

Real Reporting.org / NewsLanc.com

6/21/13 • Publisher: NewsLanc.com, LLC • Volume II, No. 198

Calls from a justice raise concerns

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER: Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Seamus P. McCaffery raised objections about a judge hearing a civil case brought by a firm that paid his wife a referral fee and whose principals have contributed to his campaign, according to sources in the justice system...

The FBI is investigating 19 referral fees paid to McCaffery's wife over the last 10 years, a period that also covers the justice's tenure as a state Superior Court judge, The Inquirer reported this week. In the only case for which the amount of the fee is known, Rapaport was paid \$821,000 in 2012

A common sense test could protect the public, taxpayers, the Lancaster Solid Waste authority, and the City of Harrisburg.

The simple and common sense test involves drilling down through the massive ash fields and collecting samples of the liquid, or leachate, resting on the thick layers of liner at the bottom of the ash.

At issue is whether decades of burning garbage and hazardous waste at the incinerator left behind a dangerous residue at the bottom of the massive ash fields, or elsewhere on and off the site.

Bringing up the samples of the leachate and testing them for dangerous toxins could literally get to the bottom of the controversy...

out of a settlement in a case brought by a different Philadelphia firm...

EDITOR: *The in depth investigative reporting that the **Inquirer** has undertaken concerning Justice McCaffery is a rare example of what the newspaper and similar periodical used to perform.*

NewsLanc is currently doing such reporting concerning the proposed purchase of the Harrisburg Incinerator by the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority. Democracy depends upon an active and conscientious Fourth Estate.

The office of Harrisburg Receiver William Lynch is overseeing the current deal involving the sale of the incinerator to LCSWMA.

The receiver's spokesperson, Cory Angell, tells us he is unfamiliar with the environmental issues with the incinerator, but that he is willing to look into them.

"I don't know much about that," Angell tells me.

Apparently, not many in Lancaster do, either.

The best present for Fathers Day? Stop bashing men

What could be more typical of the modern swing of the social pendulum (Zeitgeist) than columnist (and

local defender of 'virtue') Carol Petersen's **"Dads play vital role in family"**.

The first 80% of the column consists of attacks on men in general and fathers in particular. Here is the second paragraph: *“It is heartbreaking to see a man bring a child into a cafe or restaurant and then play with his high-tech gadget while his child repeatedly says, ‘Dad? Dad? Daddy?’ repeatedly until they finally wear down dad until he finally looks up, exasperated, and responds with a loud ‘WHAT!’”*

Yes, we are terrible aren't we?

Petersen's column(s) is (are) representative of the angry side (call it collateral damage) of the feminist movement...not satisfied to improve the lot of women but to do so through the denigration of men.

Never mind that over an estimated 80 million years, men evolved as hunters and later the bread winners, the warriors, defenders of the family, and the

Detroit values its citizenry ahead of creditors; Tom Corbett, Harrisburg and Lancaster don't

Article **“Emergency manager: Detroit won't pay \$2.5B it owes”** reports:

“A team led by a state-appointed emergency manager said Friday that Detroit is defaulting on about \$2.5 billion in unsecured debt and is asking creditors to take about 10 cents on the dollar of what the city owes them.”

That is what City of Harrisburg and its Waste Authority should be doing. But Gov. Tom Corbett is trying to ‘move heaven and earth’ to prevent creditors for \$350 million in debt from taking a big loss.

Part of the scheme is to sell the environmentally challenged and accident prone Harrisburg incinerator to the Lancaster County Solid Waste Disposal Authority at a cost of over \$150 million, three times apparent market value. (\$45 million was

leaders of the community. In two generations, due to the changes in work place requirements and social reform, the roles of men have been largely redefined economically and socially.

We have watched for fifty years as men have been made the butt of situation comedies. Foolish father... wise mother.

Women now outnumber men in college. Women often earn more than men. That over 50% of biological parents are not married is testimony to the confused relationship between the sexes.

Men and women do not come from the same mold and we need to recognize that. This is a time of radical transformation for boys and men. Yes, women should be respected and have equal opportunities. But so should men.

LCSWDA's original bid and the only other bidder drop out.)

The creditors would likely show their gratitude to Corbett in the way of campaign contributions, as did the Marcellus Shale drillers who have avoided a state extraction tax and the Second Mile Foundation sponsors during the time when its founder Jerry Sandusky was “slow walked” by Corbett as attorney general.

As the only remaining bidder, we cannot understand why LCSWDA would want to pay a price equal to its total net worth now when later the incinerator could be purchased for a fraction of the cost through a bankruptcy court, hopefully without acquiring the adjoining ‘mountain’ of potentially toxic ash residue dating back forty years.

**The above items have been excerpted from www.NewsLanc.com.
Visit the website daily for news, commentary, letters, and other features. Suggestions
and letters can be sent anonymously through the home page.**