

## Residents Welcome Barnstormers to the Neighborhood



Guests & Cylo at the neighborhood block party held at the YMCA on North Prince Street.

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, more than 250 residents attended an exciting neighborhood block party to welcome their newest neighbor – the Lancaster Barnstormers -- to the neighborhood. The event, held at the YMCA on North Prince Street, showcased several local food vendors and gave many of the neighborhood's young people a chance to meet Cylo, the Barnstormer's mascot. The event was set up with residents in close proximity to Clipper Magazine Stadium in mind. More than a dozen representatives from the Barnstormers were on hand to answer questions about the stadium, the upcoming season and other events.

## Improvements Scheduled for Wharton and Ross Elementary Schools

Enhancements are planned for both Wharton and Ross Elementary schools over the next few months. This summer, the play area at Wharton will undergo dramatic changes thanks to a partnership between the School District of Lancaster and the Wharton PTO. The PTO has taken on the significant task of fundraising to cover approximately half the costs of the improvements. The School District has provided construction funds as well as design and engineering services for the site plan. Specifically, the renovations include shifting the existing parking lot on Lancaster Avenue closer to the school and then re-using that space for a greatly enhanced playground with new equipment. Construction of these improvements is scheduled to occur during the summer after the school year ends. The JSID has applied for funds to support additional enhancements to make the site more accessible to the community when school is not in session. Those enhancements may include additional landscaping and controlled access through the existing chain link fence on to the site.

Behind Ross Elementary School on Market Street is a small City-owned pocket park. Because it is a bit "off the beaten path," the park has not functioned as a nice community gathering space for area young people. Instead, the site has been marred by graffiti and is regularly vandalized. In an effort to reclaim the small park for parents and children, a terrific community partnership has been formed that will result in the installation of a video camera providing around the clock surveillance that is intended to serve as a crime deterrent.

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## More Trash Receptacles Planned Throughout JSID

The JSID plans to install 25 more trash receptacles throughout the District in late April or early May. Last spring, eight receptacles were placed between the 200 and 600 blocks of West James Street. Locations for the new set of receptacles are spread throughout many neighborhoods. Ten will be placed in the Elm Street area bounded by Prince, Lemon, Christian and Clay streets. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development. Another 15 will be scattered along East and West Lemon, West Frederick, East Clay, North Lime and Mary Streets. The JSID receives permission from each property owner to bolt the trash receptacle on the sidewalk, works with the City Dept. of Public Works to make sure the receptacles are properly located, and then "contracts" with a neighboring resident or small business owner to have the trash regularly removed.

For this second round of installation, the JSID thanks Penn Stone for receiving and storing the shipment (each receptacle weighs about 200 pounds) and Wohlsen Construction for delivering the receptacles to their specific locations and installing them into the sidewalks. In the next JSID newsletter, we'll highlight all of the residents and business owners who are volunteering to collect and remove the trash.



## Play Ball!



Stadium photo taken March 2005.

Clipper Magazine Stadium's Opening Day is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 pm when the Lancaster Barnstormers face off against the Atlantic City Surf. Individual tickets go on sale April 23<sup>rd</sup>. For more information about the Barnstormers and the stadium, go to [www.LancasterBarnstormers.com](http://www.LancasterBarnstormers.com) or call 509-HITS.

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## Wharton/Ross



Wharton Elementary School and existing parking lot.

Businessman Scott Boose, owner of Tri-County Bar-B-Que on North Queen Street, invested in cameras for his own business over the past several years. Scott contacted the JSID and offered to connect additional equipment into his digital recording system if it could enhance safety in the neighborhood. Around the same time, Lancaster Country Day School approached the JSID to help identify a project to receive grant funds from a community-oriented school fundraiser. The JSID reached out to the School District of Lancaster, Principal Sue Saupp at Ross Elementary and the City's Parks Department to determine how Scott's resources and Lancaster Country Day School's generosity could best be put to use. Over the course of a few months, all of the pieces came together. The camera, purchased from local vendor Select Security, will be installed in late April. Moving forward, the partners will keep a close eye on the pocket park to gauge the impact of the camera.

## Lancaster City's Tree Planting Service

The City's Shade Tree Commission wants to get the word out to Lancaster City property owners about its tree planting program. The Commission, made up of a small group of volunteers appointed by the Mayor and City Council, promotes the healthy maintenance of street trees and encourages the planting of new ones. If you don't have a tree in front of your house or if your tree is in poor condition, you can benefit from the City's tree planting program. Here are the steps to get a new tree:

- 1) Call the City Arborist at 291-4846 who can provide information and recommendations on specific types of trees best suited for your neighborhood.
- 2) With the Arborist's assistance, pick a tree of your choice that has been professionally grown for planting on city streets. Prices range from \$125 to \$175 and are normally 8 to 10-feet tall.
- 3) City workers will prepare a proper site for your new tree. If an old stump or some concrete sidewalk needs to be removed, they will do it at no additional charge.
- 4) A tree-planting crew from the Parks Department will deliver and plant your new tree, including soil preparation, mulching and staking, again, at no additional charge.

The cost to the property owner is only the City's cost to purchase the tree. If the tree dies from natural causes within a year, it will be replaced.

The City will be planting 60 trees as part of this initiative in mid-April. The next opportunity to sign up is over the summer months. The deadline for orders for the Fall planting is September 1st.



## Franklin & Marshall College Fraternity Pitching In



Phi Kappa Tau brothers at the north end of Linear Park.

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity at Franklin & Marshall College performed its first day's work as groundskeepers as part of its pledge to work with the Lancaster City Parks Department to clean and maintain the Northwest Linear Park. The fraternity has committed at least 20 brothers will be available for four hours a day, four dates a year. The City's Parks Department will work with the fraternity to determine what maintenance tasks are most needed and will supervise the fraternity at the site. Some dates the fraternity will perform basic trash collection and clean up. Other dates, the Parks Department will identify specific projects. The fraternity will be in Linear Park again on April 15<sup>th</sup>, and then will reconvene in the fall on September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>.

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## Exhibit to Showcase City Neighborhoods

Eleventh grade American history students at Lancaster Country Day School (LCDS) will present "Finding Community," a multi-media exhibit that captures the elusive history of a city neighborhood-in-transition. "Finding Community" interprets the history of a neighborhood through the eyes of its residents and its history. The exhibit opens to the public on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-6:30 p.m. at the Jack Walker Clubhouse (a division of the Lancaster Boys and Girls Club), 237 W. Lemon Street. Finding Community is part of Lancaster City's First Friday celebration. Call the Clubhouse for exhibit hours at 397-5514. The exhibit will be on display May 6 - 26.

Since November 2004, LCDS American history students have been immersed in a community service project involving the Lancaster City's Western Farmers Market neighborhood. The students prepared physical and social histories of the area via interviews with neighborhood residents, conducted deed searches of a historically significant home within the district, and completed

architectural surveys recorded in photographs and intaglio prints. In addition, students conducted repair assessments for residents who, if they so choose and are qualified, will allow the Lancaster chapter of Habitat for Humanity to make necessary repairs to their homes.

## Meet Bike Squad Ambassador Jose Irizarry

Jose has been a valuable member of the JSID's Bike Squad since November 2004. His outstanding people skills and approachability make him a great addition to the JSID family.

Jose was born in San Gremen, Puerto Rico and now lives in Lancaster with his wife, Marisol, three daughters, Denise, Jaritza, Talisha and a son, Junior.

Having gone to McCaskey High School, Jose is familiar with the residents of the JSID, and is bilingual, a skill that has proven itself very useful in our diverse community.

Jose has a background in security and is certified in both CPR/AED and first aid. His current plans are to enlist in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

When not on duty, Jose enjoys motorcycling, auto mechanics, and working out.



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## West End Mural Lighting



Residents who spearheaded the inspiring mural at the corner of Walnut and Mulberry streets have invested in an upgrade to the project. In early April, lighting was added at the top of the building so that the mural will be visible in the evening.

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Neighborhood Notes  
206 West James Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603



## 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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Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

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

**Bike Ambassadors**  
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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 Amtrack train/transit station and railroad tracks on the north.

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.