

## A local success story that is hard to duplicate

Among the qualities of a successful business is the ability to remain relevant over a long period of time. Copy Rite Banner Zone has been the model of longevity since 1985. It was that year that David Dravis got tired of having to run across town to make copies for his claims adjusting business. He decided to commit part of his office space to accommodate a copy center of his own.

Another smart move that Dravis made at that time was hiring Angela Lynch as a part-time employee. Lynch now serves as general manager. She continues to wait on customers, create content, fill orders and handle whatever challenges and opportunities come along. But she has also assumed most of the administrative duties for the three locations that the business now operates.

"We have shops in Altoona, Roaring Spring and Hollidaysburg," Lynch explains. "Each shop offers at least one unique service that the others do not. In Altoona we have a UV printer. The



Angela Lynch, general manager of Copy Rite Banner Zone, used the UV Cured Ink Printer to print corrugated yard signs.

Roaring Spring location has a specialized laminator that cuts as it laminates. Our Hollidaysburg location takes passport photos, makes all of the rubber stamps and will soon be producing custom printed and die cut labels and magnets."

Perhaps the most amazing aspect of all that Copy Right Banner Zone produces is

that they do it with just seven total employees.

"It's an amazing group of people," Lynch acknowledges. Those employees are the best team workers you will ever meet. We have a low turnover. I am honored to work with Eileen, Lisa, Jody, Shawn, Phillip and Dylan."

Lynch admits that the

business's ability to provide the best custom products has improved dramatically over the past 38 years.

"The first computer wasn't purchased until 1991," she pointed out. "Now we have computers and appropriate software for each employee as well as computers that interface with certain equipment. Email and our website

allow customers to send orders which enables each employee to fulfill order requests at a much higher rate than talking to every customer in-person or on the phone."

Copy Rite Banner Zone is particularly excited about its most recent addition. Last summer, the business added a UV-cured ink printer that can print directly onto plastic, metal, magnetic, wood,

tile, glass, foam board, stretched canvas, coasters, golf balls, baseballs and a host of other custom items."

"It's just another important step for us," Lynch noted. "Since the beginning, our motivations have been strictly based on customer needs. That won't ever change."

*(Copy Rite Banner Zone has been a member of the Chamber since 1991.)*

## Lake Raystown sets multi-chamber event

Lake Raystown Resort will host a tri-county mixer on August 10th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in recognition of "National S'mores Day." Members of the Blair County Chamber, Bedford County Chamber and Huntingdon County Chamber are invited to attend this free event.

The event includes a fire

pit S'mores bar on the terrace, high-end S'mores themed cocktails and mocktails, games for adults and kids, a number of give-aways and, perhaps the most appealing, a showboat cruise.

Even though there is no cost to attend, it is still necessary to register by August 2nd. Call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151.

## Farm-City Committee in Martinsburg Parade

For the second consecutive year, the Blair County Chamber's Farm-City Committee will be part of the Annual Martinsburg Ag Parade. That parade will be held tomorrow, July 11th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The committee will feature a float emphasizing the important role of the Blair

County business community in promoting agriculture. Blair County Conservation District is providing the wagon for the float. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151. For information on Farm-City, visit [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).

## WE-LEaD provides clear direction

According to the latest census for Blair County, women make up 54.1% of the county's labor force. That's significant, according to Sara Fiore-Gunnett. "Many women are also filling the role of head of household and primary caregiver in addition to working a fulltime job," she pointed out. "It makes sense to offer targeted programs to support this majority demographic."

Fiore-Gunnett is among a group of business women determined to turn words into action. She currently chairs the Blair County Chamber's WE-LEaD Committee, a program established in 2006 to encourage "Leadership, Education and Development."

The committee has built a solid reputation for helping to address the hot-button topics that often fall-off the professional development radar.

"Our committee focuses on the many facets of the woman-in-business experience," explains Amanda Johnston of Retirement Plan Solutions. "Every year, we offer educational workshops that can revolve around anything from how to negotiate a salary to how to start your public service journey. We also offer networking events that are geared specifically toward businesswomen in all industries and at any stage in their career development."

WE-LEaD began following a conversation between Amy Seltzer of Seltzer Financial Strategies and



WE-LEaD Committee members are left to right (front): Becky Stevens, Laura Green, Andrea Cohen, Andrea Okonak, and Stacey Krepps. (Standing): Sara Fiore-Gunnett, Amanda Johnston, Shelley Clinich, and Jackie Lantzy. Absent: Carol Gensimore, Betsy Lehman, Danielle Newman, Rachel Prosser and Emily Wagner.

Chamber President Joe Hurd. "We were doing bi-monthly breakfast programs that had little relevance to the issues that were impacting business women," Hurd disclosed. "I contacted Amy because I knew she never approaches anything of importance without great passion. Between Amy and Andrea Cohen of Blair Companies, WE-LEaD was off-and-running."

"It speaks volumes that so many of the original committee people are still involved in one way or another with WE-LEaD," acknowledged committee member Laura Green of McCartney's Workplace Solutions. "The foundation of encouragement (leadership, education and development) keeps us true

to our mission."

The next in a series of "Women Mean Business" workshops will be held next Tuesday, July 18th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. on the patio at Park Hills Golf Club. A panel of elected officials will talk about a variety of issues related to community service and will answer questions from attendees.

The cost to attend is \$25 for Chamber members and \$35 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com). Interested high school or college students are invited to attend at no cost. However, they must call the Chamber to register. Corporate sponsor is Seltzer Financial Strategies.

### WE-LEaD Committee

Andrea Cohen  
 Shelley Clinich  
 Carol Gensimore  
 Laura Green  
 Sara Fiore-Gunnett  
 Amanda Johnston  
 Stacey Krepps  
 Jackie Lantzy  
 Betsy Lehman  
 Danielle Newman  
 Andrea Okonak  
 Rachel Prosser  
 Rebecca Stevens  
 Emily Wagner

## Greece added to travel destinations



Mykonos island, located in the Aegean Sea, is known for its iconic landmarks including a row of 16th century windmills which sit on a hill above Mykonos town.

The Blair County Chamber is going back to Greece. The dates are April 18-30, 2024.

This trip, done in cooperation with Epic Journeys and Globus, is a land and cruise tour that includes Classical Greece, ancient Turkey and the breezy Greek Isles. Among the

destinations are Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Knossos and Santorini.

There will be an informational meeting about the trip on July 17th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost. Interested people are asked to call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151.

## Young Professionals holding workshop with Saint Francis

The Blair County Chamber's Young Professionals Committee is inviting young professionals to join representatives from Saint Francis University for a Lunch N' Learn presentation discussing the power of

leadership and the benefits of earning a graduate business degree. That event is set for Tuesday, July 18th at the Curry Innovation Center.

The presentation will begin at 12:15 p.m. and will last about 45 minutes.

A boxed lunch will be provided. Ms. Haley Thomas, Director of Graduate Business Programs at Saint Francis University, and Dr. Randy Frye, Dean of the Shields School of Business, will explore the qualities

and skills of successful leaders in today's competitive business world. They will also discuss the advantages of earning a graduate business degree, such as career advancement and enhanced problem-solving and

decision-making skills.

The cost to attend is \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at [www.blairchamber.com](http://www.blairchamber.com).



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