

the Lansdowne Leader

May 2018

"Accountable Leadership, Accessible Government"

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A CAREER DEDICATED TO SERVING OTHERS AND FIGHTING FOR CHILDREN

Mary Gay Scanlon for U.S. House of Representatives

From the beginning, Mary Gay Scanlon's career has been dedicated to serving others and fighting for children, women, the disenfranchised and underserved. Mary Gay Scanlon has been fighting for progressive values for over 35 years.

Mary Gay began her advocacy for children with the Support Center for Child Advocates where she has served as a volunteer attorney or board member since 1985. This led to her appointment as co-chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Commission on Children at Risk and many other boards and initiatives fighting for better lives for our children.

Mary Gay's work on behalf of children and families continued with her work as an attorney for the Education Law Center of Pennsylvania where she fought for access to a quality public education and the rights of students with disabilities.



At the Education Law Center, she led two class action lawsuits to enforce the rights of students with disabilities. Additionally, she represented parents and students in individual cases to defend and enforce their rights.

From 2007 until 2015 Mary Gay was an elected

Democrat on the Wallingford Swarthmore School Board where she was elected as Vice President and President of the Board.

Serving and being involved in the nuts and bolts of local government has given Mary Gay a deep understanding of how government works at its most basic level. Faced with vastly differing opinions from members of the board, Mary Gay excelled at finding creative, common sense compromises that led to real and positive results for students.

Mary Gay has served as the national Pro Bono Counsel at Ballard Spahr for 14 years. In that role, she directs and supervises over 650 lawyers in 15 offices providing more than 43,000 hours of pro bono legal services annually to low income clients and nonprofit organizations.

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ENDORSED FOR LT. GOVERNOR

Nina Ahmad

By Catherine Coll



Lansdowne Democrats are proud to endorse Nina Ahmad for Lt. Governor of Pennsylvania. Dr. Ahmad is a scientist, first generation immigrant, and activist who has served the Mayor of Philadelphia's office and as president of Philadelphia NOW. A progressive and feminist Democrat, she has served as one of the few women of color in the Pennsylvania government and on the board of the Philadelphia Foundation.

Ahmad is from Mount Airy and has ties to our local activist community. She spoke to a room of Delco women

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Gerrymandering is Still a Problem

By Caryl Carpenter

You probably know that Pennsylvania is the poster child for gerrymandering run amok. PA is considered one of the most gerrymandered states in the country, ever since redistricting was done in 2011 based on the 2010 census.

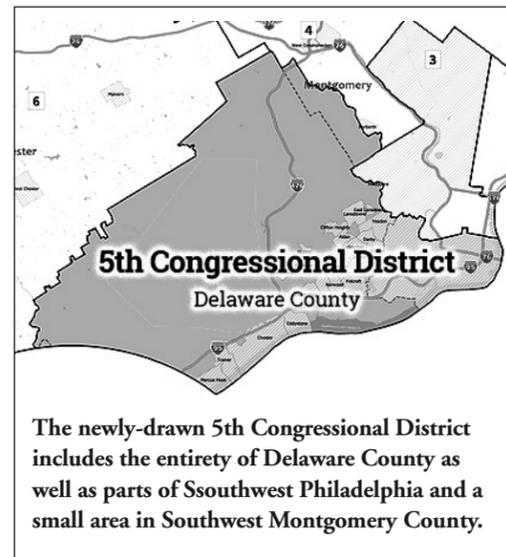
So what is gerrymandering?

It is the drawing of boundaries for a legislative district to unfairly favor a party or an incumbent.

What are the consequences of gerrymandering?

- Incumbents draw lines that protect their seats
- Politicians feel safe, so they ignore issues you care about
- Gridlock worsens in Harrisburg and Washington
- People feel powerless and voter turnout goes down

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The newly-drawn 5th Congressional District includes the entirety of Delaware County as well as parts of Southwest Philadelphia and a small area in Southwest Montgomery County.

FAIR HOUSING A Cornerstone of Civil Rights

By Rachel Wentworth and Ben Hover

As Lansdowne celebrates its 125th Anniversary this year, we should all celebrate another important anniversary in Lansdowne history. On April 11, 2018 civil rights and housing advocates across the nation will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, also known as the Fair Housing Act. Passed shortly after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Civil Rights Act of 1968 enshrined in Federal Law a means to ameliorate the decades of redlining, racial steering, and racial discrimination in the purchase and renting of properties.

For residents of Lansdowne, the passage of the act signified the next step in fighting racial discrimination in Lansdowne. Before the legislation was passed, civil rights activists in Lansdowne, Upper Darby, Yeadon, and other communities in Eastern Delaware County banded together to fight the discriminatory practices used by realtors, banks, and unfortunately some of their neighbors.

In 1956, before fair housing legislation existed at either the state or federal level, a handful of residents of eastern Delaware County worked toward building a grassroots coalition of individuals to support racial integration in their communities. Originally titled the Southeast Delaware County Area Committee of Friends Suburban Housing, the



Early newspaper advertisement taken out by the Southeast Delaware County Area Committee of Friends Suburban Housing, publishing names of local residents voicing their support for fair housing.

group based in Lansdowne soon changed their name to The Committee for Democracy in Housing of Lansdowne and Vicinity in 1957.

The initial goal of this group of neighbors was to provide non-financial encouragement and support to Black families seeking to buy homes in the area, and to white sellers who suffered reprisal because of their commitment to open housing. At the time, Bryn Mawr civil rights activist and real estate broker Margaret Collins had founded a real estate firm named Friends Suburban Housing, Inc. to help Blacks gain nondiscriminatory access to housing in

the suburban communities outside of Philadelphia.

The Committee for Democracy in Housing of Lansdowne and Vicinity helped to strengthen Collins' efforts and to build local support for fair housing laws through newspaper ads, picketing properties, and providing physical escorts to Black families. The Committee also actively lobbied for state and federal fair housing legislation, writing to their legislators, speaking out to the community, publishing public service announcements in local newspapers, writing letters

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CHAIR'S COLUMN

A Primary With Choices, and a Choice to Make

By Charlotte Hummel

Recently I had the privilege of working with 9th grade student leaders and faculty advisors from Penn Wood High School to begin a voter registration drive. Over 300 Penn Wood students would be eligible to register to vote in the coming primary election. As fellow students explained the importance of young people voting, the excitement and commitment was both evident and energizing. Explaining the difference between a primary and general election was a bit more complex, but in this, we can all use a refresher course.

In Pennsylvania, the primary election (this year on May 15) is held so that each political party (Democrats and Republicans) can pick the candidate that they want to represent them in the Fall election. The General Election in the Fall is where the candidate of each party faces off against the others to win the stated office.

All too often, voters in the primary are faced with very limited or no choice. They vote for their party's candidate and that's it. Sometimes, like this year, there are a number of candidates running within each party and there IS a choice for whom to vote.

Among the Democratic candidates with no challengers in the primary in Lansdowne are **Robert Casey** for PA US Senator, **Tom Wolf** for PA Governor, **Anthony Williams** for State Senator and **Margo Davidson** for State Representative. Lansdowne Democrats endorse all of these candidates and encourage you to vote for them. Also on the ballot, and uncontested, you will find the names of your neighbors who are running to serve on the Lansdowne Democratic Committee. Please cast your vote for them also! They will likely be standing at the polling place to greet you on May 15th.

In two other races – US Congress 5th District PA and Lt. Governor, there are multiple candidates vying for the Democratic nomination. They are all fine folks who have stepped up to serve. However, the Lansdowne Democratic Committee, in its role as the local political party, and with the responsibility for vetting candidates that would best serve the interests of Lansdowne, has endorsed a candidate in each race. We urge you to come out to vote for these candidates.

For Lt. Governor, the Lansdowne Democratic Committee endorses Nina Ahmad. As the article in this edition states: "Dr. Ahmad is a scientist, first generation immigrant, and activist who has served in the Office of the Mayor of Philadelphia's and as president of Philadelphia NOW. A progressive and feminist Democrat, she has served as one of the few women of color in the Pennsylvania government and on the board of the Philadelphia Foundation." For other reasons to vote for Dr. Ahmad, please read the article and visit her website.

For the new 5th Congressional District for the US House of Representatives, we strongly endorse Mary Gay Scanlon. Ms. Scanlon has worked tirelessly throughout her career for the rights of children, women, the impoverished, the incarcerated and the disenfranchised. As a member of a major law firm, she has headed up the pro bono division where she has recruited, trained, organized and assigned talented and experienced lawyers to handle cases for those who cannot afford to hire their own lawyer.

She has worked for equity in education, women's pay equity, rights of the incarcerated and the rights of immigrants. She served two terms on the Wallingford/Swarthmore public school board as both president and vice-president. Given the current administration in the White House, we take seriously the view of

former Governor Ed Rendell, who has called Mary Gay Scanlon "Trump's Worst Nightmare." I like to think of her as our own Elizabeth Warren. Please read the article about her, visit her website and give her your vote.

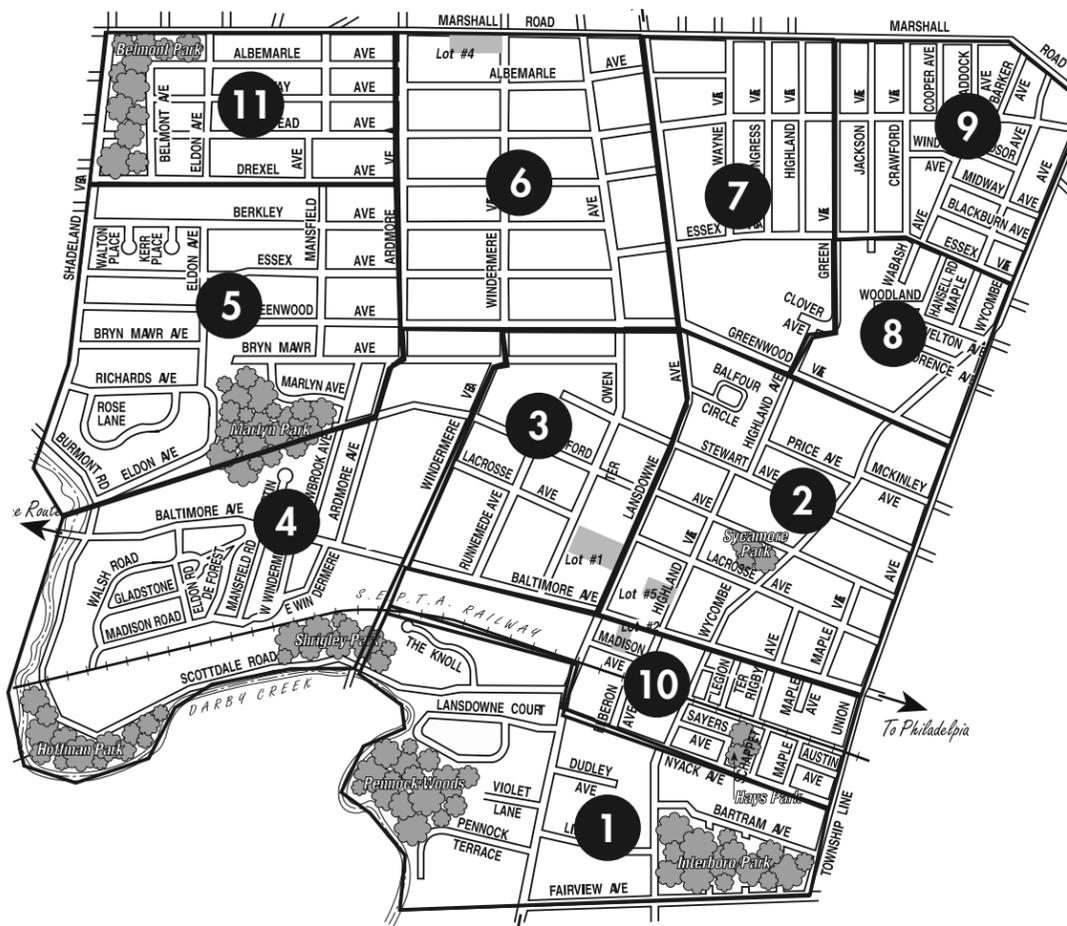
I encourage you to learn about all the candidates for office including those who will represent Democrats at the State party level. We are endorsing our own **Michael Schleigh**, who is running for a seat on the State Committee. He hopes to be one of 11 who will win a seat. Please look for his name on the ballot.

Finally, I think it is important to remember those who serve inside the polling places on election day. The folks who serve to greet you, look for your name on the rolls, have you sign in, and help you to the voting booth are the backbone of our democracy. They earn a small stipend for the work they do, but it is nowhere near the value of the 13+ hour day they dedicate to serving the community, their state and their country. Please remember to thank them after you cast your vote!

Finally, I think it is important to remember those who serve inside the polling places on election day. The folks who serve to greet you, look for your name on the rolls, have you sign in, and help you to the voting booth are the backbone of our democracy. They earn a small stipend for the work they do, but it is nowhere near the value of the 13+ hour day they dedicate to serving the community, their state and their country. Please remember to thank them after you cast your vote!

The Lansdowne Democratic Committee endorses Nina Ahmad for Lieutenant Governor, and Mary Gay Scanlon for the newly redrawn 5th Congressional District of PA

POLLING LOCATIONS & PRECINCTS



1st Precinct
Twentieth Century Club, 84 South Lansdowne Avenue

2nd Precinct
Lansdowne Fire Company, SW Corner of Highland and LaCrosse Avenues

3rd Precinct
Simpson Gardens, Corner of Lansdowne and West Stewart Avenues

4th Precinct
Simpson Gardens, Corner of Lansdowne and West Stewart Avenues

5th Precinct
Ardmore Avenue Elementary School, Berkley Avenue entrance

6th Precinct
Ardmore Avenue Elementary School, Berkley Avenue entrance

7th Precinct
Penn Wood High School, Essex Avenue Entrance

8th Precinct
Penn Wood High School, Essex Avenue Entrance

9th Precinct
Pepper Pharmacy, East Plumstead Avenue near Union Avenue

10th Precinct
Lansdowne Public Library, Nyack Avenue

11th Precinct
Ardmore Avenue Elementary School, Berkley Avenue entrance

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THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL VISION

Defining the Role of Government

By Elliot Borgman



What is the role of government in America? Only if we can answer this question, can we then create that government. The Declaration of Independence and our Constitution provide the start, and most Americans can agree here.

From our Declaration of Independence we are given our unalienable rights: life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and again later in the document, safety and happiness. American revolutionaries deplored the King of England for denying immigration, local fair administration of justice and trade, trial by jury and levying taxes without representation.

From our Constitution the purpose is clear: to make a more perfect union, to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide a common defense, promote general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

We generally understand about providing for our common defense, and the federal government budget and spending amply demonstrates our national commitment here. We also do not quibble about money for a court system and department of justice.

So should we argue about promoting domestic tranquility, general welfare, and blessings of liberty?

On the most basic level, this should mean food and shelter and health for all citizens, as there cannot be domestic tranquility without these. To enjoy the blessings of liberty we have our Bill of Rights (including freedom of speech, press, religion, and permitting trial by jury) as the first amendments to the Constitution, and have (at state constitution level) encouraged public education. The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania says the State will pay for public education. The Courts have allowed this to be less than 100%. General welfare must include clean air and water and responsible stewardship of natural resources. And by specifying our posterity, it means we must pay these forward to future generations.

We must apply these tenets to those things not anticipated or yet invented by our founding fathers. Since I was trained as a scientist, I believe facts matter, and those can be verified by independent tests.

It is not hard to extrapolate some of these concepts to our day. Adequate food and shelter need to be provided by our social safety nets. To be domestically tranquil, these

should be ruled by generosity, not parsimony. Likewise health care is simply required. A better educated and healthy public can better lookout for itself and its community.

We have more recently lost sight of this vision by the re-branding of the radical right as the Tea Party. Libertarian ideas that have some appeal but were largely rejected because they are impractical as governance have gained credence and a drumbeat supported by right wing media. As an example, I just got an appeal in the mail from the Smithsonian Institution. As our national museum, they should be amply funded by the federal government, and not need to ask the public for support. Why should hospitals or prescription medicines pay to advertise?

Crippling regulations are hated because they slow free trade. Yet the regulations are almost always a response to corporate misdeeds against the general welfare. We have allowed capitalistic competition to be perverted by monopolistic tendencies.

For example, Sinclair broadcasting has become one such entity, and former rules limiting any one outlet to dominate markets evaporated. Now Sinclair dictates to its stations to read how they are unbiased, yet decry other "fake news!" A chill ran down my spine the other day, when I read a speculation that we are so polarized that Jesus Christ might lose votes if he ran as a Democrat. It does appear that "Christian Values" voters will support almost any behavior to win. Instead of guessing What Would Jesus Do, I suggest a vision from Star Trek: What Would Picard Do? Democracy is forging agreement from different sides with majority rule, not gaining a solid majority first and ignoring the others.

I also understand those who are disillusioned by the Democratic Party. It is hard to wrestle with a pig and not get dirty. I admit to idealism, but do suggest a national vision where we are:

Strong on Defense like John F. Kennedy.

Strong on Civil Rights like Lyndon Johnson.

Strong on the Economy like Bill Clinton and Franklin D. Roosevelt

Strong on Human Rights like Jimmy Carter.

Strong on Ethics and Dignity like Barack Obama.

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LANSDOWNE'S SANITATION PROGRAM

Modernize Now, Save Later

By Wardell Holt II

In providing services to Borough residents, the Borough strives to act in a responsible manner, both to our residents and to borough employees. Lansdowne Borough's own staff provides all municipal sanitation services including:

- seasonal curbside leaf collection
- monthly yard waste pick up
- monthly bulk trash pick-up (by appointment)
- weekly behind-the-house-trash pick-up
- weekly curbside single-stream recycling
- street sweeping
- 40 containers located in parks and commercial corridors

The Borough strives to sustain all provided services and operate in a safe and efficient manner while keeping expenses as low as possible. However, bor-

ough costs are increasing. We need to change how we work to avoid a fee increase to residents.

These are the factors to be considered in planning for the future of our sanitation services:

- A significant increase in the tipping fee (priced by the ton) the county charges the borough
- Optimizing collection strategies
- Mitigating the increasing of other costs

Sanitation modernization for Lansdowne is a must! Quick and decisive action will avoid burdening the residents of our borough with an increase in fees.

We must act! The Borough wants further input from residents on ways to improve the system.

To learn more and participate in this conversation time please attend the Mayor's Forum on Thursday May 17th. The subjects will include Infrastructure and Municipal Services as well as Parks, Recreation and the Environment.



Women's History Month: Hear Us Roar

By Terry Baraldi

In 1987 the United States Congress declared March as **Women's History Month**. As if we needed to be reminded. But I guess we should take advantage of the spotlights we are given. So...

Here's to the **Creative Women of Lansdowne!** And here's to the **20*20 House Gallery** for using our special month to host a brilliant exhibit of *just some* of the creative energy of *just some* of the creative women in our midst.

This year the women of Lansdowne took March seriously. *Seriously*. Because the women of Lansdowne had something to say. And they said it with art...with paint and canvas; clay and camera; threads, yarn and yard goods; with the written word, flowers, and even fondant.

So many women... Strong, smart, sophisticated and surprising. Funny, female and feminist...names I already

counted as friends, and some I hope to add to my list in future. I left feeling uplifted and blessed to live among them.

It wasn't until looking back later that the little voice that lives in my head started asking "Why?". Why a *special* month? Why a *special* exhibit? And exactly when is *Men's* History Month and art exhibit? And yes, that's a rhetorical question.

Don't get me wrong...I loved this exhibit and the unique perspective that women bring to the table, no less in art than in problem-solving. I look forward to seeing more.

But women don't need, don't want, and shouldn't be relegated to a special day or month to be recognized for all that we give, do, are. We are artists, we are athletes, we are scholars and doctors and lawyers 24/7 and 365. We'd prefer that *we* and *it* be taken for granted that we are all that, all the time!

You see where I'm going with this, right? Here in 2018, we still need to remind everyone once every 12 months (!) that we are here. We've come a long way, baby, but lordy...aren't we *there* yet?

No, but I have a growing optics that maybe, just maybe, no...I think definitely that we're on the final approach and coming in for a landing.

**Me Too;
Time's Up;
Nevertheless, She Persisted;
Reclaiming My Time**

HEAR US ROAR!

Help Us Make Lansdowne the Town that Votes!

by Caryl Carpenter

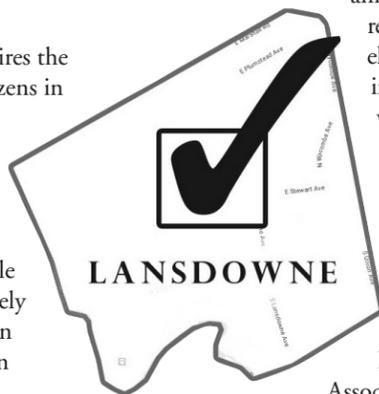
A vibrant democracy requires the active participation of its citizens in the voting process.

Did you know?

The U.S. ranks 31st out of 35 developed countries in terms of the percent of eligible voters who vote. Approximately 20 percent of eligible voters in the United States are not even registered; and an even larger percent of those registered do not vote. Voter turnout is especially low in local elections, slightly better for state elections but still too low to be considered active voter engagement.

How Can We Improve Participation in the Election Process?

A group of Lansdowne residents have started the non-partisan Lansdowne Votes (LV) Campaign to make Lansdowne the town that votes! The initial organizers of this effort were Caryl Carpenter and Christine duBois-Buxbaum, both residents of Lansdowne. Our goals are to: 1) register 125 new Lansdowne voters in honor of Lansdowne's 125th



anniversary; 2) increase the turnout of registered voters in the 2018 mid-term election, compared to the 2014 mid-terms; 3) increase awareness of the importance of voting among all residents of Lansdowne – young and old – through educational programs.

The Lansdowne Borough Council passed a resolution of support for the LV Campaign. We have also been endorsed by the Lansdowne Economic Development Corporation and the Lansdowne Business and Professional Association.

Here is a preliminary list of Lansdowne Votes activities:

Use registration, voting, and real estate transfer information to identify homes to target for the registration drive.

Register seniors at Penn Wood High School. This has already happened. Ninth graders in a civics class volunteered to help register seniors who will be 18 before the registration deadline in April. (Approximately 100 students registered during a school assembly on March 12th.) Another registration assembly is planned for the Fall.

Offer educational programs about voting to the

Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Boys & Girls Club in Lansdowne.

Organize a poster contest about voting for students at Ardmore Avenue and Lansdowne Friends elementary schools.

Visit all Lansdowne churches and the Buddhist Temple to elicit their support and help to reach eligible voters in their congregations.

Distribute LV material to display in Lansdowne businesses and professional offices.

Create a website and a presence on social media such as Instagram and Snapchat.

Make LV info available at community events such as the Farmers Market.

We want to make this a community-wide effort that involves as many Lansdowne organizations as possible. We welcome other suggestions about how to engage our residents.

How can you become involved in the non-partisan Lansdowne Votes Campaign?

Volunteers are welcome and needed to participate in any aspect of the Lansdowne Votes Campaign. Donations to cover the cost of materials are also needed. To find out how to volunteer or how to donate, send an email with your name, address, and email address to lansdowne.votes@gmail.com.

WHAT'S IN A MOTTO?

In Today's Schools, 'Living Well' May Mean Simply Surviving

by Terry Baraldi

"To Teach the Art of Living Well"

That quote, from the ancient Roman philosopher Seneca the Younger, was the motto inscribed over the doors of Lansdowne-Aldan High School when I graduated back in '65. Funny, but I don't remember any classroom discussions about what it meant to "live well". We just assumed that we did, and would continue to do so. The people and means needed to get there were unquestioningly provided.

Today the name of the school may have changed to Penn Wood but the engraving remains. Possibly here in 2018 it should be updated to read: **To Teach the Art of Survival.**

Because that's the deal for most of our WPSD kids and the faculty and staff today...They have been handed the dirty end of the yardstick, and left to figure out for themselves how to fight their way out of the plain brown paper bag that serves as their prep school, while their peers in districts to the north and west of them get the Gucci and Coach leather...and who, BTW, besides owning a rampant drug problem, also have sex, and even babies, but with a few more hard resources to offset the messy inconveniences.

"Sad how time has changed it; all the things we remember are gone; you wouldn't recognize the place; they have an on-site daycare center now for the teenaged mothers...Sad."

— overheard grumble from a mid-century, gray-haired graduate of Lansdowne-Aldan High School

I have had the opportunity to meet some of the kids who, under their own steam, have used any free time they can spare to get themselves to DCCC or to Villanova, to access the books and equipment necessary to bring their grades up to college admission standards. I have heard them speak eloquently about the lives they come from and the lives they seek. And I've even gotten to meet some who come back as degreed grads from places like Wellesley and Penn to talk to, tutor and encourage the ones below them on the ladder.

They've learned that the *Art of Living Well* is not

about the bag you were given; it's about what you put into and took out of it. It's remembering and reaching behind you to help the next person up. Because if you don't, who will?

So. Yeah, I grumble too, but not at the kids, or at a school and district that some ancient alumni can no longer recognize; but one that has been written off as not worth doing anything about. I'm mad as hell at a Pennsylvania legislature that has figured out how to have its fiscal cake and eat it too.

The truth is that the grads of the 50s and 60s were at the polar ends of the middle class dream. Peace and prosperity thanks to the struggles and grit of earlier eras, and coming of age before the walls started to show serious signs of buckling. Smug, safe suburbia. Moms at home, single income families, parental safety nets, and sex still (mostly) hidden away behind the drugstore counter. Do I miss that? Sure. But I can see now that it was a bubble, not a promise.

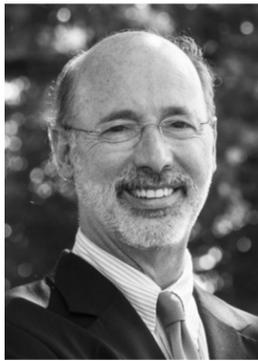
UPDATE, in case you're wondering: The on-site daycare, has been discontinued. Which means, unfortunately, so has the hands-on opportunity it provided for teaching child care and other basic life skills to teen parents. So now they have to fight their way out of yet another bag...*paper or plastic?*

SEE POLLING LOCATIONS ON PAGE 2 ★ VOTE MAY 15TH

Tom Wolf for Governor

by Andy Farquhar

Tom Wolf is the 47th and current Democratic governor of Pennsylvania. Tom began his first term in office on January 20, 2015, and is running for re-election in 2018. The primary election is being held on May 15, 2018 and the general election will take place on November 6, 2018.



As a businessman, Tom served as CEO and chairman of the Wolf Organization, a distributor of kitchen and bath cabinetry and supplier of building materials. Tom grew up in Mt. Wolf, and still lives in the house in which he was raised. Tom has been deeply and broadly involved with his community in York and beyond. He has served in leadership positions on a wide range of non-profit as well as business boards.

Tom Wolf received his bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College in 1972, his master's degree from the University of London in 1978, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1981. While at the University of London, Tom met Frances, marrying in 1975. Together for 42 years, Tom and Frances have raised two daughters, Sarah and Katie. Both daughters attended York County public schools before going to college.

After graduating from M.I.T., Tom returned home and worked as a forklift operator and warehouse worker in the family business. Later Tom secured a loan with his two cousins to buy his family's business — and as CEO, he turned it into America's largest supplier of kitchen cabinets and a leading provider of specialty building products. He served as state revenue secretary under Gov. Ed Rendell from February 2007 through November 2008.

In early 2009, Tom was preparing to announce his bid for governor when he received an urgent phone call that the company he sold three years earlier — a company he spent twenty-five years building and growing — was on the brink of going bankrupt and closing. Instead of walking away and leaving his former employees to join the ranks of the unemployed, Tom immediately ended his campaign and bought the business back, putting every

penny he had into saving his family business. Tom changed the business model, transforming it from a distributor of other people's products to a company that sources its own American-made cabinets. The business now returns 20 to 30 percent of its profits back to its workers.

After Tom was elected as governor he declared that he wouldn't accept a salary or a pension, banned his administration from accepting gifts, reformed legal contracting to end the pay-to-play culture in Harrisburg, and made his daily schedule available to the public.

As governor, Tom restored the cuts to public education of the past administration that weakened Pennsylvania's schools. He passed a fair funding formula to take politics out of school funding. Tom is dedicated to growing Pennsylvania's economy and has worked closely with private industry on large projects like the Shell Cracker Plant in Western Pennsylvania, the Port of Philadelphia, a steel plant in Johnstown. He has worked to expand the Pennsylvania presence of companies like Amazon to make Pennsylvania a technology hub. Tom is committed to keeping the jobs of working Pennsylvanians in our state. He worked with Majestic Athletic, the official provider of on-field uniforms for all 30 Major League Baseball teams, to keep its plant in Easton open.

Tom is also dedicated to ensuring that Pennsylvanians have access to quality and affordable health care. One of his first acts in office was to expand Medicaid which has given an additional 720,000 Pennsylvanians access to health care. Expanding Medicaid and increasing enrollment in CHIP by 20 percent have contributed to reducing Pennsylvania's uninsured rate to well below the national average and to its lowest point in history. Tom is working with state and local public officials, non-profits, medical providers and families to make Pennsylvania a national leader in new and innovative ways to battle the opioid epidemic.

To protect seniors, Tom has increased opportunities for older Pennsylvanians to remain in their homes, stood up to Donald Trump's proposed "age tax" on insurance, and has saved more than 180,000 seniors from losing their Medicare Advantage health plans. He's also worked across the aisle to move long-stalled legislation like medical marijuana legalization, liquor modernization, and pension reform.

The Lansdowne Democratic Committee has endorsed Governor Wolf. Your vote will help Tom continue to use all of his leadership experience to fight for Pennsylvanians.

Margo Davidson for State Representative

Visionary... is the one word that best describes Margo L. Davidson. She is a compassionate businesswoman whose hallmark is her ability to see the greatness in others. She has spent her life working to help people overcome incredible odds to realize their individual potential.



Margo Davidson learned to champion the underdog and overcome obstacles while being raised by a single mother in Philadelphia. With the love and support of her mother, she learned to ignore the naysayers and doomsday predictors. From these early years, she learned the value of hard work and giving back that shape her commitment to public service.

She began her career as a broadcast journalist, working as a radio broadcaster for several years while starting two non-profit organizations — one to help small businesses grow and the other to make children and families safer. Her mission as a journalist was to make sure people had good, high quality information to help folks make informed decisions to improve their quality of life.

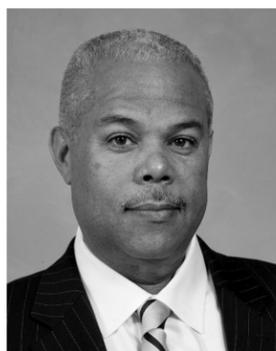
Davidson is a graduate of Temple University and participated in the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business management certificate program. She also has a Master of Business Administration from Saint Joseph University.

Davidson was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2010. Throughout her years in public service, she has fought to stabilize communities and create jobs. Davidson serves on the Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Finance, Insurance, and Tourism and Recreational Development committees, as well as the Committee on Committees. She has authored and co-sponsored legislation that supports small business growth, public safety and minimizes the tax burden on the middle class and working families. She serves as vice chair of the PA SAFE Caucus.

Davidson understands working families as a wife and mother who resides in Upper Darby with her husband of 25 years. They have four sons, three grandsons and one daughter-in-law. Davidson is the first Democrat, the first African American and the first woman to represent the 164th Legislative District.

Anthony Williams for State Senate

Anthony Hardy Williams never dreamed he'd hold elective office growing up. After graduating from Franklin & Marshall College, he planned to use his economics degree to take over the business world. He worked as a corporate analyst, next as an executive for PepsiCo, and then launched his own vending company. Then, his world exploded — literally.



That's when he watched part of his neighborhood engulfed in flames during the 1985 MOVE standoff in Philadelphia. He saw hopelessness creeping into formerly vibrant communities. He watched companies closing and jobs leaving across Pennsylvania. Fear rose. Opportunities waned. Something needed to be done. Someone had to address the issues hanging over kitchen tables and boardroom tables alike. Someone had to have better ideas. At 31, he decided to try and tackle that challenge.

Since joining the Pennsylvania Legislature — first as state representative of the 191st District in 1988, then as state senator of the 8th District in 1998 — he resolved to make the needs of his constituents known, and has,

with solid results.

He created the Philadelphia Illegal Gun Task Force, an invaluable law enforcement tool for curbing violence. He developed the Diversity Apprenticeships Program, providing access to the labor trades for thousands of young men and women. He authored legislation which is now law to protect students in school from sexual predators, and he's still crafting meaningful legislation that champions real world solutions.

In the Pennsylvania Senate, he serves as Democratic Whip, and a member of the Education, Environmental Resources & Energy, Intergovernmental Operations, Law and Justice, Policy and State Government committees. His sense of advocacy compelled him to join the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, along with several community boards.

As senator for the 8th District, he connects with and offers solutions for citizens in small towns, suburban enclaves, and urban centers, serving people of all economic, ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds with sensibility and compassion.

OFFICIALLY ENDORSED CANDIDATES

All Candidates below have been endorsed by the Lansdowne Democratic Committee for the May 15 Primary Election

US Senate	Bob CASEY JR.	Lever A1
Governor	Tom WOLF	A3
Lt. Governor	Nina AHMAD	A10
US Congress	Mary Gay SCANLON	A16
PA Senate	Anthony Hardy WILLIAMS	A25
PA House	Margo DAVIDSON	A27
PA State Democratic Committee		
Vote for 11	Michael F. SCHLEIGH	A45
(5 men, 5 women and 1 either)		

HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT

Come for the Sandwich, Stay for the Community

By Katie and Tim Mertens

It all started with a sandwich. In late 2016, my husband and I made a pilgrimage on the rumor that there was a pastrami-spiced tofu sandwich in Lansdowne. Neither of us had ever visited Lansdowne, and we didn't know what to expect. Sitting at the counter of The Avenue Deli, happily eating said sandwich, we looked at each other and said "have we thought about living in Lansdowne?" At the time, we were looking for a place to buy a home; a place to settle into a community. At the time, we were also totally unsure of where we wanted that home to be. We tossed around town names like a hot potato: Media, Drexel Hill, Havertown, Broomall. None of these places felt quite right—each was lacking in some subjective "homey" feeling that we couldn't quite place. Frustrated, we paused our home buying considerations, vowing to begin anew at "the right time".

In typical millennial homebuyer fashion, we had a seemingly endless list of "musts" for our new community: we wanted it to be diverse, civically engaged, close to the city and all its cultural attractions, but with a small town feel. We also wanted a community that was strongly inclusive and vibrant. And then we took a walk down Lansdowne Avenue and people smiled at us – they said "hi!" We were immediately intrigued. We started to feel that feeling that you can't quite name – a feeling of coming home.

We started looking at Lansdowne's housing market...and ticking all the boxes on our slightly-too-long millennial home-buying checklist. After a whirlwind of paperwork, closing costs, and far too many stops at the Icery to stress eat, we bought our first house. Our house is great (maybe I'm a little biased) but what makes Lansdowne truly stand out are its people—genuine, fun, engaged, caring people who make our town into a community,

Lansdowne is a truly special place: it's an intentional community that prides itself on inclusivity and sees diversity as a strength, not a liability.

which in turn makes our house feel like a home.

Between walking through our parks on warm summer evenings, seeing happy families at Lansdowne's summer events, visiting the farmers market at the Lansdowne Landing, and volunteering at

Arts on the Avenue, we were totally hooked.

What started with a sandwich ended with so much more. Lansdowne is a truly special place: it's an intentional community that prides itself on inclusivity and sees diversity as a strength, not a liability.

We are so proud to be residents of this great place. Once we clear up that we do not live in "Lansdale", the second thing we talk about is how much we love where we live. Our love of Lansdowne has pushed us to be more involved in creating and furthering our community's values. Becoming more civically engaged was an unexpected side effect of moving to our wonderful town, and I can say with confidence that it's my love of our community that has pushed me to work harder as a citizen. This past year in our new town has been outstanding, and we anticipate Lansdowne's future with excitement.

**CREATIVE WOMEN OF LANSDOWNE**

Art by the Numbers

The recent Creative Women of Lansdowne art show was an unqualified success! Usually, art is a subjective, qualitative aspect of our community. Yet from the numbers below it was obviously a measurable success as well.

The show was curated by Megan Halsey, local artist and community volunteer. The 20*20 House is programmed and managed by Hanne Weedon, Coordinator of the Lansdowne Arts Board.

76 women artists in the show, ranging in age from 10 to 80

110 pieces of visual art in the gallery

12 poets and writers submitted **20** pieces of writing

400-500 attended the show opening on March 9

50 attended the community music, poetry and prose event on March 17

50-150 gallery people visited the gallery each of the four weekends the show was open to public in March

25 local elementary and high school students toured the show with their teachers

25% of the gallery artwork was sold during the show

10 volunteers donated approximately 200 hours of their time between January and March, doing the curating, hanging and staffing of the show, as well as editing and doing layout on the poetry and prose booklet

\$6,000 pro-bono and in-kind donations were made toward the show.

\$2,000 – the cost of the show (not counting regular paid, part-time staff)



**CREATIVE
WOMEN of
LANSDOWNE**

MARCH 9th-31st

20*20 HOUSE GALLERY



CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE GREENWAY

Life in the Darby Creek Watershed

By Benjamin Hover

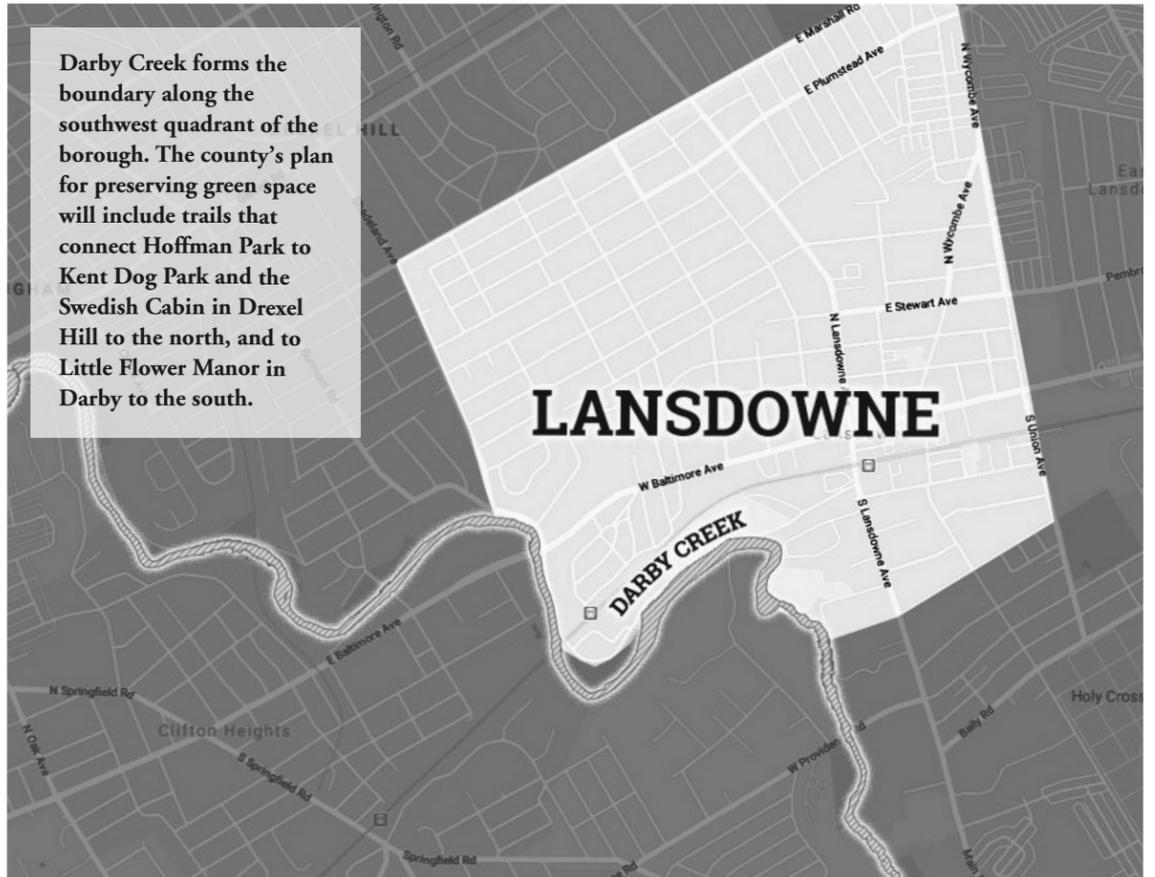
Like countless residents before them, citizens of Lansdowne and environs converged on Hoffman Park over the Easter weekend to enjoy opening of Trout Season in Philadelphia. Yet, few of the visitors that weekend for the Trout Season or even the hundreds of kids participating in the annual Spring Egg Hunt knew that Hoffman Park is an integral component of a coming Greenway supported and planned by environmental organizations, civic associations, along with state, county, and local officials.

Since the development of open farmland in Delaware County over 100 years ago, county officials and municipal planners have discussed the possibility of maintaining a Greenway for the Darby Creek Watershed. From the tributaries beginning in Chester County, the Darby Creek Valley watershed drains through the densely populated regions of Delaware County into the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge and ultimately into the Delaware River.

In response to a Gubernatorial Executive Order from Tom Ridge in 1998, Delaware County released in 2010 and updated in 2015 a carefully researched plan to preserve, maintain, and develop green spaces and trails throughout the Darby Creek watershed. Through the preservation of green-space, we are able to create recreational areas for our residents, provide more habitat to wildlife, ameliorate the effects of pollution, and also reduce flooding through natural management of storm water.

As part of that plan, Lansdowne's Hoffman Park will be connected to trails along Darby Creek to the Kent Dog Park and the Swedish Cabin in Drexel Hill to the north and extend to Little Flower Manor in Darby to the South. To further this plan Lansdowne Borough received a grant this past year to develop the Gateway Slope (Baltimore Avenue and Scottdale Road) to connect to Hoffman Park as part of this plan.

By creating an accessible Greenway, residents of Lansdowne, Upper Darby, Yeadon, and Darby will be able to recreate along walking paths and biking trails to enjoy the natural splendor of Darby Creek and better access the historical resource of Swedish Cabin.

**LINKS FOR FURTHER READING:**

Darby Creek Valley Association: www.dcva.org

Greenway Plan for the Darby Creek Watershed (2010):

www.co.delaware.pa.us/planning/pubs/GreenwayPlanForTheDarbyCreekWatershed.pdf

Delaware County Open Space, Recreation, and Greenway Plan (2015):

www.co.delaware.pa.us/planning/pubs/OSRGP/Vol-I_OpenSpaceAndRecreationPlan.pdf

PLANTING A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE

Lansdowne Shade Tree Commission

By Susan Corbin

In Lansdowne, the name of Mary Lou Jennings is synonymous with trees, specifically the Borough of Lansdowne's Shade Tree Commission. For over 2 decades Mary Lou Jennings has sat at the helm of this very important Borough organization. The Shade Tree Commission is tasked with the monitoring, maintenance and growth of the Borough's trees. The Commission recognizes that properly planted, maintained and protected shade trees add to the value, esthetics, health and welfare of the Borough and its citizens. The Shade Tree Commission works very closely with the Borough's Parks and Recreation Committee in overseeing the Borough's green spaces. In addition to providing free trees to homeowners, the commission monitors and prunes the trees along the Borough sidewalks and in its parks.

Twice a year, in the Spring and the Fall, the Borough receives between 15 to 30 trees that are donations from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the U.S. Forestry's, Plant 1 Million Trees Revitalization Program. The free trees are given to property owners on a first come first serve basis. The only request is that the trees be planted in the front of the home so when it ma-



Trees help purify the air, reduce pollution, save energy, beautify neighborhoods and increase property values.

tures it will provide shade for the home and the sidewalk.

The trees come in a wide variety of deciduous types and grow between 6 to 9 feet in height. The tree is given when it is a sapling and normally will be 4 to 5 feet in height. It comes packaged with a stake for support, a description of the tree and instructions on its planting, watering and care. If needed, help can be provided to plant the tree.

Trees provide a multitude of benefits to the homeowner and the neighborhood at large. They purify the air, reduce pollutions, provide wildlife habitats, save energy costs, cool homes, beautify neighborhoods and increase property values. Mary Lou estimates that within the last 25 years the Shade Tree Commission has given close to 500 trees to homeowners.

The Shade Tree Commission meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:15pm in Borough Hall and the public is welcomed. If you are interested in receiving a free tree to plant on your property, you can contact Mary Lou Jennings at 610-622-0162.



BIG BOOK SALE

Friday June 1st • 1–6 pm
Saturday, June 2nd • 10 am–4 pm
Sunday, June 3rd • 1 pm–4 pm

The Lansdowne Library is also asking for gently used books. If you or someone you know wishes to donate books to the Big Library Book Sale. Please follow these guidelines for the donations.

GUIDELINES FOR DONATING BOOKS

Donations will be accepted April 16 to May 25, 2018
 10 am – 2 pm OR by appointment (call 610-623-0239)

Please call the library PRIOR to donating a large quantity of books.

Do not leave donations outside the library. Books must be in good condition. Books not used by library will be placed in our book sale.

We will not accept books that are torn, moldy, water damaged, or bug infested. We will not accept any textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, or books that have inscriptions. We will not accept serial collections like Reader's Digest, Time, Life, etc.

Thank you for your cooperation and donations.

Bob Casey for US Senate

by Desmond Pringle

Bob Casey, Pennsylvania's senior senator was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2006.

Since then, he has distinguished himself as a senator for all Pennsylvanians. He demonstrated that he is capable of collaborating with others when he gained

Republican cosponsors for Stephen Beck Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE), which allows millions of families across the United States to save for the long-term care of their loved ones with disabilities in a tax-advantaged savings account. The Associated Press called the legislation "the most important new law for [those with disabilities] in 25 years." Additionally, demonstrating his concern for students attending academic institutions, Senator Casey along with Carolyn Maloney (D, NY), introduced the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SAVE Act), requiring colleges and universities to report and disclose all information about crimes in and around their campuses.

Senator Casey believes that the character of a nation is judged by how well it protects and care for its most vulnerable citizens – its children. He believes that healthy, nutritious food is critically important to the health and well-being of our children. That is why he supported the Improving Child Nutrition Integrity and Access Act of 2016 and the Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program in the Farm Bill. Also, he sponsored a bill that would extend WIC eligibility for



children to age six, rather than cutting kids off on their fifth birthdays. The Wise Investment in our Children (WIC) Act would also extend WIC certification period for infants to two years, rather than the current one year, so WIC offices can focus on service rather than paperwork.

Finally, the senator has been a champion of the state-run, federally- and state-funded Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) program that provides affordable, quality health insurance to children in low-income families who do not qualify for Medicaid.

In solid support of Pennsylvania's middle-class, he has fought to increase the minimum wage, ensure equal pay for equal work and enhance worker protections. Also, Senator Casey has opposed cuts to Medicare, and supported the Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act. He supported the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an independent agency that serves as a one-stop-shop for consumers to report abusive financial practices such as scams and predatory lending, and promotes financial education, monitors financial markets for risks to consumers and unfair practices.

Increasing opportunity also means creating conditions under which workers and businesses can prosper. As a member of the Finance Committee, Senator Casey has worked to pass legislation to make it easier for small businesses to plan for capital

investments that are vital to job creation; voted to provide billions for tax cuts to encourage businesses to hire workers; and strongly supported extending tax breaks that promote innovation and research that drives our economy. He has also advocated for increased investment in the roads, bridges, and ports that are vital to the Pennsylvania economy. He also voted for legislation to eliminate tax policies that make it easier for companies to send U.S. jobs overseas.

Senator Casey's commitment to the state's infrastructure included boosting initiatives that create good paying jobs and grow local economies. In Southeastern Pennsylvania, Senator Casey led the charge to deepen the Delaware River to 45 feet, which will increase by 2.5 million tons the cargo in the region according to the Port of Philadelphia, and, more cargo means more jobs.

Senator Casey believes U.S. diplomatic and military leadership are essential to protecting the homeland, as well as U.S. interests and global stability. Senator Casey is a member of the National Security Working Group and former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee

encompassing the Middle East and South and Central Asia. He has been a Senate leader in efforts to cut off ISIS' financing and intensify efforts to reduce its hold on territory

In light of all the above, and more, Senator Bob Casey the Democratic Senator of Pennsylvania has earned the endorsement of the Lansdowne Democratic Committee. His record of advocating for the most vulnerable, to defending the middle-class is unmatched. At a time when our country is in precariously uncharted waters since the founding of the Republic, it is comforting to have someone embodying the commitment to the values articulated by the founding fathers; someone who has vowed to protect the environment; someone who is committed to Pennsylvania's children and the elderly; a man who believes Pennsylvania cannot be a great state without a commitment to education and enhancing the skills of our workers to meet the challenges of the 21st century, and works to attain that objective.

Bob Casey is a man of his word. He unambiguously says what he means, and means what he says.

FAIR HOUSING continued from page 1

to the editor, and even appealing directly to President Lyndon Johnson. They not only spoke out publicly against discrimination, but also urged their friends and neighbors to welcome African Americans into their communities and to embrace integration. These progressive individuals literally stood by their new neighbors to assure that they felt safe and welcome in the neighborhood. Members of the Committee physically accompanied the first Black families moving into Delaware County, putting their personal safety at risk by staying in new residents' homes to offer protection in case they were met with violent opposition by white neighbors.

Mrs. Cary Isard, a founding member of the Committee wrote following an incident in Folcroft in 1963 where three days of rioting by Whites destroyed the property of an African-American family, "In all probability, another episode of such magnitude will be avoided through more effective police action. But the underlying causes—the fears and prejudices which make any such action necessary in the first place, can only be removed by bold creative programs and courageous leadership." Although the changing of attitudes towards racial integration have faced setbacks in Lansdowne—including a Federal Lawsuit against the Lansdowne Swim Club that was resolved in 1989 - our community is proud to be at the center of racial integration and working towards the goals of complete racial equality.

Currently, the organization founded

by many Lansdowne residents continues to enforce the Fair Housing Act of 1968 under the current name of Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania. As the oldest fair housing council in the nation, the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania is especially proud to celebrate 50 years of federal fair housing law and will also be commemorating the agency's 62nd year of promoting freedom of housing in the region. In the years since its founding, the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania has had the satisfaction of seeing its goals for fair housing legislation come to fruition and has worked ever since to help ensure the rights provided by this vital civil rights law are upheld.

If you are anybody you know has faced discrimination in lending, purchasing a home, or in renting a property, learn about your rights by contacting the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania.

Or, if you are a housing provider and would like to learn more about maintaining compliance under the Fair Housing Act of 1968, please reach out the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania.

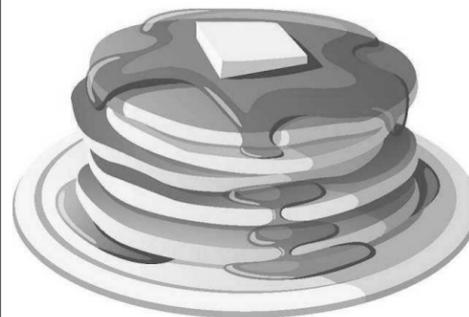
Rachel Wentworth is the Executive Director of the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania

For more Information:
<http://www.equalhousing.org/>
Contact Information:
P.O. Box 558
Fort Washington, PA 19034
267-419-8918
866-540-FAIR
info@equalhousing.org

CUB SCOUT PACK 63 ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 9th, 8:30 - 11:00 am

First Presbyterian Church of Lansdowne



Adults \$7

Kids (4-10) and seniors \$5

3 and under -free

* Gluten free pancakes while supplies last.

LANSDOWNE



INTERBORO PARK
MAY 19, 2018
10:00-1:00

STEAM Festival May 19th

On May 19th, the Parks and Recreation Board with the Lansdowne Public Library, Lansdowne Boys and Girls STEAM Club, Boy Scouts of Lansdowne, Students from the William Penn High School, and community volunteers will host a STEAM Festival with arts and crafts, face painting, science tables from the Academy of Natural Sciences and Insectarium, interactive science and engineering activities, drone demonstrations, and more.

SCANLON

continued from page 1

This nationally-recognized pro bono practice has worked on critical issues such as fighting for fair pay and equitable treatment for women. The practice also has a long history of assisting those fleeing violence and persecution. They represent refugees, seekers of political asylum, victims of crime, domestic violence, and human trafficking. This work has taken on fresh urgency with the Trump administration seeking to implement unconstitutional restrictions and bans on travel to the United States and deportation of long term residents. When President Trump, shortly after his inauguration ordered a travel ban that stranded thousands of legal immigrants, attorneys from the program sprang into action, arriving at airports and writing habeas petitions from airport waiting rooms.

Mary Gay has fought to protect the right to vote, serving as Co-Chair of the Voting Rights Task Force of the Association of Pro Bono Counsel, a program that combats voter suppression and gerrymandering. She has been fighting for voting rights for decades and has the experience and knowledge to take the fight to those who would deny this basic right to citizens of this country.

With her leadership, the law firm embraced the Wills for Heroes program which provides free estate planning for veterans and first responders. She organizes and volunteers for dozens of Wills for Heroes clinics annually, giving peace of mind to first responders, veterans and their families.

The pro bono practice also has a strong record of assisting the previously incarcerated with clearing their



Left to right: Clare Hughes, Tim Mertens, Katie Mertens, Mary Gay Scanlon, Charlotte Hummel, Joe Stevenson, and Jayne Young.

records, enabling them to fully participate and re-integrate into society. In addition to representing juveniles whose constitutional rights have been violated, she and her colleagues have obtained 29 Presidential grants of clemency for nonviolent offenders.

Mary Gay Scanlon attended the University of Pennsylvania Law School after graduating cum laude from Colgate University. Mary Gay then served as a Judicial

Clerk for the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Mary Gay and her husband Mark Stewart have raised three children Casey, Daniel and Matthew. All three children graduated from Wallingford-Swarthmore public schools. Mary Gay and Mark reside in Swarthmore with their two rescue dogs Abby and Emma, a cockatiel named TJ, and several chickens.

PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 15TH ★ POLLS OPEN 7 AM TO 8 PM

GERRYMANDERING

continued from page 1

Gerrymandering lets legislators choose their voters. A fairly drawn map let's voters choose their legislators.

Gerrymandering is a bi-partisan transgression. It can be accomplished by either Democrats or Republicans. The old PA map was drawn by the Republican-controlled legislature. In Maryland, there is a case of gerrymandering done by the Democratic-controlled legislature.

You probably have heard that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court had non-partisan experts draw a new map of Federal Congressional districts to be used in the 2018 and 2020 elections.

That's why Lansdowne is no longer in the former First Congressional District. We are in a new district (PA Fifth) that finally includes all of Delaware County, the part of Montgomery County that includes Lower Merion, and a segment of Southwest Philadelphia.

The new map does a better job than the old one of creating districts that are compact and contiguous. It also minimizes the distance between voters and their elected representatives; and reduces the number of counties and municipalities that are divided among multiple districts.

So didn't the PA Supreme Court decision resolve the problem?

Nope. The new map will be used in the 2018 and 2020 elections. However, after the 2020 Census, Pennsylvania will probably lose a Congressional seat due to a decline in the population of the state.

And who will draw the new district map using the 2020 census data?

It will be the same legislators who drew the crazy 2011 district map.

A non-partisan group called Fair Districts PA has recommended an amendment to the PA Constitution that will put redistricting in the hands of an Independent Commission.

Fair Districts believes a Constitutional Amendment creating an Independent Commission is the best way to assure the process of redistricting is fair, transparent, and impartial. This is not a new idea. There are a few states that have adopted the independent commission idea where it is working well.

What do we need to do to amend the PA Constitution?

The first step is to pass the legislation currently under consideration in Harrisburg by June 30, 2018 (SB 22 and HB 722). Many representatives and senators from both

parties are co-sponsors of these bills, but the bill is currently held up in the House Government Committee, chaired by State Rep. Daryl Metcalfe.

Please be sure that your State Representative and State Senator for Lansdowne are co-sponsors!

The next step is to pass the same legislation next year by June 30, 2019.

Finally, there will be a state-wide referendum on a constitutional amendment to implement the independent commission called for in SB 22 and HB 722. If the

amendment is adopted, the new Independent Commission will do the redistricting, not the PA Legislature, in 2021.

We have a long way to go to reach our goal, but we believe this is the best way to assure a fair approach to redistricting endures in Pennsylvania.

To learn more about the NON-PARTISAN group, Fair Districts PA and SB 22/HB 722, go to fairdistrictspa.com.

AHMAD

continued from page 1

activists at an Indivisible event in March, telling the story of escaping a civil war, becoming a scientist, and raising two girls as a first-generation immigrant. Because of those ties and relationships, Ahmad's campaign, originally for Congress in the 1st district, was able to mobilize quickly for the Lt. Governor position in the wake of the congressional redistricting announcement. Ahmad was able to get thousands of petition signatures in 11 different counties within eight days, during a Nor'easter.

Dr. Ahmad's success has been in building relationships and coalitions. At a statewide level, Ahmad is interested in a platform of racial, economic and gender justice. She sees opportunities for pursuing those at a statewide level by means of the Governor's board of pardons, allowing older people who have served significant time and do not pose a

threat, out of crowded prison systems. Ahmad would also support #metoo legislation proposed by Leanne Krueger-Braneky, and help us move towards more equal representation for women in Pennsylvania government. The candidate also promotes economic growth via science and technology education and jobs for all parts of the state.

In her talk with Delco NOW and Delco Indivisibles, Dr. Ahmad talked about what she'd learned as a survivor of war and as an immigrant who succeeded in a male-dominated field. The themes that she returned to repeatedly were family, community and relationships. Her positions on equal pay, \$15 minimum wage, against mass incarceration, and health care for all arise from those values. Lansdowne Democrats align with those values and positions and are happy for this opportunity to support Dr. Ahmad, a progressive woman, for statewide office in Pennsylvania.

FIRST-TIME VOTERS: READ THIS FIRST!

If you're voting for the first time, be sure you're prepared once you arrive at the polls. All voters who appear at a polling place for the first time must show an approved form of photo identification.

Approved forms of photo identification (ID must be valid):

- PA driver's license or ID card issued by PennDOT or other Commonwealth agency
- U.S. Passport or other ID issued by US Government
- U.S. Armed Forces, Student or Employee ID

Approved forms of non-photo identification (ID must include your name and address):

- Voter's identification card issued by the voter registration commission
- Non-photo ID issued by the Commonwealth or U.S. Gov't
- Firearm permit
- Current utility bill, bank statement or paycheck

All first time absentee ballot voters must send a copy of an acceptable form of identification with your ballot application. Once your identification is on file in the County, you need not send it again.

A COMMUNITY OASIS IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

Kicking Off the Season at Lansdowne Landing

It's time to celebrate! Help kick off the 2018 season of the Landing at the Lansdowne Landing Community Potluck Opening Celebration on May 12.

POTLUCK

Bring a dish to pass, utensils, drinks, a beach ball, bubbles, the sky's the limit. Or just bring yourself and a neighbor who may not know about the Landing. Feel free to post what you plan to bring below.

We will make sure to provide music and good vibes, and

a kid craft as well!

PLANT EXCHANGE

If that wasn't enough, the Lansdowne Garden Club will also be holding its spring Plant Exchange at the same time. If you're clearing out your flower beds and have perennial plants that you need to thin out, stick them in some pots with soil, water and a label and bring those along too. You'll receive a ticket for each plant you bring, which you can trade in for other plants of your choosing.

Drop off plants between 6:00 and 7:00 pm; the exchange will take place from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. After 8:00 pm, remaining plants will be on sale for \$1 each. This event is free and open to the public. We can't wait to see you!

Lansdowne Landing Opening Day Celebration
Saturday, May 12 • 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
30 N. Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne, PA 19050
Enter from either N. Lansdowne or Owen Ave.



INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES PROVIDE EXCITING OPTIONS FOR DINING, SHOPPING

New Businesses Add Vitality to Downtown Lansdowne

By Kellie Bowker

Heffernan's Little Craft Shop opened in November of last year at 12 S. Lansdowne Avenue. In 2008, Teresa Heffernan started making soaps in her basement and selling them at local craft shows and in her Etsy store. She opened a brick and mortar store in Prospect Park in 2016. In November, she moved it to Lansdowne, drawn by the proximity to the train station, the walkability of the town, the many art events, and the friendliness of the people as well as the assistance she has received from the LEDC. In the short time she has been here, she has created a space that feels warm and welcoming. Her store features seasonal home décor items, jewelry,

candles, and her homemade soaps. Teresa is looking to add more local artists, as well as hosting in-store crafts for kids on Saturdays and Ladies' Night Out events. Heffernan's has a very active Facebook presence, and Theresa generously shares directions for many simple holiday crafts and treats on her page.

Heffernan's Little Craft Shop joins a number of independent businesses that have recently opened on Lansdowne Avenue, south of Baltimore:

Jamey's House of Music, 32 S. Lansdowne Ave, hosts a variety of musical acts on Friday and Saturday nights (along with reasonably priced food), as well as a Blues Brunch on Sundays

(www.jameyshouseofmusic.com and Facebook).

Kia's Cakes, a long time favorite at the Farmers Market, now has her own café at 16 S. Lansdowne Avenue where she serves her delicious, from-scratch baked goods, coffee and tea, and a few savory dishes (www.kiacakes.com and Facebook).

Crystal's Comfort Food at 7 S. Lansdowne Avenue serves traditional soul food like wings, macaroni and cheese, fried fish and, stuffed chicken breast

(www.crystalscomfortfood.com and Facebook).

If you haven't had an opportunity yet, stop by and check out these exciting, varied additions to our town.



ANIMAL FRIENDS OF LANSDOWNE YARD SALE **SATURDAY, MAY 12**
 Rain Date May 19
9 AM - 3 PM
33 EAST GREENWOOD AVE.

Bargains galore for a worthy cause!

Donations gratefully accepted on the porch from May 5. (Please, no clothing or old tvs)

484-463-1277
info@animalfriendsoflansdowne.org

FAIR HOUSING
 continued from page 1

ments in local newspapers, writing letters to the editor, and even appealing directly to President Lyndon Johnson. They not only spoke out publically against discrimination, but also urged their friends and neighbors to welcome African Americans into their communities and to embrace integration. These progressive individuals literally stood by their new neighbors to assure that they felt safe and welcome in the neighborhood. Members of the Committee physically accompanied the first Black families moving into Delaware County, putting their personal safety at risk by staying in new residents' homes to offer protection in case they were met with violent opposition by white neighbors.

Mrs. Cary Isard, a founding member of the Committee wrote following an incident in Folcroft in 1963 where three days of rioting by Whites destroyed the property of an African-American family, "In all probability, another episode of such magnitude will be avoided through more effective police action. But the underlying causes—the fears and prejudices which make any such action necessary in the first place, can only be removed by bold creative programs and courageous leadership." Although the changing of attitudes towards racial integration have faced setbacks in Lansdowne—including a Federal Law-suit against the Lansdowne Swim Club that was resolved in 1989 - our community is proud to be at the center of racial integration and working towards the goals of

complete racial equality.

Currently, the organization founded by many Lansdowne residents continues to enforce the Fair Housing Act of 1968 under the current name of Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania. As the oldest fair housing council in the nation, the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania is especially proud to celebrate 50 years of federal fair housing law and will also be commemorating the agency's 62nd year of promoting freedom of housing in the region. In the years since its founding, the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania has had the satisfaction of seeing its goals for fair housing legislation come to fruition and has worked ever since to help ensure the rights provided by this vital civil rights law are upheld.

If you are anybody you know has faced discrimination in lending, purchasing a home, or in renting a property, learn about your rights by contacting the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania.

Or, if you are a housing provider and would like to learn more about maintaining compliance under the Fair Housing Act of 1968, please reach out the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania.

Rachel Wentworth is the Executive Director of the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania

For more Information:
<http://www.equalhousing.org/>
 Contact Information:
 P.O. B0x 558
 Fort Washington, PA 19034
 267-419-8918
 866-540-FAIR
info@equalhousing.org

Lansdowne's
JULY 4TH
CELEBRATION

Parade • Prizes • Music • Games and Fireworks Extravaganza!

Fireworks take place at 9:00 PM at Penn Wood High School field

RAIN DATE JULY 5 (Fireworks Only)

Order tickets online at
www.UnionAA.org

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ONGOING EVENTS

Figure Drawing at Art Space Lansdowne

Mondays 7:00 pm
25 S. Lansdowne Avenue

Lansdowne Borough Council Business Meetings

First Wednesday of each month
7:30 PM – Borough Hall

Lansdowne Borough Council General Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month
7:30 PM – Borough Hall

Lansdowne Democratic Committee

Second Monday of each month
7:00 PM
Borough Hall

Lansdowne Farmers Market

Each Saturday from Memorial Day through October
30 N. Lansdowne Avenue
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Next to Lansdowne Landing

William Penn School Board Committee Meeting

Third Monday of each month (except Jul & Aug)
6:30 PM – Green Avenue Board Room

William Penn School Board Business Meeting

Fourth Monday of each month
6:30 PM – Green Avenue Board Room

SCHEDULED EVENTS

MAY

Saturday, May 12
Animal Friends of Lansdowne Annual Yard Sale
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
33 E. Greenwood Ave

Saturday, May 12
Spring Free Fair
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Lansdowne Landing
Donations taken early in time slot

Saturday, May 12
Lansdowne Landing Opening Celebration
Pot Luck Dinner and Plant Exchange
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Tuesday, May 15
PRIMARY ELECTION
Your vote counts! See map of polling places.
POLLS OPEN 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Thursday, May 17
Town Forum
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Twentieth Century Club

Saturday, May 19
S.T.E.A.M Festival
By Lansdowne Parks & Rec Board
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Interboro Park

Monday, May 28
Memorial Day Parade
9:00 AM
assemble at Lansdowne & LaCrosse Avenues

NOTE: 5K Race traditionally run on Memorial Day will take place in the fall.

JUNE

Friday, June 1
Union AA celebrates Lansdowne's 125th
With Wine & Cheese Party
20*20 House

Friday, June 1 – Sunday, June 3
Big Book Sale
Lansdowne Public Library

Saturday, June 2
Opening Reception for "Within a Square Mile: Lansdowne at 125" exhibit
Exhibit runs all month in June
20*20 House

Monday, June 4
Sherlock Holmes Program
6:00 PM
Lansdowne Public Library

Thursday, June 7
Lansdowne's 125th
Ice Cream Social with DJ at Lansdowne Landing
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Thursday, June 7
Lansdowne Folk Club presents Mike Agranoff and the Lords of Liechtenstein
7:30 PM
Twentieth Century Club

Friday, June 8
Movie Night at Dusk
Sponsored by Lansdowne Library
Interboro Park

Saturday, June 9
Lansdowne Scout Troop #63 Pancake Breakfast
8:30 AM – 11:00 AM
First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, June 9
Lansdowne Boys & Girls Club Community Kickball Tournament
1:00 PM
Hoffman Park

Sunday, June 10
Dance Party
Kickoff event for Summer Reading, Summer Quest
Lansdowne Public Library

Tuesday, June 12
Lansdowne Business & Professional Association Picnic
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Hoffman Park

Thursday, June 14
Flag Day Celebration
Borough Green at Borough Hall
7:00 PM

Friday, June 15
Sherlock Holmes-Style Murder Mystery
7:00 PM
Lansdowne Public Library

JULY

Wednesday, July 4
Parade & Games
9:00 AM
Assemble on East Greenwood Ave

Wednesday, July 4
Union AA of Lansdowne presents Fireworks
9:00 PM
Penn Wood High School Field

AUGUST

Tuesday, August 7
National Night Out
Sponsored by the Lansdowne Business and Professional Association and the Lansdowne Police and Fire Departments

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 9
Lansdowne Arts on the Avenue Festival
Noon – 6:00 PM

OCTOBER

Friday, October 9
Last Day to REGISTER TO VOTE In the General Election

Friday, October 9
Last Day to Apply for Civilian Absentee Ballots

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 9
GENERAL ELECTION
Make your voice heard by voting!
Polls open 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Saturday, November 17
Lansdowne Farmers Market Thanksgiving Market
9:00 AM - Noon

Friday/Saturday, November 23 & 24
Lansdowne Bit of the Arts Holiday Art Sale
Twentieth Century Club

EVENT LOCATIONS

20 20 House Gallery
20 Lansdowne Court

Art Space Lansdowne
23 S. Lansdowne Ave

First Presbyterian Church
Lansdowne & Greenwood Aves
610-622-0800

Hoffman Park
Scottdale Road

Interboro Park
112 Bartram Ave

Lansdowne Borough Hall
12 E. Baltimore Ave
610-623-7300

Lansdowne Folk Club Twentieth Century Club
84 S. Lansdowne Ave
484-466-6213

Lansdowne Landing
30 N. Lansdowne Ave. Enter from Either N. Lansdowne or Owen Ave

Lansdowne Public Library
55 S. Lansdowne Ave
610-623-0239

Penn Wood High School
100 Green Ave

Club di Lingua Italiana

The Lansdowne Library recently launched its Italian Language Club, for anyone with an interest in the language and culture of Italy. Meeting the first and third Thursday of every month at 7pm, everyone is welcome, from the beginner to the native speaker. Participants engage with the Italian language and each other through speaking exercises, music, and film, and benefit from the presence of advanced and native speakers. Though facilitated by reference librarian Bill Paterson, the club and its activities are flexible and shaped by its members. Email lareference@delcolibraries.org for more information.

Interested in Scouting?

On Wednesday, May 23rd from 7 – 8 pm, there will be an interest meeting for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts at the First Presbyterian Church of Lansdowne. Cub Scouts is for boys and girls who will be entering first through fifth grades in the fall. Kids who sign up now can participate in our summer events. Kindergarten registration happens in the fall. Boy Scouts is for boys aged 11 through 17. Contact Betsy Burke with any questions at Lansdowne.bsa.p63@gmail.com. Come start an adventure with us!