

Left to Right - Don MacAskill, Al Bendell, John Flannery, Tammy Oberholzer, Senator Rich Alloway, Mary-Anne Gordon



John Flannery is the TACC Business Person of 2013

TACC
Educational Partnership Breakfast

May 23rd
7am Buffet
8am Speakers
\$20 per person

Date: May 23, 2013

Time: 7-9am

Whitetail Golf Resort Banquet Room
11573 Blairs Valley Rd.
Mercersburg, PA 17236

Speakers

- TSD Superintendent Charles Prijatelj
- Tuscarora Education Foundation
- TSD Co-Op Coordinator Chris Shelley

RSVP by May 20, 2013 2pm

E-mail: mgordon@tachamber.org

Phone: 717-328-5827



Upcoming Events

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP BREAKFAST

May 23rd 7am Buffet
8am Speakers
Whitetail Golf Resort
\$20 per person
RSVP 328-5827



MERCERSBURG
SPRINGFEST

SATURDAY MAY 11, 2013
9AM-3PM DOWNTOWN MERCERSBURG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board Members

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Tammy Oberholzer
Borough of Mercersburg

Vice-Chair

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Flannery's Tavern of the Square

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Travis Hall
Alliance Elevator

Dwayne Johnson
St. Thomas Development

Gloria Pine
Buchanan Lioness & First National
Bank of Mercersburg

Debbie Rutherford
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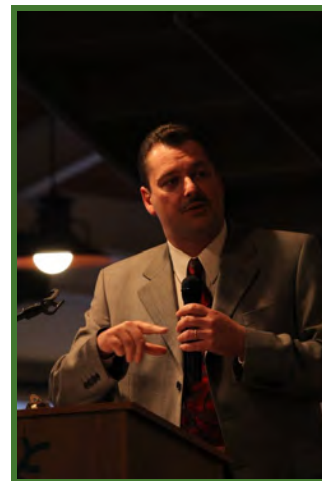
Mary-Anne Gordon

The Chamber News is a monthly newsletter of the Tuscarora Area Chamber of Commerce. Submit your information by the 23rd of each month for inclusion. The Chamber reserves the right to edit content of submissions for space limitations. Ideas, opinions and statements expressed

HARD WORKING, PASSIONATE PEOPLE CREATE SUCCESS.

Dear Fellow Chamber Members,

I want to thank my family, friends, and The Tuscarora Area Chamber of Commerce for awarding me the "Business Person of the Year". I cannot individually accept this award but as a representative of a group, I am honored to do so. My personal successes are the product of the efforts of many. These people are friends that many cannot find in a lifetime. They include Whooper and Laura Bendell who have been by my side on every venture I could conjure up. Nic Erickson, Chad and Lisa Michael, Chris Ardinger, Kent Wilhelm, Linda Martin, Bobby Noll, Steve Rogers, Dale Brown, Travis and Valerie Dykes, Paul Robinson, and Steve Bingaman have all given their time, expertise and energy far beyond what I can express appreciation for.



Thank you to Jeremy Jones and the rest of our staffs at Flannery's and The John Allison Public House who do a phenomenal job and have established a true understanding of what Guest Service means. Thank you Mary-Anne Gordon for your continued encouragement for me to pursue my passions.

My family is incredible. We could not have accomplished our dreams without the support from my mother, Marian Warrenfeltz, the dedication, help and commitment from my Mother-in-law Greta Smith, my brother-in-law Rich Smith, and my sister Eileen Dickinson who is always there for me.

Finally, I want to thank my son Jonathan, who has dealt with his parents working crazy hours all of the time and has turned into a respectful young man, and lastly, my incredible wife Ame who has been there to support every thought and idea and has worked by my side to grow and maintain our dreams.

Some individuals appear to be "allergic" to honest work, but opportunity is equally allergic to them. I am proud to say that this is not true for me, my family, or any of my friends.

John Flannery - Flannery's Tavern on the Square,

The Irwin Center, The John Allison Public House

TACC Chairperson's Speech

Welcome and thank you for attending this evening's event. My name is Tammy Oberholzer, and I have the privilege to be the Mercersburg Borough Manager as well as this year's Chamber Chair. I have been with the Borough for 6 years, the first 3 as Asst. Mgr., and this is my third year as Manager. I have an excellent staff and together we get things done. This is my 5th year on the Chamber Board of Directors, and before serving on the board I was a friend of the Chamber and volunteer for several years. I also serve as the Chair of the Annual Townfest, and also the recently organized Springfest. I'd like to introduce our Board Members, whom I have had the pleasure to serve with over these past years .

Vice Chair John Flannery, joined the Chamber in 2009 and is always eager to voice suggestions and an opinion. I have the pleasure of working with John, not only as a board of director but as a business owner on Borough issues.

Secretary Judy Boyd, of Whitetail, having served 8 years with TACC, has always stepped up quietly leading from the front of every event

Treasurer Julie Barthalow, of Susquehanna joined us in 2012 as a board member stepping in when Amy Hissong left our board; however, she served for many years as an essential volunteer for every chamber event.

Past Chair Melanie Gordon, joining TACC in 2010, serving as Vice Chair elect, Vice Chair, and was our 2012 Chair, Melanie worked hard to support a strong chamber and board which enabled me to take over with ease in January.

Gloria Pine, of First National Bank of Mercersburg and Buchanan Lioness has been with us for 7 years, serving 5 of those years as our Treasurer. Gloria is always the first to step up and volunteer for every "crazy" idea we come up with.

Dr. Liz George, of Summit Heath is a former board chair and is currently serving her 5th year of dedicated service to the TACC among her many other local involvements.

Dwayne Johnson, of St. Thomas Development has been serving since 2010. Dwayne is chair of our Chambers Government Affairs committee also representing TACC on the County Government Affairs committee and the Franklin County Visitors Bureau. We can always count on Dwayne for his upfront honesty and wealth of information.

Debbie Rutherford, assistant Head of School for Mercersburg Academy joined us in 2010. Her experience with the Academy and the Mercersburg community and never ending willingness to share has been an asset to our group.

Travis Hall, of Alliance Elevator also joined us in 2010. Travis has served as Vice Chair and is an incredibly energetic member, always ready with an idea or suggestion.

Chris Shelley, the co-op coordinator for James Buchanan High School joined the board in 2012. Chris has worked with Mary-Anne to grow the Mock Interview program, a graduation requirement at the High School. Chris is developing a new graduation requirement program for seniors, a job shadowing program for every single student.

Barb Danowski, joined our business community last year when she purchased Fast Ink and became our newest board member in January of this year.

This has been a bit of a rollercoaster year at the Borough and at the Chamber but we have the rare opportunity to have an extremely diverse group of professionals that have come together in such a combined effort, sometimes more of an effort than others as we don't always agree on everything, but one thing we do agree on is that we all are working together for the betterment of our business community. And that community is not small, the TACC covers 205 square miles with 5 municipalities

I am proud to be a part of that working community as the Borough Manager, which enables me to cross paths with so many and work so hard for the greater good of the Mercersburg Borough and the TACC Regional Business Community.



BPOY Award Speech

A POSITIVE MIND FINDS A WAY TO GET THINGS DONE,
A NEGATIVE MIND LOOKS FOR WAYS THAT THINGS CAN'T BE DONE.

GET TO KNOW JOHN FLANNERY~ BY AL BENDELL

My name is Al Bendell, many people know me as Whooper, a nickname given to me as a kid, and it stuck. Why am I here to introduce the TACC business Person of the Year? Because I know the whole story, and it's a story of fun, friendship, hard work, a few beers, and more hard work.

It all started Labor Day weekend the year 2000. My wife Laura and I had just purchased and were moving into a new home in a wonderful neighborhood in southern Montgomery Township. The families of the neighborhood had been making plans for weekend a long end of summer celebration and pig roast. – Well, with our family being the newest, and wanting to let them know that we were troopers – I offered to supply all the beer for the entire weekend – the people somewhat organizing the event said... you don't understand, there might be 200 people that show up to this thing" – I said "no problem".

So late Friday afternoon, I come driving down the street in a vintage 1950'S beer truck with 25 kegs of ice cold beer and 4 taps coming out the side of the truck. At this time, I had not met John. When the news broke, and word had spread throughout the neighborhood, John had made his way over to see this beautiful sight. This is when I met John.

And when he saw what I had done, I'll never forget the look in his eyes that said to me "Who is this guy, and how am I going to deal with him?" We had a couple of minutes of introductory chit-chat, and we soon learned that we shared what some people would consider a bad habit. Anyhow that conversation ended with me saying to John, in a very friendly manner, "put a skirt on!!!"

For those of us that know John well, we know what's going through his head, "Ok – game on." That's my first 10 minutes with John, not bad?

We got to know each other quickly and developed a wonderful friendship. We found that our values are the same, our politics are the same, our lifestyles are the same, we have children the same age, and we had a lot of mutual friends, we both enjoy the occasional beer. We only disagree on one important thing – and it's a big one – he loves the Steelers, and I love the reigning world champion Baltimore Ravens.

Through the next few years we had a lot of fun together ; we would do home improvement projects together, use jack hammers, skid loaders, dump trucks– big boy stuff. We would also fly remote controlled planes in the neighborhood. Here is a bit of trivia, did you all know that John was a national Juco semifinalist in ping pong? When he told me this, we stopped whatever we were doing and went to the neighbor's house (they had a table) knocked on the door (at dinner time) told them we needed the table – we played for 2 hours.

Let's talk a little about John's professional career. In 1989 John began working for a "mutual friend" at Hub Labels in Hagerstown, he walked in the door and began at the bottom as a press operator. At this time the company employed 30 people, for 9 years he worked at this position. He was promoted to a production supervisor, 2 years later he became a special projects manager (at this time the company was growing rapidly, 6 months later he is promoted to process engineer, 6 months later he is promoted to director of training, 9 months later he is promoted to plant manager, 2 years later he is promoted to Vice-President of Manufacturing. At this point the company has 200 employees.

One day I stopped at Hub to check in, see what was up. John said follow me I want you to see something. He took me back into a new room that was made for a new 3 million dollar press from Germany, this press was the latest and greatest thing to the industry. Well the machine was not working properly, and the press operators and upper management were having a fit. John said check this out. Nobody could figure out how to get this thing rolling until some parts came in and all I saw was a piece of 2x4 board sticking out of the machine, and the machine was making labels. John had "MacGyvered" this thing into being productive.

See the pattern, this guy goes in, gets his hands dirty, shows his value, and rapidly rises --- almost to the top.

The year is 2005 – john is making a great wage, he has a lot of authority /responsibility. He's working long hours, he's dealing with the bad stuff associated with a family business and he's not family, and he's made it as far as he can at Hub and he becomes increasing frustrated with where he is in his profession.



During the spring of 2005, John and Ame would come up to our house, and the conversation began about the unhappiness and the possibility of opening up a restaurant somewhere. He wanted out of the label business and wanted to be his own boss. Never once did Laura and I try to talk him out of it, but rather we said "We'll help you, let's make this happen." So we helped him think it through and develop a bunch of "plan b's".



During that summer, we would go with John and Ame and look at different potential sites, and visit some other restaurants and talk with the owners...all of them saying...you're nuts, there's no money, a lot of hard work. None of this convinced John that he should not go for it. In fact, it had the opposite effect; it was like throwing gas on the fire and fueling John's desire and conviction to make it happen.

"Who told you it couldn't be done, and what great achievements has he performed that qualifies him to set limitations for you?!"

So here we are August 2005, John comes up to the house and tells us, "I did it, we purchased the McKinstry House in Mercersburg, we go to settlement in a few weeks. I am putting in my 2 weeks at Hub." Game on!

September 2005 settlement day, 6 hours after settlement, John and I go in and start the transformation of the McKinstry House, and for the next 3 months I helped John create his dream. There were many long nights, a lot of pizza and a few beers. It was fun and it was awesome to see progress being made and it was interesting to me to see the curiosity of the town develop.

It took John 3 months to turn the McKinstry House into Flannery's Tavern on the Square and on December 9th 2005 Flannery's opens to let the public in, while he steps out to make a name for himself in the community;

6 Years manager for Mercersburg Little League, Mountain Safety Volunteer at White-tail Mountain, Safety Shift Leader at Whitetail, Board Member and Vice Chair of the Tuscarora Area Chamber of Commerce, member of the Greencastle Area Chamber of Commerce, Board Member of the Tuscarora Educational Foundation. Greencastle Business Education Partnership committee member, Greencastle Golf Tournament committee member

He has raised money for Fix JB Sports, phone cards for the troop's overseas, for the Tuscarora Education Foundation, and for GA MAXX of Greencastle.

He has developed programs to work with and donate to our community and has raised over \$10,000 towards Fix JB Sports and GA MAXX. Most recently organizing the Flannery's Pub Run, a very successful fundraiser for these programs.

In 2010 opened the John Allison Public House in Greencastle and purchased the Irwin House in Mercersburg. He renovated and expanded this historic building to open leasable office space for growth in Mercersburg, and to remove an embarrassing eyesore from the town square.

His restaurants currently employ about 60 people.

Ame Flannery, where would you be without John? Wait, John where would you be without Ame? Ame Flannery is the keel, the ballast that keeps John's ship right, she keeps him in check. She is a beautiful person, a wonderful wife, and a very hard worker, together they make an awesome team.

What impresses me the most about John, many of our mutual friends and myself included, entered into the work force working in a family business. Put into positions that maybe were not earned, but granted, destined to be offered the opportunity to be successful with something to fall back on. John didn't have this luxury, he is the product of hard work and common sense.

We should all be grateful to have this man as a member of the community. He loves this area. He gives 150% each day to make Mercersburg a better place. I am amazed at his positive energy.

Ladies and gentleman, I would like to introduce the 2013 Tuscarora Area Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year, and the second pest ping pong player in our neighborhood – my best friend – my brother **Mr. John Flannery**.



Tuscarora Area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mercersburg, Montgomery, Peters, St. Thomas, Warren

Purpose Statement

The Tuscarora Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to achieve the objectives of:

- 1) Preserving the competitive enterprise system of business by:
 - a. creating a better understanding and appreciation of the importance of business people and a concern for their problems;
 - b. educating the business community and representing them in township, borough, county, state and national legislative and political affairs;
 - c. preventing or addressing controversies which are detrimental to expansion and growth of business and the community if they arise;
 - d. creating a greater appreciation of the value of a more liberal investment of substance and self on behalf of the interests of competitive business;
- 2) Promoting business and community growth and development by:
 - a. promoting economic programs designed to strengthen and expand the income potential of all business within the trade area;
 - b. promoting programs of civic, social and cultural nature which are designed to increase the functional and aesthetic values of the community;
 - c. and discovering and correcting abuses which prevent the promotion of business expansion and community growth.

For more information about Chamber advocacy visit www.tachamber.org, contact info@tachamber.org, or call 717-328-5827.

BOROUGH POLICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Chamber and 2 appointed members of the Mercersburg business community have been meeting monthly with members of Borough Council, The Police Chief, and the Mayor on the "Police & Safety Committee" to discuss strengths, weaknesses, concerns, complaints, event safety, and more.

We are currently discussing the procurement of and possible fundraising for cameras and voice recorders for each of the 3 police vehicles.

The Borough has made the budget of the police department for the past decade available. If you would like a copy please contact Borough Manager Tammy Oberholzer 328-3116.



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Free Shredding Event

Open to the Public!

**Saturday, May 18th
8 AM – 12 Noon**

Susquehanna Bank Parking Lot
Mercersburg Office
316 North Main Street
Mercersburg, PA 17236

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Left to right:
Trish Hanks, Senior Vice President, Retail Services Market Manager, F&M Trust
Shaun Young, Financial Services Officer and Manager, F&M Trust
Stephanie Meyer, DVM, Owner, Creatures Great and Small Veterinary Hospital
Scott Meyer, Owner/Business Manager, Creatures Great and Small Veterinary Hospital

In 1999, **Scott and Stephanie Meyer** moved to Pennsylvania from North Carolina. Following their education, training and passion for animal care, the couple established a new business together, Creatures Great and Small Veterinary Hospital, to serve the Chambersburg community.

Since then, Scott has managed the business side of things, while Stephanie has provided the hands-on veterinary services. Together, with a staff of seven dedicated people, they care for a variety of local creatures, well, great and small – including their own dog, two cats, a rabbit, a snake, plus five goldfish and two turtles.

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263-9168

Philadelphia Avenue
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264-5122

Lincoln Way East
1712 Lincoln Way East
264-9414

Memorial Square
20 South Main Street
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A benefits plan is not about your employees.

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Please join us for a free Educational Community Seminar: “Current Trends in Fraud”

Presented by John Flemming

12:00 Noon - Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Greencastle Rescue Hose

842 South Washington Street, Greencastle, PA 17225

A light lunch will be served.

**Limited Seating - Please RSVP by Monday, May 13, 2013 to
Julie.Barthalow@susquehanna.net or 717.593.6618**

With fraud scams and identity theft on the rise, no one is completely immune to these crimes. Learn more about the topics listed below and some of the simple steps you can take to safeguard your personal information.

Lottery / Sweepstakes Scams

Family Aid Scams

Sweetheart Scams

Elder Exploitation

As a Regional Security Officer for Susquehanna Bank, John Flemming helps identify and investigate fraud scams targeting the Bank's customers. John served as a police officer with the City of Lancaster for 30 years, holding the rank of Captain for 7 years before retiring. He worked on a variety of crimes and spent 15 years as a member of the investigative division where he held every position and retired as Commander of the division.

