

# *the* **Lansdowne Leader**

November 2022

*"Accountable Leadership, Accessible Government"*

Vol. XXX, No. 2

## **JOHN FETTERMAN FOR U.S. SENATE**

# **Fighting for Us With 'Plain, Common Sense'**

All across Pennsylvania, we're seeing soaring prices, hollowed out communities, and families getting ripped off by corporate greed. John Fetterman's got a five-point plan to fix our economy and hold Washington accountable.

He doesn't see this plan as a Democratic or Republican solution, just patriotic, pro-America, pro-worker — and just plain common sense. When he's in D.C., he will fight for us, following this plan, in his own words.



here and punish them for ripping off and misleading the American people.

For too long, out-of-touch politicians in Washington have sold out people on factory floors to benefit their friends in corporate boardrooms, passing bad trade deals that have sent thousands of good-paying jobs overseas. I'll work to punish companies that ship jobs overseas and reverse the bad trade deals that have hurt American workers. And I'll fight to bring more jobs back home to Pennsylvania.

Making more stuff here in America would mean prices wouldn't spike every time there's a problem overseas. We don't need to be outsourcing any more jobs and production to China, and making inflation worse. There is no reason that the next generation of technology—from defense to clean energy to the microchips that power our cell phones—can't be manufactured right here in the Commonwealth.

### **Cut Taxes for Working People**

We need to cut taxes for working

families to even the odds and guarantee that the ultra-wealthy aren't abusing our broken tax code. I support suspending the federal gas tax, to provide working people with immediate relief at the pump and help deal with rising costs. We also need to bring down taxes for working people across the board.

To replace the revenue, we will make sure Wall Street, hedge fund managers,

and mega-millionaires pay their fair share by enacting a financial transaction tax on trades of stocks, bonds, and derivatives. The savings could then be used to cut taxes for working families and reinvest in the American people.

I'll fight for a tax code that ensures the wealthiest Americans and corporations like Amazon and don't get away with

*continued on page 5*

## **A Remarkable Tale of Redemption**

by Suzanne McElroy

How do you take the true measure of a man, one who is asking for your vote and trust? We hope that you will learn to appreciate John Fetterman even more after reading how he helped two black men gain freedom from prison, after serving 28 years for a crime they did not commit. John helped them without regard to his own political costs because it was the right thing to do. Lee and Dennis (aka Freedom) Horton personally conveyed their remarkable story to an enthralled group at the recent Lansdowne Democratic fundraiser.

The Horton brothers grew up poor in a North Philadelphia neighborhood. They thrived in a family atmosphere filled with love, respect, and kindness. Despite their parents split, family life was stable, providing

*continued on page 5*



### **Make More Stuff in America**

Fighting inflation and lowering costs starts with making more stuff in America and bringing jobs home. We need to bring back American manufacturing by strengthening "Buy American" requirements for companies that do business with the federal government and mandating that companies we buy from make their products right here at home. We also need to crack down on companies that falsely claim their products are made

## **RESPONSIBLE, RATIONAL LEADERSHIP FOR ALL PENNSYLVANIANS**

# **Josh Shapiro and Austin Davis for Governor, Lt. Governor**

The team of Josh Shapiro and Austin Davis were enthusiastically welcomed recently at Rep. Gina H. Curry's fundraiser. Their powerful message resonated with the crowd of nearly 100 eager supporters, just after the acapella rendition of Andra Day's "Rise Up" that lifted our hearts right into the heavens, setting the tone for the entire evening with her beautiful voice and high notes.

Austin Davis, currently a PA Rep from McKeesport in the western part of Pennsylvania since 2018, is seeking our support for Lieutenant Governor. He would be the first black man to hold that position, and promises to work very hard to ensure that he is not the last. As a powerful voice for the marginalized, he champions working families, aiming to lift people out of poverty and to secure fair funding for education. He emphasizes the importance of safety in our communities, citing "No community should have to live in the shadow of gun violence." He is currently working hand-in-hand with Gina Curry in the legislature in Harrisburg to make sure that everyone in the commonwealth has a voice.



**Josh Shapiro, left, and Austin Davis, right**

Make no mistake, there are a whole lot of people in Harrisburg who want to ignore you and rob you of your hard-earned rights and freedoms. When that has happened during the last four years, Democratic Governor Wolf was able to use his veto power to correct the course when the

Republican-controlled legislature passed unfair and restrictive laws. We need to elect Josh Shapiro as our next Governor for fair elections and adherence to the verifiable results, beginning with his appointment of a Secretary of State. His opponent has vowed the opposite, and is

still objecting to the results of the 2020 election. This opponent even used his own money for a busload of his colleagues to go to the Jan 6 insurrection with him and riot in our nation's capital.

Josh Shapiro, currently Pennsylvania's Attorney General, is fighting for us and for generations to come. "We have a responsibility to our ancestors to preserve democracy and protect the individual freedoms at risk from the other side of the aisle." It was 246 years ago when our ancestors began this experiment we call democracy, and year after year folks did the hard work to make sure that the next generation gained more freedoms and became more inclusive and tolerant. We owe it to ourselves and our children to elect Josh Shapiro, who believes that it doesn't matter what you look like, who you love, where you live, to matter here in the Commonwealth. He believes and supports the right to vote, to choose, to organize, to marry, to worship, to read what you want, to have opportunities for education and work. In his words, "My name is on the ballot, but it's your rights and freedom on the line."

CHAIR’S COLUMN

We Can Be the ‘Driving’ Force of Change

By Charlotte Hummel

“Have you ever noticed that anybody driving slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a maniac?”  
– George Carlin

Of all the issues, problems and concerns we are facing right now – climate change, racial injustice, a woman’s right to her own body, child poverty, political crazies on the right, and war in the Ukraine – if you ask a Lansdowne resident what is bothering them most, the likely answer will be TRAFFIC and the selfish drivers who think they are the only ones on the road. Failure to even pause at stop signs, speeding drivers passing on both the left and right, race track level travel through neighborhood roads and impatient horn honking and non-verbal hand signals from fellow motorists is the norm these days.

Information about a local accident or a near miss that gets posted on a neighborhood related Facebook page, generates dozens of comments about “my corner” or “my street” being the worst and the failure of the police to stop it. The fact is, driving behavior and traffic levels are a problem everywhere; not just in Lansdowne.

According to Police Chief Rutherford, the department is using multiple approaches in its efforts to monitor and enforce traffic laws. But, it is important to note, our police department consists of 15 full-time and 1 part-time police officers – one chief, two detectives, four patrol sergeants and eight patrol officers (plus one part time). A standard patrol shift (12 hours) is one sergeant and two patrol officers. So, in essence there are 3 officers (a

Ask a Lansdowne resident what bothers them most, the likely answer will be traffic – and the selfish drivers who think they are the only ones on the road.

minimum of two if a patrol officer is off for some reason) – providing routine policing on a 12 hour shift. As you might imagine, it is impossible to do all the work of policing in our community AND enforcing what should be behaviors that are part of our mutual, social contract – obeying stop signs and the speed limits - with the number of personnel we have. It’s also important to know that the department issues, on average, 130 traffic citations per month and answers 800 calls in that same period.

So, how do we remind people of this mutually beneficial contract? Yes, enforcement by authorities is essential. But much more important are two other things: Modeling behavior and creating a cultural shift.

Growing up in South Jersey, I was aware of certain towns in which you simply did not speed. There were so many reports of people getting tickets that “everyone just knew” to obey the speed limit and stop signs in particular towns. In those places, it is noted, the resident themselves obeyed the laws and they set the tone (and the pace) for other, non-resident drivers. And yes, the police did target certain roads and through streets for ticketing on a rotating basis and

it was publicized and reported widely.

So the first step is that the residents of Lansdowne must be the first to model the kind of driving behavior that we want to see everyone exhibit. Most streets in Lansdowne have a 25 mile per hour limit. IF you live here, do your part and keep within the speed limit. Most cars roll (if not out-right plow) through stop signs. If you live here, do your part and come to a complete stop. Every. Time.

As to a cultural shift, we might want to take a page from the occasional protests we see at the intersection of Lansdowne and Baltimore Avenues and to coordinate similar protests on neighborhood corners. Once a month or more, we could participate in traffic awareness demonstrations. Staged by regular people, people who live in the vicinity, at times when the traffic is dense, and publicizing the demonstrations, could begin to send a message and start a shift in behaviors.

These demonstrations or ‘performance art’(artworks that are created through actions performed by the artist or other participants) can be done on a coordinated basis and include signs like – “Please drive gently,” or “Stop means Stop,” or even the clever use of a hand held hair dryer to replicate a radar gun\*, would call attention to the problem. We could hand out stickers or create a bumper sticker that says – I Love Lansdowne so I stop for stop signs. In other words I think we need to create a cultural shift through a grassroots campaign in which we can all take part and in that way, WE can be the SOMEBODY who DOES SOMETHING about this issue.

And speaking about community involvement and on another important note – IF

you voted against Trump in 2020, you MUST come out to vote on November 8th with the same force. While the great orange embarrassment may not be on the ballot, thousands of his crazy adherents (including MastriaNO and OZ) are on the ballots across the country. They must be defeated as soundly as Trump was or we will have state and federal governments that Trump would be proud of. Remember LANS-DOWNE VOTES on NOVEMBER 8th.

**\*Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation that does NOT PERMIT regular police departments to use radar guns in enforcing speeding laws. Only State Police are permitted to use them. Contact your state senator and representative to ask to have this law changed.**

Editor’s Note

I believe that every person is a treasure. I believe that Lansdowne’s diversity is its strength. I also recognize that ignorance, insensitivity and bigotry can turn that diversity into a source of prejudice and discrimination.

To keep diversity a wellspring of strength and make Lansdowne a better place for all, I pledge to have respect for people whose abilities, beliefs, culture, race, sexual identity or other characteristics are different from mine.

Vive la difference – in all respects!

– Suzanne McElroy  
(language borrowed from Southern Poverty Law Center pledge for America)

Lansdowne Borough Elected Officials

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

BOROUGH MAYOR - Magdalena Byrne (Elected Official)						
BOROUGH COUNCIL - (Elected Officials)						
President - Ben Hover						
Vice President - Sinoe Naji-Taylor						
Members: Kellie Bowker, Robert Curry, Ben Hover, Tangela James, Carol Martsof, Sinoe Naji-Taylor and Jayne Young						
Public Meetings 1st & 3rd Wed 7pm						
BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES - Members are all elected by the voters. * Committee Chair						
Community Relations	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	Economic & Community Development	Environment, Parks & Recreation	Finance & Administration	Infrastructure	Public Safety
1st Tues 6:30pm	2nd Tues 6pm	2nd Wed 6pm	Public Meetings 2nd Mon 6pm	2nd Tues 7pm	2nd Mon 7pm	2nd Wed 7pm
Kellie Bowker* Robert Curry Tangela James	Robert Curry* Tangela James Carol Martsof	Benjamin Hover* Sinoe Naji-Taylor Robert Curry	Carol Martsof* Jayne Young Kellie Bowker	Tangela James* Sinoe Naji-Taylor Jayne Young	Jayne Young* Carol Martsof Sinoe Naji-Taylor	Sinoe Naji-Taylor* Kellie Bowker Benjamin Hover Magda Byrne
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: Members appointed by Council. Each board or commision reports to the Borough Council Committee above it. Public meeting dates for each board or commission available on the borough website.						
Lansdowne Arts Board	Human Relations Commission	Code Appeals Board	Environmental Advisory Council		Historic Architecture Review Board	Board of Health
Library Board		Planning Commission Redevelopment Authority	Parks & Rec Board Shade Tree Commission		Zoning Hearing Board	Civil Service Commission

theLansdowne Leader

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RE-ELECT MARY GAY SCANLON FOR CONGRESS

A Foundation of Justice and Equality

Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon is a life-long advocate for children and families. Her advocacy journey began during law school when she began volunteering for a homeless shelter; delivering pro-bono legal services on behalf of immigrants and others in her career; and included serving on her local school board from 2007-2015. In November 2018, she was sworn into Congress following a special election victory - the first woman of the new wave of representation to be sworn in.

In her second full term in Congress, Mary Gay has continued her relentless advocacy on behalf of children and families in Pennsylvania’s 5th District and across the country. She was appointed, by her peers, to serve as Vice Chair of the prestigious House Judiciary Committee, and also serves on the House Rules Committee and the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. She is a member of dozens of important caucuses, including the Bipartisan Working Group on Addiction, the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, and the Equality Caucus.

Mary Gay has cosponsored over 400 bills to improve the lives of families in our region and across the country. When roughly 4,000 jobs at the Boeing Plant in Ridley were on the chopping block, Mary Gay led the charge to successfully restore funding for this critical program in the National Defense Authorization Act. She also helped secure a \$650 million contract to produce new ships at the Philadelphia Shipyard.

Congresswoman Scanlon has introduced legislation to



reduce the burden of student loan debt and the costs of prescription drugs. She led House floor debate on critical legislative victories, including the Equality Act and the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women’s Act. Mary Gay also helped push forward two critical pieces of commonsense gun violence prevention bills, which earned bipartisan support in the House.

Congresswoman Scanlon has been tirelessly fighting for the people, working to restore faith in our democracy, and has been a leader in the House effort to hold the Trump Administration accountable.

As a champion for the people of the 5th District, she met with Delaware County officials recently to mull over plans for new county-wide mobile crisis teams who would be dispatched alongside law enforcement when someone is suffering from mental illness. The goal is to ensure that mental health crises in Delco do not escalate into deadly situations. Scanlon secured \$650,000 in federal funding to support this program in March as part of the appropriations package.

In April, Congresswoman Scanlon visited Lansdowne Theater to announce \$1.5 million in Community Project Funding she recently secured for the theater. It is one of 10 Community Project Funding awards she delivered for her district as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 federal government funding package passed by Congress in March. Senator Bob Casey also supported the Historic Lansdowne Theater Corporation’s application for Community Project Funding. The restoration of this important historic landmark also serves to create an engine that will drive economic development in eastern Delaware County.

Vote for Mary Gay if you share her commitment to justice, equality, and removing barriers to opportunity for children and families! She delivers on these promises for Delaware County.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE 164TH DISTRICT

Re-Elect Gina H. Curry

Gina Hackett Curry is passionate about the things going on in the 164th District and works at the grass-roots level to help our community. Delivering constituent services out of her Barclay Square office gives her a glimpse into the lives of many who are navigating personal tragedies and suffering the most. Her goal, and her staff’s mission, is to assure those who come in that they can be put in the best position to get help. She wants them to know, “Someone heard me and now they are trying to help me.”

Providing help on an individual basis is what motivates her when she goes to Harrisburg to create and support legislation in the commonwealth that can alleviate the cause of these inequities and suffering. She carries the stories of the neediest in her district in her heart when setting legislative priorities. She has no time for the frivolous efforts made by some Republicans who tried to legislate the prosecution of people who stole a shopping basket from the grocery store.

In her first year of office, she has delivered results in the 164th in line with her promises in last year’s campaign. That platform encompassed the goal of achieving equitable funding for education, affordable and safe housing and economic development. To date:

- \$101.4 million in public school funding has been awarded to Upper Darby and William Penn school districts, representing a 20% increase.
- \$1.3 million awarded in transportation and infrastructure projects in Upper Darby
- \$50,000 awarded to local Emergency Services and Fire companies.
- \$25,000 provided to the Upper Darby and Seller Memorial Libraries.
- \$20,000 awarded in public safety grants.

Her current focus includes these priorities: Equity (regardless of color, gender, head covering or hair-style); Public Education (including trade education); Prison Reform (to better prepare those exiting incarceration); and Housing Reform (with over \$204 million of American Rescue Plan dollars for property tax relief and rent rebate program). We need Gina to continue to take our plight and our fight to Harrisburg and to legislate to bring help back home.

Representative Curry has earned many endorsements:

- Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP)
- Planned Parenthood
- VoteProChoice
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
- AFSCME District Council 88
- Pennsylvania AFL-CIO
- Philadelphia Federation of Teachers
- PSEA-PACE
- EMGAGE Action

Let’s Save and Restore this Democracy

By Tim Kearney

It has been my honor to serve Delaware County in the State Senate these past four years. During the redistricting process, Lansdowne was moved into the 26th State Senate District, the district I currently represent. This is a change I am excited about and cannot wait to work for such a vibrant, growing community. Since I took office in 2019, I have been working to make changes that better our daily lives, our businesses, our schools, and our families. As a father, former mayor, and small businessman, I understand our issues first-hand. I am running for re-election to continue to do the critical work of representing you and your families in the State Capitol.

The past four years have taught me that the far-right politicians in Harrisburg don’t get it. They don’t get Delco. They are getting more distant every day, more distracted from our everyday problems with their attacks on the right to vote, public education, and abortion.

I am incredibly proud to have helped establish the first ever Health Department in Delaware County by working alongside local leaders and the PA Department of Health. I have worked hard to secure funding for projects all across Delaware County– improvements to the county-wide 911 Emergency System; \$250 million in Level Up funding for our public schools, which goes to underfunded districts



like William Penn; and \$5 million in funding for Delaware County Community College.

I have written or supported over 60 bills related to equal rights, justice, and diversity in our communities. I will continue to make good on my promise to fight for economic policies that increase pay for low-wage jobs, support unions over corporate greed, stimulate the growth of minority-owned businesses, and demand respect for each individual in our community, respect we all deserve.

This is a defining moment for us. We have an opportunity to save and restore this democracy or risk losing it forever. That is the choice. I respectfully ask for your vote this November.

Graciously,  
Tim

Key Endorsements

- Senator Tim Kearney has earned the endorsement of many organizations, including
- Planned Parenthood
  - CeaseFire PA
  - PSEA-PACE
  - Pennsylvania AFL-CIO
  - Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP)
  - Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
  - Sierra Club Pennsylvania

VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

POLLS OPEN 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

BOOK REVIEW

Reproductive Rights Denied...Again?

by Terry Baraldi

There is little difference between slavery as a legal status and the social chains that keeps free men and women in bondage.

Eugenics: Oxford Languages defines it as “the study of how to arrange reproduction within a human population to increase the occurrence of heritable characteristics regarded as desirable.”

When breeding lots of black babies was no longer a benefit to the economy of the South, the white people in power sought instead to reduce that population by an insidious system of government funded eugenics, from using hundreds of poor black men as syphilitic guinea pigs, to the forced sterilization of anyone deemed “unfit” to procreate. That definition included poor, illiterate, uneducated females of child-bearing age...sometimes even before puberty.

It wasn’t until 1973 that HEW, under Caspar Weinberger, was called to account for lack of oversight in funding involuntary tubal ligations on females as young as 12 years of age! Studies done at

that time determined that from the early 20th century to 1973, this procedure was paid for by the Welfare system and performed on more than 65,000 women in 33 states who were told, wrongly, to submit or risk losing all welfare benefits.

Author Dolen Perkins-Valdez’ *Take My Hand* is an historical novel...a fictionalized account that follows the real tragedy of the Relf sisters, whose testimony blew the lid off the procedure known colloquially as “an Alabama appendectomy”. Sit with that for a moment. How many women had to be brutalized for such a cruel term to be accepted as casual jargon.

There are times when fiction can be your escape route from your present reality. And there are times when it forces you to confront it; to point the way to a truth over-looked, edited, or even worse, denied. *Take My Hand* is such a book. But reading it will give you only an inkling of the breadth and the tragedy of this “social experiment”. I urge you to do some further reading on how politics can influence the way laws are worded and written, and by whom.

Words...or lack of them...matter.

It’s impossible not to see the relevance here in 2022...

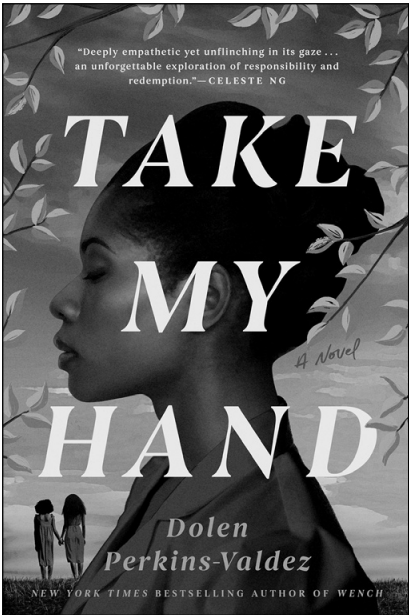
At a time when women have been shaken from their 50-year belief that they had attained, if not 100% parity with men, at least autonomy in choosing what they could do with their lives, their careers...and their bodies.

If you’ve been paying attention, you’ve heard the reemergence of the old dog-whistle that America is a republic, not a democracy. We know better...we know that our system of government OF the people and BY the people makes us both. And as Mr. Franklin warned: If we can keep it. WE MUST KEEP IT.

At a time when women’s rights and the rights of all shades and genders are again in the crosshairs, and as we fight to keep what was so hard-won, we need to pay closer attention to how and by whom those rights are guarded, preserved...and improved.

We are in the fight of and for our lives! Choose your weapon: mail-in or in-person ballot.

Ready....aim...VOTE!



*Take My Hand*  
by Dolen Perkins-Valdez  
Penguin  
April 12, 2022  
368 pages

Elected Officials Contact List

UNITED STATES

Senator Robert Casey: 202-224-4254  
Senator Patrick Toomey: 202-224-6324  
Representative Mary Gay Scanlon: 202-225-2011

PENNSYLVANIA

Governor Tom Wolf: 717-787-2500  
Senator Anthony Williams: 610-622-1390  
Representative Gina Curry: 610-259-7016

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Understanding Lansdowne’s Earned Income Tax (EIT)

By Suzanne McElroy

Borough Council approved a move to enact a 0.5 percent tax known as an Earned Income Tax (EIT) on the income of its residents and workers beginning in 2020 in an effort to diversify sources of income to fund local government. With this action the tax base was spread to include renters and those who work here, in addition to homeowners. Proponents of the EIT believe that the tax is beneficial in controlling the rates for real estate taxes and fairer to senior citizens who are retired.

Keystone Collections Group manages the administration of this tax. Lansdowne Borough was mandated to contract with Keystone because this is the provider designated by Delaware County. Please note that all property taxes are still managed and collected by the Borough’s tax collector.

Effective January 1, 2020, the EIT rate is .5% for residents of Lansdowne Borough and .5% for those who live outside the borough and work in Lansdowne. For those who live in Lansdowne and work in another municipality that already collects EIT on their earnings, they will not pay more. However, now Lansdowne may get a share of those taxes.

Lansdowne residents who work in Philadelphia and pay the Philadelphia wage tax (a different EIT) will not pay more. Currently, the Philadelphia wage tax is 3.4481% for non-resident workers (including Lansdowne residents). Unfortunately, Lansdowne does not

get any share of this revenue by special law relevant to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh only.

Some of us still need clarification on what income is counted toward EIT. All earned income and net profits, which includes wages, salaries, commissions and other compensation is included. This applies to both employees and self-employed individuals. There are some incomes that are exempt from EIT, including: unemployment compensation, social security benefits, military pay, interest, and dividends.

If your employer withheld local EIT from your payroll, you will still have to file a return. Everyone who is subject to the tax (employee or independent contractor) must file an annual return. Self-employed individuals will need to submit their tax

payment as well, whether on a quarterly basis or annually, as required.

In order to file your annual return, you will need a social security number, income and wages information that you are using to file your state taxes. Most taxpayers use their employer-provided W-2 form. You may also use, if applicable, Form 1099; Schedule(s) UE, C, F and/or RK-1. Tax returns and any balance of tax due for the prior year must be paid by April 15th. Late filings will be subject to penalty, interest, and costs. Keystone Collections should mail to a return form in January 2023, but even if they don’t you will need to contact them or download a form.

Keystone’s contact information is provided here They can be reached online at www.KeystoneCollects.com or by calling (724) 978-0300. Their address is 546 Wendell Rd, Irwin, PA 15642.

**All earned income and net profits, which includes wages, salaries, commissions and other compensation is included when calculating your Earned Income Tax**

UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCIL

Fulfilling a Commitment to Serve All of Delaware County

Since the Democrats swept Delaware County Council, they have been getting things done. Dr. Monica Taylor, President of Council, stopped by Lansdowne recently to provide us with some updates. County Council members are on a quest to visit each of the 49 municipalities with their good news. Their primary emphasis has been on four areas;; Criminal Justice Reform; Government Reform; and Open Space and Economic Development.

Public Health

After decades of Republican rule and stagnation, finally Delaware County (Delco) is moving forward. An immediate symbol of this progress is the creation of a Health Department in April. Many of us weren’t even aware that Delco didn’t have one for the hundred years of prior Republican administrations or how unusual it was for such a large county to be so backward. The pandemic brought out many shortcomings of the prior administration, and the Democrats are proving up to the task of taking us into the Twenty First Century! The County’s vision of public health is called Health 3.0, a decentralized approach where services are brought to those who need support or are located in scattered convenient locations. Health Department locations proposed include Yeadon and Chester (both recently opened) as well as in Media (coming soon).

Criminal Justice Reform

The Council has been working closely with the District Attorney on a one year pilot program in Chester to reduce gun violence, and it has produced significant results. More state funding is being sought to extend this program countywide. The County prison has been de-privatized as of April 2022, reducing the possibility of corruption and increasing the resources and support that can be provided to prisoners. A deputy warden position has been created and federal funds sought to create workforce development and job placement for offenders to more readily return to society as contributing members. The juvenile justice

system has been temporarily shut down in light of unfortunate circumstances at the juvenile center. The Democratic Council will investigate and address these issues, seeking improved oversight and outcomes.

Government Reform

Government Reform is a bit like self-reflection, which is necessary for all of us and our institutions. Council is seeking to improve all of their processes, like recruitment, hiring, procurement, and delivery of services. A new position, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, will seek to make the county staff more closely resemble the make-up of the county. Prior to the Democratic administration, there were no job advertisements for county jobs, only word of mouth to friends, potential donors to the Republican party or other loyalists. It was “who you knew” that got you in. This Council will hold job fairs, reach out to high schools, and advertise widely to enlist the best and brightest, reflective of how Delco looks at the same time. For procurement services, the county will provide assistance to vendors to clear up the mystery of applying for County contracts.

Open Space and Economic Development

Council has recently acquired the Don Guanella tract in Broomall, a total of 213 acres, which is slated to become the largest park in the county. They are going through the planning process now and seeking public input on what the public would like to see in that park space. So many possibilities! Their goal is a completed plan by Spring 2023. A Strategic Plan has recently been completed for the county with an emphasis on affordable housing and small business assistance. The small business loan process will undergo revisions to streamline it similar to Chester County’s program. Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 will be used to address the need to transition the unhoused into affordable apartments, as well as assistance

in remediating blight conditions and returning properties to functional states. ARPA funds are made possible only through President Biden’s initiatives and support of the Democrats in Congress.

County Council Passes Resolution to Strengthen Immigrant Communities

County Council passed a resolution establishing a new commission in an effort to address the needs of immigrants in the county. By unanimous vote, the Commission for Immigration Affairs was approved on September 21, 2022 and will report directly to Council and pertinent County Departments. This commission will strengthen the voices of immigrant communities; advise County Council on policies and programs to improve the lives of immigrants; and raise awareness about history, geography, and culture of the various immigrant communities represented here. The County’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Lauren Footman, will serve on the commission along with 10 county residents appointed by County Council. Commission members will elect their own chair, and hold public meetings at least quarterly. County residents interested in applying to serve on the Commission can learn more at: [delcopa.gov/clerk/boardscommissions/pdf/ImmigrantAffairs.pdf](https://delcopa.gov/clerk/boardscommissions/pdf/ImmigrantAffairs.pdf)

JOHN FETTERMAN  
continued from page 1

scamming the system, and finally pay their fair share like the rest of us. We can and must build an economy that works for all of us.

Ban Congress from Trading Stocks

This is just common sense. Lawmakers should not be profiting off special access to closed-door information about the companies they’re supposed to be regulating. Allowing members of Congress and their immediate families to trade stocks is a clear conflict of interest — and the Senate needs to be getting shit done for the people, not for their own portfolios. I’ll push to ban Members of Congress and their families from holding or trading stocks. Congress already has enough perks — insider trading shouldn’t be one of them.

Slash “Out of Pocket” Health Care Costs

We’ve got to end the stranglehold of health care costs on American families by instituting a cap on out-of-pocket costs. I’ll make sure no American has to pay more than a thousand dollars a year out of pocket for necessary medical expenses. We don’t need any more simps for big pharma in the Senate — there are already plenty. I’ll fight to hold drug companies accountable for forcing families to ration insulin as they rake in record profits and rip Pennsylvanians off. If we’re going to bring down the prices of prescription drugs, we need to go after the pharmaceutical companies that jack up the prices. We should also pass legislation to allow for the importation of lower-priced prescription drugs from other countries and put a cap on prescription drug costs.

End Immoral Price Gouging

It’s time we crack down on the big corporations who are making record profits while jacking up prices for all of

us. We need to prosecute the executives of huge corporations, including the big oil companies and meatpacking companies who are artificially driving up prices, gouging consumers at the pump and at the grocery store. Big oil companies like Chevron, Exxon, and Shell have seen their profits increase 200% since last year, but they’re still charging us sky-high prices for gas. Companies like Tyson posted over a billion dollars in profits last quarter,

HORTON BROTHERS  
continued from page 1

compassion, generosity to those in need, and food to share with friends who stopped by. Everyone in the neighborhood called their grandmother ‘Mom Mini.’ Their father understood the value of honesty and hard work, and taught them discipline, integrity, and dignity. In 1993 as young men with stable jobs and loving relationships of their own, life was going well, until one evening, when they were in the wrong place at the wrong time. They allowed a friend to ride in their car. Unbeknownst to them, he had a gun that he’d just used to kill a man. The brothers were arrested and charged. Prosecutors offered the brothers four to ten years to testify against their friend. Because they hadn’t seen the crime and knew they had no role in it, they refused. By exercising their right to trial and believing that the truth would prevail, the Horton brothers were penalized: convicted and sentenced to mandatory life without parole. Meanwhile, their friend was charged with third-degree murder and was paroled in 2008. Prison was hard for them, but their family supported them and fought for their freedom. Their grandmother assured them that things would get better. They felt that she didn’t know what she was talking about and told her that prison was a cold and dark place. She responded, ‘If it’s dark in there, then light up the darkness with hope, and if it is cold, heat it up with love. Help somebody.’ Taken to heart, that advice guided them to help other prisoners even as they also tried to help themselves. They refused to take plea

while raising prices on meat products our families depend on. It’s gross, and deeply unpatriotic, for the big corporations to be rolling around in cash while charging us record high prices for gas and groceries. Instead of raising costs at the pump or in the grocery store, these companies should be working to help drive prices down, even if it means their CEOs make a little bit less. It’s time to take on the big corporations and special interests, and bring down prices for the American people.

bargains, as they maintained their innocence, but continued the frustrating fight for their freedom. As Pennsylvania’s Lt. Governor, John Fetterman also chairs the PA Board of Pardons. John took a personal interest in righting the wrong that took freedom from these innocent men. He was so impressed with the exemplary behavior they showed in reforming, teaching, and helping other prisoners, that he vowed to them to work for their freedom even if it cost him every future election because it was the right thing to do. Lee and Dennis Horton were ultimately released in 2021 after the PA Board of Pardons voted unanimously to commute their sentences. Although their mother worked tirelessly toward their freedom, she died one year before they could be ‘the men they were taught to be’ outside of prison walls. Lee and Freedom Horton convey the measure of the man, John Fetterman, in their story, as they speak to groups like ours in their new roles as campaign field organizers. “All men are created equal in the eyes of the law. But that’s not true because the eyes of the law are human and until we can see each other as equals, justice isn’t going to be even handed. It will be a reflection of our own prejudices. So, until that day, we have a duty under God to seek the truth.” - Spoken by attorney Jake Brigrance in A Time to Kill by John Grisham John Fetterman sought the truth, and acted on it to pursue justice. His opponent’s criticisms of him “being soft on crime” or “hiring convicts” are irrelevant and meaningless political slogans. I’m voting for John Fetterman as our next Senator because he is willing to fight for us. I urge you to do the same!

ABOUT TOWN



Democrats united. From left to right: Delco Dems Chair Colleen Guiney, Terry Baraldi, and William Griffin.

Below: Lansdowne Democrats walk, ride, or march in every July 4th parade, or so it seems. In 2022 they distributed seed packets along the parade route in keeping with Lansdowne’s theme of Growing Lansdowne.



Above: The enthusiastic Lansdowne Democratic Committee and donors welcomed their voices in government at their fundraiser event on September 10. In attendance PA Rep Gina Curry, PA Sen Tim Kearney, US Rep Mary Gay Scanlon and the Horton brothers representing John Fetterman.



Right: Ribbon cutting ceremony for Grand Opening of Camellia Coffee House on 9/17. From l to r, Mayor Magda Byrne, Conshohocken Brewing Co co-owner Andy Rosen, Camellia owner Matt Saperstone, Council Vice President Sinoe Naji-Taylor, and Council President Ben Hover.



Sheryl Taylor Bailey and William Griffith enjoying themselves at the Dem Fundraiser September 10th.



Left: Camellia owner Matt Saperstone in his happy place.

Right: Stylin’ at the Lansdowne Democratic fundraiser on September 10 are (left-to-right) Bernadette Domenick, Madalyn Holiday, Tanya Hoard, and Lansdowne Dems Vice Chair of Fundraising Jessica Pointer.



INTRODUCING LANSDOWNE’S 2.7-MILE BIKE LOOP

Pedal Your Way to Become a Super Looper

By Jenny Beer

Lansdownians cut the red ribbon and inaugurated the Borough’s brand new 2.7 mile bike loop on Saturday, September 17th. The project has taken 14 years of planning at the borough and county level.

About 20 people rode the loop, including one determined young girl named Cameron who pedaled valiantly on her tiny kid’s bike. (She made it!) Lead by our bike-enthusiast police officer, Lucas Murray, we made our way west on Greenwood, sailed down Eldon to cross Baltimore Ave at the Darby Creek, wended our way around and up (and up!) Scottdale Road, crossed the railroad bridge on Lansdowne, rode behind Borough Hall, and up to the parking lot next to the fire station, where we started.

Ice cream, Kia’s cupcakes, Conshohocken brew T-shirts, bike gear, and circus jugglers greeted the returning riders. Three new bikes donated by the WSFS bank went to lucky raffle winners – one adult and two child-sized bikes!

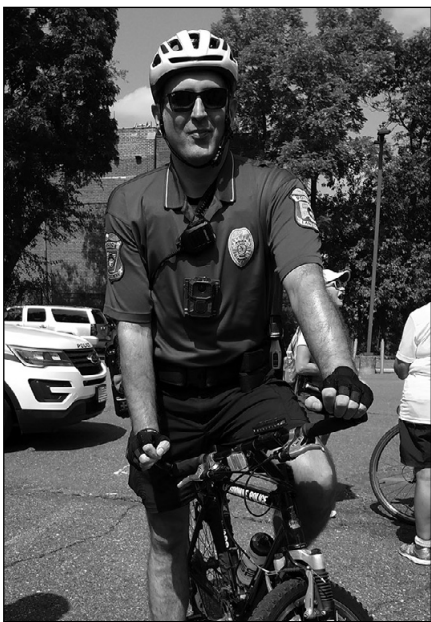
Every rider I interviewed afterward mentioned the same highlight: noticing the beauty of Darby Creek for the first time. You can now ride leisurely alongside it without fearing for your life. Riders were excited to learn that our bike loop will soon link to Philadelphia bike lanes and to the Darby Creek Trail, which in a few years will run from Little Flower Manor in Darby all the way up the

Haverford Reserve. For those of you who are walkers, there’s room for bikes to pass pedestrians safely on the Scottdale section – try it out!

If you frequent Facebook, you know that some residents are irritated with the new bike infrastructure. They would like to park in front of their houses, to drive both directions on Scottdale. Many commenters consider local cyclists both rare and an added danger on our already congested roadways.

I won’t argue. I’ll just say that reworking our car-based habits and reconfiguring our suburban roadways in order to encourage earth- and people-friendly transportation via walking and cycling is an impossible problem to solve without disruption and compromise. As climate destruction intensifies, all us car people (yes, I’m one too) need to reconsider how often we use our cars, also how fast and convenient we need those trips to be. Having biked safely through many European cities with narrow streets, and having spent a few years riding the ubiquitous and punctual Japanese public transit system, I know it’s possible.

If you mostly bike to go somewhere and return, rather than for recreation or exercise, note that the separate bike travel lanes throughout Lansdowne are interspersed with “sharrows”, or portions where bikes and cars share the same lane. Those road markings are there to remind drivers to share the road, and to alert



Bike Safety Officer Lucas Miller.

those on bike that their fellow travelers are in the same lane. In a more personal, practical vein, the bike travel lanes on both edges of Lansdowne Ave are a welcome new feature! Be forewarned that they suddenly disappear when you most want them - at the narrower railroad bridge and at busy intersections with turn lanes.

There’s safety and joy in numbers. I invite more of you to join me by occasionally leaving your metal bubbles in your driveway and hopping on a bike to run an errand or just to glory in a little trip around the Borough.

Safety Tips for Drivers and Cyclists

Cyclists are the frailer species, which means they have to be more cautious and alert. On the other hand, a car can kill a cyclist, especially if you drive an SUV or truck, so all drivers need to be extra careful and alert.

CYCLISTS HAVE RIGHTS

On town streets, bicycles have the same rights as cars! They are allowed to be in the middle of the road, even if you have to slow down. If they are at a stop sign first, they go through the intersection first. If they have a dedicated bike lane, you can’t drive or park there.

CYCLISTS FOLLOW CAR RULES

Travel with traffic, not against it. Stop at lights and yield at stop signs. Obey one-way streets. Signal your turns. Don’t ride on sidewalks. I confess to choosing my safety or my momentum over those rules from time to time, but in general following them is important, because predictable behavior helps cars, bikes, and pedestrians avoid collisions.

LOOK TWICE!

Especially at intersections. The side pillars that holding a car’s front and back windshields are wide enough to hide a cyclist coming on a cross street or riding up into the car’s blind spot on the curb side. Glance just once and you can easily miss them. These built-in blind spots are deadly dangerous for cyclists. Drivers and cyclists should both check a second time before moving through an intersection and when vehicles are turning across a bike lane.

PASSING

Pass other cars on town streets legally and cautiously. They may be driving slower because they’re passing a cyclist, or a cyclist is riding in front of them. Did you know that a car-width clearance is required when passing a bike on a shared lane? It’s the law! (Just think what might happen if they hit a pebble the wrong way or the air pressure from your speeding car made their bike wobble into a curb.)

“DOORING”

Cyclists should approach every parked car as if someone might open a door suddenly. Riders--when opening a car door on the street side: unlatch it just a crack, then look back and check for riders before slowly pushing it open.

WATCH PEOPLE

Keep your eye on the people, not just the vehicles. Is that driver or pedestrian or cyclist really seeing you?

WATCH THE ROAD

Take in the whole environment – the pot holes, the sewer grates, the loose gravel, the wet leaves or ice.

BIKE EQUIPMENT

Wear a reflective vest, use bright, preferably flashing lights, religiously maintain your brakes and tire pressure.

Be careful out there everybody! Even with our new protective bike lanes. We want each and every one of you to get home happy and safe.

– Jenny Beer

What the New Bike Symbols Mean



Designated Bike lane. Hash lines show where cars may enter if they plan to turn right.

Bike path is bright kelly green for visibility. The hashed pattern on this and the parallel pedestrian crosswalk indicate that vehicles drive across it and everyone needs to stay alert.



The "Sharrows" = shared road. The arrow shows direction of travel. The placement shows bikes how much clearance they need when passing parked or turning cars.



Two-line striped buffer strip keeps cars farther from the bike lane on busy Lansdowne Ave.

Parking Lane

SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Property Enhancements in William Penn School District

By Jennifer Hoff

Fueled by Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds from the PA Department of Education, the William Penn School District has taken on a full review of all facilities in regards to indoor air quality, ADA compliance and future needs of the student population.

The \$8 million in ESSER funding will only allow us to address indoor air quality in three of our 11 school buildings. For the remainder of the buildings, the district will have to rely on possible funding via the Commonwealth’s Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP), possible grants and taxpayer dollars.

The school district has developed a 10-Year Facilities Improvement Plan, to address current and future

overcrowding concerns as well as other building-related issues. The plan may be reviewed along with other facility improvement resources on the district website at [williampennsd.org/departments/facilities-properties](http://williampennsd.org/departments/facilities-properties).

The plans for our facilities dovetail with the Superintendent’s 2021-2025 Focus Forward Strategic Plan. This plan, developed last year, is also available on the district site at [williampennsd.org/strategicplan2025](http://williampennsd.org/strategicplan2025).

Due to two decades of underfunding, the school district has been unable to make any significant investment in our facilities for many years. It is critical that the time to make this investment is now. Without the proper infrastructure in place, it is extremely difficult to maintain the level of education and support our students need. Fortunately, we have been able to provide all students with Chromebooks – an absolute necessity if we are to provide them the online

resources and textbooks most curriculum publishers have implemented.

In addition to the infrastructure improvements in our elementary schools, a complete rehab of Kerr Field is also on the horizon. This very exciting development will finally provide our students adequate facilities for our athletic programs as well as the marching band. Despite having a number of track-and-field Olympians in recent years, William Penn School District has never had a regulation track or sports facility and has not hosted a home track meet. Many of our student athletes have had to train on the second floor of our high school in classroom hallways.

The Facilities Improvement Plan assures that all schools within the William Penn School District will receive upgrades, with the most needed schools going earlier in the first phase of a multi-year 8-10 year process.

Affordable Connectivity Program Offers Eligible Households Financial Help for Broadband

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps households connect to broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price. The ACP is limited to one monthly discount and one device discount per household.

To be eligible,

- household income must be below 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines\*, or
- household participates in one of these programs: Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or Breakfast Programs; SNAP; Medicaid; Federal Public Housing Assistance; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); WIC; Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits; or Lifeline, or
- household received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year, or
- household is eligible for existing low-income internet program.

\*In 2022 that means household of 1, income below \$27,180; household of 2, below \$36,620; household of 3, below \$46,060; household of 4, below \$55,500, etc.

For assistance, call the ACP Support Center at 877-384-2575. To enroll, go to [AffordableConnectivity.gov](http://AffordableConnectivity.gov) to submit an application or print out a mail-in application. Then contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill. Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan. Participating providers in our area include: Astound (RCN); Comcast (Xfinity); and Verizon.

### Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service.


See if You Qualify and Apply

Visit: [AffordableConnectivity.gov](http://AffordableConnectivity.gov)

Call: 877-384-2575



Learn more at: [fcc.gov/ACP](http://fcc.gov/ACP)



## Falling in Love with a Fork

By Christine DuBois-Buxbaum

There are billions of people in the world, but we only fall in love with the ones who feel special to us. Same with forks! In America people use more than 100 million plastic utensils every day. An ordinary plastic fork is just that—ordinary, not special. Also, like all plastics, such a fork is a source of pollution that exposes birds and other wildlife to toxins—and because of its size, shape, and materials, it’s super hard to recycle.

Fortunately, there are better, standout disposable forks available. I fell in love with one at the 50th anniversary party of the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge (an inspiring

place to go birding). The fork charmed me not only because it had yummy chocolate cake on it, but also because it was made of bamboo that breaks down naturally when disposed of. This fork is good for the planet, it’s my new sweetheart, and with cake on it, it was extra sweet! I’m going to wash it and let it remind me that there are much better options than plastic for on-the-go utensils. Since I’d like to see more of these darlings at events, I’m going to encourage organizations, entertainment venues, and restaurants that I patronize to shift to using them. (Just please don’t tell my husband that I have a fork sweetheart on the side! He knows I’m in love with birds, but now forks, too?)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### BOOK LOVER

Lansdowne Library is looking for a few volunteers. Volunteer jobs according to your interest could include: assist at book sales or in the library, represent the library at events, beautify the grounds, or share your expertise. First step, contact: [lpvolunteer55@gmail.com](mailto:lpvolunteer55@gmail.com) or call 610-623-0239 or click on Volunteer button on the Library’s website: [www.lansdownelibrary.org](http://www.lansdownelibrary.org)

### DEMOCRACY LOVERS

Opportunity for you to help the Lansdowne Democrats celebrate 30 years of publishing the Lansdowne Leader, educating voters to foster informed voters and better neighbors. Donate \$30 now at [www.lansdownedemocrats.org](http://www.lansdownedemocrats.org) and click the ActBlue button on the top of the landing page. Or you could mail a check to PO Box 1136, Lansdowne, PA 19050.

### GARDEN LOVER

Want to get your hands dirty? Lansdowne Presbyterian Church is planning some community gardens. Volunteers are needed for anything from planning to planting. No experience necessary, but enthusiasm welcome. To get involved contact Pastor Jonathan Britt at [pastor@lansdownepresbyterianchurch.com](mailto:pastor@lansdownepresbyterianchurch.com) today or visit link [bit.ly/FPCLCommGarden](http://bit.ly/FPCLCommGarden)

### TREE LOVER

Lansdowne’s Shade Tree Commission has room for volunteers. No experience necessary for this volunteer position, but it’s a plus if you have ever dug a hole, hugged a tree, or talked endlessly to your friends about your wonderful trees. Contact Joe Parsio at [josephparsio@gmail.com](mailto:josephparsio@gmail.com) to get the ball rolling.

### WORD LOVER

Have you ever considered writing an article for the Leader? New writers are most welcome and we even provide the topics and help to get started. If you see writing a novel in your future, you can get started writing here. Contact Suzanne at [lansdownedems@gmail.com](mailto:lansdownedems@gmail.com)

### General Election

# TUESDAY

# NOV. 8

POLLS OPEN 7 AM - 8 PM





# Watch Their Garden Grow

## LANSDOWNE PRESBYTERIAN SOWS SEEDS OF INSPIRATION FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN

By April Hall

Many of us are collecting our final harvests and cleaning out our gardens. Some of the most successful gardeners even use this time to plan out next year’s plots. That’s exactly what a team at Lansdowne Presbyterian Church is doing.

The church had a tomato garden in the past, but it lost steam a

few years ago. During this year’s Earth Day service, the church’s newish pastor, Jonathan Britt, asked the congregation for ideas what to do with the church’s expansive front lawn. Could it be a field of wildflowers? Could it be a garden?

“Apparently the idea planted some seed in people’s minds — pun absolutely intended!,” Britt says. Planning is just a few months in at this point, but the enthusiasm has planted some solid roots.

“This summer, a community member mentioned on a public group forum that they had some fruit trees and native plants to give to a local community effort, and we got in touch with them,” Britt says. “This is what jump started our planning. A group from the church met and began to forge a path to see this happen.”

Along with some donated plants and fruit trees from local groups, the church is also seeking out grants to fund the project and is building a team of community volunteers to help the garden thrive and they’ve reached out to the Lansdowne Environmental Advisory Council as a prospective partner.

**“We want this to be a place where anyone who has an interest or desire to garden, but doesn’t have a space to do so, will have a place.”**

The garden will serve many, possibly with classes and seminars around such topics as sustainable living practices, or rented beds for local gardeners, but a main beneficiary will be the Interfaith Food Cupboard (IFC) housed at the church.

“We’re hoping some of the harvest will go to the Interfaith Food Cupboard,” he says. “At the beginning of the pandemic, the food cupboard was able to expand its

offerings to the community in terms of fresh food. However, now that the pandemic is evolving into whatever its next stage is, we’re seeing those fresh food options becoming more and more sporadic. So, we’re hoping that this can supplement those offerings, as well.” The

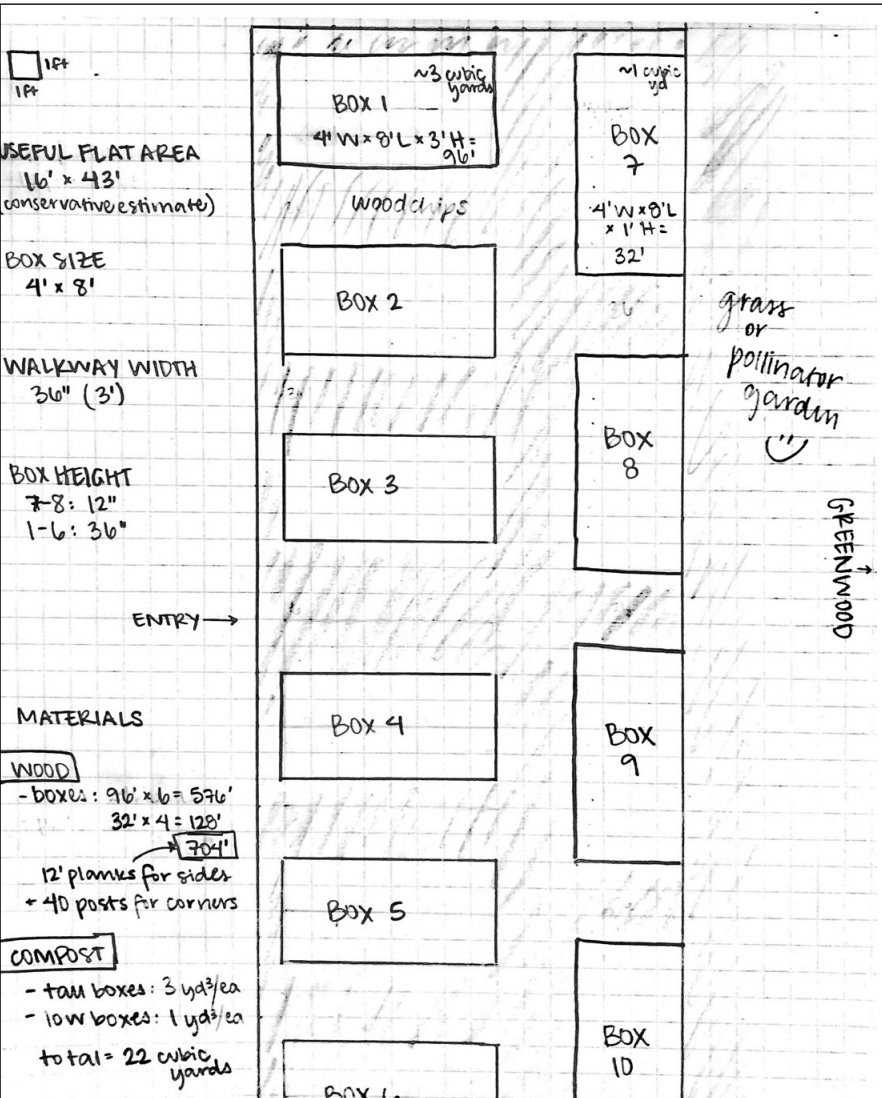
IFC has done some surveying in the past about what type of fresh produce clients would like, Britt says. “Luckily, plenty of those requests can be grown around here: cucumber, peppers, tomatoes, etc.”

Work is planned to start this fall to rev up the first growing season in Spring of 2023.

“The goal is to really have this be a true *community* garden — emphasis on community,” he says. “We want this to be a place where anyone who has an interest or desire to garden, but doesn’t have a space to do so, will have a place.”

“Yes, it will be on the church’s property, but we are really hoping the community will have a large input in organizing and running it, as well.”

If you want to get involved, fill out the interest form the church has on their website or at [bit.ly/FPCLCommGarden](http://bit.ly/FPCLCommGarden).



## LANSDOWNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# A Classical Music Treasure So Close to Home

By Suzanne McElroy

The Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra (LSO) is older than I am! And far more talented and renowned, as well. Founded in 1946 to provide music for the First Presbyterian Church of Lansdowne, within five years it transformed into Lansdowne’s community orchestra. Maestro Reuben Blundell joined the LSO in 2014 as our most recent Music Director and has produced the Orchestra’s first commercial recordings. The most recent in the American Discoveries series has just won the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music.

Widely regarded as the top local community orchestra, the LSO now offers a season of five concerts per year performed at the Upper Darby Performing Arts Center and has performed in our own 20th Century Club. With over 75 talented musicians, this orchestra assembles people from all walks of life who share a passion for music. Lansdowne’s own Laurie Wolfe, who plays cello with the orchestra, shares, “I feel very lucky to live in an area with such an excellent community orchestra, and I have



**Music Director Reuben Blundell joined the Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra in 2014.**

enjoyed the orchestra’s accomplishments under Reuben Blundell, continuing remotely even under the 2020 covid restrictions!”

Henri Elkan, the first and longest serving conductor, initiated collaborations between the orchestra and dance and

choral ensembles in the area. He also incorporated children’s concerts in the annual series of concerts.

Under the direction of the second maestro, Jacques Voois, LSO became the first symphony orchestra ever to perform within the United Nations. A midnight concert was broadcast round the world in celebration of Earth Day with a performance of the third movement of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No.2 with a young Russian soloist.

Irving Ludwig, a retired Philadelphia Orchestra violinist, conducted from 1991-2012, and broadened the geographic renown of the LSO. He collaborated and created relationships with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, University of Pennsylvania Choir, and the award-winning Upper Darby High School Choir. Under Ludwig, the LSO began its Young Artist Competition, selecting top talented youths to perform concertos with the orchestra each season.

Following the death of Irving Ludwig in 2012, the symphony began an extensive conductor search. Five conductors were chosen to do one or two programs each

with the orchestra in the next two seasons. The orchestra chose Reuben Blundell to become new conductor in 2014. During the past eight years, he, the players, and the board have built on the orchestra’s great talent and created one of Pennsylvania’s artistic treasures.

With a mission of providing area musicians the opportunity to rehearse and perform together, they achieve the highest level of musicality from their membership, which include amateurs, students, and semi-professionals. The LSO is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and donations are tax-deductible by law. Lansdowne resident and previous board chair Elliot Borgman appreciates all the support received in saying, “The generosity of our contributors, many of whom are local, is vital to the success of the Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra.” You are invited to visit the website for more information about tickets, the concert schedule, purchase of their premiere recording series ‘American Romantics’ and so much more.

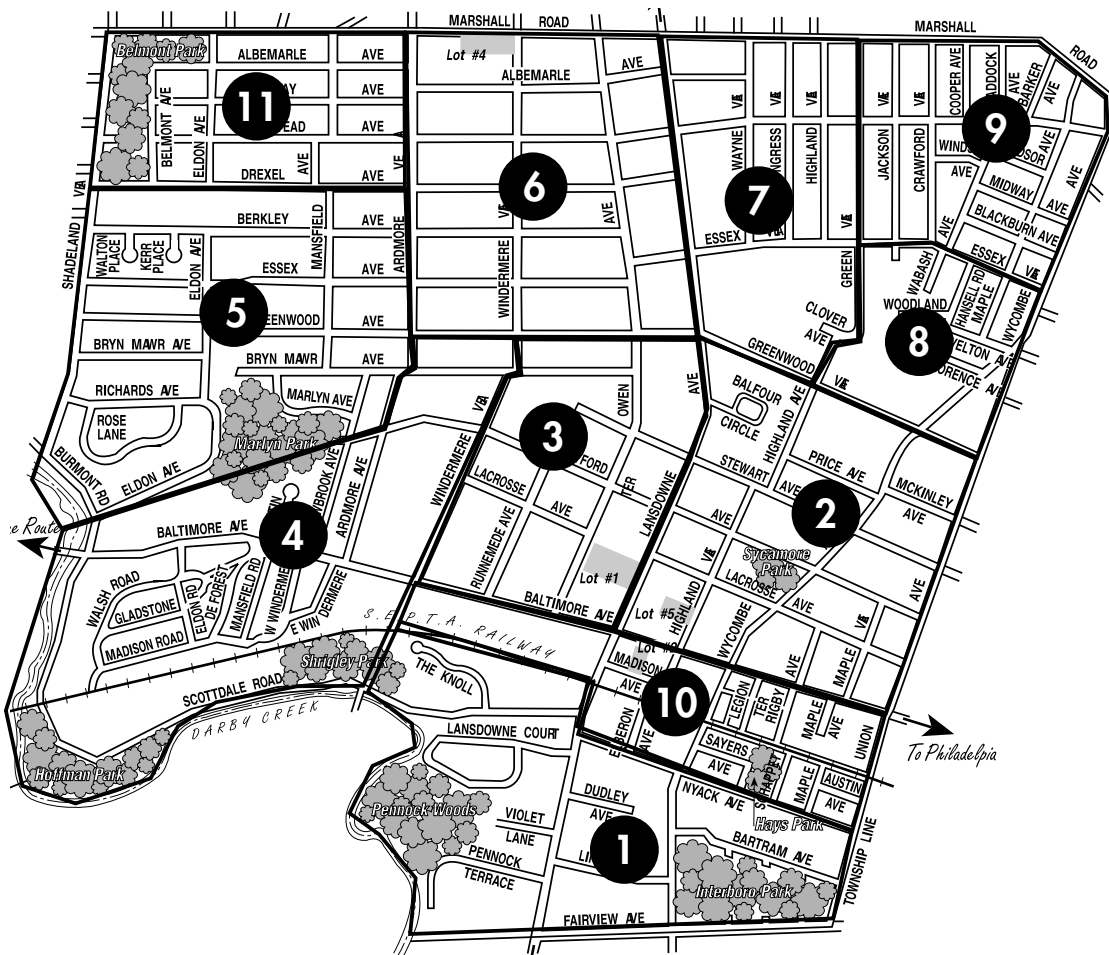
Please visit [lansdowneso.org](http://lansdowneso.org) to learn more.

# POLLING LOCATIONS & PRECINCTS

- 1st Precinct: Twentieth Century Club
- 2nd Precinct: Penn Wood High School
- 3rd Precinct: Penn Wood High School
- 4th Precinct: Penn Wood High School
- 5th Precinct: Ardmore Avenue Elementary School
- 6th Precinct: Ardmore Avenue Elementary School
- 7th Precinct: Penn Wood High School
- 8th Precinct: Penn Wood High School
- 9th Precinct: Pepper’s Pharmacy
- 10th Precinct: Twentieth Century Club
- 11th Precinct: Ardmore Avenue Elementary School

DROP BOX FOR  
MAIL-IN BALLOTS:

Lansdowne Fire Station  
26 N. Highland Avenue



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<div>October 21</div> <div><b>The Paul Nelson Band</b></div> <div>8PM - 10 PM</div> <div>Jamey's House of Music</div> <div>32 S. Lansdowne Ave</div>
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