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We are seizing the change in the weather to remind everyone that NewsLanc is published daily at www.NewsLanc.com and provides links to informative state, national and international coverage, as well as reports, commentaries and letters concerning local issues. Join the thousands who visit NewsLanc each week.

County Assessor fails to tax former PAM building

Millersville University leases, but has not purchased, the former building at 42 N. Prince Street that was owned by the Pennsylvania Academy of Music prior to its foreclosure by Union National Community Bank (UNCB)...

When a representative of *NewsLanc* asked the County Assessment office representative *"Will the property remain tax exempt for real estate purposes or, because the bank owns it now, should it be put back on the tax rolls?"* the response

was *"It is exempt because it is a school."*

The Watchdog asked a noted authority. The response was: *"In PA the property should be put back on the rolls because it is no longer owned by a purely public charity but by a profit making entity."*... The status of the tenant is not relevant.

UNCB should be paying real estate taxes. The City and School District of Lancaster sure could use the money!

White House moves to fund needle exchanges as drug treatment

WASHINGTON EXAMINER: The Obama administration has designated intravenous needle exchanges as a drug treatment program, allowing federal money set aside to treat addictions to be used to distribute syringes to narcotics users...

The new position, determined by the surgeon general, is that the states can receive federal funding for programs that hand out the syringes as a treatment."U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Regina M.

Benjamin told The Washington Examiner that needle exchange programs can serve as a gateway to treatment for drug addiction, HIV and other diseases...

EDITOR: *Yet Lancaster General Hospital, despite its vast profits and public health mission, will do nothing to assist the establishment of a full service syringe exchange to our region.*

How many city workers needed to fill a pot hole?

The usual approach a couple of decades ago was for townships to send one worker with a pickup truck to the asphalt plant and then the worker would drive around, stopping at pot holes, shovel in some black top, and compact it. Where appropriate, a second might share the work and act as a flag person.

The Watchdog witnessed what appeared to be four city 'workers' filling a pot hole near the Central Market, with one doing the work and the other three standing by.

And we wonder why taxes are so high.

INTELLIGENCER NEW ERA

Article “**Academy of Music says it will close**” reports:

“The Pennsylvania Academy of Music will close its doors for good at midnight Thursday, officials said this afternoon. The academy’s eight-member board voted unanimously Tuesday evening to close, said chairman Dr. Thomas Godfrey.”

WATCHDOG: Very sad. We mourn the loss.

Our thanks to those who tried so hard and sacrificed so much to save the school.

Our condolences to faculty, staff and students.

In better economic times, PAM may have found the support it deserved.

LETTER: Meaning of loss of PAM

“It’s one thing to take lessons from a music instructor. It’s quite another to attend a school that can prepare a student for a career in music. If PAM’s doors close, this community will lose that type of instruction and preparation for its youth, not to mention the group classes, seminars, and festivals, the camaraderie and friendships developed between students and faculty.”

LETTER: Where’s the outrage?

“Because I am a young’n, I do not remember much about the public outcry when the plans for this convention center were unleashed by our local government.

“If I am understanding correctly, this building was built with taxpayer dollars under the premise that the center would bring business for the city in exchange? After reading the comment before mine,

it seems that for some reason Penn Square Partners were given a contract funded by taxpayer dollars in order to open up their business and proceed to collect the revenue while the public pays the upkeep...

“Where’s the outrage?”

EDITOR: There was and still is

LETTER: Men milking women’s lib

“... As a father of girls, the trend that troubles me involves how much the women give. When I was dating the guy indeed picked the girl up paid for the date.

“Today? I see that the girls are driving their mooching boyfriends. They will stop at Turkey Hill and the girls are pumping and paying for gas, running in a buying munchies while the guys? They sit on their butts in the passenger seat texting their buddies about how they are going to get laid tonight!

“So much for women’s lib. My uncle had it correct – ‘Why buy the cow when you can have the milk for free!’”

LETTER: The best things in life are free!

“I shopped the thrift shops for clothing. We did not go out to eat, we attended free events, loved the parades for the fairs but never went to the fair. We walked to market and took the bus home, went on picnics, free movies at Buchanan Park in the summer, and I am convinced the best things in life really are free...

“I’ve asked my now grown daughter if she ever knew how little money we used to live and she was very surprised as she never felt that she went without.”