



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

JUNE 2016

Pave the Way for Generations

Discovery Garden Park— Brick Campaign

Tribute bricks—and the stories they tell—will become a part of the history at Discovery Garden Park (DGP) for generations to come.

The DGP's Tribute Bricks campaign offers the opportunity for the community to help pave the way for the new garden park. A permeable brick can be purchased with a \$50 contribution and can be engraved to commemorate a special occasion or individual in your life. Your contribution will help provide experiences that open eyes, young and old, to nature and ignite a lifelong interest in protecting the planet and sustaining the lives of the plants and animals that call it home.

About The Discovery Garden Park

The Discovery Garden Park (DGP) is a place where all ages get the chance to play, learn and discover the natural world around us. Whether you are interested in growing your own vegetables, understanding beekeeping, sharpening your culinary skills in a relaxed environment, or spending a morning painting, you will have a great time adding new skills to your life.

DGP is also home to the Norcross Community Garden. If you've never gardened in a community garden before, you can look forward to more than just fresh fruits, veggies and flowers. With the Norcross Community Garden, cultural exchanges sprout and new friendships grow. You may be surprised at what you'll learn, even if you've been gardening for years. Join us!

For more information, contact Deb Harris at deb.ndgp@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/NorcrossCommunityGarden/.



Mayor: Bucky Johnson • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Craig Newton
City Council: Andrew Hixson, David McLeroy, Josh Bare, 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

NORCROSS PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION



JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON PUBLIC ART IN NORCROSS

Wednesday, June 8 at 7 p.m.
Meet on the patio of 45 South

Have you seen public art around town and thought it would be great to enjoy it right in your own neighborhood?

Public art comes in many forms, from sculptures to murals to interactive elements that engage the community. On Skin Alley, the art started with a Toyota Prius commercial that was being filmed in downtown Norcross and needed a mural in the background. This new (and free!) mural has everyone revving their engines. Now we're putting the pedal to the metal and deciding if it should stay and become a part of the grease that helps fuel the artistic engine of Norcross or if it should just be a flash in the pan and be painted over.

Join the conversation and share your thoughts about public art in Norcross. Mix and mingle with artist Keif Schleifer, principal of KSDesign—a creative practice that provides technical and architectural design solutions; NPAC members; the Creative Focus Group (CFG and Norcross citizens); and others. There will also be a discussion on upcoming plans for additions to the Skin Alley ArtWay, Creative Placemaking and what that means to citizens and business owners.

“We hope this event will inspire the community to help NPAC to transform this sparse alley into a vibrant, pedestrian-oriented creative hub,” said Mary Beth Bender, director, Public Works, Utilities & Parks/ACM, City of Norcross. “Your feedback will shape the future of how Norcross continues to progress and be recognized as a leader in the arts in Gwinnett County and beyond.”

Stay for happy hour as we toast the future of the Skin Alley ArtWay!

NPAC is made up of art lovers who are committed to supporting public art in Norcross. You can learn more about them at <http://www.norcrossarts.org> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/norcrossarts>.

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST SELECTED FOR PUBLIC ART MURAL IN NORCROSS MURAL TO SERVE AS ANCHOR TO MULTICULTURAL ARTWAY

This fall, the large drab cinderblock building that protrudes onto Skin Alley in the center of historic Norcross will blossom into a lively mural, designed to welcome and delight Norcross' multicultural community and many visitors. Viewable from several vantage points in the city, the artwork will dramatically alter the Norcross visual experience.

The Norcross Public Arts Commission (NPAC) is proud to announce the selection of international artist Karl Addison to create and install the mural in early September. Aiming to further develop Norcross' continued growth as a vibrant, live-work-play community, the mural will serve as anchor of the Norcross Skin Alley ArtWay with hopes of transforming a reawakened area of downtown into a creative hub that supports year-round global entertainment and cultural arts programming for the city's diverse community. The ArtWay is inspired by the concept of 'Art is a Way' for artists and community members to lift each other up, start conversations, share stories, bridge differences and find common ground among Norcross' multicultural community. NPAC plans to engage local artists as well as artists from around the world in future projects to contribute to the ArtWay.



“Avatar” - a mural by Karl Addison and Jarus on the Atlanta Beltline. Photo by Christine Casey

More than 40 applicants responded to an NPAC request for proposals. After an exhaustive review of applicants, Karl Addison was selected based on a series of interviews and focus groups with residents, artists and art enthusiasts. “We reviewed many excellent artists,” said Cindy Flynn, NPACs chair. “After thoughtful consideration, NPAC and focus group participants unanimously agreed that Addison was the ideal artist for this important project.”

From Washington State and currently working out of Berlin, Germany, Addison has worked throughout North and Central America, Europe, Asia, Japan, and Southeast Asia. He has worked on several murals in the Atlanta area including two on the Atlanta Beltline.

“For me, it is very interesting in the last few years to see towns and cities across the U.S. to really adopt and take on Post-Muralism as a means of public art,” said Addison. “The traditional murals have always been beautiful, and carried a strong community-based message. But it is also refreshing to see contemporary painting and arts start to make their way to public space. My impression is that Norcross is seeing this as well and taking part in the worldwide conversation.”

Because the ArtWay project is designed to reach across generations and cultures in Norcross, community engagement is an essential element of the mural's creative development. Addison spent 10 days in the Norcross community from May 19 to 29. “The creative process will be culturally inclusive,” said Flynn. “We wanted Karl to meet our entire community. The art doesn't have to depict the 40 different cultures in Norcross, but we want it to be relevant and uplifting to as many people as possible.”

Addison's community engagement experiences will inform his design. He will submit up to three designs for public consideration before a final design is recommended by NPAC and approved by the city council. The mural installation is scheduled to begin Sept. 6 and should take about a week to complete. NPAC will announce the dates and opportunities for public review in coming weeks.

The City of Norcross is funding the \$15,000 budget. The budget includes provisions for materials, community engagement, mural maintenance and artist fee. NPAC is also receiving significant technical support from the Atlanta Regional Commission, which assigned Keif Schleifer of KSDesign, a technical and architectural design firm that works with artists and communities in developing public art projects, to consult with NPAC. Schleifer is providing key technical support and project coordination.

NPAC was created by the city council and is charged with advising the mayor and city council on policies and issues pertaining to the arts and culture in Norcross. The commission also serves as an umbrella organization supporting art and cultural organizations within the city. Follow ArtWay projects on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/norcrossarts/>.



Addison working in Berlin on “Totem”.
Photo by Karl Addison

PLANNING TO REPLACE YOUR ROOF? AVOID PAYING FINES WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS

The City of Norcross recommends that homeowners follow this easy three-step process to ensure they protect their investment and are in compliance with the City of Norcross building code regulations for re-roofing projects.

1. Be sure the contractor you select has insurance and a current business license.
2. Obtain a re-roofing permit from the City of Norcross. Before any work begins, you must obtain a permit. The city's re-roofing permit fee is \$10.
3. While paying for the permit, speak with a General Government Administration member about setting up a dumpster with Advance Disposal to haul off the old shingles and debris.

Additionally, the city suggests the following:

1. Ask your contractor to provide an itemized estimate.
2. Contact your insurance agent to determine if the contractor has the right type and amount of insurance coverage.
3. During each phase of the re-roof project, ask the contractor to take pictures at each of the following phases:
 - a. After the existing shingles have been removed and the decking is exposed,
 - b. After the underlayment has been installed,
 - c. All areas where the flashing has been installed, and
 - d. Once the new shingles have been installed.

Contact Robert Patrick with the Department of Community Development if you have any questions regarding the permit process at 678-421-2027.

Contact a member of the General Government Administration at 770-448-2122 if you have any questions regarding dumpster requests.

Homeowners and/or contractors who do NOT obtain a re-roofing permit may be subject to a city citation and fine.



NORCROSS LIFELONG COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES SPEAKER SERIES ON AVAILABLE SENIOR SERVICES

The Norcross Lifelong Communities (LLC) Committee is pleased and excited to announce the beginning of a monthly speaker series directed towards seniors (60+) and caregivers. Each presentation will be given twice within a short time frame to accommodate varying personal schedules and encourage participation. The presentations will be held at the Norcross Community Center and will last 60 to 90 minutes.

The next presentation in the series will be led by Jamie Cramer, Gwinnett County's manager of senior services. She will discuss the senior services and programs available within Gwinnett County. The dates of the second presentations will be Tuesday, June 7 at 10 a.m. and Thursday, June 9 at 10 a.m.

The LLC Committee plans to continue similar presentations on a monthly basis. For additional information on the Senior Services Speaker Series, please contact Vivian McDaniel, Vivianv20@gmail.com; Rob Girard, Robgirard69@att.net; or Gary Brace, GLB1117@hotmail.com

JUST SPEND \$10 AND HELP YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY THRIVE



The Georgia Farmers Market Association (GFMA) is asking local citizens to pledge to "Just Spend \$10" at your local farmers market over the summer. Supporting local farmer's markets is important because the money spent shopping with local vendors is more likely to be reinvested in the local economy. In fact, The New Economics Foundation, a London

based think tank, compared what happens when people buy produce at a supermarket vs. a local farmers market and found that twice the amount of money stayed in the community when citizens bought locally. If you're still unconvinced, research has shown that for every dollar spent with local businesses, 45 cents is reinvested in the local economy.

Imagine what spending \$10 per week at the Norcross Community Market can do for "A Place to Imagine." Speaking in percentages the multiplier effect holds that if everyone spends a greater percentage locally, the multiplier effect turns that into big bucks for the local economy. This is why supporting your local farmers market is a matter of economic viability.

So what can you get with this \$10? The options are boundless at the Norcross Community Market. Through a variety of vendors at the market, shoppers can choose from fresh produce, sustainable meat and dairy and much more. And, while you're doing your part to help strengthen the local economy, you'll also be building a sense of community as you meet the great folks responsible for providing a local option for fresh, sustainable food.

So, go ahead, make the pledge to "Just Spend \$10" and help your local economy thrive!

CITY OF NORCROSS REPRESENTED BY JOE BRISCOE AT GOVERNOR'S LINEMAN APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

Electric Cities of Georgia, MEAG Power, Georgia EMC, OPC and GTC, along with Georgia Power held a Georgia Lineman Appreciation Month celebration on Tuesday, April 19, at 11 a.m. in the North Wing of the State Capitol. The celebration recognized the brave Georgians who serve in the highly skilled profession of electric utility linemen.

Georgia's elected leaders headlined a brief program with introductions from utility executives. Governor Deal attended the event where he signed HB 767, the "Move Over for Linemen" bill, during the ceremony. Representing the City of Norcross, Joe Briscoe, supervisor for the Norcross Power crew, attended the celebration. Briscoe has served the City of Norcross for over 20 years and proudly represented the city and fellow linemen.

GET TO KNOW City of Norcross Parks and Recreation Light Equipment Operator, Jaron Hardy



From the City of Norcross: Jaron is a part-time employee that has worked for the City in the Parks Division for over two years. Jaron attended SAE Institute and recently received an Associate Degree in Audio Technology. On a regular basis, Jaron would work in the sound studio as an intern until 4 a.m., then come to work for the city of Norcross the next morning. He has never taken sick time off and works every weekend and holiday. The City has been very fortunate to have Jaron taking care of our parks.

Q: What do your job duties entail?

A: My duties include performing daily maintenance on parks in the city including Lillian Webb Park, Thrasher Park and Rossie Brundage Park. Also, I provide support during city-sponsored events such as the Summer Concert Series, Art Fest and all holiday events.

Q: What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A: I enjoy being able to work outdoors for the majority of the day. I also really enjoy being able to help support so many of the different events that the city provides.

Q: Why do you enjoy working for the City of Norcross?

A: My favorite part about working for the City of Norcross is being able to encounter such a diverse group of people on a daily basis, including the citizens and all of the other great employees in the city.



JUNE 10 • GEORGIA RED CLAY
JUNE 24 • KING OF POP
THRASHER PARK • 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

BE A PART OF THE MEN AND WOMEN IN BLUE WITH THE NORCROSS POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Date: Beginning June 9th, 2016 and every Thursday night for the next 10 weeks
Time: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Location: 65 Lawrenceville St., Norcross Ga – Norcross City Hall in the Community Room on the 2nd floor
Register: Email Ofc. Yanez at lsidro.yanez@norcrosspd.com

The Norcross Police Department Citizens Police Academy is a 20-hour course where Norcross citizens or local business owners receive instruction in the day-to-day operations of the police department. The academy is an annual event and is approximately 10 weeks long with one 2-hour session weekly.

GWINNETT CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL RECOGNIZES CITY OF NORCROSS AS 'GREEN GOVERNMENT OF THE YEAR'

On Earth Day – Friday, April 22 – Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful hosted its Annual Environmental Consciousness and Stewardship (ECoS) Awards Dinner at Infinite Energy Center in Duluth to honor a handful of local heroes and community partners. The City of Norcross was awarded the 'Green Government of the Year' and was noted for regularly playing host to a Mega Recycle & Clean Up Event and its well-known lush canopy of trees – for which it has been named a Tree City USA Community for the last 11 years. Helping to earn the award, GCB also noted that 2015 marked Norcross' fifth year as a member of the Atlanta Regional Commission's (ARC) Green Communities program – in which it has received the ARC's Gold Certification.

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR NORCROSS COMMUNITY MARKET TO BE HELD ON JUNE 4TH

Sustainable Norcross, with the support of the City of Norcross and the Norcross Downtown Development Authority, is partnering with the Georgia Farmers Market Association (a project of Project Generation Gap Inc. funded by the Foodwell Alliance) to create a farmers market that is shaping up to serve as a best practice model for markets across the state. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Community Market will be held on June 4th at 9 a.m. at Webb Park, 5 College St. For more information, visit www.norcrosscommunitymarket.com or www.facebook.com/norcrosscommunitymarket.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE NORCROSS COMMUNITY MARKET

Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Webb Park, 5 College St.
 June 4, 11, 18, 25
 July 9, 16, 23, 30 (NO market on July 2) August 6, 13

The Norcross Community Market would like to thank the following sponsors for their support:

- City of Norcross
- Norcross DDA
- Advanced Disposal
- Brock Built Homes
- Massage Envy
- Heaven & Associates CPA
- Accent Creative Group
- JB Realty Partners



CONGRATULATIONS to Pond & Company for winning the Gwinnett Chamber's Overall and International Impact Awards!

In 2016, Pond & Company has already completed projects in 13 different countries, expanding its global footprint.

LIONHEART THEATRE COMPANY'S BUSY SUMMER CONTINUES!

Lionheart Theatre is hosting several summer camps for children and even adults. Camps include drama, musical theatre, improv, gardening and digital video production. The community theatre's summer youth play, a musical version of William Shakespeare's "The Tempest" runs August 4-7 – a perfect outing for the whole family. For tickets and camp registration information, visit www.lionhearttheatre.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NORCROSS' SUNIVA ON RECEIVING THE GOVERNOR'S MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Governor Nathan Deal recently announced that City of Norcross, Gwinnett-based Suniva, Inc. was one of three winners of the 2016 Governor's Manufacturer of the Year Awards. Suniva is the leading American manufacturer of high-efficiency, cost-competitive crystalline silicon solar products and is currently expanding its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility at its headquarters, bringing the Norcross site to 400MW of cell capacity. With over 350 employees, and its award-winning cell technology, Suniva is known worldwide for its high-powered solar products.

The announcement came in conjunction with the 22nd annual Georgia Manufacturing Appreciation Week (MAW). MAW, which was created by the Technical College System of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Economic Development, serves to promote the manufacturing industry in Georgia and highlight the tremendous impact that the industry has on the state's economy.

"On behalf of the City of Norcross, I want to congratulate Suniva on this prestigious award," said Mayor Bucky Johnson, City of Norcross. "We are honored to have them in our community and look forward to their continued growth and we value their contributions to the community."

CITY OF NORCROSS HELPS EMPLOYEES TO BREATHE EASIER WITH COMMUTE ALTERNATIVES

In an effort to reduce air pollution and lead by example, the City of Norcross is pleased to offer its employees commuting alternatives.

The city offers telecommuting one day per pay period to eligible employees, participates in The Clean Air Campaign, provides preferred parking for carpools, provides bicycle parking and has an employee commuting awards recognition program.



CITY OF NORCROSS ENCOURAGES GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES TO GET MOVING

In an effort to promote health and wellness as well as reduce insurance costs, the City of Norcross is pleased to offer government employees access to the gym at the Community Center. Let's get moving!

SUSTAINABLE NORCROSS SEEKS BOARD MEMBERS

Do you have a passion for sustainability? We want you!

The Sustainable Norcross Commission (SNC) is seeking a new commission member to join its 5-person citizen commission. Along with a passion for sustainability, the position requires some weekday availability and computer skills.

Norcross is one of only 20 area communities participating in the Atlanta Regional Commission's Green Communities program. SNC spearheaded the city's original certification in 2010 and its 2015 re-certification at the Gold level. This year, the SNC is hoping to reach the Platinum level (only the City of Decatur currently has this status!).

There are many benefits to our community maintaining the ARC certification beyond environmental. Among them are having opportunities to receive financial grants, improved quality of life and increased economic development from people and businesses locating in Norcross.

Sustainable Norcross Commission meets every 4th Wednesday in the evenings at City Hall. The time commitment varies from one to four hours per week. The goals for this year, in addition to overseeing the process for Platinum certification, include "institutionalizing" processes for maintaining Green Communities certification, supporting creation of more local events, such as, the Norcross Community (farmers) Market, increasing awareness of local efforts of sustainability and promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety and connectivity. *Applications due by June 15th. Please email applications to Monique Lang at mlang@norcrossga.net.*



NORCROSS PROVES ITS POSSIBLE TO BE GEEKY AND COOL

TIME Magazine recently named the 100 'Most Genius Places' in the United States where Norcross ranked 14th on list. Only two cities in Georgia (both in Gwinnett) and Morrisville, NC were Southeast United States winners, with Norcross in the lead (No. 14), followed by Morrisville, NC No. 86, and Suwanee, GA No. 99. According to writers, David Johnson and Chris Wilson, "After a short decline following the 2008 recession, patents in the United States are on the rise."

Norcross was also touted as one of the best suburbs for millennials in metro Atlanta in a recent ranking by Niche. In its list of 'Best Suburbs for Millennials in Metro Atlanta, Norcross ranked No. 9. The list was based on the number of millennials, job opportunities, and access to bars, restaurants and affordable housing. A high ranking indicates that a suburb attracts millennials with an affordable, diverse community and lots of things to do.



JOIN NORCROSS IN SINGING THE BLUES

BluesBerry Music and Beer Festival to be Held on June 18th

Norcross has got the blues...and that's a good thing! On June 18, the BluesBerry Music and Beer Festival will be held in Betty Mauldin Park and Jones St. from 4 – 10 p.m. Your mood will surely lighten with the lineup of blues musicians set to entertain into the evening. Don't forget to look for Norcross' downtown merchants and restaurants that will be creating signature "BluesBerry" cocktails, desserts, specials and more! Be sure to bring a chair or blanket, a friend, or meet new ones as this group of great musicians entertains you with their funky vibe. For more information, visit bluesberrybeerfestival.com.



JUNE 6 - Norcross City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers

JUNE 7 & 10 - Lifelong Communities, Senior Services Speaker Series, 10 a.m., Norcross Community Center

JUNE 8 - Norcross Public Arts Commission Public Meeting, 7 p.m., 45 South, Downtown Norcross

JUNE 10 - Summer Concert Series, Georgia Red Clay, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

JUNE 13 - Movie Monday, Spectre, 1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

JUNE 17 - Ingrid Bolton Oil Painting Art Show, Georgia On My Mind Reception, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., The Rectory

JUNE 18 - Bluesberry Music and Beer Festival, 4 – 10 p.m., Downtown Historic Norcross (Betty Mauldin Park)

JUNE 20 - Policy Work Session, 6:30 p.m., Norcross City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

JUNE 24 - Summer Concert Series, King of Pop, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

JUNE 25 - Norcross Public Library Book Signing, Brad Thor, 7:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

JUNE 27 - Movie Monday, Sisters, 1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., Norcross Community Center

EVERY SATURDAY:
Norcross Community Market,
9 a.m. – 1 p.m., *Lillian Webb Park*

SAVE THE DATE:
JULY 3 - Red, White & Boom
Downtown Norcross

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

Code Enforcement 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