

# The Innkeeper



FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER

WINTER 2021



Celebrating  
Cary's 150th

A Gift from the Past

Heritage Museum Updated

Cary Me Back

Up for a History Tour or  
Scavenger Hunt?



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOHN LOYACK

## Virtual Friends

Dear Members and Friends,

As we start this new year, I've taken some time to reflect on the different ways so many of us have been impacted by the pandemic. Without doubt, we all have examples of personal loss. It has not been an easy time overall.

I am, however, pleased to share that the Friends of Page Walker have been able to deliver some exciting, new historic preservation material that has driven new interest in Cary's historic sites in a way that has allowed us to reach larger audiences than ever before. Our mission of enriching the community by advocating preservation of Cary historic sites, by archiving history and facilitating history education, has not changed. The way we deliver it has changed significantly.

For example, in September, Friends Board members Heather Leah and Barbara Wetmore provided a live tour through the historic White Plains Cemetery in Cary to share the stories of Nathaniel Jones and the rediscovery and restoration of the cemetery in which he is laid to rest. This tour was viewed by hundreds of viewers. In January, the intrepid Heather took an internet-based audience for a nighttime stroll down Academy Street and highlighted the sights and sounds of a quaint downtown Christmas while discussing Cary Christmas past.

So, while we await the days when we can tour these sites again, we are very pleased to share our mission with the public through virtual tours and social media. Keep an eye out for more content soon.

The Friends of Page Walker are particularly happy to share this content during a very special year. If you didn't know it yet, 2021 is the 150th anniversary of the Town of Cary. Anyone looking for more information about celebrations taking place throughout the year, or anyone looking for information about the history of Cary, should visit the Cary150 website: [www.cary150.org](http://www.cary150.org).



Enjoy this special year and thank you very much for all the ways you support the Friends of the Page-Walker.

The Innkeeper is the newsletter of the Friends of the Page-Walker. First published in 1985, and restarted in 2003 after a hiatus, the newsletter offers member and community outreach communication. The Innkeeper is a team effort of the Friends. Brent Miller edits and Leesa Brinkley designs the newsletter. We welcome your contributions to The Innkeeper. If you have articles, suggestions or ideas to share, please send them to Brent at [brent@posmoroda.com](mailto:brent@posmoroda.com).

## Happy 150th Cary!

THE TOWN CELEBRATES OUR  
SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR

**O**n April 3, 1871, Alison Francis “Frank” Page incorporated the Town of Cary, named after Ohio

congressman, author and temperance movement leader Samuel Fenton Cary (although because of a clerical error, the original paperwork spelled our town’s name as “Carey”, but it was soon corrected). Three years earlier, Frank and his wife Catherine “Kate” Raboteau Page had built the grand hotel next to their homestead in what is now downtown Cary – today that building is the Page-Walker Arts and History Center.

So this April 3 (that’s 4/3/21, like a countdown), Cary turns 150 years old, and the Town and many partner organizations, including the Friends of the Page-Walker, plan a yearlong celebration.

### Website Launch

The town recently launched [cary150.org](http://cary150.org). Visit the website to learn about Cary’s past, present and future – including a timeline of Cary’s history, information about our present-day town and some of our future plans.

You can learn more about Cary’s founding in this short [video](#) of January’s History Moment at the Cary Town Council meeting.

### Events

Visit [cary150.org](http://cary150.org) for up-to-date information about celebratory events, including a big 150th year celebration (tentatively planned for this summer), the story of Cary (an original play from the Cary Players and Amazing Place Productions, currently planned for this fall) and the Backyard History virtual program series (see p. 7 for more information about Backyard History programs).



### Educational Tours



The Town’s Cary150 task force and the Friends are collaborating to produce a series of self-guided walking and driving tours. Intended as a safe, fun activity that families can enjoy even during COVID-19

restrictions, these tours are a way to learn about Cary’s past, present and future.

The first tour, an African American History driving tour, was just launched to celebrate Black History Month. Other tours will be released later this year. Click [here](#) to find and print the tour guides, and share your tour experiences on your social media with the hashtag [#Cary150Tours](#).

### Share Your Story

The town is compiling a virtual scrapbook of “Cary stories”. Everyone is encouraged to share their Cary memories and experiences to add to our town’s collective narrative. Share your story [here](#).



[cary150.org](http://cary150.org)

# Picture This!

The Friends are working to partner with a photo finishing company to produce prints, greeting cards, puzzles, blankets and holiday ornaments featuring some of these beautiful photos taken by our members. Once purchased, we will provide a link to our photo finishing partner, who can produce and deliver.

Please keep an eye out at [friendsofpagewalker.org](http://friendsofpagewalker.org) for upcoming details.



CAC and Ashworth photos by Heather Leah



Hillcrest Cemetery and Page-Walker photos by Carla Michaels



"Horse Drawn Memories" Laurie Miller





## New Historic Church Cemetery Walking Tour Coming Soon

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPOTLIGHT  
BARB WETMORE

Cary First Christian Church Cemetery at 300 West Cornwall Road is a Cary Historic Landmark. This cemetery is where some of Cary's most prominent African Americans from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are buried, including the Arrington, Bates, Cotton, Hicks and Stroud families, among others. It was a burial ground as early as 1867, perhaps earlier. Sallie Jones, a member of First Christian Church, led efforts to restore this cemetery in the 1980s.



The Friends are currently engaged with Pastor Mycal Brickhouse and several members of the Cary First Christian Church congregation to produce a walking tour brochure for this stately cemetery. Like the brochure that the Friends produced for Hillcrest Cemetery, another local historic landmark, brochures will be available at the cemetery and at some Town of Cary venues. When the cemetery is open, visitors will be able to take a brochure and tour the cemetery to learn about the people buried there.

We expect the brochure to be available this summer. In the meantime, you can learn more about this ministry of Cary First Christian Church through a wonderful video on their [website](http://www.friendsopagewalker.org).

## History in Our Backyard

GOODBYE CARY TOWNE CENTER,  
HELLO NANCY JONES

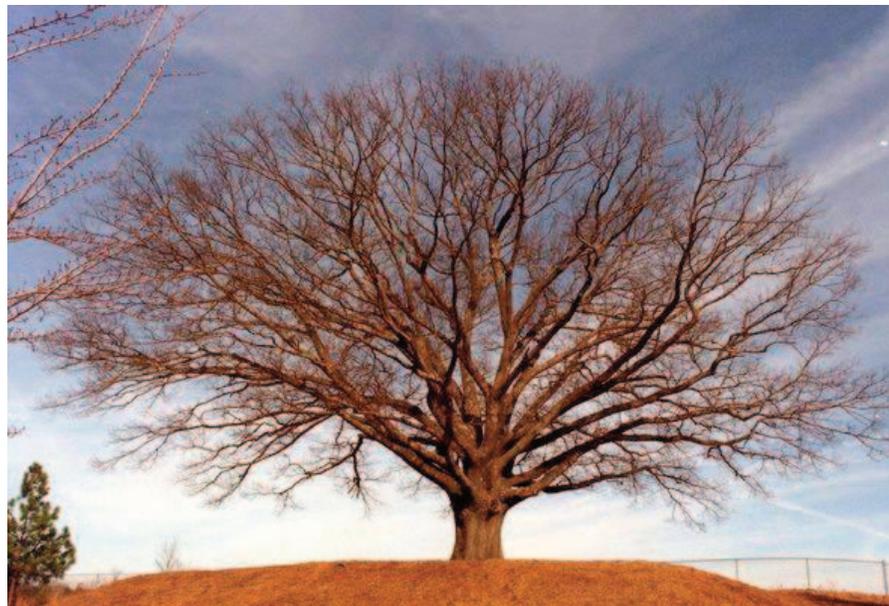
### **Cary Towne Center Mall to be Redeveloped**

We are preparing to say goodbye to Cary Towne Center, which is slated to become the site of a new headquarters for Epic Games. Although this venerable mall is not a designated historic property, it has a rich history and is the source of many memories for lots of folks in Cary. Some of those memories, along with memorable pictures, have been captured on our [Facebook](#) page and in Heather Leah's [story](#) published at WRAL.

### **Nancy Jones House to Move**

The Friends are delighted to learn that the Nancy Jones house, the oldest remaining residence in Cary, will soon enter a new chapter in its long life as a treasured Cary historic resource.

As we've previously reported, the Town of Cary has taken possession of the house. Recently, the town also acquired a nearby lot and plans are being made to move the house a short distance down Chapel Hill Road where it will have a new lease on life. Because it will maintain its historic context at the new nearby site, we also learned the additional good news that the State Historic Preservation Office and US National Park Service have determined that the Nancy Jones house will maintain its status on the National Register of Historic Places.



Thanks to one of our Facebook followers for this picture of "The Cary Oak" that once stood in the field behind the mall and became a symbol of Cary's biggest shopping venue. When it finally succumbed, local artisans made mementos from it.

The oldest remaining Cary residence was built in 1803. Shown below: Nancy Jones.



The Friends hope to participate in documenting the house move. The new use for this historic treasure is not yet decided, but it will be a public resource. We express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the many parties who, along with the Friends, have collaborated for years to reach this milestone for Cary's most important historic property, including the Town of Cary, Cary Historic Preservation Commission, State Historic Preservation office, Capital Area Preservation and Sri Venkateswara Temple.

### **Backyard History**

We look forward to being able to resume our historic preservation program series when we can return to meeting in person. Until then, we recommend the Town of Cary's virtual Backyard History programs. Since September 2020, the Page-Walker Arts & History Center staff has presented the Backyard History Series on a virtual platform. Originally a partnership with the Cary Library that had to be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Backyard History educates the public about topics of local history. So far the

program has included:

- Cary: The Early Years;
- North Carolina and the Railroad;
- Education in Cary;
- Cary's Winter Holiday Traditions;
- A Bond Park Tale; and
- Cary's African American Community.

The series continues through May with a look at:

- Women of Cary in March;
- Celebrating Cary150 in April; and
- Historic Preservation in May (this session will be the Friends' annual "What Have We Got to Lose?" program).

Additionally, the North Carolina with Wade Carmichael series has brought new history topics to our audience with discussions of North Carolina's earliest residents, the state's cash crops, and North Carolina inventors. These programs have been offered by the Town free of charge, but registration is required. You can find program details [here](#).

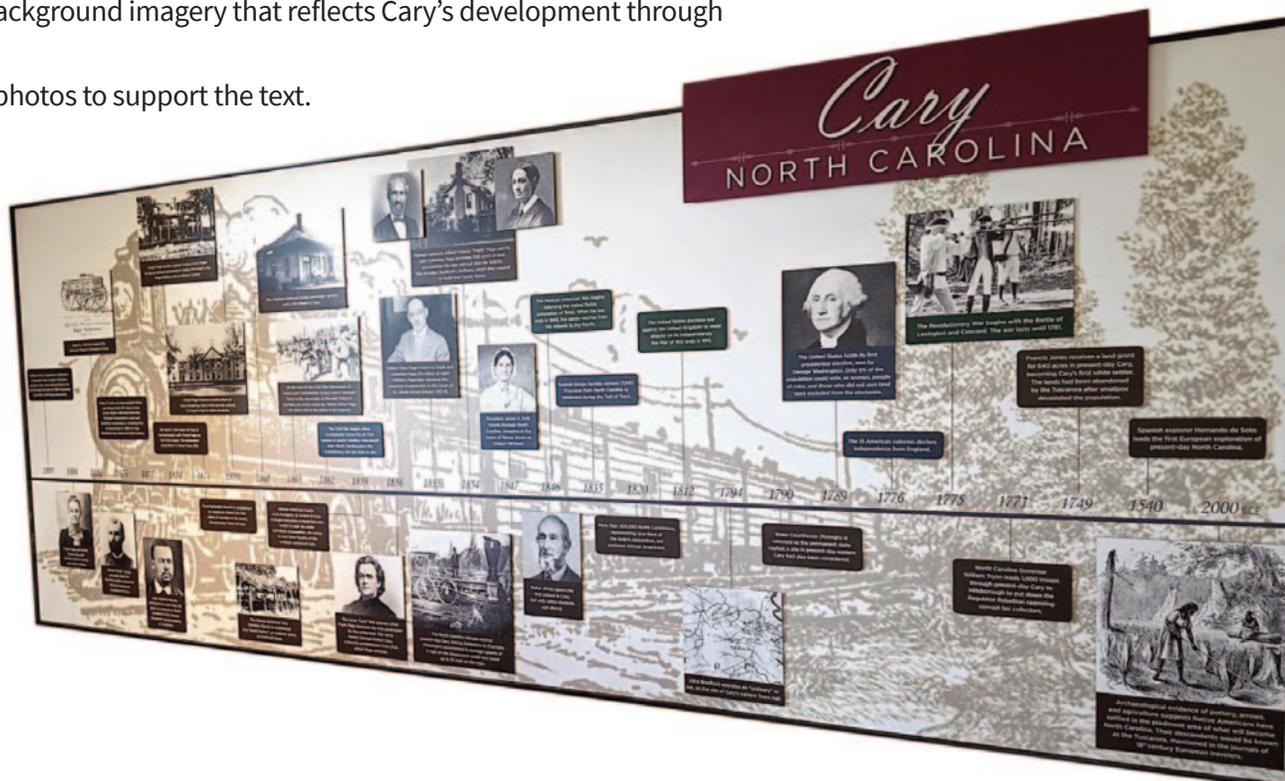


## Cary Heritage Museum Renovated

### TOWN & FRIENDS MODERNIZE HISTORY TIMELINE

Last December, the Friends and the Town of Cary collaborated to renovate the timeline in the Cary Heritage Museum at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center. Our team carefully researched each entry to ensure accuracy and that Cary’s history was faithfully represented. As depicted here, updates included:

- Diversifying entries to include more data about women, African-Americans and Native Americans;
- Adding national and international events that impacted Cary, such as 9/11 and the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Adding Cary events from 2000 to 2020, such as the opening of the Cary Arts Center and The Cary Theater, as well as our upcoming Cary150 sesquicentennial;
- Introducing background imagery that reflects Cary’s development through the years; and
- More historic photos to support the text.



## Scavengers in Cary

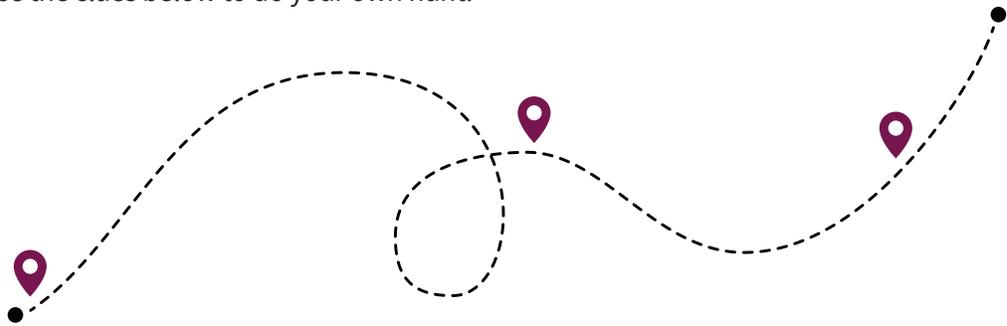
FRIENDS HOST HOLIDAY HUNT

**D**uring the week between Christmas and New Year’s Day, the Friends hosted a scavenger hunt to find hidden downtown history. The interactive scavenger hunt offered clues about historic places along Academy Street. Participants took selfies and tagged #pagewalker on Facebook at each site. Congratulations to Gary Kibble of Cary, who was the winner of our Holiday History Scavenger Hunt and received a history gift basket prize.



Winner Gary Kibble holds his prize.

Would you like to play? Use the clues below to do your own hunt. Answers on page 20.



## Do Your Own Hunt!

Park your car in the library parking deck and stretch your legs as you walk along Academy Street and hunt for history! All hidden history sites are outside along Academy Street, between Chatham and Dry Streets, in downtown Cary.

Use the following Challenge clues to find each site.

Take a selfie with the site. Post the photo to your Facebook page and be sure to tag @pagewalkerhotel and #pagewalker!

### Challenge 1

- From the park, glance behind the 1925 house of brick
- Built for Dr. Hunter’s family.
- Catch a glimpse of times gone by
- Where chickens ruled the roost.

### Challenge 2

- Behind a white picket fence,
- A doctor’s office with two side doors, a sign of divided times.
- One is still a door, the other now a window.

### Challenge 3

- A federal building when it was built,
- Opened in 1965 and reopened in 1988,
- While mailing a letter, take your photo with two presidents.

### Challenge 4

- Home to many businesses,
- From doctor’s office to library
- To tasty sandwich shop,
- This charming little date spot has cozy brick walls.

### Challenge 5

- The group that built this 1931 building,
- Served the town before it was a town.
- Secret handshakes were exchanged here.
- Look high to find the letter G.

## A Gift From the Past

Last November, a surprise phone call reconnected me with someone who, forty-seven years ago, had shared my passion for Cary's history and architectural treasures. Jane Patrick (Casey) had attended Cary High School in the 1970s, class of 1975, at the same time we were forming the Cary Historical Society. In catching up with Jane after almost a half a century, her enthusiasm, friendliness and passion for historic preservation have remained unchanged.



Neither of us remember how we actually met, but the thread of inquiry seems to be the key. In Jane's case, her passion for historic preservation and sharing Cary's rich heritage were part of her DNA. Her great-aunt was Esther Ivey (1890-1989) who lived at 302 South Academy Street from approximately 1923 until her death. Her great-grandfather was Thaddeus Ivey (1855-1933), for whom the Ivey-Ellington House on 135 West Chatham Street is named.

Esther Ivey house



He and his wife, Mary, were its first known residents.

The house is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A goal of Jane's, as a high-schooler, was to share Cary's rich heritage with the many new residents. She was interested in pursuing journalism as a career and wrote a series of articles called "Heritage Houses" for The Cary News from 1973-1975.

At the same time, my interest in Cary's rich history stemmed from a deep desire to know

Ivey Ellington house



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Jane in high school

more about the town we now called “home.” We moved here in January 1971, as Cary began celebrating its Centennial (when we first arrived, we did wonder why all the men had beards!). We were so impressed by the range of

architectural styles downtown, and wanted to delve deeply into the Town’s heritage and share its history. Our new friends, including Jane, had similar interests, and we began to form the Cary Historical Society. Jane and I also had a common desire to produce a walking tour of Cary’s historic treasures for the community.

A day after we chatted with each other this past fall, Jane emailed two mementoes that she had saved from the time we had first known each other. One was a 1974 Cary News article that mentioned the formation of the Cary Historical Society. The other was a photo of a graduation gift that I had given her, a painting I had done of her great-grandfather’s house. Little did I realize in the 1970s what an important part of our lives the Ivey-Ellington would become!

In honor of Jane, I walked to Hillcrest Cemetery to visit the graves of Thaddeus Ivey and his daughter Esther Ivey. Thanks to Jane’s tip that her sister keeps flowers at the grave sites, and the phenomenal Walking Tour of Hillcrest Cemetery brochure that the Friends produced, I found their markers. As described in the brochure, Thaddeus was a farmer, teacher and civil servant. After moving to Cary from Georgia with his wife Mary Downer, he became a bookkeeper and cashier for the North Carolina Farmers’ State Alliance Business Agency and Chief Deputy U.S. Marshall in Raleigh. His

father, Rev. Stinceon Ivey, served as principal of the Ashpole Institute in Robeson County and was a renowned missionary Baptist minister, pastoring several churches in Wake County.

Thaddeus and Mary’s daughter, Esther Ivey, graduated from Cary High School in 1906, majored in biology at Guilford College, and after teaching in Roanoke Rapids, Holly Springs and Oxford, moved back to Cary and served as bookkeeper for the Baptist State Convention for 36 years. She is the namesake of the Esther Ivey house and, for many years, happily shared her memories of Cary with Jane and interested residents.



Anne’s 1975 painting of Ivey Ellington

The passion for historic preservation continues to live within Jane. For the past 23 years, she has been an active volunteer at the impressive **Ball-Sellers House** (ca. 1750s) in Arlington, Virginia.

Jane gave me a special gift by reaching out after all these years... a gift of renewed friendship, warm memories, and a deep reminder of the importance of protecting Cary’s history and impressive architectural heritage. We are so very fortunate in Cary to have a Town Council, Town Manager and Staff who recognize the importance of historic preservation and work tirelessly to save our history.



## Looking Forward to 2022



### Herbfest

The Friends have hosted our annual Herbfest for a decade. Visitors enjoy vendors who sell herbs, native plants, perennials and garden-related gifts and crafts, in addition to vendors who share information and perform demonstrations related to nature topics. Food trucks, our signature butterfly release, the Young Friends' bake sale and tours of the Anne Kratzer Educational Herb Gardens and the Pollinator Garden are also popular features of Herbfest.

Alas, as with many activities during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Friends regret that we must cancel our 2021 Herbfest. Because the herbs and other plants are timed for spring sales, it's not practical to reschedule Herbfest from its early May date, but we look forward to resuming this popular festival next year.

Until then, though, please follow the Friends' social media (see contact information on p. 17) for updates and information about our Herbfest vendors.

### Performing Arts

The pandemic has affected so many of our performing arts activities, and unfortunately our beloved Winter Concert Series was one of them. Although the performances originally scheduled for January and February 2021 will be rescheduled to a time when we can gather safely in the Page-Walker Arts and History Center's Main Gallery, the spirit of the series persists.

The Winter Concert Series continues to enjoy the support of some of the most outstanding musicians in the area, including the North Carolina Symphony's Brian Reagin (concertmaster and first violinist) and Erik Dyke (double bassist). Other talented musicians in various genres have expressed interest in playing in this special performance series.

We all look forward to the time when we can gather again in the Main Gallery for an afternoon of wonderful music.

### The Friends' Gifting Tree

Several years ago, the Town of Cary launched a new holiday event called "The Gifting Tree Project"; this past December, the Town hosted its ninth annual celebration of this event. Local families, schools and organizations are invited to participate each year by paying a small fee for the Town to provide a Christmas tree, stand and a sign displaying the group's name. Once the trees are placed along South Academy Street and inside the Downtown Park, each participant is invited to decorate their assigned tree. The community is then invited to vote for their favorite decorated tree as part of this project. The winner of the competition is granted a donation from the Town to the nonprofit group of their choice.

The Friends, who include The Gifting Tree as a special holiday tradition, were especially pleased this year to be part of this holiday event that provided a safe, fun and joyful experience for everyone. Our tree was decorated with historic hotel keys noting important historical events in our Town, which provided a perfect opportunity to fulfill our mission of facilitating history education in our community. The Friends are proud to have joined others in the Town's efforts in this annual project and look forward to participating in years to come.

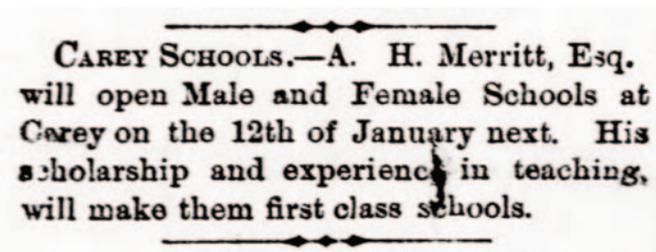


## Cary Me Back

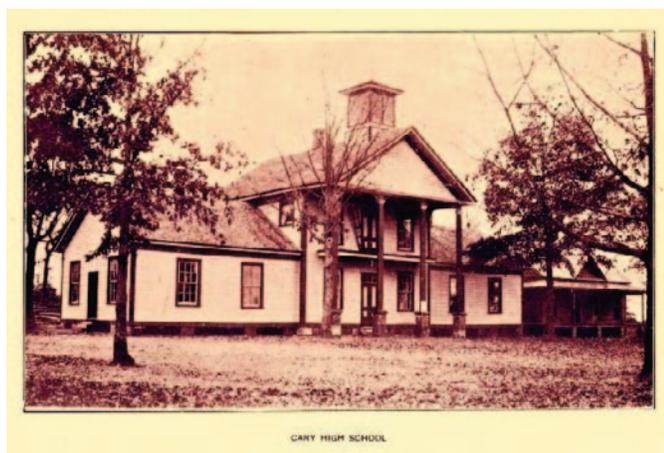
To advance our mission of historic preservation and history education during these times when regular programming isn't possible, the Friends formed a COVID-19 Response Committee and one of their activities has been to share stories from Cary's past on our "Cary Me Back" blog on our website.

### Cary High School

Did you know that Cary High School began before Cary was incorporated, and that the Cary Arts Center is the third building that educated students at that site? Or that someone named "Noodles" once visited the school, delighting the students? In her extensive history of Cary High School, Carla Michaels writes of the history of the buildings and people who shaped Cary High and shares many pictures and digital artifacts associated with the school. Here are a few excerpts:



The school's goal from the beginning was to provide "a high grade education, firm discipline and thorough instruction", but in these early years, the school appeared to search for an identity. Early on, the school



was advertised at various times as a combined male and female school, a female school, a female seminary, and a Teachers Institute. ...



By the early 1920s, a vocational building was built through a local bond issue that the town fully embraced. It was named for Walter Hines Page (left), Cary's most famous son who believed in "the free public training of both the minds and hands of every child born of woman". Around the same time, a full commercial

department was instituted, with six manual typewriters representing the high tech instruments of the day. ...

Cary High School has long been known for its excellent music program. From its earliest days, piano and violin instruction were part of the curriculum. In 1922 a marching band was established. According to minutes of the school committee, the committee granted band members "the privilege of selling refreshments at commencement" in 1923 to raise money for equipment.

Today, Cary High School continues to fulfill the mission started 150 years ago: to provide quality education, preparing students for success in life and their chosen field of interest. Unlike the first years, CHS is a diverse community reflecting the growth and cultural expansion of the Town of Cary itself.

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## The High House

**A**nother blog entry traces the history of the “High House”, for which High House Road is named. That house purportedly was the site of “petty women, fast horses, and plenty of spirits” in the 1800s and involves legends of buried treasure and hauntings. Barbara Wetmore explores the history of this fascinating place in detail, with many photos and digital artifacts. Here are some excerpts:

[The High House] was one of the earliest houses built in the western part of what would become Cary. One of its earliest known owners, Fanning Jones, was the grandson of Cary's first white settler, Englishman Francis Jones, who received considerable land near Crabtree Creek through a grant from Lord Carteret. ...

Though the Friends of the Page-Walker had heard of a family cemetery that stood near the High House, we had never been able to find it . . . until a recent comment on

our Facebook page included a map that showed us the way. While looking at the map, I realized that the location was very near my house, and I convinced my neighbor on one of our evening walks to go look for it with me. When we got to the intersection where the map indicated the cemetery should be, we saw a lovely little park with a tiered fountain, but no cemetery. We speculated that maybe there was nothing left to mark the cemetery and so a park was placed there instead. Still, I decided to get down on my hands and knees to look under the hedges along a fence toward the back of the park and when I did, I thought I saw a gravestone! Yes! It was a gravestone! It bore the name Stedman. ...

The next time you travel down what is now the busy High House Rd. extending from W. Chatham St. all the way to Rt. 55, think back on the early history of Cary when the High House was built, and on the many intriguing stories of the families who lived there.

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If you're interested in the complete stories of Cary High School and the High House, or mysteries and secrets of local cemeteries and other memories of Cary's past, we invite you to visit our “Cary Me Back” [blog](#).

## 1917-1918 Flu Pandemic

Researcher and historian extraordinaire Carla Michaels offers “Treasures from the Vault” on a recurring basis as a way to share interesting historical artifacts with the community. Carla has been digitizing a large collection of artifacts from Cary High School; in this edition, she shares some of those.

For more than 20 years, Cary’s oral historian Peggy Van Scoyoc has been compiling oral histories of prominent people in Cary’s history. This collection is part of the Southern Oral History Program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Some oral history selections are included in Peggy’s books, *Just A Horse-Stopping Place* and *Desegregating Cary*. More information about the Friends’ oral history program is on our website.

In this edition of *The Innkeeper*, we combine Carla’s vault treasures with some oral history from Peggy’s book *Just A Horse-Stopping Place*.

### Oral History Transcripts



**Esther Ivey:** I had been teaching, but I needed twelve months’ work, and the Baptist Convention had used me in the summertime. During the flu years, Holly Springs school closed for two years, so I had some time off. The Baptist State Convention called me and wanted to

know when I could come back to work, so I finished out a term with them at this school in Granville County near Oxford.



**Elva Templeton:** The ’17, ’18 flu epidemic; we had three weeks’ vacation from college and I saw my father, Dr. Templeton, about twice. He was going night and day to see patients. He said whiskey brought almost the best, did better than anything else he gave them.

One dose, you know, sort of like medicine. That pulled a lot of them through. He was against drinking. He was a great prohibitionist, and did not go for any kind of liquor unless it was for medicine.

# EPIDEMIC BRINGS OUT FINE SPIRIT

## Splendid Service Rendered By Teachers and Others In Coun- ty, Says Mrs. Blalock

The epidemic of influenza has developed a spirit of self-sacrificing service among the people in those Wake county communities stricken with influenza, according to Mrs. C. P. Blalock, county home demonstration agent. In the country this has been greatly appreciated by physicians who must cover a large territory where trained nurses are not available. In this connection the teachers have rendered invaluable services.

At Knightdale, the teachers, Misses Fitzpatrick, Newsome and Kirkpatrick, volunteered their services as nurses. Others who volunteered in this com- were Misses Pool, Amy Clark, Gladys Vaughn, Iredell Vaughn and and Mattie Scarborough. Doctor Hester stationed two of these young ladies in each of four families where every member of that family was stricken with the influenza. They took entire charge of the house-keeping and nursing. Doctor Hester stated that without the assistance of these young ladies a number of his patients would probably have died.



THE "FLU" FIGHTERS

## Bedtime in the Garden

“**B**ut I don’t want to go to bed!” – it’s every toddler’s lament. That seems to be the message the Anne B. Kratzer Educational Gardens were sending in November 2020. The hyacinth beans were blooming, the winter tarragon and Mexican marigold were vibrant with golden blossoms, the yarrows were bearing flowers, and the pink camellias behind the smokehouse were sharing their beauty. Nevertheless, our dedicated and socially distanced team turned out the first weekend in November to gently tuck our garden to bed. Thank you to Whitley Austin, Michelle Graham, Anne Kratzer, Judi Rourke, Liz Ryan, Ayako Stone, and

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Barb Wetmore for prepping the beds and gently laying a blanket of fresh pine straw across the gardens, marking the end of our two-week volunteer assignments for the year. Our thanks, as always, to Kris Carmichael and the town's Public Works staff for making sure there was sufficient pine straw on hand for us to spread a warm and protective blanket across the gardens.

During the winter months, garden maintenance duties are doled out by the month, with Marla Dorrel in December, Whitley Austin in January, Ayako Stone in February, Pat Fish in March, and Judi Rourke for April. These stalwart volunteers know that even when the growing season is past, our gardens need some occasional TLC to keep them looking their best for the visitors we welcome, year-round.

Although the pandemic has brought much uncertainty and change to our lives, there are two things we can always count on – spring time will come, and our volunteer gardeners will be there. Whether we gather as a group or one at a time, whether it's steamy hot or chilling cold, whether there's planting or weeding to be done, they will be there. How very fortunate we are to know we can count on each other, just as we count on springtime to come, rejuvenating the gardens and our spirits. Happy gardening, everyone!

## Socially Distant

### FRIENDS KICK IT UP SEVERAL NOTCHES

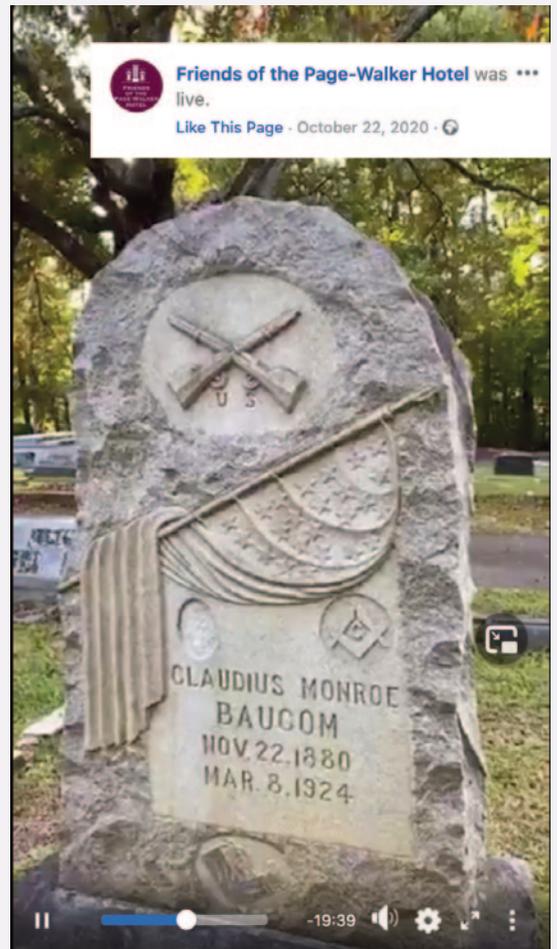
Have you visited the Friends' social media pages recently? If not, you might be surprised to see how far we've advanced.

During this time when we can't get together in person, the Friends have revamped and reenergized our social media presence, and it has paid off – we've been breaking records for likes, followers and views!

Our Facebook livestreams have garnered thousands of viewers, we're now on Instagram and our YouTube channel is getting more views (we're even on LinkedIn if you want to connect with us there).

Big thanks to Heather Leah and Kerry Mead for their tremendous efforts to ensure that the Friends are so, so social! Check back frequently, as we're always adding new content!

You also can always virtually visit us at [friendsofpagewalker.org](http://friendsofpagewalker.org)



-  [www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel](http://www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel)
-  [www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/](http://www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/)
-  [www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory](http://www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory)
-  [www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/)

## Mourning the Loss of a Wonderful Friend

It was with great sadness that we learned last month of the passing of our long-time friend, **Cheryl McLean**. Cheryl had been an enthusiastic contributor to the preservation and education efforts of the Friends of the Page-Walker since the 1980s. Not only was she a dedicated Board member and volunteer for the Friends, but she also shared her expertise while working for 35 years at the State Library of North Carolina, retiring in 2015 as the head of the Information Services Branch of the Government and Heritage Library.

Cheryl spent many hours volunteering at the educational herb garden that surrounds the Page Smokehouse at the Page-Walker. I remember how delighted she was when she taught her young daughter, Meredith, about the interesting uses of herbs as well as the joys of gardening.

Cheryl also was a founding member of the Yates Mill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which on November 17, 2012, held a commemorative grave marking ceremony at White Plains Cemetery. A bronze plaque in honor of Nathaniel Jones was mounted on the gate leading into the graveyard. Nathaniel Jones (1749-1815) is buried at the White Plains Cemetery (shown, bottom right).

Kris Carmichael, Supervisor of the Page-Walker Arts & History Center, beautifully captured Cheryl's essence when she said, "I will always remember her enthusiasm and dedication for preserving and sharing community history, but above all, I will remember her smile."

As Walter Hines Page would have said, "Well done, my friend."



Cheryl, shown 2nd from left, works with the other garden volunteers.



Cheryl reading about the history of the White Plains Cemetery at the DAR historic plaque presentation.



PAGE-WALKER MOMENT

CARLA MICHAELS

POST-PROCESSING BY NELSON WETMORE

Carla Michaels captured this photo of our beloved Page-Walker Hotel on a cold, clear, full moon night. Lifetime Friends board member Anne Kratzer commented that it “reminds me of the saying we always use with regards to saving the hotel: the stars were aligned!”. And now, so is the moon!



# A BIG THANK YOU!

The team from the Friends and Cary First Christian Church working to produce a Cary First Christian Church cemetery walking tour brochure, including **Pastor Mycal Brickhouse, Barbara Engram, Susan Reaves, Marilyn Carney, George Bailey, Barbara Wetmore, Carla Michaels, Peggy Van Scoyoc, Pat Fish, Brent Miller, Heather Leah, Jimmy Gibbs, and Leesa Brinkley.**

**Peggy Van Scoyoc**, for her continued work in capturing oral histories of Cary residents.

Town Council member **Ed Yerha** and Cary Town Clerk **Virginia Johnson**, for presenting very interesting and entertaining monthly History Moments at Cary Town Council meetings.

Friends President **John Loyack** for his great leadership in guiding us through these challenging times and Friends Secretary **Kerry Mead** for being our online thread of continuity and keeping us organized.

**Heather Leah, Kerry Mead, Barb Wetmore, Carla Michaels, Mike Rubes, Judi Rourke, Trish Kirkpatrick, Bob Myers and Andy Kirk** for utterly transforming the Friends' online and social media presence. One example was the tremendously popular Hillcrest Cemetery livestream (watch it [here](#)) hosted by Heather, Barb and Andy, along with Andy's son **Josh, Charlene Jones** in her Victorian finery, and **Bella Loflin.**

**Pat Fish**, for serving as the Friends treasurer for decades and successfully applying for dozens of grants that enable the Friends to accomplish our mission of historic preservation, history education and cultural

arts advocacy. Pat has been a guiding light to keep our traditional community festivals responsive to the COVID-19 constraints.

**Heather Leah** for capturing a wonderful collection of Cary photographs (which sometimes involves getting up at 4:00 am!), some of which will be made available to the community; and

**Trish Kirkpatrick** for recognizing an opportunity and spearheading the Friends' new Photo Partners service.

Many folks who stepped up over many years to ensure preservation of the Nancy Jones house:

**Bob Myers, Julie Robison and Marla Dorrel** for foundational efforts to preserve this gem; **The Town of Cary**, which purchased the house and will move and maintain it, especially **Sean Stegall, Danna Widmar, Gillian White, Anna Readling, Kris Carmichael** and Council member **Ed Yerha;**

**Cary's Historic Preservation Commission**, chaired by Friends Board member **Bob Myers;**

**Gary Roth and Capital Area Preservation;** the **North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office;** and

**Sri Venkateswara Temple.**

And last, but not least, **Kris Carmichael, Jennifer Hocken, Matthew Champagne** and all of the Staff at the Page-Walker for keeping history alive even when the building is closed.



Scavenger Hunt answers:  
 1. Dr. John Hunter house and chicken coop, 311 S. Academy St., ca. 1925  
 2. Dr. Frank Yarborough house, 219 S. Academy St., ca. 1935  
 3. Downtown Cary Post Office, 205 S. Academy St., ca. 1965  
 4. Serendipity Gourmet Deli, 118 S. Academy St.  
 5. Ashworth Drugs (formerly Masonic Lodge), 105 W. Chatham St., ca. 1931

# LET'S BE Friends!

The Friends accomplish our mission of preserving the Page-Walker Arts & History Center and other Cary historic sites, history archival and education and promoting cultural arts through member participation.

It's easy to become a member! You can join or renew your membership [here](#). You will receive an email notification when your membership is due for renewal. If you haven't renewed for 2020, please do so today. You can also become a member using the form on page 22. Please print, complete and return it to us.

## THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS

Hal Bowman & Mercedes Auger	Anne Kratzer	Bob Myers
Cynthia Baker	Trish Kirkpatrick	Sheila Ogle
Jim Bustrack	Jack & Nancy Leavell	Judi Rourke & Michael Rubes
Leesa Brinkley	John Loyack	Nancy Ryan
Lisa Dove	John Lytvinenko	Kay Struffolino
Marla Dorrel	Kerry Mead	Peggy Van Scoyoc
J. Michael Edwards	Lynn McKenzie	Paul Wasylkevych
Jewell Field	Carla Michaels	Barbara Wetmore
Pat Fish	Jennifer Midthun	Chip Wooten
Maggie Kehoe	Brent Miller	Ed Yerha

## BOARD MEMBERS

Your Friends of the Page-Walker Hotel board members are these volunteers: Lisa Banks, Mina Bayraktar (Teen Council representative), Bryan Craddock, Michael Edwards, Pat Fish (treasurer, lifetime member), Kirk Fuller, Jimmy Gibbs, Andy Kirk, Trish Kirkpatrick, Anne Kratzer (lifetime member), John Loyack (president), Kerry Mead (secretary), Carla Michaels, Brent Miller, Bob Myers, Cathy Richmond, Judi Rourke, Michael Rubes, Kay Struffolino, Pat Sweeney, Peggy Van Scoyoc (vice president), Barbara Wetmore and Ed Yerha (Cary Town Council liaison).

The board is also fortunate to have the participation of Town of Cary staff members Robbie Stone, William Lewis, Kris Carmichael, Jennifer Hocken and Matthew Champagne; and alternate Town Council liaison and Cary co-founder Jack Smith.

If you are interested in serving on the Friends board in the future (or if you have served in the past and would like to contribute again), please contact any board member or see the "Contact the Friends" information in this issue.

## Community Partners

The Friends are pleased to collaborate with our partner organizations, the Cary Chamber of Commerce and Heart of Cary Association. You can find out more about these organizations and the local events they sponsor, respectively at [www.carychamber.com](http://www.carychamber.com) and [www.heartofcary.org](http://www.heartofcary.org).



## FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL

### CONTACT THE FRIENDS

Friends of the Page-Walker  
Box 4234, Cary, NC 27519  
(919) 460-4963 program information  
email: [info@friendsofpagewalker.org](mailto:info@friendsofpagewalker.org)  
[www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org)

Information about the Friends  
President John Loyack 919-703-5359



[www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel](https://www.facebook.com/PageWalkerHotel)



[www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofpagewalker/)



[www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory](https://www.youtube.com/user/CaryHistory)



[www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/friends-of-the-page-walker-5488a0161/)

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Page-Walker Arts & History Center currently is closed because of COVID-19 restrictions. You can check on the status of the Page-Walker [here](#).

In the meantime, why not visit the Page-Walker and the Friends online? You can even take a virtual tour of the building and the grounds [here](#).

# Begin or Renew Your Membership Today!

To join the Friends, or renew your existing membership, visit [www.friendsofpagewalker.org](http://www.friendsofpagewalker.org) or fill out the form below and bring it to the Page-Walker or mail it with your contribution to:

**Friends of the Page-Walker**  
Box 4234  
Cary, NC 27519

All members receive a complimentary copy of *The Innkeeper* newsletter and discounts for many Town-sponsored Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources department programs held at the Page-Walker. Non-business donations of \$100 or more and business donations of \$500 or more will be recognized in the newsletter.

## Individual, family, and civic group memberships:

- Individual \$30
- Family \$50
- Community Partner \$100
- Sustaining Member \$150 (Includes your choice of *Around and About Cary* or *Just a Horse-Stopping Place* book)
- Silver Sustaining Member \$250 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series season tickets)
- My employer, \_\_\_\_\_ has a matching gift program.

## Business memberships:

- Business Member \$250 (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)
- Business Partner \$500 or more (Includes 2 winter concert series tickets)

NAME/ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

# COMMEMORATIVE BRICK ORDER FORM

## Be A Part Of History And Make Your Mark

You have the opportunity to leave your mark on history by having your name inscribed on a brick that will be placed in the courtyard or walkway at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center. You may also choose to honor a family member, friend or a business. Not only will you be making a mark on history, you will also contribute to the future of your community by playing an important role in the preservation of the Page-Walker Arts and History Center.

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Page-Walker and mail along with this form to:

**Friends of the Page-Walker**  
**Box 4234**  
**Cary, NC 27519**

- I wish to order (\_\_\_) (Quantity) of Bricks at \$50 per brick. Enclosed is the total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I do not wish to have a brick inscribed but enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help in your effort.

Please print the name or message to be inscribed with a limit of 2 lines and 15 spaces per line.

### Brick 1:

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### Brick 2:

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Please call Pat Fish at 919-467-5696 if you have any questions.  
Please note that brick orders are placed when a cumulative total of 10 brick orders have been received.



\_\_\_\_\_  
YOUR NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS