

NewsLanc.com

Providing Lancaster City & County with an Alternative Source for
Local News and Commentary

11/12/10 • Publisher: NewsLanc.com, LLC • Volume II, No. 145

Lancaster General Health's Annual Open Meeting on Thursday

Scheduled for Nov. 18th at 3:00 PM in the hospital's Stager Conference Center, the public will be allowed up to five minutes per person for public questions and comments, according to Director of Communications John Lines.

The main topics will be Electronic Medical Records, LGH's Financial Position, Performance, and Quality Goals.

NewsLanc will report on the event.

County Democrat Party let Joe Sestak down

According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*,
“...Toomey reaped a 54,000-vote margin in Lancaster County, after planning for a robust but more normal 40,000.”

The Watchdog did not encounter a single representative of the Democrats registering voters or passing out campaign literature at the all important venue of the Central Market during the course of the campaign.

With both Millersville University and Franklin & Marshall College and the spillover of suburbia from Philadelphia and Harrisburg, the Democrats should have done much better. This is not to slight the considerable efforts of Democrat Congressional candidate Lois Herr and other candidates.

If anyone comes across the Democrat party in Lancaster, please give them a swift kick in the pants.

ANONYMOUS: “*You didn't see any of us at Central Market because we were concentrating our efforts on contacting likely voters directly. Experience has proven that trying to influence a wide variety of people at a public place or event is far less effective than reaching out to the individuals who are most likely to vote.*”

ANONYMOUS: “*This isn't the first time I've wondered about the Democratic party in Lancaster. Even if it's just names on a ballot, I have always been concerned that so many local positions have the Republicans running unopposed. Thanks for putting this in writing for us.*”

LETTER: When the cash drawer is left open

“How can the leadership of LGH sleep at night? Oh... that's right. They have ‘theirs’ and don't give a thought for anyone else. How sad...”

Is there a good, worthy leadership anywhere? Or are they (good leaders) there and we are just to numb to it all to notice and/or care? I don't think it

is courage that is lacking. My vote is on general public apathy.

The Trustees know this and know they can do as they will. Why should they have responsibility and integrity when the cash drawer is left open and nobody cares if they empty it. (NewsLanc's editor the obvious exception.)”

Should we kill Crazy People?

by Ron Harper Jr.

This past Saturday afternoon, Robert Neill, Jr. 61 died at the hands of police. The Vietnam era vet was a widower, father of three grown children and grandfather of 9 (according to newspapers accounts).

Neil called the police to his home for help for what's reported to be neighbors harassing him.

So far, the only witnesses to Neill's death were involved with his death. Normally, that fact would cause those listening to scrutinize their statements. Someone who just killed would want to present the circumstances in a way that would make them look justified.

We are told that police were going to '302' Neill. That's lingo is the statute number that permits police and medical staff to call out the men in white jackets and haul anyone they want to a mental ward.

Setting aside (for the moment) other aspects of this story, can District Attorney Craig Stedman and law enforcement focus on this indisputable fact: No sane person believes that a mentally ill person, who calls the police to their home for help, should end up dead.

According to friends and family, for years this man was wrestling with residual terror acquired while in the service of our country! He calls the police for help, and they respond by shooting 50,000 volts of full-body, paralyzing, electricity at him – not once but twice! Oh, the 'helpers' also sprayed a caustic chemical on the troubled soul. This pepper mace is a form of chemical choking in that it swells the throat, but also adds burning pain and blindness. Neill's 'helpers' delivered this terror-inducing behavior that mimicked his war-induced post traumatic stress. And they did this to someone that they KNEW was mentally ill?

I have little doubt that we are going to hear a 'while everyone regrets what happened to Mr. Neill, the police were following procedures and did what they had to do to protect themselves'. Or something to that effect! What will it take for the police or the public to DEMAND that training and policy should be IMPROVED so that this kind of incident NEVER happens again?

If this outcome – the death of a mentally ill man – is not acceptable – what are we doing to make sure it NEVER happens? Until police and DA Stedman starts that dialogue, another tragedy could happen today.

LETTER: PAM faculty presents a chamber music soiree this Saturday

"Come hear a varied lineup of 18th-21st century selections presented by PAM's distinguished faculty, and enjoy wine and refreshments in the beautiful setting of the Iris Club. Tickets are \$10 and available at the door. The Iris Club is located at 323 North Duke St. in Lancaster. Concert time is 7:30 PM. For more info, call 717.399.9733."

Program: *Dover Beach* (1931) Samuel Barber; *Trio Sonata in A minor*,) Georg Philipp Telemann;

Sonata in A minor,) Georg Philipp Telemann; *Fratres* (1983), Arvo Pärt; *String Quartet in G minor, Op.27* (1878), Edvard Grieg; *Songs America Loves to Sing* (2004), John Harbison; NakedEye Ensemble: Matthew Allison, flutes; Doris Hall-Gulati, clarinets; Michael T. Jamanis, violin; Sara Male, cello; Ju-Ping Song, piano.

**The above have been excerpted from NewsLanc.com.
Visit the website daily for news, commentary, letters, and other features.
Suggestions and letters welcome at letters@NewsLanc.com**