



Sen. Armstrong Says Naming Rights Worth \$2 - \$3.5 Million

According to the Lancaster *New Era* on August 11, 2006: “[State Sen. Gib] Armstrong said the sale of naming rights to the convention center will raise at least \$2 million, but probably closer to \$3.5 million....He said there ‘supposedly are several’ prospective buyers, but he declined to name them.”

Although Penn Square Partners has no investment or ownership interest in the

convention center portion of the project, the then city appointee dominated Convention Center Authority agreed to give them 50% of the proceeds from the sale of the Naming Rights.

Yes, subsidiaries of the monopoly Lancaster Newspapers, Inc. and The High Group will receive from \$1 million to \$1.75 million dollars for no apparent reason whatsoever...except they held the strings.

Authority approves Commissioners' offer; changes may follow

Convention Center Authority Chairman Art Morris masterfully conducted an orderly discussion including votes on a motion and two amendments before the board, dividing four county appointees to three city appointees, approved the Oct. 16th offer of a partial settlement by the county commissioners.

The board also approved a non-binding request that discussions be continued to modify the Oct. 16th agreement to include some or all of the additional terms of the LCCCA's counter proposal of Oct. 17th.

Before the final vote was taken, Morris commented: “A county withdrawal is not significant to us. I see this settlement more public relations than substance.”

Board member R. B. Campbell who cast the pivotal vote to table the resolution nine days earlier, stated: “I have yet to hear from our solicitor any harm or downside that will occur by signing the Oct. 16th agreement.”

A bizarre moment was when Ted Darcus described the proposal to the effect: “Flim flam and stinking from here to heaven that stinks. And all we are getting is we got to go with Oct. 16th because of the commissioners, the commissioners....”

Interviewed immediately after the vote, Commission Chairman Dick Shellenberger said he would be receptive to discussions to modify the Oct. 16th agreement to conform more closely to the Oct. 17th proposal

Combining Beauty and Brains

At Tuesday's meeting of the Lancaster City Council, member Louise Williams announced a partnership between Empire Beauty School and Domestic Violence Services of Lancaster to provide salon professionals with training to recognize signs of abuse, given that

women are likely to disclose such matters only through conversation with people they trust.

This is an excellent example of outreach that costs very little and can accomplish so much.

District Attorney Ignores What the Bible Teaches

Late in the morning of on Oct. 19 under an overcast sky, an author, a movie maker, and two members of the *NewsLanc* staff retraced the last moments of Jonathan Luna's life, as he was driven from the Reading / Lancaster Turnpike Interchange to the secluded back lot of a rural industrial building several minutes away.

Members of Luna's family were permitted to erect a cross with his name and date of birth and date of death at the spot where he his body was found, cringing under his car which had been hung up over a hidden stream with the motor still running.

Just days after Luna's death, the FBI leaked false reports to Baltimore newspapers that were meant to discredit Luna and discourage further reporting.

A year afterward, the FBI tried unsuccessfully to convince the Lancaster coroner to change the autopsy report from homicide to suicide, despite over thirty stab wounds to hands, body and back and a deep gash to Luna's throat. In an editorial, the *Sunday News* indicated it wasn't buying any suicide explanation.

The Bible teaches that a town must assume responsibility for strangers who are murdered within its vicinity. Luna's death took place in Lancaster County. But District Attorney Donald Totaro has declined to investigate, despite the obvious involvement of the FBI in a cover up concerning his death.

Since Totaro and the FBI won't talk about the murder, we'll just have to await the movie.

An Ethicist Comments on "Did Field Play the Race Card?"

Upon a request from *NewsLanc*'s president Robert Edwin Field, an ethicist commented on Art Morris's *Sunday News* column of Oct. 7th and Field's response of Oct. 14th as follows:

"Let me first say, I'm not sure why Art Morris referenced [former LCCCA chairman Ted] Darcus's race in the first place. My sense is that there is a higher percentage of African

American leaders who are Republicans in Lancaster than is typically the case elsewhere.

"Second, your letter plays the ad hominem card in a way which does implicate Darcus's race. Frankly, both comments are condescending in my opinion albeit unintended. Darcus's race is beside the point; it's his actions and decisions which should be the subject of praise or condemnation."