

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Blair County represented at YEA! national competition

Representing the Chamber and Blair County with excellence, local student entrepreneurs from Hollidaysburg Area High School, Josie Watt and Aamir Azad, recently traveled to Frisco, Texas, to compete in the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) national competition. As semi-finalists, the duo pitched their innovative company, pHrya, to a distinguished panel of judges. While they



Pictured from left are Josie Watt; Gayle Jagel, founder and CEO of YEA!; and Aamir Azad at the YEA! national competition in Texas.

did not advance to the final round, their performance left a lasting impression on attendees. YEA! Founder and CEO Gayle Jagel praised their execution, noting that the students were highly competitive and handled themselves with immense dignity and professionalism. Following the presentations, multiple contestants and judges remarked on the sheer novelty and intricate nature of pHrya's product design. Although the Blair County team did not take home a top prize, the experience proved invaluable. Watt and Azad returned home with firsthand lessons about high-stakes networking, industry competition, and the vital importance of determination in business. The Blair County Chamber of Commerce congratulates both students and Tami Chadick, YEA program manager, on their remarkable achievements and for outstandingly representing our local business community on a national stage.

The Blair County Chamber YEA! program is accepting applications for the class of 2027. For more information email Tami Chadick at YEABlairCounty@gmail.com.

AMERICA 250 PA™ Blair County

Get into the patriotic spirit!

America 250 PA Blair County has joined communities across the United States in helping plan epic events to celebrate America's birthday! Check out these July celebrations:

- July 2** **Cheers for the Red, White & Blue Ensemble**
6:00 p.m. Garvey Manor Serena House, Hollidaysburg
- July 4** **Angie Gioiosa Race**
7:30 a.m. Downtown Altoona
- July 4** **Star-Spangled Fourth at Fort Roberdeau**
10:00 a.m.
- July 4** **Summer Thunder**
9:00 p.m. DelGrosso's Park
- July 4** **Altoona Curve Game & Fireworks**
7:00 p.m.
- July 7** **Martinsburg Ag Parade America 250 Celebration**
5:00 p.m.
- July 10-12** **Small Town-Big Freedom**
Bellwood

For event information click [HERE](#) or go to america250pablair.org

AFTER HOURS
Summer Series

BERRY SOLUTIONS GROUP
Devorris Center for Business Development
3900 Industrial Park Drive, Suite 12, Altoona

FOOD TRUCKS • PRIZES • FUN

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

JUNE 24
5-7 PM



Ribbon Cutting



State Representative Andrea Verobish

A Chamber ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in celebration of the opening of the office of [State Representative Andrea Verobish](#), located at 2301 Beale Avenue, Suite A, Altoona. Representative Verobish is serving her first term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, serving the people of the 79th Legislative District. Among the many services offered to the community is PennDOT paperwork assistance, property tax and rent rebate applications, unclaimed property, and much more. Pictured front row, from left are: Megan Rossman, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; Dave Butterbaugh, Altoona City Council; Taylor Carini; Amelia; State Representative Andrea Verobish; Samantha; Don Verobish; Kathy Gassler, the office of Congressman John Joyce; and Sherri Stayer, Chamber Ambassador. Back row, from left: District Office Staff: Katie Buchanan; Maria Strohm; Kellie Hileman; and Nita Sanders.

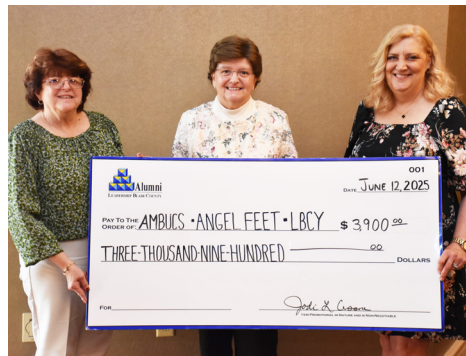
Are you a proud graduate of Leadership Blair County Adult?

LBC Alumni – be on the lookout for your Alumni Dues Letter which should be arriving early in July.

Alumni membership involves a \$25 voluntary financial contribution. Demonstrate your continued commitment to a thirty-year history of Servant Leadership by participating in a strong Alumni community. Our Alumni have the opportunity to make a significant difference.

Your engagement allows you the opportunity to make a difference with Scholarships for both Leadership Blair County Adult and Youth; WeCare Blair County...Helping with the journey Grant program; and the annual Gifts of Hope project.

Alumni dues are more than a financial contribution – they represent your ongoing commitment to our community



and the Leadership Blair County programs.

We encourage Alumni to contact Matt Fox at mattf@abcdcorp.org if you have not received a letter providing you with the opportunity to participate in the LBC Alumni Program or to provide updated/accurate contact information so you will continue to be included in the initiatives of LBC Alumni.

SAVE *the* DATE

BREAKFAST CLUB

8 • 13 • 26

NITTANY LION PREVIEW

Show your team spirit. Wear your Nittany Lion gear!

Register **HERE**

Congratulations!

...to [James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center](#) upon receiving a five-star rating in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' annual Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating report.

WATCH THE VIDEO HERE!



“It definitely has impacted me in the way that I had to get out of my comfort zone.”
Melissa George
LBC Class of 2025
Asst. Branch Manager, Reliance Bank

Apply Now!

Applications due by June 30th

Anywhere! Any time!

Register for events online
blairchamber.com