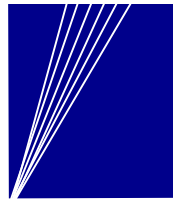


WE-LEaD Networking is Tuesday at Levity Brewing

Levity Brewing in Downtown Altoona will be the next destination for the Blair County Chamber's [WE-LEaD](#) Networking event, tomorrow evening from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The networking event will be held on Levity's mezzanine level. The registration deadline has passed although a list has been started in case of cancellations. To be added to the list, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151. Corporate sponsor of the WE-LEaD event is [P. Joseph Lehman, Inc.](#)



WE-LEaD
Women Encouraging - Leadership,
Education, and Development

Attendance Symposium to Look at Challenges, Opportunities

Blair County school districts are looking for ways to encourage young people to consistently attend school. Blair County businesses are looking for ways to encourage employees to consistently attend work. Representatives of those groups will meet during the next two days at the Devorris Center for Business Development to create a strategy to address school and workplace attendance. A different group of people will meet each day. The Symposium is hosted by the Attendance Subcommittee of the Chamber's [BASICS](#) program. Attendees were identified and



contacted by the Subcommittee. A report will be made available of the findings and of action steps to be taken to help remedy the attendance challenges. Sponsors of the Symposium are [Healthy Blair County Coalition](#) and [United Way of Blair County](#).

Advertising Opportunities Available for Membership Directory

As many Chamber members will attest, one of the greatest marketing opportunities available to businesses in the region is advertising in the Chamber's Membership Directory. The Directory is not only mailed to Chamber members but is distributed to visitor and information

centers, commercial and industrial prospects, newcomers and relocation sources as well as high volume distributors such as realtors, hospitals, colleges, hotels and restaurants. For more information or to reserve ad space, contact Lana Fulton at (814) 380-7952.



Chamber to Host Major Informational Event

For many years, the question of what all the Blair County Chamber does for its members and the community has generally been addressed through newsletters and similar publications. On February 23rd, the Chamber is inviting members and non-members to come and see for themselves. The Chamber will host "HD 500 – Special Edition" from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Discovery Center in Downtown Altoona. The event will feature representatives from all Chamber programs and committees, each at separate tables, who will distribute information and answer questions. Food and beverages at the HD 500 will be provided by LaJo's Italian Sausage and Too Many Cooks in the Kitchen. There is no cost to Chamber Members to attend HD 500 – Special Edition. Non-members can attend for just \$10 (instead of the usual \$20). To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsors of the event are [PennCrest Bank](#), [Park Security & Installations](#) and [Webber Advisors](#).

2023 Award Recipients



Congratulations to the 2023 Annual Meeting award recipients, from left: Kenneth Decker, George Award; Barb Smith, Joseph P. Rosenhamer Chamber Spirit Award; Kirsten Stratton, Young Professional of the Year Award; Andrea Cohen, ATHENA Award; Chris Cook, Small Business Person of the Year Award; Matt Stuckey, Donna D. Gority Servant Leadership Award; Christine McGeary, Judith A. Rossi Educator of the Year Award

New Penn State Altoona Chancellor to Address "Breakfast Club"

Dr. Ron Darbeau, the new Chancellor of Penn State Altoona, will be the keynote speaker at the Chamber's monthly Breakfast Club, set for February 9th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. Dr. Darbeau most recently served as Vice-President for Faculty Affairs and Academic Operations at Commonwealth University, the integrated institution of Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield Universities. 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.blair-chamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the February Breakfast Club is Hoops-Fest.



Dr. Ron Darbeau

BASICS Committee Looking for Business Members

The **BASICS** Steering Committee of the Blair County Chamber has successfully overseen a variety of outstanding programs for many years. The committee, however, has many members from education but very few from business. "Having a balanced committee is essential as we explore ways to help young people navigate the career path," explained Alex Seltzer of

Manpower, which is one of the few businesses represented. "It would be great to have at least five additional business members." Any business member interested in serving on the committee should contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at jhurd@blairchamber.com. BASICS is an acronym for Businesses And Schools Investing in Cooperative Solutions.



Limited Booths Available for 2023 Home Garden & Healthy Living Showcase

The 2023 Blair County **Home Garden and Healthy Living Showcase** is March 3rd, 4th & 5th at Blair County Convention Center and a limited number of booths are available for businesses to reserve. Anyone who is interested in a booth should contact Stacy Hoover at (814) 943-8151 or email her at shoover@blairchamber.com. All sponsorships for the Show have been secured.



Committee Meetings

Committee of Non-Profit Businesses
February 1st,
11:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

Public Policy Committee
February 2nd
8:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

BASICS Subcommittee on Early Childhood Education
February 2nd
10:00 a.m.
Devorris Center