

HOURGLASS

KEEPING LANCASTER CURRENT



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URBAN AND SUBURBAN LIFESTYLES ARE MORE SIMILAR THAN YOU'D THINK – (CITYLAB)

Despite stereotypes to the contrary, it turns out there is very little difference in how urbanites and suburbanites who are demographically similar spend their time. Both the composition of their activities and the amount of time they devote to them are remarkably similar. Surprisingly, one key difference is that urbanites spend more time traveling. [More.](#)

"GENTLE" DENSITY CAN SAVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS – (Brookings)

As communities across the U.S. grapple with worsening housing affordability, there is growing interest in how zoning rules could be relaxed to allow smaller, less expensive homes. "Gentle density" could increase the number of homes available and bring down average housing prices in high-cost locations, while retaining the physical scale of the neighborhood. [More.](#)

THE CONNECTEDNESS OF OUR HOUSING ECOSYSTEM – (Strong Towns)

Many American cities are dealing with a housing affordability crisis. It turns out, that building new affordable homes is only part of the solution. Encouraging new housing construction, even more expensive market-rate housing, will alleviate the pressure on the affordable housing market. [More.](#)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS DOESN'T EXIST – (CURBED)

Fair market rent for one-bedroom rentals in 99 percent of counties in the U.S. are not affordable for a full-time minimum wage worker. The affordable housing crisis among low-income earners is a systemic issue caused by slow growth in wages and fast growth in rent. [More.](#)

LOCAL

PA State Parks Have a \$1billion Backlog in Needed Work

Our state parks have been the envy of many states, with a park within 25 miles of every Pennsylvanian. DCNR's proposed new management plan comes at a time when state park infrastructure is sagging under massive maintenance backlogs and many parks are struggling with overuse. The proposed new management plan acknowledges the mess, calling the current situation "a system under stress." Full article [found here.](#)



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