



HAPPY
LABOR DAY
United States of America

Chamber Office Closed for Labor Day

To commemorate Labor Day, the Blair County Chamber Office will be closed Monday. The office, located at 3900 Industrial Park Drive in Altoona, will reopen Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. To register for Chamber programs and events, please visit the Chamber Website at www.blairchamber.com.

Best Practices Forum to Focus on Finding, Keeping Volunteers

Volunteers play key roles in the business community, especially at non-profit businesses. So the next "Best Practices Forum" being hosted by the Blair County Chamber's Committee of Non-profit Businesses will focus on ways to find and keep valuable volunteers. That Forum will be held on Friday, September 8th from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. The panel discussion format includes panelists Phyllis Baker from [Blair Regional YMCA](#), Angel Dandrea from [Blair Senior Serv-](#)



ices and Michelle Walters from [UPMC Altoona](#). The cost to attend the Forum is \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. Corporate sponsor is [Amtran](#). To register to attend, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Space is limited so register today!

Need to Speak Better? Check Out This Workshop

One of the greatest challenges that many people in business have is the ability to communicate effectively. This workshop delivered in four sessions will be held on Friday from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. The cost is just \$50 for Chamber members for all four sessions and



Chamber Recognizes "All-Stars" for August

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 August are: [Arrow Land Solutions](#), [Central States Manufacturing](#), [Keller Engineers, Inc.](#), [Kish Bank](#), [Lung Disease Center of Central Pennsylvania](#), [McCartney's Workplace Solutions](#), [New Pig](#), [NPC](#), [Veeder-Root](#) and [Warren A. Gingrich Agency Inc.](#)

Congratulations...

... to the [DelGrosso Family of Companies](#) which was honored on August 24th by the U.S. Small Business Administration as one of its "Legacy Businesses." The designation recognizes family, community and business growth.

Connect with us on Facebook!

 @TheBlairCountyChamber

"Home Run For Safety" Now a Full-Day Event

The Chamber's Home Run for Safety will have some new speakers, vendors and attractions but two attention-getters from the past will be back "by popular demand" again this year. Bubba Fatula, president of [Fatula Group](#) will return as keynote speaker and the [FirstEnergy](#) Electrical Safety Trailer will also be returning. 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. 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.

Chamber to Offer Alpine Swiss Villages & Rails Trip

The Chamber and [Ketrow KURTZ Travel](#) will head to Switzerland next summer for a trip that will involve trains, cogs, cable cars, boats and buses. The Alpine Swiss Villages & Rails trip features a host of great locations including Zurich, Wengen, Bern, Interlaken, Grindelwald, Murren and Lucerne. The trip begins June 18th and concludes on the 26th. An informational meeting will be held on September 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost or obligation associated with the meeting but peo-



ple interested in attending should call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 so we can save you a seat.

Welcome!

Executive Committee Approves Eight New Members

The Executive Committee of the Blair County Chamber Board of Directors approved the following new members: [A Balanced Focus, Inc.](#) of Duncansville; [Dauntless Strength and Athletics](#) of Altoona; [Fisher's Party Central](#) of Martinsburg; [Forno Alto, LLC](#) of Altoona; [Harvest Wealth, LLC](#) of Altoona; [Monitronics/Brinks Home](#) of Williamsport; [UMF Medical](#) of Johnstown; and [UPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies](#) of Altoona.

Healthy Workplace Committee



FITFACT

Second S is for Spiritual Wellness

When we introduced the new "Fit Fact" feature, created by the Chamber's [Healthy Workplace Committee](#), we reminded employers that they have SPIES in their businesses. From the wellness standpoint, the "Second S" in SPIES stands for Spiritual Wellness. Among the ways to address Spiritual Wellness are: Reading and reflection; Prayer; Meditation; and Keeping a Journal. It's also good to pause for a moment to take a bird's eye view of your life. Ask yourself, "Am I the best version of myself?" You might be surprised to hear the answer! Also, if you're interested in being a member of the Healthy Workplace Committee, email Joe Hurd at jhurd@blairchamber.com.

Committee Meetings

Young Professionals Committee, September 5th, 8:15 a.m., Devorris Center

Healthy Workplace Committee, September 5th, 3:00 p.m., Devorris Center

Non-Profit Committee, September 6th, 11:00 a.m., Devorris Center

Public Policy Committee, September 7th, 8:00 a.m., Devorris Center

Reach over 5,000 inboxes!

Advertise in this newsletter
Email Jessie: jcovert@blairchamber.com



“Breakfast Club” to Mark 20th Anniversary of American Eagle

As success stories go, this one was tough to beat. Twenty-years ago, a group of business leaders and investors came together to revive a paper mill that had been closed in 2001, putting 265 employees out of work. The presentation at the next Chamber Breakfast Club, set for September 14th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park, will be entitled, “Working Together: Twenty Years of Progress at [American Eagle Paper Mills](#).” The speakers will be Philip Devorris, whose father Don helped spearhead the mill’s resurgence, and current V.P of Finance & Administration Clark Adelman. The cost to attend Breakfast



Philip Devorris



Clark Adelman

Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the September Breakfast Club is [Sickler Tarpey & Associates](#).

Chamber Members Can Save on Residential Electricity!!

If you’re a member of the Blair County Chamber and also a Penelec customer, you are eligible for an opportunity that will save you money on your residential electric bill. The Chamber participates in the ChamberChoice program through World Kinect Energy Services. From

now until September 14th, employees of Chamber businesses can lock-in a special residential fixed price rate that is 10% lower than the Penelec rate (8.73/kWh to 9.70/kWh). To access the offer, go to wglenergy.com/Kinect and scroll to Blair County Chamber.

Reserve Your Spot for “Down on the Farm”

The ultra-traditional After Hours “Down on the Farm” will be held on October 11th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [Piney Creek Greenhouse](#) in Martinsburg. A number of activities for kids are planned as well as demonstrations on planting and a whole lot of other stuff! The cost is \$10/person and includes great picnic food. Attendees under ten and under are free! Event sponsors are [Blair County Conservation District](#), [Farm Credit](#), [Leavitt Group Webber Advisors](#),



and [Reliance Bank](#). To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at www.blairchamber.com.



WE-LEaD Schedules Axe-Throwing Event

The next WE-LEaD event will take place on September 20th from 5:30 to 7:30 at [Slings 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.



PA CareerLink Holding a Healthcare Industry Career Event

Job seekers looking to break into the Healthcare Industry are invited to attend an event on September 14th from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m., hosted by [PA CareerLink Blair County](#) at the [Altoona Area Public Library](#). The event is an afternoon of networking, job opportunities and school funding options. No cost to attend and no sign-up required. Meet with 13 employers and academic providers. For further information, call (814) 569-1066.



Developing tomorrow’s leaders today

LEADERSHIP
BLAIR COUNTY
Youth

Contributions to the Chamber Foundation support this program that invests in our community’s future.

To contribute, call 814-943-8151



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 August.

Celebrating 100-109 Years

M & T Bank
Lamar Advertising, Inc.

Celebrating 90-99 Years

Altoona Mirror
Young, Oakes, Brown & Company, P.C.

Celebrating 80-89 Years

Altoona First Savings Bank
Kranich's, Inc.
Peterman's Flower Shop
Ward Transport and Logistics Corp.

Celebrating 70-79 Years

The EADS Group
The Hite Company Division of
Mayer Electric

Celebrating 60-69 Years

Blair Candy Company
Culligan Water Conditioning Sales & Service
Fiore Furniture
Furrer Beverage Company
J. V. Meadows & Sons, Inc.
Lytle's Transfer & Storage Company
Penelec - A FirstEnergy Company
Pepsi Beverage Co.
Reliance Bank
Stevens Mortuary, Inc.
Tri-State Industrial Solutions, Inc.
Veeder-Root Company

Celebrating 50-59 Years

Manpower Inc., of Altoona

Celebrating 30-39 Years

Calvary Cemetery Association
Fountain Inc.
dba Horseshoe Curve Lodge
Labor Specialties
McCartney's Workplace Solutions
Penn Mont Academy
Value Drug Company
Your Building Centers, Inc.

Celebrating 20-29 Years

Altoona Symphony Society, Inc.
Benton Insurance Center, Inc.
Blair County Conservation District
Breezeline
Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation
Services (OVR)
Courtyard By Marriott
Cumming Motors, Inc.
East Side Concrete Supply Co., Inc.
Hess & Marino, CPA

Celebrating 10-19 Years

611 MRI Altoona
Allegheny Pain Management, P.C.
Altoona Lung Specialists
Bihary Family Dental
Buccinese Society
EZtouse.com
Healthy Blair County Coalition

Hollidaysburg Area Public Library
Investment Savings Bank
John J. Castle General Contractor, Inc.
Mama Randazzo's, Inc.
Mihalko's General Contracting
Seltzer Financial Strategies, LLC
The Everett Railroad Company

Celebrating 5-9 Years

A B Federal Credit Union
Alto Markets
Bellwood-Antis Public Library
Dave Moses Technology Services, Inc.
Global Power Line Academy, Inc.
KIZ Resources, LLC
Rutter's
Shaffer's Full Steam Ahead
Hobby Shop
The UPS Store #6512

Celebrating 1-4 Years

Caporuscio Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Center for Community Action
Gary Drenning
Gittings Investigations
JK Electrical Services LLC
Kelly's Kollections
Sign Gypsies Blair
Sky Vine Creative
Solana Aesthetics LLC
The Health Insurance Place
Trigger Printing Services
