

# The Last Word

APRIL

2017

## EVENTS

Redd Up Day - April 22

Wine Tasting, - April 22

Plein Air Painting for Adults - May 10-31

Garden Club Plant Sale - May 13

Yard Sale - May 20

Thrill on the Hill - June 3



THE LAST WORD + A ROSSLYN FARMS COMMUNITY CLUB PUBLICATION  
DEADLINE IS THE 24TH OF THE MONTH+ LWPDESIGNS@COMCAST.NET + LAUREN PREPELKA 412.429.6267



## Council Report – March

by Jim Strutz

Meeting was called to order on time. Meeting minutes of Jan 23 and Feb 13 were approved. Financial and Mayor's reports were given, the Mayor's police report appears separately in this newsletter. No issues from borough residents were brought before council.

Borough maintenance department is relining the sewers on Pilgrim and Park roads.

The borough resident who is proposing improvements to the park has requested a date to schedule a walkthrough with council members. It was tentatively decided that the date should coincide with the borough's Red-Up Day, the date will be verified.

Our COG representative reported that code enforcement services are in flux right now because of lack of resources. There has been some discussion of organizing joint pavement maintenance among COG members.

The Community Club, who edits and distributes this newsletter, wanted to clarify that the Last Word is presently distributed as an email notice containing a web link, but that printed copy is available for residents for a fee to cover distribution costs (fee is waived for residents over 70 years of age).

Council approved a motion to permit the use of the tennis courts by Carlynton H.S.

A public hearing was previously advertised for the proposed cell tower ordinance 393. Council received a letter from the Allegheny County planning commission approving the proposal. Council voted to approve the ordinance.

Comcast has quoted to provide security camera service to 4 entry/exit points to the neighborhood (including the industrial park). There is a significant increase in cost to add a 5th camera for the borough maintenance area so it was suggested to instead install a separate DVR security system there. The cost for the type of camera with enough resolution to be able to read license plates is high but decreasing. This is the type of camera recommended by Scott police. Comcast needs to know which poles will host cameras and in which direction the cameras should face in order to proceed. The poles will need electrical outlets to supply power for the cameras. Verizon still has not offered a competing quote.

Council approved the proposed 15% increase in employee health care. The plan includes vision but not dental.

One of the council members spoke for a few residents in the Park/Pilgrim area asking what can be done to slow storm water rushing down that hill. They proposed that perhaps a curb could be installed to rout the water away from residential properties and towards storm sewers.

The Scott police chief, during the previous council meeting, noted that they have two flashing speed signs but only one of them works. A councilman suggested perhaps the borough should buy a flashing speed sign. It could be used to collect traffic data at various places in the borough to help determine to what degree drivers speed through our neighborhood. There are anecdotal accounts of speeding but no actual data. It was suggested that state law may require a traffic engineering study before speed reduction changes can be made.

### Next Council Meeting

Monday, May 8, at 7:00 P.M.

### POLICE REPORTS SUMMARY

During the month of February, Scott Twp. Police logged 6 reportable events. These consisted of one Robinson EMS assist, one stuck truck complaint, one disabled vehicle complaint, one notification of a possible domestic dispute, one false alarm in the industrial area and one animal complaint that necessitated animal control being called. I want to also pass along a warning concerning an incident that occurred in Scott Twp. this month. A Comcast crew was digging a trench at the end of a street. The subject came to the front door claiming to be from the water company. He claimed that the crew hit and broke the water line and that he was required to check every house to insure that their water wasn't muddy. He said he was required to check a faucet in the basement. While the homeowner accompanied him to the basement, another individual entered the house and stole all of the jewelry. Remember, all utility workers are required to have and show ID. Also ask to see their vehicle. Never hesitate to deny anyone entrance to your home if you have any doubt. Ask them to stand outside while you call the utility company or police. If they are legitimate, they won't complain. Incidentally, a very similar crime occurred in Rosslyn Farms about 10 years ago. Never hesitate to say "no" to a stranger if you're not 100% certain of their identity.

*Jim Stover, Mayor*

**In an effort toward continuous improvement, the Pool Committee is seeking community feedback on the Rosslyn Farms Swimming Pool.**

**Please take a few moments to answer this short survey. You can access the survey via this web link:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3YRBLT>.**

*The survey will close on April 30. Thank you, in advance, for your comments and support!*





## A NEW BABY

**Nicholas Anthony  
"Cole"**

Born on February 28th  
6.5 pounds

Congratulations to Jonathan and Lia Fodi!



## BOOK DISCUSSION

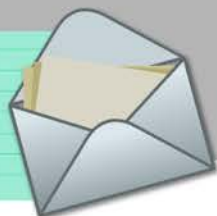
All are welcome to join the community book discussions which are held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 8:00 p.m. (and feel free to join us, even if you haven't read the book!)



**April 20**  
at the home of Mimi Veri  
3 Revere Road  
*The Expatriates*  
by Janice Y.K. Lee

**May 18**  
TBD  
*Sense and Sensibility*  
by Jane Austen

Irene Kierski  
1460 Jefferson Heights Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
412-279-1405



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



from Jordan

Did you know that the Rosslyn Farms Community Club and Community Center are separate entities? While a commission manages the center under the umbrella of the borough, the club is independent. The club stemmed from two different clubs originally, a men's and a women's. In 1997, the two clubs joined into a 501(c)(4), a nonprofit, becoming the club we know today. The club pays annual rent to the center for its use. In exchange, the center kindly accommodates us.

The art classes for kids (in the old resale shop space at the center) were an industrious and exciting sight, with classes for both teens and younger ages. As I write this the art show has not yet happened, but will be teeming with all the students' work. Check out our series for adults this May: Plein Air Painting!

Thank you to Katie McGuire, with help from Paul Bergman, for coordinating another great Happy Hour. We have many more great events coming up, so mark your calendars now!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Redd Up Day, April 22, 9 a.m.**, meet at the swimming pool and join your neighbors and Charlie Smith in helping Redd Up the community for spring. Bring gloves, a rake or leaf blower, and a shovel. After mulching and raking leaves, we'll break for lunch. Hot dogs, drinks and chips are provided. To RSVP and if you wish to donate a side dish, call Isabel at (412) 215-7144. All ages welcome!

**Wine Tasting, April 22, 7 p.m.**, at the Community Center, \$20 per person, RSVP to Jeannie Rosen at [jdrsales@comcast.net](mailto:jdrsales@comcast.net). Please bring two wine glasses, plus an appetizer or dessert. This year's theme will be West Coast Wine Tour.

**Plein Air Painting for Adults, May, 10 through 31**, RSVP to Tony Florence at [tony\\_florence@comcast.net](mailto:tony_florence@comcast.net) or (412) 370-4413. The series of four classes will have its first class at the Community Center. Small, portable easels will be provided; otherwise, bring your own supplies.

**Garden Committee's Plant Sale, May 13**, see details given by the Garden Committee.

**Yard Sale, May 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, at both homes and the Community Center, \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers (to cover advertising costs). Submit form by May 5 to get onto the sale map. Kids get free tables at the center to sell their own items, i.e. drinks, snacks, crafts. Donations are will also be accepted; check form for collection dates. Direct questions to Laura Ragozzino at [laurafano@gmail.com](mailto:laurafano@gmail.com).

**Thrill on the Hill, June 3, races start at 9 a.m.**, meet at the Community Center, RSVP to Ben Gross at [brgross@inbox.com](mailto:brgross@inbox.com). Only the first 75 registrations get t-shirts! The first race, a one-mile downhill is great for all ages who want a great time. The second race, a two-miler, offers more challenge. Don't want to race? Please consider helping at the water table or with registration — or simply cheering on the runners!



## CREATIVE PAINTING CLASSES FOR ROSSLYN FARMS ADULTS

- Four two-hour still-life painting classes on Wednesday nights, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, from May 10 to May 31. Watercolor or Oil.
- First class starts at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center, and moves outside to either the soccer field or Parrish Park.
- With inclement or impractical weather, classes will be held in the Community Center.
- Participation will be limited to 10 persons to ensure individual attention. In order of sign-up.
- Deneen Underwood will be the resident instructor.
- Cost is \$20 per class, totaling \$80 for all four classes per person. Discount of \$10 if you are a Rosslyn Farms Community Club member.
- A portable easy-touch easel will be given to each participant to keep. Each participant must provide all other of their own supplies.
- It's an all-in program. Buy the four classes, all in, up front. Payment is by check made payable to The Rosslyn Farms Community Club ("RFCC").
- For reservations or questions, call Tony Florence at 412-370-4413. Mail checks payable to RFCC to "Art In The Park" at 215 Park Road.

## A plot has become available at the Rosslyn Farms Community Garden.

Anyone who wishes to get in on the 2017 growing season please contact Andrea Harkins at [andreaHarkins5@gmail.com](mailto:andreaHarkins5@gmail.com).

The plot will require a \$50 fee for the year and will be assigned to the first interested person. This is the inaugural year for the Community Garden and we hope you will consider sharing in its future success.

## Design Details: "The Evolution of Surfaces"

by: Nancy Barsotti



As with most things that you must select when designing a kitchen or bathroom, the choices are overwhelming when considering the material for countertops.

In the immediate years after World War II, plastic laminate was the new and the only thing to have. Commonly known as Formica, this material is still available and provides the most economic choice with hundreds of great colors and patterns – some of which can look very much like stone and wood. The average cost installed is \$35 per square foot.

In the 1970's, solid surface materials were the latest way to upgrade from laminate. Corian, Avonite, Wilsonart and other manufacturers used resin to bind synthetic compounds into many colors, patterns, styles and thicknesses. Because the color goes through the entire material, many edge details were achievable. In addition the material was extremely easy to maintain, almost indestructible and even repairable. The average cost installed is \$65 per square foot.

The quest for the "real thing" of stone and granite and also quartz – made from 93% natural material and bound with resin – became all the rage in the 1990's. The choices of color, texture, finish (polished or honed) and designs are endless. However one must consider the maintenance requirements. Quartz does not need to be sealed whereas stone, marble and granite surfaces must be. These materials are more luxurious, with an escalating cost of course. Quartz varies from \$80-140 installed and granite varies from \$80-175 per square foot installed. Beware of marble as it is subject to staining and damage due to common cleaning solvents such as nail polish remover.

But the manufacturers are always on to something new. Now there are Ultracompact Surfaces, most notably Dekton, by Cosentino. Manufactured in Spain, there are many advantages to this material.

It is called Ultracompact because of its manufacturing process, called "sintering." Basically it is made from inorganic materials to which only color has been added. There is no resin in the product, thereby making it useable in both interior and exterior. It is heat and weather-resistant. It's as if Mother Nature made it, only faster and consistent.

The process subjects the raw material to 25,000 tons of pressure, equivalent to 125 blue whales. It has a very low coefficient of expansion, which allows tight seams. It is available in slabs as large as 126' x 56."

It is UV resistant and won't scorch. It won't fade or degrade making it ideal for exterior projects. Its consistent thickness also makes it ideal for floors as it is very flat, more so than wood or ceramic tile. Maintenance is very easy. There is no sealing required and it is impervious to stains and chemicals. It can be cleaned with hot water.

Presently there are 40 colors, which can be finished as polished, or matte with textures such as linen, slate, leather or wood.

The uses are endless. Besides countertops, it can be specified for labs, flooring, facades, bathroom walls and outdoor kitchen areas. It can also be machined with perforations for venting.

The cost of Dekton is in the mid to higher range of quartz pricing.

The installation of any countertop is best left to the professionals, as all require careful measuring and templating to fit perfectly.

No countertop material is perfect in all situations. When deciding which material to use you must consider the amount of use over time, how many years before you would consider replacement, maintenance and your overall budget for your project.



Neighbors may host a sale at their home, reserve a table at the Community Center to sell items, or donate items to the Club for sale by dropping them off at the designated times before the sale (listed below). Donations to the Club are not tax deductible.

The Rosslyn Farms Community Club also encourages children (mini entrepreneurs) to participate by selling beverages, snacks, or their crafts at the center or at home (no participation fee for children and adult supervision required).

There are also opportunities to volunteer to help support the event (e.g., baking goods to raise funds for the Club, working the Club's sale, making signs).

All unsold Club sale items will be donated to the Vietnam Veterans of America. All yard sale participants have the option to donate their unsold items, as well, by dropping them off at the Community Center by 3 p.m. the day of the sale.

Participation: Please sign up by May 5th by completing the form below.

Participation fee: Community Club members: \$5.00 /Nonmembers: \$10.00

Checks payable to "RFCC." Checks/cash may be dropped off at 2 Revere Road with Tara Benner.

Seller's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Seller's address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (we will only contact you about the sale): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (we will only contact you about the sale): \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer to assist with the sale?

- ☐ Yes, please email me how I can help (opportunities for pre-sale and during sale available).
- ☐ No, I'm unavailable to help out this year.

Where will your sale be hosted?

- ☐ At our house (address provided above).
- ☐ I would like to reserve a table at the Rosslyn Farms Community Center (table provided).

Please list a few "hot items" you plan on selling (3 to 5 items) to help enhance advertising:

Kid's sale participation (e.g., lemonade, small snacks, arts & crafts). Please note that any kids participating at the center must be accompanied by an adult.

- ☐ Yes, the kid(s) will set up a sale at our house (address provided above)
- ☐ Yes, the kid(s) are interested in selling items at the Community Center (free/no participation fee, table provided)
- ☐ No. We will not participate in a kid's sale.

If you are having a kid's sale, what items are you planning to sell?

The Community Club will be selling donated items as a fundraiser. This is a great opportunity if you have a few things you would like to get rid of but do not have the time to host your own sale! Do you wish to donate items?

- ☐ Yes. I will drop items off at the Community Center on Wednesday May 10th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- ☐ Yes. I will drop items off at the Community Center on Saturday May 13th from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- ☐ No. I do not wish to donate any items this year.



Carnegie-Collier  
Rotary Club  
presents



*Seventh Annual*  
**SIP for HUNGER**  
OF BODY AND MIND

*Saturday, April 29, 2017*  
*\$100 per person*

The Club at Nevillewood  
1000 Nevillewood Drive • Presto, PA 15142

**Wine Tasting • Auction • Entertainment**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$100 per ticket.

I cannot attend but please accept my donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: District 7300 Rotary Foundation Corporation

Mail coupon and check to:

Richard Meyer  
307 Kings Highway  
Carnegie, PA 15106

**Support Important Projects**

Make sure to visit our website: <http://carnegie-collierrotary.org/>

## LIFEGUARDS 2017



Anyone interested in applying for a lifeguard position at the Rosslyn Farms pool should contact  
Charlie Smith at 412-279-8108  
or Steve George at 412-279-7770.

### GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR

Friday, April 7 - Garbage/Recycling

Friday, April 14 - Garbage

Friday, April 21 - Garbage/Recycling

Friday, April 28 - Garbage

Friday, May 5 - Garbage/Recycling



**David DeChancie**  
**D.M.D.**  
**General Dentistry**

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

*Evening Appointments Available*



APRIL'S CHEF:  
SYLVIA BERGSTEDT

### BLACK BEAN HUMMUS

1 clove garlic, minced  
1- 15 oz. can black beans;  
drained and reserve liquid  
2 T. lemon juice  
1 1/2 T. tahini  
3/4 tsp. ground cumin  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper  
1/4 tsp. paprika  
1 T. olive oil  
2 or 3 T. reserved liquid from beans



Add all of the ingredients except the reserved liquid to food processor. Grind until smooth. Add the reserved liquid to the desired consistency. Serve with pita bread.

*Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Cookbook*

## FLAVIN BROTHERS LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

*since 1963*

serving Rosslyn Farms 24 - 7 - 365



**TIME FOR SPRING CLEAN-UPS  
TAKING ON NEW LAWNS NOW**

Time to plant flowers and shrubs

We can do weekly mowing

All colors of mulch available

We also have topsoil and mushroom manure

All sizes of limestone, gravel, and boulders

**CALL CHRIS FLAVIN**  
**412-519-3975**