



## Chamber Office Closed for Presidents' Day

The Blair County Chamber Office will be closed this Monday, February 21st, in honor of Presidents' Day. The Office will reopen Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. To access Chamber information or register for Chamber events, visit the Chamber Website at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).

## Presidents' Forum Informational Meeting Set for Wednesday



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 opportuni-

ties for interested business leaders to become part of existing 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).

## Thursday's "Business After Hours" to Be Hosted at The Columns

C&J Rental Management will host the next Chamber "Business After Hours" and Grand Opening this Thursday from 5-7 p.m. at The Columns in Downtown Altoona. The After Hours will follow immediately after the Chamber conducts

a ribbon cutting at 4:45, officially opening The Columns. The cost to attend the event is \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).



## Six New Chamber Members Approved by Board

The Board of Directors of the Blair County Chamber approved six new members at last Thursday's meeting. The new members are: Catered Affairs of Altoona; The Columns of Altoona; Combined Insurance A CHUBB Company of Altoona; Farm2Home Catering, LLC of Altoona; Legacy Auto Worx, LLC of Altoona and Dr. Karen Srba of Hollidaysburg.

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Chamber of Commerce

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## Ribbon Cutting



## Humble & Kind Boutique

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the one-year anniversary of [Humble & Kind Boutique](#) at its Graystone Grande Palazzo location. The shop features a creative selection of apparel for women including shoes, accessories and unique small gift ideas while offering personalized customer service. Pictured at the ribbon, from left: Eva Eagler, Chamber Ambassador; Joe Hurd, President/CEO, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; Nicole McCoy, Manager; Ashley Hinterberger, Owner; Mayor Matt Pacifico, City of Altoona; Michele Ivory, the office of State Senator Judy Ward; and Sherri Stayer, Chamber Ambassador.



Be a part of the moment. Watch the video [here!](#)

## Workplace Wellness Survey to Help Businesses Help Employees

Businesses throughout Blair County have struggled to maintain a steady flow of commerce. The employees of those businesses have struggled to either avoid or recover from Covid-19. The Blair County Chamber's Workplace Wellness Committee would like to help employers design programs and events to keep employees healthy while also potentially saving money for the business itself. The Committee has issued a short survey to ascertain what busi-



nesses are currently doing to address employee wellness and what they feel is important moving forward. To access the survey, [click here](#).

## Save the Date: Highmark Chamber Golf Classic

The highly-anticipated Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Chamber Golf Classic will be held on Thursday, May 19th at Iron Masters Country Club. As always, there will be contests, prizes,

giveaways, a pig roast and great opportunities to network. To register, contact Stacy Hoover at the Chamber at (814) 943-8151. This event always sells-out so reserve your spot early!

## Congratulations...

... to Mount Aloysius College, which was recently named a "Center of Academic Excellence for Cyber Defense" by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Securities. Only 16 schools in Pennsylvania hold Center of Academic Excellence status.  
... to the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center, which is one of eleven Pennsylvania hospitals to receive a five-star patient experience rating. The Medical Center is the only VA healthcare facility to receive this rating.  
... to the six Blair County Chamber members who will be recognized for their impact at the "Blair Go Red for Women" event held May 26th at the Blair County Convention Center. They are: Kelly Campagna of Encompass Health, Taci Geller of Grane Hospice, Kerry Gority of John Hill Real Estate, Angela Guyer of UPMC Altoona, Amy Kowalski of Penn State Altoona and Chelsi Tedeschi of Blair School of Martial Arts.

## Committee Meetings

Business Hall of Fame  
February 22nd  
10:00 a.m.  
Devorris Center

Transportation Committee  
February 24th  
8:15 a.m.  
Devorris Center

## Did you know?

**The Chamber  
has an Instagram!**



Follow us @theblair\_chamber





# Sustainability Workshop Scheduled for March 1st

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 Development. 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).

## Safety Committee to Hold Safety Trivia Night & Networking

The Blair County Chamber's Safety Committee will hold a Safety Trivia Night & Networking event on March 3rd from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Zach's, 5820 Sixth Avenue in Altoona. Bring your own team or join a team that evening. There will be pizza, salad and a cash bar. No charge for Chamber members; \$10 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Corporate sponsor of Safety Trivia Night & Networking is Spring Cove Notary & Services.



## Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase Attracting Many New Exhibitors

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

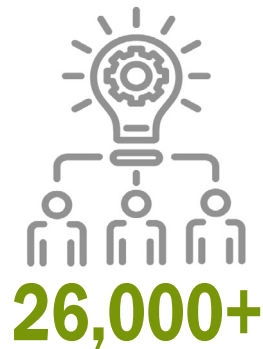


Hoover at (814) 943-8151 or email her at [shoover@blairchamber.com](mailto:shoover@blairchamber.com). The Showcase is a partnership between the Blair County Chamber and the Blair-Bedford Builders Association.



## Chamber Board Approves Subcommittee Chairs

Three Chamber members were approved by the Chamber Board as Co-chairs. Kaytlyn Clapper of PA CareerLink and Drew Yingling of Altoona Area School District were approved to co-chairs the BASICS Attendance Subcommittee; Brandi Noye of Doing Better Business will co-chair the Chamber's Golf Committee with current co-chair Chris Weidley of Stultz Realty.



students received funding from BASICS to experience career educational opportunities through Career Shadowing, Career Fairs and Career Exploration.

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