

## Business Hall of Fame

### Honorees Announced



Five Blair County businesses will be honored at the Annual Blair County [Business Hall of Fame Luncheon](#) on June 15th at The Casino at Lakemont Park. [Greenwood Pools & Spas](#) and [Shoe Fly Stores](#) will be honored in the Hall of Fame category; [J&O Fireplaces](#) will receive the Excellence in Small Business award, [Just Breathe Salt Spa & Yoga Studio](#) captured Young Emerging Business and [Operation Our Town](#) is Non-Profit of the Year. The Business Hall of Fame was created by the Chamber in 1990. To register to attend the event, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Sponsorships for the Hall of Fame are available by calling Jessie Covert at the Chamber or by emailing her at [jcovert@blairchamber.com](mailto:jcovert@blairchamber.com).

## Chamber Signs-On to Letters to Governor Shapiro, General Assembly

The Blair County Chamber joined chambers of commerce from throughout the Commonwealth in signing letters of support for legislation that would address two issues of concern to business. The letters will be sent to [Governor Shapiro](#) and the General Assembly. The first encourages an improvement in business tax competitiveness; the second seeks to fix the Commonwealth's dysfunctional and unpredictable permitting system. The letters were initiated by the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry. "We're always seeking opportunities to



go to bat on behalf of our member businesses, especially when it deals with economic hardship," explained Chamber Board Chair Clark Stapelfeld. "We applaud the State Chamber for providing those opportunities."

## Welcome!

### Chamber Board of Directors Approves Eight New Members

The Board of Directors of the Blair County Chamber approved the following new members at last week's board meeting: [Brothers of Wars of Altoona](#), [Cardiology Associates of Altoona](#), [Keystone Glass and Wellness of Altoona](#), [Kish Bank of State College](#), [Occams Advisory of Sarasota, Florida](#), [Russell Tire/Central PA Truck of Altoona](#), [The Juice Shack of Duncansville](#) and [The Shed Personal Training of Duncansville](#).

### Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) to Graduate 2023 Class

The seventh class of the Blair County Chamber's [Young Entrepreneurs Academy \(YEA!\)](#) will graduate Tuesday at the U.S. Hotel in Hollidaysburg. Members of the class are: Isabel Anello, Cameron Claycomb, Joyce Cottle, Jackie Dalton, Caden DeLattre, Steven Delfosse, Sofia DelGrosso, Derek Desort, Julian Drass, Chloe England, Logan Garman, Jimiere Hardison, Phoenix Marr, Conner McManus, Ethan Sipes, Aleana Wise and Robby Woomer. For more information on the YEA! program or to apply for a future class, go to [www.yeausa.org](http://www.yeausa.org)

## Congratulations...

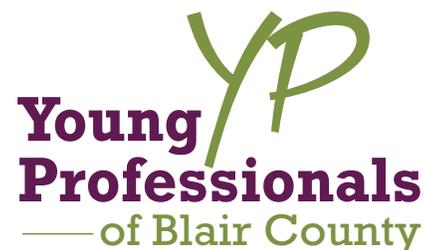
... to the members of the Blair County Chamber. This Wednesday, the Chamber will observe its 136th anniversary. The organization, founded as the Altoona Merchants Association, opened its doors in 1887. The local business community has helped it remain vibrant ever since.

## Public Policy Committee to Hold Candidate Forum

The Blair County Chamber's Public Policy Committee will hold a Candidate Forum on May 2nd from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Devorris Downtown Center of [Penn State Altoona](#). The forum will bring together interested candidates of both parties who are seeking the position of Blair County Commissioner. The format will be Q&A with questions being created by the committee. The Forum is co-sponsored by the [Blair County Democratic Committee](#) and the [Blair](#)



[County Republican Committee](#). For further information, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at [jhurd@blairchamber.com](mailto:jhurd@blairchamber.com). There will be no cost to attend the Candidate Forum.



## Young Professionals to Hold First Time Home Buyers Seminar

The [Young Professionals of Blair County](#), a program of the Blair County Chamber, will hold a "First Time Home Buyers Seminar" this Wednesday from noon until 1:15 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development, 3900 Industrial Park Drive in Altoona. The cost is \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. A box lunch is included. The seminar is sponsored by [Reliance Bank](#). Space is limited. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).

## Ribbon Cutting



## The Village at Morrisons Cove Village-In-Place Physician Services

A Chamber ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for Village-In-Place Physician Services, a branch of [The Village at Morrisons Cove](#), located at 428 S. Market St., Martinsburg. VIP Physician Services is a primary care provider that offers a variety of health services including sick and wellness visits, physical exams, specialist referrals and care management. The facility is accepting new patients. For more information go to [www.vipphysicians.org](http://www.vipphysicians.org). On-hand for the celebration are, seated, from left: Sherilee Wyles, LPN; Casey Brockus, LPN; Christine Thompson; Mattie Verbit, CRNP; State Senator Judy Ward; standing, from left: Amanda Walker, the office of State Senator Judy Ward; Sherri Stayer, Chamber Ambassador; Kara Bennett, Chamber Ambassador; Dawn McCartney, Vice-President of Marketing and Program Development.

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



## Job Fair is Wednesday at Jaffa Shrine

The [Blair County Chamber](#) is partnering with [PA CareerLink Blair County](#), [Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation](#), and the [GACTC](#) on a Job Fair to be held on this Wednesday at Jaffa Shrine. More than 80 employers from various industries will be recruiting at this event. Time is set aside for veterans from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. The general public can attend from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, call (814) 940-6201.

## Ribbon Cutting



### B4 Club Therapy

A Chamber ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the new location of B4 Club Therapy located at 310 Union Ave., Altoona. **B4 Club Therapy** specializes in injury prevention, muscle recovery, and functional mobility. It is the only Level 3 medical Frederick Stretch Therapist facility in Blair County and the surrounding region. Services also include massage therapy, Normatec Muscle Recovery, Functional Movement Screens and more. For more information go to [www.b4clubtherapy.com](http://www.b4clubtherapy.com). Joining in the celebration are, from left: Carter Cerully, Chamber Ambassador; Joe Hurd, President/CEO, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; Mayor Matt Pacifico, City of Altoona; Nicole and Superman Berrow, B4 Club Therapy; Maria Strohm, the office of State Representative Lou Schmitt; State Senator Judy Ward; and Carol Stern, Chamber Ambassador.

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

### Safety Committee Combining Education and Trivia

The Safety Committee of the Blair County Chamber is doubling its pleasure on May 4th by hosting an educational program followed by some relevant trivia. The event is set for 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. at U.S. Hotel in Hollidaysburg. From 4:00 to 5:00 will be a presentation on "Incident Management: Before, During & After." Immediately after will be trivia with Abby Martin, one of the area's most accomplished trivia leaders. The cost to attend is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. Food will be provided and there will be a cash bar. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).



Trivia with Abby Martin

## SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY EXCEL BOOTCAMP

### Chamber to Partner With Saint Francis on Excel Bootcamp

The Blair County Chamber and **Saint Francis University** are partnering on a bootcamp event entitled, "Excel Bootcamp: Master the Essentials & Advanced Features of Excel." The three-day event will be held on May 22-24 at the **Curry Innovation Center** in Downtown Altoona. The instructor will be Dr. John Miko. The cost to attend for all three days is \$495. Chamber members, however, get a 20% discount. For more information or to register, contact Lianna Weir at (814) 472-3087.

**Getting REEL**  
a recap of your Chamber at work  
STREAMING MONTHLY TO YOUR  
EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA FEED  
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### Committee Meetings

#### Chamber Check-Up

April 24th • 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.  
Chamber Office

#### Presidents' Forum Steering Committee

April 24th • 1:30 p.m.  
Chamber Office

#### Membership Committee

April 26th • 11:00 a.m.  
Chamber Office

#### Transportation Committee

April 27th • 8:15 a.m.  
Devorris Center

## WE-LEaD to Once Again Offer "Teeing It Up"

Back by popular demand is an event that was a huge success last fall for the Chamber's WE-LEaD Committee. "Teeing It Up" will be held on May 8th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [Blair County Golf & Driving Range](#) in Hollidaysburg. John Madey and his staff will provide instruction to women interested in becoming better golfers. The event includes a delicious meal featuring summertime favorites. Bring your own clubs or clubs will be provided by the range. The cost to attend is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Corporate sponsor of Teeing It Up is [Blair Companies](#). WE-LEaD is an acronym for Women Encouraging – Leadership, Education and Development.



## Only 17 Spots Remain for the UPMC/Chamber Golf Classic

The 2023 [UPMC/Chamber Golf Classic](#) will be held on Thursday, May 18th at Iron Masters Country Club. [Registrations](#) for golfers and sponsors are still being accepted although only 17 of the 144 spots remain. Call [Stacy Hoover](#) at

the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 to register a foursome or just as an individual. If you'd like to be a tee/green sponsor for the Classic, call [Jessie Covert](#) at that same number. All other sponsorships have been secured.



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## Leadership Blair County to Hold "Casino Night"

Every year the Chamber's [Leadership Blair County](#) class creates a project to benefit a local non-profit. This year, the 2023 class have created a casino-themed 200 club to benefit the [Booker T. Washington](#) project. [Casino Night 200 Club](#) takes place on June 10th at the [Bavarian Aid Society](#) and tickets can be purchased at the Blair County Chamber of Commerce. Help support a great cause and the [LBC Class of 2023!](#)

Don't miss out on an opportunity to make a difference in your community and your life. [Apply](#) now for the [Leadership Blair County](#) class of 2024!

## What our members have been up to...

**MEMBERS IN MOTION**

Submit your business news to [bmayer@blairchamber.com](mailto:bmayer@blairchamber.com)

Get the news **HERE!**