

## Hollidaysburg Duo Captures YEA! Outstanding Business Honor

Two Hollidaysburg Area High School juniors, who focused an apparel business on spreading awareness about mental health issues, were selected as the outstanding business at last Tuesday's Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) Investor Panel Event. Ashlyn Brown and Marisa White created WeatherTheStorm to "help make someone's day better." They make hoodies and other clothing items replete with positive messages.



Among those participating in the Investors Panel event are, left to right, investor Leonard Fiore, III; Marisa White, Ashlyn Brown and investor Amy Seltzer.

The Investor Panel Event was held at The Casino at Lakemont Park. Twelve investors allocated \$12,000 to the eleven businesses that are part of the YEA! program in 2022. The winning business will now take part in a national competition to be held in June.

## Recruit a New Member, Get \$50 in Gift Cards

The Chamber has launched its Membership Campaign for 2022 and it's time for current members to benefit from recruiting new members. The campaign itself has been branded, "Catch'22 Membership Challenge."

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](mailto:jcovert@blairchamber.com).)

## Early Childhood Symposium Set for Wednesday

The BASICS Subcommittee on Early Childhood Education will hold a symposium this Wednesday from 7:30 to



10:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. The event will bring together providers, school district representatives and interested business leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with childcare in Blair County. Anyone interested in attending the Symposium should contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 before 4:00 today.

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 @TheBlairCountyChamber



SATURDAY, JULY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

**LARGEST OUTDOOR 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA**

Dear Community Member:

We are excited to release the news that HoopsFest will be held in Downtown Altoona **on July 23rd, 2022.**

During the last HoopsFest (2019), 4000+ attendees, 850 players, 220 teams, and 200+ volunteers attended. This event is an incredible way to promote your organization's brand while also supporting your community.

Each year we aim to make this a memorable event for the whole community by providing divisions from youth (8 and under) to adults (60 and over) and all skill levels. Along with great basketball, we have a \$500 shot contest, a motivational speaker, a kids zone, and a food vendor area. This year, we will be hosting a dunk contest & boys/girls 3-point competition in which the winners will receive a scholarship for their education.

Check out the [HoopsFest 2019 highlight video](#) (3:42 minutes) to see how your support last year helped make this a great event and impact thousands.

Your support in 2022 will go a long way in helping Joshua House, in addition to City Blessings Food Distribution, and Arrows Christian Academy. Our outreach does and will continue to impact our community. We hope you will take the time to review the enclosed sponsorship opportunities. If you have questions before committing, we are happy to schedule a call or meeting. Please reach out to 814-201-2454. If you are ready, feel free to download the sponsorship form from Google docs here: <https://bit.ly/HFsponsorshipform> and return to 1220 12th Avenue, Altoona PA 16601.

Respectfully,

Jim Kilmartin  
HoopsFest  
1220 12th Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601

## Pirates Development Director to Speak at Breakfast Club

If the Pittsburgh Pirates are to make significant strides in 2022, John Baker will likely be the guy who can make that happen. Baker is the new Director of Coaching and Player Development for the Pirates. He was in a similar role for the past five years with the Chicago Cubs and had a playing career with the Cubs, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Seattle Mariners. Baker will be the keynote speaker at the next Chamber "Breakfast Club," to be held April 14th beginning at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. The cost to attend the Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. A buffet breakfast is included. To register, call the Blair County Chamber at (814) 943-8151



John Baker

or you can register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Corporate sponsor of the April Breakfast Club is Lion Country Lodging.

## Young Professionals to Hold "Family Fun Night" This Thursday

The Young Professionals of Blair County will hold a Family Fun Night at Slinky Action Zone in Duncansville this Thursday, April 7th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There are three packages available -- \$10 for pizza, soft drink, one game of laser tag and one round of duck pin bowling; \$15 for the same offer plus 200 arcade credits; and \$25 for the same offer plus a second game of laser tag and an additional 100 arcade credits. To register to attend, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or reg-



ister online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Family Fun Night is sponsored by Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation. Young Professionals of Blair County is a program of the Blair County Chamber.

## Congratulations...

. . . to Pennsylvania Highlands Community College which recently earned the 2022-23 Silver Military Friendly School designation. Institutions earning the designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey.

. . . to Conemaugh Nason Medical Center's cardiac Catheterization Laboratory in Roaring Spring which was granted accreditation from Corazon, Inc. The accreditation proves that Conemaugh Nason's program has met or exceeded the requirements established by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

## Pleasant Valley Notary & Services to Host "Business Before Hours"

The Chamber will hold a Business Before Hours and Ribbon Cutting on April 12th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at Pleasant Valley Notary & Services, located at 1216 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Suite 210 in Altoona. There is no cost for Chamber members to attend; non-members can attend for \$10. The ribbon cutting begins at 7:30. Stop-by and grab a bite to eat! To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).



## 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](http://www.blairchamber.com). Sponsor of the workshop is CareSmart Solutions.



# Business Hall of Fame Sponsorships Available

The nomination period for the Chamber's Business Hall of Fame has passed and those businesses that have been nominated will have until April 15th to submit applications for consideration by the panel of judges to receive an award at the Business Hall of Fame Luncheon. That event will be held on June 16th at The Casino at Lakemont Park beginning at noon. Sponsorships are now available and can be secured by contacting Jessie Covert at (814) 943-8151.



Registration to attend the luncheon is also available either by calling the Chamber or registering online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).

# Registered for the Highmark Chamber Golf Classic Yet?

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 foursome 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.

# Committee Meetings



## Chamber Ambassadors

April 5th  
8:00 a.m.  
Devorris Center

## Workplace Wellness Committee

April 5th  
10:30 a.m.  
Devorris Center

## Leadership Blair County Adult Committee

April 6th  
3:00 p.m.  
Devorris Center

## Public Policy Committee

April 7th  
8:00 a.m.  
Devorris Center

Blair County Chamber of Commerce  
Committee of Non-Profit Businesses

# LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST



Representative  
Jim Gregory



Representative  
Lou Schmitt



Senator  
Judy Ward

APR. 29

8 - 9:30 A.M.  
THE CASINO AT LAKEMONT PARK

\$20 CHAMBER MEMBERS / \$30 NON-MEMBERS



# BENefact

Have a large bulk mailing  
in your future?

Put your Chamber membership to work for your business by using the Chamber's bulk mail permit to significantly reduce the cost of postage for qualified mailings. Yet another way your Chamber Membership saves you big! Contact Jessie at [jcovert@blairchamber.com](mailto:jcovert@blairchamber.com) to find out how you can start saving today.



## 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 March.

### **Celebrating 68 Years**

PennCrest BANK

### **Celebrating 53 Years**

Saint Francis University

### **Celebrating 42-49 Years**

Doing Better Business, Inc.  
Fiore True Value Hardware & Rental  
McLanahan Corporation  
WJAC, Inc.

### **Celebrating 30-39 Years**

American Cancer Society  
American Roofing, Inc.  
Blair County Arts Foundation  
Boyer Refrigeration, Heating &  
Air Conditioning  
J & O  
John Hill Real Estate  
Klesius & Sheedy, Inc.  
Logan Valley Mall  
Edgar Snyder & Associates  
Tel-Power Tool & Equipment Rental, Inc.

### **Celebrating 20-29 Years**

Altoona Area Public Library  
Altoona Shoe Fly Stores  
Begin With Us Child Care & Preschool, Inc.  
Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
(OVR)  
Courtesy Ford, Inc.  
Degol Organization  
Family Services Incorporated  
Galactic Ice  
Hampton Inn Altoona  
Holiday Bowl, Inc.  
Holland Bros., Inc.  
Sickler Tarpey & Associates  
Small Tube Products  
Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art

The Village at Morrisons Cove  
Yeager & Eberhardt

### **Celebrating 10-19 Years**

Ace fix-it Hardware Stores  
Altoona Arthritis and Osteoporosis Center  
Barash Media  
Blair County Tax Collection Bureau  
Blair HealthChoices  
John K. Bolger Funeral Home, Inc.  
J.R. Brown Construction, Inc.  
Bryce Saylor & Sons/  
Altoona Crane & Rigging, Inc.  
CORE Physical Therapy and  
Sports Training  
Edward Jones Investments  
Edward Jones Investments, J.T. Tidd  
Gearhart's Meats & Country Store  
Guardian Healthcare  
Levine Engineering, LLC  
PA CareerLink® Blair County  
Penn England Farms  
Penn Highlands Healthcare  
Prime Sirloin (Vision Restaurant Group, Inc.)  
Roaring Spring True Value  
UPMC Altoona  
Wagner & Finn Attorneys at Law  
Your Jewelry Box

### **Celebrating 5-9 Years**

ADR Solutions  
Advanced Vein Care  
AnswerLinks, Inc.  
Michelle Barnes Optometry, P.C.  
BB&T (Branch Banking and Trust Company)  
Beck, Smithbower, Ickes Financial, LLC  
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate -  
GSA Realty  
Bickel's Surplus Too  
Blair County Farm Bureau  
Bright Ideas Childcare and Preschool, Inc

Chick-fil-A Altoona  
Housing & Redevelopment Insurance Exchange  
InspectionGo, Inc.  
Interaction Dynamics Group  
KMS Interior Design & Home Staging, LLC  
Lake Raystown Resort  
LAMB Solutions Advertising Agency  
Leib, Inc.  
Omni Bedford Springs Resort and Spa  
Perry Wellington Realty, LLC -  
Matt DePaolis  
Tussey Landscaping, LLC  
The Ultimate Sub Company, LLC  
Walton Heights Townhomes and Apartments  
Wingate by Wyndham Altoona  
Downtown/Medical Center

### **Celebrating 1-4 Years**

Altoona Area Business Community  
Berry Solutions Group  
Burns Excavating, Inc.  
Champion Roofing  
East Freedom Surgical Associates, LLC  
Edward Jones Investments - Katlin Webb  
Every Life Matters (ELM)  
Pregnancy Support Services  
Full Motion Technologies  
Just Play - Slinky  
KU Resources, Inc.  
Locher Candles  
LT Machine  
Marcus & Mack, PC  
Park Security & Installations, Inc  
Servello Orthodontics  
Solensky Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Sorge Funeral Home & Crematory  
Spring Cove Container  
State Representative Jim Gregory  
Vicki's Florist  
We CARE Foundation  
YNC Construction, LLC