







From the Executive Director

A warm welcome to Claude Lucas, our newest member.

A pillar of the village model and of the Lancaster Downtowners is access to information and resources that will support your independent and engaged city lifestyle. This year the Resource Committee (Judy Neidig, Peggy Harbison, Lois Quillen, and Liliana Zancu, with website support from Ken Nissley) have been hard at work to bring to life an easier way to find member recommended service providers and community resources that you may need.

This updated information is now located on our website, in the Member Resource Directory on our website at

www.lancasterdowntowners.org.

On the same page you can also leave a short review of providers so that we can maintain high quality recommendations.

Do you have a provider you think should be listed? Call the office with your insight and we'll share it with the community through the Resource Directory.

Prefer to learn with a cup of coffee and a friend nearby? We'll have staff, interns, and committee members available to help you access the new online directory on our Club Express software at two upcoming events at the office. You can bring your own smartphone, laptop or tablet, or use the desktop computers available at the office. Join us at 9am on either 11/19/19 or 11/20/19.

And, my favorite day of the year: see you on **Friday, November 22nd** for the **ExtraOrdinary Give**! We will be joining 18 other organizations in-person at the **Holiday Inn from 10am-6pm,** and will be encouraging donations for 24 hours online at <u>https://www.extragive.org/organizations/lancaster-downtowners</u>. Join in Lancaster's greatest day of philanthropy with a donation starting at just \$10.



Melissa Ressler Executive Director



-Melissa Ressler

From the Board President:

Greetings, fellow Downtowners! This month, I begin my tenure as President of the Downtowners Board. I'm honored to serve, having been a Downtowners member since 2014, and a Board member since 2015. I'm a booster for Lancaster, and for Downtowners as a model of support and connection as we age.

This past year was a good one for Lancaster Downtowners. We grew our membership, strengthened our committee structures, and hosted the Fete d'Or to celebrate Lancaster as an "Age-Friendly City." With Melissa's help, we connected with the wider community and received some grant funding to strengthen operations. And we were joined by two capable interns, to support the work in the office.

As we continue to grow, the backbone of Lancaster Downtowners is the volunteers who make up our committees. The Just One Call Committee supervises that program, connecting volunteers with folks needing services. The Program Committee brings us varied offerings for education and entertainment. The Membership Committee recruits and orients new members. The Resource Committee has recently unveiled a new tool for finding help, and for sending feedback and reviews. The Fund-Raising Committee is always looking for new ways to support Downtowners. If you are not helping in a committee and would like to be involved, please get in touch – we're always looking for additional energy and ideas!

While you support Downtowners with your membership dues, your time, and your energy, there are also ways you can provide additional monetary support at the end of the year. In mid-November, encourage your friends and family to contribute to Downtowners during the ExtraGive (November 22), and look for an end-of-year fund appeal to arrive in your mailbox soon. Thanks for being part of Lancaster Downtowners!

Judy Zimmerman Herr Board President



Around Town

New businesses keep coming, but some existing ones are closing down for various reasons. Personally I am saddened by one recent closing and one happening next month.

Goldie's Bakery and Cafe closed it's doors on November 1st. I loved that place. Even with the limited hours, I tried to make it a stop at least once a week and often met with fellow Downtowners there. From all the information I could gather, they didn't close because they weren't doing well, but because they were apparently offered another opportunity out of state which they couldn't refuse.

Then there's the closing in December which really hits me hard. Gypsy Kitchen in the Lancaster Theological Seminary will end service after over six years due to an inability to continue to do business at that location while trying to coordinate with the needs of the Seminary for that beautiful space in the Refectory.

As a former restaurant owner, I became friendly with Chef Ed and often times had lunch with him as we talked about all of the ways to promote his popular place. It gave me an opportunity in a small way to remember the joys and challenges of being in the restaurant business.

The good news for anyone who is a fan of Gypsy Kitchen is a plan for reinventing the cuisine and style at another location in the future. Unfortunately it might require a short car ride to get there and it will take a while to come together.

Then there are the new places opening. Have you heard about the Beer Wall, coming soon to the Prince Street location previously home to Pour Restaurant behind the Art Gallery. It is reported to be a second location to a concept that opened in Reading where you pay in advance for a specified number of ounces of beer and go up to a wall of choices to pour your own.

Then there is Pop, a gourmet popcorn store which will be combined with displaying art work that just opened on Prince Street's Gallery Row. This creative idea belongs to local artist and gallery owner Liz Hess just two doors down. Art and Popcorn

Finally, just steps away from Central Market at 45 N Market Street is the newly opened Lancaster Downtown Deli. Enter the atrium and to the right you'll discover a reinvented space, formerly Ric's Bread wholesale space and now home to a place looking forward to offer a freshly prepared yet simple creative menu served in an eclectically decorated space. Owner Tom Allen reports to be having some great plans for the deli's future as he navigates his soft opening, joining the long list of dining experiences in downtown Lancaster.

Tom Allen from Lancaster Downtown Deli

Our city welcomes new businesses of all types and sizes. The challenge for newcomers is to be assured whatever niche they're filling; they are on top of their game due to existing competition. Is there room for everyone? The consumers will decide.

Andy-ANDY BERFOND

Resource Committee Corner

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) is an important resource for aging, health, and wellbeing information. The NIA website (<u>nia.nih.gov</u>) has content on a variety of senior health topics as well as news about the latest research findings.

The NIA also has an excellent resource called Go4Life <u>go4life.nia.nih.gov</u>). Go4Life offers free information and videos to help adults over 50 years old stay safe while exercising.

NextAvenue.Org is an excellent resource for news with the mission to "meet the needs and unleash the potential of older Americans through the power of media." Articles are informative, conversational, and highlight a variety of topics, including this recent outline of Age-Forward Cities: <u>https://www.nextavenue.org/age-forward-cities/</u>





NIH National Institute on Aging

On the beautiful autumn Saturday of Oct. 5, new Downtowner members, Membership Committee members, Board members and various other Downtowners came together to meet and greet the 2019 Downtowner new members at our home from 3 until 5 pm. After introductions, name tags, lots of food and drinks provided by committee members and supporters, Melissa Ressler and outgoing Downtowner President Kim Van Donk gave an overview of the Downtowner mission and committees while everyone sat or stood in the garden. Surrounded by mums, autumn leaves, and new and old friends, it was another Downtowner event success.

New and potential members who attended were: Kathy O'Kane, Angie and Rick Piel, Bill and Beth Parson, Naomi Storm, Molly McKittrick, Margot Tomlinson, Laura Rusch, Nan Yoder, Tom Sansusso, Marty Barber, Henry Biedrzycki, Val Evans, Cal Roggie and Donna Roggie. Membership Committee members who helped with the delicious variety of foods were Ellen Berfond, Kim Van Donk, Margaret Patton, Pat Coller, and Mary Lou Houser provided the dining room centerpiece.

Extra special bartenders for the event were Downtowners Peggy Harbison and Judy Neidig. They were great keeping everyone's glasses filled! Those Downtowners, including Board members, who were present in spirit were Tana Woodcock, the Housers, the Nissleys, and the Kanagys. Interns with us in spirit were Beth Thompson and Tyler Cook.

Thanks to the weather and the Downtowners' spirit of "can do" and welcome, the 3rd annual Open House at chez Leinberger was a success. Many thanks to those who helped to make it possible; we want you to know we couldn't have done it without you!

By Susan and Gary Leinberger

One Man's Opinion

The Coffee Scene

If we considered the brand Starbucks to be related to the meaning of the term gentrification, then it is clear the direction the city is moving in. While Starbucks never entertained a need to move within the City limits up until now, it has taken its position in one of the city's newest high profile locations.

Occupying a prime spot in the newly opened Cargas Building at 101 NQ on the corner of Queen and Orange, Starbucks is surrounded by multiple established go to coffee places in the center of the city.

I wondered whether its presence will have any kind of impact on those small businesses and came to the conclusion they will not. Here's my rationale.

Passenger Coffee, Prince Street Cafe, Cafe One Eight, Square One Coffee, Lancaster County Coffee and Mean Cup at Market, and Auras Espresso Room have all established themselves with faithful locals and city business folks and they also tap into tourism for those visitors seeking the local coffee experience.

Starbucks brand will always appeal to the tourism trade and might be a first choice while visiting the city. We also shouldn't forget about our "app driven world" when many folks have downloaded the familiar logo onto their devices and for convenience alone, will automatically opt for Starbucks.

Regardless of where we go for our cup of Joe, be assured we'll always have plenty of great choices here in the city.

Andy-ANDY BERFOND











Recycling Update

Confused by what to recycle?

But you can recycle the following items by taking them to the **City Recycling Center** at **850 New Holland Avenue:**

- Shredded office paper
- Mixed Office paper/Junk mail
- Newspapers and phone books.
- Magazines and catalogs
- Chip board (cereal boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel rolls, etc.)
- Corrugated Cardboard

If you throw any of these items or other trash into the recycle bins it is considered contaminated and will go into the trash stream that is burned to generate electricity. You can save Lancaster City money with careful recycling and by taking other recyclables to the recycling center. Click this link for more details.

https://recyclerightlancaster.org/

John Kanagy



Computer Update

If you are using an older pc computer it is recommended that you verify which version of Windows you are using. If your computer is more than 6 years old and you have never upgraded to a new version of Windows, it may be using Microsoft Windows 7. As of January 2020, Microsoft will no longer support Windows 7 which means that even though you are still able to use it, without Windows 7 updates, your computer will become more vulnerable to malware, etc. If you are not sure which version of Windows you are using and don't know how to check, you can ask for help by calling Downtowners

Just One Call (717-584-1248) and someone will be able to assist you.

Windows 8 and Windows 10 are newer versions of Windows and are still supported by Microsoft.



Ken Nissley



Upcoming Events November, 2019 Monday Memory Meeting -- CANCELLED Home of Bob Ibold, 239 Lancaster Ave. 1 2:00 PM Wednesday Navigating Open Enrollment 3 Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster 4:30 PM Thursday Thursday Lunch Bunch and Common Hour at F&M: A River of Voices: Documenting the Undocumented, 2019 M F&M Mayser Gymnasium 11:30 AM Tuesday Coffee and Club Express Lancaster Downtowners Office 0 9:00 AM More Info Wednesday Coffee and Club Express Lancaster Downtowners Office 9:00 AM More Info 🛇 Friday ExtraOrdinary Give Holiday Inn . 44 10:00 AM More Info 🛇 December, 2019 Tuesday Koffee Klatch Elizabeth and Ken Nissley Home 3 9:00 AM Monday **Holiday Celebration** Issei Noodle 9 6:00 PM

From your Reporter

Annual Meeting Recap

We had a great turnout for the Annual Meeting in October, catching up with fellow Downtowners while raising funds with a successful silent auction.

Executive Director Melissa gave her report to the membership of our continually growing nonprofit, introduced Interns Beth and Tyler and recognized outgoing President Kim for her leadership over many years.

Helping to spread the word of our mission in the community while continuing to raise funds to sustain us is always going to be a task for the coordinated efforts of multiple committees chaired by Board Members with Downtowners who come forward to volunteer their time and expertise.

Our next significant event is happening very soon as we look forward to participating in the Annual Extraordinary Give. We are so pleased to be a part of the day's activities at the Holiday Inn on Chestnut and Queen, where we will join eighteen other local nonprofits to meet our neighbors and tell our stories in the true spirit of fundraising. Stop by to say hi if you can.

Andy

This newsletter is a monthly publication of Lancaster Downtowners, a network of people who share a common passion for downtown Lancaster as the community of choice for their retirement years. John Kanagy, Editor-in-Chief Andrew Berfond, Editor Beth Thompson, Graphic Designer 118 N Water Street Suite 103 Lancaster, PA 17603 717-584-1224 www.lancasterdowntowners.org

