



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • MAY 2022



Saturday, May 7 • 12:00 - 5:00 PM
Thrasher Park

We are excited to announce the first annual Viva Mexico Festival in Historic Norcross on May 7th, 2022! Come celebrate everything from the beautiful country of Mexico. From authentic cuisines to colorful margaritas, your tastebuds are in for a flavorful experience. Authentic cooks will be dishing out some amazing meals – tamales, tacos, mole, and more!

The event will also include a margarita tasting! Tickets are limited and available to purchase for a bottomless margarita experience. The ticket purchase includes a 16 oz. cup for attendees to indulge in a variety of margaritas throughout the event. (Attendees are not allowed to leave the VIP area with a full cup.)

Tickets are limited and available to purchase at aplacetoimagine.com.



Mayor: Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Matt Myers
City Council: Andrew Hixson, Arlene Beckles, Bruce Gaynor, Josh Bare
City Manager: Eric Johnson • **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: 770.242.0824
norcrossga.net



SUSTAINABILITY



TIP OF THE MONTH

Do you know about Hard to Recycle Materials? It's all in the name...these items cannot be recycled curbside, but are collected via drop off and taken to various vendors to be recycled or reused.

Listed below are the current items accepted for drop-off at the Norcross Community Markets:

- Natural wine corks (No plastic)
- Eyeglasses, hearing aids, cell phones (Remove personal information)
- Tennis shoes/sneakers (Any condition)
- Clean towels and blankets
- Clean grocery bags
- Individually wrapped eating utensils and unopened condiment packets. (Donated to extended stay hotel residents)
- Plastic planter pots
- Medicine bottles (Washed and removed labels) The Police Department lobby has a secure drop box for expired and leftover medications. Must deposit the medicines yourself.



NORCROSS WELCOMES THE LOCAL PEACH

The Local Peach is a community-driven, environmentally conscious market where inclusion is valued, working diversity is fostered, and success is shared.

Their shelves are stocked with products from local minority and women-owned businesses because they believe that when everyone has a seat at the table, every person eats.

From the best homemade biscuit in town, to trusted artisan products, hot meals on-the-go, and partnerships to combat food insecurity, everything they do is for the good of all. Hell's Kitchen winner, Chef Nona Johnson and her trusted partner, sous chef and wife Briana Murray are committed to being the change they want to see.



They are looking for an experienced breakfast and prep cook who would love to work with and learn from an experienced teacher and extraordinary Chef, and they are also looking for volunteers to help reach out and communicate with Norcross' large and diverse Hispanic community.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

MARY BETH RETIRES!



"It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as a voice for the community and represent the city at conferences, public meetings and events", Mary Beth said in reflection of her time as Assistant City Manager and prior leadership roles.

As the Director of Public Works, Utilities & Parks and as the Events Manager for the past 9 years, she ensured ADA components in every city park. She also created the Special Needs Easter Egg Hunt, the only one in metro Atlanta that serves children with special needs, including children with autism, hearing and visibility impairments. She has also been responsible for our beloved city events such as concerts, 5K's, festivals, car shows, and much more.

She is an inspired leader and graduate of Leadership Gwinnett, earned the Public Works Management Certification, elected as Executive Board Member of the Southwest Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the Connect Committee and participated in Norcross/ Peachtree Corners Rotary. She was also the recipient of the Explore Gwinnett, Friends of Gwinnett Tourism Award in 2017.

Mary Beth will always be remembered for her outstanding customer service, commitment, dedication, value and impact on our city and her legacy will live on for many generations. On behalf of the city of Norcross and our community, she will be greatly missed, and we wish her the very best in her future endeavors!

As a community, we would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Assistant City Manager and Director of Public Works, Utilities & Parks, Mary Beth Bender who retires May 31st. She has been an integral part of our city for over 22 years of service and leaves the city a better place in so many ways.

Mary Beth started her career with Norcross as a receptionist and earned five promotions through the years. She led a team of 32 employees for streets, right-of-ways, signage, sidewalks, fleet, city buildings, power, storm water and parks. As Assistant City Manager, she has been the liaison between elected officials and the community.

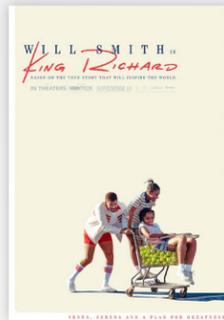
IN THE KNOW



Come out for opening day Wednesday, May 4th from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Thrasher Park. Every Wednesday from May through August join us for live music, local farmers, artists, foods and children's activities such as the Power of Produce Program. All the summer produce is in season from blueberries, peaches, melons, tomatoes and everything in between!

SNAP/EBT is accepted and we will double your benefits on fresh fruits and vegetables!

MOVIE MONDAYS



May 9
King Richard



May 23
Dog

Norcross Community Center
1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a free movie and light refreshments at Norcross Movie Mondays held at the Cultural Arts & Community Center every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month! Movies start times are at 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.



JAZZ IN THE ALLEY
June 11 • Betty Mauldin Park

BLUESBERRY BEER & MUSIC FESTIVAL
June 18 • Betty Mauldin Park

JUNETEENTH
June 19 • Thrasher Park

Details at aplacetoimagine.com

THE LIONHEART THEATRE COMPANY

“A Bad Year for Tomatoes” Runs May 6-22
Lionheart is pleased to present the hilarious comedy, “A Bad Year for Tomatoes.” Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors/ students. Visit lionhearttheatre.org for tickets. Dessert is included.

Upcoming Auditions: “Cinderellie-Mae” and “On Golden Pond”
Lionheart will be holding open auditions in May for two of our upcoming productions, “Cinderellie-Mae” and “On Golden Pond.” Visit lionhearttheatre.org for more information on casting needs, audition dates, and how to prepare.



Registration Now Open: Lionheart's Summer Drama Camp
Lionheart will present its summer youth drama camp for ages 8-14. Camp Dates: June 6-24. Camps include musical theatre, performance, improv, stunt work, puppetry, and more. To view the full schedule and to register, visit lionhearttheatre.org. Scholarships are available.



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Atlanta Pleasure Band May 27

Enjoy the “sweet sounds of summer” in downtown Norcross and get ready for some serious fun at the Summer Concert Series, which runs May through September in Thrasher Park from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. The concerts are free and local restaurants are happy to create the perfect picnic for concert goers. So grab a chair, a cooler (no glass, please) and a few friends and come enjoy Downtown Norcross and the sweet sounds of summer!

On Friday, May 27th the smooth sound and extreme energy of this band will leave you wanting more! From Motown to Downtown, Atlanta Pleasure Band's performances will get you out on the dance floor!

Don't Forget! Each event in the Summer Concert Series will serve as a collection site for the CAN-Do food drive, a county-wide effort to fill the shelves of local food pantries. Donations of canned food and non-perishable items can be dropped off in bins during each concert.



TREE TALK

Saving Natural Areas in Cities

While natural areas in cities may sound like a contradiction, these spaces are functionally critical to the communities in which we work and live. They can be found in more expected places like parks, arboretums, rivers and creeks. However, they are also tucked in areas you may not think of such as residential properties, old landfills, abandoned industrial sites, golf courses and more.

Urban wooded areas offer recreation, health benefits, social connection, wildlife habitat and a long list of environmental services. Due to their importance, we need to do all we can to protect them. While these are natural places, they exist in our urban spaces and therefore need our help to remain healthy and beneficial. This is where intentional management comes into play. The three steps to effectively manage natural areas include: assessment, planning, and doing the work.



Around the country, you can find examples of cities that do this well including: New York City, St. Louis, Houston, Billings, and Baltimore, to name a few. Within these cities, you will find efforts underway that include everything from removing invasive species to forming nationwide networks for information sharing. It's the kind of dedication that will ensure the future of natural spaces in our cities.

From the Library of Tree City USA

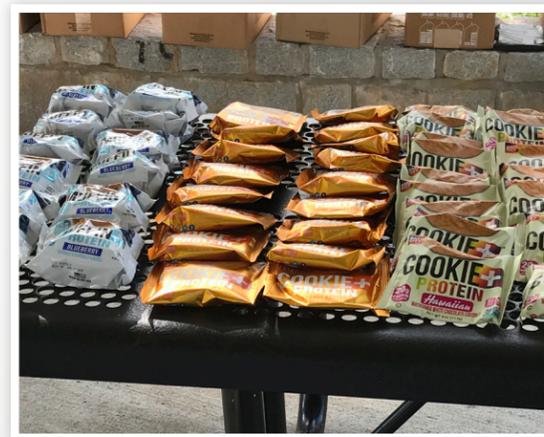
PEDAL NORCROSS

On Saturday, May 14th from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. join Sustainable Norcross for a 2.5 mile group ride through Historic Norcross! Sustainable Norcross' mission is for riders to have safe equipment, knowledge and opportunities that are easily accessible in our city. The event will kick off at Lillian Webb Park with a Bike Safety Fair featuring bike recycling, helmet giveaways, and more! Our business partners will be providing riders with light refreshments and snacks through the event.

Check out event highlights below:

- Safe Kids Gwinnett is providing free adult and child helmets (Supplies are limited).
- Bearing Bike Works are accepting donations of old bikes and equipment where the items can be put to use and avoid the landfill.
- Norcross Police Department is teaching a Bike Safety 101 lesson.

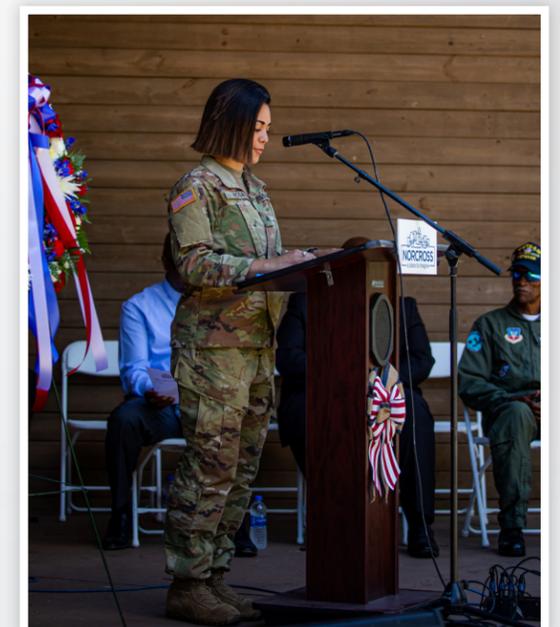
For volunteer opportunities or additional information please contact sustainable@norcrossga.net



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

Memorial Day is a very special occasion where we have the opportunity, as a nation and community, to honor those fallen in the line of duty. We remember those who stood up to defend us, to protect us, and to pay the ultimate sacrifice for us. On Monday, May 30th we honor and remember this sacrifice with a special tribute event that will occur in Thrasher Park from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

In observance of the holiday, City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30th, but Waste Management will still operate.



BURNING BAN STARTS ON MAY 1

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division imposes a total ban on the outdoor burning of yard debris in Gwinnett County annually from May 1 to September 30.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Indoor events are subject to cancellation due to COVID-19 restrictions.

May 4

Norcross Community Market, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. , Thrasher Park

May 7

Viva Mexico, 12:00 - 5:00 p.m., Thrasher Park

May 9

Movie Monday: King Richard, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

May 11

Norcross Community Market, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. , Thrasher Park

May 14

Pedal Norcross, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m., Lillian Webb Park

May 18

Norcross Community Market, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. , Thrasher Park

May 23

Movie Monday: Dog, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

May 25

Norcross Community Market, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. , Thrasher Park

May 27

Summer Concert: ATL Pleasure, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

May 30

Memorial Day Remembrance, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Thrasher Park



Scan to get
the Spanish
Newsletter!

¡Escanee para
recibir le boletín
en español!