

# NewsLanc.com

Providing Lancaster City & County with an Alternative Source for  
Local News and Commentary

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## Lancaster Person of the Year 2009



Without concerned and knowledgeable citizens monitoring government activities, the fragile democracy from which we all benefit would quickly disappear.

Therefore *NewsLanc* passed over obvious and otherwise deserving local luminaries such as former LCCCA chair Art Morris and *Intelligencer New Era* columnist Jeff Hawkes to select Randolph Carney as **“Lancaster Person of the Year 2009.”**

Over the past five years, the 55-year-old Carney has attended every City Council and LCCCA board and committee meeting that he could. He explained: *“I started attending regularly after the developer of the then-proposed hotel at Penn Square demanded that their ‘private’ venture receive substantial relief from real estate taxes, which violates one of the basic promises of the project.”*

He continued, *“As I learned more and more about local government, I came to appreciate how much decisions made by our mayor and City*

*Council directly affects our everyday lives. Now that I have seen for myself what really goes on in our local government, I cannot in good conscience avoid these meetings.”*

Carney has become so versed in Convention Center Project and Lancaster City affairs that his knowledge rivals (and we suspect often exceeds) many board members. A prolific but usually anonymous contributor to local web sites and a source of comments frequently posted under a pen name on *LancasterOnline.com*, Carney is an ongoing source of accurate information, keen observations, and constructive criticisms.

Deferential and modest in his demeanor, the self-described *“Born Again Christian”* Carney revealed to the interviewer: *“I hate politics; however, I really want to make some kind of difference in Lancaster City, even if it is a tiny one. I have already influenced the outcome of several situations and, after observing City Council for the past five years, I believe I have something to contribute. I’m working to overcome my fear.”*

## Prestigious I.B. diplomas awarded to 11 McCaskey graduates

J. P. McCaskey is the only high school in the county where students have the opportunity to participate in a rigorous academic program of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO).

Graduates with an IBO diploma are sought after by top colleges and universities throughout the world. Below are the names and colleges of the eleven students who received their IBO diplomas as a yearend ceremony:

- David Bishop – David is attending the College of Arts and Sciences at Cornell University
- Sarah Coco – Sarah is attending Oberlin College
- John Gallagher – John is attending Dickinson College
- Katherine Herzog – Katherine is attending the University of Pennsylvania
- Rachel Hinnenkamp – Rachel is attending Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- Ahmad Hussein – Ahmad is attending Franklin & Marshall College
- Martin Leboo – Martin is attending the University of Nairobi
- Elle Moore – Elle is attending Northwestern University
- Linh Tran – Linh is attending Franklin & Marshall College
- Karla Verkouw – Karla is attending Dartmouth College
- Rachel Weeber – Rachel is attending Grove City College

## ***NewsLanc's* mission evolves for the new decade**

We are thrilled and thank the public for an estimated 50% increase in website viewers during 2009.

*NewsLanc* has gradually been transitioning from only local content to reporting and discussing matters of importance to Lancastrians, be they local, national, or international topics.

*NewsLanc* was established three years ago as a counter measure to the *Lancaster Newspapers, Inc.* Despite a century of faithful service to the community, its standards momentarily became so compromised that the State Attorney General accused the *Intelligencer Journal* editor and its reporters of conducting illegal activities, and a lawsuit for libel by a former commissioner pertaining to coverage of the Convention Center project is now before the Chester County courts.

More and more we will forage daily among important state and national publications for

items of interest that would likely otherwise go unreported by the local media.

**We want *NewsLanc* to increasingly become a forum for bright, knowledgeable persons from all walks of life, be they college professors or sanitation workers, sharing their special knowledge, experience and viewpoints.** In that way, *NewsLanc* will be institutionalized and be able to serve long after the participation of any one publisher or editor.

Moreover, we will continue to nourish controversy, allowing people to take both popular and unpopular positions. At times we will even overstate our positions in order to stimulate debate on important matters.

We can only do this with your participation. We thank you in advance. Also, please pass the word about *NewsLanc.com* along to friends.

**The above have been excerpted from [NewsLanc.com](http://NewsLanc.com).  
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