

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Informational Meeting is Wednesday for Cruise to Italy & Croatia

The Blair County Chamber and [Allegro Luxury Vacations](#) will partner on a 10-night cruise, "Best of Italy & Croatia" from October 10-20, 2025. The cruise will be aboard the Celebrity Constellation. Even though it's still more than a year away, an informational meeting will be held about the cruise this Wednesday, August 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. To reserve a spot at the meeting, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 and leave a message for either Joe Hurd or Jennifer Fleck.



County Commissioners to Speak at September "Breakfast Club"

The next Chamber Breakfast Club, set for September 12th at 7:45 a.m. at The Casino at Lakemont Park, will feature a presentation by the Blair County Commissioners. The Commissioners will provide an update on a number of issues of importance to the business community and then will answer questions submitted from Breakfast Club attendees. The cost to attend the event is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-Chamber



members. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate sponsor of the September Breakfast Club is [Keller Engineers](#).

Recruitment Ramps-Up for 2025 YEA! Program

One of the Blair County Chamber's most successful programs has begun the recruitment phase for its 2025 class. The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) program makes it possible for twenty Blair County students to learn about entrepreneurship while

they actually build a business over a 25-week period. The program, in its ninth year, is open to grades 6-12. Classes begin October 1st of this year. For more information, email Tim Gildea at tpgildea@gmail.com. To apply for the program, visit www.yeausa.org.

Power Card Program Still a Great Way to Buy and Sell

If you represent a business looking for ways to save money on products and services and would also like to support the efforts of other Chamber-member businesses, the Power Card program is a great place to start. Simply visit the Chamber website at www.blairchamber.com and see the list of discounts being offered by Chamber members. And if you'd like to put a discounted offer on that list, simply email Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com. There's no cost to place an offer. If you don't have a power card, call Jessie at 814-943-8151 and we'll send you one or you can pick one up at the Chamber Office, located in the Devorris Center for Business Development.

Congratulations...

... to the [Rotary Club of Altoona](#), who donated \$21,000 to area organizations, events and projects. Grants were made to 14 different groups to help in their efforts in our community. ... to [Holland Brothers Meats](#) of Duncansville who won recognition at the American Cured Meat Championships in Omaha, Nebraska. Holland Brothers was awarded Grand Champion Heavyweight Bone-in Ham, Grand Champion Lightweight Bone-in Ham and Reserve Grand Champion Semi-boneless Ham.

Ribbon Cutting



Williamsburg Community Farm Show

The Chamber cut the ribbon in recognition of the 57th annual Williamsburg Community Farm Show, located at 1019 Recreation Drive, Williamsburg. The Farm Show featured live music, carnival rides, food trucks, vendors and exhibits. For more information, go to www.williamsburgfarmshowpa.com. Taking part in the celebration are, from left: Carol Stern, Chamber Ambassador; State Representative Lou Schmitt; Jeff Walason, Farm Show President; Angelique Walason, Farm Show Secretary; Ashley Sollenberger, Williamsburg Community Farm Show Queen; Amanda Walker, the office of State Senator Judy Ward; Joe Hurd, President/CEO, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; and Greg Haffling, Chamber Ambassador.



Assess Your Company's Sustainability Opportunities

Chamber businesses spend too much money unnecessarily on items related to sustainability. That's a fact. To offset those financial losses and to help those businesses operate more effectively and efficiently, the Chamber's Sustainable Blair County Committee

created a survey that paints an accurate picture of what factors might need addressed (and how much money might be saved!). That survey can be accessed on the Chamber website at www.blairchamber.com.



Registered for the Public Service Academy Yet?

Two years ago, the Blair County Chamber created a Public Service Academy to help people in the business community to understand the process of seeking elected office. The Academy program will be offered again this fall. The dates will be September 10th and the 24th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. The cost is \$25/person which covers both sessions as well as pizza and soft drinks beginning at 5:30 p.m. Donna Gority and John Eichelberger will once again co-chair the Academy. To register to be part of the September sessions, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or register online at www.blairchamber.com.

Save The Date

LBC Alumni Breakfast

If you're a graduate of the Chamber's Leadership Blair County program or would like to know more about the program, plan to attend the LBC Alumni Breakfast on September 27th at the U.S. Hotel in Hollidaysburg. The cost is just \$25/person. To register, call the Chamber at (814) 943-8151 or online at www.blairchamber.com.

Committee Meeting...

Transportation Committee
August 29th
8:15 a.m.
Devorris Center

