

The Last Word

APRIL

2016

April 9 and 23 - Scrapbooking

April 16 - Redd Up Day

April 30 - Wine Tasting

May 6 - Family Kickball

May 7 - Mother's Day Plant Sale

Council Report – March

by Jim Strutz

Resident Concerns

One resident reported that Nelson Tree service, which has been trimming trees throughout the boro for Duquesne Light, cut down 7 Bradford Pear trees below the boro municipal site. These trees were planted 16 years ago after the bus-way was constructed to provide an attractive front as well as to bar some of the parkway noise. Representatives from Duquesne Light's vegetation department and Nelson Tree told boro officials that they have a 20' utility right-of-way, but measurements revealed that the trees were just outside of that range. Duquesne Light offered several scenarios to compensate the loss including supplying new trees, directly or with vouchers, and perhaps involving community members with the planting. One councilman suggested that Duquesne Light should take complete responsibility to replant the trees so there is no obfuscation of responsibility should the trees not survive.

Another resident generally stated that various utility companies who work in the boro should be more responsible to clean up after themselves and to repair any damage they do. More boro oversight and communication might be helpful in this regard.

Mayor's Report

The mayor reported that, further to some of our residents having previously left their cars unlocked with keys inside, somebody in lower Thornburg recently did just that but also left three guns in the car, a high powered rifle and two shotguns, which were stolen.

Council Committee Reports

The boro received quotes for repairing the pool. Parts of one wall needs to be repaired at a cost of \$200 per square foot and the pool needs to be relined, for which there are two options: Marcite or Diamond Bright. Questions remain about warrantee and to what extent the lining comprises the cost.

One councilman brought up the possibility of raising pool membership fees to help offset increasing maintenance costs. He suggested that more of the cost should be subsidized by pool users rather than by tax payers, perhaps 70% of whom don't use the pool. The boro will ask the pool committee to inquire with other local communities to compare their pool fees to ours.

Several boxes of old records were found as the Community Center library is being cleared out. There was some discussion as to how they should be destroyed.

The tennis courts have been cleaned and they look great. Charley and Brad used a pressure washer with a rotary attachment that is not harmful to the surface. Council approved to extend the 2015 rates to 2016, i.e. no increases. Council will consider a personal conduct clause to the usage contract.

Business before Council

There was extensive discussion of the road construction project. Two residents expressed concerns regarding an area on Kings Highway where water ponds after a heavy rain. An adjacent property suffers damage when cars drive by splashing the ponded water onto it. There is a nearby drain but it has collapsed and is not functional. Boro engineering consultants have suggested a method of using "super elevation" to raise one side of the road higher than the other to guide the water away. The residents are concerned how that will affect their driveway and parking space, and also questioned why a long length of Kings Highway should be "super elevated" when just one area is effected by the ponding issue. Council will invite an engineer to the April meeting to discuss the issue further.

Several road repaving options were discussed to perhaps save costs. These discussions were put off until after the deadline of contract bidding ends on April 6th when all cost options will be known.

Council approved a motion to reimburse Carnegie for our portion of costs associated with repaving Angora Road, part of which had previously washed away.

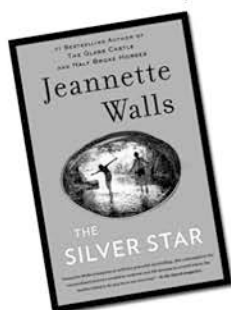
A councilman reported that PennDOT will improve parkway ramp signage to be cleared for large trucks that sometimes mistakenly exit at Rosslyn Farms. Other options are very limited.

A councilman brought up the idea of combining the boro web site, the domain name of which had been hacked to redirect elsewhere, with the Community Club web site to save costs and to make it easier to navigate. He will discuss this with the Community Club president and the webmaster.



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 21
at the home of Liz Rankin
1 Revere Road
The Silver Star
by Jeannette Walls

May 19
at the home of Marie Guerra
30 Club Road
Room by Emma Donoghue

Hope to see you there.

Our condolences with the loss of Jeremy Meyer.



Jeremy and his wife
Suzanne have lived
on Puritan Road for
over 22 years.
Their children are
Aidan and Lana.

deepest sympathy

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



from Jordan

Wow, the Easter Egg Hunt brought us many kids, including some new faces! Thank you Chris and Beth Johnson who helped me pull this off, along with our great crew of neighbourhood teens. Cuddy's Progressive Dinner and Harkins' Game Night also reported to be great fun. Check out our popular April events. Family kickball starts in May, so keep your eye out for days! (Also, make sure Isabel has your current email for up-to-date event notices.)

Remember: Only those who've paid the \$40 membership fee (or more for printed newsletters) will receive new directories – so don't forget your memberships!

EVENTS

Scrapbooking: April 9 and 23 (new dates), 10 a.m., at the Community Center, free. Bring an album and favorite photos. RSVP to Susan O'Toole at sfo1121@gmail.com.

Redd Up Day: April 16
9 a.m., meet at the pool.
Bring a rake and gardening gloves. Show your community pride and come help! Or bring a dish for your hardworking neighbors! Lunch will be served at noon. For questions, contact Isabel Ford, Isabel.ford@pnc.com.

Wine Tasting: April 30
7 p.m., at the Community Center
\$20 per person. This year's theme is Sustaining Your Wine Habit! Bring two wine glasses and an appetizer or dessert to share. Friends and family are welcome. RSVP by the 22nd to Jeanne Rosen at jdrsals@comcast.net. This is a popular event, so first come, first served. *Those who wish to attend without drinking wine should RSVP but do not need to pay.

Family Kickball: May 6
at the soccer field, free



**April's Chef:
Barbara Bigham**

Baked Grits and Eggs Not Just Breakfast

Serves 4
Total time: 30 minutes

Olive Oil, for brushing
¾ cup instant grits
1 cup baby arugula
¼ cup grated cheddar, divided
salt and pepper
4 large eggs

Preheat oven to 400. Brush four 8oz ramekins or other small ovenproof dishes with oil. Prepare grits according to package instructions. Stir in arugula and half of cheese and cook until cheddar melts, about 30 seconds. Season with salt and pepper.

Divide grits among dishes. Make a well in each, then crack an egg into each well. Season. Bake on rimmed baking sheet until whites are set but yolks are runny, about 20 minutes, rotating sheet halfway through. To serve, top grits with remaining cheddar and a sprinkle of pepper.

Can be made in one 8x8 shallow baking dish also.



Jimmy Hurley is a resident of Rosslyn Farms and is current pursuing his Eagle Scout rank. He recently made a proposal to the borough council for his Eagle Scout project. Jimmy would like to make several improvements to the soccer park including:

- Picnic tables
- Benches
- A path leading from the parking lot to the field
- Repairs to the existing backstop
- A new sign

Council passed a motion supporting the work and Jimmy would like to start work soon. Jimmy is planning some fundraising events in the near future. In the meantime any donations would be appreciated.

Jimmy Hurley
7 Old Farm Road
Carnegie, PA 15106
412-489-5135

April 16
Redd Up Day
9 a.m.
meet by pool

RSVP with Isabel Ford at
isabel.ford@PNC.com or
(412) 279-7039
Bring work gloves and a rake



April 30
Wine Tasting
7 p.m.
at the Community Center



\$20 per person, bring two wine glasses and an appetizer or dessert. Taste a variety of professionally selected wines with this year's theme of "Sustaining Your Wine Habit." This is popular, so RSVP soon with Jeanne Rosen at jdrsales@comcast.net or (412) 276-7777. Checks should be made out to RFCC and go to 422 Kings Highway. Guests who don't wish to drink do not need to pay.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR

Friday, April 8 - Garbage/Recycling
Friday, April 15 - Garbage
Friday, April 22 - Garbage/Recycling
Friday, April 29 - Garbage
Friday, May 6 - Garbage/Recycling

Design Details - “I Can See Clearly Now” by *Nancy Barsotti*

Just like the arrival of spring, revivals appear in the home furnishings market. One of the things I have seen clearly appearing is Plastic – in the form of Plexiglas, Lucite, resin and acrylic. A staple of the design world since their appearance in the 1930s, they have been one of my favorite ways to add a dash of contemporary styling to any décor. I don't consider them “trendy” because I have used them in interiors from the time I entered the profession in the 1970s.

The Carnegie Museum of Art owns one of the first pieces of furniture made from this clear hard substance. Cosmetics mogul Helena Rubinstein was one of the first people to commission a chair, which was made by Rohm & Haas. It marked the beginning of Hollywood Regency, style that embraced the glamour of modern materials. But it wasn't until the '60s that Lucite and acrylic came into fashion in contemporary homes.

Lucite, made by DuPont, and Plexiglas, made by Rohm & Haas, both possessed superior qualities to the plastics that preceded them. They were crystal clear, resistant to water and UV rays, which can discolor inferior materials. Both of these companies, and their predecessors Bakelite and Catalin, were used extensively in WWII. After the war their use in jewelry and handbags was popular, including the wonderful vintage art and furniture that's so collectible today.

Some of the best ways to add these designs to your interior is with pieces that take an antique silhouette and mold it in clear material. One of the most well known pieces is the Ghost Chair by Philippe Starck. Introduced in 1992 it was an instant hit for the manufacturer, Kartell. Since that time they have come out with other winners such as the Bourgie transparent lamp. They also added color to the plastic, creating an even larger appeal in the marketplace.

There are so many ways to add a piece of plastic furnishings to your home.

Let's start in the living room – every size table from a coffee table to a side martini table – and the very popular bar carts. In the foyer – a console table with a lamp of acrylic columns and a sculptural chair. In the bedroom – a bench with an upholstered seat with a Lucite frame to sit at the bottom of the bed. In the bathroom, clear Plexi accessories on the vanity with a stool to match look very elegant.



For the home office, functional desk accessories such as book holders, staplers and tape dispensers take on new character as crystal-like art objects when made of Lucite. And of course, you could place these on a smart desk made entirely of Plexiglass with a leather insert top.

In the kitchen, cabinet doorknobs and handles and canisters, bowls and implement containers help to “clear” the countertops of bulky yet necessary equipment.

Many companies feature these furnishings in their repertoire. Kartell, made in Italy has the most extensive line of affordable designs of every shape and size. In addition to the aforementioned Ghost Chair and lamps, they produce all types of accessory items. Plexi-craft has some of the finest pieces of furniture – including every type of table, desk, chair and lamp. Pila Design's nest of tables in molded acrylic is available in great colors such as teal, copper and citrine. AMAC has always done one-thing very well - make simple plastic boxes that are part of the Museum of Modern Art's collection. The catalog companies, such as Horchow, often feature small furnishings and accessories of plastics.

So clear your vision this spring. Reinvigorate your home's décor by adding a jolt of artistic and modern flair to your home with clear furnishings. Not only will they be beautiful and functional but also they will stand the test of time.

FLAVIN BROTHERS

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

Flavin brothers is taking on new customers now.
All Flavin brothers customers receive free aeration
throughout the year.
Call and get a free estimate on any work.

Time for spring clean-ups. We have mulched 20 yards
already due to early warm weather-yours could be next.
We have a crew of 8 to finish your projects quickly.

Deliveries: all color mulches are in.
\$25 dark double shred, \$35 dyed black, brown, cherry
brown, and red.

Stone: flag stone, wall stone, We have a stone mason for all
your old wall repairs or new walls.
Limestone: #3's 2b, 1b, 2a modified.
River rock: #5-8's. 2b, shot gravel. Boulders: all sizes.

Hauling: we have 4 trucks for all your hauling
needs. We can haul 7 tons at a time.
Debris removal: hard to get rid of items, TVs,
e-waste, tires, batteries.

CALL CHRIS FLAVIN 412-519-3975

LIFEGUARDS 2016



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.

*Interviews will be conducted in April at
a date and time to be announced.*

THE LAST WORD - A ROSSLYN FARMS COMMUNITY CLUB PUBLICATION

DEADLINE: 24TH OF THE MONTH
LWPDESIGNS@COMCAST.NET
WWW.ROSSLYNFARMSPA.COM

THANK YOU

Thank you to Charlie, Brad,
Dan Harkins and John Repine for
painting the gym and Calvert Room
ceiling at the Community Center.



David DeChancie
D.M.D.
General Dentistry

KINGS HIGHWAY
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