

Keller to Receive Lifetime Achievement Award

Joe Keller, President of Keller Engineers, will be the 2022 recipient of the Blair County Chamber's Lifetime Achievement Award for Business Excellence. Keller will receive the award at the Chamber's Business Excellence Dinner which will be held October 17th at Blair County Convention Center. He is the 20th recipient of the award. For sponsorship information, contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com. To make reservations to attend the dinner, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.



Informational Session is Wednesday for Rhine River Cruise

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with Epic Journeys, will be hosting a Rhine and Moselle Rivers trip, August 27 – September 4, 2023. The itinerary includes a 7-day river cruise with stops in Amsterdam, as well as, Cologne, Germany; Strasbourg, France and Basel, Switzerland and more. Ground transportation from Altoona to the airport is included in the trip. An informational meeting will be held this Wednesday, August 24 at 6 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development, 3900 Industrial Park Drive, Altoona.



There is no obligation or cost to attend. To register, call the Chamber at 814-943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Congratulations...

... to Chamber Board Member Amy Mearkle of [DelGrosso's Amusement Park](#) who will receive the Distinguished Citizen Award next month from the Kiwanis Club of Altoona. The Kiwanis Installation & Awards Banquet will be held on September 28th at Blair County Convention Center.

... to [Park Home](#) which recently announced that it will be opening a second location. That location will be at 600 Galleria Drive in Johnstown.

Welcome!

Chamber Executive Committee Approves Three New Members

At its meeting last Thursday, the Executive Committee of the Blair County Chamber approved the following new members:

- [HUB International of Pittsburgh](#)
- [Innovative Manufacturers Center \(IMC\) of Williamsport](#)
- [Rhodes Curbside Creamery, LLC of Altoona.](#)

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Submitted Your ACE Award Nomination Yet?

The [Farm-City Committee](#) of the Blair County Chamber has announced that nominations are now being accepted for the 2022 Agricultural Community Excellence (ACE) Award. The award allows for nominations of agriculturally-oriented individuals, agribusinesses and non-profit organizations that make a positive impact on agriculture in Blair County. The ACE Award will be presented on November 2nd at the Chamber's Farm-City Dinner. To access a nomination form, contact the



Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or visit the Chamber website at www.blair-chamber.com. The deadline to nominate is September 2, 2022.

Ribbon Cutting



Metal Central

The Chamber held a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the grand opening of Metal Central, the retail affiliate of [Central States Manufacturing](#), located at 402 Corporate Boulevard, Claysburg. Metal Central is a retail source for metal roofing, siding and building components as well as a full line of bolt-together steel buildings and mini storages. Product lines also include hand tools and sealants. For more information go to www.metalcentral.com. Pictured at the ribbon, from left: Donna Gorty, Chamber Ambassador; Joe Hurd, President/CEO, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; State Senator Judy Ward; Mike Nicoletti, General Manager of Operations; Dave Hill, Retail Sales; Joe Ventura, Retail Manager; Marlee Ritchey, HR Manager; Hannah Gill, HR Generalist; State Representative Jim Gregory; Dan Pratt, Managing Director; and Carter Cerully, Chamber Ambassador.



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

Build Your NETWORK

Park Home to Host Thursday's "Business After Hours"

The next Chamber "Business After Hours" will be held on August 25th at [Park Home](#), 2134 Plank Road in Duncansville. The cost to attend is \$10.00 for Chamber members. Non-members can attend for \$20.00. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Welcome ABOARD Our NEWEST Members!

HUB International

210 Sixth Ave 30th floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
814-215-6536
Ellen Crook
ellen.crook@hubinternational.com
hubinternational.com

Innovative Manufacturers Center (IMC)

One College Avenue, Dept. 32
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-329-3200
Lauri Moon
laurim@imcpa.com
imcpa.com

Rhodes Curbside Creamery LLC

-Serving Blair County-
814-215-0578
Dustin Rhodes
rhodescurbsidecreamery@gmail.com
FB: [CurbsideCreamery](#)

September “Breakfast Club” to Focus on Cyber Security

The next Chamber “Breakfast Club” will focus attention on a topic of growing importance to the business community. That topic is Cyber Security. To identify ways that businesses (and individuals) are vulnerable to cyber criminals, the Chamber is happy to have FBI Special Agent Mackenzie Monarko as the Breakfast Club speaker. Breakfast Club is September 8th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lake-mont Park. The cost to attend Breakfast Club 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. Corporate sponsor of the September Breakfast Club is [UDNI](http://UDNI.com).

LBC Alumni to Raise Funds For Children

The [Leadership Blair County Alumni Association](http://www.blairchamber.com), a committee of the Blair County Chamber, has launched a campaign called “Hope for Families” that will raise funds to purchase bedding as well as accepting bedding donations for children in the foster system. This initiative replaces Basket of Hope. Bedding donations should include new bedding (pillows, pillow cases, comforters, sheets, blankets or even a complete bedding set) in neutral colors and gender neutral prints – twin size only. Monetary donations will be accepted with 100% used toward the pur-



chase of bedding. The campaign goal is to provide bedding for 125 children, ages 5-16. Donations can be dropped off at the Chamber Office on August 29, 30, 31 and September 1 and 2 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Home Run for Safety is Back at the Ballpark

One of the region’s most popular events is returning in September. The “Home Run for Safety” will be held at PNG Field on September 7th from 7:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The event is hosted by the Blair County Chamber’s Safety Committee in association with the Altoona Curve. Keynote speaker is Tony Samento, president of Samento Industrial Training Systems in Mechanicsburg, PA. There will be Safety Stations on topics like CPR/First Aid, Emergency Action Plans, Fire Safety. Elec-

trical Safety, Incident Management and Ticks/Lantern Fly. There will also be vendor booths. Businesses can become vendors by contacting Stacy Hoover at (814) 943-8151 or emailing her at shoover@blairchamber.com. The cost to attend Home Run for Safety is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. To register, visit the Chamber’s website at www.blairchamber.com. Breakfast sponsor for the event is [Care Smart Solutions](http://CareSmartSolutions.com).

Committee Meetings

Leadership Blair County Alumni Committee
August 23rd / 8:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

Home Show Committee
August 23rd / 8:30 a.m.
Devorris Center

Sustainable Blair County Committee
August 24th / 1:30 p.m.
Devorris Center

Transportation Committee
August 25th / 8:15 a.m.
Devorris Center

LBC Scholarship Donations, Dues Payable Online

Leadership Blair County Alumni can now pay their annual dues and make scholarship donations online. Go to the Donation Location on the Foundation page of the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com.

Cyber Security Roundtable Networking Event is September 1st

The Chamber’s Cyber Security Roundtable will host a networking event on September 1st from 5:30 to 7:30 at Zach’s Sports & Spirits in Altoona. “We’re inviting anyone who handles cyber security at a business or anyone who has an interest in discussing the many challenges associated with protecting data,” explained Zach Beckel of UDNI, who chairs the Roundtable. The event is called, “Bits, Bytes & Brews.” There is no cost to attend – all food and drink is the responsibility of the attendees. No need to register either. Just show Up!! Direct questions to Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email to jhurd@blairchamber.com.