Serving our Citizens

**November 2015** 

### Take It Slow: Share the Road

As we "fall back" in time this caution when sharing the road with cyclists and pedestrians, especially at dawn and dusk.

When cycling, always ride on the street with the flow of traffic, obeying traffic signals/signs as if driving a car.

Pedestrians should use sidewalks when available or walk on the shoulder of the road facing traffic. Wear reflective clothing and consider carrying a flashlight.

Drivers should use extra caution on two-lane roads and drive with their headlights on. Report any unsafe driving you observe in non-emergency conditions to our Road Watch Hotline at (919) 319-4521. Let's keep the roads safe for everyone.

#### Food 'n Friends

Join us at the Cary Senior Center for food, festivities and fun, December 11, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share and, if you'd like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a newly purchased gift valued at \$5-\$10. Call (919) 469-4081 by December 4 to purchase tickets.

> "Holiday Potluck" at www.townofcary.org

BUD

### Downtown Park Construction, Synthetic Turf Installation Begin

We're improving all over Town! Construction began in October on season, you'll need to use extra our Downtown Park. Work includes the Town Square along Academy Street, which will feature a large fountain, outdoor performance space and open lawn areas. Total estimated cost for the design and construction is \$5.8 million, \$2 million of which is part of the voter-approved 2012 Community Investment Bonds referendum. Expected completion is fall 2016.

Three locations around Town will have synthetic turf installed: two fields at Middle Creek Park and one field at Mills School Park. The 2012 bond referendum also funds these projects. Additionally, through a partnership with CASL, two soccer fields at Thomas Brooks Park are also getting the new turf. Installation is underway and continues through summer 2016.

> "Current Projects" at www.townofcary.org

#### Gingerbread Competition

Create a gingerbread house yummy enough for an elf's visit at the Fifth Annual Gingerbread Competition!

Use your favorite gingerbread recipe, icing, gumdrops and imagination. Winning houses will be on display beginning December 5 and remain throughout the month at the Cary Arts Center. Register by November 25; completed gingerbread houses are due December 4.

"Heart of the Holidays" at www.townofcary.org

We're collecting loose leaves from November through January according to your mailed map and schedule. "Loose Leaf Collection" at www.townofcary.org.

Bits The 2015 NCAA Women's College Cup takes to the field December 4 and 6 at the WakeMed Soccer Park. "WakeMed Soccer Park" at www.townofcary.org.

Come hear the rollicking sounds of The Really Terrible Orchestra of the Triangle (RTOOT): Seasons in Time, December 8, 7:30 p.m. at the Cary Arts Center. *"RTOOT" at www.townofcary.org.* 

Put your skills on the line at the Elks Hoop Shoot at Bond Park Community Center, December 10. Event is free. "Elks Hoop Shoot" at www.townofcary.org.

Bundle up and sing along at Cary Town Band's Winterfest '15, December 18, 7:30 p.m. at the Cary Senior Center in Bond Park. "Winterfest" at www.townofcary.org.

# Holiday Open House

Get into the holiday spirit with some old-fashioned Christmas fun at the Page-Walker's Holiday Open House, December 5, 4-6

Learn about Victorian holiday traditions while touring the historic hotel built in 1868. Listen to 19th-century carolers and take a horse-drawn carriage ride.

Taste holiday treats, and view historic rooms decorated for the season by the Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel. Be sure to try hands-on crafting for the kids,

"Heart of the Holidays" at www.townofcary.org (919) 460-4963

#### 2016 PRCR Fun

Check out all the fun, warm activities planned for this winter season in the Winter/Spring 2016 program guide. Registration for Cary residents begins December 7; non-residents may begin registering December 21.

> "Programs" at www.townofcary.org

## O Christmas

Welcome in the holiday season with the official Christmas Tree Lighting at Town Hall, 316 N. Academy Street, December 5 at 6 p.m. This festive night will feature actors, singers and musicians from the community as well as the unveiling of the "Cary Community Christmas Tree" inside Town Hall. Over 120 community groups provide handcrafted ornaments for display on the tree – a true representation of the diversity of Cary.

Auditions for the Tree Lighting ceremony participants are Wednesday, November 4, 5:30-9 p.m. at The Cary Theater. Interested artists must sign up to audition as walk-ins can't be accommodated. Email ashley.mccall@ townofcary.org.

Community groups that would like to submit an ornament for the Cary Community Christmas Tree should email sarah.schubert@ townofcary.org. For more information, call (919) 460-4963.

> "Heart of the Holidays" at www.townofcary.org

#### This or That? Which Website?

Thanks to the hundreds of you who've been helping us overhaul www.townofcary.org! Here's another opportunity for you to weigh in, and give us your ideas.

Through November 30, take a 3-minute online survey that features several examples of our website vendor's previous design work. View each example and answer a few quick questions. The results will help steer the look and feel of your new site.

> "Website Overhaul" at www.townofcary.org

#### Holiday Collections Schedule

We're altering garbage, recycling and yard waste collections during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's.

All garbage and yard waste collection and yellow week recycling is ONE DAY EARLY. Tuesday's collection is December 21; Wednesday's collection is December 22; Thursday's collection is December 23; and Friday's collection is December 24.

During the week of December 27-January 2, all garbage and yard waste collection and blue week recycling is ONE DAY EARLY. Tuesday's collection is December 28; Wednesday's collection is December 29; Thursday's collection is December 30; and Friday's collection is December 31. Our Citizen's Convenience Center will be closed December 25 and January 1.

> "Holiday Collection" at www.townofcary.org

#### Help Rain Drain

off our streets, and debris could end up in our creeks as stormwater pollution.

You can help by preparing your fallen leaves for weekly yard waste collection, or keep them loose along the curb for loose leaf collection, which runs from November 2015 to January 2016. Call (919) 469-4090 for details.

> "Stormwater" at www.towonofcary.org

#### **Boychoir Sings**

Heavenly voices perform holiday classics as the Friends of the Page-Walker 2015-16 Concert Series presents the Bovchoir's Millen-Raleigh nium Singers December 13 at 4 p.m. at the Page-Walk-Arts & History Center.

Choir members ages 7-14 have performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall and the National Cathedral. It's sure to be an afternoon of choral delight.

> "Boychoir" at www.townofcary.org

## **Holiday Pops**

Let the leaves fall where they may, but keep them out of our storm drains. A clogged drain can stop the flow of rainwater off our streets, and debris could by the 20-piece Moonlighters Orchestra for a performance of great seasonal, popular favorites for vocals and big band music. You'll definitely want to sing along.

> "Holiday Pops" at www.townofcary.org

#### Tree of Hope

Help us shine brightly at the lighting of the Arbolito de la Esperanza at the Herbert Young Community Center, December 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The lighting represents rays of hope for Hispanic/Latino children with the collection of Estrella de la Esperanza (Stars of Hope) donations. Before the tree lighting, there is a traditional Latin celebration with a potluck dinner featuring holiday foods from around Latin America. Co-sponsored by the Town of Cary and Diamante. Inc.

> "Tree of Hope" at www.townofcary.org

## **Hot Tips: Good Wood Fires**

Who doesn't love the crackle and glow of a nice fire in a wood-burning fireplace? Used properly, fireplaces can deliver lots of heat and ambience.

But, once the fire is out, and it's time to clean out the ashes, follow these important safety tips:

- Remember, ashes can stay hot long after the fire is out; always place ashes in a non-combustible container.
- Never put ashes in plastic, cardboard or paper containers or dispose of them with other waste in a trash can.
- For added safety, soak the ashes with plenty of water.
- Finally, always keep the ashes in a closed container at least 10 feet from your house and never on a deck.

#### Lantern Festival

December 2015 marks the first time our town will host the Chinese Lantern Festival—the only such event in the Southeast—and just in time for the holiday season!

The festival will include more than 20 displays, each one comprised of hundreds of working parts and thousands of LED lights. These larger-than-life, one-of-a-kind light displays will amaze you with their beauty! Additionally, there will be multiple weekend performances by Chinese artisans from Tianyu Culture, the Zigong, Sichuan-based company presenting the festival.

The festival is at Koka Booth Amphitheatre and runs daily for five consecutive weeks beginning November 28. Sunday through Thursday hours are 6:30-10 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday, 6:30-11 p.m.

> "Lantern Festival" at www.townofcary.org

#### 15 Years Young

It's our anniversary at the Cary Senior Center, and you're invited! Join us December 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m. for appetizers, music, dancing and giveaways. Register for tickets early - ages 50-plus.

> "15th Anniversary" at www.townofcary.org

#### Menorah Lighting

Join us at the Cary Arts Center, December 10, 5-7 p.m. for the Jewish Cultural Festival. We'll light the 9-foot Menorah at 5:30 p.m. and enjoy food trucks and vendors serving traditional Hanukkah treats and other foods along with music and crafts for the kids.

of giving by bringing nonperishable and canned food donations for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina.

Presented by the Town of Cary, The Jewish Federation of Raleigh-Cary, Beth Shalom and Chabad of Cary, the festival is a delightful way to celebrate this time-honored, fun-filled holiday.

> "Jewish Festival" at www.townofcary.org

#### Cultural **Connection**

Cary Photographic Artists (December 5, 2-4 p.m., Cary Arts Center). (919) 462-2055.

Getting to Know Me: LeTouquet & Town of Cary Children's **Cultural Exchange** (December 5, 2-4 p.m., Cary Town Hall). (919) 462-2055.

Serenity in the South: H. Lee Dawson (December 5, 2-4 p.m., Herbert C. Young Community Center). (919) 462-2055.

Triangle Wind Ensemble: "'Tis The Season" (December 11. 7:30 p.m., Cary Arts Center). (919) 462-2055.

Visit www.townofcary.org and Twitter @TOC\_Fun for more

#### Flaky Fun

On December 3 at 7:30 p.m.. get in the holiday spirit at the Cary Arts Center with "Dashing Through the Snow," a play featuring a colorful caravan of eccentric guests who deck the halls of the Snowflake Inn B&B in this side-splitting, family-friendly comedy by authors Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten. Additional performances December 3-7.

> "Dashing" at www.townofcary.org

#### Santa's Workshop

Children will delight in a variety of craft stations while visiting Santa's Workshop at the Herbert Young Community Center. They can make gifts for someone special and enjoy a visit from the white-bearded guy from the North Pole!

Also, support the Cary Teen You can also get into the spirit Council's food drive by sending each child to the workshop with two nonperishable food items or a cash donation. All contributions go to a local charity.

Workshop hours: December 5, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; there is a 20-minute break at 11:30 a.m., so Santa can feed his reindeer. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

"Heart of the Holidays" at www.townofcary.org