

MPNA News

The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

Volume 2 – Number 93

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

Saturday, May 01, 2010

Streamside Farm at Elkins Estate

Ellen Rogovin emailed, “Andy, I volunteered at this farm which will be selling their produce at the Creekside Coop. Your mailing list might have some interested volunteers. It was a wonderful learning experience.” And from the website of the Streamside Farm at Elkins Estate. For directions see www.elkinsestate.org

More details from the farm director:

My name is Meei Ling Ng and I am the Farm Director at Streamside Farm at Elkins Estate. Thank you for signing up to volunteer at our farm. It's has been crazy here at the farm. We're just breaking ground on this exciting project that will make use of the greenhouse complex and extensive grounds of the Elkins Estate to grow organic, chemical-free produce and flowers. They'll be sold on-site and at the new Creekside Coop Farmers Market at High School Park. Its only me and my husband, Larry Shaeffer (Farm assistant) doing all the work now. We could definitely use some help to make this project a success!

Our Mission

The mission of the Streamside Farm at Elkins Estate is to improve community access to healthy food by growing produce and flowers in a chemical-free, environmentally sustainable manner. And, to use the Streamside Farm as an educational tool for raising public awareness on sustainable food systems.

Our Goals

- Grow high quality produce
- Become a financially sustainable operation that contributes to The Elkins Estate upkeep.
- Help The Elkins Estate become an irreplaceable and treasured place in the surrounding community
- Develop an educational curriculum that provides students from a diverse background the knowledge to live a healthy lifestyle and grow their own food.
- Help build community in Elkins Park, Cheltenham Twp and beyond.

Community Conversation with the Cheltenham Police

The Friends of the Elkins Park Free Library will hold its 3rd Community Conversations event on Wednesday, May 19th, 7:30 p.m., 563 East Church Road, Elkins Park. The Cheltenham Police Department will discuss crime prevention, followed by a question and answer period. This is an opportunity for the community to connect with the Police Department. FREE.
Information: 215-635-5000. MPNA

FREE BACKYARD BUFFER WORKSHOP

The Cheltenham Township Environmental Advisory Council invites everyone to attend a free Backyard Buffer Workshop on Monday, May 3 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Curtis Hall, located at 1250 W. Church Road in Wyncote. Part of the Philadelphia Water Department's Backyard Buffers Program, the workshop will feature guidance for environmentally friendly landscape designs, stormwater management issues and "green" landscaping practices. Attendees should RSVP to the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership at 215-208-1613 or info@ttfwatershed.org. MPNA

FIRST FRIDAYS IN DOWNTOWN GLENSIDE

Cheltenham Township Main Street and the Downtown Glenside Merchants' Association invite shoppers to celebrate Mother's Day on May 7 at the next First Fridays event in Downtown Glenside. Many businesses along East Glenside Avenue and South Easton Road will offer special activities and discounts, while extending their hours for shoppers' convenience. In addition, all parking will be free starting at 5:00 p.m.

For the May event, Sweet Magnolia (117 S. Easton Road) and Leather Case (116 S. Easton Road) will feature MAMACITA: Mothers' Cooperative in the Arts, who are local artists and mothers creating one-of-a-kind arts and crafts. Sweet Magnolia will serve wine and cheese and discount 10-20% off selected items. Other special attractions include:

- * Dovetail Artisans (105 E. Glenside Ave.) - Live music from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and a showing of Layne Designs jewelry from artist Layne Freedline. Open until 8:30 p.m.
 - * Stitchers' Dream (221 S. Easton Road) - Free 30-minute knitting lessons from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Yarn and needles provided. Open until 8:00 p.m.
 - * Marcella's Music (24 E. Glenside Ave.) - Buy one book at regular price and get a second of equal/lesser value at 25% off. Open until 7:00 p.m.
 - * Serenity Inspirational Gifts & Coffee (140 S. Easton Rd.) - 50% off all beverages, free chai lattes and fruit/tea smoothies for mothers and 20% off all Mother's Day cards. Open until 7:00 p.m.
 - * La Petite Fleur (107 S. Easton Rd.) - \$5 off all things bag-static. Open until 7:00 p.m.
- Many other businesses and eateries will also remain open until at least 8:00 p.m.

"First Fridays" is an economic development initiative that is designed to support and promote Cheltenham Township businesses, since a healthy business base is vital to a healthy community. For more information, contact Ruth Littner Shaw at 215-887-6200, ext. 113.

MPNA

CHELTENHAM OFFERS WORKSHOP ON TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

College-bound students and their parents can prepare for the transition from high school to college at a free seminar sponsored by the Cheltenham Township Substance Abuse and Mental Health Committee on Tuesday, April 27 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Curtis Hall, located at 1250 W. Church Road in Wyncote. "Off to College: Sudden Freedom" will feature speakers from local colleges offering helpful insights on topics ranging from drinking, homesickness, dorm life, health services, legal issues and more. For more information, call Cheltenham Township Public Information Officer Nancy K. Gibson, at 215-887-6200, ext. 230. MPNA

POLICE BIKE RODEO

Youngsters can learn bike-handling skills at the Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 1 from 9AM-Noon at Elkins Park Middle School. MPNA

DOG WALK

Join the Dog Walk to support the Curtis Arboretum Dog Park on April 24. MPNA

The Elkins Park Library May Book Sale

The Friends of the Elkins Park Free Library holds its next Used Book sale on Friday, May 14th, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, May 15th, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Sunday, May 16th, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 563 East Church Road, Elkins Park. Sale includes books, CDs, audiotapes, records, videos, software, games, giftware and more. 15,000+ items in all. Too many specials to itemize. FREE.

Information: 215-635-5000. MPNA

This Newsletter

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

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. The membership cycle is the calendar year. MPNA

MPNA Board

Members of the MPNA Board are Andrew Rudin, Phil Kates, 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 on our website – www.melroseparkneighbors.org MPNA

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