Pennsylvania

New restaurant planned at former Antrim House

Owner of Flannery's Tavern on the Square says he plans to lease location

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GREENCASTLE, Pa. — Less than a week after the landmark Antrim House restaurant closed in Greencastle, plans are under way to open a restaurant in the same location with new management and a new name, look and feel.

John Flannery, owner of Flannery's Tavern on the Square in Mercersburg, Pa., said Wednesday that he and his wife, Ame, should sign final papers by the end of this week to lease the location of the former Antrim House restaurant in downtown Greencastle. The Flannerys' partner, Jeremy Jones, said Wednesday they plan to purchase the equipment from Loren and Carissa Martin, the former owners of the Antrim House.

Flannery said they plan to start renovation of the restaurant Oct. 1 and open for business Dec. 1.

The name of the restaurant has not yet been decided, Flannery said, but he added it will not be called Flannery's or the Antrim House. The menu also will be different from Flannery's, he said.

"It will be related to Flannery's because we want it to be connected to the quality of Flannery's people have come to expect," Flannery said. "It's the same philosophy we want to provide to Greencastle."

Flannery said the new restaurant will offer patrons "a family-friendly quest experience."

Renovations probably will include changing the entrance and the addition of a lobby as well as a bar and lounge area, Flannery said. Renovation of the restaurant is the first priority, but there also are plans to renovate the banquet facility as well, he said.

Flannery said he, his wife and Jones "have been thinking about opening a second location for quite some time." When the Antrim House spot became a possibility, the location and opportunity seemed to be right, he said.

The building at 104 E. Baltimore St. was built in 1904 as the McLaughlin Hotel. Don Hummer opened the Antrim House Family Restaurant there in 1979, and it became a staple in the community for more than 30 years.

Flannery said they will lease the restaurant building, which is owned by JAG Management Group LLC.

Carissa Martin declined comment Wednesday.

The Martins closed the business Sept. 19. Carissa Martin, who also managed the Antrim House restaurant, said at that time "there were many factors involved" in the couple's decision to close the business, but rent was the biggest obstacle