



City is at property code violators' service...for about \$250

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, Director of Administrative Services Patrick Hopkins reported to the Council regarding the Administrative Ticketing system now in place to enforce the City's updated Property Maintenance Code.

The new system, Hopkins explained, works in a manner similar to vehicle-related ticketing. When a violation is recognized by an inspector, the site will be captured by digitally timed-stamped photographs and the property owner is issued a \$25 ticket.

If the violation qualifies as "*non-abatement*," the fine must be paid, but there will be no subsequent inspection. Trash-can or recycling violations are examples of this category.

If the violation qualifies as "*abatement*," the City will revisit the property after a specified period of time to confirm that the violation has been corrected. If not, the City will hire a contractor to correct the violation and bill the property owner for the work (approximately \$250.00).

Bill introduced to allow newspapers to become nonprofits

A report from *Reuters* states that U. S. Senator Benjamin Cardin has introduced a bill "*allowing newspaper companies to restructure as nonprofits with a variety of tax breaks.*"

According to Cardin, "*This may not be the optimal choice for some major newspapers or corporate media chains but it should be an option for many newspapers' that are struggling to stay afloat.*"

Critics offer warm welcome to locally produced movie

Former Lancastrian and *NewsLanc's* "Santa Monica" movie reviewer Dan Cohen and publisher Robert Field teamed up to help produce the motion picture "*Perestroika*" that previewed before an audience of 700 at a New York City benefit last week and opened in Los Angeles over the week end to near rave reviews.

Field said that seventeen years passed between when the screenplay was written and the movie was filmed in Moscow in 2007 by writer / director Slava Tsukerman. He credited Cohen, an

F & M graduate and now a film writer and director in his own right ("*Diamond Men*"), with making a major artistic contribution to the final editing of the movie.

Perestroika opens in New York City on April 17th at the Cinema Village.

A trailer, reviews and other information can be viewed at www.PerestroikaTheMovie.com.

What Ernst and Young really said about Convention Center Project

(The sixth in a series)

The 1999 Market Study is predicated upon a 294 room hotel and a 61,000 square feet conference facility and shared common areas, less than one third of the 250,662 square feet that was actually built. It paints a rather negative picture of prospects for even a small Convention Center.

Ernst & Young LLC warns: ***"It is important to note that this does not take into account the estimated costs associated with the development of each Scenario, the financial feasibility, or the anticipated returns."***

It strangely does not take into consideration the experience of the distressed downtown Brunswick Hotel.

The report recommends *"tennis court's and/or racquetball court(s)"* and *"preferred tee-times at nearby golf course(s)."* It goes on to explain: *"According to the IACC, a fitness club, swimming pool, and tennis courts are the most common recreational facilities offered at conference centers in 1997."*

"Factors Assessed as Competitive

Weaknesses: (1) Air access; (2) Cultural, arts

EDITORIAL: Another loss for SD of L athletics

The *Intelligencer Journal* reports the resignation of Scott Feldman as head football coach at McCaskey High School.

With the welcome departure of Allen McCloud as athletic director, *NewsLanc* urged incoming School Superintendent Pedro Rivera and also the School Board to conduct a thorough search and to allot sufficient funds to engage an experienced director, preferably from outside the District.

Instead Rivera and the Board chose to jump a SD of L wrestling coach and dean of the Lafayette elementary school into arguably its second most

and entertainment attractions; (3) Population (4) industry concentration; (5) Historical demand for lodging/meeting facilities; (6) Market image for meetings/conventions/trade and consumer shows; (7) Other quality-of-life issues."

"Competitive Strengths: *(1) Perceived cost savings associated with booking and attending an event in Lancaster versus other locations in Pennsylvania (including Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Hershey). (2) The Center's advantage with respect to including an attached, upscale full-service hotel (estimated to be of sufficient size to capture a portion of lodging demand generated by large shows and conventions), is offset by a lack of hotels within walking distance of the Center (other than the Brunswick Hotel) to capture spillover demand."*

According to Ron Harper of *FifthEstate.com*, the Ernst and Young study was not made available to the public until twenty hours before the County Commissioners voted to establish a 5% hotel room tax, 3.9% to directly subsidize the Conference Center and 1.1% to promote tourism.

challenging administrative position.

NewsLanc has repeatedly pointed out that the main problem with many of the McCaskey teams is lack of knowledge on the part of coaches on how to run drills, train skills, and conduct active and vigorous practices. There is no indication this is being corrected.

The current situation is unfair to the students, to the community, and does not reflect favorably on Rivera or the School Board. It is time for the public to raise its voice!

Visit www.NewsLanc.com daily for news, commentary, letters, and other features.
Suggestions and letters welcome at info@NewsLanc.com.