

Want to Cut Your Insurance Costs? Attend This Workshop!

Among the many benefits to businesses of having a healthy workplace program is the ability to save money on insurance. The harsh reality is that many businesses are not aware of those savings and consequently miss-out on them. The Healthy Workplace Committee of the Blair County Chamber is hosting a workshop this Thursday, September 28th from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development to answer questions and offer insight. The keynote speaker is Kathy Kelly, Senior Benefits Consultant at [Webber Advisors](#), who will present an unbiased view of what insurance companies are offering and how to access them. The cost to attend the workshop is \$15 for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members. Healthy (and unhealthy) breakfast items are included. To register, call the Chamber or visit www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor is [B4 Club Therapy](#).



Kathy Kelly

Data Security Roundtable Looking to Create Greater Awareness

Zach Beckel has a passion for helping people reach their IT goals. He also does his best to maintain a positive attitude, both at home and in the workplace. As Chief Technology Officer at UDNI in Altoona, he's able to fulfill most of those objectives with little effort. It's that "other thing" that occasionally drives him crazy. The other thing is his role as chair of the Blair County Chamber's Data Security Roundtable. Beckel was part of the initial meeting nearly four years ago when the Roundtable was created. He was so enthused by its potential that he volunteered to be the chair. He's



been in that role ever since. Beckel's Roundtable is small in number. He needs more technology people at the table to help address what is unquestionably a growing problem. "Our next meeting is September 27th at 1:30 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development," he reported. "We'd love to see some new faces willing to discuss a growing problem."



Park Home to Host Wednesday's HD 500

The next Chamber "HD 500" will be held this Wednesday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [Park Home](#), located at 2134 Plank Road in Duncansville. The cost to attend is \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

State Chamber President to Address Executive Roundtable

Luke Bernstein, President and CEO of the [Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry](#) will address the Blair County Chamber's Executive Roundtable on Wednesday at 7:30



Luke Bernstein

a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. Bernstein has been in his current role since 2022. For more information on the Executive Roundtable, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at jhurd@blairchamber.com.



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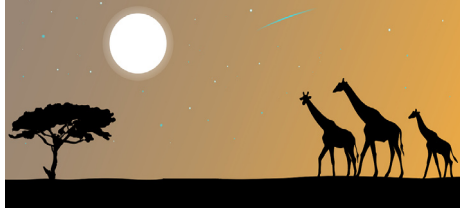
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Blair County Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Scheduling African Safari For Next October

For the second time in the past five years, the Blair County Chamber is offering a trip to Africa. An African Safari to Kenya and Tanzania will depart from the Chamber's parking lot on October 5, 2024 and return on October 19th. The trip, done in partnership with [Epic Journeys](#), includes Nairobi, David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Out of Africa Farmhouse, Amboseli National Park, Shanga Workshop, Karatu, Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti and Lake Eyasi. There will be an informational meeting



about the trip on October 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no charge or obligation to attend but please call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 so we can save you a seat.

WE-LEaD Workshop to Feature Inspirational Speaker/Author

The WE-LEaD Committee of the Blair County Chamber will host an interactive workshop on October 20th from 8:00 a.m. until noon The Columns Banquet Center in Altoona. The event will feature a presentation by inspirational speaker/author Beth Caldwell. That presentation, entitled "Overcoming Impostor Syndrome," focuses on what happens when girls and women believe what society has to say about them and how that can impact personal and professional growth. Beth Caldwell is a social worker turned personal trainer. A respected writer and columnist, she is the author of many books on leadership and personal de-

velopment. She currently hosts the webTV program, The Morning Mastermind, and has received numerous leadership awards throughout her career. The cost to attend the workshop, which includes a full buffet breakfast and breakout sessions is \$55 for Chamber members and \$65 for non-members. Corporate sponsor of the event is [Benzel's Bretzel Bakery](#). To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at [blairchamber.com](#).



Beth Caldwell

LBC Alumni to Collect Holiday Donations For Troops

The [Leadership Blair County Alumni](#), a program of the Blair County Chamber, is accepting donations to stuff stockings for the troops. [Military Families Ministry](#) is partnering with the alumni to send donations to deployed service members. 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/small tooth paste, cocoa/oatmeal packets, snack and food bars, cracker packs, individually wrapped cookies (not home-

made), beef sticks and jerky, individual drink mixes, packets of trail mix, nuts, pretzels, etc., deck of cards or small card games, and holiday cards with messages. Donations can be dropped off at the Chamber office located at 3900 Industrial Park Drive, 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](#). For more information call 814-943-8151.

PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESS CENTRAL

Nomination Deadline is Friday 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.

Chamber Board of Directors Approves New Members

At its September 21st meeting, the Blair County Chamber Board of Directors approved the following new members: FOLTZPLAN of Martinsburg, [Multi-Color Corporation](#) of Tyrone and [Steinbacher, Goodall & Yurchak](#) of Altoona.

Reserve Your Spot for "Down on the Farm"

"Down on the Farm" will be held on October 11th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at [Piney Creek Greenhouse](#) in Martinsburg. The family-friendly event is \$10/person and includes great picnic food. Attendees ten and under are free! To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at [www.blairchamber.com](#).

CONGRATULATIONS...

... to [Mount Aloysius College](#), which has been recognized by ModernThink as a 2023 "Great College to Work For." The college achieved exceptional workplace status based on its ranking in mission and pride, confidence in senior leadership and shared governance.

... to [Juniata College](#), which was recognized as one of the top 100 liberal arts colleges by U.S. News & World Report. Juniata rose in rank to 82 overall and also ranked 16 in the category of social mobility.