

the Lansdowne Leader

Winter 2023

"Accountable Leadership, Accessible Government"

Vol. XXXI, No. 1

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

Take Our Survey: Your Concerns About Lansdowne

--The Lansdowne Democratic Committee has been sharing an abundance of information with you through the Leader over the past 30 years.

It's about time that we heard from you. We are seeking input from residents to determine the issues most important to you concerning Lansdowne Borough. We want to find the most effective ways we can communicate with you. After all, communication is a two-way street, an exchange of information or news according to the dictionary.

So, we've developed a survey and hope that you will take the time to complete it and get back

to us. There are numerous ways for you to complete the survey; for those who use the internet, there is a QR code on this page for easy access online. And since we realize that not everyone is comfortable using technology, we are also providing a printed copy of the survey on the final page of this edition. It can be filled out by hand and placed in regular mail to The Lansdowne Leader, PO Box 1136,

Lansdowne, PA 19050.

As an added incentive, we will enter all readers who respond into a drawing to win a pocket-sized copy of the U.S.

Constitution (25 available to give away). The drawing will be held on March 9th. If you would like to enter the drawing, please provide your contact information.

In recent years the Lansdowne Leader has been published only twice a year, our pre-election issues. We have concentrated on political candidates, elections, issues, government structure and process, while also including as much information about

community groups and events as space permitted. With the introduction of this supplemental Winter issue, we are taking a different approach, focusing on communication: listening to you and sharing ways that you can volunteer to get more involved in our town in the areas that interest you specifically. We hope that the article about positions open on Borough Council's Boards and

Commissions as well as the article on how to run for office locally will pique your interest.

This issue also focuses on an overview of the entire Third Branch of Government -- the Judiciary. Hopefully, learning about all of the various courts and which judges

are elected and which appointed will help you to understand why it is important to vote in every single election. To that end, we include several articles about voting: how to prepare to vote; how to make sure that your mail-in vote counts. We hope you enjoy this Winter issue!



SCAN CODE
to take our survey online,
or see page 8 for a
print-and-mail option.

DALE HARRIS HONORED

2022 Volunteer of the Year



Dale Harris (left) is awarded the 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award by Dr. Monica Taylor, Chair of the Delaware County Council at the holiday dinner of the Delaware County Democrats, where each local democratic committee was given the opportunity to recognize their own super volunteer. Dale has written articles for the *Lansdowne Leader*, participated in voter registration and awareness programs around town, is a member of the Environmental Advisory Council, and has participated in increasing awareness of recycling, sustainability practices, and zero waste programs. Previous Volunteers of the Year from Lansdowne include Terry Baraldi, Jen Hoff, Craig Horle, Bill Horton, Suzanne McElroy and Jan Tong.

For more about volunteering in Lansdowne, see page 6

SPECIAL SECTION: THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Our Third Branch of Government

see pages 4-5 inside this issue

ACCOUNTABILITY, GOOD GOVERNANCE, AND SERVICE TO ALL RESIDENTS

County Council Makes an Impact Under Democratic Leadership

by Catherine Coll

If you're a Democrat in Delaware County, you probably have some great memories of the his-

toric win in 2019, when Christine Reuther, Monica Taylor and Elaine Schaefer gave Democrats a majority on Delaware County Council for the first time. It might even be up there with

President Biden's win, knowing the significance and impact that this has on our quality of life in Delco. For the first time we had hope for a public health infrastructure, hope that our tax dollars wouldn't just be going straight in the pockets of corrupt GOP cronies, and hope that we would have folks in office who actually listened to all of us and were responsive to our concerns.

Our new county council took office in January of 2020. They started off with only plans and teams in place to build out an effective public health infrastructure

for our county, that would be able to provide services and information to residents, as well as capture state and federal tax dollars that Delco GOP was leaving on the table. Then COVID-19 hit and we saw

our new elected officials in action even sooner than we expected. They quickly brokered a deal with Chester County that allowed us to set up mobile clinics with the help of the National Guard, create and maintain good data

about disease spread, and distribute needed vaccines, prioritizing the elderly and immune-compromised.

Our County Council has succeeded not just in managing the immediate crisis that hit in early 2020, but in managing many more emergent situations while keeping plans on track to address long-standing issues. With regard to long-standing issues, the Council has been devoted to staffing the county government with qualified personnel, and implementing fair, best practices procedures for hiring decisions. They have also been

responsible for modernizing our 911 services.

One of the largest challenges faced by County Council was the implementation of PA's Act 77, passed by our Republican-majority state legislature in 2019, which mandated new voting machines with paper ballots, and the introduction of voting by mail. Voters embraced the paper ballot systems and the accessibility of mail-in voting, but in the wake of Trump's election loss, our county was flooded with lawsuits alleging voter fraud, which ultimately all failed due to lack of evidence.

County Council is also involved in several current battles for accountability, good governance and continuing services to residents of Delco. In 2019, prior to Republican loss of council majority, Republicans closed a fiscally disadvantageous deal to sell DELCORA water services to Aqua, Inc. This deal was recommended to be tossed out by a panel of administrative law judges in March of 2022, because no public benefit could be shown for this privatization of our water services, but the fight continues.

Council has also been fighting the clos-

ing of Delaware County Memorial Hospital as well as deals bringing about the decline of services in hospitals and emergency rooms throughout Delco.

In 2021 County Council began the process of acquiring the 213-acre Don Guanella property with intentions of creating a new, and soon to be largest, county park in the densely populated eastern part of the county. Council Chairman Brian Zidek said, "Even prior to the COVID pandemic, we knew that open space -- including parks, trails and bike paths -- bring real economic and environmental benefit to our community." Once purchased, a master planning process was approved to decide how the park will look. The theme of the process is public participation and community input, including: at least two public meetings, six focus groups, interviews with community leaders, and a series of surveys.

The Democratic County Council has demonstrated the values of good governance, accountability and service to all residents of Delco through extremely challenging and unprecedented situations. Promises made and promises kept, without an increase in cost to the taxpayers.

WANT TO HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE?

How to Run for Office

By Charlotte Hummel

Have you ever considered running for public office? How do you go about it if you determine that you want to “have a seat at the table” where the decisions are made?

First things first. Any prospective candidate for public office should determine if they can afford the commitment of time, energy, and money necessary; and if they are qualified for the office they seek.

As an example of how things work, let’s consider what someone (like you) would need to do to become a candidate for Borough office or School Board office. The elected Borough offices are Constable, Council Members (seven), Mayor, and Tax Collector. There are two seats representing Lansdowne on the school board of the William Penn School District, identified as Region 6 and 7. The terms for these positions are staggered, so that they are not all expiring at the same time.

The legal qualifications for these positions require that:

- you are 18 years of age
- you are a registered voter, and
- you live in the political subdivision of the office.

That means that you must live in Lansdowne to seek Borough office. You must live in the region that you want to represent for the school board.

State and federal employees cannot run for office; convicted felons are not permitted to serve in office.

If you are running as a Republican or Democrat, you need to file a Petition with the County that contains certain directory-type information about you. This Petition must be signed by a minimum of ten registered voters of the same party who reside in

Any prospective candidate should determine if they can afford the commitment of time, energy, and money necessary; and if they are qualified for the office they seek.

the same political subdivision. (For anyone who is not a Republican or a Democrat, there is a different process.) The petition must be signed by you (the candidate) and notarized.

Supplemental to the Petition, you will need to fill out a Financial Disclosure Form. Both the Petition and the Financial Disclosure Form are filed with the County. A copy of only the Financial Disclosure Form needs to be filed at either Borough Hall for all municipal candidates or at the Administrative Offices of the School District for school board candidates.

These forms must be filed in all locations by the deadline set by the state. The state also prescribes the permissible time period for collection of signatures on your petition. For the 2023 Primary Election, the signature gathering period is from February 14 to March 2.

If you’ve successfully qualified and completed your forms completely and in a timely fashion, your name will appear on the Primary ballot under your political party. The school director is one of the few positions that may file a Petition under

both political parties, as a demonstration of non-partisanship. If you chose to do that, your name would appear under each political party. (Note: Judges are also permitted to do this. It is commonly referred to as cross-filing).

If you wish to have the support of your local political party in seeking office, you can apply to the party for their endorsement.

You will need to determine how you want to campaign, which could include door knocking, phone calls, sending out literature, social media contact, and public appearances.

Campaign finance reports must be filed by candidates for public office showing information about contributions received and expenditures made for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election. If contributions and expenditures are made through the endorsing political party, their treasurer will generally file the necessary financial reports. If you opt to raise money independently, you must form a campaign committee. This committee must have a chairperson and a treasurer, who may not be the same person. That treasurer will then be responsible for meeting the requirements of financial reporting. A candidate may use up to \$250 of their own funds toward their campaign without any reporting requirements.

If you are elected in the Primary, your name will appear on the ballot to be voted for in the General Election in November. If you win then, you will get to serve.

There’s Actually Nothing New About Electric Vehicles

By Suzanne McElroy

In 1900, about one-third of vehicles on the roadways were electric. As more people gravitated into urban life, the old mode of transportation, horse and buggy, created health and other concerns in the city. In 1890 New York City alone had 150,000 horses on the roadways, and those animals produced over two thousand tons of manure per day. Public health concerns spiked and accompanying disease escalated.

Horseless carriages, aka electric vehicles, provided clean and quiet transportation. Anyone of a certain means could purchase an electric vehicle. Because they were easy to drive, they were often marketed as “Ladies Cars”. Electric vehicles offered women freedom to travel about town for their errands and social events without anyone’s help. Among the high-profile women who drove electric vehicles were five First Ladies: Helen Taft (Mrs. William Howard Taft, 27th President), Ellen Wilson and Edith Wilson (Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, 28th President), Florence Harding (Mrs. Warren G. Harding, 29th President), and Grace Coolidge (Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, 30th President). Surprisingly, even Clara Ford (wife of Henry Ford) preferred to drive an electric vehicle and purchased a new one every two years.

The earliest known full-sized electric car was designed by Robert Anderson, a Scottish inventor who built his version in the 1830s. This first model had a very short range with simple batteries that could not be recharged. Decades later, William

Morrison, a chemist from Iowa, patented his version of the electric carriage. This vehicle could travel at 20 miles per hour with a range of 50 miles on a single charge. By 1881 battery-operated buses were utilized in several major cities, like New York City, Berlin, London, and Paris.

The introduction of gasoline powered vehicles manufactured by Henry Ford snuffed out the initial electric car era. With mass production, Ford was able to lower the price so that his vehicle was affordable to the “common man”. Thus, issuing in the era of America’s romance with cars and our dependence on fossil fuels for our daily transportation.

With the passage of recent legislation at both federal and state levels, there is hope of a new era of electric vehicles. Developments in the types of rechargeable batteries used in electric vehicles has led to the possibility of quicker pickup, greater speeds and longer ranges between charges.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 changed the rules for this credit for vehicles purchased from 2023 to 2032 and made certain provisions for purchase of used electric vehicles. Currently, there are federal tax credits of up to \$7,500 for the purchase of a new electric vehicle. Pennsylvania also offers an alternative fuel incentive in the form of rebates of vehicle purchase, both new and pre-owned. The Department of Environmental Protection is offering PA residents up to \$2,000 for the purchase of a qualified, new plug-in electric vehicle, with additional rebate of \$1,000 for applicants who meet low-income requirements. The Infrastructure Law provides for increase in the number of charging stations to meet the needs of this new era.

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The Lansdowne Leader

Published by the
Lansdowne Democratic Committee
P.O. Box 1136,
Lansdowne, PA 19050
610-626-7086

Circulation: 5,000
Editor-in-Chief: Suzanne McElroy
Executive Editor: Charlotte Hummel

Contributors:
Terry Baraldi
Caryl Carpenter
Catherine Coll
Susan Corbin
Bernadette Domenick
Tanya Hoard
Jennifer Hoff
Craig Horle
Charlotte Hummel
Suzanne McElroy

Production/Layout:
Hoff Communications, Inc.

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The *Leader* welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must include your name and a valid phone number in order to be considered for publication. Please address correspondence to:

Lansdowne Leader c/o
Lansdowne Democratic Committee
P.O. Box 1136,
Lansdowne, PA 19050

LansdowneDemocrats.org
LansdowneDems@gmail.com
Facebook: Lansdowne Democrats

CLASSIFIED ADS

DEMOCRACY LOVERS
Opportunity for you to help the Lansdowne Democrats celebrate 30 years of publishing the *The Lansdowne Leader*, educating voters to foster informed voters and better neighbors. Donate \$30 now at lansdownedemocrats.org by clicking the ActBlue button on the top of the landing page. Or you could mail a check to PO Box 1136, Lansdowne, PA 19050.

HOME OWNERS LOOKING FOR TAX RELIEF
The PA Homestead Exclusion Program can save you hundreds of dollars each year. This program was featured in the November issue of *The Leader* (See LansdowneDemocrats.org for complete article.) Check your tax bill first to see if you are already getting this! If not, contact Janet at the Business Manager’s office at WPSD at 610-284-8038 immediately. Deadline for completed application is March 1st.

WALKING WITH A PURPOSE
Lansdowne Democrats are looking for some help to deliver *The Leader*. This newspaper is published 2-4 times a year and hand-delivered to residences throughout the town. Small neighborhood turfs are assigned. Especially looking for apartment dwellers to distribute in their buildings. Email Suzanne at lansdownedems@gmail.com

FINALLY ... SERVICES THAT OUR RESIDENTS DESERVE

Delaware County Health Department

by Susan Corbin

With a population of just over a half-million, Delaware County was this country’s largest county without its own health department. But that changed on April 2nd, 2022, under the leadership of Delaware County Council’s Vice-Chair, Dr. Monica Taylor and her team when they made good on their campaign promise after winning the Democratic 2019 election. According to Dr. Taylor, “Our residents deserve their own health department—one with a local team who understands the needs of the county and is working to ensure our residents have the highest quality of life possible...” After two long years, Delaware County joined the small group of six PA counties that have their own County Health Departments and Wellness Centers. All of the other sixty Pennsylvania counties are overseen by the state.



A resident receives a COVID-19 vaccination at the new Delaware County Wellness Center in Yeadon.

Currently, the Delaware County Health Department has three locations. The Yeadon Wellness Center is the closest to Lansdowne Borough with ample on-site parking and accessible public transportation via Septa’s 113 bus. This 11,235 square foot state of the art medical facility is equipped to service the residents of Delaware County by addressing their concerns regarding wellness and health prevention, mental health, maternal and child health, clinical services, COVID-19 and environmental health. Melissa Lyon, Director of the Delaware County Health Department, says that “the Delaware County Health Department will, at the local level, address fundamental public health issues including, but not limited to communicable, infectious diseases, vaccines preventable diseases and maternal child health issues...” The Health Department is divided into four divisions: administrative; personal health which seeks to promote healthy behaviors and habits that prevent chronic illness; population health which promotes cross-sector partnerships to ensure health equity across all

communities; environmental health which promotes a healthy environment and protects the community from environmental hazards. The Wellness Centers will operate using the principal of the 3P’s, Prevention of illness and injury, Protection for all populations, and Promotion of healthy habits and lifestyles.” Below are the addresses of Delaware County Health Department’s three locations. You can call for information or to make an appointment at 484-276-2100

The Delaware County Wellness Center at Yeadon
125 Chester Ave., Yeadon, PA 19050
Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

The Delaware County Wellness Center at Chester
151 W. 5th St, Chester, PA 19013
Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

**Administrative and Environmental Health Division
Licenses, Registrations and Permits**
1510 Chester Pike Suite 700, Baldwin Towers Building,
Eddystone, PA 19022
Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

In addition to the opening of the Wellness Centers, the Delaware County Health Department has created a 24/7 hour Wellness Line. The phone line remains active with phone operators after hours and on weekends. The Wellness Line Team strives to offer support and comfort to every caller and helps point them in the right direction. You can call for assistance with non-urgent inquiries and questions about health related matters, public health resources, and COVID-19 vaccination sites. Residents in need of immediate assistance for life-threatening emergencies should dial 911. The Wellness Line and the Wellness Centers share the same telephone number (484-276-2100) and to date nearly 7,000 calls have been handled by the Wellness Line.

Delaware County expanded one of its COVID-19 test sites to include free RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) and flu tests for county residents. Beginning in January 2023, free RSV and flu tests with same-day results will be available at the Delaware County Wellness Center in Yeadon.

“This cold and flu season has been the most serious season in recent memory,” said Melissa Lyon, director of Delaware County’s health department, in a statement. Typically, RSV and flu tests are only available through hospitals, urgent care centers, or doctor’s offices. Providing them for free will make the tests more accessible to people who are uninsured, immigrants, and others who are reluctant to seek medical care at traditional health care facilities.

You can find more information about the Delaware County Health Department and the services of the Wellness Centers at: DelcoPA.gov/health

BY THE NUMBERS

A Simple Solution for Delivery Confusion

Why should you care about posting our house numbers? In Lansdowne house numbering is sporadic, at best. I know this from hand delivering The Lansdowne Leader to each household in my turf. I sympathize with the substitute mail carriers trying to get mail to the right box. Who else needs to know your house number? The Fire Department or Emergency Services personnel responding to your emergency call. Amazon Prime, Fedex, UPS and other delivery service drivers. Let’s not forget GrubHub, DoorDash, Pizza delivery drivers. And how about the Buy Nothing Lansdowne group? Have you ever struggled to find the right porch for a fabulous free item? GPS can only get you so close. Have you ever experienced a wrong delivery? Either you got something you never asked for or you called them only to find out that your order was already delivered (but not to you). A simple solution to this dilemma is to



make sure that your house number is posted and visible. Consider putting it near your door as well as on your curb. About 25 years ago my young son Brian started a little entrepreneurial effort to raise some pocket money. He approached neighbors about painting the house number on their curb. His basic numbering (white painted numbers) was a basic price of \$3. He upsold most customers to \$5 for either the deluxe version, black lettering on a white background, or the reverse deluxe version, white lettering on a black background. His basic tools (stencils, tape, brushes and paint) involved only a minimal investment and yielded several hundred dollars in just one season. As his first customer, we were extremely satisfied. His work was high quality and the price was reasonable; we only touched up our number this year. Where is that young entrepreneur in our neighborhood today?

LANSDOWNE
DEMOCRATIC
COMMITTEE

- Charlotte K. Hummel, Chair610-626-7086
- Suzanne K. McElroy
First Vice Chair/Communications.....610-213-1172
- Bernadette Domenick
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■ COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 1st Precinct**
- Rosell Dixon.....215-827-7022
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- 10th Precinct**
- Cathleen Beemer610-623-1713
- Yvette Calvin610-513-1689
- 11th Precinct**
- Tanya Hoard.....267-918-1159
- Jessica Pointer609-334-8787

- At-Large**
- Kristin Bellafante (11th)703-597-5857
- Elliot Borgman (3rd)610-715-6803
- Magda Byrne (1st)484-362-3351
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- Mark Anthony French (7th)610-517-5251
- John William Green (7th).....207-415-3393
- Suzanne K. McElroy (5th)610-213-1172
- Michael Schleigh (2nd).....215-740-7047
- Laurie Wolfe (4th)215-823-9407

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Our Third Branch of Government

Federal Judicial Overview

Unlike the elected judges of the PA Judicial System, all federal judges are appointed by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate (pursuant to the Appointment Clause of Article Two of the U.S. Constitution). The judges “hold their office during good behavior” which translates to a lifetime appointment. They can be removed from office only through impeachment by the House of Representatives and conviction by the Senate.

Black women account for only a small fraction of federal judges who have served to date. The first Black woman to serve on the federal bench was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson (D) in 1966. Constance Baker Motley previously was successful as she represented James Meredith in the 1962 case challenging the University of Mississippi’s refusal to admit him. In 1979 under President Jimmy Carter (D the number of women serving as federal judges more than doubled.

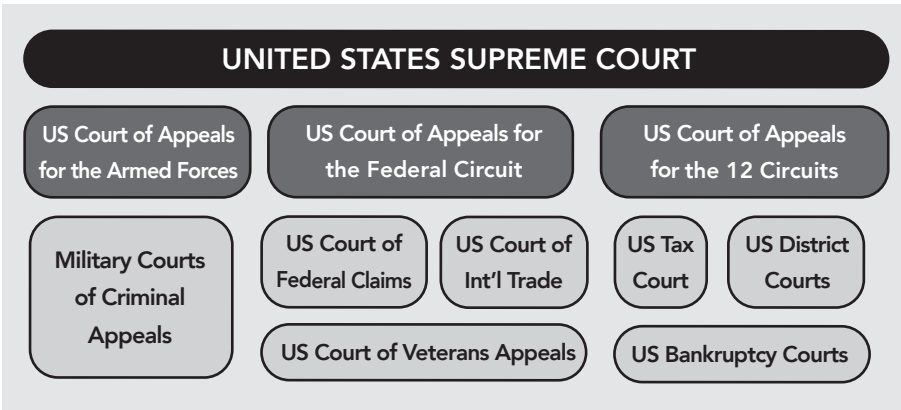
President Joe Biden (D) pledged to nominate a Black woman to the Supreme Court and fulfilled that promise in his appointment of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. In just two years Biden has already appointed more Black women to federal judgeships than all but two presidents did in their entire tenure. Nearly a quarter of his appointments to the federal bench have been Black women. According to Pew analyses, Republican presidents have been less likely than Democratic presidents to appoint federal judges who are women or racial and ethnic minorities.

The hierarchy of the federal courts places the United States Supreme Court at the top, with nine Supreme Court Justices. The cases they choose to accept can come in through three federal channels: US Court of Appeals for Armed Forces; US Court of Appeals; US Court of Appeals Federal Circuit; or from State Supreme Courts.

US Supreme Court: The nine justices of the US Supreme Court hear cases and controversies arising under the Constitution or US law and controversies that involve the United States as a party of entities or parties of different states that are appealed from federal courts or state courts.

Federal Court of Appeals: Circuit judges sit one of 12 regional circuits across the United States. They usually sit in a panel of three judges and determine whether or not the law has been applied correctly in the District Court (aka trial court). They also hear appeals from decisions of federal administrative agencies and some original proceedings filed directly with the Court of Appeals.

Federal District Court: Judges sit in one of 94



district or trial courts across the US. They handle both civil and criminal cases. A district court judge typically is responsible for supervising the pre-trial process and conducting trials, which includes a variety of procedures including:

- Managing the selection of juries and the instructions jurors receive throughout the trial
- Ruling on admission of evidence
- Pleas in criminal cases
- Resolving any issues surrounding the acceptance of the verdict and entry of judgment
- Sentencing the defendant if a trial results in conviction

Even though federal judges are all appointed, the decisions coming out of these courts affect us here in Lansdowne in many ways. Thus pointing out the importance of voting in every single election and electing the right President. To cite only a few:

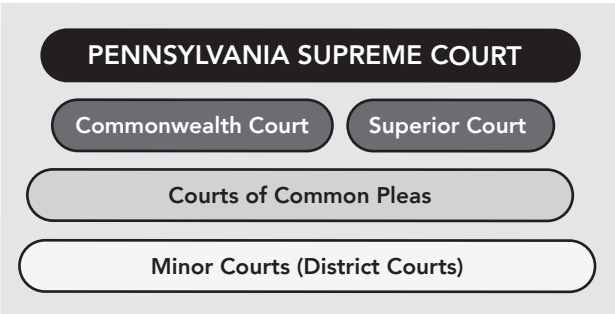
- **Dobbs decision** – In 2022 reversing rights that had existed for 50 years under the Roe decision for women to exercise control over their own reproductive health. By steering this back to the states, women’s rights have been shattered, and even birth control is on the block in some states.
- **Citizens’ United** – Landmark case in 2010 which freed corporations (including incorporated non-profits) to spend limitless money on electioneering communications and to directly advocate for or against candidates. This represents an interpretation of the First Amendment that corporations are people.
- **Heritage Action for America** – A conservative policy advocacy organization founded in 2010 has become the most influential lobby group among Congressional Republicans, advocating for the morbidly rich. A major emphasis in the past two years has been their anti-democracy efforts with restrictive voting bills and efforts to suppress the vote to consolidate their power.
- **Presidential Election** – Bush v. Gore decision in 2000, where Supreme Court reversed an order by Florida Supreme Court for a selective manual recount during the Presidential election, thus awarding Florida’s 25 Electoral College votes to Bush and assuring his victory.

Pennsylvania Judicial Overview

All judicial elections occur in odd-numbered years, and all judges and district justices in PA are elected by the public. Justices and judges may serve an unlimited number of terms until they reach the mandatory retirement age of 75 and are retained or re-elected by the voters. Vacancies that exist before an election may be filled by gubernatorial appointment until an election is held. These selections are subject to PA Senate confirmation. Appellate Court and Common Pleas judges serve 10 year terms, while Magisterial District Judges serve six-year terms.

When a judge’s term is complete, they may choose to continue serving. The merit retention provision of Pennsylvania’s constitution allows all judges except district justices to be retained with a simple "yes" or "no" vote without ballot reference to political affiliation. This provision was designed to remove judges from the pressures of the political arena after beginning their first term of office. Magisterial district judges run in competitive elections.

Judges may be removed from office, suspended or disciplined for misconduct in office. These standards are specified in the Pennsylvania Constitution, the Code of Judicial Conduct in the Pennsylvania Rules of Court, the "Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges," and other court rules and orders set by Pennsylvania's Supreme Court.



The Pennsylvania court system is structured like a pyramid, with the PA Supreme Court at the top. Just below are the two statewide appellate courts: PA Superior Court and Commonwealth Court. Below those are the workhorse (or trial court) known as the Court of Common Pleas which serves the county, and the Magisterial District Court which keeps justice for minor issues closest to home.

Too often after even-year elections, whether featuring a Presidential, Gubernatorial or Senate race, voters retreat from political life and awareness. Voters often overlook odd-year elections, which feature judicial elections aa well as county and local council elections. But these are overlooked at our own peril. The 2023 Primary in Lansdowne (to be held on May 16, 2023) will include several judicial candidates for our state, county, and local courts and district attorney on the ballot.

Why should we care about voting in the judicial elections? How can they or do they affect life in Lansdowne?

- Fair Funding for Education for our school children in the William Penn School District
- Reproductive Rights for all Pennsylvania Residents
- Voters’ Rights Protections in Pennsylvania

REGISTER TO VOTE NOW FOR THE 2023 PRIMARY ELECTION

Primary Election to be held Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Deadline to register: May 1, 2023

Go to PAVoterServices.pa.gov and click on Registration - NEW

If you are not a U.S. citizen and a resident of Pennsylvania for at least 30 days before the Primary Election, you will not be permitted to register.

In 2023, you must meet these requirements by April 16, 2023.

POSITIONS OPEN ON BALLOT – MAY 2023

Pennsylvania Supreme Court	1
Pennsylvania Superior Court	2
Commonwealth Court	1
Court of Common Pleas	1
District Attorney	1
County Council	3
Magisterial District Judge	1
WPSD School Board (Region 7)	1
Lansdowne Borough Council	
Four year seats	3
Two-year seats	1

Pennsylvania’s Court Structure

Supreme Court of PA

Dating to 1684, the Supreme Court is the highest court in the Commonwealth and the oldest appellate court in the nation. The Supreme Court’s administrative powers and jurisdictional responsibilities are vested with the seven-member court by the Pennsylvania State Constitution and a collection of statutes known as the Judicial Code. Administratively, the courts within the Unified Judicial System are largely responsible for organizing their own staff and dockets; however, the Supreme Court has several committees and boards responsible for writing and enforcing rules for judges, attorneys, and litigants to ensure an efficient and fair judicial review.

Annually, the seven justices receive over 3,000 requests for appellate review. Most often, but not exclusively, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania review:

- Requests for discretionary appeals from Commonwealth and Superior Courts
- Direct appeals from lower court’s decision, including when a sentence of death is issued
- Requests to intervene in a lower court’s proceedings
- Requests to deliver a body from illegal detention

The Justice with the most seniority of service performs the duties of the Chief Justice.

Superior Court of PA

The Superior Court was established in 1895. It is one of Pennsylvania’s two statewide intermediate appellate courts. The Superior Court is often the final arbiter of legal disputes. The Supreme Court may grant a petition to review a decision of the Superior Court, but most petitions are denied and the ruling of the Superior Court stands. Cases are usually heard by panels of three judges sitting in Philadelphia, Harrisburg or Pittsburgh, but may also be heard en banc by nine judges. The Superior Court often travels to locations throughout Pennsylvania to hear cases. The Superior Court is primarily responsible to hear:

- Appeals in criminal and most civil cases from the Court of Common Pleas
- Appeals on matters involving children and families

The Superior Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected statewide in odd-numbered years to a term of 10 years.

Commonwealth Court

The Commonwealth Court was established in 1968 and is unique to Pennsylvania. It is one of Pennsylvania’s two statewide intermediate appellate courts. Commonwealth Court is primarily responsible for matters involving state and local governments and regulatory agencies. It also acts as a trial court when lawsuits are filed for or against the Commonwealth. Cases are generally heard by panels of three judges in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, although, on occasion, they may choose to hold court in other locations. Cases may also be heard by a single judge or by en banc panels of seven judges.

The Commonwealth Court is composed of nine elected judges whose terms are 10 years. The Commonwealth Court is primarily responsible for:

- Original civil actions brought by or against the Commonwealth
- Appeals from decisions made by state agencies and Court of Common Pleas

Court of Common Pleas

The Court of Common Pleas is organized into 60 judicial districts in Pennsylvania; most counties have their own district. These are the trial courts dealing with both major civil and criminal matters, and often involving juries. The Delaware County Court of Common Pleas is composed of five divisions (Civil, Criminal, Family, Juvenile, and Orphans Courts) and has 21 elected judges, each of whom are assigned to one of the divisions. Before judges can hold these positions, they must meet certain basic requirements, including citizenship, residency, and membership of the PA Bar. Additionally, judges are subject to strict standards of conduct. Elections for these judges is in odd-numbered years and their terms are 10 years.

The Court of Common Pleas is responsible for:

- Appeals from minor courts (Magisterial District Courts)
- Appeals not exclusively assigned to another court
- Matters involving children and families

What is a Criminal Case?

A criminal charge is a violation of the criminal law and considered an offense against the community. In a criminal case, an individual can be charged with a felony, misdemeanor or summary offense. Felony charges, such as murder and arson, carry

the most severe penalties, while misdemeanors and summary offenses carry lesser penalties. If the prosecutor proves to a jury, or to the judge hearing a case without a jury, that a defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, that person stands convicted and can face penalties, including prison, fines or probation.

What is a Civil Case?

Civil cases include every type of legal action except criminal actions, including personal injuries, contract disputes, adoptions, divorces and faulty consumer goods. The party bringing suit, or plaintiff, must prove his or her case before a judge or jury by presenting evidence that is more persuasive than the opposing evidence (unlike a criminal case where the proof must be beyond a reasonable doubt). Some aspects of civil cases - divorce, support or child custody matters -may be heard before quasi-judicial officers, including hearing masters or conference officers.

Which Cases Have Juries?

Both criminal and civil cases may be tried before a judge or a jury and a judge. Juries are primarily available in trials held in Courts of Common Pleas. There are no juries in the Supreme Court and Superior Court, and they are rarely used in Commonwealth Court. Even when a jury is permitted, both sides can agree to have the case tried before a judge only.

Magisterial District Court

Magisterial District Court is the court where most people experience the judicial system for the first time. These Judges handle all traffic cases, minor criminal cases, and civil cases involving amounts up to \$12,000. Effectively, they are a small claims court.

Magisterial District Judges also set bail and conduct preliminary hearings in misdemeanor and felony criminal cases to determine if the cases should be dismissed or transferred to the Court of Common Pleas for further proceedings. Typical civil cases that come before a magisterial district court are landlord-tenant matters, violation of municipal ordinances, and breaches of contract. Some are authorized to deal with extradition proceedings and terrorism cases. If an individual is dissatisfied with the results at the magisterial district court, in most instances, that individual, can appeal within 30 days from the date of the decision. The individual would appeal to the Court of Common Pleas, which will review the case de novo (as new).

There are 30 Magisterial District Courts located in offices throughout Delaware County. An elected Magisterial

District Justice presides over each of the individual Magisterial District Courts. They are elected to serve in their districts for six-year terms.

Any registered voter who is at least 21 years of age can hold the position of District judge. These judges must live within the district they serve, a rule designed to keep courts connected to residents. Justices are subject to requirements of citizenship, residency, as well as strict standards of conduct.

Magisterial justices do not have to be lawyers; if they are not, the job requires four weeks of legal training and successful completion of a certification exam, as well as annual legal classes.

Many non-lawyers have some prior experience with the criminal justice system, such as serving as a constable, law enforcement officer or probation officer. At present, three out of four district judges are men. Over the past 15 years, the percentage of women serving in these roles has grown slightly, by 2 percent.

The Magisterial District Court that includes Lansdowne is Court #32-2-47.

District Attorney

The District Attorney is the highest-ranked prosecutor in the county, with the power to prosecute people charged with crimes, ranging from homicide to petty theft. The primary responsibility of the District Attorney is to protect the rights of all parties in the judicial process, both the innocents as well as the criminals.

According to the Bar Association: “The primary duty of the prosecutor is to seek justice within the bounds of the law, not merely to convict. The prosecutor serves the public interest and should act with integrity and balanced judgment to increase public safety both by pursuing

appropriate criminal charges of appropriate severity, and by exercising discretion to not pursue criminal charges in appropriate circumstances.

The prosecutor should seek to protect the innocent and convict the guilty, consider the interests of victims and witnesses, and respect the constitutional and legal rights of all persons, including suspects and defendants.”

The District Attorney is elected to a four year term. To serve as District Attorney, one must earn a Juris Doctor degree, get admitted to the American Bar Association, and gain internship,

externship, and trial experiences to acquire firsthand relevant experience

The District Attorney office consists of deputy district attorneys and assistant district attorneys, who are hired and supervised by the DA.

In addition to deciding how to proceed on criminal charges, prosecutors also:

- Make recommendations about bond and other pretrial release conditions.
- Negotiate plea arrangements with defense attorneys.
- Inform victims about the steps in the court process.
- Refer/approve cases for diversion

programs, for example specialty courts for people whose charges are related to mental illness or substance use.

- Review cases involving misconduct or use of force by police and decide if charges should be filed.
- Coordinate and consult with victim advocates in sensitive cases, like domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.
- Helps people to continue school and find jobs after they come out of prison.

The Delaware County District Attorney is elected for a four-year term, and like the judges, is elected on odd numbered years.

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERING

Get Involved in Lansdowne!

By Terry Baraldi

Websters defines volunteer as “one who renders a service or takes part in a transaction while having no legal concern or interest”.

If you’ve lived here for any length of time...you likely already know that just about everything that happens here in Lansdowne is almost exclusively through the time and energy of our neighborhood volunteers.

If you already give of your time and talents, we thank you. We need you... and at least a dozen more like you. Because the sad truth is that many of the things that for decades defined our small town, have gone away...maybe forever. Youth athletics, games and races, holiday celebrations...all those things depended on someone caring enough to pick up the ball and carry it for another season.

But the good news is that some new celebrations have found a home here...the Pride Parade, Tony Campuzano’s Halloween Kids Parade, park clean-ups to parades to community parties at

the Landing (also envisioned and built by volunteers) and movies at Hoffman Park...from Scout troops to STEAM clubs, even the long hours put in by our volunteer Borough Council...all of it powered by your neighbors...and maybe YOU?

I’ve lived here since before many of you were old enough to read this paragraph...and I’ve done my share of volunteering...in fact, maybe more than my share, and nothing to show for it...except for all of the friends I’ve made along the way, skills I might never have developed, pride in knowing that there are things that will live after me...because of me.

Don’t wait to be asked...make a pest of yourself...if I recall, that’s what I did. But make a commitment. Don’t know where to start? Go to Lansdowne Borough’s home page lansdowneborough.com (How Do I ... Volunteer) or, even better, go to the main page of lansdownesfuture.org You can scroll through all of the upcoming events here in Lansdowne...just pick one and make that connection. Or stop by the Marketing Manager tent at Farmer’s Market (halfway

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Profiles in Service: Four Who Make a Difference

Recently moved to Lansdowne? Or been here several years? Either way, there are lots of opportunities to get involved in the Borough. There are a number of boards and commissions that have members who come from the community. Here are four community volunteers who have shared their experience serving on a borough board or commission:

Nancy Bellafante moved to Lansdowne in September of 2015. She has worked as a librarian in several universities. Currently, she is a librarian at Penn Law School.

Nancy first heard about the Shade Tree Commission when she requested a free tree as part of the Commission’s Street Tree Program. “The free tree program is a great idea. It’s good for the homeowner and for the community. I love walking down a tree-lined street.” She started attending Commission meetings and eventually became a member.

Nancy has always been interested in gardening and has enjoyed learning more about trees through her work on the Commission. She also took the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Tree Tenders course. “I actually like planting trees.” Nancy has also enjoyed getting to know the other members of the Commission.

“I highly recommend that people get involved in the Borough.” It’s been a rewarding experience for Nancy.

George Collins has lived in Lansdowne since 2005. He is a clinical psychologist currently serving as the Director of Psychological Services at Malvern Treatment Centers. His first volunteer experience in Lansdowne was as a member of the Business Development Committee at the Lansdowne Economic Development Corporation. More recently he was appointed to the Zoning Hearing Commission, an independent board that reviews requests for variances or special exceptions to the Zoning Code in the borough.

George considers his service on the Zoning Hearing Commission a privilege and a honor, and a responsibility he took very seriously. He found the work always interesting, even when faced with tough decisions.

George grew up in Lansdale (a town often confused with Lansdowne). George said he always thought Lansdowne was



Clockwise from top left: Nancy Bellafante, George Collins, Jessica Pointer, and Siddiq Kamara.

some foreign place until he moved here and quickly fell in love with the borough. He volunteered to serve on the Business Development Committee because he wanted to be part of Lansdowne’s growth and development.

Siddiq Kamara moved to Lansdowne in 2016. Previously he was in the military for several years as a Sgt.in the Army. Currently he works out of the Pennsylvania State Attorney General’s Office. He is a member of the Lansdowne Civil Service Commission that oversees the hiring process for the Lansdowne Police Department. Committee work includes reviewing applications and interviewing candidates. Siddiq has been interested in the work of the Commission because of his various work experiences. He thinks it’s important to have diverse input to the hiring process.

Siddiq loves Lansdowne. He likes the family atmosphere. He thinks it is an enjoyable and safe place to live. Siddiq thinks it is important to help the community where you live and enjoys the opportunity to do that for Lansdowne.

Siddiq’s family is originally from Liberia. For that reason, he is excited about his current work on two war

crimes cases that grew out of the civil war in Liberia.

Jessica Pointer has most recently lived in Lansdowne for six years. She works as the Program Manager for the Community Health Program. She was asked to serve on the Parks and Recreation Committee of the Lansdowne Borough Council. This committee advises Borough Council on the operation of the public parks, play-fields and all outdoor recreation areas and facilities owned or operated by the Borough of Lansdowne. They also help schedule recreational events. Jessica has also been a volunteer at the Nile Swim Club where she helps organize events and serves on the Board of Directors.

Jessica views the opportunity with Parks and Recreation as a good place to start getting involved with your community, if you want to make a difference in the town where you live. Jessica also suggested that people can volunteer to help with specific events, even if there are no openings on the various boards and committees in the Borough.

Jessica notes Lansdowne is a diverse community that will benefit from diverse input from community members. “Just step up and get involved” says Jessica.

HERE’S YOUR CHANCE

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for ideas on getting more involved in our community? Why not consider volunteering in Lansdowne? The Borough Council currently has openings on some of their Boards and Commissions and event committees. Each of these volunteer groups report to the Borough Council. If any of the following appeal to you, just reach out to Council President Benjamin Hover by phone at 610-357-3731 or by email at hoverb@lansdowneborough.com. Or sign up online by filling out the form at: lansdowneborough.com/Form_Center

Code Appeals Board (2 Openings) meets on the third Thursday at 7pm (on an as needed basis) to hear appeals of a decision of the Borough Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector pertaining to the BOCA & Life Safety Codes by any aggrieved person, firm, or corporation.

Environmental Advisory Council (1 Opening) meets once a month on the first Friday at 6pm in Borough Hall. This group advises Borough Council and their committees and educates the borough residents on matters that affect the quality of the environment in the borough, including those related to protection, conservation, management, promotion and use of natural resources including air, land, and water resources located in the borough.

Human Relations Commission (5 Openings) meets on the third Thursday at 7PM in Borough Hall. The commission was established to ensure that persons who live or work in Lansdowne are protected from unlawful discrimination. They strive to ensure that Lansdowne remains a diverse, neighborly, and welcoming community.

Parks and Recreation Board (3 Openings) meets on the 3rd Monday at 7pm at the Twentieth Century Club. The purpose of this board is to maintain, operate, supervise the public parks, play fields and all outdoor recreation areas and facilities owned and operated by the borough subject to approval of Borough Council.

Planning Commission (1 Opening) meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7pm in Borough Hall. The commission presents and makes recommendations to Borough Council concerning zoning ordinances, comprehensive plans, subdivisions, land development, building codes and housing codes of the borough.

Zoning Hearing Board (2 Openings) meets on the 4th Wednesday at 7pm in Borough Hall. This board regulates the use of land and construction and renovation of buildings in the borough in order to: Preserve and enhance Lansdowne’s traditional small-town character, protect its historic resources, and revitalize its older areas and more; Promote and support good urban design that fosters a sense of place, pride of place, belonging and accessibility for community members; and Promote and support good urban design that encourages walkability and a vibrant street life.

The Borough Council sponsors several community events throughout the year and volunteers are vital to the success of each one. This spring, the events include Earth Day in April, STEAM festival in May, Lansdowne Community Weekend the first weekend of June, Juneteenth, and July 4th celebration. Volunteer activity generally is concentrated to the time period immediately preceding the event date.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE 2023 ELECTIONS

Mail-In Voting: What You Should Know

How to Apply for a Mail-in Ballot

- Call Delaware County Bureau of Elections at 610-891-4000 and request that an application be mailed to you. OR
- Go to PaVoterServices.pa.gov and click on “Mail-In Ballot Application.”
- Next you’ll see two options. If you prefer to apply online, use option 1 below. If you don’t wish to apply electronically, use option 2 below.
- **OPTION 1:** To apply online, at the bottom of the page check the box next to “I am not a robot” and then click on “Begin your application.”
- Follow all the prompts as instructed.
- **OPTION 2:** If you prefer not to apply online, click on the blue text for the application in English, Spanish, or traditional Chinese.
- You’ll be taken to the application. Move your cursor to the bottom center of the page to get a black box with an arrow. Click on the arrow to download the application to your device.
- Print the application.
- Fill it out completely and mail it to the address indicated for Delaware County on the page after the application itself.

NOTES FOR BOTH METHODS:

- **DEADLINE:** No matter how you apply for a mail-in ballot, Bureau of Elections’ deadline to receive your application is 5 PM on the Tuesday before the election. This spring, that deadline is 5 PM on Tuesday, May 9. It isn’t good enough to have a postmark with that date; the Bureau has to have the application actually in their hands or in their computer system by then.

- **WHEN THE BALLOT WILL ARRIVE:** Your ballot will be sent to your physical address after the county has printed it. Exactly when the ballots are printed can depend on court cases that slow the process of determining which names actually appear on those ballots.
- **CHECKING YOUR STATUS:** To check that your mail-in application was accepted, about a week after the Bureau has received it you can check at PaVoterServices.pa.gov — click on “Find Voter Registration Status.”
- **PROBLEM WITH YOUR APPLICATION STATUS?:** Call the county Bureau of Elections at 610-891-4000

Make Sure Your Mail-in Ballot Counts

More than 16,000 ballots were discarded in the 2022 November election because of some easily avoided mistakes. If you follow these simple steps, you can be sure your ballot will be counted.

- Complete the circles on the ballot (don’t make check marks) with a blue or black ink pen.
- Put the ballot in the secrecy envelope marked “official election ballot”. Seal the envelope. Do not make any marks on the secrecy envelope.
- Put the secrecy envelope in the outer envelope and seal the outer envelope.
- Sign the outer envelope.
- Date the outer envelope.
- Put a first-class stamp on the outer envelope if you use the U.S. mail.
- Send your ballot through U.S. mail or leave it at an

official drop-box. The Lansdowne drop-box is in front of the firehouse on Highland Avenue.

- If you mail the ballot, it must be RECEIVED at the county election board by 8PM on election night.

Do you plan to vote in-person?

Get ready to vote by following these simple steps:

Be sure you are registered at your current address.

You can check your registration status at PAVoterServices.pa.gov (scroll down and click on “Find Voter Registration”) or call 1-877-868-3772

Know your correct polling place.

You can find your polling place at: PAVoterServices.pa.gov (scroll down and click on “Find Your Polling Place) or call 1-877-868-3772

Know if you need an ID

If you are a first-time voter or voting at your polling place for the first time, you will need an ID. You can find out what are acceptable IDs at delcopa.gov/vote/VoterIdentification or call 1-877-868-3772.

FOLLOWING THE FUNDS

What Do Your Property Taxes Pay For?

The Borough of Lansdowne	William Penn School District	Delaware County
<div>ELECTED GOVERNING BODY Mayor and Seven Borough Council Members<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lansdowne residents only.• Elected to four-year terms; no term limits.• Unpaid position</div> <div>TAXES LEVIED: Borough Property Taxes Trash and Sewer Fee Emergency Tax</div> <div>BOROUGH PROPERTY TAXES PAY FOR: Borough Staff (wages and benefits) Police (wages and benefits) Sewer repair and maintenance Borough streets Trash Collection Public Works Parks and Recreation Borough Buildings Lansdowne Public Library</div>	<div>ELECTED GOVERNING BODY WPSD Board of Directors<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nine-member board elected to four-year terms; no term limits.• Unpaid position• Nine seats allotted to residents of each district municipality as follows:<div><div>Darby (2 seats)</div><div>Lansdowne (2 seats)</div><div>Yeadon (2 seats)</div><div>Aldan (1 seat)</div><div>Colwyn (1 seat)</div><div>East Lansdowne (1 seat)</div></div></div> <div>TAXES LEVIED: School Property Taxes Taxes are levied <u>at the same rate</u> in all six district municipalities.</div> <div>SCHOOL PROPERTY TAXES PAY FOR*: Education Services for 5,200+ students Special Education Services for 1,000+ students Transportation Services to 119 schools for 6,000 students Nursing service for 5,600 students Staff and Administration (wages and benefits) Cyber Academy Alternative Education Charter School Tuitions Curriculum for English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Physical Education and Library etc. Library Services Athletics, Music, Arts, After School Activites State Education Mandates Federal Education Mandates <i>* School District services are delivered in various forms to all Public, Private, Parochial and Charter schools that enroll our students that reside within our six municipalities.</i></div>	<div>ELECTED GOVERNING BODY Delaware County Council<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five-member-board elected to four-year terms; three term limit.• Must be resident of Delaware County.• Paid position</div> <div>TAXES LEVIED: County Property Taxes Taxes are levied <u>at the same rate</u> in all county municipalities.</div> <div>COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES PAY FOR: Social Welfare: Fair Acres and Social Service Programs Administration of Justice: Courts (Adults, Juveniles), Parole Criminal Justice: County Police, Medical Examiner, Prisons, District Attorney, Public Defender Transportation: SEPTA Parks and Recreation Registration and Elections: Bureau of Elections, Voter Services Tax Administration: Assessments and Claims Financial Management: Budget Office General Government Staff (wages and benefits)</div>

This was created by Jennifer Hoff as a private citizen to try to explain local taxation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact jennifer@hoffcomm.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY 8 - MARCH 8
Union Avenue closed
For your safety while RR crossing control box is repaired. Both SEPTA and Lansdowne Borough apologize for your temporary inconvenience. Safety first!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4
Lansdowne Fire Company Designer Bag Bingo

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - 10 AM - Noon
Winter Park Cleanup
Gateway Slope

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Black History Month Art Exhibit
2020 House, see www.lansdownearts.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Craig and Aislinn Bickhardt
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 at 3 PM
Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra
Upper Darby Performing Arts Center
602 N. Lansdowne Ave, Upper Darby

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Great Backyard Bird Count
Birdcount.org/participate/

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Greg Farnese and Maci Miller
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 10 AM - NOON
Lansdowne Farmers Market
30 N. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Future of the Blues with Mack McDonald
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - NOON - 5 PM
Utility Works Maker Space & Brandywine Launch Box
Funding Support Day for local entrepreneurs
18 N. Lansdowne Ave.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 at 7 PM
Lansdowne Folk Club presents Don White
Twentieth Century Club
84 S. Lansdowne Ave

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Katie Henry Band
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

GET INVOLVED

continued from page 6

down the row) and chat us up with your questions and ideas. We love meeting you. And we’re FUN!

Lansdowne is an old town with a unique history, but we are moving ahead with a new energy and a new vision of what this town should look like, and what it should offer to residents and visitors in the 21st century. We need your energy and your talent to make that into a new reality.

Come join the fun and the future!

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 - 10 AM - NOON
Winter Park Cleanup
Gateway Slope

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Mike Monterey Band
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Paul Nelson Band
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 10 am - NOON
Lansdowne Farmers Market
30 N. Lansdowne Ave.
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 9 AM - NOON
Darby Creek Valley Association DCVA
Rain Garden Workshop
9000 Parkview Drive, Haverford
www.dcva.org/events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 - NOON - 5 PM
Utility Works Maker Space & Brandywine Launch Box
Legal Support Day for local entrepreneurs
18 N. Lansdowne Ave.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 at 7 PM
Lansdowne Folk Club presents Christine Havrilla and Trey Fure
Twentieth Century Club

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Bruce Katz Band
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Bill Toms and Hard Rain
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 at 3 PM
Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra
Upper Darby Performing Arts Center
602 N Lansdowne Ave, Upper Darby
FRIDAY, MARCH 31 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Jimmy Pritchard Band
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

APRIL, 2023 9 AM - NOON
Darby Creek Valley Association Annual Creek Watershed Cleanup
Held each weekend
[https://www.dcva.org/Other Events](https://www.dcva.org/Other%20Events)
For more information

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 at 7 PM
Lansdowne Folk Club 30th Year Fundraiser
Tickets \$20 in advance
www.folkclub.org
Twentieth Century Club
84 S. Lansdowne Ave

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Julie Charnet Quintet
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Matt Waters
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents The Dukes of Destiny
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 10 AM - NOON
Lansdowne Farmers Market
30 N. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15 at 8 PM
Jamey’s House of Music presents Harper and Midwest Kind
32 S. Lansdowne Ave.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20 at 7 PM
Lansdowne Folk Club presents Rupert Wates
Twentieth Century Club
84 S. Lansdowne Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 at 1 PM - 3 PM
Earth Day Celebration
Interboro Park
Sponsored by EAC, Habitat for Humanity, Bethel AME Church, Rep. Gina Curry

We Want to Know What You Think

We, the Lansdowne Democratic Committee, are seeking input from residents to ascertain the important issues you have concerning Lansdowne Borough. We want to find the most effective ways we can communicate with you. Please take a moment to complete this survey. **All readers who answer can be entered into a drawing to win a copy of the U.S. Constitution. The drawing will be held on March 9th. If you would like to enter the drawing, please provide your contact information.**

First and Last Name (Encouraged) _____

Email Address (Encouraged) _____

How Do You Find Out What’s Going on in Lansdowne?

- Do you read *The Lansdowne Leader*? **Circle one.** Yes No
- Do you subscribe to the *Lansdowne Borough Monthly eNews*? **Circle one.** Yes No
- How do you learn about the happenings in Lansdowne? **Circle all that apply.**

Facebook Instagram Twitter Word of mouth

What Issues or Aspects of Lansdowne Are Important to You? Circle All That Apply.

Accident Reports	Farmer's Market	Recycling
Animal Control	Holiday Celebrations	Rental Properties
Arts & Cultural Programs	Litter	Roadways
Bike Lanes	Noise Safety	Shade Trees
Borough Events	Park Maintenance	Solid Waste
Borough Website	Park Permits	The Lansdowne Leader
Composting	Parks	Vacant Properties
Construction Permitting	Police	Vandalism
Curfew	Property Assessment	Walkability
Economic Development	Property Maintenance	Zoning Permits
	Recreation Programs	

If you have concerns about other issues in Lansdowne that are not listed here, please contact the Lansdowne Democratic Committee at LansdowneDems@gmail.com.

Providing your feedback can be done online or by mailing your answers to Lansdowne Democratic Committee, Attn: Leader Survey, PO Box 1136, Lansdowne, PA 19050.