



Neighborhood News

February 2016

Good Neighbor Tip: Super Bowl Sunday – Go Panthers!!



Believe it or not at-home Super Bowl parties are bigger than New Year's Eve celebrations. Though you may not find it listed on any calendar, Super Bowl Sunday is considered an unofficial holiday in the US. In fact, after Thanksgiving, more food is eaten on Super Bowl Sunday than any other day of the year.

What does this all mean for your neighborhood? Well expect that some of your neighbors will likely host an at-home party on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7th – especially since our hometown team the Carolina Panthers will be playing. So help pave the way for a smooth celebration by offering the following recommended tips:

- If plan on hosting a party or celebration at your home, kindly give your neighbors plenty of warning, letting them know the day and time of the party and how long you expect it to go on.
- Keep the noise under control and abide by the City's noise ordinances.
- Make sure your guests park legally and that they don't constrict traffic by parking on both sides—that can lead to a crisis situation if you or any of your neighbors need emergency assistance and emergency vehicles can't navigate the street;
- If you are attending a party at a friend's house and plan to have a few drinks, please designate a sober driver before the party begins. Also, remember, Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk so if your guest are impaired, take the keys.
- Finally, just like your mother always said, clean up after yourself! Arrange garbage neatly for pick up on trash collection day.

Plan your next adventure.

Whether you want to get in shape, get your child involved in youth sports, or plan your next adventure, Concord's Parks and Recreation Leisure Times Guide is a great resource. The Guide includes information on City sponsored adult and youth recreation programs and services. Click here to view the [Spring 2016 Leisure Times](#).

Concord Police Promotions

On January 8, 2016, Police Chief Gary Gacek announced the promotions of two experienced officers to senior positions - Betty Stocks was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police, and Keith Eury was promoted to the rank of Major. Visit concordnc.gov to read the full announcement.



Deputy Chief Betty Stocks



Major Keith Eury



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2016 City cemetery cleanup planned for February 29 - March 4

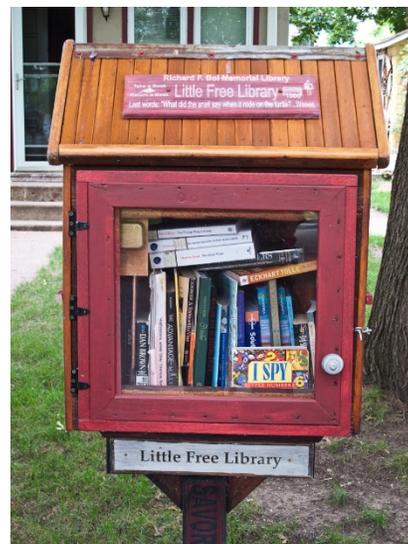
Crews are making plans for the annual spring cleaning at cemeteries operated by the City of Concord. The work, planned for the week of February 29, will take place at [Oakwood Cemetery](#), [West Concord Cemetery](#), and [Rutherford Memorial Park](#). In order to prepare for spring mowing and grounds work, the City requests the public's cooperation in removing all items placed on or near gravesites prior to Monday, February 29. Any item not removed from gravesites before this time will be discarded. Flowers and other items may be replaced after Friday, March 4. For more information call the [Cemetery division](#) at 704-786-8212.

Larissa Blankenship's Little Free Library Projects Community Building. JUMP ON BOARD!

For her Girl Scout Gold Award Project, Larisa Blankenship would like to lead an effort to build little free libraries for her community. The little libraries are a place where individuals can "take a book, leave a book," which is the motto of LFLs.

What are Little Free Libraries?

A Little Free Library is a free book exchange. They come in many shapes and sizes, but the most common version is a small wooden box of books. Anyone may take a book or bring a book to share. The libraries work on an honor system where books can be donated and/or borrowed for any amount of time without a library card or late charges. The libraries are also a place for neighbors to connect and form a sense of community. Kits can be ordered from [Little Free Library](#). Kits range from about \$175 to \$1,000. Individuals or organizations can also use their own materials and build for less- which is what Larissa is proposing. There are over 36,000 registered Little Free Library book exchanges in all 50 U.S. states and over 70 countries around the world.



This special project is intended to promote reading literacy, a love of reading and to provide books to share in several recognized neighborhoods across the City. Larissa is proposing to partner with recognized neighborhood organizations to build the libraries on a common area or any area designated by the neighborhood leaders. She would also organize volunteers to paint the libraries and if desired plant pollinator gardens around the base of the library. The planting of the pollinator garden is an expansion of Larissa's proposal in an effort to assist with the [City of Concord](#) and [Concord Wildlife Alliance's \(CWA\)](#) commitment to take specific actions to help the monarch butterfly and other pollinators.

Larissa Blankenship is a resident of the Carolando Recognized Neighborhood and an 11th grade student at Jay M. Robinson High School. She is also a member of Girl Scout Troop #709.

If your neighborhood organization is interested in working with Larissa to build and install a neighborhood library, please contact Larissa directly via email at lblankenship1273@gmail.com. For more information about Little Free Libraries, visit <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>



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Crime Prevention Tip:

Don't be a victim! Beware of Imposter Scammers.



It's not always easy to spot con artists. These criminals will use any tactic to steal personal and financial information and con victims into giving them large amounts of money. Beware of Imposter Scammers.

Here's how they work:

You get a call from someone claiming to be a government official or a friend of someone you know - your grandchild, a relative or a friend. Maybe it seems to be from someone you know - your grandchild, a relative or a friend. Whatever the story, the request is the same: wire money to pay taxes or fees, or to help someone you care about. If they're claiming to be a government official, they might demand immediate payment. But is the person who you think it is? Judging by the complaints to Police, the answer is no. The person calling you is pretending to be someone else.

If you receive a suspicious call from someone asking for your bank account information, credit card information, or requesting you to wire money, **STOP!! Hang up the phone** and check it out. Call the person, the government agency, or someone else you trust. Get the real story. Then decide what to do. Remember, no government agency will ever ask you to wire money. Pass this information on to a friend. Perhaps you have not received one of these calls, but the chances are you know someone who has or may. If you suspect or experience fraud, call Concord Police at 704-920-5000.

Fire Prevention Tip:

Electrical Safety Tips

Flipping a light switch. Plugging in a coffeemaker. Charging a laptop computer. These activities are second nature for most of us. Electrical appliances and devices make our lives easier. However, our trust in them should not be absolute. Electrical system components can wear out over time, just like your roof or furnace, but good electrical practices can help keep your home safe.

- All electrical works should be performed by a licensed electrician.
- Use GFCI-protected outlets in the kitchen and bathrooms.
- Routinely check cords, outlets, switches and appliances for signs of damage.
- Do not overload outlets with too many devices or appliances.
- Never run electrical cords under rugs or carpets.

Please share this information with your neighbors.

Loose Leaf Collection

Second Chance Collection Program

Solid Waste Services is once again offering the Second Chance collection program for those who missed the last collection and is willing to pay rather than to bag their leaves and avoid the Code Enforcement penalties. The program will be available weekdays from February 2-6 and February 9-13. To participate, residents should call the Customer Care Center at 704-920-5555. Second Chance collections will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis; the City will only schedule as many collections as one loose leaf crew can provide during the two-week time period. Learn more at concordnc.gov.



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Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

February 1

Gable Oaks Board Meeting, TBD 7PM

February 2

*Wyndham Place – 434 Wyndham Pl NE, 10AM

February 4

*Province Greene - 632 Weyburn Drive, 7PM

February 8

Oakleaf – Clubhouse, 6PM

Residents of Historic Concord – 205 S Union, 7PM

February 9

Asheford Greene – TBD, 7PM

Brandon Ridge – Fire Station #8, 7PM

Gibson Village -Clearwater, 223 Crowell Dr NW,
6:30PM

*Highland Creek - Community Clubhouse, 7PM

*Laurel Park – Community Clubhouse, 6:30PM

Morris Glen – Speedway Club, 6:30PM

February 10

Glen Grove– Fire Station #8, 6PM

*Winding Walk - 10660 Fairwoods Dr, 6PM

February 11

[City Council Meeting – City Hall, 6PM](#)

*Weddington Woods - Fire Station #7, 7PM

Yates Meadows - Roberta United Methodist Church,
7PM

**Board Meeting*

February 15

President's Day

*Oak Park – Community Clubhouse, 7PM

*The Woodlands – 5719 Woodridge Ct NW, 7PM

* Kings Crossing – Clubhouse, 7PM

February 16

[Planning & Zoning, 6PM](#)

Silver Hill - Primitive Baptist Church, 6PM

*Carriage Downs - Clubhouse, 7PM

February 17

*Sheffield Manor – Clubhouse, 6:30PM

February 18

[Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 7PM](#)

Zemosa Acres - Fire Station #7, 7PM

Wincoff School Rd & Belvedere - Flow Harris

Presbyterian Church, 7PM

February 22

*Christenbury - Manor House, 6:30 PM

Logan Community Meeting - Logan Multi-Purpose
Center, 7pm

Moss Creek - Clubhouse, 6:30 PM

February 23

Beverly Hills, Epworth United Methodist Church,
7PM

February 29

*Glen Grove – Fire Station #8, 6PM

Neighborhood News is published monthly and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

Please share this newsletter by forwarding it to your neighbors - post an excerpt in your community's newsletter, post a copy on your community bulletin board, website, Facebook or Nextdoor page.

[Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods](#)

BUILDING relationships to **EMPOWER** communities and **CONNECT** citizens to resources.