



Beware Facebook

Facebook can make an individual feel exposed and vulnerable.

Personal information only should be for close friends or in close relationships. "Letting it all hang out" seems cheapening of the individual.

The famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, said, "Privacy is priceless."

Personal exposure in its fullness would make me uncomfortable, indeed!

Lee Shank, East Hempfield Township

Mt. Joy personnel costs too high

On Dec. 5, correspondent K. Scott Kreider wrote an article about the public support for the Mount Joy Police Department. His subheadline was, "Speakers urge council members to oppose cuts in the \$1.3M budget."

While the borough's online budget indicates that the public safety budget is approximately \$1.3M, this portion of the budget does not include any of the employee benefits for the department as they are found in another portion of the budget under employee benefits.

The total for all benefits for borough employees is \$1,015,405. Based on the borough website, the police department makes up 50 percent of the borough's full-time employees. Therefore, you must add \$500,000 to the police budget.

The department budget is really \$1.8M. Using Kreider's figure of 13 full-time employees, it cost

borough residents an average of \$138,000 to put each full-time police person on the street.

This is not about the competence of the members of the department but about the ability of the taxpayer to sustain these costs.

The reduction of one full-time officer would reduce the current projected budget deficit by 25 percent.

Unless the department makes some concessions on wages and/or benefits, it would seem the borough council doesn't have many options.

Mike Reese, Mount Joy

How to curb gun violence in U.S.

The following was sent to the White House, the vice president, the Justice Department, both U.S. Senators and Rep. Joe Pitts, Dec. 19:

I am a senior, a retired teacher, a gun owner, a concerned citizen living on fixed income and am offering a suggestion on curbing gun violence.

All gun purchases should require a gun liability insurance policy to be renewed and paid annually for gun possession.

All previously owned guns must be registered in a local and national database to include make, model, serial number, etc. and assault weapons should require additional security and be banned from future sales and possession in the USA.

The middle class must not be held to support
the 2 percent, taxes must be increased for those
with income over \$250,000 with no exceptions!

Arthur Pavlatos, Lancaster