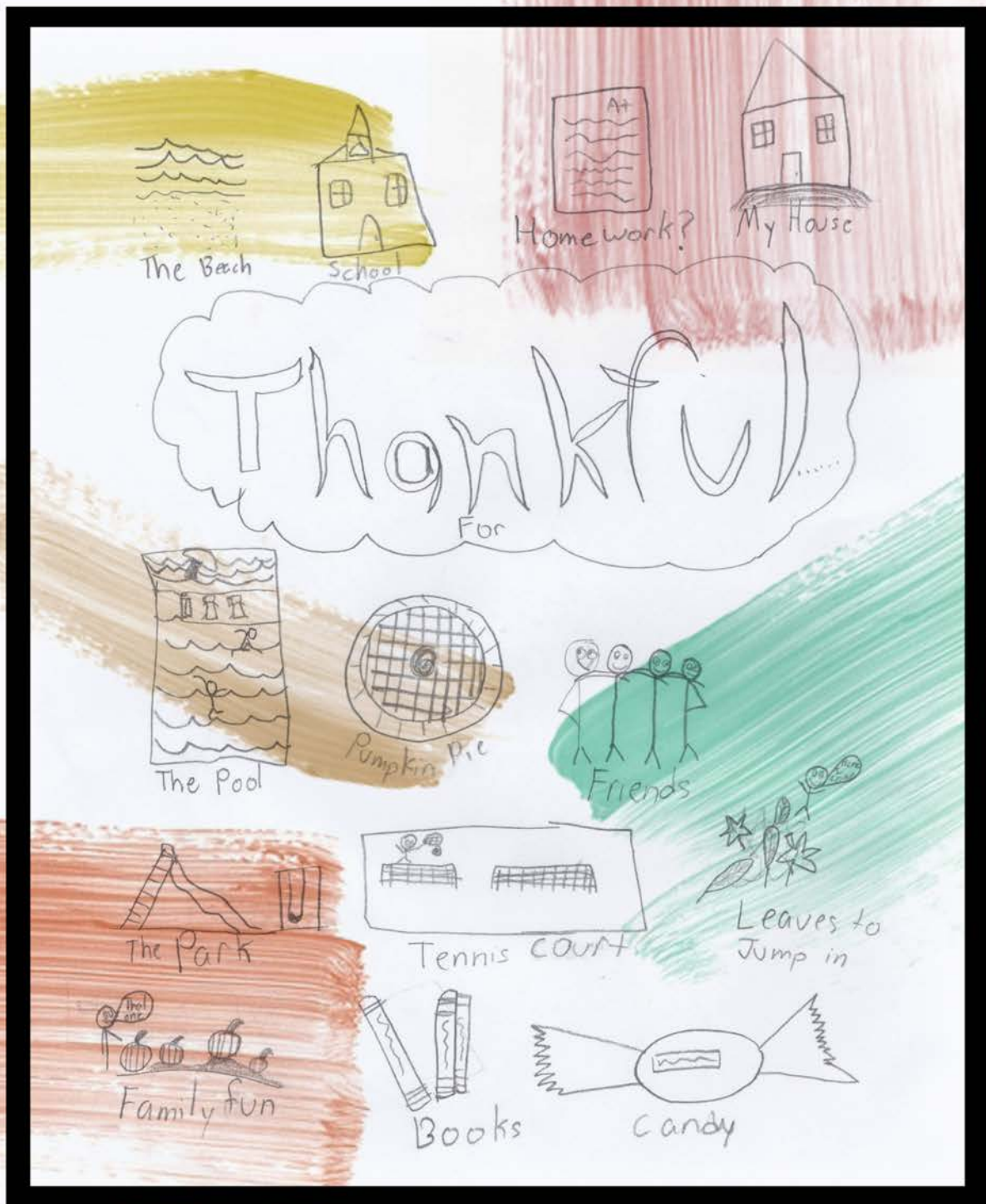


# The Last Word

NOVEMBER

2017



## EVENTS

November 21 Thanksgiving Floral Workshop

November 27 Garden Committee's Holiday Decorating

December 24 Christmas Caroling

December 31 New Year's Eve Progressive Party



## Council Report – October

by *Leanora Griffin*

The Community Center commission is seeking budget approval for 2018. Revenue comes from three sources: yoga, room and equipment rentals and donations. Total revenue for 2017 was about 11,000 and expenses were approximately \$8,500. For 2018, they would like to repair the Bell Tower, repoint the chimney which is considered a major repair and possible redecoration of library for Council Meeting use. Council will need to determine if/how solicitation will be required for the repairs to the Community Center.

Isabel Ford requested and received approval to plant a tree and install a plaque near the shuffleboard courts to honor the 89 year friendship of her mother, Sally Ford, and Lucy Cathcart. Both women grew up and raised their families in Rosslyn Farms and were active members of the community they loved.

A resident expressed concern about the white tank near the community garden and aesthetic of how this looks from window. This land is part of PennDOT property and the Garden Commission will come back with some recommendations.

### Mayor's Report

There were several unlocked cars entered. Police believe the suspect is a young woman. Mayor advises all residents to keep cars and houses locked.

A homeless person has been spotted on Edgecliff Road, but Police have been unable to identify him.

Residents' have requested that certain stipulations are built into the new police contract to ask for more specific police presence. This could impact the cost of services and/or Scott's ability to provide services. Council will consider as part of 2018 contract process.

### Roads and Sewers

Council has received three bids for the Borough Building Addition to add additional space for Borough vehicles and storage. Council is advised to consider whether this contact should be signed so late in the fiscal year and with new council members expected in January. The Borough will seek clarification for notes on the preferred bidder's contract before approving.

Engineer's will do a study to determine if a 53" truck can make the turn onto King's Highway. This will allow Police to issue citations, which they are unable to do now.

### COG Report

Council has been asked to hold DARE event in February 2018.

### Security and Surveillance Systems

Costs have been estimated for cameras and reviewed with Police Chief for the following areas: 376 ramp entrance, Winthrop area, Rosslyn Road borough line, and entrance to the industrial area. Council is looking at bids by Verizon Wireless and Comcast for camera rental and services. This work will require easements from Duquesne Light for use of any poles. A committee from council conduct additional research into these options and make a recommendation for Council.

### Next Council Meeting

Monday, November 13, at 7:00 P.M.

## SEPTEMBER POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

During September, the Scott Township Police responded to calls involving a possible overdose (assisted Robinson EMS), several noise complains involving a home under renovation, and a request to serve PFA papers. Scott police also performed a "welfare check" on a resident who did not respond to numerous phone calls from their family. Several complaints were received concerning the presence of an individual that appeared to be "homeless". This individual was not located but also did not commit any crimes. Further investigation indicated that the gentleman was believed to be a resident of an adjoining borough. During the early morning hours of September 17th, several unlocked cars were entered at two residences. Nothing was taken from one resident's cars and a laptop case was removed from the car of the second resident. The actual laptop was dropped or discarded in a neighbor's yard. Also found at the scene was a navy blue hoodie (brand LAMB), covered in briars, with white lettering that read "Love Angel Music Baby". The hoodie was a small female hoodie. This was possibly dropped by the thief. According to Chief Secreet, thefts from unlocked cars is a problem that is increasing in all neighborhoods. Police believe that this is a result of the addiction epidemic. Unlocked cars facilitate a "crime of opportunity" and can easily be reduced by individuals simply locking their cars. Unlocked houses can also attract criminals that are looking for easy targets. Please lock your cars, especially at night, and begin locking your doors and windows if you are not already doing so. We are not a "gated community" so everyone has access to our community.

We are one of, if not the, safest communities in Allegheny County. Please take a few minutes to insure that this remains the case.

*Jim Stover, Mayor*

## Community Service Opportunity

An opportunity has arisen for two Rosslyn Farms residents to perform an important service to their community.

Lee Griffin and the team of David and Joy Jones are stepping down from their positions of Council Meeting Reporters for The Last Word because of other new personal commitments. We are grateful for their past service. Now we are seeking two RF residents who can join the two remaining reporters on our team. Having a group of four on the team means that each person reports only three times per year and it also provides a pool of backup reporters who can fill in when someone has an unexpected conflict arise.

Please consider this opportunity to perform an important role in your community by informing your neighbors about what transpires at Council Meetings. You will also be surprised to see how attendance at occasional meetings helps you to be more aware of how your local government works. For more information, contact Greg Overstreet at 412 721-6161 or at gocranbury@yahoo.com.



## Election Day Food Drive



Please consider bringing non-perishable food donations to the polls when you come to vote on Tuesday, November 7th. The local food banks are having an increased need, and can always use items to help our local residents. All donations will stay in this area. Items heavily in need: Peanut butter, jelly, pasta, canned vegetables, soups, toilet paper, and tuna fish. A jar will also be available for monetary donations. We will collect all the donations and deliver them to the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

*Thank you very much —Olivia and Audrey Robb*





# 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.

Each month is hosted by a different resident.

Feel free to join us, even if you haven't read the book!



**November 16th**  
at the home of Calli Mazzoni  
311 Kings Highway  
*My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You That She's Sorry*  
by Fredrik Backman

Thursday, December 14th, 7:00 p.m.  
Chartiers Country Club  
601 Baldwin Road  
Menu options and reservation details still to come.  
Note that we don't read a book in December – too many other holiday activities to enjoy!

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



## Two Rosslyn Farms Residents honored for their gardens

The Pittsburgh Post Gazette recently named Old Farm Resident, Diane Kamenar, as a finalist in the publications "Great Gardens Contest". At this time we don't know who the "winner is" but just being named as a finalist is an accomplishment and an honor.

The second garden honored is the vegetable garden of Rick Magidson of Revere Road. It was recently awarded a Blue Ribbon by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The award will be presented at a reception next month.

***Congratulations to these two amazing gardeners. All of your hard work is paying off in these distinctions.***



## With Sympathy

**SALLY FORD (PARRISH)**

October 26, 2017

She was born on St. Patrick's Day 1925 in Rosslyn Farms, Pennsylvania to William and Isabel Parrish. Except for college and post-war work in Washington, Sally has always lived in Rosslyn Farms, a town which was originally laid out and built by her grandfather for the Pennsylvania Railroad. During WWII she enthusiastically threw herself into summertime broccoli picking on Cape Cod to compensate for the labor shortage. After graduating in 1947 from Smith College, her mother's alma mater, where she had been goalie on the soccer and lacrosse teams, earning the coveted "S" pin, Sally spent the summer helping build Le Collège-Lycée Cévenol International, a private school associated with the Reformed Church of France in Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, as part of the post-war reconstruction effort. When she returned to the U.S., she was a business economist for the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC. In 1950, she married Edward C. Ford of Pittsburgh, a corporate Lawyer at J&L Steel. Sally met Ed on a blind date in Rosslyn Farms, where they eventually made their home and raised their five children. Ed passed away in 1994, and Sally continued to reside in Rosslyn Farms until 2009. Then, at the age of 85, Sally chose to move to the Providence Point retirement community in Scott Twp. Sally gave generously of her time, money and talent. She was involved in many community activities. She served as mayor of Rosslyn Farms for 18 years and on the boards of the Carlynton School District, Ohio Valley Hospital and St. Margaret's Dispensary. She also volunteered at the Carlynton Elementary Schools for over 13 years. She was a Cub Scout den mother and Girl Scout leader. In 2003, she received the Red Cross Outstanding Volunteer in Community Service award for her work at Carnegie Elementary School.





## Design Details - "Oregon Put on Quite a Show"

Nancy Barsotti

These were the words that my friend Betty Murphy greeted Jon and me with the day after witnessing the total Solar Eclipse. What an experience to cap off our fabulous trip to Oregon in August. Once again, Oregon worked its magic spell over me – and Jon too, as this was his first major trip to this outstanding state.

My dear friends Betty and Chuck Murphy instilled the love of Oregon in me. Thanks to their generous hospitality, I have traveled to Oregon so many times I have lost track. They taught me the ropes of being a tour guide so this was my chance to plan a two-week vacation. It was Jon's idea to rent a convertible and what a way to experience the tall forests of pine trees and majestic mountains. And for those who think it rains in Oregon all the time, we did not have a drop of rain the entire time we were there so the top of the car was down most of the time.

To get to the Washington side of the Columbia, we crossed the Bridge of the Gods. For two days we enjoyed Skamania Lodge and the drive along the northern side of the Columbia to the Maryhill Winery. Washington and Oregon are known for their Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris wines and what a way to begin the trip. Back over the Columbia and we wended our way past glorious waterfalls along the historic Columbia River Gorge Highway. Jon never stopped saying "Wow" the whole trip – especially seeing the height and girth of the trees. He thought the waterfalls were just amazing and impressive, not to mention the Columbia River. Along the Hood River area, the winds are so strong it is the number one place in the world for windsurfing. It was a thrill to watch hundreds of them zip around. The Hood River area is also known as the "fruit loop" because of its orchards. From apples to peaches and pears and many other crops, Oregon produces a lot of what we enjoy here in the east.

A real highlight of Oregon is Mt. Hood and Timberline Lodge, located at 6000 feet where trees don't grow above this level. There are spectacular views of this 11,237-foot peak and other mountains in the Cascade Range. I am a historic preservationist at heart and this place is the epitome of the loving care it takes to preserve and continually maintain a building like this. Even though I have been there many times – including a cross-country ski trip – there is so much to see and learn. Built under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression, it was started in 1936 and completed in September 1937 – record time. According to our tour guide, it is the largest handcrafted building in the world. The architect of record was Gilbert Stanley Underwood.

Every Douglas fir log, every stone, every carving, every piece of metal, every piece of furniture, was hand-done. The front door is a 4 inch thick piece of Ponderosa Pine, weighs 1200 pounds and to this day opens perfectly on its six hand made hinges. There are twelve different newel post carvings. The gates to the dining room are 1100 pounds of metal and they have never squeaked when opening and closing them. Artisans and craftsman took such pride in their work, which they needed so badly at this time. Skilled craftsman made up to 90 cents per hour and unskilled laborers made 55 cents per hour. The Federal Arts Program – also created by President Roosevelt to help artists – led to this collaboration amongst the trades. It warmed my heart to know that an interior designer, Margery Hoffman Smith, was called upon to design and oversee the furnishings, somewhat unusual for the time. She was aided by the Arts and Crafts Society in Portland where all the fabrics for the curtains, bedspreads and upholstery were hand-made. It was a way for women to help support their families by being seamstresses, weavers and rug makers. There were 23 different motifs for the 60 guest rooms, including zigzag, Indian and wagon wheel. The designs were hand cut and applied and the fabrics were woven from local fiber. Scraps from WWI uniforms were dyed and hand hooked into 119 rugs. In addition, 150 watercolors of native wildflowers were painted by local artists and still hang in all the rooms.

In September 1938 President Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt dedicated the lodge, traveling four hours on gravel roads to get there. Here are their words: "I am here to dedicate the Timberline Lodge and I do so in the words of the bronze tablet directly in front of me on the coping of this wonderful building: Timberline Lodge, Mount Hood National Forest dedicated September 28, 1937, by the President of the United States as a monument to the skill and faithful performance of workers on the rolls of the Works Progress Administration."

Here, to Mount Hood, will come thousands and thousands of visitors in the coming years. Looking east toward eastern Oregon with its great livestock raising areas, these visitors are going to visualize the relationship between the cattle ranches and the summer ranges in the forests. Looking westward and northward toward Portland and the Columbia River, with their great lumber and other wood using industries, they will understand the part which National Forest timber will play in the support of this important element of northwestern prosperity.

Those who will follow us to Timberline Lodge on their holidays and vacations will represent the enjoyment of new opportunities for play in every season of the year. I mention specially every season of the year because we, as a nation, I think, are coming to realize that the summer is not the only time for play. I look forward to the day when many, many people from this region of the Nation are going to come here for skiing and tobogganing and various other forms of winter sports."

FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt enjoyed a celebratory luncheon that included salmon and huckleberry pie. In her My Day column, Mrs. Roosevelt praised the lodge's architectural features: "It is built exclusively of native products and by WPA labor. The interesting central fireplace with its many openings is a feature I have seen in no other building of its kind and nowhere have I seen such big timbers used. All the furniture, all the hangings, all the ironwork as well, were made by WPA workers. Here is a group of workers who have the makings of a handcraft organization and I hope their work will be appreciated. Mr. Griffith, the state WPA administrator, must be happy over the work done here."

Most work was complete at the time of the dedication. After some interior details were finished, the lodge opened to the public February 4, 1938.

I guess it is obvious that I love this place. It is a living museum, infused with the human spirit. To this day, everything that needs to be redone, such as fabrics, is still hand made to the original specifications. They were still skiing when we rode the chair lift to the base of the mountain trails – another mile up and then we walked back down. And as of today, there is two new feet of snow. I can't wait to go back and sit by that fireplace – with skis or without.

We continued our Oregon tour with two days in Portland, taking in this very walkable city and its great downtown areas including the Pearl District and such sites as the famous Powell Books and Pioneer Square. Portland is a mecca for foodies and the delicious fresh fish and produce make for its restaurants' great reputation.

Of course I was looking forward to Jon meeting the Murphys. I adore them and refer to them as my "west coast parents" so it was important for me to get their "approval" of Jon, which they happily gave. We had a great visit with them before we headed to my other favorite place in Oregon – the coast. My good friend Caryl Scharpf greeted us at her beach house and we enjoyed wine on the beach at sunset. Does it get any better than this? My favorite meal on the coast is the northwest oysters – large and pan-sautéed. I eat them for every meal. Walks on the beach to visit the humongous Haystack Rock are a must. It can't be appreciated in photos because when he actually saw it, Jon exclaimed "Wow! It's huge!" We also visited Fort Clatsop, where Lewis and Clark wintered after their journey west and Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia.

Then it was time to head inland and get ready for the Grand Finale – seeing the total Solar Eclipse. Thanks to the hospitality of Caryl's brother who lives in Independence, Oregon, which is in the path of totality, we had a perfect viewing spot. We watched it from the moon's first contact with the sun at 9:05, to the two minutes of total cover, and then it's final leave at 11:35, experiencing the lengthening shadows, the drop of temperature and the late evening silhouette of the surrounding landscape with a soft orange glow of a sunset around us. It was absolutely amazing and an unforgettable thrill-of-a-lifetime. That afternoon we traveled south to Eugene to visit friends who just moved there from Pittsburgh. Anne Dittmanson is an interior designer and Damian Bursill-Hall played the flute in the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. They have found the perfect place to retire in Oregon.

We had dinner with the Murphys on our last evening there. After Betty's headline comment, I asked, "So what will you do next here in Oregon?" It won't take much to entice Jon and me, as Oregon will always beckon as a place of spectacular scenery, great food and wine and very special friends to share it all with.

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



As we enter farther into fall, I look back fondly at my last three years as Community Club president.

Our new website, rosslynfarmspa.com, is now regularly visited. From September 27 to October 27 the site received 652 hits (keep in mind that almost half may be hits from robots). Our private Facebook site is visited by dozens of residents daily and has 110 members. Our club membership has remained steady these last three years at 95 to 99 households per year. Let's try to meet the goal next year of increasing that! Encourage your neighbors to join or to attend an event!

Thanks to Susan O'Toole for pulling off a nice Woodville Plantation Ciderfest despite the rain. For those still unfamiliar, years of careful restoration brought Woodville, which Revolutionary War general John Neville built in the 1780's and where his son Colonel Presley Neville made his home, back to life. Now residing on the property is a clutch of spritely Dominique chickens. Susan, currently a Woodville board member, first learned about the historical property from our own Betsy Martin.

The Haunted Hayride was great fun, thanks to our new host Sylvia Bergstedt and hayride specialist Billy "say hay" Sargent. And much thanks to our Garden Committee for offering a lovely Harvest Festival, with bulbs and baked goods for sale along with pumpkin painting and chili tasting.

At this Cold Weather Cocktail — which Judy Bergman and Brooke Harman are so gracious to host — please help to vote in Laura Ragozzino and Ashley Lightholder as president and vice president, respectively, and give them a warm welcome. Both women are excited for the challenge. Their inspired ideas will keep the club's momentum going into 2018!

Don't forget to join the club for 2018 and help us find a secretary/treasurer!

## Upcoming Events:

**November 21, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thanksgiving Floral Workshop** with Posy Floral + Event Styling at the Community Center. RSVP to Laura at [rosslynfarmscommunityclub.com](http://rosslynfarmscommunityclub.com). Cost is \$85 for members and \$95 for nonmembers.

**November 27, 2 to 7 p.m., the Garden Committee's Holiday Decorating** at the Community Center. RSVP to Nancy Barsotti at [nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com](mailto:nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com). Cost is \$35.

**December 24, 7:30 p.m., Christmas Caroling** at Parrish Park. FREE.

**December 31, New Year's Eve Progressive Party**, details TBD. Please consider hosting!







*Responsible, Rosslyn Farms Teen &  
Animal Lover available to help you  
care for your pets*

*Call Haley Simcic @ 412.719.1472*



WELCOME TO ROSSLYN FARMS

8 Edgecliff Road  
Jude and Ruth Frank

49 Edgecliff Road  
Derek Millet and Marcy Parko

3 Winthrop Road  
Claudio and Kenia Lima

420 Kings Highway  
Bob and Lynne Nixon

24 Edgecliff Road  
Brandon and Samantha Hall

5 Revere Road  
Jeff Harris and Penny Jones

2 Edgecliff Road  
Michael Arnold and Lauren Trombetta

## Holiday Decorating Event for Your Home

Monday, November 27th (the Monday after Thanksgiving)  
from 2 in the afternoon until 7:30 in the evening. Cost \$35

Our instructor has proposed a way that she would be able to give more individual help to everyone by having the class over a longer period of time that may suit those who have flexibility in their schedules during the day and those who need to attend after work. If you want a specific time, that will work too, just let us know in advance. Bring your container and any flourishes you would like to include - ribbon, ornamental decorations, etc. All fresh greens, oasis, wire, etc. will be provided.

Please get back to me as soon as possible. At least 10 people must sign up to schedule the event. Please feel free to invite your friends, other neighbors and family members.

Nancy Barsotti. [nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com](mailto:nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com)  
or 412-276-3496



## Thanksgiving Floral Centerpiece Workshop

A Rosslyn Farms Community Club sponsored floral workshop in conjunction with Posy Floral + Event Styling  
Make your table your own this year or wow your hostess with a handmade creation.

Tuesday, November 21, 2017  
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm  
Rosslyn Farms Community Center  
400 King's Highway, Carnegie, PA 15106

\$85 per person - Club Members  
\$95 per person - Non-members  
Includes: fresh flowers, vessel, supplies, tools, wine, light nibbles, a gift bag, and photograph of your creation

RSVP to: [rosslynfarmscommunityclub@gmail.com](mailto:rosslynfarmscommunityclub@gmail.com)



## FLAVIN BROTHERS LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

since 1963

serving Rosslyn Farms 24 - 7 - 365

- leaf clean-up - schedule your yard clean-up now...we will be doing leaves on first-come, first-serve basis
- snow removal - time to get on the list



CALL CHRIS FLAVIN  
412-519-3975

## GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR

Friday, November 10 - Garbage

Friday, November 17 - Garbage/Recycling

Saturday, November 25 - Garbage

Friday, December 1 - Garbage/Recycling