

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

LBCY graduates Class of 2026

The Chamber's [Leadership Blair County Youth](#) (LBCY) program graduated 24 students at a ceremony on May 6th at the Blair County Convention Center. LBCY is a program open to high school sophomores that focuses on servant leadership. The LBCY curriculum includes monthly sessions on community focused topics as well as a class project decided on by the students.

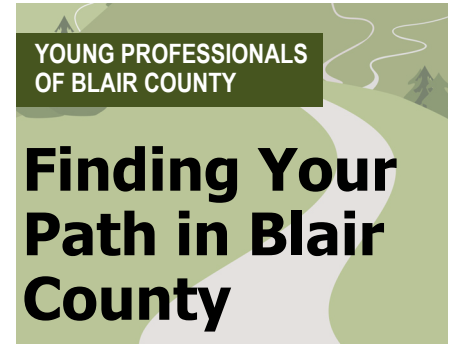
Members of the 2026 class are:

- ISABELLA BENJAMIN
Altoona Area High School
- KENLY BENNETT
Central High School
- LOGAN BURNS
Hollidaysburg High School
- GRACE CIOFFARI
Bishop Guilfoyle Academy
- SOPHIA FATZINGER
Bellwood-Antis High School
- SOPHIA FIORE
Bishop Guilfoyle Academy
- AVA FRANKS
Bellwood-Antis High School
- HAILEY FRIES
Central High School
- BLAKE FRYE
Central High School

- ELIJAH GIBSON
Altoona Area High School
- DIEGO GIL
Altoona Area High School
- KARTER BOKULICH
Tyrone Area High School
- TY HALERZ
Bishop Guilfoyle Academy
- KONNER HARKER
Williamsburg High School
- PEYTON HILEMAN
Williamsburg High School
- TRINITY HOUSTON
Bishop Guilfoyle Academy
- NICOLEE LOVRICH
Bellwood-Antis High School
- AIDAN LUTHER
Tyrone High School
- LUCAS MORRISSEY
Altoona Area High School
- SHILOH PRICE
Tyrone High School
- BELLA NOEL
Bishop Guilfoyle Academy
- REID SCHREIER
Bellwood-Antis High School
- PIPER WEIDLEY
Hollidaysburg Area High School
- RILEY WINTERS
Altoona Area High School



LEADERSHIP BLAIR COUNTY YOUTH - CLASS OF 2026



The Blair County Chamber Young Professionals invite you to Finding Your Path in Blair County, a panel event designed to help young professionals connect, grow, and advance their careers locally.

Join us on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, from 5:30–8:00 PM at the Curry Innovation Center in Downtown Altoona for an evening of career-focused discussion, networking, refreshments, and complimentary professional headshots. The event will feature local leaders from a variety of industries sharing their experiences, lessons learned, and advice for building a meaningful career right here in Blair County.

Whether you are early in your career or well-established and looking to grow your professional network, this event is a great opportunity to gain insight and make valuable connections.

The cost of admission is \$15, which includes refreshments and a professional headshot. Click [HERE](#) for event details and registration.

*Thank you to
Finding Your Path in Blair County
sponsors:*



Hit the greens with WE-LEaD: Women's golf night out

Get ready to hit the greens with confidence at the Chamber's WE-LEaD Committee TEEING IT UP Women's Golf Clinic, sponsored by [Value Drug Company](#), happening May 28 (rain date: May 29) at the Blair County Golf and Driving Range. Designed for all skill levels, this energizing evening blends instruction, networking, and fun in a supportive, no-pressure setting.

The event kicks off with registration at 4:30 PM, followed by light hors d'oeuvres from 4:30 to 5:00 PM, perfect for connecting with fellow attendees before the clinic begins. From 5:00 to 7:00 PM, experienced golf professionals will provide hands-on instruction, covering everything from basic fundamentals to refining your putting, chipping, and driving skills.

No clubs? No problem. Equipment will be available to borrow, or feel free to bring your own. Attendees are also welcome to BYOB to enjoy throughout



the evening.

Whether you're looking to learn something new or simply enjoy a great night out, don't miss this opportunity to connect, on and off the green! Space is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot today by registering at the link included—grab a friend or colleague and make it a memorable evening together!

Cost to participate is \$35 for Chamber members and \$45 for non-members. Register [HERE!](#)

From Tokyo to Kyoto Chamber adds tour of Japan to travel itinerary for 2027

Whether your travel bucket list includes a culture rich in history, vibrant modern cities, or striking natural landscapes, Japan offers experiences that check every box.

The Chamber has partnered with [Ketrow KURTZ Travel](#) on a tailor-made itinerary for Visions of Japan, an eleven-day tour from Tokyo to Kyoto, from October 17 - 28, 2027. This amazing experience will offer the perfect blend of ancient tradition and modern culture.

Your tour will include guided sightseeing, a traditional tea ceremony, a cruise and cable-car ride in the Mount Fuji area, visits to shrines, villages and gardens, as well as a ride on the Bullet Train.

Also included with the Visions of Japan tour is roundtrip transportation from Altoona to the airport, 10 break-



fasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners.

The Chamber will host an informational meeting on Tuesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. at the Devorris Center for Business Development. There is no cost or obligation to attend. A travel expert from Ketrow KURTZ Travel will be on-hand to answer your questions about the trip. Let us know you are attending by contacting the Chamber at chamber@blairchamber.com or click [HERE](#).

— BREAKFAST CLUB —

Fly Altoona
BLAIR COUNTY AIRPORT

CONTOUR

Blair County Judges

WADE A. KAGARISE, President Judge

JACKIE ATHERTON BERNARD, Judge

DAVID B. CONSIGLIO, Judge

LOUIS C. SCHMITT, JR., Judge

PAULA M. AIGNER, Judge

May 21 • 7:45 - 9 a.m.

Blair County Convention Center

Speaker sponsor: **HoopsFest**

Register [HERE](#)

Welcome! new members!

The Chamber would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members who share our vision of building a strong business community:

[Academy Sports + Outdoors](#)

[Bookworms Against Bullies](#)

[Midtown Oaks Health](#)

[and Rehab Center](#)

[State Representative](#)

[Andrea C. Verobish](#)

Congratulations!

...to [Sheetz](#) on becoming the first convenience chain to join the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Buildings Challenge, a voluntary initiative in which participating organizations commit to reducing energy consumption by 20% over 10 years.

...to [Kish Bank](#) in recognition of its philanthropy and volunteerism to our region. Kish for the Cure raised a record \$103,000 in 2025 for individuals and families facing cancer. Kish's Giv Local community gifting program directed \$64,000 to 133 organizations in 2025, powered by more than 200 local businesses. Kish employees contributed more than 10,800 volunteer hours across the Bank's five-county footprint in 2025.