

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

November 2, 2004

“Encouraging and developing residential activity certainly would contribute to the success of downtown revitalization efforts.”

Rep. Dave Hickernell

HOUSE BILL 2796 – The state House of Representatives unanimously passed this piece of [legislation](#) which will broaden the state’s downtown revitalization initiative, [Main Street Program](#). The proposed change to the program would allow for the improvement of and refurbishment of residential facades. Marketing and promotion of residential opportunities within downtown investment districts, or “Main Street” areas would be included. The bill now heads to the Senate.

THE STATE OF HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

“On any given night, as many as 579 people, including 150 children, reside in Lancaster County emergency and transitional shelters.”

[United Way of Lancaster County](#) has released a report entitled [The State of Housing and Homelessness 2004](#). The purpose of this report is to establish a baseline of information regarding Lancaster County's homeless population and to provide a needed benchmark for future planning. It also promotes better understanding of the complex issues faced by those who are currently homeless and those who are at risk of becoming homeless and identifies possible solutions and recommends next steps.

THE STATE OF WORKING PENNSYLVANIA 2004 – This [report](#) from [The Keystone Research Center](#) has been revised with data through September 2004. It paints a statistical portrait of the economic status of Pennsylvania’s workers, families and communities. It begins with a review of job, unemployment, and wage trends since the beginning of the 2001 recession. It compares Pennsylvania’s performance since that time with its performance in similar time periods during and after past recessions. To put Pennsylvania’s economic circumstances in broader perspective the report also compares the state’s economy to that of the nation and sometimes to those of neighboring states.

“Pennsylvania’s wage performance in the last year lagged behind that of the nation as a whole in both wage levels and wage growth.”

UNLOCKING BROWNFIELDS - NALGEP ([The National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals](#)) and the [Northeast-Midwest Institute](#) are proud to announce the release of their newest report, [Unlocking Brownfields: Keys to Community Revitalization](#). This report represents the culmination of a decade of research and experience focused on brownfields reuse. The report includes more than 50 profiles of successful brownfields projects and programs, five critical brownfields messages which document the evolution of brownfields success in America, and the “10 Keys to Brownfields Revitalization.” *“Brownfields cause blight to neighborhoods, inhibit economic development, threaten public health and the environment, and encourage urban sprawl.”*

FYI

Upcoming Events

Public Meetings – Housing Element of the Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Bright Side Opportunities Center
515 Hershey Avenue, Lancaster

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Solanco High School
585 Solanco Road, Quarryville

Thursday, November 11, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Centerville Middle School
865 Centerville Road, Lancaster

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Elizabethtown Area High School
600 East High Street, Elizabethtown

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Manheim Township High School
School Road, Lancaster

Thursday, November 18, 2004

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Ephrata Senior High School
803 Oak Boulevard, Ephrata

South Central Pennsylvania Regional Housing Expo –

Thursday, November 18, 2004

8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

- a regional expo to stimulate regional concern for affordable housing and provide networking opportunities with housing authorities, CD agencies, non-profit housing agencies, bankers, real estate professionals, state and federal agencies and other parties in the affordable and for profit housing industry to develop partnerships. Capital Union Building, Penn State- Harrisburg Middletown Sponsored by [The South Central Assembly for Effective Governance](#). For further information contact the Assembly at (717)948-6464.

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

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