Mayor Weinbrecht Delivers Annual State of the Town

In striving to achieve transparency and strong leadership, Mayor Harold Weinbrecht issued the annual State of the Town Address via the web and Cary TV 11 last month.

“As we enter 2013 we will continue to be challenged with an increase in demand for services while experiencing reduced revenues. With the passage of the bonds we will be investing in our future while working to keep our taxes low. We will remain focused on making sure there is water, sewer, fire and police protection, and parks to serve our town at the highest level possible. Maintaining the momentum to revitalize downtown will remain important, understanding that our investments will not only create economic opportunities but prevent future problems. We must work hard to protect the town from legislation that may restrict our ability or erode our authority to govern at a local level because as citizens, we know what's best for our community.”

In his 2,500 word-speech, Weinbrecht provided updates on many capital projects and new citizen engagement opportunities.

You can read the full speech at www.townofcary.org or watch the Mayor deliver the address on the Town’s YouTube page, www.youtube.com/TownofCaryChannel.

Arbor Day Celebration

The first Arbor Day was established over 140 years ago on the premise that we each are trustees of the earth.

We'll continue the national tradition of celebrating the importance of trees on March 16 when we plant an honorary dogwood tree at Town hall. Join us at 1 p.m. and pot your own free dogwood tree to take home. Our Certified Arborist will be available to discuss appropriate tree site selection and planting techniques. Learn more about our Arbor Day Celebration by searching “Spruce” at www.townofcary.org or call (919) 469-4301.

BUD Bits

Town offices will close March 29, but there will be no change to garbage, yard waste and recycling collection that week.

March marks the 30th consecutive year we've been recognized as a Tree City USA Community by the Arbor Day Foundation. This award speaks to our investment in the management of our urban forests.

Booth Amphitheatre has been named the Best Music Venue in the 2013 Maggy Awards and was voted the Best Outdoor Venue in Indy’s Best of the Triangle 2012. You be the judge- go to www.boothamphitheatre.com to plan your next visit.

Thanks to a successful bond sale last month, the Town will save $2.16 million in Utility Fund interest expense over the next 17 years. The refinancing comes on the heels of the affirmation of AAA bond ratings by credit research companies Moody’s Investors Service, Fitch Ratings, and Standard & Poor’s.

Share Budget Priorities for FY14

This month, we’re asking for your feedback as we begin to develop our Fiscal Year 2014 budget, which identifies services and projects to be undertaken from July 2013 until June 2014.

From now until the end of February, let us know what you think should be included. Email budgetinput@townofcary.org or call (919) 469-4307.

You can also share your priorities with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/townofcarync or tweet the Town @TownofCary; be sure to include the hashtag #TocBudget.

You can also speak directly to your Town Council on February 13 and February 27 when special budget public hearings will be held as part of the regular Council meetings.

To learn about the process, search “Budget Development” at www.townofcary.org.

Serving our Citizens
Get Ready for Fix a Leak Week

New or old, one in four toilets leaks. Could it be yours? In support of the EPA’s Watersense national campaign, we encourage you to detect and repair all household water leaks, especially those found in toilets.

During the month of March, pick-up a free toilet leak detection kit that includes instructions and dye tablets at any Cary community center, Cary Town Hall, or Morrisville Town Hall. Or, call (919) 469-4090 to request a kit via mail.

Search “Fix a Leak Week” at www.townofcary.org for more details.

Applause! Talent Call

Our youth theatre program, Applause!, is searching for the area’s next actors and technicians.

We’re hosting auditions for Sing Down the Moon on March 18-19 from 5-9 p.m. and Design Team interviews for the same production on March 20 from 5-9 p.m.

No experience is necessary, but appointments are required. Starting March 5, you can email rachel.baranski@townofcary.org to schedule your child’s audition and interview.

For production details and more information, search “Applause” at www.townofcary.org or call (919) 469-4069.

Get the Good Dirt for Free

We’re hosting our annual Compost Giveaway on March 23 starting at 9 a.m. at the Garmon Operations Center. Free of charge, we’ll fill an 18-32 gallon sized hard-sided container full of nutrient rich compost. If more convenient, we’ll also place compost directly into a pickup truck bed or open trailer. No commercial interests, please. The event lasts until 1 p.m. or while supplies last. Questions? Call (919) 469-4301.

Breakfast with the Bunny & Egg Hunts Return

Children ages 10 and younger are invited to participate in our 22nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 23 at Bond Park. The Egg Hunt features three hunt areas, each for a different age group. Bring your own basket and come early for good parking!

Before heading to the hunt, consider having breakfast with the Easter Bunny. All proceeds benefit the Cary Teen Council.

Reservations are required and will be accepted starting February 18.

We are proud to host for the second year our Easter Eggstravaganza, an egg hunt for children 12 and under with special needs, including developmental and or physical disabilities. Our Easter Eggstravaganza will be held March 28 and will also feature fun activities and entertainment after the hunt.

For complete details, search “Easter” at www.townofcary.org or call (919) 469-4061.

Booth Season Tickets On Sale Now

Booth Amphitheatre is scheduling another summer of top-notch live performers and entertainment.

Full and mini season ticket packs are on sale now starting as low as $27.50 per lawn ticket. For pricing and package details, call (919) 462-2025 or visit www.boothamphitheatre.com.

Cultural Connection

Applause! Cary Youth Theatre presents OLD DRY FRYE (Mar. 1-3, Cary Arts Center). For tickets and more, call (919) 469-4069.

Marvelous Music Mainstage Series: Dave Bennett’s Tribute to Benny Goodman (Mar. 8, 7:30 p.m., Cary Arts Center). For tickets and more, call (919) 469-4069.

Next to Normal (March 22-24, Cary Arts Center). For tickets and more, call (919) 469-4069.

For more fun in Cary, visit www.townofcary.org

Temporary Changes at the Tap

Annually in March, we temporarily change the water treatment process by suspending the use of ammonia. This disinfection process is a state-mandated routine practice to help ensure safe drinking water.

Customers who use water for kidney dialysis, fish aquariums and other chlorine sensitive uses should be aware that the water may contain chlorine, ammonia, or a mixture of both from March 1-April 1, 2013.

Questions? Call (919) 469-4090 or search “switchover” at www.townofcary.org.

Fire Prevention: HOME SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

NFPA data shows that residential sprinkler systems reduce the risk of dying in a home fire by 80 percent. Sprinklers protect lives and property by helping to keep fires small. Because the sprinkler system reacts so quickly, it can dramatically reduce the heat, flames and smoke produced in a fire, allowing people more time to escape safely.

In a properly installed system, sprinklers activate individually so that only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate.

Home sprinklers can be installed in a new or existing home, so if you are remodeling or building a home, consider installing a home fire sprinkler system.