While our community is ranked one of the safest in the nation, a recent string of car break-ins prompts us to offer a few safety reminders.

- When parking, whether in a public lot or your driveway, roll up your windows and lock your car doors.
- Never leave valuables in your car in plain sight; this includes loose change and cash.
- If you have to leave items in the car,

Safety First

lock them in the trunk. If you have folding rear seats, lock those, too.

- Stash your garage door opener out of sight in your car. In the wrong hands, the opener could grant someone unwanted access to your home.
- Lock your home and garage doors.
 And if you see your neighbor's open, knock on his door and encourage him to follow your lead.
 - If you've observed or think you've

seen a crime, call 911 to report it as soon as possible. Doing so increases our chances of apprehending the suspect and preventing future incidents.

 To report non-emergencies, contact our Police Department, (919) 469-4012.

"Crime Prevention" at www.townofcary.org

Wildlife Among Us

This time of the year, you may see nocturnal animals, including foxes, out during the day. Because they're opportunistic feeders - meaning they'll hunt for food day or night - they're probably searching for prey. If the animal appears healthy, leave it alone so it can move on. If the animal appears sick, contact our Animal Control officers who can try to remove it.

As we head into spring and summer when wild animals start to give birth, remember to close up the bottom of your low decks and sheds and pick up any fallen trees. Doing so will help prevent them from making a den on your property.

"Animal Control" at www.townofcary.org | (919) 319-4517

Why Do They Call It Ever wondered about the names of our streets? If yes, then

Ever wondered about the names of our streets? If yes, then you'll want to join us March 28 at 7:30 p.m. when our Friends of the Page-Walker presents "Why Do they Call It That? The History Behind Cary's Street Names." Cary resident and researcher Carla Jordan Michaels will reveal the name origins of some of our more popular thoroughfares.

This lecture is one in a series of free programs our Friends of the Page-Walker organization puts on to share local history, ways to preserve your treasures and other preservation efforts.

www.friendsofpagewalker.org (919) 460-4963

Proper Parking

Sometimes our emergency crews, garbage and recycling trucks and other large vehicles have difficulty navigating our streets, particularly when we park our cars incorrectly. You can help our bigger vehicles more efficiently serve you by parking parallel to the curb and within 12 inches of it.

If you're not sure whether you're parked the correct distance from the curb, grab a dollar bill from your pocket. Because a dollar bill is six inches long, your distance from the curb should be no more than twice the bill's length.

If you see a car parked so that it prevents our emergency vehicles or service trucks from accessing the street, contact our Police Department's non-emergency number, (919) 469-4012. One of our officers will be able to educate, warn or cite the driver.

BUD Bits

Join our GoCary staff at the Cary Train Depot March 27 from 3:30-6 p.m. for an update on the Wake County Transit Plan. Learn more about and comment on regional transit service improvements. "GoCary" or (919) 485-7433

Tap into your inner muse at our annual African American Literary Tea at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center April 2 at 2 p.m. "Literary Tea" or (919) 460-4963

Tickets go on sale March 6 at the Herb Young Community Center for our Breakfast with the Bunny April 8 at 8:30 a.m. at the Cary Senior Center. Following breakfast, head to Bond Park for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. Enjoy entertainment through 1 p.m. "Easter" or (919) 460-4965

Also on April 8 beginning at 1:30 p.m. participate in our Eggstravaganza. This fun event is for children 12 and younger with special needs, or developmental and/or physical disabilities. We'll host this event at the Bond Park floodplain. Bring a buddy to help if needed. "Eggstravaganza" or (919) 462-3970

Celebrate poetry April 9 from 1-7 p.m. at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Meet the Nazim Hikmet Poetry Competition winners, listen to readings and stay for the reception. "Nazim Hikmet Poetry Festival" or (919) 460-4963

Catch a great tennis tournament where kids of all ages will be out enjoying the game! Our Cary Tennis Park hosts the Cary Spring Junior Open NC L3 April 15-16; times vary. "Cary Tennis Park" or (919) 462-2061

Enjoy an afternoon of tea at our Cary Senior Center April 19 from 2-4 p.m. Register by April 12 at classweb.townofcary.org. For ages 55 and up. "Cary Senior Center" or (919) 469-4081

Enjoy dance, music, and crafts at our Children's Day Festival April 22 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Sertoma Amphitheatre in Bond Park. You'll find children's dance performances, games, international food and crafts. "Children's Day" or (919) 462-3970

On April 23 from 12:30-5 p.m., dine along Chatham Street during the first of our four 2017 food truck rodeos. Enjoy great food, sip a craft beer or glass of wine and take in the live music. "Chatham Street Chowdown" or (919) 469-4061









Cultural Connection

Cary Art Loop, March 31, 6-9 p.m., participating galleries, restaurants, and coffee houses throughout town, www.caryartloop.org

Cary Players presents The Mousetrap, March 31-April 1, 7:30 p.m.; April 2, 3 p.m., Cary Arts Center, (919) 462-2055

11th Annual World Voice Day Celebration, April 13, 7 p.m., Cary Arts Center, (919) 462-2055

Artist Reception: Wake County Senior Games, April 21, 10:30 a.m., Cary Senior Center, (919) 469-4081

Marvelous Music Series presents Balsam Range, April 21, 7:30 p.m., Cary Arts Center, (919) 462-2055

Triangle Youth Orchestra Spring Concert, April 23, 4 p.m., Cary Arts Center, (919) 462-2055

To Market

Beginning April 1, shop the Cary Downtown Farmers Market, 135 Chatham St. The Market's open rain or shine Saturdays from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. through November 18. Pick up local produce, meats, eggs, fresh cut flowers and fresh butter, locally roasted coffee, fresh baked goods and handmade local crafts. Each week the Market also hosts live music and special events for all ages!

www.caryfarmersmarket.com

Cary It Green

Spring Litter Sweep

Help keep Cary clean and green by removing litter from our streets, trails, parks and neighborhoods April 1 at our Litter Sweep. This is a great activity for families, groups and individuals; hundreds of volunteers collect thousands of pounds of litter.

Join us at an existing site or suggest a site of your own; either way the Town provides all the tools and supplies. If you're 15 or younger, you'll need to be accompanied by an adult. Be certain to register, as it's required to participate in one of four shifts, at one of four pre-determined locations. "Spruce" or (919) 469-4301

Compost Bin Sale

You can reduce waste and grow your greenest garden with home composting! From April 7- May 7 through our online compost bin sale, order an 82 gallon backyard bin below wholesale. For \$45 turn your kitchen scraps into rich, organic fertilizer. Not sure what to do? Each bin comes with a manual to get you started learning about Mother Nature's original recycling! "Compost Bin Sale" or (919) 469-4301

Holiday Schedule

Our offices are closed April 14; however, garbage, recycling and yard waste will be collected as regularly scheduled. The Citizen's Convenience Center will be open April 14, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. "Holiday Schedule" or (919) 469-4090

April Showers ...

While they can be beneficial for your lawn, they can also wash chemicals into our storm drains that empty into streams. Protect our waterways by applying pre-emergent products and fertilizer according to directions and sweeping it from driveways and sidewalks onto the lawn. "Stormwater Education" or (919) 469-4030

Leak Alert

When your water use exceeds your expectations, you can receive an email or text notification. Set either "Tiered Alerts" or "Daily Alerts by Gallon" through your Aquastar account; sign in through DigiPay. "Aquastar Alerts" or (919) 469-4050

@The Cary

At The Cary Theater, there's no shortage of great entertainment! We're hosting a talent show, a songwriting workshop, live acting, comedians and more. That's in addition to regularly scheduled films!

Teen Talent

Support our Teen Council April 2 as they sing, dance, juggle and more on stage at Triangle's Got Talent from 5-8 p.m.; proceeds will be donated to Read and Feed. Tickets are \$10.

Theatre Café

On April 4 from 7-9 p.m., join Ben Slate of Applause! Cary Youth Theatre for an informal discussion during which he shares the process of bringing childhood classic "The Neverending Story" to the stage in a fresh, new way. The free evening is best suited for adults and young adults.

Songwriting

Ellis Paul hosts a songwriting workshop April 8 at 1 p.m.; he'll guide participants through the songwriting process and work with them to create original pieces. Often when teaching, Paul introduces aspiring composers to his "six-step program to effective songwriting," which is based on the premise that songwriters should show and not tell. Tickets are \$25. That same day he and Dean Fields perform at 8 p.m. Tickets for the performance are \$10-\$15.

PlaySlam

The Cary Playwrights' Forum presents PlaySlam April 15 at 7:30 p.m. During this contest featuring 12 three-minute plays, the audience votes for their six favorites. These top six present a second three-minute play and the audience again votes for the overall victor.

Science on Screen

Movies and science collide with Science on Screen® April 21 featuring Jurassic Park. We'll use it as a starting point for our guest speaker to discuss whether dinosaurs can be cloned. It's the perfect combination of entertainment and enlightenment. Tickets are \$10.

Wilmington-based comedian Blaire Postman, who's also the creator, co-host and executive producer of My Fantasy Wife, performs April 22 at 8 p.m. Andy Hendrickson joins her; he's had audiences in stitches with appearances on The Late Show with David Letterman. The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson, Gotham Comedy Live, NBC/ Seeso's The Guest List and more. Tickets are \$15.

www.thecarytheater.com | (919) 462-2051

Watch It!

New this month we're broadcasting Cary TV in high definition! As a result, you may need to rescan your television to enjoy the new viewing experience. You can watch Cary TV on Time Warner Cable Channel 11 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99. You can also see select programs on our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/townofcarychannel

"CaryTV" at www.townofcary.org

Home Escape Plan

With temperatures warming, it's a great time to make a home escape plan and practice an out-of-doors fire drill. To do so, draw a map of each level of your house; be certain to indicate all doors and windows. Next, identify two ways out of every room if possible. Discuss the plan with everyone in your household. Finally, designate an outside meeting place -- a tree, light pole or mailbox where you'll all gather after getting out of your home.

During your fire drill, push the smoke alarm button. Practice getting low, closing the door as you leave a room and crawling out of your home quickly. Everyone should meet at your outside meeting place. Take the time to plan, prepare and practice; it could save your life!