



Operation Our Town Reporter

a monthly newsletter *by our volunteers to our volunteers about*
our fight against drugs and crime in Central PA



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PUSH OUT THE PUSHER 814-693-3020



OperationOurTown.org

Board Members:

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Phil Devorris | Ron McConnell

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Kathy Salyards, AmeriCorps VISTA

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Reverend Evelyn Madison
Jo Ann Nardelli
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Founding Members:

Altoona Regional Health System
Blair Candy Company
Blair Companies
D.C. Goodman & Sons, Inc.
Delta Health Technologies
Fiore Buick/Toyota
Grappone Law Offices
Harry Sickler & Associates
The Hite Company
Holiday Inn Express
Lawruk Realty
Lee Industries, Inc.
Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.
M&T Bank
McLanahan Corporation
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.
New Pig
NPC, Inc.
Reliance Bank
Sheetz, Inc.
United Way of Blair County
Ward Trucking
Wolf Furniture

Committed Businesses:

American Eagle Paper Mills
Grainger Industrial Supply
Norfolk-Southern Foundation
Small Tube Products

Steering Committee Notes from September 20

Grant Committee: The Fall 2010 grant cycle is in full swing. The cycle runs from September 1 through October 15.

Volunteer Roundtable: The RT reported that they are continuing to recruit volunteers for outreach events being held throughout the year.

Housing Roundtable: The group is working on the educational component for a future Landlord Education Workshop.

Gang Roundtable: The RT will continue various training efforts to increase awareness about gangs and gang related activities through a variety of media formats (pocket guides, PowerPoints, etc.). They are also working on the second annual Crime Clean-Up Day in the spring of 2011.

Faith-Based Roundtable: Rev. Evelyn Madison is the new chair of this roundtable. They are helping CONTACT Altoona distribute their material to churches in Blair County.

Marketing Roundtable: Along with the ongoing implementation of the Cable Access TV show and the ideas for new marketing concepts and designs, the RT is looking into further development of the Operation Our Town website.

Judicial/CJAB: The RT is working to create a data "dashboard" for public education and interagency effectiveness and understanding. Also they are interested in the creation of housing opportunities to support inmate re-entry and the future development of the Central Booking Center.

K-12 Education Roundtable: The chair reported that all schools involved in the RT will be participating in the OOT commemoration of Red Ribbon Week. They are also working on drop-out prevention.

Human Services Roundtable: The new organization, Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc., officially opened their doors on July 1, 2010.

Pharmacy Roundtable: The RT is working with the Family Resource Center to provide drug education to Grades 1-3 utilizing the Katy's Kids Med Safety campaign.

Law Enforcement Roundtable: The RT is continuing efforts to educate the community of the potential gang problem. The "Cops in Shops" operation is still being utilized and education is on-going about the emerging trend of prescription drug abuse.

Retail Roundtable: The RT wants to focus on any situations which occurred over the summer in the retail industry to come up with ideas to help individual merchants in their business. They will also be attending a regular monthly meeting of Logan Valley Mall Retailers.



Mission

Facilitating partnerships between community and business to fight drug use and crime through proven law enforcement, treatment, and prevention techniques.

Our Partners & Friends

[Blair Countians for Drug Free Communities](#)

[Crime Solvers of Blair County](#)

[Pennsylvania Gang Investigators Association](#)

[United Way of Blair County](#)

Upcoming Operation Our Town & Partner Meetings and Events

Wed. HOPE Support Group Meeting (weekly meeting)	7:00pm	Crossroads in Altoona
10/16 Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival	10:00 am	Hollidaysburg
10/19 Red Ribbon Proclamation Signing	10:00 am	Blair County Courthouse
10/20 Crime Solvers	12:00 pm	Allegheny Twp. Municipal Bldg.
10/20 Marketing Roundtable	4:00 pm	OOT Office
10/21 CJAB Meeting	11:45 am	Blair County Court House
10/21 Faith-based Roundtable	12:00 pm	OOT Office
~~Red Ribbon Week~~		
~~October 23-31, 2010~~		
10/28 Pharmacy Roundtable	7:15 am	OOT Office
11/01 Booker T. Washington Meeting	4:00 pm	Community Action Agency
11/16 K-12 Education Roundtable	11:00 am	Bellwood-Antis District Off.
11/16 Steering Committee Meeting	6:00 pm	OOT Office
11/17 Crime Solvers Meeting	12:00 pm	TBA
11/17 Marketing Roundtable	4:00 pm	OOT Office
11/18 CJAB Meeting	11:45am	Blair County Courthouse
11/19 Bl. Co. Health & Welfare Council	8:00 am	ARC of Blair County

***OOT Meetings:** For more information about Operation Our Town meetings, contact Shawna Hoover at oot@lsfiore.com or call 296-8730.

News from the Human Services RT by Judy Rosser, chair

Welcome Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc.

On July 1, 2010, the Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program became Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc. The new nonprofit corporation was formed joining the drug and alcohol administrative services from the county office, drug and alcohol prevention from Altoona Regional Health System and expanding to include case management services, drug and alcohol assessments, DUI services, and Underage Drinking Classes. The new office employs 16 staff members and is located at 2875 Route 764, Suite 4, Duncansville, PA 16635, across from Blue Knob Auto.

Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc. is managed by Executive Director, Judith A. Rosser. Mrs. Rosser has many years of experience in the Drug and Alcohol field. The company has a Board of Directors who provides leadership and guidance of the entire corporation. Board members include: Frank Rosenhoover, Randy Feathers and Chrissey Wagner. In addition to the Board of Directors, the corporation has an advisory board to assist the board of directors.

Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc. offers a variety of services: Case Management Services, Court Reporting Network (CRN) Evaluations, Drug and Alcohol Assessments, Drug and Alcohol Education, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, and Underage Drinking Classes.

Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc. continues to provide oversight of statewide drug and alcohol treatment dollars with fiscal efficiency, sensitivity to community needs, and assurance of quality services.



May I never get too busy in my own affairs that I fail to respond to the needs of others with kindness and compassion.
~Thomas Jefferson~

To register as an Operation Our Town Volunteer
Go to our website at: www.operationourtown.org
Click on the volunteer tab on the left side and follow directions to fill out a volunteer application.

To serve on an Operation Our Town Roundtable, to become a Committed Business or to make a tax-deductible donation, contact Shawna Hoover by email: oot@lsfiore.com or call 814-296-8730.

<u>2010 Third Quarter Crime Statistics</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Push Out The Pusher Third Quarter Calls</u>		
Drug Sale/Mfg. - Opium - Cocaine	8	6	7			
Drug Sale/Mfg. - Marijuana	3	2	0			
Drug Sale/Mfg. - Synthetic	0	0	1	Voice Mail	87	86
Drug Sale/Mfg. - Other	1	1	0			
Drug Possession - Opium - Cocaine	0	1	1	Live Calls	37	28
Drug Possession - Marijuana	12	12	7	Total Calls	124	114
Drug Possession - Synthetic	0	0	0			
Drug Possession - Other	3	5	7			
DUI	35	44	46			
				TOTAL THIRD QUARTER CALLS		
				385		

Upcoming Events



5th Annual Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival

Saturday, October 16
10am—4pm

Allegheny St.
between
Montgomery &
Union Streets

Operation Our Town
**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**
Call 296-8730

Central Blair Rec Commission seeking nominations for their

Respected Citizen Award

Nomination criteria:

- An individual who motivates and inspires others through their vision, leadership, dedication, and community service
- An individual who has worked with youth throughout their lives—does not need to be involved in sports or recreation, but should have a connection to the Central Blair Recreation Commission

Deadline for nominations is
Wednesday, November 10, 2010.

Send or deliver nominations to:

Central Blair Rec Commission
c/o Booker T. Washington
Revitalization Committee
2101 Fifth Ave.
Altoona, PA 16602



**United Way of
Blair County**
will be sponsoring
their annual

Winter Wonderland

December 3 & 4, 2010
Station Medical Center

Watch for further
details in next
month's
newsletter!

Operation Our Town
**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**
Call 296-8730

2010

Red Ribbon Week Special Offers and Activities

Red Ribbon Week, October 23rd - 31st, 2010 is a nationally recognized annual event encouraging children and adults to wear a red ribbon to demonstrate their personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle.

Tuesday, Oct. 19: Blair County Commissioners sign the Proclamation recognizing Red Ribbon Week in Blair County.

October 23 – 31: Red Ribbon Week at **Best Way Pizza** in Hollidaysburg, Duncansville and McKee. Receive a free small fountain drink with the purchase of a slice of pizza when you wear your red ribbon.

October 23 – 31: Red Ribbon Week at the **Meadows in Greenwood**. Wear a red ribbon and receive a free child's size cone with the purchase of an adult size cone.

Monday, Oct. 25: Red Ribbon Day at **Burger King in Roaring Spring**. Wear a red ribbon and enjoy a free medium soft drink.

October 23 – 31: Red Ribbon Week at all **Blair County Sheetz locations**. Wear a red ribbon and receive a free small fountain drink. Limit one per customer per day.

Thursday, October 27: Red Ribbon Day at **Polizzi's OIP** in Tyrone. Wear a red ribbon and receive a free small fountain drink with the purchase of a slice of pizza.

October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week at **Rossi's Corner Store** in Bellwood. Wear a red ribbon and receive a free fountain drink of your choice – any size.

October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week at **Martin General Stores** in Bellwood, Claysburg Williamsburg, and Warriors Mark. Wear a red ribbon and receive a free fountain drink or coffee of your choice – any size.

October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week at **Main Street Pizzeria** in Bellwood. Students wear a red ribbon and get a free slice of cheese pizza. Limit one per customer per day.

Saturday, Oct. 30 - 6 pm: Look for the Elks' Drug Awareness Trailer and Red Ribbon volunteers in the Hollidaysburg Halloween Parade.

The Red Ribbon Week Committee would like to thank the following
businesses for their monetary donation:

**Lily Pond Day Care
Back in Action Physical Therapy & Fitness Center**

Drug Users in the Workplace

A study focusing on findings from the 2002 through 2004 *National Household Survey on Drug Use and Health* (NSDUH) reported that --

- 9.4 million (8.2%) of full-time workers were illicit drug users
- 57.5% of illicit drug users, aged 18 to 64, were employed full-time
- Nearly one out of five (19%) workers aged 18 to 25 used illicit drugs during the past month. This was a higher percentage than among the 26 to 34 (10.3%), 35 to 49 (7%), and 50 to 64 (2.6%) age groups.

Drug testing

- A total of 32 million (29.6%) of full-time workers in the United States reported random drug testing in their current employment setting during the study period.
- For each age group, past month illicit drug users were less likely than nonusers to report working for employers who conducted prehire drug or alcohol tests; ages 18 to 25 (29.4 vs. 41.3%); 26 to 34 (32.0 vs. 45.8%), 35 to 49 (34.2 vs. 45.5%), and 50 to 64 (31.3 vs. 41%).

Occupations

- Illicit drug use among full-time employees were most prevalent in food preparation and serving-related occupations (17.4%), followed by construction and extraction occupations (15.1%).
- Among full-time workers, those in protective services occupations were least likely to be illicit drug users (3.4%).

Source: U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, **Worker Substance Use and Workplace Policies and Programs**. DHHS Publication No. (SMA) 07-4273, Analytic Series A-29, Rockville, MD, 2007.