

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Leadership Blair County Youth kicks-off year with orientation

Leadership Blair County Youth (LBCY) began another exciting year with an orientation that brought together twenty-four high school sophomores, many meeting for the first time.

Launched twenty-three years ago, the program, sponsored by [Berry Solutions Group](#), was created based on the highly successful Leadership Blair County Adult program. The youth class consists of students representing six public schools and Bishop Guilfoyle Academy.

"The Leadership Blair County Youth program brings 10th grade students together from area schools to help them grow as leaders through hands-on experiences, community engagement, public speaking and personal development. It's exciting to see their energy and potential as we kicked off this year's journey together," said Tami Chadick, LBCY facilitator.

Throughout the nine-month long program students will learn a full range of leadership skills that will enable them to become active members in their communities. The curriculum is carefully designed to address issues that many young people face. The key points of instruction come from the guidance of an advisory group that strategically develops topics and activities. Everything from social pressures, leadership skills, public speaking, local history, and community service are covered. There is no cost for students to participate. All the funding to run the program comes from grants, fundraisers and the business community.

"With the help of feedback from the prior year students, the Advisory Group meets monthly during the school year and reviews the upcoming sessions to ensure they include current topics that are both informative and interactive for the students, while remaining focused on servant leadership." said Gary Drenning, chair of the LBCY Advisory Group.



Now is the time to register

There's still time to make your reservations for Breakfast Club, this Thursday, 7:45 a.m., at the Blair County Convention Center. An entertaining panel featuring one of the "Nit Wits" on Nittany Nation Overtime, Neil Rudel, will be joined by author and host of Sports Central, Corey Giger, and Steve Jones, the play-by-play voice of Penn State athletics, who will provide some grid-iron insight. Cost to attend is \$25 for Chamber Members and \$35 for non-members and includes a full breakfast buffet. Register at www.blairchamber.com. Corporate Sponsor is [PNC Bank](#). Wear white and join the fun. Let's make it a Blair County White Out!

Check this out. . .

One lucky person will receive 4 tickets with parking pass to the Nittany Lions season opener!

WE ARE...
going to Breakfast Club



**AUG.
14**

LBCY CLASS OF 2026

ISABELLA BENJAMIN
KENLY BENNETT
LOGAN BURNS
GRACE CIOFFARI
SOPHIA FATZINGER
SOPHIA FIORE
AVA FRANKS
HAILEY FRIES

BLAKE FRYE
ELIJAH GIBSON
DIEGO GIL
JAYLYN GRASSMYER
TY HALERZ
KONNER HARKER
PEYTON HILEMAN
TRINITY HOUSTON

NICOLEE LOVRICH
AIDAN LUTHER
LUCAS MORRISSEY
SHILOH PRICE
BRAYDEN SAIN
REID SCHREIER
PIPER WEIDLEY
RILEY WINTERS

Make your business stand out



BRANDbytes are a great way to advertise!
Email Jessie at jcovert@blairchamber.com

Saddle up for another great travel adventure with the Chamber

It's one adventure after another when you decide to travel with the Blair County Chamber and its travel partners.

Rambling western towns and historic landmarks are on the itinerary when you pack your bags for America's Cowboy Country, September 8 - 15, 2026. The trip, in partnership with [Epic Journeys](#), is guaranteed to thrill adventure seekers.

This epic excursion will begin when you arrive in Rapid City, South Dakota, known as the gateway to the Black Hills. Visit rugged Badlands National Park and learn about Native American culture.

Your adventure only gets more exciting when you visit Custer State Park, home to over 1,000 roaming bison, the Crazy Horse Memorial, and Mount Rushmore.

Continue your journey to visit Yellowstone National Park, Bighorn Mountains, Jackson Hole and the Grand Tetons.

The Chamber will host an informational meeting on Monday, August 18, at 6 p.m., at the Devorris Center for Business Development, 3900 Industrial



Park Drive, Altoona. There is no cost or obligation to attend. Travel experts will be on-hand with detailed itineraries and answers to all your questions. Let us know you are coming. Contact the Chamber at 814-943-8151 or email chamber@blairchamber.com.

OFF THE RAILS NETWORKING!

All aboard for a one-of-a-kind HD500 with Everett Railroad

You'll want to make sure you get this one on your calendars. The Chamber's popular networking event, HD500, is pulling out all the stops on September 10. Everett Railroad, 244 Pullman Drive, Hollidaysburg, will be hosting a party on the track where you will have the opportunity to experience a one-hour train excursion with all the bells and whistles you expect from HD500. The minute you board the beautifully restored train, you know you are in for a night of fun. Beginning at 5:00 p.m., passengers can pick up their boarding pass at registration and shop at the train station gift shop. The train will leave at 5:30 p.m. sharp for an amazing ride. Beverages and delicious food, all included with admission, will be on board in the Station Pub Car. At 6:30 p.m. the train will return to the station



where you will have until 7:00 p.m. to load up on great gifts from the gift shop. Don't wait to make reservations. There is a limited number of boarding passes available. Cost to attend is \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. Chamber members that register by September 3 pay only \$7 with an early bird discount. Reservations can be made online at www.blair-chamber.com.

Congratulations

...to [First Commonwealth Bank](#) for earning the 2025 America Saves Week Designation of Savings Excellence recognition for the seventh straight year.

...to [Alto-Reste Park](#) which is celebrating its 100th anniversary. It was opened by Robert P. Good in 1925 with the mission of creating a beautiful place where people could go and remember their loved ones.

...to [First National Bank](#), the largest subsidiary of F.N.B. Corporation, on being named as a 2025 Top Workplace for Financial Services by Energage. FNB has received the award every year since its 2021 commencement.



Operation Our Town

-in partnership with-
Young Professionals of Blair County

MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sept. 15 • Lakemont Park
Reserve your individual or team spot
oot@operationourtown.org
Giddyup for great food, fun & prizes!

SAVE *the* DATE

LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT
FOR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

Oct. 6, 2025

BLAIR COUNTY
CONVENTION CENTER