

# Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues July 20, 2007

FYI

**LANCASTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT REVENUE AND SPENDING FROM 1960-2004** – A recent [report](#) prepared for the [Lancaster County Government Study Commission](#) by the [Center for Opinion Research at Franklin & Marshall College](#) reviews a 45-year history of revenue and spending patterns in Lancaster County. This paper illustrates four primary findings about county revenues and expenditures since 1960. First, **there has been enormous growth in county revenue and spending** even when inflation and population increases are considered (Figure 1). Second, the **sources of County revenue have changed**. Third, on the spending side, this presentation shows that **many of the traditional spending categories of county government have remained the same since 1960**, but the **amounts the county spends on each have shifted**. Finally, **changes in revenues and spending have been caused in large part by outside influences**; the largest and most prominent is the demand placed on counties to serve as agents for the state and federal governments.

**BENCHMARKING THE HOME RULE PROCESS IN OTHER COUNTIES – LESSONS LEARNED-** A recent [report](#) prepared for the [Lancaster County Government Study Commission](#) by the [Center for Opinion Research at Franklin & Marshall College](#) examines the history of several county government study commissions in Pennsylvania by reviewing the processes and procedures they employed, the hurdles they encountered, and the reasons for their success and/or failure.

**10,000 FRIENDS NAMES SCHWANK NEW PRESIDENT & CEO - 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania** has chosen Berks County Commissioner Chairwoman **Judy Schwank as its new President and CEO**. Schwank was elected to the Berks County Board of Commissioners in 1999 and re-elected in 2003. Prior to that, she served more than 18 years with the Pennsylvania State Cooperative Extension, and is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University. As President of 10,000 Friends, she succeeds Janet Milkman, who resigned in May 2007. Schwank **will begin work January 2008**. "Judy's appointment comes at a critical time for 10,000 Friends, and we are delighted to appoint Judy to the helm," said Eric Menzer, Chairman of the Board of 10,000 Friends, and Vice-President of Wagman Construction, Inc., in York. "Her work as a County Commissioner, **leading efforts for farmland preservation and smart growth** in Berks County, and her leadership at the state level, as **Chair of the State Planning Board**, clearly give her the blend of experience, integrity and policy knowledge that will ensure the success of our mission."

## INTERESTING ARTICLES

[CITY OF LANCASTER STRATEGIC PLAN 2007-2009](#)

[Pouring Water Over Growth](#) – In Bucks County, water might be able to do what **increased traffic and shrinking green space** has not — curtail development.

**THE STATE OF RURAL PENNSYLVANIA** - The [Keystone Research Center](#) has just released [The State of Rural Pennsylvania](#), a review of the region where **nearly a third of the state's population lives**. While rural Pennsylvania **has made much economic progress** since the devastating recession in the late 1970s, **there is still cause for concern**. Today, the region is at an economic crossroads.

[Civic Participation and Smarter Growth: Improving How Communities and Places Grow and Change](#) - a publication from the [Fundors' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities'](#) Translation Paper series. The quality of civic life and public participation is **closely linked to growth and development** in two ways: *process* and *results*.

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