

# MPNA News

## The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

---

Volume 2 – Number 11

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

August 7, 2005

### The News:

#### **SEPTA Inbound Station in Melrose Park**

Neighbors continue to beautify our inbound train station. Several members of MPNA have been involved in weedings, waterings and plantings over the past several weeks. Special acknowledgment of Ricki Lent's great work. The flowers show we care!

#### **The Outbound SEPTA Station**

The northbound platform opened. SEPTA is still planning to tear down the outbound station, perhaps soon. If you don't want this to happen, you should call SEPTA right away. Or email me, and I will forward on your request to folks in SEPTA. One thought is that the station would be eligible for the national register if someone were to submit a determination of eligibility form to the State Historic Preservation Office.

Perhaps the MPNA submit a proposal to SEPTA to rent the structure for storage of its gardening equipment for its beautification projects around the station and within the Mill Road area. We could offer SEPTA a \$1.00 a year with the caveat that the MPNA will provide the maintenance and upkeep of the structure for SEPTA. We could store all our tools that we use to maintain the stations. Anyone want to lead in this effort?

#### **Tree Planting**

Bryan Havir, our assistant Township manager, says that "On the front cover of the next Township newsletter which is to be mailed the first week of September 2005 there will be an article about the street tree planting program that we are working on. It will cover the Melrose Park area as well as Glenside, LaMott and Lynnewood Gardens. Melrose Park, LaMott and Glenside are slated for a spring 2006 planting. We are attempting to get the bid specifications together for a fall planting for Lynnewood Gardens."

If you know of places where you would like to see a new tree, contact me at [andrewrudin@earthlink.net](mailto:andrewrudin@earthlink.net) or call Bryan at the Township at 215-887-1000.

## **Cheltenham Avenue Special Services District**

Bryan also says, "All comments on the final draft plan of the zoning and land use consistency analysis along Cheltenham Avenue are due to my office by August 15. I will prepare a final submission with everyone's input and return one marked up copy to the KSK consultant team for final editing. The final plan will be printed by the end August. Our next LUPTAP grant was filed to DCED at the end of June for another round of \$100,000 to undertake the next phase of our inter-municipal planning project with Northwest Philly, which is the feasibility study for creating a Special Services District along the Avenue. Hopefully, that will get started later this fall."

## **Ashbourne Market**

Our Main Street Manager (and Melrose Park resident) Ruth Littner Shaw says, "Ashbourne Market is still looking to open August 15. Might be a stretch, but certainly during September."

## **Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership**

The draft management plan for our watershed (the Tacony/Frankford) has now been posted online. You can access it through a link at the top of this website: [www.phillywater.org/Tacony-Frankford](http://www.phillywater.org/Tacony-Frankford). The deadline for comments on the draft are due to the folks at the Philadelphia Water Department by August 12.

## **Information on dog parks from neighbor Diane Kolb**

Cheltenham Township has agreed to allow the Curtis Park Dog Run to be built!! It was a long and exhausting struggle but it's finally going to happen. Those interested in this project have to raise the \$30,000 ourselves to construct the acre and a half, 5-foot post and rail fence with signs, buffer zone, refuse cans and doggy bags, in the lower meadow at Curtis Park. Corporate money is being courted as well as State grants from the Department of Agriculture's animal welfare division. A single donor of the stated amount can name the park!

We're well on our way to seeing our dream become a reality. But we need your help! There's lots to do and many different ways you can help be part of this wonderful addition to Cheltenham. The preliminaries are set, and the our next full meeting of the CURTIS DOG PARK COMMITTEE will be THURSDAY, AUGUST 18<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm at Rowland Community Center in East Cheltenham.

## **Noisy "Music" from Oak Lane**

Of particular interest to me is the noise that comes from 506 Oak Lane. They have a parking lot and pool behind the RitaAid store near the corner of Fifth and Cheltenham. I complained to Sergeant David Hirschbuhl, our community policing officer, plus the general number for the Cheltenham Police, plus called 9-1-1 at 11pm on Saturday, August 6. The music continued until 2am. Earplugs did not help.

Philadelphia has a noise ordinance that says no noise greater than 3 decibels above ambient noise levels should come from residences between 9pm and 8am. Fines vary between \$100 and \$300 and up to 90 days in jail. If you too have been bothered by this particular situation, please contact me.

## **Adding email addresses**

Please tell your neighbors to email me ([andrewrudin@earthlink.net](mailto:andrewrudin@earthlink.net)) to be added to this email list to share information about our neighborhood.

## **Work on the stream banks for 'Mill Run'**

You may have noticed that the work on the stream banks near Coventry and Cheltenham is done. I am waiting for the test results to come in from the Department of Environmental Protection and/or the Philadelphia Water Department. They said that the deep pool of slop at the outfall could have contributed to the high counts of bacteria. Now that the pool has been filled, new tests could provide more accurate information about the health of the stream that flows through our neighborhood.

## **This Newsletter**

If you have any suggestions for items for this newsletter, feel free to email them to me at [andrewrudin@earthlink.net](mailto: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 family.

## **MPNA Board**

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