



The Last Word

NOVEMBER 2015

What are you
Thankful
for?

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

November 7, Cold Weather Cocktail Party

7 p.m., Community Center
bring an appetizer or dessert

November 14, Beer Tasting

6 p.m., Community Center
\$20, bring snack to pair with samplings of seasonal
craft beers from local Spoonwood Brewery, RSVP to
Marty O'Toole at Marty.O'Toole.50@gmail.com

December 5, Garden Club's Holiday Decorating

1 to 4 p.m., Community Center

December 19, Holiday Party

7 p.m., Chartiers Country Club
RSVP to Germaine Gladu

January 28, Happy Hour

Pennsbury Pub, contact Katie McGuire

Council Report – October

by Brad Knabel

Resident Comments: Local resident Jimmy Hurley presented a proposal to council for his Eagle Scout project. The project focuses on improvements to the borough's soccer field. He intends to build several benches and picnic tables, replace fencing on the existing backstop, create a stone path and erect a sign. Work is to start work by the end of October or the beginning of November with work to be complete by March of next year.

Several members of council asked questions regarding specific details of the project. Council passed a motion allowing work to proceed.

Jimmy is raising funds for this project. If you would like to donate or provide materials please contact him.

Pennsylvania American Water: A representative from Pennsylvania American Water came to the meeting to give an overview of upcoming work and to address questions from council. He discussed the procedure for replacing the main and tying in service lines to the main. Based on current technology the tie-ins can happen much sooner after the main is placed. The procedure will be complete in a matter of weeks rather than months. The current plan is to complete the entire main replacement in time for paving to happen first thing in the spring.

Dave Robb asked about procedures for reporting damage to personal property if a water line breaks. The representative said that PA water could be contacted and their disaster recovery team would assess the situation and make repairs as appropriate.

Dave Robb followed up by asking about damage to borough property that occurred during a recent water break. He expressed concern that some damage to sidewalks occurred during the most recent main break and that it may not be obvious that the damage was caused by the break. The representative assured council that the damage would be repaired.

Dave Robb also asked about the ripples and unevenness on Kings Highway near Park Road. The representative assured Dave that American Water would resolve the issues before the repaving project. He said that the pavement would be reground and if brick or cobblestone is found that it would be replaced with a concrete base.

The representative talked about the process that American Water uses to prioritize projects. The local office makes recommendations based on the age of the line, number of breaks that have occurred, the amount of damage caused by previous breaks and whether road-paving projects are planned in the near future. The final decision regarding which projects are given priority is made by American Water's office in Harrisburg.

Finally, Dave Robb asked about a recent increase that he had noticed in local water pressure and whether it was a result of recent work done on Kings Highway. The representative said that a local water tower has been taken offline for maintenance work. Nearby pumping stations have compensated for the loss of pressure. Water pressure will return to normal once the water tower is back online within a month or two.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Stover discussed a couple of incidents that had taken place elsewhere where altercations occurred between the public and police. He wanted to share that the best course of action when being given instructions or being placed under arrest by a police officer is to comply. If you feel that the action taken by the officers was incorrect or illegal to follow up after the fact through proper authorities.

Roads and Sewers: Dave Robb said that a survey of streetlights was completed. The borough is considering purchasing the lights and performing maintenance as a cost saving measure.

Swimming Pool: The borough is planning on relining the pool before it reopens in the spring. There was a discussion regarding ongoing damage to the pool that appears to be caused by water draining down the above slope through a coal seam. Charlie has previously installed relief valves in the pool that need to be relieved periodically. The borough will investigate making a more permanent solution at some point in the future.

Verizon Contract Renewal: Council discussed the upcoming Verizon agreement renewal. Council will consider hiring an attorney that is representing several other municipalities during the negotiations. The solicitor also brought up the possibility of regulating other communications-related structures in the borough such as cellular antennas, wifi transmission and other utility boxes. Council will consider both issues in a future meeting.

Bee Ordinance: The ordinance will be advertised and council will have a public hearing during its first scheduled meeting in November.

.....

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR

Friday, November 6 - Garbage/Recycling

Friday, November 13 - Garbage

Friday, November 20 - Garbage/Recycling

Saturday, November 28 - Garbage

Friday, December 4 - Garbage/Recycling



BOOK DISCUSSION

All are welcome to join the community book discussions which are held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 8:00 p.m. (and feel free to join us, even if you haven't read the book!)

Hope to see you there.

GARDEN TALK

by John Repine

Last month's bulb sale was a big success. In 2014, the bulb sale took in \$358. This year's sale took in \$776...over double last year's total! I think the Bloody Mary Bar and pumpkin floral arrangement raffle really helped to put us over the top. It takes a lot of work for this to happen. I would like to thank all the members of our Garden Committee for all of their hard work, as it really paid off. All the leftover "deer proof" bulbs will be planted throughout Rosslyn Farms in our adopt-a-gardens and around the new street signs. The "Rosslyn Farms Signature Tulip" for this year was completely sold out within the first hour of the sale. We are now in "Indian Summer", which is the perfect time to get all your new bulbs in the ground and you'll get your reward this spring. Now, get out your garden notebook and list what did well this season and what changes you want for 2016. Rosslyn Farms is made up of a lot of people who volunteer on various committees and projects. That's what makes Rosslyn Farms such a special place to live.



November 19th
at the home of Calli Mazzoni • 311 Kings Highway
The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult

December 10th [PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!]
at Scoglio's in Greentree, 7:00 p.m.
Foster Plaza V, 611 Andersen Drive, #100, Greentree
No book will be read in December.
Reservations: If you plan to attend in December, please call Marie Guerra at 412-480-3920 by Monday, December 7th, so we can be sure to have a seat for all.

Following tradition, in December we also plan to have a Holiday "Grab Bag" gift exchange. If you'd like to participate, simply bring a wrapped gift (\$15 value).

"The Gardens of Rosslyn Farms" 2016 Calendar

The Garden Committee has designed a 2016 Calendar featuring photographs of our neighborhood's gardens. It was unveiled at the Bulb Sale. Those who have seen it agree that it is a wonderful gift, especially for former neighbors and friends, and for yourself too! It will be available for orders at the Cool Weather Cocktail Party and it will be delivered in early December.

The cost is \$20 and will benefit the Garden Committee's work in the Farms. Contact Nancy Barsotti at 412-276-3496 or nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com

"Holiday Decorating Event" SAVE THE DATE Saturday, December 5

By popular demand, we will be once again meeting at the Community Center to make holiday arrangements for your home. Vi Laux, our instructor, will be back to assist us in making very creative centerpieces or wreaths. A variety of fresh greens and all supplies will be provided. Please bring your own decorative container, decorative ribbon, wreath frame, etc.

Time is 1:00-4:00 p.m. and the cost is \$30.

Reservations in advance are necessary to provide enough supplies. If you wish to help, we will also be making swags for our street signs and the arrangements for the Holiday Party.

Please contact Nancy Barsotti at 412-276-3496 or nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com

Thank you Follmers and Feolas for one of my favorite events, the Haunted Hayride. Plus, what a great turnout for the Garden Club's Bulb Sale and its great coverage in The Signal Item.

November brings us our last door-to-door Last Word. (Important: Make sure Isabel has your current email address!) This leaves a bittersweet feeling on my tongue as I say it. Luckily, our wonderful newsletter is not gone, just evolving. We now have an amazing new website that Brad Knabel has dedicated much time to building: rosslynfarmspa.com. You'll find the latest printable issue on the homepage, plus archives in the Community Club tab. If you're 75+ and want your complimentary mailed Last Words, please contact me.

The RFCC is now recruiting future Community Club presidents or Co-Chairs for 2017. The chosen candidate(s) would start as vice president in 2016 with me to learn the ropes. Presidency is a fun way to meet neighbors and give back. Ever enjoy an event here? The Cold Weather Cocktail, Haunted Hayride, July 4th or Easter? These events would disappear without the Rosslyn Farms Community Club.

Many of you probably don't know that I have run the club while also volunteering on the Andrew Carnegie library board, homeschooling two kids, volunteering at my children's co-op, and all the other usual activities that go along with two kids and four pets. If I can do it, you can! If curious for more info, please call or email me (412-489-6306 and jparkertongross@gmail.com).

We've hit the refresh button planning this year's Holiday Party, set for December 19. The black-tie-optional event at Chartiers Country Club will offer food, a couple free drinks (plus cash bar) and Pittsburgh's own Guy Matone! Guy Matone is a well known local Sinatra impersonator. Dress for a Mad Men/50's theme, pose for photos taken by Brad, website guru and photographer, and grab a drink! Thornburg will join us.

Before I go, I must recognize our wonderful Last Word Distribution Team, a hard working group of neighbors who traveled rain, snow and ice getting the Last Word to your door. Thank you!!

Kathy Green (Coordinator)
Roy Bowen and Jackie Weaver
Karen Buzza
Millie Calvert
Doug Florey
Peggy Grandjacques
Kit Handerhan
Joy Jones

Jan Joseph
David Lloyd
Calli Mazzoni
Katie McGuire
Donna McNamara
Rich Meyer
Susan and Marty O'Toole
Susan Prevoznak

Rosemary Ray
John Repine
Nyra Schell
Margaret Shields
Vinnie Simons
Mevallee Spain
Betsy Tassaro
Janet and Gregg Wichelns

Plus, don't forget, our wonderful Lauren Prepelka who continues to work hard each month laying out the issues. Without her, we wouldn't have our Last Words that help make this neighborhood so special. Thank you, Lauren!

Jordan



Design Details

“The Splendors of Spain”

Nancy Barsotti



The journey through Spain was made very enjoyable and expedited by their wonderful system of transportation, mainly the trains. Several times we were on the AVE high-speed trains, sometimes reaching 270 kms per hour! I think that is the equivalent of about 167 miles per hour. Still the scenery along the way was wonderful – groves of olive trees, fields of melons, corn and sunflowers – and close to our next stop, oranges.

Seville (Sevilla)—While our hotels have all been unique and stylish, this one provided lessons in the art history of Spain. Each floor featured sections of paintings by famous Spanish artists. Our floor was by *Murillo* whose “*Apparition of the Virgin*” graced my door.

The city is known for its bullfighting (which we just could not bear to see) and *Flamenco*. It is quite a seductive dance, with flowing colorful costumes and expressive musicians and dancers. The show we saw was in one of Seville’s beautiful garden plazas and it was truly mesmerizing.

Since Seville was the arrival point for the riches from the New World, it’s cathedrals and palaces were the beneficiaries of the wealth. The cathedral, like many Christian cathedrals in Spain, was built over an original mosque. The tower, *La Giralda* served as a minaret. A climb to the top provided wonderful views of the city. The cathedral is the third largest in the world and is a combination of Gothic and Renaissance styles. The high altar incorporates 2.5 tons of gold from Mexico and Peru. But most impressive was the tomb of *Christopher Columbus*. It is gigantic, borne aloft by four male statues, all in bronze. Again, so much history that one learned in school and other travel comes full circle. A cruise on the Guadalquivir River – where Columbus and Magellan departed from – was a relaxing way to see the city and rest our feet. The *Plaza de Espana*, part of the 1929 Iberio-American Exhibition is a masterpiece of brick and hand painted tiles from Sevilla, Valencia and Toledo. Each Spanish province is represented in a tiled illustration of its historical high point and the bridges span the surrounding water channel. This was definitely another highlight of the trip

A long day of walking, but we’re not done. It is easy to get lost in all the little streets and alleys (and we do) but we found a wonderful restaurant, the *Taberna Del Alabardero*, where we sat in the rooftop garden, taking in the cathedral, bathed in glowing light with the light of the full moon that had followed us from Granada. Wow!

Cordoba – In the 10th century, this charming city was the most populous in the world and under Islamic rule. It provided another one of those “must-sees-in-the-world” sites, the *Mezquita – Catedral* (Mosque – Cathedral.) Built first as a mosque in 784, it is the only mosque left from Medieval Spain and one of the largest in the world. It is a visual masterpiece of rhythmical horseshoe arches that give a sense of infinity. The two-tiered styles of arches, made with alternating bands of red brick and white stone, were copied from Roman aqueducts. There are 856 columns of jasper, onyx, marble and granite. In 1236 King Ferdinand III conquered Cordoba. But thank goodness Charles V recognized the architectural beauty of the Mosque. He gave permission to save it, and had a Renaissance style Catholic Church built in the center. The minaret was converted to a bell tower.

Madrid – Like all the cities in Spain, this was a surprise in how lovely it was and how much there is to see. A quick tour around town was an early start for the two days we had to explore it. As the capital of Spain it is rich in architecture – both historic and contemporary – and museums abound.

The Royal Palace is just unbelievable in its opulence of design and furnishings, mostly originals from the 18th century baroque and rococo. Every room was filled with extravagant wall hangings, inlaid marble floors, ornate stucco ceilings and more paintings and artwork than one can take-in. *The Porcelain Room* is covered in ceramic – the walls covered with panels decorated with three-dimensional grapes, garlands and flowers and a floor of colored marble mosaic.

The Ballroom, which is now a banquet hall seating 150 people, has a ceiling painting of Christopher Columbus announcing his New World discoveries to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Even I was on “decorative overload.” As the saying goes “It is good to be the King!”

We were famished and found just the place to enjoy a late lunch of Spain’s famous cuisine – the *Mercado de San Miguel*. This upscale food hall is filled with all the food vendors you can imagine – everything from cheeses, olives, meats, fish and of course, sweets. Everything was beautifully presented and could be ordered individually as tapas on small plates.

The museum *Reina Sofia* is in tune with Spain’s “movida spirit of personal and artistic freedom.” It houses *Picasso’s* famous “*Guernica*” along with many 20th-21st century artists including *Joan Miro* and *Salvador Dali*.

We spent almost the entire last day of our trip in the *Prado Museum*. It is an overwhelming presence along the *Paseo del Prado*, a wide tree-lined avenue. As with any famous museum one has to pick and choose what to see. We concentrated on the all the major Spanish painters such as *El Greco*, *Velasquez* and *Murillo*. The scale and breadth of their work is simply unbelievable. I spend a lot of time in the Metropolitan Museum in New York, but the artwork in this building is just astounding. There was always just one more fabulous painting to see around the corner but exhaustion sets in after 8 hours.

In Spain, dinner is very late, even at 11:00 p.m. That was a good thing as many a night we were eating at that time after very long days of taking in everything we could. Our last dinner was in the plaza just outside our hotel, at the *Restaurant Lateral*, where we enjoyed a table full of tapas and passion fruit mojitos, toasting an incredible journey. I don’t know what took me so long to get to this amazing country. Spain is so rich in tradition, history and culture, and I can’t wait to return to see more.

After the holidays, I will take you on an armchair trip to Portugal, the other part of our travels.

FLAVIN BROTHERS

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

since 1963

serving Rosslyn Farms 24 - 7 - 365

- snow removal - time to get on the list
- leaf clean-up - schedule your yard clean-up now...we will be doing leaves on first-come, first-serve basis
- ask how you can lower your landscaping bill...with low overhead we are able to charge less

Call Chris for details, or just ask one of our 50 Rosslyn Farms customers. Some of whom I have been working for since I was 6.

CALL CHRIS FLAVIN
412-519-3975

"KNIT OR KNOT" gatherings

Monday nights at 7:00 pm this fall.
at ONE SHEFFIELD ROAD

Anyone who would like to come to knit, crochet, or any kind of portable needlework is welcome to attend, or for those who do "Knot" do needlework, come for the comraderie, and a nice evening out.

For more information
call Karen Bock at 412-952-5333.



David DeChancie
D.M.D.
General Dentistry

KINGS HIGHWAY
AT BALDWIN ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15205
412-279-5880

Evening Appointments Available

Carlynton

young life
wyldlife

CHRISTMAS PARTY

INCLUDING AN UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

WHO 6TH TO 9TH GRADERS THAT LIVE IN
THE CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 6:30 TO 8:30PM

WHERE ROSSLYN FARMS COMMUNITY CENTER, KINGS HWY
THE DETAILS

* DROP OFF AT THE ROSSLYN FARMS COMMUNITY CENTER AT 6:30 PM
TEAM GAMES
DINNER, DRINKS AND DESSERT
MORE GAMES AND A MESSAGE

* PICK UP AT 8:30 PM

* PLEASE TELL US IF YOU'RE COMING. KYLENGLEKA@VERIZON.NET OR 412-720-1225

* DONATIONS ACCEPTED TO HELP OFFSET THE COST FOR THE EVENT

TELL YOUR CLASSMATES ABOUT CARLYNTON WYDLIFE! BRING A FRIEND OR TWO!

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR UGLIEST CHRISTMAS SWEATER

MOVING FORWARD:

NEXT EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 8TH. WE WILL BE GOING TO THE FLIGHT TRAMPOLINE PARK IN BRIDGEVILLE. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS EVENT. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

WHAT IS WYDLIFE?

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WYDLIFE GO TO WWW.YOUNGLIFE.ORG.
LOOK FOR WYDLIFE UNDER THE "FOR EVERY KID +88".



November's Chef:
Janet Wichelns

GRANOLA

4 cups rolled oats	3/4 cup cooking oil
1 cup coconut flakes	1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup brown sugar	2 teaspoons vanilla
1 teaspoon cinnamon	

Preheat oven to 325°. Combine the first four ingredients (through cinnamon). Pour into shallow baking pans. Combine cooking oil, salt and vanilla. Pour over dry mixture. Bake 45 minutes, stirring often.

