

Tips To Help Prevent Home Break-ins

The holiday season is prime time for criminals looking for easy targets. Home break-ins increase during this time of year so the Community Resources Unit of the Durham Police Department offers the following tips to prevent home break-ins.

- Be on the look-out for suspicious activity or individuals.
- Make sure that you have all doors and windows locked securely. Two locks or a second way to secure a door or window is recommended.
- Have a monitored alarm system. It will not stop someone from breaking in but will help limit the time a burglar stays in your home.
- Leave one or two lights and maybe a TV on in the

house even throughout the day. This will create an illusion that someone is home. Most break-ins occur during the day.

- Don't have windows covered by large bushes or shrubs. These provide hiding spots in your yard.
- Don't leave big ticket item boxes at the curb. This shows what items you may have inside.
- Don't leave a spare key outside, leave it with a neighbor.
- When leaving for three or more days, have your

Continued on Page 2

Durham Offers Business Employee Training Grants

Durham-based businesses seeking ways to address employees' skill gaps can apply for a training grant opportunity worth up to \$25,000.

The City of Durham's Office of Economic and Workforce Development is accepting applications to the North Carolina Incumbent Workforce Development Program, which is a competitive grant that qualifying businesses can use to address employees' skills gaps. The goal of the grant is to increase employee knowledge and certifications, which will help contribute to a company's competitiveness in regional and global economies.

Eligibility criteria include: for-profit and non-profit Durham-based businesses must be in operation in North Carolina for a minimum of one year prior to the application date, current on all federal and state tax obligations, and financially viable.

Grant funds are paid by reimbursement upon receipt of an invoice from approved businesses. The next grant submission deadline is March 11, 2014, by 5 p.m. To learn more about this grant opportunity, contact Business Services Manager Darrell Solomon at (919) 560-4965 ext. 15221 or by email at Darrell.Solomon@DurhamNC.gov.

Upcoming City Holidays

Thanksgiving, November 28 and 29, 2013
Christmas - Monday - Wednesday, Dec. 23-25, 2013

For information about City holidays, garbage collection, or other City Services, contact Durham One Call.



Waste Disposal and Recycling Center

2115 E. Club Blvd., Durham
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - noon / Closed Sundays

Accepting old electronics, appliances, tires, yard waste, and other recyclables.

Contact the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau for public events and non-City holiday schedules at (919) 687-0288.

The Citizens' Newsletter is published every other month with the water bill on a staggered schedule. Information can be dated for some receiving their bill at the end of the mailing cycle. For the most current information, visit the website at www.durhamnc.gov.

City Briefs

Charge Ahead Durham Can Help You Save Money and Make Durham Greener!

Let's all do our part to make Durham cleaner, greener and more sustainable at the same time? Charge Ahead Durham is a new City-County program that helps residents protect the environment, save money, and improve their overall well-being. As a bonus, you can win great prizes for reporting your progress. Whether your motives are leaving a better world for your children, saving money or simplifying your life, Charge Ahead Durham has something for you. Visit www.ChargeAheadDurham.org or contact Megan Carroll at mcarroll@dconc.gov or (919) 560-7993 for information.

Too Many Leaves To Pick Up? We're Here To Help?

We all love fall, but the beautiful season means lots of extra yard work. Convenient and affordable help is here to help City residents haul away all of those leaves and other yard debris throughout the year. Take advantage of our curbside yard waste service for an annual fee of \$60 plus \$18 for the cart. Service is from July to June of each year and renewals for existing customers will begin with a reminder notice in your March/April 2014 water bill. Learn more about the City's yard waste program on the Solid Waste Management home page at www.durhamnc.gov. Not a customer yet? Contact Durham One Call at (919) 560-1200 to begin your service today.

Watch "CityLife"

"CityLife" is a half-hour television show that informs citizens about Durham City government services, issues, and upcoming events. The program airs three times daily. Log onto www.durhamnc.gov, click on Public Affairs for times.

Subscribe to the City Manager's Report

Receive the latest information and important City news via email with the *City Manager's Report*. To subscribe, visit www.durhamnc.gov/managersreport.

Continued from Page 1

mail/newspapers stopped for the days you will be gone.

You should keep a log of all the serial numbers or the owner applied numbers of items in your home such as TV, DVD player, stereos, computers and guns. For information on crime prevention, contact the community resource officer for your area at (919) 560-4404 or visit www.durhampolice.com.

Durham Hosts Fourth Annual Holiday Fun Fest

Enjoy snow sledding, pony rides, entertainment and more!

Mark the beginning of the holiday season at Durham's Holiday Fun Fest on Saturday, December 7 from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. The activities will take place at Durham Central Park, 502 Foster St.

There will be a host of activities and events for the entire family including a campfire with s'mores, trackless train rides, an interactive kid's corner, snow sledding, Santa meet and greet, food vendors and more!

Non-food, artist and natural craft vendors are needed. Festival organizers are also soliciting volunteers to assist with parking, operations, main stage, kids' activities, hospitality and more. To sign up or get information about volunteer opportunities, email DPRVolunteers@durhamnc.gov.

Tune In To "City Hall This Week"

A half-hour television show on Time Warner Cable\ channel 8, "City Hall This Week" informs citizens about what is going on in City Hall and important issues facing City Council. Log onto www.durhamnc.gov, click on Public Affairs for times.

Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act

A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in city government activities by contacting the ADA coordinator, voice (919) 560-4197, fax 560-4196, TTY (919) 560-1200, or ADA@durhamnc.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.