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LETTER: PAM buried under egotistical blame game

“After having been personally involved with PAM in the past, I have to say that I find it heartbreaking that such a wonderful cause has been buried beneath egotistical blame games. At its roots, PAM is a institution that enriches the musical lives of a multitude of students from across Lancaster county and south central PA.

What PAM needs to survive is stop focusing on the grandiosity of its faculty and aspirations and

start showing the people something they can connect with: Lancaster county youth showing tremendous musical talent. Take the pride back, PAM. If Veri and Jamanis are truly out of the picture, this should be simple.

You can’t walk before you crawl, an adage that might have served the founders well. Begin crawling by showcasing the true reason you still exist: your students.

LETTER: Look out, Ephrata Hospital – You are next!

“I found the July 4th NewsLanc editorial “Is LGH’s Beeman’s job to expand market dominance?” foreboding... The probable move would be to acquire Ephrata Hospital and fold this well-respected hospital into the LGH brand...

The Ephrata population has always held their independent position in healthcare in the highest regard. As an example, Ephrata dismissed the plans for another LGH Health Campus in the Earl section several years ago...

So the question remains — will the citizens and civic leaders of Ephrata permit the imminent

INTELLIGENCER NEW ERA

In “No sacred cows in process of belt-tightening”, columnist Jeff Hawkes comments “Now along comes county commissioner Scott Martin with questions about the need for the \$470,000-a-year Human relations Commission.... The County established the anti-discrimination commission the same year President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Bill... Would asking the state to redress

merger — no, make that, takeover — of their hospital by LGH? History may repeat itself with Mr. Beeman acquiring a competing hospital in its market with an uncertain future.

And for those Lancaster County citizens with a keen sense of history, who can forget the LGH acquisition of Columbia Hospital — leading to closing of that hospital and only then re-opening as a glorified LGH outpatient service center. Ephrata, be wary of a neighboring giant with a cold, clammy handshake.”

wrongs result on unreasonable delays and hardship...? ...Advocates of a county health department...say only \$110,000 in county funds is needed to get one started. Is public health less important than equal rights?”

WATCHDOG: A wag of the tail. Times change and we need to re-evaluate priorities. We have come a long way in social justice since the 1960s. But are we sure that we need a health department? How about more aid to libraries?

LETTER: Re \$20 million towards Specter / Murtha libraries

“This is typical of Rendell. He’ll spend [\$20] millions of taxpayer dollars on something nobody wants (to benefit his political cronies), while announcing that the Commonwealth can no longer provide the basics (like library funding and road repairs) without raising our taxes or adding new ones.

“His arrogance is matched only by his disdain for average Pennsylvania taxpayers.

“Pennsylvanians should be up in arms about this! If Rendell unilaterally authorized this bond issue, the Pennsylvania House & Senate should bilaterally condemn it and reject it.” Editors Note: Overall bond issue amounts to \$963 million over 20 years.

‘Social Democracy’ is not ‘Socialism’

In **“Ill Fares The Land”**, famed British historian Tony Judt observes: *“...there is a significant distinction between ‘socialism’ and ‘social democracy’. Socialism was about transformative change: the displacement of capitalism with a successor regime based on an entirely different system of production and ownership.*

“Social democracy, in contrast, was a compromise: it implied the acceptance of capitalism and parliamentary democracy – as the framework within which the hitherto neglected interests of large sections of the population would now be addressed.

“The differences matter. Socialism – under all its many guises and hyphenated incarnations – has failed. Social democracy has not only come to power in many countries, it has succeeded beyond the wildest dreams of its founders.”

It is especially appropriate on the Fourth of July that we discern the difference between *“Socialism”*, which we successfully resisted during the Cold War, and *“Social Democracy”*, for which so many of our predecessors fought and died.

Thugs steal another NewsLanc box

As a staff member remarked, we must be hitting a nerve when people empty out our circulation boxes out of spite and when still another of the boxes is stolen. This one was on the corner of Harrisburg Pike and President Avenue in front of the vacant former Faulkner dealership.

Once again we offer a thousand dollar reward for the arrest and conviction of whoever stole the box.

Reader’s comment: *“ ‘Thugs’ or cowards? Cowards, as we all know live in fear, and usually commit their felonies, like this one, in secret. But who would possibly be afraid of NewsLanc? Who would be that angry with them? Afraid of words? Who would gain by silencing them? Was this, not so petty crime, done by someone paid to do it? Paid by whom and for what reason? What’s the beef? ...”*

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