

Black clergy this Sunday may decide Tuesday's election

According to a commentator from Politico.com heard on P. O. T. U. S. (Sirius – XM), over 95% of African-Americans support President Barack Obama. But unlike in 2008 when over 75% turned out to vote, recent polling suggests that only around 45% have indicated they will go to the polls next Tuesday.

A high Black turnout would almost certainly preserve Democrat control of the Senate and might even enable Democrats to retain the House.

SUNDAY NEWS: An article opined: *“Penn Manor School Board has voted to offer \$3.84 million for a piece of property owned by a former school board president — land for which the district has no particular plans...”*

“The property is between two parcels already owned by the district. Because the land is zoned for housing, advocates of the sale said, the district should grab it to prevent it from being developed.”

INTELLIGENCER NEW ERA: Brad Rutter in **“Rutter fires up librarians”** says:

“I didn't learn most of the stuff I knew on 'Jeopardy!' in school,” he said. “I learned it by reading books that I was interested in. ...Most of the answers I gave on 'Jeopardy!' I learned from independent reading, which got started just a block up the street here at the Duke Street library here in Lancaster.”

Given the influence of the Black clergy over their parishioners and the clergy's historic leadership on political issues, President Obama will either be buoyed up or let to fall by the extent of their efforts on Sunday.

The big question is whether allegiance to one of their own will spur voters to get off their duffs and cast ballots. If they don't, African-Americans will have themselves to blame for undermining the first African-American president.

“If that's the case, why not lobby Manor Township to change the zoning and save \$3.84 million?”

WATCHDOG: Two reasons why not: It would be using its zoning powers to deprive the owner of the value of his property. It would be 'spot zoning'.

In the first case it would be immoral. In the second, it would be illegal. Growl.

WATCHDOG: But for the transference of a promised \$3 million in earmarked funds from the library expansion to cover deficits at the Convention Center and the panicking of the library board to forego at least the funded renovation (with expansion on the horizon from the future Recovery Act), the almost 1500 daily attendees would be visiting a facility that would be the pride of Lancaster. So sad. So Lancaster. Ignorance, self serving and pettiness trumps experience, competence and wisdom.

Folly all around us

Observations while leafing through the *Sunday News* over coffee and a bran muffin:

1) “Father, 3 sons found guilty of tax evasion”

The Watchdog doesn't know the Bitterman family, but I assume their mindset is a cross between narcissism and tribalism, whereby they do not perceive themselves as being part of a greater community, as partners in the Judeo / Christian / Islamic creeds (as well as the other great religions) of “*Doing unto others as you would have them do unto you.*” Sure Democracy is messy, but to paraphrase Winston Churchill, it is better than any other form of government. The Watchdog regrets many things government does, but has always believed that to cheat on taxes was to steal from children and the needy.

2) “Massacre at Mexico party”: “*Gunmen stormed two neighboring homes and massacred 13 young people at a birthday party in the latest large-scale attack in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.*”

Prohibition didn't work for alcoholic beverages and it won't work for illegal drugs. When the world's largest industry (with the possible exception of prostitution) and biggest money maker is turned over to the worst elements of society, we cannot expect anything different. If we do not tax, regulate and control marijuana and provide for the prescription of hard drugs to addicts when nothing else will work, we can expect here in Lancaster

someday what is an ongoing occurrence in Mexico. Prohibition doesn't work.

3) “Facing foreclosure mess”: “*But, as [Assistant Attorney General Patric] Madign wrote in a paper more than three years ago, ‘foreclosure no longer makes economic sense for the holders of most mortgages. Instead, investors and servicers should modify loans to keep as many borrowers in their homes as possible...’*” Correct. But until Congress passes a law empowering mortgage service organizations to act on behalf of the multiple ownership interests in the preponderance of mortgages that were sliced and diced and sold in different parts as securities, mortgage service organization will not have the authority to change the terms or conditions, even though to do so would serve the interests of all concerned.

4) “Iraqis unsurprised by revelation in WikiLeaks release”: “*Americans carelessly opened fire at checkpoints when Iraqis failed to stop. Militias and insurgent roamed the streets, randomly killing members of the opposite sect. Iraqi security forces rounded up suspect at will and tortured them.*” For those of us who lived through or studied the Viet Nam War, this does not come as a surprise.

The coffee from Starbucks and the raisin bran muffin from Rics Place were very tasty. It is the news that was hard to stomach.

Polls indicate Toomey leads Sestak by narrow 46 to 43.2

Real Clear Politics' summary of six recent polls of the Sestak vs. Toomey senatorial campaign shows Pat Toomey leading 46.0 to 43.2, a margin of +2.8.

They comment: “*10/26/10 — The polls are a bit all over the place here. Morning Call's tracking*

poll shows an eleven point swing from a week ago, while Reuters/Ipsos enters the fray with a poll showing a tie race. Without any crosstabs, it is difficult to get a sense of who has a better view of the race, but Toomey appears to have an overall lead.”

The above have been excerpted from NewsLanc.com.
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