

# Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

## Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

September 21, 2004

## FYI

**THE STATE OF WORKING PENNSYLVANIA 2004**- This [report](#) from the [Keystone Research Center](#) paints a statistical portrait of Pennsylvania's economic status in terms of wage levels, wage inequality, unemployment and job growth.

17.9% loss of manufacturing jobs since March, 2001

*"In Pennsylvania recovery has been fickle at best. The Commonwealth lost 2,800 jobs in July bringing four months of job growth to a halt. The state's manufacturing sector, in particular, has been experiencing an employment crisis, losing 151,600 jobs since March, 2001."*

**THE RISING COSTS OF HEALTH CARE: IMPACT ON PENNSYLVANIA'S ECONOMIC VITALITY** - [The IssuesPA/Pew Poll](#) on Health Care provides an in-depth look at the experiences, perceptions and opinions of Pennsylvanians when it comes to health care. People in the Keystone state are growing increasingly worried about health care and health insurance. Costs are overwhelming their budgets. *"Fifty-five percent of Pennsylvanians surveyed said their family has had one or more problems recently with health care affordability – including difficulty coming up with the payment for prescription drugs, postponing preventative health care, having difficulty affording the cost of necessary medical care, and delaying treatment for an illness or injury."*

**EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT** – [PolicyLink](#), a national nonprofit research, communications, capacity building, and advocacy organization working to advance policies to achieve economic and social equity, offers the [Equitable Development Toolkit](#), a comprehensive set of policy options to advance economic and social equity. The tools in the toolkit have been crafted to help community builders achieve diverse, mixed-income neighborhoods that provide access to opportunities for employment, educations, and safe, affordable housing. The tools help reduce social and economic disparities among individuals, social groups, neighborhoods, and local jurisdictions across metropolitan regions.

**INNER CITY COMPANIES BRING PROSPERITY, IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES** - Thousands of companies "tap location, location, location of inner cities," reports [USA Today](#) writer Del Jones, quoting [Initiative for a Competitive Inner City](#) (ICIC) founder and Harvard University professor Michael Porter, also a global authority on spurring poor nations' economies, who says, *"Inner cities are sitting in the center of the most prosperous parts of the world."*

### Upcoming Events

**Community Vision Summit** – By The Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee (LIMC) on Thursday, September 30, from 7-9 pm, at the Four Seasons Restaurant, 949 Church St., Landisville. The Summit will give residents an update on the **"Growing Together: A Comprehensive Plan for Central Lancaster Country"** project, and allow for input into the future development patterns for the area. For more information, call John R. Ahlfeld, Executive Director of the Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee, or via email [limc@verizon.net](mailto:limc@verizon.net).

**Strategy for Regional Prosperity** – A Fall Summit, sponsored by the South Central Assembly for Effective Governance, has been scheduled for Thursday, **October 14, 2004** in the Wildwood Conference Center at Harrisburg Area Community College. The Summit will examine the prosperity of South Central Pennsylvania. [The Brookings Institution](#) report, *Back to Prosperity: A Competitive Agenda for Renewing Pennsylvania*, will be a major focus of the day. [For more information](#).

**Vacant Property in Pennsylvania Cities and Towns: Reinvestment Strategies, Successes, and Challenges** will be Dec. 7 in Camp Hill, PA. Third annual conference organized by the [Fels Institute of Government](#) and the [Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania](#) to help share information about local vacant property revitalization successes and lessons among public officials, funders, and community development practitioners. For more information, contact LISC's Julie Seward at [jseward@lisc.org](mailto:jseward@lisc.org)

**Interesting Websites/Reports/Books:**  
[Intown Living: A Different American Dream](#)

*Enabling informed growth management  
decision-making for Lancaster County*

Call our office (717) 295-0755, or visit <http://www.hourglassfoundation.org>

HOURGLASS  
**H**  
FOUNDATION