

DCED Funds Neighborhood Revitalization



(L to R) Bob Macina, JSID Board President, Mayor Charlie Smithgall, DCED Sec. Dennis Yablonsky, Carlos Graupera, Inner City Group, PA Rep. P. Michael Sturla and Councilman Nelson Polite.

On January 6, 2005, the Commonwealth's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) announced the approval of two Elm Street programs in the City of Lancaster. DCED Secretary Dennis Yablonsky traveled to Lancaster to provide Mayor Charlie Smithgall with two oversized checks, both in the amount of \$325,000. The City partnered with the James Street Improvement District in its application for the North-Central Elm Street area. The JSID will manage the program

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Clipper Magazine Stadium Under Construction



Photo courtesy of the Economic Development Company of Lancaster County.

This aerial photograph, taken in early December, shows the rapid progress being made on Clipper Magazine Stadium along North Prince Street. Construction remains on schedule with the anticipated opening of the Lancaster Barnstormer's new home planned for May 11, 2005.

Residents Share Opinions with the JSID

The JSID hosted a series of community meetings to update residents on the organization's accomplishments and initiatives and to hear about activities and issues in the neighborhoods. Seven meetings were held throughout the district from mid September to early November.

About 90 residents attended the sessions and provided valuable feedback to the JSID staff and Board of Directors. Many individuals who attended the meetings expressed a willingness to be more active in the neighborhood or to volunteer for special projects. Several Lancaster City police officers also attended the meetings. While each discussion had its own "flavor," several common themes arose across all neighborhoods.

In general, the JSID bike squad received high marks for being friendly, visible and responsive. Some residents raised questions about the squad's role, inquiring if squad members could take on additional powers or if the hours of operation could be changed. There were several discussions about the squad's effectiveness. Operations Manager Mike Kelly responded with statistics about the squad's activities.

Residents responded favorably to the hiring of Shelby Nauman, Project Manager (see related story on page 2), who will serve as a liaison between residents, the JSID and when appropriate, City or other agencies.

Most residents were aware of the JSID's pilot trash receptacle program on West James Street and encouraged the organization to expand the effort. Several individuals volunteered to "sponsor" a receptacle.

Quality of life concerns dominated many discussions. The issues were wide-ranging and included drug activity, loitering, graffiti, disrespectful neighbors,

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New Members Join the JSID Board

At its October meeting, the JSID Board of Directors elected a new slate of eight members and recognized the contributions of five departing members. Joining the Board for three year terms that began January 1, 2005 are:

Rob Bowman, Charter Homes
Jennifer Craighead, Barley Snyder
John McGrann, Penn Stone
Kathleen Peck, Kathleen's Fine Women's Clothing *
Sherry Qualls, White Good Advertising *
André Renna, Lancaster General Services
Ian Ruzow, Clipper Magazine
Aaron Shiley, Aaron's Studio Hair Care

These eight new members replace five members whose terms ended December 31, 2004 and two members who resigned during the past year. The JSID Board is grateful for the strong contributions made by all of its departing members.

Jim Everhart, Godfrey Advertising *
J. Jay Filling, Filling's Clothing
Bob Kiernan, Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster *
Mary Kohler, Sir Speedy
Eric Weis, The Heart Group, *resigned July 2004*
Barbara Wilson, Franklin & Marshall College *
Mike Young, Lancaster General Hospital, *resigned April 2004*

Fourteen members are continuing their service on the Board of Directors.

John Fry, *JSID Chairman*, Franklin & Marshall College
Bob Macina, *JSID President*, Lancaster General Hospital
Don Gallagher, Gallagher Construction, Inc.
Mary Colleen Heil, Pennsylvania College of Art & Design *
Tracy Horst, PPM Real Estate
Peter Keares, Keares Restaurant Group
Tom Kingston, Franklin & Marshall College
J. Gary Langmuir, Wohlsen Construction Company
Lou Lombardi, Fulton Bank *
Michael Mersky, Lancaster Country Day School
Nancy Neff *
Riess Potterveld, Lancaster Theological Seminary
Stephen Verkouw, Grace Lutheran Church *
Mike Winterstein, School District of Lancaster *

* JSID resident

Meet Shelby Nauman, Project Manager



In mid-October, the JSID hired Shelby Nauman as the organization's first Project Manager. Shelby, who previously worked for Mayor Charlie Smithgall, is working closely with residents and the JSID's bike squad to identify and respond to quality of life issues. Her existing relationships with individuals

throughout City government, and her knowledge of City agencies, programs and processes have already been beneficial in her short time on the job.

Shelby also will focus attention on strategic programs, serving as the Manager for the Elm Street effort, and leading future façade improvement and lighting efforts. A large part of Shelby's role is to be highly visible in the community, talking regularly with block captains and other individuals who are interested in strengthening their neighborhoods.

Shelby and her husband Andy live in the City with their two young daughters Lily and Jenna.

To contact Shelby, call 394-1772 or e-mail shelbynauman@comcast.net.

JSID Squad Member Recognized for Service



Samantha West, JSID Bike Ambassador, Mike Kelly, JSID Operations Manager, Gesi McAllister, VP/General Manager, Allied-Barton Security Services and two ASIS members.

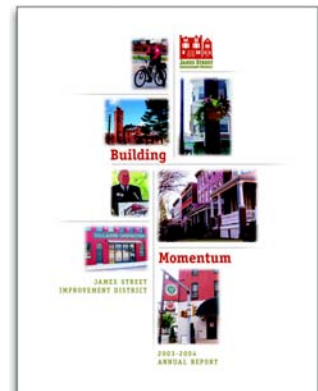
Samantha West, a member of the JSID bike squad since it began in June 2003, was honored at a banquet in Philadelphia on November 17th.

Sam was selected as Security Officer of the year by American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS). Samantha was selected for her "Sustained Superior Performance" by the ASIS Greater Philadelphia Chapter.

Operations Manager Mike Kelly nominated Samantha for the award based on her consistently high level of performance, her reliability, and for her initiative. It was Samantha's leadership that resulted in the JSID participating in two events educating young residents about bike safety. She also organized a session at the YMCA where squad members photographed and fingerprinted 75 children, providing parents with identification cards.

Congratulations Samantha!

Annual Report Available



The first annual report documenting the JSID's accomplishments and programs is available in print and on-line. For a hard copy of the report, please call or e-mail Hilda Carter at 394-6992 or hildacarter@comcast.net. The report is also viewable on the JSID's website at www.jsidlanaster.org.

Elm Street Advisory Council

Scott Boose, Owner, Tri-County BBQ

Paul Johnson, Resident

Andrew Long, Resident, Owner, SiteStrux

**Dr. Steve Olin, Associate Director, Family & Community Medicine,
Lancaster General Hospital**

**Matt Parido, Director of Housing & Neighborhood Development,
City of Lancaster**

Pat Randolph, Resident, Owner, Remember This . . .

Lt. Steve Skiles, Lancaster City Bureau of Police

Pastor Stephen Verkouw, Resident, Grace Lutheran Church

Shelby Nauman, Project Manager, James Street Improvement District

(as of 1/3/05)

North-Central Elm Street

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and receive the funds as the program administrator for the City. The Inner City Group also worked with the City and will be the designated program manager for the southeast side of Downtown.

The \$325,000 grant the City received, and which the JSID will administer, for the North-Central Elm Street area will be used for three primary purposes. The Commonwealth provides a one-time grant of \$25,000 to be used for neighborhood planning. The City / JSID also received a Residential Reinvestment Grant of \$250,000 to be used for façade improvements (\$70,000) and for streetscape enhancements (\$175,000). The balance of the funds will be used by the JSID for salary, overhead and a required program audit. The Commonwealth has targeted five years worth of funding to support Elm Street areas. The City and JSID will be eligible

to re-apply each year for the next four years for up to \$300,000 to continue efforts in the target neighborhood.

The North-Central Elm Street area is generally bounded by Lemon Street, Prince Street, Clay Street and Christian Street. This relatively small area was selected based on two of the Commonwealth's criteria: adjacency to the Downtown and neighborhoods along gateway arteries. The Elm Street area is an incredibly diverse community with more than 350 properties, of which the majority are residential. Home owners, however, represent only about 40% of the properties. More than 70 commercial properties are mixed in with the residents, representing an eclectic mix of business such as a BBQ catering business, pizzerias and other eateries, a marketing firm and healthcare offices. The community is also located in

between Clipper Magazine Stadium and Lancaster General Hospital.

The JSID has assembled an Advisory Council to help manage the program. The Council is made up of residents and business interests within the target area and City representatives. Council members are volunteers who have agreed to invest considerable time in support of four charges. They will: serve as a resource to the JSID, provide input and feedback on the façade improvement program and on streetscape enhancements, serve as neighborhood ambassadors, and ensure effective neighborhood communications.

The JSID will also set up a sub-committee to help administer façade improvement grants. Grants will not be available until the Commonwealth approves the JSID and City's façade guidelines. At this time, the JSID anticipates the guidelines and grant applications will be available by mid-April. According to state requirements, grants will range from \$500 to \$2,500 per property and will be made to eligible property owners. Eligible projects will focus on exterior property improvements visible from the front of the property. Property owners will be required to provide some funds toward the project.

The last major component is streetscape enhancements. The JSID and the City will be developing a five-year plan that identifies and prioritizes items including curb cuts, crosswalk painting, vehicular and pedestrian safety needs and aesthetic enhancements (trash receptacles, flower pots) to determine how best to utilize the first \$175,000 installment. The Commonwealth will not release funds until a detailed budget breakdown has been submitted and approved.

For additional details about the Elm Street program, please contact Shelby Nauman at 394-1772.

Community Meetings

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parking concerns (particularly in neighborhoods near the stadium), the speed of traffic and problem youth.

With the completion of the meetings, JSID Executive Director Lisa Riggs will report back to the Board of Directors and will also share information with Mayor Smithgall and other local leaders.

Meet JSID Shift Supervisor Aaron Shiflet



Aaron has been a wonderful addition to the JSID and has quickly become a key team member taking on additional

responsibilities. He has been part of the bike squad since September 2004 and was recently promoted to 2nd Shift Supervisor. Congratulations!

When he's not working for the JSID, he's studying at Millersville University where he is enrolled in their Fine Arts program pursuing his interest in painting. He is also a Ford certified mechanic, holds a State Inspection Licence and is CPR and First Aid Certified.

In his few moments of spare time, Aaron enjoys photography, drums, hiking and camping. He is one of six brothers and currently resides in York with his wife, Alisha.

The JSID is excited to have Aaron as part of its team.

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Neighborhood Notes
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The JSID area is generally defined as Race Avenue on the west, Chestnut Street on the south, Lime Street on the east and the Amtrak train/transit station and railroad tracks on the north.

Mission Statement

The James Street Improvement District builds effective partnerships to maintain a clean and safe environment and to promote, plan and advocate for a growing, diverse, urban community in Northwest Lancaster.

Contact Information

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Hilda Carter, Marketing Coordinator
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Bike Ambassadors
717-394-9522
jsidbikes@comcast.net

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

Bike Patrol Hours:
Monday - Friday 7 am - 10 pm
Saturday - Sunday 3 pm - 10 pm

To receive the JSID newsletter and periodic updates, please call or e-mail Hilda Carter with your name, company name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail address.