

Chamber Office Closed Monday for Holiday



The Blair County Chamber of Commerce Office will be closed on Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. To register for Chamber programs or events or to access Chamber information, visit the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com.

Is Your Business Ripe for a Ransomware Attack?

Businesses are increasingly being targeted for ransomware attacks, paying millions of dollars-per-year to cyber-criminals to recover stolen data. Last year, about 38% of businesses globally reported that they were hit by a ransomware attack. Will your business be next? The Blair County Chamber has a Data Security Roundtable that meets each month to discuss ways to help businesses be prepared for all data threats. That Roundtable meets this Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for



Business Development. There's also a Zoom option. If you'd like to join the Roundtable, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at jhurd@blairchamber.com.

Chamber Board of Directors Meets Thursday

The Blair County Chamber's first meeting of 2022 will take place on Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. This meeting will be the first for new board members,

Superman Berrow, Joe Diamond, Diana McClure and Nick Sefchok. Any Chamber member who would like to address the Board should call Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 by noon on Tuesday.

Registered to Attend the Annual Meeting Yet?

The Blair County Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation will be held on January 28th at the Blair County Convention Center. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a buffet breakfast, followed by the installation of the 2022 Chamber Board of Directors and the Board of the Blair County Chamber Foundation. In all, eight awards will be presented. To register for the Annual Meeting, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Congratulations...

... to Dr. Angela Rowe, who was recently appointed as the new Chief of Staff of the James. E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center. ... to Stephen McKnight, President/CEO of the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation, who was recently appointed to a two-year term as president of the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association.

WATCH HERE!

Getting REEL

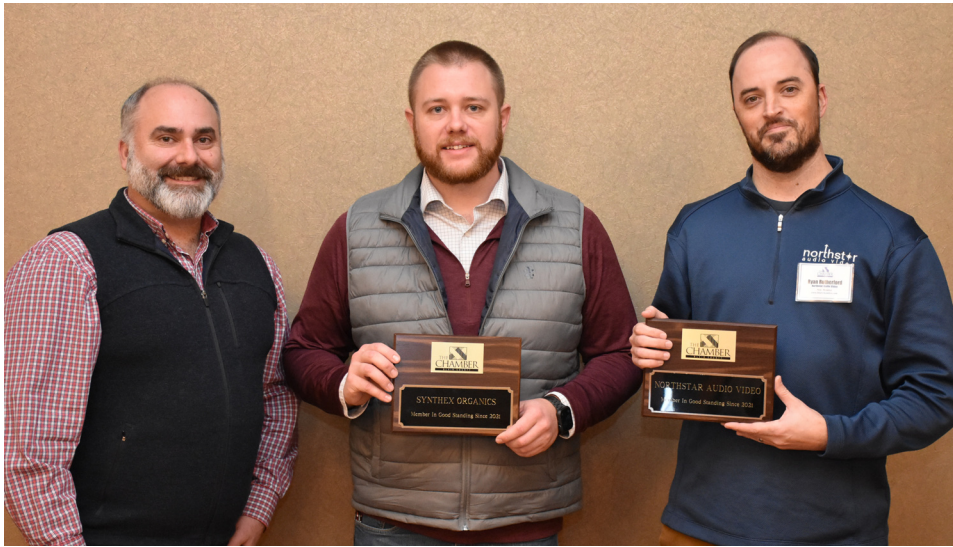
a recap of your Chamber at work

STREAMING MONTHLY TO YOUR EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA FEED

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Welcome New Members...



Richard Fiore, Jr. (left), Chair of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, welcomes new members (from left) Drew Symons of **SYNTHEX ORGANICS**; and Ryan Rutherford of **NORTHSTAR AUDIO VIDEO**.

Unemployment Compensation Increases Hurting Business Recovery

The harsh reality that businesses in our county can't find enough employees is now further complicated by significant increases in the Unemployment Compensation Tax Contribution Rate. The impact will further restrict the ability of already-struggling businesses to get back on their feet. The Chamber is seeking information from its members to determine the level of increases that they are experiencing so that we can reach out to elected of-



ficials for some kind of relief. Please send information on how your UC bill has been impacted to Joe Hurd at jhurd@blairchamber.com.

Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase Right Around the Corner!

The 51st Annual Blair County Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase isn't until March 25-27 but the enthusiasm for the event (and the nice weather that often accompanies it) has already begun. Sponsorships are available as are exhibitor opportunities. This is the first-ever Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase held at the Blair County Convention Center so don't wait to secure your sponsorship or your booth.



For more information, contact Stacy Hoover at (814) 943-8151 or email her at shoover@blairchamber.com. The Showcase is a partnership between the Blair County Chamber and the Blair-Bedford Builders Association.

Annual Meeting Sponsorship Deadline is Wednesday

The Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation is one of the most heavily attended of the Chamber's events each year. It's also a great opportunity for a business to gain some marketing exposure by serving as an event sponsor. Let the business community know who you are and that you support the efforts of the Chamber in keeping Blair County as a great place to work. For sponsorship information, contact Jessie Covert at (814) 943-8151 or email her at jcovert@blair-chamber.com. The deadline to sponsor is January 19th.

Committee Meetings

Chamber Finance Committee
January 18th
2:30 p.m.
Devorris Center

Data Security Roundtable
January 19th
1:00 p.m.
Devorris Center

BENEFact

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@blair-chamber.com to get a copy emailed to your inbox.

