



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 2019



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m. | Thrasher Park

Join us for the traditional lighting of the Christmas tree in Thrasher Park! Let there be light! The City of Norcross will once again be honored to have Norcross resident Steven Howington officially light the Christmas tree. For over 30 years, Howington, who has Down Syndrome, has lit our tree.

ENTERTAINMENT

In addition to the annual choir performance from Norcross First United Methodist Church, Atlanta Dance Exchange will also be performing for us this year at 5:30 on the Thrasher Park stage.

SANTA'S ARRIVAL

Santa Claus is coming to Norcross in his big red... firetruck? Be there to greet his arrival, then follow him to his workshop in the park where he will be busy checking his list and taking photos with all the good little boys and girls.

HOT COCOA, S'MORES AND MORE!

Enjoy free hot cocoa and cookies (while supplies last) courtesy of the Norcross Masonic Lodge and the Norcross Lions Club, and s'mores courtesy of the City of Norcross. "Polar Express" will be playing on the big screen while you wait in line to meet Santa, and a local group of Disney princess performers (as well as the one, the only, The Grinch) will also be on hand to add to the Christmas magic.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA AND CARRIAGE RIDES

Dec. 3 - 20 (Tues/Wed/Fri) from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

We hope you have been nice this year because Santa himself will be visiting downtown Norcross! You can catch him at 45 South Café on South Peachtree Street for a free photo. Also, carriage rides will be dashing through Norcross in the month of December, boarding in front of Taste of Britain. Joe Watkins has provided carriage rides to the city for the past 20 years—come be a part of a Norcross Christmas Tradition!



MORE HOLIDAY EVENTS
ON PAGES 6-8!

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

MAYOR'S MOTORCADE

The City of Norcross is holding its annual giving campaign with the Georgia Mayors' Motorcade, and is asking for your help to make the holiday season special for residents of the state's mental health hospitals! For 60 years, cities across Georgia have participated in the Mayors' Motorcade, bringing the joy of the holiday season to patients all over the state, many of whom have lived in these hospitals for most of their lives and have little, if any, contact with friends or family. Without the motorcade, many patients would go without any type of gift or recognition during the holidays.

During this holiday season, please consider providing the gift of sharing and caring. Donations may be delivered Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to Public Works and City Hall, or 24/7 to the Police Station. Norcross residents or business owners may also call for pickup of donations no later than December 9th.

Simply contact: Melissa Zeigler at melissa.zeigler@norcrossga.net or Torrence Jackson at torrence.jackson@norcrossga.net. You may also call 678.421.2069.

DONATE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN DINNER WITH THE MAYOR!

Include your name and phone number with your donation to enter.
If you have already donated and wish to enter,
call Melissa Zeigler at 678-421-2031 to enter.

GIFT LIST EXAMPLES

PLEASE REMEMBER, MOST PATIENTS ARE ADULTS

CLOTHING:

(M - 4XL Women; M - 3XL Men) Jeans/Pants, T-shirts, Sweaters, Shorts, Long Sleeve Polo Shirts, Gloves, Winter Hats, Baseball Caps (No Metal), Socks/Underwear/Bras (No Underwire), Sport Bras, Pajamas (Men & Women), Slippers / Shower Shoes

Please note: We are in particular need of men's pants, any size.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:

Shampoo/Conditioner, Body Wash, Body Lotion, Deodorant (No Aerosol or Spray Cans), Toothpaste, Shaving Cream, Elastic Hair Bands (No Metal Pieces)

MISCELLANEOUS GIFTS:

Drawing Pads/Composition Books (No Wire Bound), Stationary, Radios (No Antennas, No Hanging Straps), Playing Cards, Calling Cards, Puzzles, Word Search/Crossword Books, Watches (No Metal), Wallets (Men & Women; No Metal Zippers)

UNIT/PROGRAMMING ITEMS:

Movies (DVD; G, PG only), Compact Discs (No Parental Advisory), Paperback Books (No Romance Themes, Multicultural Books Welcome), Board Games (No Travel Games, No Games With Dice), Crayons/Markers (Thick Markers Only, No Colored Pencils), Wii Games (No Violence or Parental Advisory), Manicure Items—Nail Polish, Nail Art Pens, Polish Remover (No Acetone)

GIFTWRAPPING ITEMS:

Gift Bags, Gift Tissue Paper, Christmas Cards, Christmas Bows, Christmas Ribbon (No Wrapping Paper)



The motorcade isn't the only way to celebrate the spirit of giving this season! There is also an Angel Giving Tree at Norcross City Hall, where you will find gift tags containing three (3) gift suggestions for a boy or girl 12 years of age and under. By choosing a tag and purchasing a toy or toys, you are helping a local child whose parents are struggling to make ends meet—a child who might otherwise go without this Christmas.

Please bring your new, unwrapped gift to City Hall on or before December 12.
Gift tags should be taped to the gift.

Toasty & Cozy TOES & COATS

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!**

PLEASE BE ADVISED

Taxes were due on November 15th and alcohol/business licenses are due by December 31st, 2019. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the General Government Administration Office at 770.448.2122.

NORCROSS GOES TO COLORADO



Our very own Sonya Isaac, Special Projects Manager, was invited to speak at the AARP Livable Communities National Placemaking Workshop in Denver, Colorado this past November! The conference explored how local leaders and community volunteers can help to create public spaces that are vibrant, welcoming, safe and accessible, and Sonya contributed by sharing and highlighting examples from Norcross on the topic of "walkability."

2019 CITY OF NORCROSS ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to Craig Newton and Matt Myers! A runoff election for Dan Watch's Council seat will take place on December 3rd. The certified results are as follows:

Mayoral Seat:

Craig Newton - 696
Chuck Paul - 442

Council (Dan Watch's Seat):

RUNOFF
Hannel - 397
Gaynor - 395
McLeroy - 291

Council (Chuck Paul's Seat):

Myers - 607
Hopper - 340
Hecht - 131

Four Year Terms:

Yes - 724
No - 405

Brunch Bill:

Yes - 854
No - 278

HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

Advanced Disposal has six holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. For the week of these holidays, this means sanitation service will be delayed by one day. Monday pick up moves to Tuesday, Tuesday pick up moves to Wednesday, and so forth. Since both Christmas and New Year's fall on a Wednesday, Monday and Tuesday will not be affected—pick up delays will start on Wednesday.

When in doubt, the full year's sanitation schedule including all holiday delays has been posted to the website under City Government > Public Works.

NEW FACES ON THE NORCROSS TEAM

Jace Gafe joined the Norcross Police Department as a Police Officer on October 17th. He is from Baltimore, MD and previously worked for Clark County Sheriff's Office. He currently lives in Atlanta and enjoys working out in his spare time.

Amirah Morris joined the Public Works Department as a Maintenance & Equipment Tech on October 17th. She has resided in Norcross for the past six years and enjoys reading, traveling and fitness.

Johnny Janvier joined the Public Works Department as a Maintenance & Equipment Tech on October 21st. He has previously worked for Norcross and is excited to be back!

YARD WASTE REMINDER

It's that time of year again! While February through October yard waste like grass clippings, leaves and pine straw must be bagged, November through January we have a vacuum service that comes through once a week to clear up loose leaves! Leaves must be piled on the property, not the roadway. All yard waste collected through the City's program is recycled into mulch and not landfilled.

Learn more on www.norcrossga.net under Public Works > Sanitation.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Looking for an update on construction of new developments in Norcross, like Broadstone and The Brunswick? We now have a page where you can sign up for alerts and review most recent postings relating to construction activity in the City of Norcross.

Check it out at
www.norcrossga.net/949/Construction-Updates!

IF YOU'RE A NORCROSS HISTORY BUFF...



Did you know we have a History Blog on our website, managed by our very own local historian Gene Ramsay? Head over and see his latest posts about Norcross through the years!

Learn more at www.norcrossga.net/historyblog

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE SURVEY

The Age-Friendly Communities Initiative is conducting a survey to ensure the initiative reflects community preferences, as well as to establish a baseline to measure the changes that result from the initiative. Results will be revealed and presented to Mayor & Council in the spring of 2020 upon analysis and incorporation into the Age-Friendly Communities Initiative Action Plan.

If you are interested in participating, please visit [norcrossga.net](http://www.norcrossga.net) and look for a link in the Homepage News.

Also, be on the lookout for the community listening sessions soon to be announced!

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

2020 CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

United States
Census
2020

LET'S MAKE NORCROSS COUNT!

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 United States Census. Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year, including funding for health clinics, schools, emergency personnel, roads and more. So, when you see the invite come through, please take a moment to submit your response and help us make Norcross count!

CENSUS STATISTICS:

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

95% of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.

Almost 5% of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home's physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).

Less than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. The census does this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

WHAT YOU WILL RECEIVE:

MARCH 12–20

An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires)

MARCH 16–24

A reminder letter

IF YOU HAVEN'T RESPONDED BY THIS POINT:

MARCH 26–APRIL 3

A reminder postcard

APRIL 8–16

A reminder letter and paper questionnaire

APRIL 20–27

A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person



THE CENSUS BUREAU IS NOW HIRING!
VISIT 2020CENSUS.GOV/EN/JOB TO LEARN MORE



IN THE KNOW

FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS

NORCROSS
COMMUNITY CENTER
7 - 9 P.M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
JOE GRANSDEN
SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3
JOHNNY CASH NOW

RSVP to reserve your seat! Call 678.421.2048/2049.
Table reservations will only be held until 7:15 p.m.

DECEMBER MOVIE MONDAYS!



DEC. 9: THE LITTLE MERMAID (2018)

DEC. 23: THE LEGO MOVIE

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

**LIONHEART THEATRE PRESENTS:
IN BETHLEHEM INN**
by John W. Carter
Directed by Tanya Caldwell
December 13, 14 and 15

The audience walks into Bethlehem Inn to enjoy a meal with the Innkeeper and his family. The dinner is interrupted by Joseph and Mary who need to seek refuge in the inn while Mary goes into labor, but there is no vacancy. As part of the crowd, the audience watches the night unfold into the birth of Jesus.

For more info, visit lionhearttheatre.org.



SANTA IN THE GARDEN

**December 14, 2019
Discovery Garden Park
1 - 3 P.M.**

Join Santa in Discovery Garden Park for marshmallow roasting and hot cocoa around the fire pit! The Historic Firehouse Museum will be open and the antique fire truck be available outside for Christmas pictures. Free family fun.

Contact Barbara Kohlhausen for more information at barbara.kohlhausen@gmail.com.



Young Professionals Network 2020
Thursday, January 23 • 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.
Norcross Community Center

Take an opportunity to mix, mingle and network with Norcross Young Professionals at the Norcross Cultural Arts and Community Center, 10 College Street. There will be entertainment by Justin Monday (The Obeast Violinist) with his associate, another violinist. Refreshments will be served.

LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO STAY IN THE KNOW ABOUT NORCROSS?

The City of Norcross offers several platforms for communication where we can share news like events coming soon, construction updates, policy announcements and more.

Check out these resources and learn how you can receive real time alerts so you are always in the know!

WEEKLY EBLAST

A weekly email detailing upcoming events for "the week ahead!"

Topics Covered:
Events

When Available:
Every Monday morning

How to Get It:
Sign up at www.norcrossga.net/subscribe.

NEWS FLASH

Get real time alerts from the City of Norcross straight to your inbox or phone.

Topics Covered:
Notices, Reminders, Emergency Alerts

When Available:
Real-time; frequency varies

How to Get It:
Sign up at www.norcrossga.net/notifyme and select email and/or phone alerts under the "News Flash" category.

FOLLOW US!

CITY OF NORCROSS

@CITYOFNORCROSS

@CITYOFNORCROSSGA

A WORD FROM OUR NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

I would like to thank everyone in the community for the warm welcome I have received. As a resident of Norcross for the past several years, I am familiar with the area and excited to make a positive and lasting contribution to our local community. I am passionate about the socioeconomic stability and well-being of towns, cities and regions, and I have a strong interest in how economic development-related activities of public and private organizations in our communities affect the daily lives of businesses, residents and visitors.

My professional philosophy is based on what I consider the three main parts of economic development: business development, workforce development and quality of life. I intend to work very closely with our planning & zoning colleagues in Community Development as well as elected and appointed officials at City Hall, Gwinnett County and the metro Atlanta region to continue making progress for the city.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have.

William Corbin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 3-20 (TUES/WED/FRI)

Carriage Rides, Boards at Taste of Britain,
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 3-20 (TUES/WED/FRI)

Photos with Santa, 45 South Café,
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 6

Christmas Tree Lighting, Thrasher Park, 5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 6

First Friday Holiday Concert: Joe Gransden,
Norcross Community Center, 7 - 9 p.m.
Must RSVP, call 678.421.2048/2049



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**Sign up to receive economic development related news and updates:
www.norcrossed.com/category/blog**

DECEMBER 9

Movie Monday: The Little Mermaid (2018),
Norcross Community Center, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 14

Santa in the Garden, Discovery Garden Park,
1 - 3 p.m.

DECEMBER 23

Movie Monday: The Lego Movie, Norcross
Community Center, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.



For more event information: www.aplacetoimagine.com