

MPNA News

The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

Volume 2 – Number 25

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

November 17, 2006

Big Event at the SEPTA Train Station This Morning

With TV cameras here and there, free donuts, soft pretzels, beverages, a welder, carpenters, painters, engineers and politicians, SEPTA dedicated the Melrose Park train station this morning during a brief ceremony and ribbon cutting.

Bill Donnelly and I went there. We both spoke. Fox 29 recorded the whole event, and it could be on TV **tonight** - - Which is why I am sending this newsletter out so soon. Here are some details provided by SEPTA.

- SEPTA General Manager Faye Moore joined us, SEPTA Board member Tom Ellis and members of the local community in a celebration to commemorate the newly rebuilt Melrose Park Station.
- SEPTA worked closely with the Melrose Park community throughout the reconstruction process to build an appealing transportation facility highlighted by ADA compliant accessible platforms, ramps and sidewalks and a glistening, bright exterior with landscaping and improved lighting.
- Melrose Park Station also features a new brick building on the inbound side fashioned after the style of the historic Reading Railroad and includes a ticket office, climate-controlled waiting area and restroom. In addition, as part of the \$5.4 million project, a new canopy was constructed on the inbound side and a passenger shelter was installed for outbound passengers.

Melrose Park Station Fact Sheet from SEPTA

SEPTA passed out a fact sheet with the gardens planted and tended to by MPNA members featured in a very nice, large, summertime photograph. Below the photo, SEPTA had the following interesting facts:

- Melrose Park Station is located in Montgomery County at the intersection of Valley Road & Mill Road. The station is served by SEPTA's R1 Airport, R2 Warminster, R3 West Trenton and R5 Lansdale-Doylestown regional rail lines.
- SEPTA began reconstruction of the station facilities during the winter of 2003. The \$5.4 million project was completed in-house with the work accomplished by SEPTA employees.
- The inbound side of Melrose Park Station features a new brick building fashioned after the historic Reading Railroad and includes a ticket office, climate-controlled waiting room and restroom. A 140-foot long station canopy was also constructed on the inbound side.
- A new passenger shelter was installed on the platform for outbound passengers awaiting trains from Center City Philadelphia.
- Melrose Park Station is constructed with high level platforms allowing trains to operate more efficiently by reducing "dwell time" at the station. With the addition of the high level platforms, the station is accessible to riders with disabilities.
- The passenger platforms are approximately 500 feet long and allow direct transfer from all cars of the longest train.

- The parking lots on the inbound and outbound sides of the station are repaved and feature drop-off areas and dedicated spaces for riders with disabilities.
- Additional station facility features include a new public address system, new site utilities, landscaping, railings, signage, lighting, stairs, ramps and sidewalks to provide an ADA compliant accessible path from the inbound to the outbound side.
- A total of 347 passengers board trains each weekday at Melrose Park Station while 323 passengers depart trains at the station.

This last fact means we “lose” two dozen commuters from Melrose Park each day! Just kidding.

All in all, today’s celebration was a very pleasant time.

More Email Addresses Would Be Great

The more neighbors we have on this email list, the better. So, please encourage your neighbors to email their addresses to me at andrewrudin@earthlink.net. We do not share our email list.

Donations Needed for Library Book Sales

What to do with all those books in the basement! Pickup is available – Just call 215-635-5000.

WANTED - CD's Video Tapes, Audio Tapes, Vintage Magazines, Comic Books, Software, LP Phonograph Records & ALL KINDS OF BOOKS.

NOT WANTED - Reader's Digest Condensed Books, Old Textbooks & Law Books, Scratched Phonograph Records, Older Encyclopedias, Underlined or Highlighted Books, Partial Sets of Reference Books, Moldy, Water-damaged Books.

All donations of books, videos & CDs are tax-deductible

The book sales are Friday through Sunday, starting on the following Fridays at 1pm – **tomorrow**, October 27, December 1, 2006 and January 12, February 23, March 23, April 10 and May 18, 2007. Half price sales start June 1st and the final \$5 per bag sale starts June 8th.

This Newsletter

If you have any suggestions for items for this newsletter, feel free to email them to me at andrewrudin@earthlink.net.

MPNA memberships

Membership in MPNA helps pay for plantings, signage, and many other things. Annual dues are \$10 per individual, \$20 per household. Send your contribution to MPNA Board member Jim Muldoon, 106 Parkview Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012.

MPNA Board

Members of the MPNA Board are Andrew Rudin, Phil Kates, Gene Silver, Michael Sheckman, Jim Muldoon and Albert Fried-Cassorla. If you are interested in helping out with MPNA, please email me at andrewrudin@earthlink.net. This newsletter is available or will be soon, maybe with photos, on our website – www.melroseparkneighbors.org

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