

Business Excellence Award Nomination Deadline is Today



The prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award for Business Excellence" will be presented by the Blair County Chamber at its [Business Excellence Dinner](#), set for October 23rd at the Blair County Convention Center. The award recognizes an individual who, during at least the past twenty-five years, has been regarded as a business leader in the region who has positively impacted the Blair County business community. Nomination forms are available on the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com. Deadline to nominate is today, August 7th.

Senator Ward to Speak at Thursday's "Breakfast Club"



State Senator Judy Ward will be the keynote speaker at the next Blair County Chamber "Breakfast Club," set for this Thursday, August 10th beginning at

7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. The format for the event will be Q&A with questions being submitted by Chamber members to the Public Policy Committee. Lisa Hann of Family Services, who chairs that committee, will

moderate the Q&A session. Senator Ward is a former committee chair at the Chamber, was a Chamber Ambassador and is a graduate of the [Leadership Blair County](#) program. She has also received the Chamber's Athena Award. The cost to attend Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. A buffet breakfast is included. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the August Breakfast Club is [Stuckey Automotive](#).



Chamber Recognizes "All-Stars" for July

The Blair County Chamber's ability to offer quality programming and advocacy efforts depends largely on the willingness of sponsors to step up to help underwrite the costs associated with those efforts. Each month we publish a list of businesses or individuals who sponsored anything Chamber-related during the month.

All-Stars for July are:

[1st Summit Bank](#), [Altoona-Blair County Airport](#), [Altoona Curve Baseball](#), [Arrows Christian Academy](#), [Berry Solutions Group](#), [Blair Companies](#), [Central States Manufacturing, Inc.](#), [Escape Altoona Co.](#), [Hoss's Corporation](#), [Keller Engineers, Inc.](#), [Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.](#), [Lung Disease Center of Central Pennsylvania](#), [McCartney's Workplace Solutions](#), [Morefield Communications, Inc.](#), [P. Joseph Lehman, Inc. Consulting Engineers](#), [Reliance Bank](#), [Roaring Spring Family of Businesses](#), [Saint Francis University Graduate Business Programs](#), [Seltzer Financial Strategies, LLC](#), [Sheetz, Inc.](#), [The EADS Group](#), [UPMC](#) and [Veeder-Root Company](#).

Congratulations...

... to [Holland Brothers Meats](#) of Duncansville, who won national recognition at the American Cured Meats Championships in Charleston, South Carolina. This event is held in conjunction with the annual convention of the American Association of Meat Processors.

Committee Meetings

Chamber Ambassadors

August 8th, 8:00 a.m., Devorris Center

Experiences & Lodging Roundtable

August 9th, 8:15 a.m., Holiday Inn Express

Sustainable Blair County

August 9th, 1:30 p.m., Devorris Center

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COMPUTER & NETWORK
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CARPENTRY TEACHER

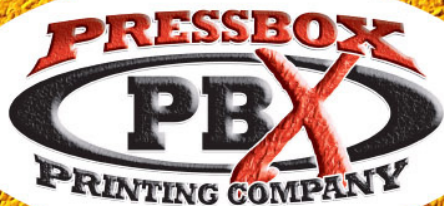


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Foundation Friends



Kish Bank made an EITC donation to the [Blair County Chamber Foundation](#) to help with projects benefitting local youth. In the photo (from left) are: Bob Bilger - Kish Bank, Rachel Prosser - President of The Foundation, Emily Sollenberger - Kish Bank and Jessica Kitt - Kish Bank.

National S'mores Day Event is Thursday

Lake Raystown Resort will host a tri-county mixer this Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in recognition of “National S’mores Day.” Members of the Blair County Chamber, [Bedford County Chamber](#) and [Huntingdon County Chamber](#) are invited to attend this free event. The event includes a fire pit S’mores bar on the terrace, high-end S’mores themed cocktails and mocktails, games for adults and kids, a number of give-aways and, perhaps the most appealing, a showboat cruise. “We salute [Lake Raystown Resort](#) for not



NATIONAL S'MORES DAY

only planning a quality night out but creating an opportunity for members of three chambers to get together and enjoy the beautiful scenery,” acknowledged Chamber President Joe Hurd. Unfortunately, registration for this event closed on August 2nd.

Chamber to Partner With Toastmasters on 4-Part Workshop

One of the greatest challenges that many people in business have as they move up the corporate ladder is the ability to speak effectively in front of large groups or small. To help address that, the Blair County Chamber and [Toastmasters International](#) will partner on “Speechcraft,” a hands-on workshop delivered in four two-hour sessions created to help people hone their

speaking skills. The sessions will be held from 3-5 p.m. every Tuesday from September 12th to October 3rd at the Devorris Center for Business Development. The cost is just \$50 for Chamber members for all four sessions and \$75 for non-Chamber members. Class size is limited to ten people. Call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 to secure your spot!

DODGE N' DIVE - 23

Dodgeball Teams Gearing-Up for “Dodge N’ Dive”

This Saturday, August 12th, the [Blair County Chamber Foundation](#) will be holding a Dodgeball Tournament at [Lake-mont Park](#). “Dodge N’ Dive – 23” will pit local business teams against one another in a spirited competition that will be part of a great day. Among the other highlights of the day will be food trucks, a beer garden, a basket raffle and more! The cost to enter a team (minimum of six people, maximum of ten) is just \$150. To register, by Wednesday, August 9th, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or email Brittany Mayer at bmayer@blairchamber.com.

Home RUN SEPT. 13 FOR SAFETY

A Great Event for Information, Networking

Once again this year, the Safety Committee of the Blair County Chamber will be partnering with the [Altoona Curve](#) on an event that has had a huge following in the past, particularly among people in the safety and security fields. Home Run For Safety will be held on Wednesday, September 13th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Peoples Natural Gas Field. The event will feature a variety of presenters, demonstrations and exhibitors. Cost to be a vendor is just \$75 and includes one registration (including breakfast and lunch). For information on sponsorships and vendor opportunities or to register as an attendee, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151.



Thank you!

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 July.

Celebrating 30-39 Years

Advantage Resource Group
American Cancer Society
Blair Mill Outlet
Blair-Bedford Builders Association
Burgmeier Hauling, Inc.
Cresson Motors, Inc.
Hilecrest Angus
Hoss's Steak & Sea House
Corporate Office
Irwin Financial, Inc.
Knisely & Sons, Inc.
Kooman & Associates, LLC
Overhead Door Company
of Blair County, Inc.
Preferred Healthcare System
Reilly, Creppage & Co., Inc., CPA
Seven Mountains Media
Southern Alleghenies Planning &
Development Commission

Celebrating 20-29 Years

Austin's Texas Hot Dogs, Inc.
Comfort Inn Altoona
Gearharts Moving & Storage, Inc.
Junior Achievement of Western PA

Celebrating 10-19 Years

Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8
Bennetti Tree Service, Inc.
Central Blair Recreation &
Park Commission
Chicago Rivet & Machine Co.
City of Altoona
Comfort Suites

Evergreen Insurance, LLC
Freedom Excursions by Scully, LLC
Global Live Line, Inc.
Jilco, Inc.
Joshua House, Inc.
Mid Penn Bank
Peter C. Pham, DDS, PC
Sheehan Ins., LLC
T2B Commercial Interiors

Celebrating 5-9 Years

Altoona Grand Hotel
Atlas Therapy
Dale Oxygen, Inc.
Evolution Expressions
Fairfield and TownePlace Suites
by Marriott Altoona
McCloskey's Landscaping, Inc.
Revival Fitness & Rehab
Sandi Kaminsky

Celebrating 1-4 Years

Allegheny Orthodontic Associates
Arrows Christian Academy
Being Liang
Cricket Wireless
Fair Winds Wealth Strategies
Forr, Stokan, Huff, Kormanski & Naugle
Invisible Fence
Lawruk Real Estate
Rabenstein Heating, Air Conditioning
& Plumbing Inc.
SERVPRO of Southern Blair and
Bedford County

WE-LEaD Schedules Ax-Throwing Event



The next WE-LEaD event will take place on September 20th from 5:30 to 7:30 at [Slingers Throw House](#) in Altoona. The cost to participate is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Food is included. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor is [Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.](#) WE-LEaD is an acronym for Women Encouraging: Leadership, Education and Development

Chamber Committees Recruiting Additional Members

Ask anyone who currently serves on a Chamber committee and they'll likely tell you what a great experience it is, both based on what they learn and who they meet. After most committees have taken a well-deserved hiatus during July, it's time to move-on to the August calendar. And the opportunities for Chamber members to join committees, subcommittees and roundtable groups is ideal. The Chamber currently has nearly two dozen ways that are available for members to get involved. The listing is on the Chamber website at www.blairchamber.com. If you or someone from your business would like to join a committee, contact Joe Hurd at jhurd@blairchamber.com.

Save the Date

DOWN ON THE FARM

The ultra-traditional "Down on the Farm" will be held on September 27th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at

PINEY CREEK GREENHOUSE
MARTINSBURG

More details to come!



Anywhere! Anytime!



Register for events at
blairchamber.com