



Commissioners: Esterbrook Severance Fair, No Comments

In response to repeated questioning from *NewsLanc* and others as to why two former County administrators are receiving a quarter-year's worth of salary and benefits as "severance pay," Commissioner Chairman Dennis Stuckey responded, "We thought it was a fair severance package" but declined to comment further.

"In our understanding in public, he resigned," said Jesse Storm of Manor Township. "What is going on behind the scenes?"

"I know of no other business in the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that pays out one-quarter of the time that you've worked as a severance package to any employee who leaves," Storm continued.

In response to further prodding Commissioner Craig Lehman said, "The only way to be fair and respectful to all parties is to not comment on personnel matters," opining further that it can lead to situations in which individuals are embarrassed and "ripped apart in the media."

Hmm. How about by innuendo?

COMMENTARY: Buddy Glover for School Board!

Many were disappointed when local favorite Buddy Glover was passed over for the position of school board superintendent. The length and breadth of support for Glover from all those whom have had contact with him – regardless of their race – was apparent.

But there is no reason why Lancaster need be

deprived of his valuable service. He would be a shoo-in to be elected to the school board and, perhaps after a term or two, to the chair position.

Glover is 58 years old. He has at least ten good years of public service ahead of him. Let's make the most of this popular and highly competent local figure.

Lancaster Post Available Free at Turkey Hills

According to Christiaan Hart Nibbrig, Co-Publisher and Co-Editor of the *Lancaster Post*, free copies of the weekly tabloid "will be available at every Turkey Hill in the County starting this week, as well as at the Barnstormers' opening day at Clipper Stadium, April 25th."

Gaining access to the premises of Turkey Hill

stores is a major distribution milestone for the *Post*, which plans a circulation of 35,000 copies per week.

With Ron Harper and Hart Nibbrig sharing the editing, the *Post* is certain to be an exciting and controversial read. And it will also serve as an update on entertainment and dining as well as other activities about town.

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WATCHDOG

Apparently reporters and editors of the monopoly (well, they used to be!) Lancaster Newspapers failed to notice that thousands of copies of the initial issue of the *Lancaster Post* were being handed out downtown last Friday and

Saturday, at times in front of their building ... or they didn't consider this news!

Three guesses why.

COMMENTARY on Preliminary Draft of Home Rule Charter

The following observations and concerns do not imply that *NewsLanc* favors a change in the form of County government. More on that later.

1) The Chair gets to appoint the committees. *NewsLanc* recommends that appointments be subject to the approval of a majority of all five members of the Board.

2) Contrary to what was previously reported in the *Intell*, the Board may deal directly with members of the Executive Branch "for the purpose of obtaining information and advice." Otherwise they deal through the County Executive "exclusively." This is proper.

3) Wisely, adoption of an ordinance requires a majority vote of all five members, not just the three or four in attendance. Approval of resolutions and motions can be by a majority of those present.

4) It provides for an initiative petition of "a thousand United states citizens who are legal residents of the County." It also requires the Election Board to "pass upon the validity of the petition and the validity of the number of signatures thereon."

But then, strangely, it directs the petition to be "considered" by the Commissioners.

It is as though the public got all dressed up to put a matter on the ballot and are told the only place they can go is to the Board! There is no need for a thousand signatures in order to get up at a commissioner's meeting and make a recommendation!

NewsLanc suggests that such petitions be placed on the next ballot to become law. Either that or drop this sham initiative.

Our Kids Learn Fast, But ...

A McCaskey ninth grader took exception to the *Sunday News* April 20th editorial: "*A friend not in deed: This child pornography case stretched the definition of friendship and common sense.*"

Said the teenager: "[Editor] Marv Adams should read Arthur Miller's *'The Crucible.'* He would see how witnesses who testified on behalf of the accused were imprisoned!"

His father suggested that he write a letter to

the *Sunday News* citing the Salem Witch Trials as an example of Adams's error in criticizing people for testifying about their work history with Stephen Spiese.

"Oh, I'm not going to sign a letter. (Pause) I'll write it if you'll sign it. (Pause) Do you think they would publish it anonymously?"

Yes, our kids learn fast. But they often learn the wrong lessons from adults ... such as not being willing to stand up in public for what they believe.