

MPNA News

The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

Volume 2 – Number 48

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

Saturday, May 10, 2008

News from the Abington Arts Center

Caroline Strizinger wants publicize an upcoming event. Artist Tera Galanti will be doing a talk and unveiling of sculptural hutches of live silk moths at the Abington Art Center on Saturday, May 17 as part of the COFFEEBREAK series which pairs a coffee tasting by local coffee houses with a talk by an exhibiting artist.

Tera has reversed bred silk moths so that they can fly. (For hundreds of years, humans bred silkmoths to have big bodies and small wings- this made it impossible for them to fly). Get a close-up look at these creatures as they emerge and hear about this amazing art/science project.

COFFEEBREAK starts at 9:30am and features brews and pastry pairings by Fill a Bagel followed by Tara Galanti's presentation. (Tara is one of the artists featured in our Metamorphosis exhibition artist- butterfly and moth imagery.) Cost \$5/ AAC Members Free.

Caroline Strizinger, Public Programs Coordinator at the AAC.

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What's New with Cheltenham Square Mall

In response to a request for more information from one of our readers, I asked Ruth Littner Shaw, our Main Street Manager, what was happening at Cheltenham Square Mall. She emailed back, "In the fall of 2006, the Cheltenham Square Mall was purchased by Thor Equities of New York, and since the purchase, they have been making upgrades and changes to the mall. One of the decisions they made was to eliminate the movie theatre, and to replace it with a big box store.

"They have been working with Township Staff since the purchase (attending meetings, working with Public Works, etc.) The EDTF knew that a new retail anchor would be forthcoming within 6 months of the purchase of the mall. It was only within the last year that they announced to the EDTF that it was most likely going to be a Target, the 3rd largest retailer in the nation. Since then it has been mentioned at Public Works meetings (open to the public), and a few other public meetings. At the dates of the bid meetings, the name Target was used. The Township did not make a public announcement. Around Valentines' Day, we got a press release from Chautaun Porch, agent for the Mall, that the deal was done. Then Thor forwarded the Press Release to the local newspapers and other news media.

"Signs were posted on the property about the coming Target. Demolition on the property began a few months ago, and the private road known as Shoppers Lane has been closed for about a month now.

"This type of use is encouraged and was called out in the Commercial District Enhancement Plan. It will also benefit the proposed joint Business Improvement District (BID) that has been approved in Cheltenham Township and is awaiting approval in Northwest Philadelphia. A spring 2009 is opening anticipated."

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A New Melrose Park Blog

Kevin Derr of Crest Avenue has just set up a Melrose Park Blog at Wordpress. The address is <http://melrosepark.wordpress.com/> He thought with winter coming on this might be a way for the neighborhood to chat without being outside, though, he says he would rather see people outside and talking, thought the blog might be useful. It would also be a place to post upcoming events and such.

Kevin goes on to say, "The whole thing is designed to be interactive. A place to carry on a conversation that is public. So, a topic is posted, and then people can comment raise other issues and the like. The first topic I posted was what would be a nice addition to the community. Now people can chime in and say, this is what I would like to see.... You can stop by the web site and see what is going on, you can also subscribe to receive any thing posted on the page. Either way, the simplest is to stop by the web page, the idea is to have people come back and leave comments, respond to what others have said and so on."

Kevin Derr - hkderr@gmail.com

Donations Needed for Used Book Sales at the EP Library

Pickup 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 dates for the coming book sales are:

May 30-31, 2008

June 13-26, 2008 (liquidation sales) 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, 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 MPNA

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