

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

A surprise from a fishbowl

There's nothing quite like attending an event where you can unwind with friends and enjoy delicious food and beverages.

But when your name is called to win a door prize? That's the cherry on top!

Chamber After Hours has built a great reputation for its door prizes. Rightfully so. From gift cards to chocolates and tote bags filled with treats, each door prize winner leaves with a smile on their face. One door prize that tends to steal the visual center stage is the beautiful floral arrangements from [Peterman's Flower Shop](#) in Juniata.

Honoring a tradition that started years ago by her mother, Sandy Schwabenbauer, Andrea Hammel, owner of Peterman's, continues to provide a floral arrangement for After Hours.

"I have been told that the response from winning an arrangement for the After Hours event is always positive! It's the perfect way for us to show off what we can do and also remind people how wonderful it is to receive flowers! I will always continue this "tradition" of sorts!" she said.

Sandi Kaminsky agrees.

If you've been to an After Hours event, you have likely seen Sandi enjoying an evening of good conversation with friends. Another thing you often see is Sandi leaving with a great door prize.

"I'm always shocked when my name is called. I never expect to win anything, but it's certainly a nice surprise when I do," she said.

Over the years, Sandi has been the lucky recipient of the coveted floral arrangement. In fact, after sharing her excitement with her son, who lives in Alexandria, Virginia, he knew exactly where to turn to when he wanted to order an arrangement for his mother—Peterman's.

The power of donating a door prize.

"This is a no brainer! After Hours events are filled with Blair County business owners, managers, etc. By donating a beautiful arrangement, we are reaching the people who work, live and spend money in our area. The flowers reach people who understand the importance of supporting other businesses within our area. This donation has a ripple effect by creating future orders," Hammel said.

No matter the size of your door prize donation—big, small, or somewhere in between—each one brings excitement to the event. Every contribution adds to the fun and creates memorable moments for those lucky winners.

To donate a door prize, or for more information, contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com. She'll go over the details with you.

Be sure to join the fun at an After Hours event. With great door prizes up for grabs, you never know...when we reach for the fishbowl, the next name we pull just might be yours!



BREAKFAST CLUB SERIES

THE STATE OF THE COUNTY:

THE YEAR IN REVIEW & OUTLOOK FOR 2026

Join us on January 15, 2026, as the Blair County Chamber kicks off the new year of its Breakfast Club Series, sponsored by [Altoona-Blair County Airport](#) and [Contour Airlines](#), with a panel discussion on Blair County's economic trends, development projects, workforce conditions and public policy priorities. The panel, sponsored by Keller Engineers, will feature Stephen McKnight, President/CEO, ABCD Corporation; Bradley Burger, Executive Director, Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies—PA Career Link of Blair County; Commissioner Dave Kessling, President, Blair County Commissioners; and Alex Halpern, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, PA State Chamber of Commerce. The panel discussion will be moderated by Matt Fox of Altoona Blair County Development Corporation. Breakfast Club will be held in the lower level of the Blair County Convention Center and features a full breakfast buffet. Cost to attend is \$25 for Chamber Members and \$35 for non-members. Click [here](#) to register or call the Chamber at 814-943-8151.

RSVP
TO ALL CHAMBER EVENTS

www.blairchamber.com



Ribbon Cutting



Parlor Doughnuts

A Chamber ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the grand opening of the second location of [Parlor Doughnuts](#) in the Graystone Grande Palazzo, 2514 7th Avenue, Altoona. The first location, on Burgoon Road, Altoona, opened January 25, 2025. The opening of the second location is the vision of owners Morgan and Brenden Goldizen to help serve and support a community full of positive energy. The new location is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pictured at the ribbon, from left: Carter Cerully, Chamber Ambassador; Jeff Long, Jeff S. Long Construction; Sam Aungst, Manager; Mayor Matt Pacifico, City of Altoona; Brenden Goldizen, owner; Amanda Walker, the office of State Senator Judy Ward; Makenna Whitfield, holding Arya, Team Leader; Sierra Lombardi, Shift Manager; Piper Vallei, Manager; Jessie Covert, Blair County Chamber; and Emily Martin, Chamber Ambassador.

December 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 December are: Levity Brewing, Lung Disease Center of Central Pennsylvania and Servello Family Studios

Set sail with the Chamber on a once-in-a-lifetime travel adventure!

The Chamber, in partnership with Epic Journeys, LLC, has added an exciting destination to its 2027 travel itinerary. Get ready to cruise the "White Continent" — Antarctica, February 3-14, 2027. This unforgettable trip will get you up close to the magic of Antarctic wildlife including whales, seals, and penguin colonies. Prepare to be amazed as you experience beautiful landscapes from the expedition ship's many observatory decks, making this an adventure you'll never forget. There will be an informational meeting on



Feb. 5 at 11:00 a.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost or obligation to attend. Let us know you are coming. Register at [blairchamber.com](#).

The Casino rolling out the red carpet

After a short hiatus, The Casino at Lakemont Park has opened its doors and is ready for business. A kick-off event will take place on Tuesday, January 27, from 5 - 7 p.m., at the Chamber's first After Hours of 2026.

A highlight of the evening will be delicious food provided by the preferred vendors of The Casino. Each will showcase items from their signature menus.

"The Casino is ready to welcome guests with renewed energy; offering preferred vendors for a uniquely elevated service and continued unforgettable experience. Visitors can expect freedom of creativity, the flexibility to bring your own caterer, and excitement as we open our doors for a vibrant new season," said Christi Draves, General Manager, Lakemont Park & The Casino.

Cost to attend After Hours is \$5 per person. Make your reservations [here](#).



Reserve your home show booth today

Vendor booth reservations are open for the 2026 Blair County Home, Garden, & Healthy Living Showcase on Feb. 27, 28, & Mar. 1, at the Blair County Convention Center. Don't wait! Reserve your space today at [www.blairchamber.com/homeshow](#).

