

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Missed the Danube Cruise Meeting? Still Time to Catch-Up

If you were unable to attend last Wednesday's informational meeting on an upcoming Chamber trip, don't panic. There's still time to access information and consider signing-up. The "Romantic Danube River Cruise Tour," scheduled for April 29 – May 10, 2025, includes stops in Prague, Regensburg, Vilshofen, Passau, Linz, Weissenkirchen, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest. The Chamber is partnering with [Ketrow KURTZ Travel](#) and Ama Waterways on this cruise. To learn more about the cruise, call Karen at Ketrow KURTZ Travel at (814) 695-1100.



Check Out Today's Business Insight Page!

The Chamber's Business Insight page in today's [Altoona Mirror](#) features a Q&A with Marianne Drenning of [East Side Concrete Supply Company](#), a story about the mentors of the Chamber's [Young Entrepreneurs Academy \(YEA!\)](#) program and a look back at the combined session of the Leadership Blair County Adult and Youth classes. Don't get the Mirror? You can still read the Business Insight page on the email that the Chamber will send you tomorrow. Great stuff!



Investor Panel Event Set For Next Tuesday

The seventh class of the Blair County Chamber's [Young Entrepreneurs Academy \(YEA!\)](#) program will have an opportunity to gain some recognition as well as financial support at next Tuesday's Investor Panel Event which begins at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Downtown Center of Penn State Altoona. The public is invited to attend as the students present their business ideas to a panel of twelve investors. Sponsors of YEA! for 2024 are [McLanahan Corporation](#), [Reliance Bank](#), [Sheetz](#), [UPMC Altoona](#) and [Ward Transport and Logistics](#).

Investor Panel Event
March 26 • 6 p.m.

Congratulations...

... to [S.P. McCarl](#), which was recently selected for the Governor's Achievement Award for Employers. The company will receive its award in May at the Pennsylvania Workforce Development Conference in Hershey.

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Committee Meeting

Public Policy Task Force Meeting
March 18th
9:00 a.m.
Devorris Center

Welcome New Chamber Members



The Blair County Chamber of Commerce welcomes the following new members: seated, from left: Valerie Luther, Victor Thomas, Olivia Johnson, Traci Clapper Dodson, and Donny Beaver, [GLORIA GATES CARE](#); standing: Pastor John Godissart, [THE WELL MINISTRY CENTER OF BLAIR COUNTY](#); Angie Walason, [WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY FARM SHOW](#).

FirstEnergy Webinar Will Help Businesses Save Money

FirstEnergy's Pennsylvania utilities have programs to help commercial and industrial customers reduce energy consumption and save on their energy bill. Through our next Energy Efficiency Incentive webinar, you can hear from program implementers about opportunities available to your business, and how incentives can help you meet your energy and sustainability goals. Topics we will cover include lighting, HVAC, refrigeration, custom building measures, new construction, solar, appliance rebates,



and more. You may register for the next webinar, being held at 12:00pm on Wednesday, March 20, simply by clicking this [link](#).

We're Bouncing Around Blair!

Our member businesses are so important to us, and we want to visit them. While we are out, we are visiting some of our members and filming a one-minute commercial for them. There are many social media platforms to find the "Bouncing Around Blair" episodes. Visit YouTube and watch our [shorts](#), [TikTok](#),



[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)! Are you interested in being a part of "Bouncing Around Blair"? Email Megan Rossman at mrossman@blairchamber.com to schedule a time for Megan and Brittany Mayer to come visit your business and shoot a dynamic video that will get hundreds of views.

Chamber, Toastmasters Partnering on Workshop

Back by popular demand is a four-part workshop helping business people to raise their speaking skills as they look to become more successful. The Speechcraft program, done through a partnership between the Blair County Chamber and [Toastmasters International](#), will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday from April 9th through April 30th at the Devorris Center for Business Development. This program was also offered last fall. The cost to participate is \$50 for Chamber members and \$75 for non-members. This includes all four sessions. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at www.blairchamber.com. Class size is very limited. Register today!

UPMC/Chamber Golf Classic Slots Filling-Up Quickly

Registration is continuing for one of the region's most popular networking events. The [UPMC Health Plan](#) and [UPMC Altoona/Chamber Golf Classic](#) will be held on Thursday, May 16th at Iron Masters Country Club. As always, the Classic will feature great food and beverages, great prizes and, on occasion, great golf. Golfers can register as teams or as individuals. The event has sold out for the past several years so register early. Contact Jennifer Fleck at (814) 943-8151.



We want to hear from you!
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