



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 2025

HOLIDAYS IN NORCROSS

Get ready to jingle all the way because our HoliDAYS in Norcross are in full swing! From holiday shopping to magical carriage rides, we've got a sleigh-load of festive fun waiting for you. Let's sleigh this holiday season together!

HOLIDAY QUILT EXHIBIT

Now - December 30 • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Welcome Center & History Museum

Celebrate the season with the Holiday Quilt Exhibit, presented by the Spirited Quilters Guild. This free, public exhibition features 15+ stunning holiday-themed quilts showcasing a variety of materials, techniques and patterns. Wander through festive fiber art and enjoy the creativity of local artists—perfect for a cozy, colorful holiday outing in Norcross.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

December 5 • 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. • Thrasher Park

Fa-la-la your way to our Holiday Celebration! Enjoy carriage rides, holiday hits, cozy hot cocoa and a special visit from Santa and other characters. Treats are available while supplies last, so come early and soak up the festive fun—it's the perfect night to kick off the holiday season with sparkle and cheer!

HISTORIC NORCROSS CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

December 6 • 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. • Downtown Norcross

Step into a winter wonderland at the Historic Norcross Christmas Village! Most activities will happen between 12:00 - 5:00 p.m., including face painting, photos with Santa, Christmas carolers and special appearances by festive characters. Take a free carriage ride through downtown from 6:30-8:30 p.m., explore the Candy Cane Lane Kids Zone, and, of course, visit downtown businesses to find the perfect holiday gifts for everyone on your list. It's a holly-jolly time for all!

CARRIAGE RIDES

December 5 - December 19 • Every Thursday & Friday
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. • Skin Alley, Behind 45 South Cafe

Sleigh the season in Downtown Norcross with complimentary carriage rides behind 45 South Cafe. Enjoy festive lights, holiday tunes and a magical ride through a winter wonderland.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

December 9 - December 19 • Every Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. • 45 South Cafe

Capture the holiday magic with Photos with Santa at 45 South Cafe! Snap a festive photo for \$25 and share your holiday wishes. Please keep in mind Santa will still visit on December 9 and 16, but no photographer will be on site.

ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL NIGHT MARKET: PASSPORT TO THE HOLIDAYS

December 12 • 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. • Lillian Webb Park

December 13 • 2:00 - 10:00 p.m. • Lillian Webb Park

Celebrate the season in style at Passport to the Holidays! Partnering with the Atlanta International Night Market, this festive event takes over Lillian Webb Park. Explore a multicultural winter wonderland with global cuisines, artisan vendors and performances showcasing traditions from around the world.



SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
FOR THE
FULL LINEUP:





HOLIDAY DAY OBSERVANCE

Please be aware that City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. Normal operations will resume on Friday, December 26. Due to the holiday, sanitation and recycling services will be delayed by one day. Thursday, December 25 collections will take place on Friday, December 26 and Friday collections will occur on Saturday, December 27.

Looking ahead to the New Year, City Hall will be closed on Thursday, January 1, 2026 in observance of New Year's Day. Normal operations will resume on Friday, January 2. Sanitation and recycling services will also be delayed by one day, with Thursday, January 1 collections occurring on Friday, January 2 and Friday collections on Saturday, January 3.

Thank you for your understanding, and the City of Norcross wishes all residents a safe and joyful holiday season!



Now - December 8 • City Hall Lobby

Get ready to jingle all the way to giving! There's still time to make a difference. Stop by City Hall and grab any remaining gift tags from the beautifully decorated tree in the lobby. Be sure to drop off your new, unwrapped gifts with tags attached by Monday, December 8. Let's make this season merry and bright. Your generosity truly spreads holiday cheer to local families!



REAPPLY AND CLAIM YOUR HOME SAVINGS

On November 4, 2025, Norcross voters approved a ballot measure to increase the city's homestead exemption on property taxes for homeowners who own and occupy their homes. Beginning with the 2026 tax year, the new exemption amounts will be:

- Homeowners under 65 years old will see their exemption rise from \$9,000 to \$45,000.
- Homeowners 65 years old and older will see their exemption rise from \$18,000 to \$90,000.

To ensure you receive the correct exemption, all residents must re-apply for their homestead exemption. You can apply in person at the Finance Department, City Hall or contact us with any questions via email at taxes@norcrossga.net.

A CANVAS OF COMMUNITY

The Norcross Public Arts Commission, also known as NPAC, is dedicated to bringing high-quality public art to the community to enrich the environment, create vibrant spaces and encourage civic engagement. Public art installations serve as landmarks, gathering spots and memorable photo opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

NPAC was excited to connect with residents at the Norcross Art Splash Festival in October, where the community shared enthusiasm and support for ongoing projects. A standout initiative is the White Squirrels of Norcross installation. The first five squirrel statues, created by Cherrylion Studios, will be placed in January, with their names finalized over the holidays.

Complementing the squirrels, NPAC has also launched an interactive component with decorated acorns currently on display at Savage Pizza. Residents can join the fun and help ensure public art continues to thrive in Norcross by contacting npac@norcrossga.net to purchase an acorn for \$30. Get creative and decorate the acorn as you like, then display it at Savage Pizza. Be sure to add your name and contact information on the bottom of the acorn when you drop it off. Who knows, you may even win a prize!

Looking ahead to 2026, NPAC members will review the Master Arts & Culture Plan to guide the next public art project in the city. Residents are invited to share suggestions by contacting npac@norcrossga.net. Support can take many forms, including donations, volunteering or simply appreciating and sharing the art in the community.

As 2025 comes to a close, NPAC celebrates a year of incredible accomplishments and strong community engagement. The commission thanks everyone who supported public art initiatives this year and looks forward to another exciting year ahead. NPAC wishes all residents a joyful and inspiring holiday season and a happy new year filled with creativity and connection.



SUSTAINABILITY



TIP OF THE MONTH

Keep your holidays eco-friendly! Recycle cardboard and paperboard gift boxes curbside in Norcross. Remember to flatten boxes before placing them in the bin. This helps trucks carry more and makes recycling more efficient. Small steps like this keep our city green and festive while reducing waste during the holiday season.



TREE TALK

Dead or hazardous trees on neighboring properties can create unique challenges and sometimes your neighbor may not even be aware of the issue. Each situation requires careful consideration to make the right decision for safety and property protection.

Responsibility for Damage: When trees or branches fall and cause damage, legal responsibility depends on the tree's health and whether the owner knew of the hazard. Significant damage or injury should be thoroughly documented with photos, especially showing defects that may have caused the failure.

Ownership of Fallen Limbs: Any portion of a tree or branch that lands on your property is legally yours. While neighbors may help with cleanup, they are not required to do so.

Local Ordinance: Currently, our community ordinance does not require removal of dead or hazardous trees on private property. In extreme situations, the city may intervene. This policy may be updated in 2026.

Private Actions: Communicate with your neighbor about concerns. If nothing is done, document the issue with a certified letter, ideally including an ISA Certified Arborist report. You may also involve an attorney. While removal cannot be forced, proper documentation may help recover repair costs through homeowner's insurance.

Practical Solutions: Tree removal and maintenance can be costly. Offering financial assistance or sharing costs can prevent future damages and reduce stress. Always obtain written permission before accessing a neighbor's property for tree work, as contractors often require waivers to protect against potential damage.

By staying informed and proactive, residents can help maintain safety and a healthy, beautiful community tree canopy.



The Pedal Norcross event, a community bike ride around the city, was a huge success this October. The City of Norcross thanks all attendees, staff and volunteers for their energy and dedication in making this year's event memorable.

This year, Pedal Norcross set a new record with the highest number of participants to date. The event also partnered with Gwinnett Great Days of Service, adding a meaningful volunteer component that strengthened community connections and showcased the power of giving back.

A highlight of the day was the bike art contest for local students. Pedal Norcross collected 15 bike donations for student winners from Norcross Elementary School, Brookhaven Innovation Academy and Beaver Ridge Elementary School. This initiative combined creativity with community support, giving students a chance to be celebrated and rewarded for their artistic efforts. The students' winning posters are currently on display at the Norcross Branch, Gwinnett County Public Library, thanks to the support of librarian Jessie Javore.

Attendees enjoyed not only the ride but also special discounts at local businesses, including Cultivation Brewery, Shane's Rib Shack, Freckles & Co, Carolee's, NX Vinyl and Aum Sweet Home. These partnerships highlighted the vibrancy of Norcross' local economy and encouraged residents to explore and support the city's offerings.

The 2025 Pedal Norcross showcased the best of community spirit, active living and local engagement. The City of Norcross thanks everyone who participated, volunteered and supported the event. Residents are encouraged to scan or click the QR code to take the survey on improving cycling in Norcross and help make future cycling events even better. Interested in helping with planning Pedal Norcross and recruiting sponsors for next year? Email sustainable@norcrossga.net. Here's to building on this year's success and making 2026 another exciting, fun-filled year for cycling in the city!

**SCAN OR CLICK
HERE TO TAKE
THE SURVEY:**



The success of the 2025 Pedal Norcross wouldn't have been possible without our generous sponsors. Check out the list below and join us in thanking these amazing supporters who help make community events like this possible!

PLATINUM LEVEL

Amazon

SILVER LEVEL

The Bicycle Doctor and Cultivation Brewery

BRONZE LEVEL

Victory World Church, Jacquelyn & Glenn Morgan, and BEAM Financial

IN THE KNOW

MOVIE MONDAYS



December 8
Polar Express



December 22
White Christmas

Lights, camera, action! Dive into the magic of cinema with Norcross Movie Mondays at the Cultural Arts & Community Center.

Join us every 2nd and 4th Monday for a free movie screening and light refreshments.

With showtimes at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m., get ready for double the fun! Grab your popcorn and settle in for a reel good time!



First FRIDAY Concerts

January 2 • 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Cultural Arts & Community Center

Get ready for an unforgettable night of music and energy! 7 Sharp 9 is an Atlanta-based band with a versatile repertoire spanning pop, rock, jazz and blues. Known for award-winning performances and original songs featured on VH-1 and MTV, they create live experiences that bring people together through music.

This is the perfect event to kick off the New Year! Bring your friends, your dancing shoes and your own food and beverages, or grab takeout from a local eatery. Ticket sales go live Friday, December 19, and the concert is completely free. Scan or click the link below to RSVP and reserve your spot.

**SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
TO RSVP:**





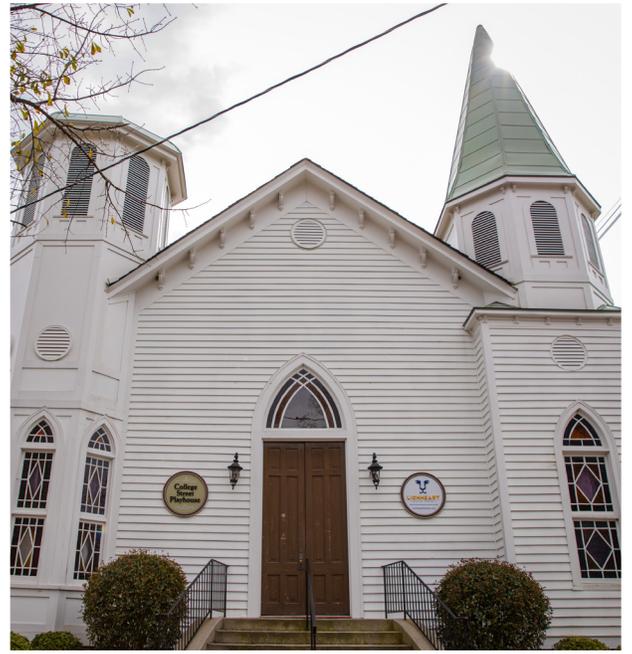
NORCROSS GALLERY & STUDIOS

Now - December 20 • 'Designs In Flowers' Exhibit
Norcross Gallery & Studios presents 'Designs In Flowers', open now through Saturday, December 20. Talented designer Melanie Sheldon created five elegant floral arrangements for spring, summer, fall, winter and a holiday design, which member artists interpreted in vibrant, colorful works. This exhibition celebrates the beauty of the seasons and the creativity of Norcross' artistic community.

Now - January 5 • Artist Of The Month
Artist of the Month is Anne Labaire, whose paintings are on display at 45 South Cafe now through Monday, January 5. Join a reception on Sunday, December 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to meet her, enjoy her unique semi-abstract and semi-realistic works, and experience an afternoon of art, music and community connection.

For exhibit schedules and workshop, visit norcrossgalleryandstudios.org.

NORCROSS
gallery & studios



THE LIONHEART THEATRE COMPANY

December 11 - December 21
'Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG Norcross Christmas Show'
Lionheart Theatre presents 'Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG Norcross Christmas Show'—a holly jolly comedy with local flair! Running December 11–21. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors, students and military. Dessert served at intermission. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m., with an additional matinee on December 20 at 2:00 p.m.

December 29 - December 31
Puppetry Arts Holiday Camp
No strings attached—just holiday fun! Lionheart Theatre's Puppetry Arts Holiday Camp invites kids ages 6–12 to get creative this winter break. Campers will craft and perform their own puppets, ending with a final family show. Cost is \$100 per student—get ready for some festive, string-pulling fun!

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit lionhearttheatre.org.


LIONHEART
THEATRE COMPANY

BUILDING A STRONG BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The Gwinnett Chamber Foundation, also known as GCF, supports small business growth in Norcross and across Gwinnett County by providing entrepreneurs with the tools, resources and connections they need to thrive. Strong local businesses create jobs, support the community and contribute to a vibrant economy that benefits all residents.

Recognizing that resilient, well-supported businesses are essential to a prosperous community, GCF offers strategic programs, technical assistance and events that help business owners grow confidently and lead with purpose.

A key initiative, the Small Business Impact Institute, also known as SBII, gives Gwinnett entrepreneurs education, certification pathways and individualized support to scale strategically. Through the Supplier Certification Cohort, 25 participants each year receive hands-on guidance to obtain certifications such as Supply Chain, Veteran-Owned Small Business and Women-Owned Small Business. Certification assistance is also available in Spanish to ensure accessibility and inclusion for the diverse business community. For certified companies ready to advance, the Accelerator Program provides actionable strategies to win contracts, increase visibility and expand into competitive markets.

In partnership with Verizon, GCF also offers the Verizon Small Business Bootcamp, a virtual learning series designed to strengthen core business skills in financial management, marketing, sales and e-commerce. Participants who complete at least two sessions are eligible to apply for Verizon's \$10,000 small business grant program, providing access to capital and supporting sustainable growth. By helping small businesses succeed, GCF ensures Norcross residents have access to diverse goods, services and opportunities while strengthening the local economy and community. Questions? Contact dcox@gwinnettchamber.org.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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DECEMBER 24 & 25

Christmas Observance, City Hall Closed

JANUARY 1

New Year's Observance, City Hall Closed

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Scan to get
the Spanish
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recibir le boletín
en español!