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## Annual Meeting follows tradition with a twist

The Blair County Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation will be held on January 28th at the Blair County Convention Center. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a buffet breakfast, followed by the installation of the 2022 Chamber Board of Directors and the Board of the Blair County Chamber Foundation.

"It's been a tradition to make this event a time for Chamber members to enjoy interacting with one another and supporting the award recipients," explained Chamber President Joe Hurd. "Coming off a second year of Covid, good feelings have been in short supply."

One significant change to this year's Annual Meeting is that the award recipients are being announced in advance rather than disclosed that morning.

"We're trying it for one year," Hurd noted. "There is some feeling that announcing it in advance will allow the winners to have

more of their families and friends on-hand to share in the moment."

In all, eight awards will be presented. The ATHENA Award, sponsored by First Commonwealth Bank will be presented to Becky Stevens of Morgan Stanley.

The Judith A. Rossi Educator of the Year, sponsored by DelGrosso Family of Companies, will be presented to Nicole Zernick of the Greater Altoona Career & Technology Center.

Dee Martin-Spallone of Martinsburg will be the recipient of the George Award, sponsored by Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries.

The Joseph P. Rosenhamer Chamber Spirit Award, sponsored by P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., will be presented to Jamie Stumph of Advantage Resource Group.

Rebecca Culp of Berry Solutions Group is the Young Professional of the Year. That award is sponsored by Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation.

The Donna D. Gority Ser-



Recognition of outstanding business people has been a Chamber hallmark.

vant Leadership Award recipient is Scott Brenneman of Sheetz, Inc. That award is sponsored by Reliance Bank.

There are actually co-winners of the Small Business Person of the Year, sponsored by First National

Bank. Travis and Katy McCabe of Greenbean Coffee House share that honor.

And there is even a special "Leadership Fellow" award being presented to Sue Griep for her outstanding work with the Leadership Blair County program.

### Award Recipients

**ATHENA Award**  
BECKY STEVENS

**Donna D. Gority**  
**Servant Leadership Award**  
SCOTT BRENNEMAN

**Judith A. Rossi**  
**Educator of the Year Award**  
NICOLE ZERNICK

**George Award**  
DEE MARTIN-SPALLONE

**Joseph P. Rosenhamer**  
**Chamber Spirit Award**  
JAMIE STUMPH

**Small Business Persons**  
**of the Year Award**  
TRAVIS & KATY McCABE

**Young Professional of the Year Award**  
REBECCA CULP

**LBC Fellow Award**  
SUE GRIEP

## Juice Plus helps with New Year's resolutions

Less than two weeks into the New Year, many well-intentioned business people are hoping to maintain resolutions, at least until the end of the month.

Diane Crebs understands the difficulties of those resolutions, especially from the healthy eating standpoint. As Qualifying Sales Coordinator for The Juice Plus Company, Crebs has been a valuable resource for anyone needing incentive coupled with a workable plan.

"It takes 21-days to create a new habit," she pointed out. "So whether it's taking your Juice Plus or any other new healthy habit, tie it to a habit you're already doing. You can remind yourself with a note on your mirror. Do what works for you. If Juice Plus is part of your resolution, I would be happy to send you a daily text message to help set the habit."

Crebs is a true believer, not because of what she's learned as an employee but what she experienced as a customer. She had been severely anemic for a significant portion of her life but was able to overcome that malady by "flooding my body with the whole food nutrition of Juice Plus."

Juice Plus is a 50-year-



Diane Crebs has a variety of ways that people can get a great start to 2022 through Juice Plus and its many products.



old company with a mission of inspiring healthy living around the world. Its goal is to educate on the importance of consuming a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and berries every day.

"Juice Plus is the most clinically researched nutritional product in the world," Crebs explained. "The results of studies have supported healthy chole-

sterol, quality of life, healthy inflammatory response, healthy lung function, improved immune system and healthy skin and gums. The products also contribute to cardiovascular wellness, help maintain healthy DNA and a reduction in oxidative stress."

As with many products that speak to health concerns, there may be misconceptions. Crebs admits that Juice Plus is not without its share of skeptics.

"People may think it's either a juice or a vitamin,"

she disclosed. "It's neither. It is vine-ripened fruits, vegetables and berries that are picked at the peak of ripeness. Then the whole produce, including the peel, seeds and pulp are crushed, dried at low temperatures and turned into powder with all the nutrition still fully intact. The powder is then put into capsules or chewables that are consumed on a daily basis. It's simple and incredibly effective."

(Juice Plus has been a Blair County Chamber member since 2021.)

## Commissioners to address Breakfast Club

The Blair County Chamber will continue its tradition of hosting the Blair County Commissioners at its first Breakfast Club of the New Year. This year, that event will take place on January 13th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park.

"County government and how it functions is a huge priority to the business community," acknowledged

Chamber Board Chair Richard Fiore, Jr. "We appreciate the opportunity to gain insight from the County Commissioners on issues that impact our local economy."

The format will continue to be a Q&A with questions having been submitted in advance by Chamber members and formatted by the Chamber's Public Policy Committee. Chris Miche-

lone, Policy Committee Chair, will moderate the Q&A session.

"Our committee is very conscientious in not only what questions are asked but how those questions touch all aspects of Chamber membership - from large businesses to smaller ones," Michelone pointed out. "The Commissioners have always been willing to share their thoughts and

opinions and have worked with us on a number of key initiatives."

The cost to attend Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. A breakfast buffet is included. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Corporate sponsor of the January Breakfast Club is Keller Engineers.

## New appointments complete Chamber Board of Directors



Superman Berrow



Joe Diamond



Diana McClure



Nick Sefchok

The 2022 Blair County Chamber Board of Directors is now complete.

At its December meeting, the Board appointed the final four members that officially began service January 1st.

"We're very impressed with our new board members," admitted Board Chair Richard Fiore, Jr. "Our goal was to get greater representation from small businesses and to make sure that we replaced the industry sectors that we lost from our departing board members."

As Board Chair, Fiore had the opportunity to recommend three candidates for one year appointments. When an additional opening became available to fill a three-year slot, the Board's Nominating Subcommittee made a recommendation which was approved by the full board.

Nick Sefchok of L.R. Webber Associates has begun the three-year term. Sefchok is a graduate of the Chamber's Leadership Blair County program and is a member of a Presidents' Forum Group.

Joe Diamond of Blair County Farm Bureau will serve a one-year term. Diamond is also a Leadership Blair County graduate and has most recently served as chair of the Chamber's Farm-City Committee.

Superman Berrow of B4 Club Therapy will also serve a one-year term. Berrow is a member of the current LBC class and serves as vice-chair of the Chamber's Workplace Wellness Committee.

The final one-year board member is Diana McClure from Keller Engineers, an LBC grad and a member of the Chamber's Public Policy Committee.



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