

# Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

## Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

March 1, 2005

## FYI

### ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS COMMISSION REINTRODUCED - [10,000](#)

[Friends of Pennsylvania](#) reports the bipartisan resolution to recommend guidance for administrative and legislative changes to improve the economic competitiveness of our cities, boroughs and rural communities, has been reintroduced by its sponsors of last session, Rep. Dave Argall (R-Schuylkill/Berks) and Rep. Dwight Evans (D-Philadelphia), as House Resolution 75. The creation of this fixed-term commission is a direct legislative response to [“Back to Prosperity: A Competitive Agenda for Renewing Pennsylvania.”](#) the report by the Brookings Institution, and could provide an important audience and forum for targeting state spending and workforce and economic development recommendations.

*“The concept of the city has come to play a central role in the minds of civic leaders and urban policy makers.*

*With investment in urban real estate, infrastructure and renovation becoming the driving force behind economic growth, the physical and social landscapes of the city are being powerfully altered.”*

Urban Age

### AN URBAN AGE IN A SUBURBAN NATION - In

a speech at the recent [Urban Age](#) conference in New York City, Bruce Katz and Andy Altman of the Brookings Institution [argue](#) that broad changes across America—[demographic](#), economic, and social—are remaking not just the nation's cities but also its older suburbs. These trends—including [immigration](#), [the emergence of the idea economy](#), and the [aging of our society](#)—foretell a surprisingly urban future.

Despite some major transformative developments across the metropolitan United States in the last decade—[increased residences downtown](#), the [revamp](#) of public housing, and expansive [prosperity campaigns](#)—many cities continue to chase “silver bullet” economic remedies, such as [convention centers](#) and the [biotech](#) industry. However, provided cities make smart policy choices in concert with new, broad coalitions, a novel and distinctively American “Urban Age” is possible in our suburban nation, say the authors.

**SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT** – A new report from the Enterprise Foundation, [Schools, Community and Development: Erasing the Boundaries](#) describes how four neighborhoods in three cities worked to connect community-based revitalization initiatives with school reform programs in the same neighborhoods, and the remarkable results of their efforts. In some of the most challenged communities in Baltimore, St. Louis and Atlanta, low-income children, schools and neighborhoods are making real progress as a result of these coordinated approaches.

### Upcoming Events

**Growing Together Public Forum (LIMC)** - Thursday, March 3, 2005 - 7:30 a.m. Southern Market Center, S. Queen & W. Vine Streets, Lancaster  
[For more information.](#)

**Lancaster County Housing Summit and Dinner**, Sponsored by the Lancaster County Planning Commission- Wednesday, March 9, 2005 - 5:30-9:00 p.m. - Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster. [For more information.](#) RSVP no later than Wednesday, March 2 to Angela Hassel at 299-8333 or email: [planning@co.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:planning@co.lancaster.pa.us)

**Strategies for Balancing Growth and Preservation**  
Monday, March 14, 2005  
7-9 p.m. Willow Valley Resort  
[For more information.](#)

**Strategies for Balancing Growth and Preservation**  
Tuesday, March 15, 2005  
7-9 p.m. Elizabethtown College  
[For more information.](#)

**DreamMakers**  
Wednesday, March 16, 2005  
6:30-10:00 p.m.  
Liberty Place  
[For more information.](#)

**Sensible Development Provisions**  
Wednesday, March 16, 2005  
12:30-4:00 p.m. - Four Seasons Golf Course, 849 Church St., Landisville. [For more information.](#)

**Strategies for Balancing Growth and Preservation**  
Thursday, March 17, 2005  
7-9 p.m. Yoder's Restaurant and Buffet, New Holland  
[For more information.](#)

*Enabling informed growth management  
decision-making for Lancaster County*  
Call our office (717) 295-0755, or visit <http://www.hourglassfoundation.org>

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