

# LANSDOWNE APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER



## *From the Mayor*

Dear Lansdowne Residents,

As your Mayor, I would like to share some of my thoughts on this crisis that we are all dealing with. I know it is tough not being able to see family and friends and being able to go to work, but this is something we have to do. This is for the safety our families, our neighbors, and our communities. It is especially tough on those who are not working and not getting paid.

I know this first hand as I am self employed. I'll admit it concerns me, but I am confident this will end. As far as missing family, I missed my own grandson's 7th birthday and it was tough not being able to hug and kiss him.

I'm sure a lot of us are experiencing moments like this. As long as our loved ones are safe, this is what is most important. With everything that is going on, as Mayor, I am so proud and grateful for all my colleagues--the men and women on Borough Council, Borough staff--along with the Sanitation department, the Police and Fire departments--who have stepped up and are committed to making sure the Borough residents are safe, services are kept up, and Lansdowne stays informed. Lansdowne is fortunate to have such men and women serving the community.

This is not the first time our country was hit with uncertainty and fear. The Lansdowne community witnessed events like the Great Depression, Pearl Harbor, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the attack of 9/11. After each event our country rallied together, worked hard, and were committed to getting back on our feet. And we did. There's no doubt in my mind that we can do it again.

Since my initial Declaration of Emergency on March 13th, members of Council and I have been working through new information on a daily basis to take action when necessary to ensure the safety of the residents of Lansdowne Borough. We also need to manage our resources to make sure that Lansdowne's great Police Force, Fire Company, and Sanitation Workers can remain safe during this time. We want to emerge from this crisis with a thriving community.

Please read through the following important information to help Lansdowne workers and to keep yourself safe. Please follow Lansdowne Borough on our website or social for all the important updates from the state, county and borough governments. Remember to fill out your Census form, this is important for Lansdowne. And, please sign up for the new E-newsletter to receive timely information.

Take this time to finish house chores, work on your garden, read, play games with your kids, take a walk or just sit outside on your porch. Remember we are all in this together. Stay safe.

I'll see you around town soon.

Your Mayor  
Tony Campuzano



United States®  
**Census**  
**2020**

## THE TIME IS NOW

*Help shape your future, and your community's future, by responding to the 2020 Census.*

Most households received their invitation to respond to the 2020 Census between March 12 – 20. These official Census Bureau mailings will include detailed information and a Census ID for completing the Census online.

In addition to an invitation to respond, some households will receive a paper questionnaire (sometimes known as the census form).

You do not need to wait for your paper questionnaire to respond to the Census. Please complete your census form online, by phone, or by mail when your invitation to respond arrives. [Learn more here: https://2020census.gov/en/ways-to-respond.html](https://2020census.gov/en/ways-to-respond.html)

## PA DCD Business Resource

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development provides a resource for businesses during COVID-19. This resource provides information on Employers and unemployment compensation, Department of Health Guidance, fact sheets and COVID-19 information for businesses along with resources from local assistance partners.

You can access this information here: <https://dced.pa.gov/businesses/>

## PA State Coronavirus Updates

All Pennsylvanians have an important role to play in stopping the spread of COVID-19 and saving lives. The resources provided on the Pennsylvania State website are available to help individuals, families, and businesses do their part. This guide will be kept up to date as resources and information change.

You can find up-to-date information about cases in Pennsylvania at <https://www.pa.gov/guides/responding-to-covid-19/>.

## Dear Neighbors,

To begin, I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of Borough Council to the many individuals in the Lansdowne Police Department, Lansdowne Fire Company and EMS Squad, our Sanitation and Highway Crews, the Librarian, and our Office Staff who are keeping the Borough running. In these extraordinary times, their work, sacrifice, and daily operations help to maintain a sense of order and calm when our world seems so out of kilter.

The Governor's Stay-at-home orders for Delaware County and Pennsylvania extended through April 30 has a significant impact on Lansdowne Borough's residents and businesses. All subcommittees, boards, and commissions of the Boroughs have been suspended, the library is closed indefinitely, and our Playgrounds, Ball Courts, and recreation programs are closed. And many cultural events that are hallmarks of Lansdowne life have been cancelled or postponed.

Each week, an Emergency Team-- including the Mayor, representatives from Borough Council, the Chief of Police and Chief of the Fire Company and Lansdowne's Emergency Manager Tom Young, and the Borough Manager--meets (telephonically) to discuss the issues faced by the Borough of Lansdowne during this emergency and refer pertinent matters to Council. While concerns or issues are addressed at this meeting, Borough Council also meets to ensure that all matters are deliberated on and voted on by the elected representatives at meetings that they have moved into a virtual forum.

With the changes, Borough Council has been forced to make difficult decisions, but know that the decisions are made always with the consideration of public safety, fair treatment and health of Borough employees and residents, and proper management of Borough resources--the taxpayer's money. For example, Lansdowne Borough Council voted unanimously in favor of a plan to disburse \$25000 to the Lansdowne Fire Company to help staff the Fire Station in an effort to reduce the danger to the Volunteers and prevent the potential spread of Coronavirus.

Borough Council and the Mayor saw the need for this Emergency Mailer to apprise all of the residents about our actions since the whirlwind commenced with Mayor Campuzano's Emergency Declaration on March 13th and Council's Resolution to extend the Emergency on March 18th. We know that Lansdowne residents have many questions and concerns.

Although information has been posted on the Borough website and social media daily, we want to make sure that all of Lansdowne Borough receives the information. Each day as the number of confirmed cases rises and events change rapidly, we want to ensure that we are all doing all we can in Lansdowne to support the residents of Lansdowne, our neighbors, with their physical health, but also to provide timely and accurate information to reduce anxiety in these times.

In this mailer, please find pertinent information about community resources, changes in tax deadlines, contacts for Borough staff, and Council. Importantly, please also find how to access timely information from the State, County, and our Borough on our Social Media, webpage, and the new E-newsletter.

To my friends and neighbors, please be safe and I hope to see you all in the neighborhood.

Benjamin Hover  
President of Borough Council

## Childcare Notice

The Department of Human Services has created a list for Child care providers that are approved to operate during the COVID-19 public health emergency. If you work in a life-sustaining position, these providers may be able to help you and your family if you need child care. Please note that this list may change, and the Department of Human Services is doing their best to keep it up-to-date, but providers listed may make the decision to close at any time. They encourage all personnel in life-sustaining positions to make a back-up plan for child care should their provider decide to close.

You can view the list here: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Coronavirus-Child-Care.aspx>

## Delaware County Coronavirus Update

Delaware County has created a page for resources on COVID-19. The site provides frequent updates, data maps, CDC resources, PA Health Department Resources, print resources and volunteer opportunities. You can view these resources here: <https://www.delcopa.gov/ich/resources/coronavirus.html>

# Pennsylvania Primary Rescheduled

## June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

Governor Wolf has signed Senate Bill 422, which reschedules the 2020 primary election from April 28 to June 2. The order includes other election process changes, including some due to the COVID-19 emergency. The bill provides process improvements to Act 77 of 2019, to allow counties to begin processing and tabulating mail ballots beginning at 7 a.m. on election day, rather than after the polls close at 8 p.m. Additionally, the measure allows counties to temporarily consolidate polling places without court approval and eases other rules regarding location and staffing of polling places for the primary to respond to county concerns about a potential shortage of poll workers and appropriate polling place locations.

**The last day to register to vote in the 2020 Primary is now May 18, 2020. All voter registration forms must be received by the Voter Registration Office by 4:30p.m. on May 18.**

**2020 and online (with a signature) by 11:59p.m. May 18, 2020.**

**Registered voters do not need to file new applications despite the change in primary date.**

Voters are also reminded of the new option to vote by mail-in ballot rather than going to a polling place on election day. **The online application can be found here: [www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin](http://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin)**

**An FAQ section Regarding the June 2, 2020 Primary can be found here: <https://www.delcopa.gov/electionsbureau/primaryfaq.html>**



## COVID-19 Statement - Lansdowne Police Department

The Lansdowne Police Department is taking the Covid- 19 pandemic very seriously and we urge the public to do their part and please follow the recommendations from the medical professionals.

LPD officers are on patrol and responding to calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will continue to protect and serve our community during these difficult and ever changing times.

For the safety of our residents, staff and police officers, we had to modify how we perform our essential duties.

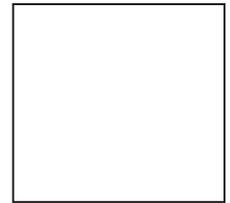
Residents who call 911 for a non-emergency incident may receive a phone call from the officer as opposed to the officer responding to your location. Depending on what information is provided to the 911 dispatcher, will determine what response is initiated by police. Officers will be available to respond immediately and take appropriate action if necessary. If we do respond to your residence/business, we may ask that you meet us outside so we can maintain the recommended social distance of 6 feet. If you call 911 for a medical emergency, please advise the dispatcher if you or anybody at your location is suffering from flu like symptoms so medical personnel can respond appropriately.

The police administrative office will be closed to the public until further notice. Our office will be staffed to handle phone calls (610-623-0700) and process requests for accident reports and other administrative tasks. Overnight Parking enforcement has also been suspended. If you come to the police station and need to speak to an officer, please use the red emergency phone and an officer will meet you outside.

The police department is here to help everybody so please do not hesitate to contact us if you need assistance. This pandemic is constantly evolving and we appreciate all your patience and understanding during this time of uncertainty. As a community, we will work together, get through this and build a stronger future.

Daniel Donegan  
Chief of Police





Lansdowne Township Newsletter APRIL 2020

Borough of Lansdowne
12 East Baltimore Avenue Lansdowne, PA 19050
Phone (610) 623-7300 Fax: (610) 623-5533
www.lansdowneborough.com.

We're going digital!

The Lansdowne Borough newsletter is now in digital format and will be emailed monthly. Residents will be able to read the digitized version in one of two ways.

- Either provide us with your email so that you may receive it directly in your inbox using the subscription link located online: http://eepurl.com/gVVVynz
• OR simply go to our website or social media sites where it will be available at any time for the general public to view.

For those who still prefer a print form, you are given the ability to "opt-in" to a printed newsletter in the mail. If you would like to receive a paper/mailed newsletter, please send an email to the following address: Hello@lansdowneborough.com or send a letter to us at the borough address above. Your email or letter should contain the following message: I would prefer to continue the print version (Include full name and physical address).

LANSDOWNE BOROUGHS CONTACTS

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Benjamin Hover
President
hoverb@lansdowneborough.com

Magdalena Byrne
Vice President
byrnem@lansdowneborough.com

Janet English
Councilwoman
englishj@lansdowneborough.com

Wardell Holt
Councilman
holtw@lansdowneborough.com

Tangela James
Councilwoman
jamest@lansdowneborough.com

Sinoe Naji-Taylor
Councilwoman
sntlansdowne@gmail.com

Michael Schleigh
Councilman
councilmanmichaelschleigh@verizon.net

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION

Anthony Campuzano
Mayor
campuzanot@lansdowneborough.com

Craig Totaro
Borough Manager
totaroc@lansdowneborough.com

Daniel Donegan
Police Chief
ddonegan@lansdowneborough.com

Erica Sollberger
Parks and Rec Director
Sollbergere@lansdowneborough.com

Kevin Laverty
Public Works Department
lavertyk@lansdowneborough.com

COMMITTEES

Finance & Administration
Tangela James, Chair
Janet English
Magda Byrne

Health & Public Safety
Sinoe Naji-Taylor, Chair
Magda Byrne
Janet English

Economic Development & Code Enforcement
Benjamin Hover, Chair
Michael Schleigh
Sinoe Naji-Taylor

Parks, Recreation & the Environment
Janet English, Chair
Michael Schleigh
Wardell Holt

Community Relations
Magda Byrne, Chair
Tangela James
Wardell Holt

Infrastructure & Public Works
Wardell Holt, Chair
Benjamin Hover
Janet English

# Lansdowne Borough Council Actions in response to COVID-19

**March 13th Declaration of Emergency:** Following Governor Wolf's Declaration of Emergency, Mayor Tony Campuzano signed a Declaration of Emergency following CDC guidelines and recommendations from the PA Department of Health:

- All Borough facilities closed, including: Lansdowne Public Library, Borough Hall, 2020 House, Twentieth Century Club events cancelled.
- Lansdowne Recreation programming cancelled, including: Art Shows, Recreation Programming, and Recreational events, including the Spring Egg Hunt and STEAM Festival.
- All Boards, Commissions, and Committee Meetings suspended until further notice.
- Essential Personnel will continue to report as normal.
- All Fire and EMS will continue as normal.
- Sanitation Services and Highway Department will continue as normal.

## March 16th: Emergency Management Team Meeting

- Members: Mayor Tony Campuzano, Council President Benjamin Hover, Chair of Public Safety Sinoe Najj-Taylor, Police Chief Dan Donegan, Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Young, Emergency Management Safety Officer Pete Ochansky, Borough Manager Craig Totaro.
- The Emergency Management Team will meet weekly to discuss procedures, protocols, and communication to keep Lansdowne safe.
- Review and revision of Lansdowne's Emergency Management Plan.

## March 18th: Lansdowne Borough Council Meeting voted to extend the Declaration of Emergency until further notice:

- All restrictions placed in effect by Mayor Campuzano's order will remain in place until further notice.
- Lansdowne Borough Council will meet next using telephonic or video means to adhere to the CDC guidelines concerning public gatherings. Further details will be made available to ensure compliance with the Sunshine Act and allow for public participation.
- Taxes: Lansdowne Borough Council voted to extend the 2% Discount on Real Estate Taxes for 30 Days—May 2nd. In-person tax payments at Borough Hall has been suspended. Please mail your taxes to Bill Smith, Tax Collector, P. O. Box 402, Lansdowne, PA. Or, pay in person at the WSFS Bank, 9 E Baltimore Ave., Lansdown, PA
- Parks and Trails remain open. Playgrounds, Basketball Courts, and Tennis Courts are closed. We strongly advise residents to adhere to CDC social distancing guidelines while using Parks and Trails.

## Illegal Lock-Outs – Know Your Rights

In response to the Coronavirus emergency, many courts are closed and no evictions are being processed at this time. As a result, landlords may attempt to remove tenants illegally for nonpayment of rent or other reasons.

You can help to protect yourself from illegal lock-outs. Know your rights.

- Landlords may only evict tenants by obtaining a valid court order for eviction. This order can only be issued after the tenant has been given the opportunity to appear at a hearing
- By law, an eviction is executed by the Sheriff or Constable, not the landlord.

It is illegal for a landlord to conduct an illegal eviction (also known as a self-help eviction). An illegal eviction is when the landlord changes the locks without a court order, when the landlord turns the tenant's utilities off, when the landlord throws out the tenant's possessions, when the landlord removes the windows and doors to the home, etc.

What do you do if you're illegally locked out?

- Call the police. Show them proof that you are a tenant.
- Call Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) at 877-429-5994 or [www.lasp.org/apply-here](http://www.lasp.org/apply-here). We can help you to file an emergency petition with the courts.

### What extra steps can you take to protect yourself?

- Keep proof that you are a tenant outside of your home. (For example, in your car or with a trusted neighbor.)
- Proof that you are a tenant may be a copy of your lease, a utility bill, photo i.d., rent receipts, etc.

Updated March 20, 2020

**Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) provides free civil legal aid in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. [www.lasp.org](http://www.lasp.org) | 877-429-5994**

## U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION GUIDANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND LOANS DURING COVID-19

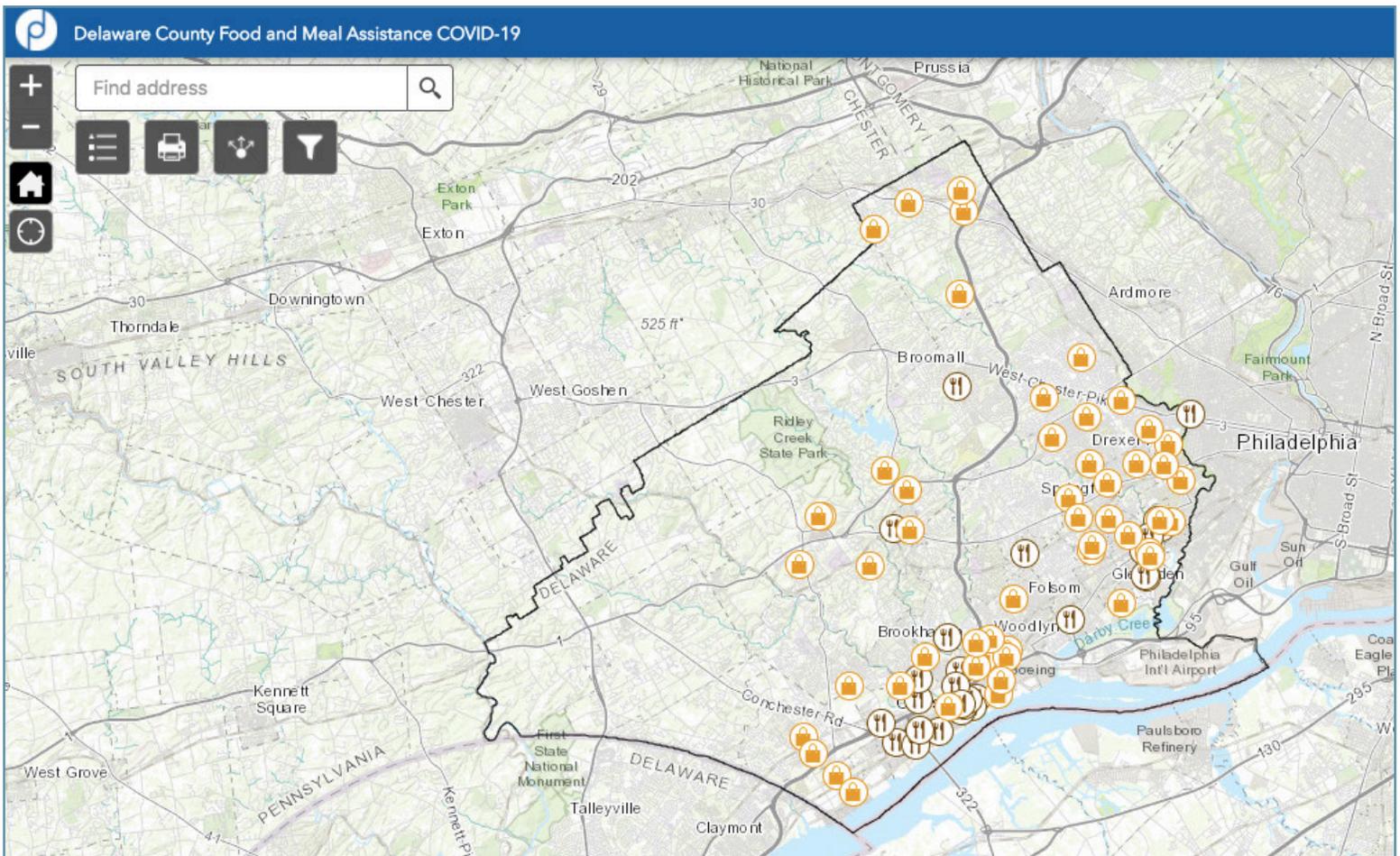
The U.S. Small Business Administration provides guidance for small businesses and loans during COVID-19. Health and government officials are working together to maintain the safety, security, and health of the American people. Small businesses are encouraged to do their part to keep their employees, customers, and themselves healthy. The site provides resources on the following topics:

- Paycheck Protection Program
- Economic injury disaster loans and loan advances
- SBA Debt Relief
- SBA Express bridge loans
- Guidance for businesses and employers
- SBA Products and resources
- Government contracting
- Local assistance

This information can be accessed here: <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

**Interfaith Food Cupboard:** Any Lansdowne residents who seek assistance for food necessities, please contact the Interfaith Food Cupboard at 610 622-0800, Option 4. The Interfaith Food Cupboard also seeks Food Donations of canned proteins. Please call the above number to give donations. The Interfaith Food Cupboard also has need of monetary donations. Please make out checks to: The Interfaith Food Cupboard. Mail the checks to Lansdowne Presbyterian Church, 140 N. Lansdowne Ave., Lansdowne, PA, 19050.

## Free Grab & Go Lunches for School Age Children



To assist families in our district during these challenging times, the **William Penn School District is providing Free Grab-N-Go Lunches for school-age children Monday through Friday, 11 AM to 1 PM.**

William Penn School District: Any school age child within Lansdowne may pick up a free Grab-n-Go lunch at:

- Evans Elementary School, 900 Baily Rd., Yeadon, PA
- Penn Wood Middle School, 121 Summit St., Darby, PA
- Darby Recreation Center, 1022 Ridge Ave, Darby, PA 19023
- Lansdowne Presbyterian Church, 140 N. Lansdowne Ave, Lansdowne, PA 19050

**PLEASE ARRIVE BETWEEN**

**11:00 AM-1:00P**

**Monday to Friday**