

Monumental Tax Reform Assisted by Chamber Effort

A piece of legislation that will make Pennsylvania more competitive as a business destination received a much-needed shot in the arm from chambers of commerce – including the Blair County Chamber – which advocated for its passage. Act 53 of 2022 improves Pennsylvania's economic competitiveness by providing relief to small businesses along with immediate and continued reductions to the state's Corporate Net Income Tax (CNIT). By 2031, the end of the scheduled reductions, Pennsylvania's rate of 4.99% will be the sixth lowest in the nation.



Small Businesses Should Be Alert to QuickBooks "Bug"

If your small business uses QuickBooks software, you need to be aware of a new "bug," according to Thomas Gerlach, owner and senior engineer at Talixa Software & Service in Altoona. "There is a bug on the new invoice screen," Gerlach points out. "Unfortunately, if you click in the wrong text window, credit card payments will automatically be enabled." Gerlach has contacted the company with his findings and it is likely to take

ALERT!

significant time to resolve the issue. Talixa is a member of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce. Gerlach can be reached at (814) 505-7430 or by email at thomas@talixa.com.

People One Health to Host "Business After Hours"

The Chamber's next Business After Hours will be held on Thursday, July 28th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [People One Health](#), 2525 Ninth Avenue, Suite 2B in Altoona. The cost to attend is just \$7.00 for Chamber members

who register by this Thursday (the 21st). After that, the cost is \$10.00. Non-members can attend Business After Hours for \$20.00. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

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Ribbon Cutting



Allegheny Ridge Corporation

The Chamber held a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the new location of Allegheny Ridge Corporation located at 101 Canal Street, Hollidaysburg. The office is located in the Reiser House at Canal Basin Park. Jane Sheffield, Executive Director, center, was joined by community partners and board leadership for the celebration. Allegheny Ridge Corporation works with communities between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg to ideate and realize community development projects. For more information go to mainlinecanalgreenway.org.



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

Nominations Are Being Accepted for Business Excellence Award

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce will present its 20th Lifetime Achievement Award for Business Excellence on October 17th at its annual Business Excellence Dinner. Nominations for that award will be accepted until the end of the business day on August 12th. "This award recognizes a Blair County business leader who has made a substantial impact on our business community for an extended period of time," explained Richard Fiore, Jr., chair of the Chamber's Board of Directors. "This event was created solely to pay tribute to just that one person." The first recipient of the award, in 2001, was the late Ernie Wissinger. The most recent recipient, chosen in 2020 but not recognized until 2021 due to Covid-19, was Mark Barnhart of NPC. Nomination forms are available at www.blairchamber.com.

Chamber Foundation Fundraiser is July 26th

The Blair County [Chamber Foundation](#) will hold a Mini Golf Tournament on July 26th, pitting the 2023 Leadership Blair County Youth Class against members of the Leadership Blair County Adult Alumni. All proceeds will benefit the Leadership Blair County Youth program and LBC Adult Scholarship Fund. Several sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Cindy Cessna at (814) 943-8151 or email her at ccessna@blairchamber.com.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Chamber Finance Committee

July 19th, 2:30 p.m., Devorris Center

Data Security Roundtable

July 20th, 11:00 a.m., Devorris Center

Board Executive Committee

July 21st, 8:00 a.m., Devorris Center

Farm-City Committee Salute to Agriculture



Agriculture is Blair County's number one industry and the Chamber's [Farm-City Committee](#) wants to raise awareness on the importance of supporting our local agriculture businesses. Committee members recently participated in the annual Martinsburg agriculture parade.

Congratulations...

... to the [County of Blair](#), which was recently honored with a national level award for its continued support of employees in the service. The recognition came from The Pennsylvania Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). The award will be presented at a luncheon on August 11th.