

# Get the inside scoop this Thursday on America 250PA Blair County events

You won't want to miss the Chamber's Breakfast Club this Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Blair County Convention Center. You will be granted an exclusive first-look at an exciting lineup of events celebrating our country's 250th anniversary. The Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) was established by the legislature to commemorate this epic milestone. Blair County



will be joining communities all across Pennsylvania and the United States in helping to plan celebrations for our nation's 250-year anniversary in 2026. Events held throughout the year will culminate on July 4, 2026 in downtown Altoona, Fort Roberdeau and DelGrosso's Park. The cost to attend Breakfast Club, sponsored by Stuckey Automotive, is \$25 for Chamber Members and \$35 for non-members. Make your reservations now by clicking here.

# PA CareerLink Blair County supports local workforce growth

By Marcus Edwards, ABCD Corp.

PA CareerLink Blair County is a valuable resource for both job seekers and employers in Blair County, helping connect local talent with meaningful employment opportunities. Through its collaborative network, CareerLink provides access to training, career counseling, and employer support services, all at no cost.

Two of its most impactful programs include On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Paid Work Experience (PWE). The OJT program reimburses employers for a portion of wages paid to new hires while they learn job-specific skills, making it easier for businesses to grow their workforce. The PWE pro-



gram provides hands-on experience to young people, preparing them for long-term career success while supporting local employers with eager, entry-level talent.

Together, these programs strengthen our community by bridging skill gaps and investing in Blair County's future workforce. For more information on these programs, reach out to Carter Cerully, Business Services Coordinator at ccerully@gogoodwill.org.

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\* October All-Stars

Since sponsorships are such an integral part of the Chamber's ability to offer great events and programs to members, we recognize sponsors each month as "All-Stars." The All-Stars for October are: Blair Companies/American Eagle Paper Mill, Blair County Conservation District, Paul Calandra, Comcast, Grappone Law Office, Harrisburg Pharmacy, HBK CPAS and Consultants/HBKS Wealth Advisors, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Horizon Farm Credit, Keller Engineers, Inc., Kooman & Associates, LLC, Leonard S. Fiore, Inc., Lung Disease Center of Central Pennsylvania, McLanahan Corporation, National Community Pharmacists Association, New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., New Pig, NPC, Inc., Penn State Altoona, PennStress, Presbyterian Village at Hollidaysburg, Reliance Bank, Roaring Spring Family of Businesses, Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C., Sheetz, Inc., Thompson Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, UPMC Altoona, Value Drug, and Webber Seltzer Wealth Advisors.





### What is a Chamber Ambassador?

Chamber Ambassadors are the face of the Chamber, working to recruit, retain, and welcome new members to the Chamber.

Ambassadors talk with potential Chamber members to provide them with information about how to join the Chamber, share the benefits of Chamber Membership, and host potential members at chamber events.

Sherri Stayer, Chair of the Chamber Ambassadors shared that "welcoming and introducing new members at Chamber Breakfast Clubs, attending events such as member ribbon cutting ceremonies and special events held by members, and serving as the liaison between chamber members and the chamber staff to provide basic information and simply perform the task of being a friendly connection to the business community is very rewarding".

Becoming a Chamber Ambassador is also a wonderful way to get fantastic



exposure for your business.

The Chamber Ambassador Committee is seeking new Ambassadors.

If you are friendly, outgoing, and interested in meeting new people, we need YOU as a new Ambassador to participate in this vital Chamber committee!

The Chamber will be accepting Applications for Chamber Ambassadors thru December 31st. If you are interested in becoming a 2026 Chamber Ambassador, please contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com.

# **Saluting Our Renewals**

We would like to thank those members that have continued to invest with the organization by renewing their membership in the month of October.

#### **Celebrating 30-39 Years**

The Summit Tennis & Athletic Club

#### Celebrating 20-29 Years

Altoona Area School
District
Barton's Plumbing &
Heating, Inc.
CBIZ Insurance
Services, Inc.
Ritchey's Dairy, Inc.
CONTACT Altoona

Lightner Electronics, Inc.

#### Celebrating 10-19 Years

CPA Associates
Grier School
Bestway Pizza
George A. Schultz & Son,
Inc. (Schultz Company)
Operation Our Town, Inc.
Myers-Somers Funeral
Home, Inc.
Coach4Retirees, Inc.

Mattern House, Inc.

#### **Celebrating 5-9 Years**

Central States
Manufacturing, Inc.
Amerway, Inc.

#### **Celebrating 1-4 Years**

Greaser Consulting FOLTZPLAN Steinbacher, Goodall & Yurchak Parlor Donuts

## **Anywhere! Anytime!**

Register for events at your convenience.

blairchamber.com





Morrsons Cove Memorial Park

6:00 p.m. Milk Punch Reception

6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner by Holland Bros.

—Keynote Speaker— Joshua Duff, DVM Country View Family Farms

—ACE Award Presentation— **Gary Long**Long's Field Service

\$25 per person
Click here for reservations



Register here

fun, food & merrymaking!