

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Public Service Academy registration now open

The Public Service Academy, a project of the Blair County Chamber's Public Policy Committee, is now accepting registrations for the September sessions. The Academy is designed to encourage and educate people on ways to become part of the political process, either as an elected official or as a volunteer on boards, commissions, or agencies.

The Academy will feature a two-part educational program that will explain the available opportunities and process to run for elected offices. The first three-hour session will be held September 23 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. The second session will be held on September 30, also from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Both sessions will be held in the Devorris Center for Business Development Boardroom located at 3900 Industrial Park Drive, Altoona.

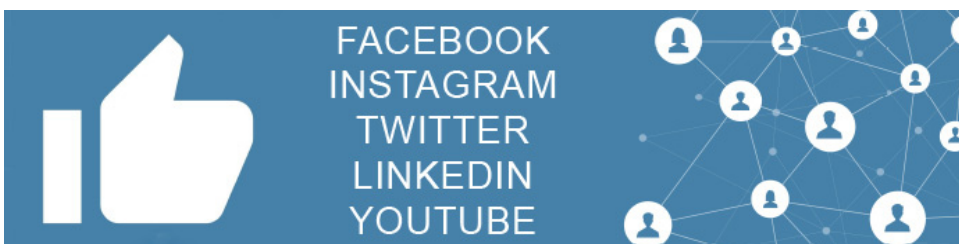
Former Blair County Commissioner Donna Gority and former Commissioner and State Senator John Eichelberger, co-chairs of the Academy, will serve as instructors. They will be joined by guest speakers at each session.

"Many people have an interest in serving but have no idea where to begin and what the process entails. The Academy has been created to provide the answers in a nonpartisan manner," Gority said.

The cost to participate is \$25 per person, which includes both sessions. Pizza and beverages will be served at each session beginning at 5:30 p.m. Participants must complete both sessions to earn the certificate of completion. Deadline to register is September 18. To register click [HERE](#).



Former County Commissioner Donna Gority and former Commissioner and State Senator John Eichelberger are serving as co-chairs of the Public Service Academy.



Check out our website at www.blairchamber.com

Don't miss out!

Limited marketing opportunities available.

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[JCOVERT@BLAIRCCHAMBER.COM](mailto:jcovert@blairchamber.com)

**Business Excellence Dinner
September 22
RSVP HERE**

Exclusive offer for Chamber members

The Blair County Chamber is partnering with Saint Francis University Shields School of Business on an upcoming Excel Fundamentals Series. Be sure to check out page three of this newsletter for information on the series. Chamber members are eligible for a 25% discount off registration. Use promo code **PARTNER25**.

Ribbon Cutting



Logan Valley Trail expansion

The Chamber held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the recent expansion of the Logan Valley Trail. The event marks the completion of almost two additional miles of the trail, between Becker Road and Lower Riggles Gap Road. The multi-phased construction aims to connect Bellwood and Altoona as future grants and funding are secured. Phase II, which connects Phase I to Lower Riggles Gap Road, was funded through a DEP Project which also cleaned up a coal ash pile on the property. Pictured, from left: Nicole Zernick, Chamber Ambassador; Kellie Hileman, the office of State Representative Andrea Verobish; Dave Kessling, Blair County Commissioner; Amy Webster, Blair County Commissioner; John Frederick, Antis Township; Morgan Koziar, Director of Marketing and Operations, Discover Blair County; Doug Brown, Manager, Antis Township; Glenn Evans, Executive Director, Blair County Trail, Park and Recreation Authority; Rachel DiAndrea, chair, Blair County Trail, Park and Recreation Authority; George Bell, Antis Township Board of Supervisors; Michele Ivory, the office of State Senator Judy Ward; State Representative Scott Barger; Megan Rossman, Blair County Chamber of Commerce; and Carter Cerully, Chamber Ambassador.

Municipal Assistance Program

The Municipal Assistance Program provides funding to assist local governments to plan for and efficiently implement a variety of policies, programs, or projects, and soundly manage development with an emphasis on intergovernmental approaches. Funding is available for two groups of activities: shared services, and community planning.

Shared service activities: consolidating or regionalizing services among multiple municipalities or counties, boundary change studies, and shared personnel. New or expanded intergovernmental initiatives that promote local government efficiencies and effectiveness.

Community planning: comprehensive plans and parts thereof, land use ordinances, Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) planning studies and entrepreneurial/innovative plans that support community and economic development. Emphasis on multi-municipal plans.

Municipalities and counties may apply. **Applications** are due by September 1.

For additional information on this or other funding opportunities for your projects, please contact Michele Ivory from the office of State Senator Judy Ward at 814-695-8386 or mivory@pasen.gov.

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:

Adoration Hospice

AHN Allegheny Health Network -

Health Care at Home

Long John Silver's

Young Professionals
of Blair County
in partnership with
Operation Our Town

RED, WHITE & BLUE



Fundraiser

Sept. 14

4:00 p.m. @ Lakemont Park

Join the fun!

REGISTER HERE

A fun evening with a purpose!

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Blair County Chamber of Commerce
ABCD Corporation

JOB FAIR

Hosted by PA CareerLink® Blair County

AUGUST 26

Jaffa Shrine Altoona

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

9:30 - 10—reserved for Veterans



Shields School of Business

Saint Francis University

In partnership with
Blair County Chamber of Commerce

Excel Fundamentals Series

Build Confidence and Improve Productivity with Excel.

What You'll Learn:

- ✓ Navigate Excel More Efficiently
- ✓ Organize and Present Data Effectively
- ✓ Use Formulas, Functions, and Lookups

Complete all three workshops and earn an **Excel Foundation Badge** from Saint Francis University.



REGISTER BELOW



francis.edu/francis-in-the-marketplace

\$199 per session

Chamber Members receive 25% discount.
Use promo code PARTNER25

Dates & Time:

September 9, October 21,
and November 11
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Workshop Location:

Curry Innovation Center
1425 11th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601