



From the President

As the Downtowners board sat together last Monday evening, we had several items before us. First of all, we heard a report from the interns who have been working with Downtowners during this school year. Most of you hopefully have had a chance to interact with Beth Thompson, intern from Lancaster Theological Seminary, and Tyler Cook, intern from the Millersville School of Social Work. We've been blessed to have these talented and energetic folks as part of our leadership team this year, and wish them all the best as they continue with their studies and move into their careers.



Judy Zimmerman

The other things on the agenda were two current issues that will affect all of us. One was the Corona virus and how we can work as an organization to help each other. You have already received information on this from Melissa in the office; be alert for additional updates as we go forward, and keep in touch with folks in your neighborhood group – we need to keep looking out for one another in the midst of this pandemic.

A second item we talked about was the census which takes place in 2020. The census happens every ten years, and is the basis for many of the ways governments, both state and federal, support our community. The census count determines congressional representation, and so it shapes how we will be governed. But it also determines the allocation of funding for things like transportation, food aid, and social services. So many of the ways we benefit from the use of our tax dollars are based on the census count.

When you receive a notice in your mail asking you to complete the census, please take it seriously. You will have several chances to respond:

- 1) You will be invited to log onto the website and complete the census form on line. If you'd like to do this but aren't sure how, please call Just One Call (717-584-1248) to ask for assistance from a volunteer.

From the President cont'd

2) If you prefer to respond via a paper form, one will be sent sometime in April to all households which have not completed the on-line form. Again, for assistance, check with Just One Call.

3) Finally, any households that have not responded by the end of April will be visited by a census worker who will fill out the form for you. Workers will carry identification – make sure you ask to see it.

We encourage all members to respond as soon as you can to the census. The form will ask several questions: the number of persons living in your home and their names, birthdates and race; how those persons are related to one another; whether you own or rent your home; and a phone number to reach you.

Again, feel free to call Just One Call for assistance, or check with the Downtowners office if you're not sure whether what you receive is legitimate. We want to make sure we can all respond to the census, but at the same time stay protected from identity thieves that might make use of this time to steal information. Let's all join to make sure everyone is counted!

Judy Zimmerman Herr,
President

News for March

From your reporter

I was supposed to fly down to Florida for a week today, accompanied by my son for some quality father/son bonding time. That did not happen. I called last week and canceled my flight and got in touch with Florida friends who I was planning to visit.

Since the reports of our future status changes daily, I was thinking I might have been a little premature to cancel my plans. As it turns out, it was the right thing to do.

We are hearing about social distancing, staying out of crowds and remaining in the comfort of our homes. It gives the expression "home sweet home" or "there's no place like home" new meaning.

Early this morning, I decided to take advantage of an offer at one of our local supermarkets for seniors to come in at 6am and shop before the crowds. When I arrived at the store a few minutes before six, there was already a group of people waiting for the doors to open. When we were allowed to enter the store, there was something very surreal about the moment due to the actual reason us older folks were up at the crack of dawn to shop.

As I pushed my cart around the store with shopping list in hand, I couldn't help but to observe my fellow shoppers there for the same reason as me. Some folks looked as if they were walking around aimlessly, with a "dazed and confused" look on their faces. Others appeared anxious and worried and did their best not to make eye contact with anyone.

Some people who I encountered were upbeat and willing to share a brief "good morning and how are you doing" type of conversation, as we walked the aisles searching for supplies. One man in particular had a big smile on his face and looked at me as he said "they have my favorite oatmeal." In challenging times it's amazing what could bring us joy!

My shopping trip today was painless and productive. I went in knowing I would not be getting everything on my list. Forget chicken or beef, unless you want to indulge yourself with a filet mignon. I opted for a pork loin. And forget things like disinfectant spray and hand sanitizer. I'm thinking it will take a while longer to keep up on restocking those products.

I was in and out and back home within an hour. I thought how much gratitude we should have for the supermarket to open a little bit early for us, and to their employees who were doing the best that they could to serve our needs.

Stay safe and be well my fellow Downtowners.

I hope to see you really soon "around town."

- Andy Berfond



Just One Call



717-584-1248

TRANSPORTATION TO APPOINTMENTS OR
LOCAL TRAIN/AIRPORT

IN HOME ASSISTANCE

SHOPPING ASSISTANCE

MEALS COOKED OR DELIVERED

PERSONAL VISITS OR PHONE CALLS

HOME MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE

YARD MAINTENANCE.

LEAF/SNOW REMOVAL

PET CARE/PLANT CARE

MAIL/NEWSPAPER PICK UP

A Neighborhood Group Story

Over the last two meetings, members of the "northeast" Neighborhood Group entertained lively discussion on the best places to eat in Lancaster. Their list nears 50 restaurants! After discussion about the pros of each establishment, Liliana Zancu categorized the options by general price point and has made that available to all Downtowners on the Documents section of our website. Now, this list is "just one Neighborhood Group's opinion", yet it's also a great example of the knowledge available via crowd sourcing within our community.

If your Neighborhood Group has something to share, let us publish it in the newsletter by sending the info to downtownersintern@gmail.com.

Victoria's Secrets "HE WAS MY ALL IN ALL"

After sell-out audiences for her historic monologues on Mary Lincoln and Sarah Bernhardt, both here at the Ware Center and in Cape May, NJ, Candace O'Donnell couldn't resist bringing to life one more widely misunderstood, and underestimated, symbol of an era. The result is Victoria's Secrets- "He was my all in all", which plays at the Ware Center May 14th and 15th.

Candace has researched this icon of propriety for years, but she was ecstatic when recent scholars, particularly Julia Baird and Daisy Godwin, were finally allowed access to Victoria's thousands of pages of her intimate diaries, which she called journals, and which she began at age 8 and continued until her death. Here we meet a real woman, the polar opposite of the scowling, distant prude, the absolute model of propriety which she presented to the public. The real Victoria was highly intelligent, witty, girlish, and, most importantly, passionately obsessed with her adored husband, Prince Albert. The mere fact that she bore him 9 offspring, although she detested pregnancy, childbirth, babies, and, in truth, children of all ages, says it all. She simply could not resist her dashing Consort who controlled her, quickly took over her monarchy, and, in reality, ruled as King. Albert died suddenly when Victoria was only 40, with 43 years left to reign- years she devoted to memorializing, indeed deifying him, sleeping every night under his portrait with both his dressing gown and a marble cast of his head at her side.

The program will be introduced by Candace's granddaughter Keeghan McLane, a theatre student at Temple University, who plays the role of Princess Beatrice, Victoria's youngest child, now in her 50's, who will assure the audience that these shocking secrets can literally be found in the journals. Beatrice will also confess that upon her dear Mama's death, she will expurgate the journals, removing any mention of the Queen's infatuation with John Brown, her Scottish gilly, and the Munshi, her Indian tutor. As is her trademark, Candace will engage her audience into interactively, asking them to sing along with Beatrice to "God Save the Queen" and to return her signature royal wave.



Prepare to be astonished. Prepare to be "amused"

A retired English professor from Elizabethtown College, Candace O'Donnell is a nationally published author who wrote a column on aging for Senior News. Over the years, she has performed at the Fulton, EP AC, TSS, Sight and Sound, Rainbow Dinner Theatre, and Dutch Apple. She was featured in Aurora Films' Another Harvest Moon with Ernest Borgnine, Doris Roberts, and Richard Schiff. Most recently, she appeared in Theater of the Seventh Sister's 20th Century Blues, directed by Michael Swanson, which was nominated by Broadway World Central PA in 2019 for honors in four different categories.

Resource Center

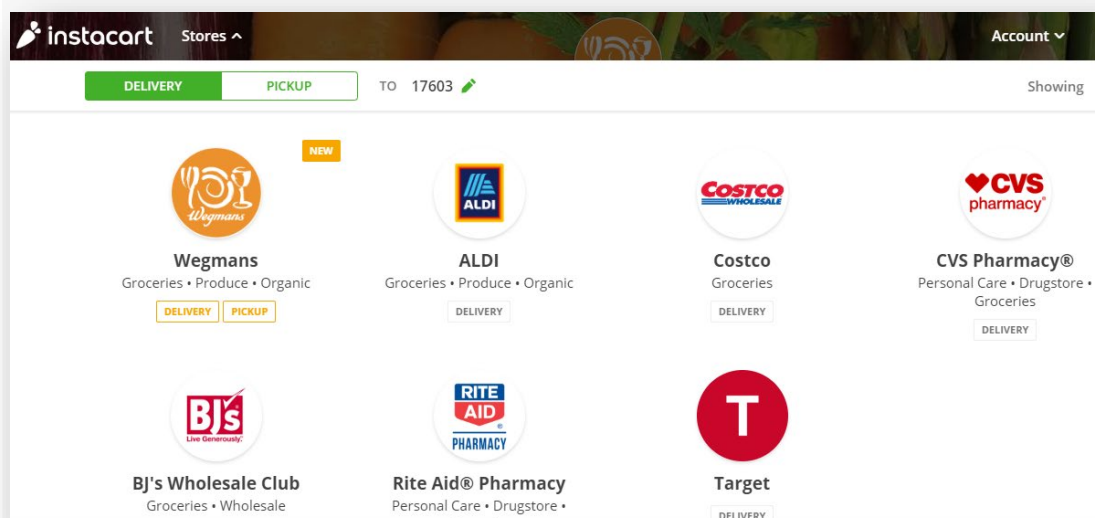
Click on any of these links to check out items available to learn, to purchase for delivery, or just entertainment:

[COVID-19 Map in PA](#)

[450 Ivy League Schools offering Free Classes](#)

[Universal Class \(free online learning classes\)](#)

[Lancaster Online Newspapers](#) are free currently. Here is the best link for Local Coronavirus information.



<https://www.instacart.com/store/wegmans/storefront>

Delivery Charge \$3.99 – some items may cost more in delivery than on shelves.

Tip is requested

PICKUP – You can order online, pay online and just drive up. They will put the groceries in your car.

Instacart Stores that can be delivered are pictured above.

Once you create a Instacart log in you can pick the store, then pick the items. Some items may be out of stock, they will give you another option or an option to not purchase that item. If anyone needs help, please contact Beth at bathompson@lancasterseminary.edu or by phone 717-271-6391.

Giant Grocery uses a service called Peapod

<https://www.peapod.com/>

The Lancaster Library System

If you have a Library card, here are the items you can access from your home.

Create a log in here (you must have your library card number)

This has all books available online, some audio narrated. You can even put them on hold.

[Overdrive](#)

endless amounts of e-books, some with audible available to read for free online

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Magazines

Lancaster Downtowners

Presents:

Bartram's Gardens and the Penn Museum, Philadelphia Wednesday, May 6, 2020



John Bartram (1699 -1777) purchased 102 acres from Swedish settlers in 1728, and 45 of those original acres on the banks of the Schuylkill River are preserved and cultivated as a National Historic Landmark through the John Bartram Assn. The story of his (and his descendants) copious collecting, cataloguing and selling of native plant species is fascinating. Featured in many books, among them *THE BROTHER GARDENERS*, his visitors and correspondents included the greatest scientific and humanitarian minds on both sides of the Atlantic. The current gardens' historic core is a collection of Bartram plants – in natural settings and gardens, species collected, grown, and studied by the Bartram family from 1728 to 1850, with a focus on native plants of eastern North America.



The Penn Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, created in 1899 to house and display the results of Penn's digs conducted across the globe for over 100 years. After a refurbishing of 44,000 sq. ft of space, the new highlight is the Egyptian galleries, where visitors are greeted by the sphinx and able to view more of its 42,00 artifacts within the restoration areas. One of the foremost archeology museums in the world, with world-class exhibit space and laboratories, the Penn Museum is a treasure trove of exhibits covering all cultures.

Cost: Downtowners: \$105.pp Nonmember: \$115.

Cost – Downtowner members: \$105.pp Nonmembers: \$115. Deadline 04/27/2020 for refunds & registration

Departing at 7:00 AM from the Lancaster Shopping Center, (ACMoore) and returning approx. 4:30 PM Package includes: Motor coach transportation, admission to Bartram's Gardens and the Penn Museum, snacks, water, and driver's gratuity. Lunch is on your own at the Penn Museum café.

NAME: _____ CELL _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: (receipts and updates will be emailed) _____

Downtowner member(s) _____ yes _____ no Please check one!

Please make checks payable to Susan Leinberger, mail both the bottom form & check to 136 N. Charlotte St, 17603, or give to Susan. Questions or concerns? Call Susan 717 682 9724 or sswlhome@gmail.com. A detailed outline will be emailed with your receipt. One receipt emailed per couple or person registering.

I understand I assume all responsibility and liability for participating in this trip. _____ (Initial)

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