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Update re Pennsylvania Academy of Music

The surprising and precipitous resignation of most members of the board of trustees, including its chair, created a void that has required co-founders Fran Veri and Michael Jamanis to remain members long enough to enlist replacements, in accordance with PAM's by-laws.

It is anticipated that a detailed announcement concerning the reconstituted board and the

academy's future leadership may become available as early as this weekend.

The couple has remained at the helm and worked arduously to solicit new trustees in order that the academy could continue its operations and special programs without interruption upon their imminent departure. For that, *NewsLanc* salutes them.

Downtown mall struggles for traffic

Place Marie, located at 52 North Queen Street, was acquired by its current owners in 1990, and during those early days, "*business was booming*," according to property manager Nellie Wallace. Today, however, the indoor shopping center has struggled to keep its spaces filled—especially since the closing of the Ad Lib Café last December.

Of the shopping center's ten spaces, three are currently unoccupied. While three out of ten may not sound so bad, this includes the 5,400 square foot "*anchor*" space that most recently housed the Ad Lib Café. Additionally, some of the units currently rented are not being used for typical retail functions....

Randy Patterson, the City's director of economic development and neighborhood revitalization, said that one of the challenges often faced by interior malls—no matter where they are located—is effective exposure to pedestrian traffic. "*If you don't have close to full occupancy, it's difficult to get that foot traffic*," Patterson observed.

According to Wallace, the 2009 opening of the downtown Lancaster County Convention Center has not made matters any better: "*Everyone thought that the convention center was going to help. Maybe it will*," Wallace said, "*But I don't think it's happening right now*."

NEW YORK TIMES: A book review by Richard Berke of "**The Death of American virtue, Clinton vs. Starr**" concludes: "*Even Kenneth Starr, dean at the Pepperdine University School of Law, who this week was named president of Baylor University, regrets that his office wound up as the authority investigating the Lewinsky matter. Recalling his emotions as he watched the impeachment proceedings on television, Starr told*

Gormley that he asked himself: 'Why did all of this have to happen? Why did we get to where we are? This is all so unnecessary.' More than a decade later, very few will disagree."

WATCHDOG: A wag of the tail. We said so at the time and we still do. Give Sen. Arlen Specter credit as the only Republican senator to vote "*Not guilty*."

INTELLIGENCER NEW ERA: An article headed “**Fry may leave Franklin & Marshall College for Drexel**” reports, “*F&M’s 49-year-old president is one of two finalists for the top job at the downtown Philadelphia university of about 22,000 students. The identity of the other finalist is not known.*”

WATCHDOG: John Fry has a way of doing the best possible things in the worst possible ways.

USA TODAY: A factoid is buried in a paragraph towards the end of an article, “**Postal Service’s survival plan: Drop Saturday, close branches**” stating, “*Federal law bars the service from closing branches for economic reasons.*”

LETTER: LancasterOnline.com avoids liability for postings

The case of “Cubby vs. Compuserve” established legal liability for websites. Here at NewsLanc.com, every post is read by the staff before it is posted, and consequently, NewsLanc has publisher’s liability. That is, if one of NewsLanc’s contributors libels someone, that person can sue NewsLanc.

However, because the TalkBack forum is not moderated, the law says they aren’t responsible for

Witness his rolling over the reasonable requests of neighbors concerning the relocation of the Norfolk Southern railyard and the ‘mugging’ of reporter Ron Harper across the street from Fry’s home by F&M security personnel while Fry looked on. Harper was released without charges and may yet bring suit for false arrest and assault and battery.

We wish Fry good luck in his candidacy.

WATCHDOG: Growl! What a way to run a postal service. What a way to run a country!

defamatory content... It’d be like trying to sue Verizon because someone used a telephone to defame you.

...The safe thing for them to do in case someone is engaging in libel is to delete all the posts by the offending user, and set that username to a “not allowed to post” status.

LETTER: Lancaster General gives inner city schools the shuffle

On behalf of an inner city school and as a parent, I was quite concerned about the lack of equipment that our children have when trying to learn science projects. For example, instead of a microscope, the children are shown a photo of a microscope and asked to learn the parts that make up a microscope.

I walked to Lancaster General Hospital and met with a spokesperson and asked them to donate some of their old microscopes that lay up on the eighth floor in a dusty closet. They said they would

look into the matter and get back to me as soon as possible.

That was eight months ago. I haven’t heard from them.

I understand their profits exceed a hundred million dollars annually. Why can’t they provide equipment and other assistance to our community schools? Perhaps if they did, it would lead to inner city children someday being staff members or part of the administration, rather than janitors.

**The above have been excerpted from NewsLanc.com.
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