



Chamber Office Closed on Labor Day

The Blair County Chamber Office will be closed on Monday, September 6th, in commemoration of Labor Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. For information on the Chamber or to register for programs or events while the office is closed, visit the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com.

Breakfast Club to Focus on New Opportunity for Chamber Members

The next Blair County Chamber Breakfast Club program to be held this Thursday from 7:45 – 9 a.m., at The Casino at Lakemont Park, will feature Vern Squier, President/CEO, Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County. Squier's presentation entitled, "NIL: Name, Image and Likeness", will provide details of a joint initiative that includes the Blair County Chamber which is offered to all Chamber members. Happy Valley Talent is a platform to facilitate connections between businesses, students and alumni. It opens up new, innovative marketing opportunities for businesses looking to raise greater awareness about their businesses and grow their customer base.



Corporate sponsor for the Breakfast Club is The Nehemiah Project. The cost to attend is \$20 for Chamber Members and \$30 for non-members and includes a full breakfast buffet. For more information or to make reservations visit the Chamber on-line at www.blairchamber.com or call 814-943-8151.



Informational Meeting on Ireland Trip Set For Wednesday

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with Epic Journeys, will be hosting a trip to Ireland, Apr. 27 – May 6, 2022. An informational meeting will be held this Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development, 3900 Industrial Park Dr., Altoona. There is no obligation or cost to attend. To register, call the Chamber at 814-943-8151.

Congratulations...

... to P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers for its successful management of the recently-completed Scotch Valley Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

... to Lexington Clubhouse, which received the Leadership and Innovation Award by the PA Clubhouse Coalition at the 2021 Virtual Conference. Lexington Clubhouse is located at 911 Lexington Avenue in Altoona.

**A FREE WAY TO
GET YOUR NAME OUT!**



Advertise your business and help your customers save money with POWER Cards. Email Jessie at jcovert@blairchamber.com



Inviting all Human Resource and Business Professionals!

2021 All-Day HR Conference

Presented by the Human Resource Management Association of Blair County

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 | 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM | Park Hills Country Club

Free to all HRMA of Blair County Members | \$150 for Guests/Non-HRMA Members
Breakfast and lunch provided

Featured Keynote:

Andy Masters, MA, CSP

Award-winning author and international speaker

HR Leadership Lessons from H-O-L-L-Y-W-O-O-D

Andy creatively uses the magical imagery of Hollywood to help HR Leaders ignite a culture to DEVELOP and EMPOWER their organizations!

Featured Presentations:

Ed Krow, Professional speaker and author

Becoming a Person of Influence

The power to change your life and the lives of others depends on the degree of your influence. Learn the five methods and a four-stage process that can be used to influence others ...and learn simple, insightful ways to interact more positively with others!

Andre Young, Professional speaker and author

Founder & CEO of You Evolving Now, LLC

Leader's 7

Learn to speak the 7 Languages that best help build, inspire and motivate your employees! Once we know their language, Leaders can mix their language and style with the Leader's 7, getting the best out of their team and the best for their organization!

Ira S. Wolfe, Professional speaker and author

Founder of Success Performance Solutions

Recruiting in the Age of Googlization

The future of HR depends on its ability to deliver an awesome candidate experience, from your career site to the job offer. Learn how to identify the ten signs of a broken recruitment process, how to fix the most common candidate experience blunders, and learn easy-to-use recruitment marketing skills.

Register online at www.hrabc.org

The first 50 who register will receive a book from each of the four speakers!

For information on HRMA membership, visit: www.hrabc.org or email: hrabcorg@gmail.com

Annual memberships range from \$150 to \$175



Young Professionals Event is Thursday at U.S. Hotel

This Thursday, September 9th, the Young Professionals of Blair County will officially launch a new initiative at a special networking event (Ready to Launch!). Sponsored by Berry Solutions Group, the event will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at U.S. Hotel in Hollidaysburg. The cost of \$15 for members and \$20 for not-yet-members includes appetizers and a drink ticket. There will also be an opportunity to learn more about how young professionals can become part of a membership-based group at a very low cost. Join YP that night and you will also receive a complimentary



voucher to attend a Chamber Business After Hours. For more information or to make reservations for the networking event, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Nominations Being Accepted for ACE Award

The Blair County Chamber's Farm-City committee has announced that nominations are now being accepted for the annual Agricultural Community Excellence (ACE) Award. Nominations may be submitted by individuals, organizations, businesses, farm families and/or through self-nomination if desired. The Award began as a continuation to the Chamber's successful "Farm Family of the Year Award" that was initiated in 1970. In addition to farm families, the ACE Award also allows for nominations of agriculturally oriented individuals, agribusinesses and non-profit organizations. You can



download a nomination form on the Chamber's website at www.blairchamber.com. Nominations will be accepted until September 17th. For more information contact the Chamber at 814-943-8151.

Data Security Roundtable Recruiting Insurance Companies



The Chamber's Data Security Roundtable is discussing a number of issues that will lead to educational programming and the Roundtable, comprised mostly of security companies, is interested in having representation from local insurance companies. Any insurance company interested in having someone join the Roundtable should contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151.



Substance Abuse is Topic of Friday's "Wellness Chat"

The next Chamber "Wellness Chat" will be held this Friday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. on Zoom. The presenter will be Judy Rosser, Executive Director of Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships, who will be discussing the impact of the current drug trends in our community and the resources that are available to provide early engagement and recovery support to individuals and families. There is no cost for Chamber members to attend the Wellness Chat. Non-members can attend for \$10. To register (and get the Zoom link), visit the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com.

Committee Meetings

Sustainable Blair County Committee
September 7th
1:30 p.m.
Devorris Center

Workplace Wellness Committee
September 7th
3:00 p.m.
Devorris Center

SPREAD THE NEWS!

Get your
Buy Here.
Thrive Here.
yard sign
today!



“Steps Challenge” Begins Saturday

Are you ready for Fall? The Let's Move Blair County and the Workplace Wellness Committee of the Blair County Chamber are conducting the next two-month Steps Challenge for teams, schools, community groups, workplaces, faith-based organizations, and/or individuals. Are you ready to take the next step to help us build a healthy Blair County? The goal this year is to reach 200,000,000 steps as a community! Sign up and you will receive weekly updates to log steps, highlighted snapshots of Blair County that week to visit, motivational tips, and strategies for healthy eating and active lifestyles. Each week, you will be required to report the total number of steps with weekly log-in of activities completed each week. We will email a conversion chart so you can convert into steps your other activities such as tennis, swimming, weightlifting, baseball, running, etc. The challenge runs September 11,



2021 through November 6, 2021. We will acknowledge and present an awesome trophy to the top teams and individual with the most steps as leaders in helping to build a healthier Blair County. Like us on [Facebook](#), check out our [website](#) for the Active Living Brochure, and don't forget to share the challenge with your family, friends, or co-workers to spread the word! We can also provide hard copies of the brochure for your group at no cost.



WE-LEaD Schedules “Network in the Park”

The Chamber's WE-LEaD program (Women Encouraging – Leadership, Education and Development) will hold a networking event on September 13th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. “Network in the Park” will be held in the C2 Trolley House at Lakemont Park. The cost to attend is \$25 for Chamber members and \$35 for non-members. The price includes one complimentary beverage and appetizers. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the event is Morgan Stanley.

Grant Funding Available to Small Businesses and Farmers

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced that \$1 million in 2021 Small Business Advantage Grant funding is available to small businesses and farmers who want to improve their operations through energy efficiency, pollution prevention, and natural resource protection. “Many small business owners with an innovative mindset see the economic opportunity in energy efficiency and sustainability. DEP is committed to assisting small business owners and small farmers in Pennsylvania who want to improve their operations, reduce operating costs, and increase profitability, while helping to improve the natural resources all Pennsylvanians depend on,” said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. Pennsylvania small business owners and farmers with 100 or fewer full-time employees can get Small Business Advantage Grants for HVAC and boiler upgrades, high-efficiency LED lighting, solvent recovery and waste recycling systems, auxiliary power units



that eliminate truck engine idling, and other projects that reduce energy use. Grant funding also supports streambank buffers, fencing to keep livestock out of streams, and other agricultural stormwater runoff management projects that reduce sediment and nutrient pollution in local waters. The 2021 Small Business Advantage Grants program has \$1 million available for projects. Small businesses and farms can apply for 50 percent matching funds up to \$5,000. Extra consideration is given to those in Environmental Justice areas. Information on how to apply is available at www.dep.pa.gov/smallbusinessadvantagegrants.



If you know of someone – Chamber member or not – who might want to receive a copy of NETWORKS Digital News, send them to the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com. On the homepage, there is a button that says “click here to subscribe.” Once you click you will be sent to a Google form to get information (such as name and email). The person will then be set up to receive the newsletter each week.

**Follow us on Facebook at
The Blair County Chamber**



Thank you!

Saluting Our Renewals!

We would like to thank those members that have continued to invest with the organization by renewing their membership in the month of August.

Celebrating 104 Years

M & T Bank
Penstan Supply/Division
of Hajoca Corp.

Celebrating 100 Years

Lamar Advertising, Inc.

Celebrating 95 Years

Young, Oakes, Brown
& Company, P.C.

Celebrating 93 Years

Altoona Mirror

Celebrating 90 Years

AAA East Central

Celebrating 80-81 Years

Altoona First Savings Bank
Ward Transport and Logistics Corp.

Celebrating 70-79 Years

The EADS Group
The Hite Company Division
of Mayer Electric
Kranich's, Inc.
Peterman's Flower Shop

Celebrating 61-67 Years

Culligan Water Conditioning
Sales & Service
Fiore Furniture
Furrer Beverage Company
Reliance Bank
Stevens Mortuary, Inc.
Tri-State Industrial Solutions, Inc.
Veeder-Root Company

Celebrating 55-59 Years

Blair Candy Company
Lytle's Transfer & Storage Company

J. V. Meadows & Sons, Inc.
Pepsi Beverage Co.
Pittsburgh Glass Works

Celebrating 48 Years

Manpower Inc., of Altoona

Celebrating 30-34 Years

Calvary Cemetery Association
The Casino at Lakemont Park
Econo Lodge
FOREVER Media
Labor Specialties
McCartney's Workplace Solutions
Morrison's Cove Herald
Smithmyer's Electronics, Inc.
Your Building Centers, Inc.

Celebrating 20-29 Years

Altoona Symphony Orchestra
Atlantic Broadband
Benton Insurance Center, Inc.
Blair County Conservation District
Courtyard By Marriott
Cumming Motors, Inc.
East Side Concrete Supply Co., Inc.
Hess & Marino, CPA
Penn Mont Academy

Celebrating 10-19 Years

611 MRI Altoona
Allegheny Pain Management, P.C.
Altoona Lung Specialists
Buccinese Society
Dale Carnegie Training
The Everett Railroad Company
EZtouse.com
Hollidaysburg Area Public Library
Investment Savings Bank
Mihalko's General Contracting

Gerald L. Pastva, Professional
Land Surveyor
Seltzer Financial Strategies, LLC
Snappy Chef Catering

Celebrating 5-9 Years

Bellwood-Antis Public Library
Bihary Family Dental
Bloom Yoga & Wellness, LLC
John J. Castle General Contractor, Inc.
Evolution Counseling Services, LLC
Giant Eagle, Inc.
Healthy Blair County Coalition
LR Assist, LLC
Mama Randazzo's, Inc.
Milanak Family Vision Center
The Tax Shelter
The UPS Store #6512

Celebrating 1-4 Years

A B Federal Credit Union
Alto Markets
Altoona LaunchBox Supported
by the Hite Family
Beaps
BrightStar Care of Happy Valley
Brooklyn Deli
Caporuscio Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Global Power Line Academy, Inc.
The Health Insurance Place
KIZ Resources, LLC
Morgan Stanley
Dave Moses Technology Services, Inc.
NFP\Benefits Network, Inc.
QuatriniRafferty, Attorneys at Law
Rutter's
Shaffer's Full Steam Ahead
Hobby Shop
The Studio on 5th
Talixa Software & Service, LLC
Two 20 Studios
W. S. Lee & Sons

Operation Our Town Mini-Golf Tournament



Keystone Falls - 18 Hole Mini-Golf

Monday, September 20, 2021

Schedule of Activities

4:00pm - Tee time for OOT Mini-Golf Tournament at Lakemont Park

5:00pm - US Foods Neighborhood BBQ at Park Hills Golf Club

Great prizes, food, and fun!

Click on the link below for registration & sponsorship information:

<https://operationourtown.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021-Mini-Golf-flyer-Editable-form.pdf>

All funds raised benefit local drug enforcement and prevention programs through grants from Operation Our Town in conjunction with:

