

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Early Childhood Symposium Set for Tuesday

Representatives from local businesses, childcare providers and school districts will come together on Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development for an Early Childhood Symposium. The Symposium will provide an opportunity for interaction and discussion on ways to address the challenges that providers, schools and parents have been facing since the pandemic. Rodney Green, chair of the Chamber's BASICS Subcommittee on Early Childhood Education, will moderate the Symposium. [Tender Love for Children](#) is the Breakfast Sponsor for the event.



Informational Meeting Scheduled for Chamber's Costa Rica Trip

The Blair County Chamber is going back to Costa! The Chamber had a very successful trip there eleven years ago in partnership with [Epic Journeys](#) and [Collette Vacations](#). "It's a very popular trip and somewhat inexpensive," explained Cynthia Watters of Epic Journeys. "We've had a number of people requesting that we return there." That return trip will be from February 20-28, 2025. Among the highlights are: San Jose, Arenal Volcano, Cano Negro Refuge, Lake Arenal Cruise and Monteverde Cloud Forest. An informational meeting on



the Costa Rica Trip will be held on April 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. If you intend to come to that meeting, please call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 so that we can accommodate you!

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS ACADEMY

YEA! Students to Present to Investor Panel. Public Invited!

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 this 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](#).

Kessling to Address Executive Roundtable

Blair County Commissioner Dave Kessling will be the speaker at the next meeting of the Chamber's Executive Roundtable this Wednesday, March 27th, at 7:30 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. For more information on the Executive Roundtable, contact Joe Hurd at (814) 943-8151 or email him at jhurd@blairchamber.com.

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce
will be closed on Friday in commemoration of

Good Friday

The Office will reopen on Monday, April 1st at 8:30 a.m.

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/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'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.



Committee Meeting

Transportation Committee

March 28th • 8:15 a.m.

Devorris Center

Career Fair Committee Looking for Speakers

The Annual [BASICS/Rotary](#) Career Fair will be held on April 24th at the Blair County Convention Center. The committee putting that event together is still looking for speakers for the morning (9:00 – 11:00 a.m.) or afternoon (Noon-2:00 p.m.) or, ideally, both. The career categories that are needed are listed below. More than 1,200 high school sophomores are expected to attend the Fair.

Presenters needed!

Agriculture/Horticulturist/Farm Laborer
Architect/Drafter
Chiropractor
Engineer - Electrical
Event Planner
Journalist/Writer
Lineman, Electrical/Utility
Musician/Composer/Lyricist
Occupational Therapist/Assistant
Pharmacist/Pharmacy Tech
Physician Assistant
Pilot
Police/Detective/Criminal Justice
Politics/Government
Truck Driver/CDL

Congratulations...

... to [First National Bank](#), with several Blair County locations, which has been named a Top Workplace USA for a fourth consecutive year.

... to the four [Jersey Mike's](#) locations in the Altoona-State College area which are giving every single dollar of sales this Wednesday to the Pink Zone. It's all part of the company's Nationwide Day of Giving.