

a place to . Imagine

January 2015



MANY THANKS to the Peachtree Corners Rotary for their recent generous donation of a \$2,500 water fountain to the Norcross KaBoom playground. Constructed on May 1, 2014 by over 250 volunteers, KaBoom is an award-winning park located at 321 Price Place. The City is truly appreciative of the Rotarian's gift, once again proving how committed they are to our Community.

MAYOR'S MOTORCADE

We would like to start off by saying thank you to all of the residents of Norcross, who every year help us work toward our great goal of being the most giving City at the Annual Mayor's Motorcade.

The Department of Public Works, Utilities & Parks facilitates the gathering and donation drive for the Mayor's Motorcade, which collects gifts for the mental health patient residents at the Atlanta-Georgia Regional Hospital. On the day of delivery, Norcross PD joins the Department of PWUP to help us deliver the boxes and distribute candy at the Parade.

It is a joy to see the smiling faces of patient residents and staff alike waving at our trucks as we toss out candy and flash our lights. This year, we had a special treat: Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus were escorted on our Norcross Power line truck through the entire parade, as the Grand Finale.

Together with your help we were able to donate 10 boxes of gifts for the Hospital to make sure that each patient feels special on Christmas Day.

This Year's Participants: From PWUP: Joe Briscoe, John Bird, Michael Jones, Billy Parks, Willie Wilson, Eddie Hall, Angie Padilla. From Norcross PD: Joseph Harkleroad





City of Norcross Mayor, Bucky Johnson (4th from left); Zaxby's owner, Dan McClure (5th from left); City leaders; Zaxby's management/support; and Southwest Gwinnett Chamber members- assist with opening of new Jimmy Carter Blvd. store

ZAXBY'S OPENS AND BRINGS 49 NEW JOBS TO NORCROSS

Last month, Zaxby's "hatched" its latest state-of-the-art store with a new Jimmy Carter Blvd. addition, providing cooked-to-order hot, fresh food which includes wings, "Zappatzers", sandwiches, "Zalads," and premium milkshakes.

"This particular location stands on a former business park and is currently in an active redevelopment area. We are glad Zaxby's shares our vision and have looked forward to their opening," said Rusty Warner, City of Norcross Economic Development Director.

LIONHEART THEATRE'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER; A CASINO NIGHT & MURDER MYSTERY!



Join the friends of Lionheart Theatre Company for an evening of murder and mayhem!

The action begins on February 21, 6:30PM at the Norcross Community Center that will be transformed into the "Pocono Royale Casino". We invite you to play Black Jack, Texas Hold 'em

and Roulette - but keep your eyes open because at the end of the night, someone will cash in their chips for the last time - and it's up to you and your friends to solve the murder.

Tickets are \$35/person or \$60/couple. Price includes wine, delicious hors d'oeuvres, exciting Silent Auction (open until 8:30) and the Murder Mystery. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://www.lionhearttheatre.org/special-events/>.

All proceeds raised benefit Lionheart Centre for the Arts and will help raise needed funds for the 2015 programs, scholarships and operations.



NORCROSS HOLIDAY YARD DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

On Tuesday, Dec. 2, six judges spent hours driving through every neighborhood in the entire community for Norcross' annual Holiday Yard Decorating Contest. The judges commented that it was a tough decision (as proven by the 21 Honorable Mentions!) because there were so many wonderful, creative decorations on homes throughout the community. As difficult as it was to choose which homes would be the winners, ultimately they chose the best of the best in three categories.

- Best Overall: 553 Dogwood Circle**
- Best Whimsical: 1929 Marshes Glen Drive**
- Best Traditional: 62 Barton Street**

A \$75 gift card to a downtown Norcross restaurant will be given to each of the winners of the 2014 season. Congratulations to all and thank you to our secret Santa judges for their time and selections!

NORCROSS IS BUILDING A NEW GARDEN PARK AND YOU CAN HELP NAME IT!



Coming soon! A new community garden park at 185 Lawrenceville St. on the grounds of the Norcross Welcome Center and Museum needs a name. We are asking you to submit names that would suit this new venue in our community.

Here we will hold nature-based workshops, farm to table dinners, wine in the garden evenings, childrens' programs, as well as garden organically together! The

proposed community garden park will feature 30 garden beds, a greenhouse, outdoor kitchen, picnic area, a children's learning garden, butterfly garden, a living roof, shed and compost area, as well as public art and a path leading throughout it all. The proposed Concept Plan will be presented to City Council at the January Policy Work Session.

The deadline for submitting a name suggestion is Friday, January 9, 2015. The Garden Park Board will review the names, and then present the top five to the public to vote for the winning name. The individual who proposes the selected name will be recognized at the grand opening of the park in early summer, 2015. Thank you for your creative ideas! Please submit your name suggestions to Deb Wilson Harris at nonijoharris@att.net.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: MEET THE NORCROSS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: CAMILLE WASHINGTON

Annually, the City names an Employee of the Year. This person is an outstanding individual that rises above their duties and earns the distinction. The 2014 employee is nine-year veteran, Camille Washington.

Ms. Washington is a Payroll and Accounts Receivable Officer whose duties include payroll processing, accounts payable and receivable.

When asked what the favorite part of her job is, she explains; "The genuine support from General Government Administration staff and other employees in the city. I also like discovering new things that will enhance my job responsibilities."

A native of Guyana, she currently is studying for her Associates Degree in Business Management and attends Gwinnett Technical College.

Congratulations Camille on a job well done!



FARMERS MARKET SURVEY

For the last five years, Norcross has had a weekly farmers market from spring through summer located at Thrasher Park on Tuesdays, 4PM - 8 PM. Originally organized by over 30 volunteers with the cooperation of the City of Norcross, it was managed as a non-profit. In addition to offering fresh produce and specialty products and providing a community meeting place, market proceeds also supported a variety of local service projects. We have an opportunity to re-imagine the market or discontinue it based on your input.

Although there are a number of commercial options for fresh produce in the local area, there are many benefits of having a community-based farmers market. That's where YOU come in. It takes a village to host a thriving farmers market. Help us gauge the interest in and need for a local farmers market. Please complete the survey online at <http://goo.gl/forms/QSSJN3W4tq>. You may also complete the paper copy included in this newsletter and drop it in the mail (65 Lawrenceville St. Norcross GA 30071) or at City Hall. Deadline is January 12, 2015. An update will be in the next City newsletter.

REMINDERS:

LEAF PICK-UP REMINDER

January is the last month for the leaf vacuum truck. This service that has been provided since November 1 has ensured that leaves are picked up at least every ten days. Starting in February, leaves and pine straw will again need to be bagged in the paper yard bags.

CITY HALL CLOSINGS

City Hall will be closed January 1, 2015 in observance of New Year's and January 19 for Martin Luther King Day.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Welcome to our new Council Member, Josh Bare, who begins serving his term on The City Council this month. He, along with incumbents Andrew Hixson and David McLeroy, retained their seats in the November election. They will be sworn in at the January 5 Council meeting. We look forward to having Mr. Bare join the Council and appreciate his service.

APPOINTMENT

We welcome Kenneth Anderson as the City's newest member to the Planning and Zoning Board. The Board is made up of five members appointed by the Mayor and City Council and each member serves a four-year term. The Planning and Zoning Board makes recommendations to the City Council on rezoning applications, special use permits, and changes to the Zoning Ordinance. Thank you Mr. Anderson and all of the members for your willingness to serve the City of 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
- 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

SPRING RECYCLE DAY - SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar! The City's Recycle and Clean-up Events will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015. This is always an extremely popular and successful service that you won't want to miss. Start clearing that clutter now and watch for more details in the coming months.



UPCOMING EVENTS



- Jan 1 City Hall Closed in observance of New Year's Day
- Jan 12 Movie Monday: God's Not Dead, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 1:30PM and 6:30PM
- Jan 17 Joy of Movement Exhibition - Members Opening Reception, Kudzu Art Zone, 6PM - 9PM. Exhibit open Jan 17-Feb 28.
- Jan 19 City Hall Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 24 Crazy Canvas/the Pottery Edition, Kudzu Art Zone, 5PM-7PM
- Jan 26 Movie Mondays: When the Game Stands Tall, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 1:30PM and 6:30PM
- Jan 27 Kudzu Kidz After School Art Classes, Kudzu Art Zone, 4:30PM-6PM
- Jan 31 Photographing Your Work 101, Kudzu Art Zone, 10AM-12PM
- Feb 6 First Friday Concert: DejaBlue, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 7PM - 9PM
- Feb 9 The New Community Garden in Norcross, Garden Club, 9:45AM
- Feb 9 Movie Monday: What If, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 1:30PM and 6:30PM
- Feb 14 Crazy Canvas/Valentines Edition! Kudzu Art Zone, 5PM - 7PM
- Feb 21 Casino Night/Murder Mystery - Lionheart Theatre Fundraiser, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 6:30 PM
- Feb 23 Movie Monday: The Giver, Cultural Arts and Community Center, 1:30PM and 6:30PM



SIGN UP FOR EVENT REMINDERS!
Regístrate para obtener información sobre los eventos locales!
Most events are free and open to the public; for more event info,
visit www.aplacetoimagine.com