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**Subject:** Watch out! This email is HOT!

**Preheader:** Picks and Tips from Mike's Locksmith

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It's always the little things that make a difference.



### Picks and Tips from Mike the Locksmith

#### From the World of Mike-the-Locksmith

Happy Thanksgiving!

As Thanksgiving is nearing, I've been reflecting on all the things for which I'm grateful. Each month, I'll be selecting a new project at [B1G1.com](http://B1G1.com). Read on to learn about our November charity.



Also this month, Sabrina will be teaching weekly financial literacy classes through Junior Achievement at a local middle school. If this is something that you are interested in, reach out to us.

In this issue I'll introduce you to a brand-new local business, and I'll discuss NFC technology and garage door vulnerabilities.

I thank you for your continued support, referrals and business.

Mike-the-Locksmith



**Announcing the Opening of Push Pull  
Decorative Hardware on Nebel Street in  
Rockville.**

Push Pull Decorative Hardware carries some of the finest products from quality vendors, focusing exclusively on decorative hardware/accessories. They boast a showroom that represents products from some of the best vendors.

in the world. Here's where you'll find unique interior and exterior door and cabinet hardware. Be sure to pay them a visit. And, tell them Mike-the-Locksmith sent you.  
[Visit their website here](#)

### **What is Near Field Communication?**

Near field communication, abbreviated NFC, is a form of contactless communication between devices like smartphones or tablets.

Contactless communication allows a user to wave the smartphone over a NFC compatible device to send information without needing to touch the devices together or go through multiple steps setting up a connection. Fast and convenient, NFC technology is popular in parts of Europe and Asia, and is quickly spreading throughout the United States.



Near Field Communication utilizes electromagnetic radio fields while technologies such as Bluetooth and Wi-Fi focus on radio transmissions instead.

Where ever you go, you'll encounter ways to make your day easier using near field communication. Plans for the future cover shopping malls, office buildings, and even your own vehicle as potential places for near field communication to help offer quick services.

Both businesses and individuals benefit from near field communication technology. By integrating credit cards, subway tickets, and paper coupons all into one device, a customer can board a train, pay for groceries, redeem coupons or store loyalty points, and even exchange contact information all with the wave of a smartphone. Faster transaction times mean less waiting in line and happier customers. Fewer physical cards to carry around means the customer is less likely to lose one or have it stolen.

## **Garage Door Security Tips to Prevent Break-Ins**

Everyone out there should know something about garage door security.

Garage doors are a common weak point and an easy target for thieves. Garage doors are not only a weakness, but provide criminals a shelter once inside. To the casual passerby an open garage with a work truck pulled up to it doesn't look out of place or scream break-in.

Here are the most important things you can do to secure your garage.



### **Automatic Garage Door Openers**

Let's briefly talk about the history of these devices. When the first generation of automatic openers came out they all featured the same code. You can imagine the security risk by having one of these openers. Thieves could just drive a neighborhood pushing their purchased transmitter and if you had the same brand as they did; jackpot!

The second generation of openers increased their security by featuring dip switches that could be set by the owner to a unique combination. While this did increase security, most owners would leave the default setting on and guess what? Jackpot! Another security risk of the second-gen openers is that a code grabber could be utilized to gain access to your system. A code grabber device works by locking onto your signal and memorizing it. Then, all a thief would have to do is re-transmit the code and they were in.

Modern automatic garage door openers now feature rolling-code technology, where your remote will transmit a brand new security code each time you press your remote. There are over 100 billion codes, so the likelihood of a code grabber working are very slim. Be sure that your opener features this rolling-code technology.

### **Some Garage Safety Tips**

- **Don't** leave the garage door remote in your car - if a thief breaks into your car, he now has access to your house

- Invest in a key-chain remote opener -**STOP** using the remote you clip to your visor
- **Secure** your garage door emergency release
- **Keep your door locked** - Put a deadbolt on the door between your house and garage. If using a key is inconvenient, consider a key-less deadbolt. We recommend the [Yale Push Button deadbolt](#)
- **Make sure** the door from into your house is as secure as your front door. Ensure you have a strong, sturdy door made of solid-core wood or reinforced steel door.
- **Do NOT** leave your garage door open. This is an invitation to thieves
- **Install** a wide-angle peephole in the door between your house and your garage. You'll at least be able to see what's going on, should you hear a noise. We suggest the [Mul-T-Lock GotU+](#)
- **Frost** or cover your garage windows. Don't do thieves favors by enabling them to see when your vehicle is gone or valuable items
- **Padlock** the throw latch on your garage door when you're out of town. If you don't have a manual lock on your garage door, you can use a c-clamp tightened down on each side of the door track to effectively "lock" down the door. We recommend [Mul-T-Lock high-security padlocks](#)
- **Don't** neglect maintenance on the mechanical parts of your roll-up garage door and keep an eye out for corrosion. We can recommend a reputable garage repair service

[Here's a related article: Protecting Against Garage Door Break-ins](#)



purchase from Mike's Locksmith.

### **November charity: Blankets to Insulate a Child from Winter**

Provide blankets as a gift of survival for winter. Imagine the chilling winds of winter prickling the bare body of a child along the streets of Ukraine. Insulation in the life-threatening cold in winters as low as -40°C is crucial. A donation is made with every

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