

All-Stars for October Announced

Since sponsorships are such an integral part of the Chamber's ability to offer great events and programs to members, we recognize sponsors each month as "All-Stars." The All-Stars for October are: Altoona Blair County Development Corp. Benzel's Bretzel Bakery Inc. Blair Companies, Canon Solutions America, Captrust, Claysburg Education Foundation, Claysburg – Kimmel School District, Curry Supply Holdings, DelGrosso Family of Companies, DQ Grill & Chill, ECM Insurance Group, Experian, Freeport Press Inc., Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Hometown Bank of PA, Hoss's Steak & Sea House, Hylton Paper Company, Inc., K-B Offset Printing, Inc., Keller Engineers, Inc., Knepper Press, Kooman & Associates, LLC, Kretina Builders, Inc., Leonard S. Fiore, Inc., Lung Disease Center of Central Pennsylvania, M&T Bank, McCartney's WorkPlace Solutions, McLanahan Corporation, McQuaide Blasko, Mount Aloysius College, New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., New Pig, Okonak, Dean & Lechner, P.C., Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Penn State Altoona, PNC Bank, Press Box Printing, Reilly, Creppage & Co., Inc., Reliance Bank, Roaring Spring Family of Businesses, Ronald McDonald House of Charities Mid-Penn Region, SCG Hobby, SCORE, Seltzer Financial Strategies, LLC, Sheetz, Inc., Shoe Fly Stores, Simply Power Yoga, Smith Transport, Spherion Staffing, Stiffler McGraw, Stuckey Automotive, Tzero, UPMC Altoona and Ward Transport & Logistics.



Data Security Workshop to Focus on Cyber Attacks

The Chamber's Data Security Roundtable will host a Data Security Workshop on November 17th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is also a Zoom option. The workshop is entitled, "Will Your Business Survive a Cyber Attack?" It will include a panel discussion highlighting the Five Functions of the NIST Network, the correct way to prepare-for and react-to a cyber attack. The cost to attend is \$10 for Chamber members and



\$25 for non-members. To register, go to www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the Data Security Workshop is UDNI.

Young
Professionals
—of Blair County

Networking Event is Thursday at Levity Brewing Company

The Chamber's Young Professionals will hold its next networking event this Thursday, November 4th from 5:30 to 7:30 at Levity Brewing Company, 1411 Eleventh Avenue in Altoona. The cost to attend is \$10/person for young professionals who have purchased YP memberships and \$15/person for all other attendees. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Annual YP memberships (at \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-members) can be purchased at the Chamber Office, located in the Devorris Center for Business Development or by visiting the Chamber Website and downloading an [application](#).

Congratulations...

... to new Chamber member House to Home which will be cutting its ribbon with our Chamber Ambassadors on Thursday at 11:00 a.m.. House to Home is located at 310 Union Avenue in Altoona.

CENTER CITY CHURCH

1220 12th Avenue, Altoona PA 16601
Jim & Jessica Kilmartin, Lead Pastors
PHONE (814) 201-2454
CENTERCITYALTOONA.COM



Dear Fellow Chamber Member:

As part of our First Annual Center City Church Holiday Programs - a FREE Thanksgiving Dinner and A City Christmas, we ask for your support in spreading the word to families in need, and with donations. We hope you will consider this as a worthwhile cause to donate either time or treasure, or to get involved as a corporate sponsor.

Brief descriptions of both our events are listed here.

FREE Community Thanksgiving Dinner - Tuesday, November 23

We will welcome all to join us on November 23 at 1220 Twelfth Ave. Altoona, Pa., from 4:30 to 6:30 pm, for our first annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner, made possible through a partnership with Blair County Food Drive.

A City Christmas - December 19

We are actively inviting up to 200 families with children between the ages of 2-14 to pre-register for our Christmas event, "A City Christmas." This event will be held on Sunday, December 19, at 1220 Twelfth Ave. Altoona, Pa. 16601, from 2-5 pm.

This program will provide gifts, fellowship, and the true meaning of Christmas for (up to) 200 families in need.

Families in need of support for Christmas may pre-register using the survey link below by November 19, or by calling 814.201.2454 with questions.

<https://forms.gle/oLzXsmjSDyzYZFSs8>

If you are interested in making a financial donation, follow the link below and select Give Now, then Community Efforts in the drop-down menu to give online. All Community Efforts donations will be used towards the events above.

<https://centercityaltoona.com/give/>

We are looking for specific donations of the following items:

- Coats (age/size and gender-specific) - will be provided to you when inquiring
- Gloves, hats, boots
- Blankets
- Toys (age and gender-specific) - will be provided to you when inquiring
- Monetary donations to purchase these items

Please email hello@centercityaltoona.com with questions about specific donation sizes/ages, suggestions, or to participate in other ways.

If you are interested in discussing a sponsorship, please email hello@centercityaltoona.com.

We wish to extend our appreciation and warm blessings to your family during the upcoming Christmas season!

Pastors Jim and Jess Kilmartin



Workplace Wellness Offering Best Practices "Sanity Sessions"

From the committee that brought you "Wellness Chats" comes Best Practices "Sanity Sessions." The Chamber's Workplace Wellness Committee has been hosting Wellness Chats for 30 minutes on the second Friday of each month. Each Chat has addressed some aspect of wellness related to the workplace. The committee decided to commit the last two months of the year to having people share their best practices on some aspect of wellness. "It's been a tough year for everyone," admitted Phyllis Baker, who chairs the Workplace Wellness Committee. "We felt it would be nice to have people share their good thoughts and their frustrations with



others, just as sort of a cleansing exercise. That's why we're calling it a Sanity Session." The Sanity Sessions will be held from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. on November 12th and September 10th. Both are on Zoom. There is no cost to Chamber members to participate. Non-members pay \$10. To register and get the Zoom Link, go to www.blairchamber.com.

Altoona Police Chief to Speak at Chamber "Breakfast Club"

Altoona Police Chief Joe Merrill will be the keynote speaker at the next Blair County Chamber "Breakfast Club," set for November 18th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. Chief Merrill will talk about the challenges and opportunities he sees for the City, the workforce shortages that face the police force and the business community and the importance of creating mutually beneficial relationships between citizens and law enforcement. The cost to attend the Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.



Sponsorship Opportunities Available on Business Insight Page

There are sponsorship opportunities available for any business that would be interested in gaining some great exposure by having its ad on the bottom of the Business Insight Page. That page, exclusively of Chamber news, runs each Monday in the Altoona Mirror. The cost is inexpensive and is a great place to advertise for the upcoming holidays. If you're interested, email Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com.



Informational Program on Ireland Tour Set for November 17th

Now that the Blair County Chamber has moved its Hawaiian Islands Trip (to September 12-22), the first trip in 2022 is to Ireland. That trip is from April 27 – May 6 and is done in partnership with Epic Journeys and Collette Vacations. An informational meeting has been scheduled for November 17th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151. There is no cost or obligation to attend.

Committee Meetings

Workplace Wellness Committee
November 2nd
3:00 p.m.
Chamber Office

Young Professionals of Blair County
November 3rd
8:00 a.m.
Greenbean Coffee House

Leadership Blair County
Adult Committee
November 3rd
3:00 p.m.
Chamber Office

Public Policy Committee
November 4th
8:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

BASICS Early Childhood Committee
November 4th
10:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

Dear Patron,

Thank you for taking the time to consider helping us with our quest to continue the classic holiday tradition of THE NUTCRACKER, here in Altoona, PA. We strive to entertain our community with an affordable show as well as engaging our community's youth. This is positive fun for the whole family every holiday season.

On Saturday, December 18th, we will offer Altoona and surrounding communities in Blair County, and afar, a chance to see a full scale traditional production of THE NUTCRACKER ballet at the Jaffa Shrine (at very affordable ticket prices). This staging is our 19th Annual Year and 37th major production. It will include beautiful costumes, backdrops, and exquisite dancers.

HOW DO WE HELP THE COMMUNITY? It is our mission to provide the highest level of Classical Ballet training and to promote the art form through exceptional public performances. The Altoona Dance Theatre Company is dedicated to the exceptional teaching of classical Ballet and all other forms of dance, through a disciplined, yet, fun learning environment. The Best of Both Worlds! Our school is open to mommy and me thru graduating seniors. You can imagine the possibilities for building self-esteem and personal growth.

HOW CAN YOU ATTRACT NEW CUSTOMERS? As a sponsor, your gifts will be acknowledged in our performance program, on the back of our Annual t-shirts, as well as an announcement over the P.A. system at the end of the production, thanking the sponsors once again for their assistance and support in staging of the production. Listings in the performance programs and on t-shirts is a way we offer advertising to your business.

We are asking you to please be a sponsor of this year's NUTCRACKER and our future NUTCRACKERS, so that the community can benefit from this cultural experience. The staging of the NUTCRACKER costs over \$13,000 yearly and has increased this year significantly. We hope you can sponsor a part of THE NUTCRACKER production and feel the sense of pride that comes with helping children chase their dreams and learn an amazing form of art.

Sponsor Parts \$100-\$500

Clara _____
Fritz _____
Doll _____
Soldier _____
Nutcracker _____
Mouse King _____
Snow Queen _____
Sugar Plum Fairy _____
Spanish (Chocolate) _____
Arabian (Coffee) _____
Chinese (Tea) _____
Russian (Candy Canes) _____
Mother Ginger and her Bon-bons (clowns) _____
Reed Flutes (Marzipan) _____
Waltz of the Flowers _____
Dew Drop Fairy _____

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR SPONSORSHIP. WE HOPE THAT YOU CAN HELP US.



Renee Staines
Artistic Director and Founder
Altoona Dance Theatre
210 E Plank Road, Ste. 14
Altoona, PA 16602
814-940-1250





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 October.

Celebrating 55 Years

First Commonwealth Bank

Celebrating 42 Years

Bill Wertz & Sons, Inc.

Celebrating 30 Years

Suzanne Egan, Inc.

Celebrating 20-29 Years

Allegheny Orthotics & Prosthetics

Allegheny Supply and

Maintenance Co., Inc.

Altoona Area School District

Barton's Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

CBIZ Insurance Services, Inc.

CONTACT Altoona

Homewood Retirement Community

Lightner Electronics, Inc.

Ritchey's Dairy, Inc.

Sam's Club

The Summit Tennis & Athletic Club

Celebrating 10-19 Years

Advanced Chiropractic

Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy

Bestway Pizza

Blue Knob Auto Sales, Inc.

CPA Associates

Grier School

J & P Auto Mart

Rizzo & Wiegner Chiropractic

George A. Schultz & Son, Inc.

(Schultz Company)

Veteran Community Initiatives, Inc.

Celebrating 5-9 Years

Central States Manufacturing, Inc.

Coach4Retirees, Inc.

DQ Grill & Chill Logan Town Centre

Express Employment Professionals

Figure 8 Communications, Inc.

Rodney Green

Mattern House, Inc.

Myers-Somers Funeral Home, Inc.

Operation Our Town, Inc.

The Sinclair Corp DBA

Postal Express/ Cashland

Spahn Accounting Inc.

Stultz Real Estate - Chris Weidley

Celebrating 1-4 Years

Amerway, Inc.

Greenbean Coffee House

Harry's Construction Kitchen &

Bath Design Center

InnerPeace Counseling

Jersey Shore State Bank

(JSSB) of Altoona

K2 Logistics/RT&T Logistics

Recharge Web Design

"That Pierogie Guy"

VetAdvisor Services

Chamber Members Asked to Update Contact Information

As the Chamber begins the process of compiling information for the 2022 Membership Directory, it's extremely important that you let us know if your contact information is up-to-date. And what to do if it's not! You can review your membership information online at www.blairchamber.com. Go to the Chamber Membership tab and then click on the Member Directory link to find your business listing. Members can make changes directly in the database on the website by going to the Chamber Membership tab and clicking on the Members Only link to log into your membership account or by emailing your changes to Cindy Cessna at ccessna@blairchamber.com.

BENEFact Did you know...

The 2022 **Brand Enhancement Guide** is now available! Now is the time to secure your 2022 sponsorships and receive the 10% package discount! Tons of opportunities are available exclusively to Chamber member businesses. Something for every budget! Contact Jessie at jcovert@blairchamber.com to get a copy emailed to your inbox.



KEEP SCROLLING
There's more to see!

Congratulations, Mark Barnhart

We wish you congratulations on your
Lifetime Achievement for Business
Excellence Award.

May your life always provide you with
moments of happiness and success—
you deserve it.

From all of us at
Smith Transport Enterprises

"LEADERSHIP IS NOT ABOUT TITLES, OR
POSITIONS ... IT IS ABOUT ONE LIFE
INFLUENCING ANOTHER."

—JOHN C. MAXWELL





Nationally, 42 MILLION AMERICANS Could Face Hunger.

13 Million Of These Are Children.*

**Locally, ACE fix-it Stores Are
Working To End Hunger Through 10Million Hearts.**

As You're Shopping For Your Winter And Christmas Project Supplies,
The Helpful Folks At ACE fix-it Invite You To Join The Fight Against Hunger.

Donate In-Store, Online With PayPal At [Acefixit.com](https://www.acefixit.com), Or [Centralpagives.org](https://www.centralpagives.org).

**100% OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED Goes
To Food-Providing Organizations In OUR Community!**



10Million Hearts Is Administered By The Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation

*Feeding America Assessment, 2021

ACE IS THE PLACE WITH THE BEST BRANDS!



Duncansville • Tyrone • Huntingdon • Everett • Dillsburg • Mercer • Grove City • Oakmont • Greentree • Brookville • DuBois

CONGRATULATIONS

Mark Barnhart

of NPC on being this year's recipient of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award for Business Excellence.



ASIA | AUSTRALIA & ASIA PACIFIC | EUROPE | LATIN AMERICA | NORTH AMERICA