

Sharing Resources a Logical Way to Offset Shortages

As the Chamber staff completes its phone calls to the 1,018 businesses that comprise the Chamber Membership, a side benefit of those calls has been the opportunity to not only know which businesses are looking for help but also becoming aware of which businesses are in the best position to provide it. And the great thing is that there's a genuine willingness to share resources as well as information so that no one is left behind as the business community continues to move forward. The Chamber created the "Stronger Together" feature on the homepage of our website at www.blairchamber.com. Any member needing to access a product or service or any member able to provide one should send their information to chamber@blairchamber.com and it will be posted on Stronger Together.



Chamber to Again Partner on Penn State Altoona Student Showcase

The Semi-Annual Penn State Altoona Student Showcase will still go on . . . virtually! The May 1st event will once again be a partnership between Penn State Altoona, the Blair County Chamber and the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation. The Showcase will be done as a Zoom session and will include the announcement of the

Pechter Business Plan Competition winners. The presentations that day will focus on Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology, Rail Transportation Engineering, Business Internships and Security and Risk Analysis. The access the link to attend the Student Showcase go to: Altoona.psu.edu/showcase-spring20.



Full Speed Ahead for Chamber's Young Entrepreneurs

The Coronavirus may have cancelled many Chamber programs and events during the past several weeks but the last few sessions of the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) isn't one of them. The sixteen YEA! students continue with sessions online, thanks to the efforts of Program Manager Royce Boyd and Instructor Matt Stuckey. The YEA! graduation is scheduled for May 18th at the Blair County Convention Center.



Application Deadline for Leadership Youth Extended to May 1st

Ninth grade students in Blair County schools who are interested in applying for the 2021 Leadership Blair County Youth program will now have until May 1st to submit an application. Previously those applications and referral forms could be secured in the guidance offices of the local schools. Since schools are not currently open, both can be found online at www.blairchamber.com. There are also videos on the website that fea-



ture previous LBCY students talking about their experiences in the program. Leadership Blair County Youth is a program of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce.

Registration Underway for the Highmark/Chamber Golf Classic

The Highmark/Chamber Golf Classic, originally set for May 4th at Iron Masters Country Club has been postponed and rescheduled for Monday, June 8th. The event remains at Iron Masters. For more information on the Classic or to register, email shoover@blairchamber.com.



Update on April Events and Programs

A few of our events have been updated since last week's newsletter. The status for the remainder of our April calendar is listed below:

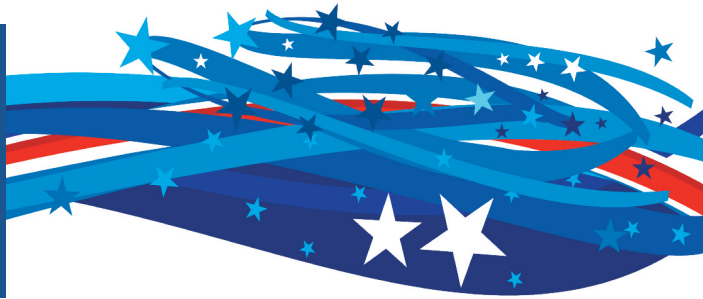
•YEA! Steering Committee	April 20th	Cancelled
•YEA! Graduation	April 21st	Postponed to 5/18
•Executive Roundtable	April 22nd	Postponed to 6/17
•Breakfast Club	April 23rd	Cancelled
•Non-Profit Legislative Breakfast	April 24th	Cancelled
•Presidents' Forum Steering Committee	April 27th	Cancelled
•Australia/New Zealand Informational Mtg.	April 28th	Cancelled
•BASICS/Rotary Career Fair	April 29th	Cancelled
•Transportation Committee	April 30th	Cancelled
•WE-LEaD Educational Program	April 30th	Postponed TBD



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**Census
2020**




Don't Forget to Reply to the Census!

Lost in the discussion of important matters is the fact that the 2020 Census has been underway for several weeks. We encourage businesses and their employees to respond to the Census as soon as possible since the information that is accumulated has such an incredible impact on so many aspects of our daily lives. For example, a response rate of 100% will

mean that a school district, municipality, city, county and social service program will receive its maximum share of federal funding for the next ten years. Although the Census will be completed in mid-August, it's better to get your facts together now and submit them by the end of April. For more information, go to 2020census.gov.



SUCCESS STORIES!

- ★ Beginning last Tuesday, UPMC Altoona unveiled the Central PA Illumination Ovation as a way to say thank you to all essential employees helping the community get through the Coronavirus. At 8:00 p.m. every Tuesday, people are asked to light their home or business and step outside to applaud and cheer.
 - ★ YTI Career Institute's Altoona campus donated personal protective equipment to Hollidaysburg Veterans' Home medical staff. YTI gathered medical protective gear on-hand from the respiratory therapy program. The donations included gloves, sanitizer and masks.
 - ★ Sam's Club is setting-aside two hours each Sunday, beginning April 19th, for first responders and healthcare workers to shop inside its stores without the required membership. "Hero Hours" will run from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. nationwide.
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... to Matt Stuckey of Stuckey Automotive who played a significant role in helping move legislation forward to allow car dealers to resume selling cars.

BENefact

Chamber Membership can save you money.

For April we are highlighting the POWER Card member benefit. COVID-19 has changed the way many of us do business forcing us to find new and innovative ways to reach potential clients/customers. If your business offers goods or services that can be discounted, placing a POWER Card offer can provide the exposure you've been looking for. With nearly 40,000 cards in circulation, this member-to-member benefit opens the door to thousands of potential customers. Utilize this amazing FREE member benefit by emailing Jessie at jcovert@blair-chamber.com.

[Click here for a complete list of benefits exclusive for Chamber Members.](#)

