



# A PLACE TO IMAGINE

February 2016

## Experience a **NORCROSS**

— *Night to Remember* —  **on February 13**

With endless options for a romantic outing, an evening spent in historic downtown promises to be “A Norcross 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 13th from 6-8 p.m., the city of Norcross is pulling out all the stops for those with love in their eyes. Cozy up in a carriage as you ride through the streets of Norcross, enjoy being serenaded by a traveling barber shop quartet, plant a kiss on your sweetheart’s cheek in the photo booth and take an opportunity to look in your lover’s eyes to renew the vows you exchanged on your wedding day.

Downtown Norcross restaurants will also 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.

Let the city of Norcross cast a romantic spell over you and enjoy all that our captivating city has to offer. We look forward to seeing you on South Peachtree Street and hope you make it “A Norcross Night to Remember!” Please note that the carriage ride pick-up location will be at Taste of Britain, 73 South Peachtree Street and the photo booth will be stationed on South Peachtree near 45 South Peachtree Street. Share how you will be making it a #NorcrossNite2Remember on Twitter (@CityofNorcross) and Facebook (facebook.com/City of Norcross - Events Marketing Dept.).



**Mayor:** Bucky Johnson • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Craig Newton  
**City Council:** Andrew Hixson, David McLeroy, Pierre Levy  
**City Manager:** Rudolph Smith • **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



# Come Tango while Supporting the Development of the Norcross Community Market!

Manuel and Ronda Patino are well-known artists in Argentine Tango. Fixtures in the Atlanta dance scene, they have perfected their craft and will guide couples through an introduction of this beloved social dance.

This special event is a fundraiser for the new Norcross Community Market scheduled to open June 2016. The purpose of this market is to be a meeting place for the community and a place where families can connect with their neighbors all while supporting the local food economy. The market will offer fresh produce, prepared food and artisan goods.

Hosted by Project Generation Gap ([projectgenerationgap.org](http://projectgenerationgap.org)), this event would not be possible without the support of the city of Norcross, Sustainable Norcross, Tango Rio ([tango-rio.com](http://tango-rio.com)) and The Crossing Steakhouse.

*Tango For Lovers* starts with cocktail conversations from 4 to 4:30 p.m. at 'The Crossings' with a fully stocked cash bar. Dance instruction begins at 4:30 p.m. This special event will conclude approximately at 6 p.m. and the city of Norcross' Valentine events conveniently begin soon thereafter.

**Want a Valentine's Day to remember?** Join us and prepare to get up close and personal with the one you love! For more information and to purchase tickets visit: [TangoForLovers.eventbrite.com](http://TangoForLovers.eventbrite.com)

## Mark Your CALENDAR!

for Another Great Event Supporting the Norcross Community Market - The Farm & Food Film Festival (for more details, see page 4)



Sanitation rates for commercial customers will be going up approximately 1.5 percent. This is an increase that's a part of our current providers contract with the city of Norcross. The rate increase will take place with the February 2016 billing.

Base rates for all electric customers will increase starting with the January 2016 billing. This is a part of the rate increase that mayor/council approved with the 2014 rate increase. However the City has absorbed this increase over the past two years to give the citizens a relief since there was a rate increase on the usage portion of the electric service.

The year 2016 will be a busy time for elections with three election cycles (March, May and November) and a possibility of six elections. David Simmons, Gwinnett County elections area manager for the Norcross area, is looking for civic-minded individuals who would be interested in serving their community as poll officials. For more information on these paid and seasonal positions, email [dsvends@gmail.com](mailto:dsvends@gmail.com).



The city of Norcross through the Norcross Public Arts Commission (NPAC) seeks 'request For qualifications' for an original, innovative mural on the building shown above, as outlined on NPAC's website at <http://www.norcrossarts.org/call-to-artists-skin-alley-mural/>.



# Charlotte's Web

Based on the book by EB White  
Adapted by Mrs. Fuller  
Directed by Tanya Caldwell

America's favorite tale of farmyard friendship comes to life in this child-friendly, fun and touching play.



## February 4-14

7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays  
All seats \$10

Includes cookies and punch with the cast

Tickets at [www.lionhearttheatre.org](http://www.lionhearttheatre.org)  
Lionheart Theatre, 10 College Street, Norcross.

Inquiries only at [reservations@lionhearttheatre.org](mailto:reservations@lionhearttheatre.org)

This project is partially funded through a grant from Splash Festivals, Inc.



## Norcross State of the City Address to be Held on February 8

The city of Norcross is pleased to host the State of the City Address presented by Mayor Bucky Johnson on Monday, February 8th at 7 p.m. at Summerour Middle School located at 321 Price Place NW, Norcross 30071. The Address provides the perfect opportunity to hear from Mayor Johnson as he discusses past successes along with his vision and goals for the future direction of the city.

"On the heels of a successful 2015 that came with new and growing businesses, new homes along with exciting improvements throughout the City, the future is bright and hopeful," said Mayor Johnson. "Whether you are a lifetime resident, a longtime resident or a newcomer, the State of the City Address presents a wonderful opportunity to learn more about your city. We encourage all citizens to be knowledgeable and involved."

The mayor will also give updates on city departments and projects as well as recognize the outstanding achievements of several individuals from the past year. Following the approximately one hour address, dessert and coffee will be served as residents mix and mingle with the mayor, city officials and staff.

"The State of the City Address is always a wonderful chance to catch up with neighbors and meet a new friend or two," added Mayor Johnson. "I look forward to serving the citizens of Norcross in the coming year and seeing many new and familiar faces at this year's Address."

## GET TO KNOW City of Norcross

### Police Department Captain Bill Grogan

Norcross runs deep for Captain Bill Grogan who oversees Support Services for the City of Norcross Police Department. With generations of his family hailing from the city dubbed 'a place to imagine,' Captain Grogan was called back to his roots after serving his country in the Navy. Now, he proudly calls Norcross home again and works to protect and serve his beloved city. Get to know Captain Grogan in this in-depth interview:

**Q. How long have you worked for the city of Norcross and what was your career background before coming on board?**

A: I am a Navy veteran and spent much of my service time on board the aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise. After the Navy I obtained my undergraduate degree in business from Georgia State University where I met my future wife. We ultimately relocated to Colorado where I began my law enforcement career. After my oldest son was born, we decided to move back to Georgia to be closer to family. I was fortunate enough to be hired on by Norcross 10 years ago and have enjoyed my career immensely since then.

**Q. What does your position entail and how do you help the City?**

A: As Captain over Support Services I am responsible for the 31 wonderful employees who make up Norcross Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division, Professional Standards Unit, Property/Evidence/Crime Scene, Crime Suppression Team, Communications, Records, Community Outreach and Code Enforcement. I oversee most all technology-related components including things such as our records management system, crime analysis and GPS.

**Q. What is your favorite aspect of your job?**

A: Above all, my favorite part of the job is working with the tremendous people at the city of Norcross. This especially includes those within my division whom I am so thankful for and who don't receive near the praise and thanks they deserve.

**Q. What drew you to Norcross?**

I was born and raised here. My father was born and raised here. His father was born and raised here...and so on. My family has been here for generations and I've always been drawn to the old town feel wedged into an urbanized metropolis like the Atlanta area. We live three miles from the City in newly incorporated Peachtree Corners. This area is our life. My sons play baseball and basketball here. I've said this countless times—I live here, my heritage is here, our family and friends are here, thus I have a vested interest in the success of Norcross.

# The Farm & Food Film Festival

In an effort to raise funds for the new Norcross Community Market and build awareness of current farming and food trends, the city of Norcross will host a series of farm and food indie films.

The showings on February 11, February 25 and March 10 will be held at the Norcross Cultural Arts and Community Center Ballroom, 10 College St. The movies include "Fresh," "Plant Pure Nation" and "Terra Firma."

This event is also organized by Project Generation Gap and is being offered in collaboration with Sustainable Norcross. Tickets may be obtained online at <http://localfoodfilmseries.eventbrite.com>. Admission fee includes complimentary popcorn. Seating is limited, so order your tickets now.



## CITY NUMBERS

- Business Licenses 770.448.2122
- Community Center 678.421.2024
- Court Services 770.448.2173
- Economic Development 678.421.2023
- Yard Debris Pick-up 678.421.2069
- Norcross Code Enforment 770.448.7327
- Parks 678.421.2010
- Permits & Signs 678.421.2027
- Police 770.448.2111
- Property Tax 770.448.2122
- Street Lights 678.421.2069
- Streets & Paving 678.421.2069
- Trash/Recycling Pick-up 770.448.2122
- Utilities Billing 770.448.2122
- Downtown Manager 678.421.2049
- PR/Marketing 678.421.2033



## FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT

**FEBRUARY 5 • COMMUNITY CENTER  
10 COLLEGE STREET • NORCROSS, GA  
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

*Pick up your dinner to go from one of the downtown Norcross restaurants, bring your favorite beverage and enjoy!*

ARRIVE EARLY,  
SEATING IS LIMITED!  
Reservations are suggested.

To reserve a table,  
contact Cate Kitchen at  
678.421.2049.

[www.aplacetoimagine.com](http://www.aplacetoimagine.com)



- FEBRUARY 1** – City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers
- FEBRUARY 4-14** – Charlotte's Web, Thursday – Saturday 7 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., Lionheart Theatre
- FEBRUARY 5** – First Friday Concert, The South Bay Project, 7-9 p.m., Norcross Community Center
- FEBRUARY 8** – Movie Monday, Where Hope Grows, 1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center
- FEBRUARY 8** – State of the City Address, 7 p.m., Summerour Middle School
- FEBRUARY 11** – Farm and Food Film Festival Fundraiser, 7 p.m., Norcross Community Center

**FEBRUARY 13** – Tango for Lovers, Fundraiser for Norcross Community Market, 4-6 p.m., The Crossing Restaurant

**FEBRUARY 13** – A Norcross Night to Remember, 6-8 p.m., Historic Downtown Norcross

**FEBRUARY 15** – Policy Work Session, 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

**FEBRUARY 22** – Movie Monday, Mr. Holmes, 1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

**FEBRUARY 23** – Tim Dorsey Book Signing, 7:30-8:30p.m., Norcross Community Center

**FEBRUARY 25** – Farm and Food Film Festival Fundraiser, 7 p.m., Norcross Community Center

## Sign up for EVENT REMINDERS!

Regístrese para obtener información sobre los eventos locales!  
Most events are free and open to the public; for more event info, visit [www.aplacetoimagine.com](http://www.aplacetoimagine.com)