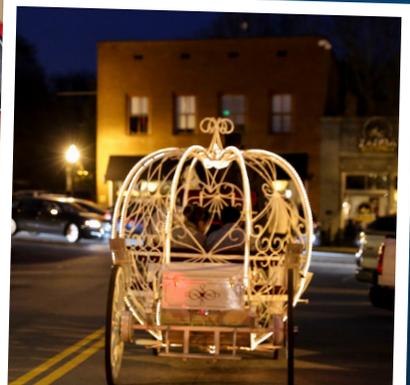
FEBRUARY 15 - MARCH 11:

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.

FEBRUARY 15: Arbor Day, Discovery Garden Park, 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY 18: Special Black History Month Movie Showing, **Marshall**, Norcross Community Center, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 25: Movie Monday - **I Feel Pretty**, Norcross Community Center, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.



For more event information: www.aplacetoimagine.com