

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Online survey

Small business owners, share your experiences

The Federal Reserve's 2025 Small Business Credit Survey is now open. Owners and key financial decision-makers of for-profit businesses, share your recent experiences.

In this survey, you can provide insights into your use of debt, the financial conditions you encounter, and other relevant information. Answers to these questions contribute to data that directly inform the Fed, federal government agencies, service providers, policymakers, and others — a common good ultimately benefiting your business and others in the community.

[Take the 10-to-12-minute survey now.](#) The survey is open to businesses currently in operation, those recently closed, and those about to be established. All responses are confidential. The survey closes November 14, 2025. Questions? Contact Olivia Ness at olivia.ness@phil.frb.org.



Free Excel and QuickBooks training

The State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), Saint Francis University Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp) are partnering to present a free three-part seminar series titled Intro to Bookkeeping. The sessions will cover both Excel and QuickBooks applications.

- **October 21st, 10 AM (Zoom): Bookkeeping in Excel** – Learn the basics, use premade templates, and generate financial statements.

- **October 28th, 10 AM (Zoom): Bookkeeping in QuickBooks** – Choose the right QuickBooks version, set up accounts, and navigate daily functions.



- **November 6th, 4–7 PM (In-person): QuickBooks Live (4-6pm) & Networking (6-7pm)** – Review accounting basics, prepare financial statements, and connect with local business owners. This session will be held at the Devorris Center for Business Development at 3900 Industrial Park Drive, Altoona. Register by clicking [here](#).

Stroll before you scroll

As the holiday season approaches, it's time to shine a spotlight on our amazing small businesses! We will be creating a digital catalog to showcase the best deals and sales for the holiday season and Small Business Saturday!

This is your opportunity to highlight your special offers and gain visibility. Each participating business will have a dedicated page in our catalog, making it easy for customers to find you during the holidays. Don't have a graphic for your deal? No problem! We'll create one for you, so you can focus on what you do best – running your business!

Send your details by email to Brittany Mayer at bmayer@blairchamber.com.



SAVE the DATE
November 12
Farm-City DINNER
Morrsons Cove Memorial Park
Click [here](#) for reservations

Leadership Blair County Class of 2026 gears up for exciting year



In a world where new trends become viral one day and gone the next, you know you're on to something good when a program continues to thrive after 31 years.

Leadership Blair County Adult remains a popular program that continues to grow each year. Based on servant leadership principles, class members get to experience first-hand what can be accomplished by a group of people who are dedicated to making positive changes in their communities.

"The energy at orientation and the enthusiasm of this year's Leadership Blair County class reaffirm my excitement for the year ahead," said Megan Rossman, Blair County Chamber Program Manager, who oversees the LBC program. "I'm eager to see the growth, collaboration, and positive impact this group will accomplish together as leaders," she said.

For more information about LBC, contact Rossman at mrossman@blair-chamber.com.

Last chance to register for Down On The Farm



Come celebrate the fall season with us at Down On The Farm, a fun-filled evening brought to you by the Chamber's Ag Committee. This family-friendly event will be held **October 2**, from 5 - 7 p.m., at **Mitchell Farms**, 1019 Old Mill Run Road, Altoona. Your wristband will provide hours of entertainment at Tire Mountain, Corn Box, Farm Animal Center, Duck Races, Hay Bale Climb and dozens more activities. You'll also get to go on a hayride and test your skills in the Noah's Ark themed corn maze. **We're even throwing in a delicious supper!** Cost to attend is only \$15 for adults and **FREE** for children ages 10 and under. Reservations are required. Go to www.blairchamber.com.

Servant leadership in action

LBC Alumni presents donations from Gifts of Hope campaign



Leadership Blair County Alumni put their servant leadership skills to work with its recent Gifts of Hope campaign. Each year the Alumni chooses a cause to rally behind that will make a difference in the lives of others. This year, the Alumni chose Easter for Eli, a non-profit organization that distributes Easter baskets to children who are hospitalized over the Easter holiday. At its recent breakfast, the Alumni presented a check for \$1,287.50 in addition to hundreds of items for baskets.

Congratulations!

...to [Tom & Joe's Restaurant](#) for being named as one of the 10 Best Roadside Diners Across the Country by USA Today Readers' Choice Awards 2025. Tom & Joe's made its debut in Altoona in 1933.

...to [Williamsburg Public Library](#) in celebration of its 75th anniversary. The Library, started in 1950 by two volunteers from the local Women's Civic Club in a small back room inside the former borough building, has now become a hub of activity for the Williamsburg community.

...to [Sheetz](#) for being named to this year's Best Workplaces in Retail list by Fortune and Great Place to Work. Ranking second nationally, this is Sheetz's 10th straight year being named to the list.