

MPNA News

The Melrose Park Neighbors Association

Volume 2 – Number 21

From MPNA President – Andy Rudin

September 21, 2006

Our last newsletter was emailed May 16, 2006.

It has been a while since we emailed an MPNA newsletter. For this newsletter, we had received any input from the Cheltenham Police about trends in crime.

A Fish Found in Mill Run

Now this may not seem like big news, but all our efforts to restore, Mill Run, the stream that runs through our neighborhood along Coventry Avenue and New Second Street may be bearing results.

On July 9, 2006 Terri Taylor emailed that her husband, saw a fish that was 3 to 4 inches long while he was cleaning debris from the stream. “Just one,” Terri writes, “but still very encouraging.” The Taylor’s live very close to the beginning of the stream at Coventry and Cheltenham.

Sign for the SEPTA Station Plantings

We have ordered a small sign to call attention to our plantings at the Melrose Park SEPTA station. It will be somewhat vandal resistant, but as we all know, vandals can be very creative about snatching or damaging such things. If you would like to work on the fall plantings, please email or call me. Albert Fried-Cassorla, Riki Lent and Gene Silver have usually coordinated these efforts.

The new church on Ashbourne Road

Karin Helstrom is directing this effort for the Elkins Park Neighbors Association (www.epna.org). She reports that the zoning hearing concerning the West Oak Lane Church of God's attempt to build a megachurch next to the post office on Ashbourne Road continues. She also said that the Dominican Retreat has been sold. The new owners plan to build a Continuous Care facility on the property.

More Trees Are Coming to Melrose Park

Bryan Havir, Assistant Township Manager, asked that I mention the Township received a second \$50,000 Elm Street grant for planting trees in Melrose Park and Glenside. A consultant will begin working on the planting location list toward the end of the year. Anyone interested in a free street tree can contact Bryan at 215-887-6200, ext. 112 or bhavir@cheltenham-township.org. The trees will be planted in Spring 2007.

Commercial Enhancements near the Elkins Park Train Station

Bryan Havir also reports that the Carroll Engineering design team met last month with the Township staff and SEPTA officials to discuss concepts for improvements at High School Road and the entrance to the SEPTA parking lot at the EP train station. The consultants are preparing preliminary design plans along with the other streetscape improvements and we are hopeful that they will submit plans for staff to look at early next month. A public presentation will be scheduled for later in the fall.

Final Plan for Cheltenham and Ogontz Area

The Township has also posted the final plan for the area bordering Cheltenham Avenue (on both sides) starting at Ogontz and ending at Easton Road. This is a cooperative effort with Philadelphia, See the plan at http://www.cheltenhamtownship.org/cheltenhamave/Chelt%20plan_final.pdf

6th Annual Glenside Street Fair (2006)

More than 60 talented artists and crafters will offer jewelry, paintings, woodworking, apparel, candles, garden ornaments and other wares at the Sixth Annual Glenside Street Fair slated for Saturday, September 30, 2006 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, October 1.

Community Power Conference at Arcadia

To answer the twin crises of diminishing oil reserves and global warming, Arcadia University will host a day-long conference at Glenside on September 30, 2006 from 9AM-5PM in the Stiteler Auditorium. Registration begins at 8:30am. Quiet Riot will perform, and there will be presentations and discussions about taxes and subsidies, locally produced energy, locally grown foods, trails and rails, and more. For details, see www.poex.org.

Fall Harvest Festival

The 16th Annual Cheltenham Community Harvest Festival promises fun for all ages with a lineup of exciting events on Saturday, October 14 (rain date Sunday, October 15). As always, the setting for the festival is the beautiful Curtis Arboretum, located on Church Road and Greenwood Avenue in Wyncote ([directions](#)). The fun starts at noon and wraps up after dark with a *grand fireworks finale!*

The Entertainment Book

The Friends of the Elkins Park Library raise money to buy books and other materials for the Library. This year, they are selling the **2007 Entertainment Book** which contains discounts for many restaurants, rental cars, air fare, cruises, hotels, items for your home, garden and car. Plus there are discounts for groceries and other retail purchases. Just drop by the Library and buy a copy. About half the proceeds supports the Library. If you sign up as a seller on-line, for each 5 books you sell for the Friends group (876487), you will get one book FREE. The website is www.entertainment.com. You can start using the discounts immediately.

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 – 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 Shectman, 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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