

The Last Word

MAY

2016

PLANT SALE

MAY 7 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

- Spring is finally here and the Rosslyn Farms Plant Sale will be in full bloom. The Plant Sale is the perfect way to welcome the season.
- Come and celebrate spring, greet your neighbors and purchase your Mother's Day gifts and plants for your yard.
- There will be flowering shrubs, perennials, flower and vegetable seedlings, baskets of ferns and flowers, garden ornaments and reusable garden items for sale.
- Refreshments will be available too.
- If you have any garden items or plants you wish to donate please contact Nancy Barsotti at 412-276-3496 or nhbinteriordesign@gmail.com or John Repine at 412-279-7368. They may be dropped off at the Center on Friday, May 6th.



All proceeds will be used to beautify the gardens around the neighborhood.

Hope to see you there! • "The Green Team"

6 p.m.-8 p.m.
MAY 7

FAMILY KICKBALL



REDD up!
DAY



Council Report – April

by Brad Knabel

Engineers Report: Dan Harkins and Charlie met with the borough's engineer (Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering) regarding sanitary sewers and drainage along Kings Highway.

Parks and Recreation: The survey of Parrish Park is completed and will be released soon.

Garbage and Recycling: Tina Stacey reported that recycling pickup is being missed sporadically for some people in the borough. She has been working with Waste Management to resolve the issue. The borough contract provides for penalties if the issues continue. Solicitor Peter Molinaro recommended keeping a paper trail for communications with Waste Management.

Tennis Courts: Dave Robb said that the Tennis Court Commission would like to purchase a park bench for placement closer to the tennis courts. Council passed a motion approving the release of funds for this use.

Roads: A portion of Angora Road requires repaving. The road is jointly maintained by Carnegie and Rosslyn Farms and the cost of this repair will be split between the boroughs. An ordinance to approve the payment of funds to Carnegie is required. Solicitor Molinaro will present an ordinance for approval in a future meeting. Dan Harkins will follow up with PennDOT regarding changes to the signage on the ramp for the Parkway.

Jimmy Hurley's Eagle Scout Project: The backstop fence near the soccer field has been removed and Jimmy is continuing fundraising efforts. Nate Prepelka suggested the installation of a barrier net to the portion of the park that faces neighboring yards. This would prevent errant soccer balls from landing in fenced areas. Council agreed to investigate pricing and may follow up with Jimmy depending on the results.

PennDOT Site Rehabilitation: The garden committee has assembled a wish list of items for the area along Rosslyn Road where PennDOT has been working. Council will work with PennDOT to see what may be possible. Council will also investigate the placement of a gravel turnaround for trucks in this area.

Swimming Pool: Council discussed the swimming pool rates. Gerald Bell had investigated the pricing of nearby pools and found that the Rosslyn Farms rates were the same or higher than neighboring communities. Council passed a motion to continue using 2015's rates in 2016.

Yard Signs: Council chose not to make any ordinance changes regarding yard signs after a brief discussion including input from solicitor Molinaro.

Supplemental Meeting: Council met on April 25 to discuss the upcoming road project and met with residents regarding drainage issues along Kings Highway between house numbers 410 and 414. An engineer from LSSE was present to share his findings.

The LSSE representative recommended the creation of a superelevation along a portion of Kings Highway. This involves sloping the road slightly away from the houses in question. He also recommended the placement of curbs on the side of the street opposite the houses. This combination should divert any water away from yards and into the treed park area across the street.

Residents from each of the houses were present and asked a few questions. After the questions were answered council agreed to move forward with the engineer's recommendations.

Council also completed discussion regarding the bids received for the borough's paving project. After reviewing the details of the bids council passed a motion to accept the bid from Youngblood Paving of Wampum, Pennsylvania. Work should begin within the next two months.

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R E M I N D E R



All properly cleaned recycle items must be at the curb, in a recycle bin, the evening before a scheduled pickup.

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GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CALENDAR

Friday, May 6 - Garbage/Recycling

Friday, May 13 - Garbage

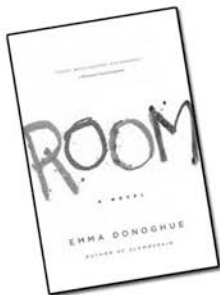
Friday, May 20 - Garbage/Recycling

Friday, May 27 - Garbage



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!)



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

June 16
At the home of Judy Bergman
29 Priscilla Lane
We Never Asked for Wings by
Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Hope to see you there.

WANTED



A coordinator for the July 4th festivities.
Because we currently have helpers,
the job should be relatively simple.
Isabel Ford can walk you through
the process.
Email jparkertongross@gmail.com or
call (412) 489-6306 for more info.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



from Jordan

Jimmy Hurley is raising funds to repair and improve our soccer field for his Eagle Scout project. Some you may have participated in his hoagie fundraiser. The Rosslyn Farms Community Club has decided to donate \$500 from its beautification fund.

Directories are in the works. We have so many new residents! Please make sure Isabel Ford and Donna McNamara (our amazing volunteers) have your current phone number, even if you're not a member. Latecomers who still need to purchase \$40 family or \$25 individual memberships, should email isabel-ford@pnc.com and write checks to RFCC. Memberships keep the club alive — and will get you a new neighborhood directory!

As I write this, the wine tasting hasn't yet happened, but I know Jeanne Rosen will put on a great night. Also, thank you to Isabel for gathering neighbors to clean up and mulch around the neighborhood for Redd Up Day! Don't miss our plant sale on May 7!!

Check out our Facebook page, Rosslyn Farms Community Forum, where you can remain abreast of local happenings and reach out to neighbors!

Upcoming events:

Garden Club's Plant Sale, May 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Community Center

Family Kickball, May 7, 6 to 8 p.m., at the soccer field — all ages are welcome

Pool Pizza Party, July 9, details to be announced

**Aliens Invade
Rosslyn Farms!**
By Jim Strutz



The Creeping Bellflower (*Campanula rapunculoides*) is a relative newcomer to the 'Farms. These European natives, likely introduced to North America for their ornamental value, are lovely, naturalizing, herbaceous perennials with blue-violet, bell-shaped flowers that nod along the length of its stalk in late spring. They range in height from 18-30 inches, or so. The alternately arranged, toothed, heart-shaped leaves elongate and decrease in size as they ascend the stalk. From an esthetic perspective, it's understandable why one might welcome the presence of these plants in the garden - but evil lurks behind the beautiful façade!

Seed pods form as the flowers fade in early summer. Each plant can produce as many as 15,000 seeds in a year! They are lightweight and sport small, flat "wings" which suit them very well for wind dispersal. If that isn't insidious enough, they form rhizomes (which are edible, BTW: they are starchy, tasteless, and best when foraged in early spring) which spread underground to expand their colonial boundaries. This perfectly explains the "creeping" part of its common name. You can try to pull them out but new growth can will emanate from any tiny fragment of rhizome left in the ground. You must dig down and remove all parts of the plant to eradicate them entirely. Alternatively, a systemic herbicide may be applied carefully to the leaves.

Bees and other pollinators may be attracted to the Creeping Bellflower but, to the best of my knowledge, it doesn't serve as a larval host for any native insects.

I noticed some Creeping Bellflowers had blown into our yard a year or two ago, from where I had no clue. Gabby and I searched for possible sources during our daily neighborhood walks. So far, we've seen them growing along Priscilla and Terrace Roads. There may be other sources but I haven't yet discovered them.



David DeChancie
D.M.D.
General Dentistry

KINGS HIGHWAY
AT BALDWIN ROAD
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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