



NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE.
CITY PROGRESS.

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Neighborhood Notes

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Focusing on Quality of Life

Graffiti, tall weeds, unkempt tree wells and illegal stickers are all contributing factors that can make an otherwise beautiful area look as though residents and neighboring business owners aren't taking responsibility for their community. These visible signals make important impressions to people walking or driving by and can be a huge source of frustration for residents who maintain their properties.

The JSID, through its bike ambassadors and staff, works to correct nuisance issues like this daily. Earlier this spring, for example, the team noticed an increase in graffiti, logging about 100 locations that had been recently vandalized. The JSID reached out to various partners, including the City of Lancaster, the Lancaster Parking Authority and PPL, notifying them of locations where graffiti was occurring on their properties so quick action could be taken to get the paint and markings removed. The JSID also contacted many private property owners and/or residents, alerting them to the graffiti and sharing information about steps to getting it removed. As of early June, nearly two-thirds of the approximately 100 tags were abated.



Most District residents, employees and property owners take pride in their properties and the community. The JSID recommends taking a few moments on a regular basis to ensure that tree wells have been weeded and are free of garbage. If possible, place mulch around the base of trees and consider planting appropriate flowers. In the City of Lancaster, trees along the sidewalk are the responsibility of property owners – to maintain the tree itself and the area around the base of the

tree. Also, keep grass mowed to a height of less than six inches.

If you have questions about resolving quality-of-life issues in your neighborhood, or if you want to report a concern, such as graffiti, stickers or other items, please contact Shelby Nauman, Programs Director of JSID, at shelbyrnauman@jsidlancaster.org or 717-394-0783.

Streetscape & Repaving Construction

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (PennDOT) construction schedule for the second phase of Downtown streetscape improvements and the much-needed repaving of Prince and Queen Streets will continue to impact daily commuters through the fall and into next spring. Already since earlier this year, the City of Lancaster has coordinated underground water and sewer repairs, maintenance and upgrades, and PPL and UGI have performed work on their utility lines that run below these main roads.

PennDOT plans to tackle the repaving work on North Prince Street, from Chestnut Street north to the city line, and portions of the streetscape starting in August. Repaving work on the length of North and South Queen Street and some portions of the streetscape will start in spring 2011. For updates on the project, visit www.cityoflancasterpa.com.



Masthead Photo Credit: Photo/OLé Photography



"Keys for the City" piano at the Lancaster Arts Hotel

Hats Off To...

- Music For Everyone, a Lancaster non-profit organization that raises money for school and community music programs, for partnering with the Society of Design, Mayor's Office of Special Events, and the City of Lancaster for the "Keys for the City" initiative. This interactive exhibit features twenty custom-designed pianos, each sponsored by a local business, in various locations throughout the city, encouraging any and all individuals to showcase their musical talents.
- Fulton Financial Corporation, parent of Lancaster-based Fulton Bank, for earning the significant recognition as one of the Top 100 Most Trustworthy Companies in the country by *Forbes*.
- Clipper Magazine Stadium, the Lancaster Barnstormers and Opening Day Partners for scoring the top spot in a recent *Patriot News* ranking of nine minor league stadiums in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware. The rankings were based on seven factors including concessions, the ballpark and quality of promotions.
- Customers, stand holders and the Central Market Trust for keeping this local treasure hustling and bustling during construction.
- The Lancaster Marriott and the Lancaster County Convention Center, for celebrating their one-year anniversary, and hosting more than 850 events, 300 organizations and companies and an estimated 300,000 guests during the first 12 months.

Photo Credit: Russell Frost/www.frostimaging.com



« Poetry Paths, a poetry and public art project produced by the Philadelphia Alumni Writers House at Franklin & Marshall College and supported through funds from the Lancaster County Community Foundation, for hosting a successful Kids Poetry Reading event in May with more than 250 residents, neighbors and school youth in attendance to hear original works and the McCaskey Jazz Band.

Deja Graves, Fulton Elementary School fourth- (soon-to-be fifth) grader and poet

- "Kids and Cultures" founder and JSID resident, Timm Wenger, for coordinating the sold-out "Taste the World" event on May 21st. 250 individuals enjoyed offerings from nine city-based ethnic restaurants. The next event is planned for September 10th from 5-8 pm.
- LEADS and District businesses and residents for once again volunteering, hanging and sponsoring the beautiful flower baskets throughout Downtown.

New Supervisors Guide Clean & Safe Initiatives

In April 2010, new site supervisors were put in place to manage the JSID's bike squad and the DID's sidewalk-sweeping crew.



Service Group Inc. (SGI), the vendor hired by the Lancaster DID to perform sidewalk-sweeping functions, hired Jim Jackson to manage the team of two full-time, one part-time staff responsible for keeping Downtown sidewalks clean six days a week. A native of Lancaster City, Jim graduated from McCaskey High School in 1979.

He and his wife Jessica, married for 23 years, have two children. Jessica also works in the city at Lancaster General as a registered nurse. Their daughter Courtney is a sophomore in college, and their son Sean is a tenth-grader at McCaskey. Prior to joining SGI, Jim worked for Flexsteel Industries for 24 years in various positions, from scheduling to plant engineer. He enjoys watching football and basketball at both the college and professional levels, and weightlifting.



The JSID, and its vendor Allied Barton Security Services, promoted Adam Aston to Site Supervisor to fill the position vacated by Karen Wiker. Adam is a Lancaster County native, currently residing in Columbia. He is an outdoorsman who enjoys boating and fishing in his spare time. As a huge sports fan, he enjoys participating in football, basketball, tennis, softball, golf and weightlifting and watching college and professional sports. Adam has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Mansfield University and plans to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Both Jim and Adam have tremendous pride about their work, as they enjoy working with people and contributing to the City's growth.

State-Wide Main Streets Visit Lancaster

Lancaster City and County played host to a statewide conference of organizations that focused on revitalizing downtowns and neighborhoods. Anchored at the Lancaster Marriott and Convention Center and sponsored by the Pennsylvania Downtown Center (PDC), the 4-day event brought 300+ community leaders, urban planners and community development practitioners here from around the Commonwealth to learn about current events and best practices and to take in the sights and sounds of Lancaster. The local planning group included representation from the JSID, colleagues from Lititz, Ephrata, Mount Joy, Elizabethtown and Manheim, along with conference sponsor Rettew. Conference delegates participated in workshops on community revitalization and enjoyed a picnic in Musser Park and tours of Susquehanna river towns. Special thanks to the generosity of The Belvedere Inn, Isaac's and Annie Bailey's for providing food for a special progressive dinner through Downtown and to PA Representative Mike Sturla for donating 300 market bags for conference attendees.



PDC attendees tour Downtown during the progressive dinner event

Photo Credit: Rettew