

## YEA! Students to Hear From Local CEO's

The nineteen students in the 2022 Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) program will have the opportunity to learn the realities of business ownership from a panel of CEO's this Tuesday at the CEO Roundtable session, being held at the Blair County Convention Center. The CEO panel consists of Deb Arnsperger of Creative Expressions Florist, Chris Cook of C&J Rental Management, Marcia Cumming from MarCia's Chocolates, Tracy Dutko of Just Breathe Salt Spa & Yoga Studio and Travis Sheetz of Sheetz, Inc. For more information on the YEA! program, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or at [jhurd@blairchamber.com](mailto:jhurd@blairchamber.com).



## Committee Chair Summit Scheduled for Wednesday



The Blair County Chamber has maintained exceptional effectiveness, due in large part to the functioning of a strong group of committees and round-tables. The chairs and vice-chairs of those committees and roundtables will get together on

Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development as the Chamber holds its annual Chairperson Summit. The Summit addresses a variety of issues related to communication, reporting and collaboration. For more information on how to join a Chamber committee, contact Joe Hurd at [jhurd@blairchamber.com](mailto:jhurd@blairchamber.com).

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## Chamber Board of Directors Meets Thursday

The Board of Directors of the Blair County Chamber meets Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. Any Chamber member who wishes to address the Board should contact Joe Hurd by noon on Tuesday at (814) 943-8151.

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## Chamber Committee Looking to Address Sustainability Potential

The Chamber's Sustainable Blair County Committee has scheduled a workshop to discuss ways to help the local business community to understand and implement sustainable practices. The workshop, which is open to any Chamber member, will be held on March 1st from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business De-

velopment. The event will begin with a buffet breakfast, courtesy of Prime Sirloin, at 8:00 a.m. The discussion phase, which will be done in focus groups, will begin at 8:30. There is no cost to attend but participation is limited so registration is required. Contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).

## Informational Meeting Set on Presidents' Forum Opportunities

The Presidents' Forum, a professional development program for upper-management members of the Blair County Chamber, will be creating additional Forum Groups this Spring and will also offer opportunities for interested business leaders to become part of exist-

ing Groups. The Chamber will hold an informational meeting on February 23rd at 8:00 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. Interested persons should contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at [jhurd@blairchamber.com](mailto:jhurd@blairchamber.com).

## Congratulations...

... to the members of the Blair County Chamber who were named by Pennsylvania Business Central newspaper as its Top 100 People for 2022. They are: David Antolik – S&T Bank, Terry Williams – Miller, Kistler & Campbell, J. Eric Renner – 1st Summit Bank, John McKeegan – Mount Aloysius College, Dr. Nicole Custer – Mount Aloysius College, Philip Miles and Cristin Long – McQuaide Blasko, Cathy Griffith – Greg and Cathy Griffith Family Foundation, Tara Shaffer – AmeriServ Bank, Daniel Bradley – Young, Oakes, Brown & Company, Joe Reschini – The Reschini Group, Jane Grebenc – First Commonwealth Bank, Joe DelGrosso – DelGrosso Foods, Steven Fontaine – Penn Highlands Healthcare, Debra Dellaposta – Doing Better Business, Leanne Kassab – CNB Bank, Mark Ickes – Explore Altoona, Matt Stuckey – Stuckey Automotive, Colleen Devorris – BrandDemon Strategy+Design, Barry D'Andrea – Saleme Insurance, Phil Freeman – Reliance Bank, Todd Lewis – Shoe Fly Stores, Amy Seltzer – Seltzer Financial Strategies, Brandon Zlupko – Baker Tilly, Patricia Savage – ALSM, George Rudolph – PSECU, Jodi Cessna – Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation, Karen Young – Jersey Shore Savings Bank, Dr. Randy Frye – Saint Francis University, Fred Imler II – Imler's Poultry, Jeff Long – Jeff S. Long Construction, Beth Powell – New Pig Energy, Joel Valentine and Patrick Bearjar – Wessel and Company and Bob Pennington – Coldwell Banker Town & Country Real Estate.



## Share With the Chamber Your Unemployment Compensation Story

The harsh reality is that many businesses in our county can't find enough employees and some of those businesses are now faced with significant increases in their Unemployment Compensation cost. Although the state hasn't changed the rating formula, businesses with claims, including fraudulent claims, are seeing the impact of the pandemic in their unemployment comp payments because of their claims experience. To make matters worse, the state has had to borrow money to keep the Unemployment Compensation fund solvent and is expected to raise rates or add surcharges over the next several years. The impact will further restrict the ability etc. 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 officials for some kind of relief. Please send information on how your UC bill has been impacted to Joe Hurd at [jhurd@blairchamber.com](mailto:jhurd@blairchamber.com).

## WATCH HERE!





# Welcome New Members...



The Blair County Chamber welcomes new members (from left) Christopher Corcoran and Jeremy Knott, **B&L WHOLESALE SUPPLY**; Joshua Bridges Emigh and Dylan Emeigh, **SPRING COVE NOTARY & SERVICES**; Sheila Litzensberger, **FROM THE HEART**; and Charlotte Lilly, **THE BRICKHOUSE BISTRO**.

## Only Six Weeks Until the Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase

The 51st Annual Blair County Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase continues to sign up exhibitors. If you haven't signed up yet, the time to access prime booth locations is drawing to a close. This is the first-ever Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase held at the Blair County Convention Center. Even if your business is still

catching-up on work that you didn't get to last year, it's important to meet your new customers at this special event. For more information, contact Stacy Hoover at (814) 943-8151 or email her at [shoover@blairchamber.com](mailto:shoover@blairchamber.com). The Showcase is a partnership between the Blair County Chamber and the Blair-Bedford Builders Association.



**MARCH 25, 26, 27**



**Blair County Convention Center**

## Committee Meetings

**BASICS Steering Committee**  
February 14th  
8:00 a.m.  
GACTC

**Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) Committee**  
February 14th  
10:30 a.m.  
Zoom

**Membership Committee**  
February 15th  
1:30 p.m.  
Devorris Center

**Data Security Roundtable**  
February 16th  
11:00 a.m.  
Devorris Center

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