

MPNA News

The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

Volume 2 – Number 36

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

Thursday, September 13, 2007

Melrose Park Neighbors Meeting

There will be a public meeting of the Melrose Park Neighbors Association on Monday evening, October 22, 2007 at 7pm at the Elkins Park Library in the Community Room. We have invited the two candidates for Ward 5 commissioner – Tom Carboni and Mike Swavola. I will moderate the discussion. Please email (andrewrudin@earthlink.net), fax (215-635-1903) or mail me (7217 Oak Avenue, 19027) questions for the candidates. You don't have to be an MPNA member to attend. Some good questions have already come in.

Upcoming Township Events

- September 15--7th Annual Glenside Street Fair! (Rain date: 9/16)
 - Easton Road near Glenside Avenue 10 am to 5 pm ARTISTS STILL WANTED!
- September 29--Sounds of Serenity at Won
 - Won Institute Grad Studies Wesley Plaza Glenside
- September 30--Korean Children's Folk Festival
 - John Russell Park, 1 pm to 5 pm
- October 13--Community Harvest Festival
 - Curtis Park in Wyncote
- November 17--Craft Show and Sale
 - Cheltenham Art Center
- November 23 and 24--Holiday Shopping Kickoff
 - FREE PARKING in all shopping districts
- December 1--WinterFest on Wesley
 - Santa arrives; starts at 4:00 pm in Glenside
- March 2008--Village Arts Festival
 - Cheltenham Art Center

Environmental Advisory Council Events

On Saturday, September 15th, hundreds of thousands of people will descend on beaches, lakes, and streams all over the world to remove trash and debris — on land and under the water. Volunteers of all ages from every continent will form the largest one-day volunteer event on behalf of clean oceans and waterways — Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup. Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup is the largest and most successful volunteer event of its kind. Since 1986 thousands of volunteers from around the globe have cleared over 100 million pounds of trash.

Locally, join this effort on September 15, 2007 at Wall Park, 600 Church Road, 9:00am – 12:00pm. To register please contact:

Susan Harris
Montgomery County Conservation District
sharris@montgomeryconservation.org
610-489-4506, ext. 19

or
Sarah RobbGrieco
Tookany /Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership
sarah@ttfwatershed.org
215-208-1613

September 25: Riparian Buffer Workshop

The public is invited to meet at the historic Wall property Carriage House to learn about the upcoming Tree Vitalize Watershed Grant plantings at Wall Park and Ralph Morgan Park.(See below for planting dates.) Learn about why our Township is planting riparian buffers, how it will affect our parks and how you can help!

When: Tuesday, September 25th @ 7pm
Where: The Wall House Carriage House (At Wall Park)
Contact: Barb Duffy 215-885-1506

September 29: Concert for Clean Energy

The Quiet Riot will use physical comedy, storytelling, sound effects, music and audience interaction in a performance to launch the Cheltenham Environmental Advisory Council initiative: "*Cheltenham: A Green All-Solar Township within 10 Years*"

When: Saturday evening, September 29th, 7 PM - 9 PM
Where: Cheltenham High School theater
Fee: Free, however donations for an on-going All-Solar Township campaign will be accepted
Contact: Bill Mettler 215 885 8936 or wmmettler3@aol.com
Quiet Riot: www.quietriot.org <http://www.quietriot.org> (Quiet Riot performance donated to Township)
***Refreshment will be served!
Learn about the Township's participation in the [Pennsylvania Clean Energy Communities Campaign](#).

October 6: Riparian Buffer Planting at Ralph Morgan Park

Volunteers are needed to plant native trees and shrubs within the riparian buffer. With a Tree Vitalize Watershed Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Township will purchase native vegetation to replenish the riparian buffers along this section of the Tookany Creek. Healthy riparian buffers also help filter out pollutants before they reach the waterway, thereby improving the health of the entire Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed.

***Food and drink for the volunteers will be provided.
When: Saturday, October 6th @ 9AM 'til 3PM
Where: Ralph Morgan Park in Wyncote (next to Jenkintown Train Station)
Contact: www.cheltenhamtownship.org (click on Environmental projects.)

October 27: Riparian Buffer Planting at Wall Park

Volunteers are again needed to plant native trees and shrubs within the riparian buffer. This is another part of the Tree Vitalize Watershed Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources where the Township will purchase native vegetation to replenish the riparian buffers along the Wall Park section of the Tookany Creek.

*****Food and drink for the volunteers will be provided.**

When: Saturday, October 27th @ 9AM 'til 3PM

Where: Wall Park

Contact: www.cheltenhamtownship.org (click on Environmental Projects)

Check the Cheltenham Township website in the winter for upcoming Spring 2008 Events, especially for our Second Annual Earth Day Festival featuring our Tookany Creek Watershed!

Trash and Poor Property Maintenance

Ellen Rogovin Hart emails that, “Deborah Fries, Gail Mc Lean, and I spent several hours on Saturday touring and discussing the question of cleanliness of our community. We are concerned that part of our community feels like a forgotten part of Elkins Park. (Oak Lane Road to Mountain and Cheltenham Avenue to Valley). We are concerned about issues like:

- months of time in which neighbors fail to remove plastic bags of garden debris or other debris
- the SEPTA bridge over Cheltenham Avenue with years of debris and inch-deep pigeon droppings
- sidewalks that are not weed-free and never swept
- a business corridor that is a filthy garbage-strewn area with littleeye-appeal and is a certain eyesore and with no trash receptacles dog waste
- serious littering

“We are organizing to find ways to do something about this and have questions about property maintenance:

1. We feel that our neighbors need to be reminded of property maintenance guidelines along with the penalties for failure to comply with guidelines.
2. Owners of rental properties must be reminded of their responsibility with maintenance of their porches, steps, sidewalks, parking spaces, lawns, and trash receptacles
3. Business owners need to be reminded of their responsibility to maintain clean properties in front, sides, and backs of their businesses. Is it possible for there to be trash receptacles placed along the 400 block of Cheltenham which is heavily used by shoppers coming from local stores in Philadelphia?
4. Is there a regular schedule of street cleaning all throughout the township?
5. Is there a policy that allows people with property maintenance violations can get the names of neighbors who complain about properties?
6. Can trash receptacles be placed near the entrance to Asbury Park here students catch their bus?

“Our intent is not to pit neighbors against neighbors, but to insist on compliance of all of us to Property Maintenance codes which were accepted by our community. We have photos which can be used in a slide show that deals with this problem. We would like our elected officials to help take responsibility by insisting on monitoring the progress of these problems. Can we get on the agenda of the next meeting?

With appreciation.
Ellen Rogovin Hart”

Ellen will make a brief presentation about this at our October 22nd MPNA public meeting at 7pm at the Elkins Park Library.

The 2008 Entertainment Book is here

Support the Friends of the Elkins Park Free Library! Buy your 2008 Entertainment savings book!

Everybody knows the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK - full of 50% and 2-for-1 discounts on restaurants, movies, sporting events and more. Books are super easy to use - people enjoy saving money while supporting a good cause! Fundraiser supporters can purchase the Entertainment book at \$5 less than regular retail price.

- Cost -- \$25 (Checks payable to Friends of EP Free Library)
- Can be used immediately
- Available at the circulation desk in the library
- Dine...Shop...Travel....SAVE up to 50%
- Quickly pays for itself with hundreds of exclusive offers.
- Available for cities all over the USA – send them as gifts
- Get One Free when you sell 5 Entertainment books online
 - Our group's number is 876487
 - Log on to the Seller's Section at fundraising.entertainment.com

For questions or orders, contact Norma (215-635-1771, pm) or by email at mrotman2@comcast

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:

September 28-30, 2007

October 26-28, 2007

November 30 - December 2, 2007

January 18-20, 2008

February 22-24, 2008

March 28-30, 2008

April 25-27, 2008

May 30-31, 2008

June 13-26, 2008 (liquidation sales)

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. The membership cycle is the calendar year.

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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