

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

YPs team up with OOT for fundraiser

By Marcus Edwards, YP Committee Member

The Blair County Chamber Young Professionals are partnering with Operation Our Town for the 4th straight year to host a Mini-Golf Fundraiser at Lakemont Park on Monday, September 14th at 4pm. The event will be patriotic-themed with a nod to America 250. All participants will be invited to the Operation Our Town Appreciation Night at Park Hills Golf Club afterwards. For those interested in participating, contact oot@operationourtown.org or click [here](#) to register.



The event brings together young leaders and community members for a fun evening with the purpose of raising funds to fight drug abuse and related crime in Blair County. Operation Our Town plays a vital role by building partnerships between residents, businesses, and law enforcement to reduce substance abuse through proven prevention, treatment, and enforcement strategies. The funds raised from the mini-golf event directly support this mission, including grants to local programs that educate youth, assist those in recovery, and keep neighborhoods safe. This partnership highlights the importance of young professionals stepping up to support causes that strengthen our community. By aligning with organizations like Operation Our Town, the next generation of leaders is helping to build a safer, healthier Blair County for everyone.

Summer Series fun continues

The Chamber's After Hours Summer Series has been a big hit with event goers. From outdoor barbecues to an island oasis, each event delivered in a big way.

On Wednesday, August 5, from 5-7 p.m., UDNI, a cybersecurity and focused IT partner, will open their doors at 2032 East Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Suite 7, Altoona, in the Bellmeade Martins Plaza. You are invited to join them at the Summer Series - Part Three After Hours. The evening will be packed with lots of networking and fun including a cyber escape room, delicious food from Zenom Bites, a Ritchey's Dairy Ice



Cream Bar and of course great door-prizes. Your reservation won't break the bank; admission is only \$5 per person. What are you waiting for? Click [here](#) and make your reservations today!

YEA! graduate takes 2nd at FBLA national conference



Addison Smith

Addison Smith, a senior at Hollidaysburg High School, earned 2nd place in the Business Plan event at the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference, held recently in San Antonio, Texas.

Smith's journey to the national stage began in April when she placed 4th at the FBLA State Leadership Conference. That standing qualified her to compete at the national conference.

In addition to FBLA, Smith graduated from the Chamber's Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) in April. Throughout the 25-week program, YEA! students receive mentoring from industry experts that teach them how to create and run a business. They are then given the opportunity to present their business plan to a panel of investors for financial backing. Smith earned 2nd place for her business, The Jesus Crate, a faith-based subscription box with resources and items that encourage spiritual growth. Upon graduation, each YEA! student becomes the CEO of their very own IRS registered business.

YEA! is currently accepting applications for the class of 2027. The program is open to all students in grades 6 – 12 with aspirations of creating their own business or social movement. To apply, download an application [here](#).

One more reason to make your Breakfast Club reservations

Coffee, eggs and a heavy dose of Blue & White spirit will be featured on the menu at the next Chamber Breakfast Club on August 13 at the Blair County Convention Center.

Every Nittany Lion fan will delight in the Happy Valley energy while you talk strategy with fellow fans. Not a football fan? (*gasp!*) This Breakfast Club is still worth coming to simply for the entertainment, great breakfast, and networking.

However, if you really need another reason to attend, there will be a two ticket giveaway to Penn State's opener against Marshall.

Fans will get a preview of the upcoming Nittany Lion football season with local celebrities Neil Rudel and Cory Giger who will be joined by none other than the voice of Penn State football, Steve Jones. In their entertaining style,



Nittany Lion PREVIEW

each panelist will share their gridiron insights. The panel is brought to you by speaker sponsor [Kish Bank](#).

Get out your blue and white. Everyone is encouraged to proudly wear their favorite Penn State gear to show off your team spirit.

The Chamber Breakfast Club Series, sponsored by [Altoona-Blair County Airport](#) and [Contour Airlines](#), begins at 7:45 a.m. Cost to attend is \$25 for Chamber Members and \$35 for non-members and includes a full breakfast buffet. Click [HERE](#) to register.



Looking to grow your team?

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce is encouraging local employers to participate in the PA CareerLink® Blair County Job Fair on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at the Jaffa Shrine in Altoona.

This free hiring event connects employers with 300+ job seekers from across the region. Whether you're hiring for entry-level, skilled, healthcare, manufacturing, retail, administrative, or professional positions, it's an excellent opportunity to promote your organization, collect resumes, and conduct on-the-spot interviews.



Lunch is provided for registered employers. If your organization is looking to hire, this is one of the region's premier recruiting events. For more information, call (814) 940-6201.

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Newsletter advertising is affordable.

Contact Jessie at jcovert@blairchamber.com



reminder

DUE the servant leader thing — pay your LBC Alumni Dues today!

Your LBC Alumni Dues influence...

- Scholarships for the LBC Adult and Youth programs
- WeCare Blair County... Helping with the Journey Grants
- LBC Gifts of Hope annual project

Dues can be paid by check or cash. Cash needs to be paid in-person at the Blair County Chamber office at 3900 Industrial Park Drive, Altoona

Congratulations

...to PA Business Central's 50 To Follow Women-Owned Businesses which recognizes bold, forward-thinking women who have transformed their entrepreneurial aspirations into successful enterprises. On that list includes Chamber members: Debra Dellaposta and Beth Dellaposta of [Doing Better Business](#); Elizabeth Burke of [Burke & Co., LLC dba S.P. McCarl & Company](#); and Julieanne E. Steinbacher, Esq., of [Steinbacher, Goodall & Yurchak](#).

Save the Date

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT FOR
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26
EXCELLENCE**

SEPTEMBER 22

BLAIR COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER