

"Home Run For Safety" Launches on Wednesday at PNG Field

The Blair County Chamber's Home Run For Safety will be held this Wednesday, September 13th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Peoples Natural Gas Field. This is the first year that the event will be a full-day. It includes interactive stations, outstanding speakers, safety demonstrations and a variety of vendors from throughout the region. Cost to attend is \$50/person and includes breakfast and lunch. Sponsors of the event are: [Roberts Oxygen](#), [Keysone Environmental Health and Safety Services](#) and [CareSmart Solutions](#). For information or to register as an attendee, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151.



Information Meeting on Alpine Swiss Villages & Rails Trip is Wednesday

The Chamber and [Ketrow KURTZ Travel](#) will head to Switzerland next summer for a trip that will involve trains, cogs, cable cars, boats and buses. The Alpine Swiss Villages & Rails trip features a host of great locations including Zurich, Wengen, Bern, Interlaken, Grindelwald, Murren and Lucerne. The trip begins June 18th and concludes on the 26th. An informational meeting will be held this Wednesday, September 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost



or obligation associated with the meeting but people interested in attending should call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 so we can save you a seat.

Thursday's "Breakfast Club" to Mark 20th Anniversary of American Eagle

As success stories go, this one was tough to beat.

Twenty-years ago, a group of business leaders and investors came together to revive a paper mill that had been closed in 2001, putting 265 employees out of work. The presentation at the next Chamber Breakfast Club, set for this Thursday, September 14th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park, will be entitled, "Working Together: Twenty Years of Progress at [American Eagle Paper Mills](#)." The speakers will be Philip Devorris, whose father Don helped spearhead the mill's resurgence, and current V.P of Finance & Administration Clark Adelman. The cost to attend Breakfast Club is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the September Breakfast Club is [Sickler Tarpey & Associates](#).



Stay connected.



Blair County Chamber of Commerce

GIVE US A CALL
814-943-8151

Residential Electricity Savings End Thursday. Act Now!

If you're a member of the Blair County Chamber and also a Penelec customer, you are eligible for an opportunity that will save you money on your residential electric bill. The Chamber participates in the ChamberChoice program through World Kinect Energy Services. From now until September 14th, employees of Chamber businesses can lock-in a special residential fixed price rate that is



10% lower than the Penelec rate. (8.73/kWh to 9.70/kWh). To access the offer, go to wglenergy.com/Kinect and scroll to Blair County Chamber.

LBC Alumni to Collect Holiday Donations For Troops

The [Leadership Blair County Alumni](#), a program of the Blair County Chamber, is supporting service members by accepting donations to stuff stockings for the troops. [Military Families Ministry](#) is partnering with the alumni to send donations to deployed service members. Their initiative, "Stockings for the Troops," will be providing stockings for troops who will not be home during the holidays. Items for donation may include: stockings (empty or stuffed), individually wrapped Twizzlers, hard candy (no chocolate - must be in a resealable storage bag), lip balm, tooth brush and small tooth paste, hot chocolate packets, oatmeal packets, snack and food bars, cracker packs, individually wrapped cookies (not homemade), beef sticks and beef jerky, individual drink mixes for water, packets of trail mix, nuts, pretzels, fruit, etc., deck of cards or small card games, and holiday cards (homemade or bought) with message. Donations can be dropped off at the Chamber office located at 3900 Industrial Park



Drive, Suite 12, Altoona. The deadline to donate is November 3 at 4:30 p.m. Monetary donations are being accepted as well. Checks must be made payable to [The Chamber Foundation](#). Credit card donations can be made online at blairchamber.com/chamber-foundation. One hundred percent of monetary donations will be used to purchase items for stockings. For more information call 814-943-8151.

Women Throwing Axes!

You Don't Want to Miss That!



The next WE-LEaD event will take place on September 20th from 5:30 to 7:30 at [Slingers Throw House](#) in Altoona. The cost to participate is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-

members. Food is included. To register, contact the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor is [Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.](#) WE-LEaD is an acronym for Women Encouraging: Leadership, Education and Development.



Nominations Being Accepted for "Women Making a Difference"

[Pennsylvania Business Central](#) newspaper's Women in Business publication is shining a spotlight on women whose tireless work provides the bedrock of a strong community through its "Women Making a Difference" recognition edition. To nominate someone for this recognition, email editor@pabusinesscentral.com. Deadline to nominate is September 29th.

**Invest in their dreams
for the future of our youth.**

Consider contributing to the Chamber Foundation! Call 814-943-8151



PA CareerLink Holding a Healthcare Industry Career Event

Job seekers looking to break into the Healthcare Industry are invited to attend an event on September 14th from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m., hosted by [PA CareerLink Blair County](#) at the [Altoona Area Public Library](#). The event is an after-

noon of networking, job opportunities and school funding options. No cost to attend and no sign-up required. Meet with 13 employers and academic providers. For further information, call (814) 569-1066.

Reserve Your Spot for "Down on the Farm"

The ultra-traditional After Hours "Down on the Farm" will be held on October 11th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [Piney Creek Greenhouse](#) in Martinsburg. A number of activities for kids are planned as well as demonstrations on planting and a whole lot of other stuff! The gift shop will be open as well. The cost is \$10/person and includes great picnic food. Attendees under ten and under are free! Event sponsors are [Blair County Conservation District](#), [Farm Credit](#), [Leavitt Group Webber Advisors](#), and [Reliance Bank](#). To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at www.blairchamber.com.



Chamber Looking to Help Members With ERC

For several months, employers have been made aware of the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERC) which rewards companies for keeping employees on payroll during the pandemic. The Chamber is seeking members who may

be interested in helping employers to claim those rewards by filing on their behalf. If you are one of those members and are interested in having the Chamber promote your efforts, please contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151.

Keep your employees in the know!
Have them [subscribe](#) to this newsletter.

Congratulations...

... to [Saint Francis University](#), which was recently named among the Best Colleges in Pennsylvania for 2024. The designation came from the Pittsburgh-based company Niche which evaluated the colleges based on academics, admissions, financial and student data from the [U.S. Department of Education](#).

... to the three members of the Blair County Chamber who were recognized by [PA Business Central](#) newspaper in the Top CEO's and Leaders of Women in Business for 2023. They are:

- Elizabeth Burke, President/CEO of [Burke & Company](#) (dba S.P. McCarl & Company),
- Jane Grebenc, President of [First Commonwealth Bank](#) and
- Karen Young, CEO/President of [Jersey Shore State Bank](#).



Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) Committee

September 11th
10:30 a.m.
Chamber Office

BASICS Steering Committee

September 11th
2:00 p.m.
Devorris Center

Sustainable Blair County Committee

September 13th
1:30 p.m.
Devorris Center