



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 2022

'Tis the Season!

Every year, the City of Norcross hosts a plethora of activities for the holidays through its annual holiday celebration. 'Tis the season and come and get in the holiday spirit in Downtown Norcross!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Friday, December 2 | 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Thrasher Park

By now many of you have heard—sadly, our soaring, majestic tree in Thrasher Park that we've always 'lit' for the holidays was severely damaged by wind and had to be removed earlier this year. But we're not letting that get our spirits down, oh no! We still have all your classic Norcross holiday traditions in store. From choirs singing carols to the Grinch and, of course, SANTA!, you won't want to miss the event where we "flip the switch" on all things holiday in Norcross!

CARRIAGE RIDES

December 2 - December 21 | Every Tuesday,

Wednesday & Friday | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Downtown Norcross

For more than 20 years, free carriage rides have been dashing through the sparkling streets of Norcross throughout the month of December, boarding in front of Taste of Britain. Come be a part of a Norcross Christmas tradition!



HISTORIC NORCROSS CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

**Friday, December 2 - Sunday, December 4
Downtown Norcross**

Jingle all the way to this year's Historic Downtown Norcross Christmas Village hosted by the Historic Norcross Business Association. Step back in time and get ready to enjoy some good old fashioned fun for everyone all weekend long!

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

December 7 - December 21 | Every

Wednesday & Friday | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

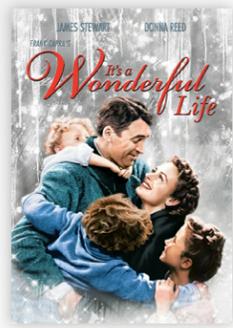
45 South Cafe

We hope you've been nice this year because Santa himself will be visiting Downtown Norcross. Come take a photo and let him know what's on your wishlist! And, though no photographer will be present, Santa will be hanging around Downtown Norcross every Tuesday, too!

**Find more details at aplacetoimagine.com, and
flip the page to find a calendar you can hang!**

IN THE KNOW

MOVIE MONDAYS



December 12

It's a Wonderful Life

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! Movie start times are 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

*Note: There will only be one Movie Monday in December due to the Christmas holiday.

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES

City Hall will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th in observance of Christmas. As we ring in 2023, City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 2nd, in observance of New Years Day. Please note that all sanitation and recycling services will not be affected.

LEAF VACUUMING

Leaf vacuuming will continue through approximately the end of January. As a reminder, please do not blow leaves into the streets as this can clog our stormwater drains. Leaves must be blown to the edge of property, not on sidewalk, street, or in storm drain infrastructure.

THE LIONHEART THEATRE COMPANY

Upcoming Auditions for "Deli"
December 11-12

Lionheart will be holding open auditions for our March 2023 world premiere production of "Deli" by local playwright Diane Dexter on December 11th and 12th. Roles are available for 8 men and 2 women. Visit lionhearttheatre.org for more information.

Upcoming Shows for "The Lion in Winter"
December 8-18

Lionheart's December holiday production of "The Lion in Winter" opens December 8th and runs through December 18th. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors/students/military. Dessert is included and served at intermission. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m. Get tickets: lionhearttheatre.org.

FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT FEATURING THE GRAINS OF SAND

Friday, January 6 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Norcross Community Center

First Friday Concerts run from October to April and are always a popular night out in the Cultural Arts & Community Center. Come 'get down' with the sounds of jazz, rock, motown and more on the 'First Friday' of every month October through April (except there will be no concert in December), from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. No meet up groups. RSVP is required; register via Eventeny link on First Friday Concert page of aplacetoimagine.com.

CONGRATULATIONS!

On Wednesday, November 2, the City of Norcross was awarded the Outstanding Urban Arboriculture Grand Award for Tree Canopy Management and Development by the Georgia Tree Council at their Thirtieth Annual Awards Luncheon in Rome, GA.

January's First Friday Concert features The Grains of Sand! This is a seven-member band consisting of a three-piece horn section followed by lead and backup vocalist. They will entertain you with soul, R&B and beach music and make you want to find your dancing shoes!

The CAN-Do Food Drive is making a special appearance at the city's First Friday Concert series this year! When you come out to enjoy this month's musical performance, please consider bringing a single-serve, individually packaged food item with you for our collection basket. A full list of suggested items is available at aplacetoimagine.com. All donations will be delivered to the new food pantry available inside the Norcross Library, thanks to a community partnership with the library.

Awards are presented to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service toward the preservation and enhancement of our urban forests.

Receiving the award on behalf of the city were Tree Preservation Board Chair Charlotte Osborn, Tree Preservation Board Member Michelle Osborne, City Arborist Daniel Tew, and Assistant City Manager Tracy Rye.

NORCROSS GALLERY & STUDIOS

"Norcross Squares" Silent Auction
Now - December 3

Bid now on close to 150 square paintings of all sizes, square ceramics, an artisan-crafted table hand painted —with squares! Bidding ends at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 3rd. Visit with Santa, enjoy the musical performances and other festivities of Christmas Village, and come close to the deal with your favorite square. Help us meet our ambitious goal to raise \$10,000 for outreach in 2023.

"Petite Creations" Exhibition
December 10

To help Norcross shoppers complete their holiday shopping, we offer a delightful and affordable selection of small works! For more information, visit norcrossgalleryandstudios.org.

SEASONS OF GIVING

There is a tree in the City Hall lobby with gift tags hanging from its branches. Each gift tag represents a boy or girl 5 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 back to City Hall on or before Monday, December 12th. Gift tags should be taped to the gift. Gifts will be delivered to Sheltering Arms shortly thereafter.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER DANIEL LAY

The City of Norcross extends sincere condolences over the passing of Mr. Daniel “Danny” Lay and honors his memory by reflecting on his life and dedication to the community. Grandson to the late Edward Harlan Dean and Marion Boyce Dean, original settlers of Gwinnett County, Daniel Lay was born July 7, 1951, to the late James Chiles Lay Sr. and Annie Mae Dean Lay, growing up to be a lifelong resident of Norcross Georgia and member of First Baptist Church.

Mr. Lay was a graduate of Norcross High School Class of 1969, furthering his education at the University of West Georgia and later serving in the Naval Air Reserves from 1969-1975, and retiring from Bellsouth/AT&T with nearly thirty years of service.

Mr. Lay was a leader in the City of Norcross, serving on the Norcross City Council from 1990 until 1995, playing a significant role in assisting businesses and organizing major projects to make Norcross a better

place to live. Times dearest to Mr. Lay were times spent with his family, especially times spent with his cherished children Gabriel, Hannah, Joseph, Lydia, and Samuel and beautiful grandchildren.

The passing of Mr. Lay leaves our community with a deep feeling of sorrow for the loss of such an honored and respected husband, father, brother, citizen, and devoted servant of God. Mr. Lay will be missed professionally and as a friend, as he leaves behind an indelible legacy of selflessness and generosity, which has earned him the respect, admiration, and friendship of many.

We, the city of Norcross and the community, in memory of Mr. Daniel Lay, and his many contributions to our City and its citizens, do hereby express our deep appreciation for his dedication to the progress of this community and extend to his family and friends our heartfelt condolences upon his passing.



WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES!



B&W Burgers

On Friday, October 28th, B&W Burgers held a ribbon cutting ceremony as part of its friends and family soft opening celebration! The best part is they are located right here in the heart of Historic Norcross. Doors are open to the public and B&W Burgers is ready to serve the community. Be sure to come hungry and you're sure to leave satisfied!



For over 50 years of being a Downtown Norcross landmark, beloved local Mr. Wayne Epps retired and closed his hardware store, B&W Automotive Sales, in 2020. He sold his space to James Redding, whom he met seven years ago when he was first starting to think about retiring and what might come next for his store. Mr. Redding owns several restaurants in metro Atlanta, including Jimmy's Tequilas and Carnes in Doraville.

B&W Burgers honors the legacy of Mr. Epps and marks the beginning of a new era for Downtown Norcross.

TREE TALK

Planting a tree may seem like a simple task, but there are many very important steps to follow. Take time at the outset to devise a good plan for planting.

It is best to transplant trees when they are dormant. In Georgia, most trees are dormant from late fall until the end of winter. The best time to plant is between November and March.

When a tree is first planted, it can go into transplant shock not being familiar with its new surroundings and where to find water and nutrients. There are things you can do to give the tree the best chance to not only survive the transplant, but to also get situated enough so that it can start growing relatively soon.

1. Digging a great hole for your tree is the best thing you can do for it (after you pick the right tree for your location, of course). Your hole should be at least twice as wide as the container that the tree came in.
2. The depth of the hole should be the same as the depth of the container. When you place the tree in the ground the root collar should be visible – you

- never want to bury your root collar under soil.
3. The sides of your hole should be sloping down encouraging roots to grow towards the surface. The sides of the hole should also be roughened up using a shovel so that root tips can penetrate the native soil.
4. When you take your tree out of its container, loosen roots and check for problems like circling roots.
5. There should never be any sod or other grasses put back into the hole or on top of the hole. Grass and other plants compete with the tree for nutrients and water.
6. Refill the planting hole with the soil that came out. The only time you might use different soil would be if you needed to supplement it because there were many rocks in the hole.
7. Mulch your tree using organic mulch such as wood chips, bark, pine straw, etc. Mulch should be nice and wide and 2 to 3 inches deep. Mulch will need to be refreshed at least once a year.
8. Water the tree with the amount of the size of the container it came in once a week during the growing season.

Courtesy of treesatlanta.org

Green Boom

On Wednesday, October 26th, Green Boom announced a \$2 million relocation right here in the City of Norcross! “We feel proud that such an innovative eco-friendly company chose to relocate to the City of Norcross,” said City of Norcross Mayor Craig Newton. “As a certified Green Community, we appreciate our mutual dedication to imagining a brighter, greener world.”

Green Boom, a leading biodegradable, water-repellent, oil-only absorbents manufacturer, has relocated to the City of Norcross, adding four new jobs and \$2 million in capital investment. As Green Boom moved into their 5,000-square-foot facility at 1010 Norcross Industrial Court, they also became an in-house manufacturer using custom-built equipment, which has decreased their production time by 400%.

“The logistical proximity to Interstate 85 and the ease of doing business with the City of Norcross, as well as the fantastic support from Partnership Gwinnett makes this an obvious choice,” said Green Boom co-Founder and CEO Sudhir Sharma. “We’re happy to be here.”

SUSTAINABILITY



TIP OF THE MONTH

'TIS THE SEASON OF SUSTAINABILITY!

Here are a few tips on how to be both festive and sustainable during the holiday season:

- Donate to a local nonprofit or food drive. Norcross Public Works, 345 Lively Avenue, accepts food cans, coats and socks donations.
- Shop small and support a local business for your gifting list.
- Use reusable containers for holiday dinner to-go plates.
- Recycle your Christmas tree through Bring One for the Chipper. For more information, visit kgbf.org/bring-one-for-the-chipper.
- Recycle your holiday gift boxes and make sure to flatten them before putting them in the recycle bin.
- Recycle or reuse your non-glitter wrapping paper.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 2

Holiday Celebration, 5:30 -8:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

December 2-4

Historic Norcross Christmas Village, Downtown Norcross

December 2-21

Carriage Rides, Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Downtown Norcross

December 7-21

Photos With Santa, Every Wednesday & Friday, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Downtown Norcross

December 12

Movie Monday: It's A Wonderful Life, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

December 23 & 26

Christmas Observance, City Hall Closed



Scan to get the Spanish Newsletter!

¡Escanee para recibir le boletín en español!