



Stick to the 200-word limit

Your letter policy states readers should limit their letters to 200 words.

In the June 11, edition, Mr. Larry R. Widdoss' letter, "GOP's assault on America's poor," is at least twice the amount of your 200-word limit.

His letter vilifies, point by point, what he believes to be Republicans' so-called goals. He obviously follows the questionable folderol pumped out in the media 24 hours a day. Such a pity.

So, my question is, while you have a 200-word limit for letters to the editor, if one maligns the party your newspaper is in opposition to, you get a pass?

Lucy L. Rankin, Columbia

(Editors' note: The 200-word limit is a guideline. While we prefer shorter letters, we realize there are times when letter writers need additional space to make their point.)

Church has no right to discriminate

In response to Mike Salvatore's letter, which appeared June 18, I would like to add or clarify the following:

The University of Notre Dame is not against health care for its workers but is, as is the Catholic Church, against the mandatory inclusion of birth control in health care

programs. I don't agree with UND's stance on the subject.

I do sympathize with and agree with most of what Mr. Salvatore has to say. I, too, was raised a Catholic and when asked to which religious group I belong, I hesitate and respond "Catholic, I guess."

No church of any denomination has the right to discriminate based on sexual preference. Nor should any organization dictate how its members vote, or, for that matter, get involved in your conduct in any room in your home unless you commit a crime.

The cover-up of sexual abuse by the Vatican was conducted by the previous Pope and the person in charge of the cover-up is the current Pope.

One final item. You may or may not have guessed, but I am a Fighting Irish fan. In the interest of fairness, I do believe we should give equal time to the cover-up of sexual abuse at PSU.

Tom Hart, Mountville

WITF 'Tower of Babel' criticized

Rave reviews for staff writer Jane Holahan, who once again hit the proverbial "nail on the head" with her column lamenting the decision of WITF-FM to nearly abandon classical music in favor of yet another "Tower of Babel."

I, like Jane and so many others, enjoy some of the current talk programs, but I also crave the

opportunity to just listen to music that one so seldom hears anywhere else.

Having listened to the local PBS station since its start, I can remember a day when a major "selling point" of their fundraising was that "unlike many public stations that have gone to an all-news format, we will never stop offering classical music to our listeners."

How sad that WITF has been shown to be just like the rest.

I challenge some local media entrepreneurs to rise to the opportunity of returning classical music to the airwaves. Any funding support many once provided WITF would now likely go to you.

Let's make Ms. Pavelko and crew have to deal with some new non-Arbitron numbers.

Robert M. Lescallete, Maytown

Small hospital, big heart

I am in the health care field. I was a traveling nurse working in hospitals all over the country. I recently experienced what it was like to be a patient, needing several surgeries in several of our hospitals here in Lancaster County.

I would like to publicly say that the absolute best care, the best treatment, the best food, was in the smallest one of all -- The Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center. I was treated with the utmost professionalism and care. I felt like I was in a private room in a hotel.

The nurses truly cared about me as a patient, even though they were busy. Their professionalism and compassion made me feel like I was the only one there. The doctor made a point to see me before and after the surgery and the next day also. My food was very good. My room was quiet and peaceful. I never had to ask for anything.

The little hospital near Lititz, Heart of Lancaster, was the best medical, surgical and personal care I have ever witnessed in all my time working around health care employees. They went above and beyond in every department along my journey.

I had breast cancer, and they made my experience very special, because they took such good care of me.

I would recommend this hospital to anyone. The drive is worth the peace of mind knowing that you and or your family member will be in good hands.

Patricia McEwen, Manheim Township