

March 21, 2022

Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase Opens Friday

The 51st Annual Blair County Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase, set for this weekend (March 25-27) at the Blair County Convention Center, has the potential to be one of the largest shows in many years. The Showcase opens this Friday at 4:00 p.m. at the Blair County Convention Center and will continue throughout the weekend, ending at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. For more information on the show or to reserve one of the few remaining booths, 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.



MARCH 25, 26, 27

Business Hall of Fame Nomination Deadline is April 1st

After a two-year hiatus, the Business Hall of Fame is returning, albeit with a few significant changes. The event, started by the Blair County Chamber in 1990, will be held on June 16th at The Casino at Lakemont Park. Perhaps the biggest change is that event is now a luncheon instead of a dinner. The Hall of Fame luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. and conclude by 1:30 p.m. The luncheon will still be highlighted by the presentation of the Hall of Fame Awards. But rather than the four inductees in past years, there will be no more than two presented at this event. The Awards of Distinction will likewise undergo a change. While holdovers like Excellence in Small Business and Young Emerging Business will remain, there will only be one recipient in each of those categories instead of the three that existed in the past. And for the first

time, there will be a Non-Profit Business of the Year Award. In the past, the Hall of Fame judges presented awards for safety, technology and sustainability. Those awards will be presented under a category known as "Business Specialty Awards" but only when a particularly outstanding accomplishment is identified. Despite the many changes that the Business Hall of Fame is undertaking, the nominating and selection process remains the same. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com. For more information, contact Stacy Hoover at shoover@blairchamber.com.



Non-Profit Symposium Set for Wednesday at the Devorris Center

Non-Profits play an important role in our county. To assess that role and to look at upcoming challenges and responsibilities, the Chamber's Community of Non-Profit businesses will be holding a symposium this Wednesday from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost for non-profit businesses to attend and a free buffet breakfast beginning at 8:00 a.m. is included. To register, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at jhurd@blairchamber.com.



Breakfast sponsored by:

WATCH HERE!



Chamber Membership Campaign Launches Next Monday

The Chamber is launching a major Membership Campaign that will begin on March 28th and conclude on May 31st. The campaign, which will be introduced by the Chamber's Membership Committee, will feature a variety of initiatives that include a recruitment component by the Board of Directors, incentives for current members to help identify and sign-up prospective members and even a percentage discount on dues for those who join. Even with the incredible importance associated with making the campaign a success, the Chamber marketing staff has still seen value to inject a level of fun to the project. The campaign itself has been branded, "Catch'22 Membership Chal-



lenge." The slogan centers on the opportunity for Chamber members to earn \$50 in gift cards by recruiting a non-member and taking the recruitment process to its completion. For the joining new member, there is an immediate 10% discount off the first year's membership, provided they join prior to the May deadline. (For more information, contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com.)

Welcome New Members...



The Blair County Chamber welcomes new member (from left): Vince Ellenberger and Chris Cook, **THE COLUMNS**; Rodnee Williams and Nannette Williams, **LEGACY AUTO WORX, LLC**; **DR. KAREN SRBA**; and Paige Padula, **TERRA BOUTIQUE**.

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Congratulations...

... to Blair Gastroenterology Associates which achieved a score of 100% in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) which measures high quality, cost control and performance improvement activities to interconnect medical records systems.

... to Stuckey Automotive for its participation in the Ford Driving Skills For Life program and for offering that program to students at Hollidaysburg Area High School during a virtual assembly on March 8th. The program teaches newly licensed drivers the necessary skills for safe driving.

... to the Chamber members who were recently honored by Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships at its Annual Recognition Dinner. They are: Drew Yingling of Altoona Area School District, AMED and Healthy Blair County Coalition.



Only a Few Spots Remain for Highmark Chamber Golf Classic



The highly-anticipated (and soon to be sold out!) 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. While there are just a few opportunities to reserve a four-

some or an individual golf spot, the main sponsorships for the event have all been sold. Tee and green sponsorships are still available. To register for golf, contact Stacy Hoover at the Chamber at (814) 943-8151. To become a tee and green sponsor, contact Jessie Covert at that same number.



Eight New Members Approved by Chamber Board

At its March 17th meeting, the Blair County Chamber's Board of Directors approved the following members:

- Blair County NAACP Branch #2252 of Altoona
- J. Ardie Dillen of Altoona
- Enterprise Truck Rental of Altoona
- Marianna's Fundraisers of Tipton
- Penn Terra Engineering of State College
- Right Elevator Company of Johnstown
- UPMC Centers for Rehab Services of Altoona
- Woody Lodge Winery of Ashville

Safety Workshop to Focus on Sex Trafficking

The Blair County Chamber's Safety Committee will host a workshop on April 13th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. The topic will be "Sex Trafficking: From Instant Message to Instant Nightmare." The presenter will be Bubba Fatula who will identify ways to recognize the signs of sex trafficking. The cost to attend 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. Sponsor of the workshop is CareSmart Solutions.



Committee Meetings



Leadership Blair County Alumni Committee

March 22nd, 8:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

BASICS Rotary Career Fair

March 22nd, 1:00 p.m.
Zoom

Transportation Committee

March 24th, 8:15 a.m.
Devorris Center

VideoBYTE



Email the Chamber at
chamber@blairchamber.com