

A Special Thanks to Our Letter-Writers!

On April 25th, a correspondence was emailed to our Chamber members asking that they email Governor Tom Wolf, encouraging him to take a closer look at Blair County's Coronavirus experience when considering future mandates that would, among other things, allow more local businesses to re-open. The response to that email was outstanding and we appreciate the heartfelt sentiment that members displayed in their pleas to the Governor. The Chamber recognizes the health considerations that need to be part of any discussions about relaxing current restrictions. But it's also important that those in the Wolf Administration are aware of the dire consequences that are impacting our businesses and, consequently, our local economy.



Let Our Community See Your Enthusiasm to Get Back to Business!

By now, all of our Chamber members should have received an email with two attachments that contain very important messages.



One, for those who have been permitted to remain open, says "Still Here – and Ready For the Next Challenge"; the other, for those who have been mandated to close but are now being permitted to reopen, says "We're Back – Determined to Be Better Than Ever." If you have not received the email containing the attached messages, contact Joe Hurd at jhurd@blairchamber.com. Over the next few weeks, the Chamber hopes to feature photos on our Facebook Page of businesses who are displaying the signage. Send your photos to Linda Stotler at lstotler@blairchamber.com.

"Open For Business"

The Newest Chamber Destination

As businesses begin to re-open, it's important that we are able to offer both assistance and support. So the Chamber Website now includes a special section called "Open For Business." This is a member's only section and we invite members to let us know when they've opened and any special plans they have to put a little bit of emphasis on returning to active status! Send your "Open For Business" information to Linda Stotler at lstotler@blairchamber.com.



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Update on May Events and Programs

The status for our May Chamber Calendar is listed below:

•Young Professionals CEO Panel Event	May 7th	Postponed to Sept.
•Leadership Blair County Youth Graduation	May 13th	TBD
•Chamber Breakfast Club	May 14th	Cancelled
•Young Entrepreneurs Academy Graduation	May 18th	TBD
•Executive Roundtable	May 20th	Still On (Zoom)
•Business Before Hours	May 27th	Postponed (TBD)
•Public Speaking Workshop	May 28th	TBD
•Business After Hours	May 28th	Postponed (TBD)

Highmark/Chamber Golf Classic Moved to August 20th

With local golf courses being given permission to re-open, there is still speculation that those courses may be under strict guidelines to keep large groups of golfers from convening for the foreseeable future. So to be on the safe side, the Chamber has once again moved the Highmark/Chamber Golf Classic from



June 8th to August 20th. We are continuing to recruit golfers as well as sponsors and volunteers. Our goal, as always, is to fill all spots! If you'd like to reserve a spot as a golfer, would like to attach your business name as a sponsor or are willing to be one of our incredible volunteers, email Stacy Hoover at shoover@blairchamber.com.

For business resources and the latest news be sure to visit www.blairchamber.com

Welcome

Chamber Board Approves Six New Members

At its April 30th Board of Directors meeting, the Chamber Board approved the following new members: Curry Designs of Altoona, Elite Office Cleaning of Duncansville, Just Breathe Salt Spa & Yoga Studio of Altoona, Recharge Web Design of Altoona, Roaring Spring Paper Products and SC Shaffer Enterprises, LLC of Bellwood.

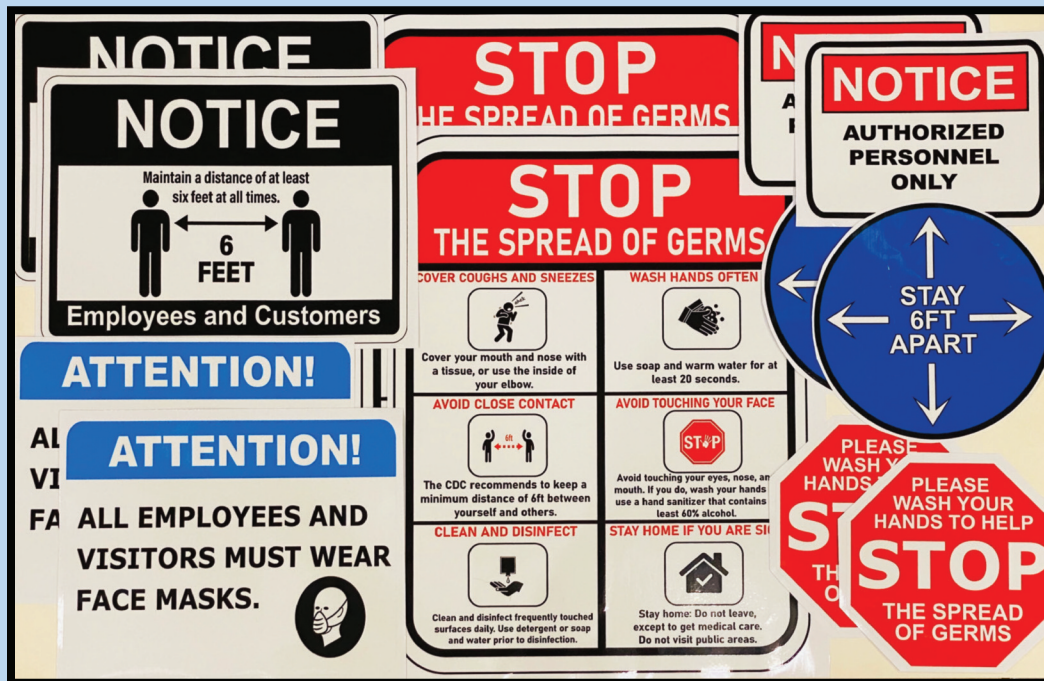
Is Now the Time to Join a Chamber Comittee?

With efforts being made to hold at least periodic committee meetings virtually, now might be a good time for Chamber members who haven't been able to attend committee meetings in the past to now consider joining a Chamber committee. A description of those committees is in the center section of the Chamber's Membership Directory as well as on the Chamber Website. Anyone who would like to be added to a Chamber committee should email Joe Hurd at jhurd@blairchamber.com.



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ADVANCED	\$39.99
DELUXE	\$59.99

3900 Industrial Park Drive
Suite 8
Julie Lutz
814-207-3156
jultz@currydesignco.com



Coming Soon

Chamber Membership Directory

The 2020-21 Edition of the Blair County Chamber Membership Directory, Quality of Life & Buyers' Guide is expected to be delivered to member-businesses sometime this week. The Directory is a great resource for businesses to use to contact one another.

It is also a countywide profile of key industry sectors and the center section of the publication contains all the information about the Blair County Chamber that you'll ever need! We are also grateful to the advertisers who helped make the directory possible.

SUCCESS STORIES!

★ Courtney Kantoski, a member of the Chamber's Young Professionals of Blair County and a former Chamber intern, designed a t-shirt as a fundraiser to raise money for the United Way of Blair County's Covid-19 Emergency Relief Fund. The Fund has already distributed nearly \$30,000 in assistance to Blair County residents who have lost income as a direct result of the pandemic.

★ Last Tuesday, the Altoona Curve teamed-up with Nuts For You to hand out free ballpark snacks to essential workers and fans at Peoples Natural Gas Field.

CONGRATULATIONS

... to the following Blair County high school seniors who will be receiving Attendance Counts Awards from the Blair County Chamber Foundation, through the BASICS program:

- **MAKAYLA EDWARDS**
Altoona Area
- **MAKENZIE KISSELL**
Bellwood-Antis
- **MATTHEW LENZE**
Bishop Guilfoyle
- **ISAIAH DIVELY**
Central
- **CODY WEYANDT**
Claysburg-Kimmel
- **ALLISON MYERS**
GACTC
- **CAMERON WALLS**
Hollidaysburg Area
- **LINDSAY FUSCO**
Tyrone Area
- **JOSEPH KUNSMAN**
Williamsburg Community.

BENEFact

Chamber Membership can save you money.

For May, we are highlighting BRANDbytes. This member's only benefit allows Chamber member businesses to place a full page ad in the NETWORKS DIGITAL NEWS email newsletter the first Monday of the month of your choosing. This member benefit places your brand and message directly into nearly 4,000 inboxes! Both Preferred Placement and Standard Placement are available. Utilize this cost effective benefit by emailing Jessie at jcovert@blairchamber.com.

[Click here](#) for a complete list of benefits exclusive for Chamber Members.

Committee Meetings

Public Policy Committee
Thursday, May 7
8:00 a.m.
Zoom

BASICS Early Childhood Subcommittee
Thursday, May 7
10:00 a.m.
Zoom