

Register Today for the Chamber's Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation of the Blair County Chamber will be held on Friday, January 27th beginning at 7:30 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park. Among the primary events that morning will be the presentation of a number of awards to individuals who accomplished significant things during 2022. The award winners are: Athena Award – Andrea Cohen, Judith A. Rossi Educator of the Year – Christine McGeary, George Award – Kenneth Decker, Joseph P. Rosenhamer Chamber Spirit Award – Barbara Smith, Donna D. Gority Servant Leadership Award – Matt Stuckey, Young Professional of the Year – Kirsten Stratton, and Small Business Person of the Year – Chris Cook. The cost to attend the Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation is \$30. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

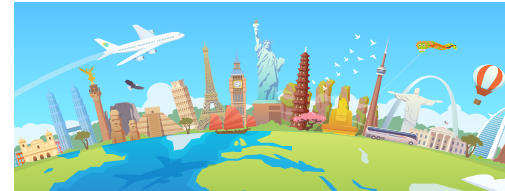


Thursday's Chamber Breakfast Club to Feature Blair County Commissioners

The first Chamber "Breakfast Club" of the New Year will be a highly-informational one. Set for January 12th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park, the event will be a Q&A with the Blair County Commissioners. Lisa Hann, chair of the Chamber's Public Policy Committee, will serve as moderator and will ask questions submitted by members of the Chamber. The cost to attend Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. A buffet breakfast is included. To register,



call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the January Breakfast Club is [Altoona-Blair County Airport](#).



Informational Meeting is Wednesday for Spain/Morocco/Portugal Trip

The Blair County Chamber and Epic Journeys will be offering a trip in 2023 that will provide an opportunity for travelers to experience three exciting countries. The "Iberian Discovery & Morocco Trip" departs on September 11th and returns on September 24th. Among the cities included are Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Costa Del Sol, Tangier, Seville, Lisbon, Fatima, Avila, Segovia and Salamanca. There will be an informational meeting about the trip on January 11th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center. There is no cost or obligation to attend but please call Marilyn at (814) 943-8151 so that we can save you a seat.

Connect with us on Facebook!



@TheBlairCountyChamber

The Chamber
has an Instagram!



Follow us @theblair_chamber



Chamber "Check-Up" an Ideal Way to Learn About Your Investment

Without question, membership in the Blair County Chamber is an investment in your business and its employees. To help members to better understand how they can get the maximum value from that investment, the Chamber will hold a one-hour informational session each month to highlight what the Chamber does and the many benefits to belonging. The next Chamber Check-Up is January 17th. For member convenience, it is being offered at both 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. There is no cost to attend al-



though it is important to register so that we can plan accordingly. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Help the Chamber Foundation Fund Leadership Youth Program

The Chamber's [Leadership Blair County Youth](#) program is in its 19th year and has helped hundreds of high school sophomores in Blair County to learn about the challenges and opportunities in Blair County as well as the importance of servant leadership. The program has been funded through donations to the [Blair County Chamber Foundation](#). Neither students nor the school districts that send them are charged to participate. At the present time, donations have fallen short of the amount needed to cover the 2022-23 costs. As a result, the Chamber Foun-



dation is reaching out to the business and education communities asking for help. If you or your business can make a contribution, please send it to the Chamber Foundation at 3900 Industrial Park Drive, Altoona, PA, 16602.

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.



New Episode

NOW SHOWING!

Sit back, relax and grab some popcorn. Watch what your Chamber has been up to!

Getting REEL

a recap of your Chamber at work

STREAMING MONTHLY TO YOUR EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA FEED

WATCH HERE!



Booths, Sponsorships Still 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 both booths and sponsorships 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. For sponsorship information, contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com.

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 banks, realtors, hospitals, colleges, hotels, restaurants and retailers. For more information or to reserve ad space, contact Lana Fulton at (814) 380-7952.

Ribbon Cutting



State Representative Lou Schmitt

The Chamber held a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the new office location of State Representative Lou Schmitt located at 2301 Beale Avenue, Suite A, Altoona. Representative Schmitt serves the people of the 79th Legislative District while offering assistance with all state related issues such as property tax/rent rebate applications, birth certificate applications, unemployment compensation issues, and more. For more information go to www.RepSchmitt.com. Pictured at the ribbon, from left: Carter Cerully, Chamber Ambassador; State Senator Judy Ward; Mayor Matt Pacifico, City of Altoona; Joe Hurd, President/CEO, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; Scott Durbin, Durbin & Associates, Inc.; Helen Schmitt; State Representative Lou Schmitt; State Representative Jim Gregory; Samuel Hayes, Former State Representative; and Donna Gority, Chamber Ambassador.

Be a part of the moment. Watch the video [here!](#)

Annual Meeting

Say congrats in a creative way

- ◆ BRANDbyte
- ◆ Traditional Ad
- ◆ VIDEObyte

THESE CREATIVE WAYS TO OFFER YOUR CONGRATULATIONS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE JANUARY 23 EDITION OF NETWORKS DIGITAL NEWS

CONTACT JESSIE COVERT AT [JCOVERT@BLAIRCCHAMBER.COM](mailto:jcovert@blairchamber.com)

Congratulations...

... to Lisa Ritchey, Director of Nurse-Family Partnership at [UPMC Home Healthcare of Central PA](#), who has been named winner of the Tenacious Caregiver Award for Administrator by Nurse-Family Partnership, a national program serving first-time moms and their children affected by economic inequality.

... to Dr. Alan Kivitz, founder and president of the [Altoona Arthritis & Osteoporosis Center](#), who was recognized as one of the 2022 Masters of the American College of Rheumatology at its meeting in October.

Committee Meetings

Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) Committee

January 9th
10:30 a.m.
Devorris Center

BASICS Steering Committee

January 9th
2:00 p.m.
Devorris Center

Home & Garden Committee

January 10th
8:30 a.m.
Devorris Center

YEA! Mentor Training

January 10th
Noon
Sheetz Entrepreneurial Center

BASICS/Rotary Career Fair Committee

January 10th
1:30 p.m.
Devorris Center

New Board Member Orientation

January 11th
8:30 a.m.
Chamber Office

Sustainable Blair County Committee

January 11th
1:30 p.m.
Devorris Center