

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Leadership Blair County Adult

Thirty-one years of servant leadership



Since 1994, the Blair County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Blair County (LBC) Adult program has been charged with putting the talent of individuals to work on behalf of the entire community.

The class of 2026 graduated 16 individuals at its graduation ceremony on June 18 at the Blair County Convention Center.

With servant leadership being the primary focus of its curriculum, the Class of 2026 chose the non-profit, Sweat For Vets, as the beneficiary of their class project. Class members organized a successful PA 250 BBQ Bash raising \$38,711.79 which was presented at graduation. Since its inception, LBC class members have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars which have been awarded to a number of local non-profits and community projects.

Members of the 2026 graduating class are:

CORY ABRAM, Entrepreneur; JESSE BOBACK, ARC Federal Credit Union; JOEL A. BOBETICH, Veeder Root; JOHN THOMAS CLAY, James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center; BRITTANY L. DEMATTEIS, Blair County Tax Claim Bureau; TARA E. ENEDY, Altoona Community Theatre; JENNA L. FRANKS, Allegheny Elder Law; MELISSA A. GEORGE, Reliance Bank; MICHAEL C. KESSLING, Altoona Curve; BRODY A. MORRIS, NPC; JESSICA NADONLEY, CNB Bank; HALLEY PARSON, Pinnacle Professional Cleaning Services; SETH JEFFREY SEYMORE, Alto Markets; ZACK STEWART, Ward Transport and Logistics; MEIA WARMATH, Ward Transport & Logistics Corp.; HEATHER C. WHITE, Blair Image Elements

Deadline to submit applications for the LBC Class of 2027 is July 10.
Download an application [here](#).



Chamber office closed Friday

The Blair County Chamber office will be closed this Friday in commemoration of Independence Day. The office will reopen on Monday, July 6, at 8:30 a.m. To access information about the Chamber or to register for Chamber events, visit the Chamber website at www.blairchamber.com.

We'll be back!

The popular Chamber Breakfast Club Series is taking a short break. But be sure to mark your calendars for August 13. The program series will be back with a bang and all the fanfare you've come to expect. Be sure to show up in your Penn State Nittany Lion gear for an exciting Nittany Lion Preview! Don't wait, [register today!](#)



Congratulations!

...to P. Joseph Lehman, Jr., P.E., who together with his late father have dedicated nearly six decades of service to [P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers](#). Lehman has passed the leadership and majority ownership interest to longtime company leaders: Chuck Meyers, P.E., Scott Klingenberg, and Robert Bryant, P.E.

Ribbon Cutting



Academy Sports + Outdoors

A Chamber ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in celebration of the grand opening of Academy Sports + Outdoors located at 415 Orchard Avenue, Altoona. Academy Sports + Outdoors is one of the nation's largest sporting goods and outdoor stores offering a broad assortment of quality hunting, fishing, and camping equipment and gear, along with sports and leisure products, footwear, apparel and much more. For more information, go to www.academy.com. Pictured at the ribbon are, from left: Toni White, Chamber Ambassador; State Representative Andrea Verobish; Rebecca Schwan, District Manager; Michelle Allen, Regional Vice President; Christopher Nitch, Sales Manager; Michael Washington, Logistics Manager; Mark Booker, Store Director; Jackie Keagy, Operations Manager; State Senator Judy Ward; Megan Rossman, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; and Greg Haffling, Chamber Ambassador.

Leadership Blair County Alumni supports community organizations



Leadership Blair County (LBC) Alumni support community organizations through We-Care Blair County...Helping with the Journey Grant program. Grants were presented at the LBC Graduation for the Class of 2026. The organizations receiving grants were the Altoona Community Theatre, Evolution Expressions, Family Services, the Family Resources Center of Blair County, and the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art.

WE-LEAd COMMITTEE



Women Mean BUSINESS

Finding Balance
in work & beyond

JULY 13
8 - 10 a.m.
Park Hills Golf Club

REGISTER HERE

Sponsored by:



Culinary employment program

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections will be hosting a Culinary Employment Webinar on July 8 from 1 - 2 p.m. The online event will focus on connecting employers with skilled, work-ready individuals returning to the workforce. Employers, workforce leaders, and partners are encouraged to participate to learn more about available culinary talent pipelines, training and support resources, and opportunities to collaborate with the DOC and local workforce programs. For additional information, or to register for the webinar, contact Dorenda Hamarlund at dhamarlund@pa.gov.

