



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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June 2011

PUSH OUT THE PUSHER 814-693-3020



OperationOurTown.org

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Blair Companies
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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
Folcarelli Supply
Grainger Industrial Supply
Norfolk-Southern Foundation
Small Tube Products

Steering Committee Notes from May 16th

Grant Committee: 16 grant applications were received during the Spring 2011 Grant Cycle. The Grant Committee will meet on June 6th to go over funding recommendations.

Gang Roundtable: Bill Kotz reported that he & Todd met with the Convention Center to discuss logistics for the Gang, Drug & Crime Symposium. Invitations were sent all over the state and all guest speakers are confirmed. Invitations will be sent to Bill Shuster, Rick Geist, and Gov. Tom Corbett. Bill also reported that over 100 volunteers attended Crime Clean-Up Day in Altoona & Tyrone.

Pharmacy Roundtable: Bill Earnest reported that they are going to start the Cops In Shops program again. He also reported that Ramona Baker, a pharmacist and roundtable member, participated in the Katy's Kids Medication Safety program through the Family Resource Center and did a presentation to kids in grades K-3 at all Blair County Catholic schools. He reported that future projects for the pharmacy roundtable include doing another education piece about prescription drug abuse and having a medication drop-off event.

Human Services Roundtable: Judy Rosser reported that Blizzard is becoming a major problem in the county. She is looking into having Dr. Antonowicz do a training for physicians on how to treat patients on Blizzard and will possibly film it for distribution. She reported that there has been an influx of people in drug assessments using Blizzard and stressed the need to get trainings in place soon. There will be a training for the VA in the next couple of months. She also reported that they are in the process of creating a manual for Best Practices for Methadone Clinics (there are currently two clinics in Blair County).

Law Enforcement Roundtable: Randy Feathers reported that Operation Our Town sponsored a training for the Drug Task Force on May 13th. They also held a meth lab training in February. He also reported that the Centre County District Attorney's Office filed an injunction against establishments selling Blizzard in the county, but the PA legislation banning it has not been passed yet. He said he will look into getting the FBI/DEA involved in banning it. He also said he planned to create a video about Blizzard to be shown in schools in the fall. He will contact Brian Toth and JR DiAndrea for assistance.

CJAB: Judge Jolene Kopriva reported that CJAB in conjunction with the Retail Roundtable held a community forum on K2 and Blizzard on March 30th with over 200 people in attendance. The forum was taped and aired on the public access channel through May & the beginning of June. She also reported that the Center for Excellence is going to do a sequential intercept mapping to see where mental health can intercept to get some people out of the criminal justice system.

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
6/16	CJAB Strategic Planning Meeting	11:00am	Hoss's Conference Center, Duncansville
6/16	Faith-Based Roundtable	2:00pm	Wehnwood United Methodist Church
6/22	Pharmacy Roundtable	7:15am	OOT Office
6/27	Altoona Curve Charity Monday	7:00pm	Blair County Ballpark
6/29	Gang Roundtable	5:00pm	OOT Office
7/1	Booker T. Washington Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	11:00am	BTW Playground
7/18	Steering Committee Meeting	6:00pm	OOT Office

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

New OOT Cable Access Show To Air

Operation Our Town's newest cable access show will air starting June 13th through the end of July. The topic of this show is "Blight" and features guests from the Altoona Community Garden, 2nd Avenue United Methodist Church, and the Booker T. Washington Community Revitalization Project. Not only does the show highlight several of the great organizations working to improve our community, but gives many great ideas for how you can be involved as well. We hope you'll tune in!



“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

[CLICK HERE to register as an Operation Our Town Volunteer](#)



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 or call 814-296-8730.

Booker T. Washington 3x3 Tournament A Huge Success!

The Booker T. Washington Revitalization Project held their 3rd annual 3 on 3 tournament on Saturday, June 11th. This year had record participation with 32 teams playing! The fabulous weather in conjunction with a great participant and spectator turnout made for a very enjoyable Saturday. Those who attended got to see the playground, passive park, and community garden in their final stages of construction. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the park will take place on Friday, July 1st at 11:00am.



Upcoming Events

Joshua House To Host "HoopsFest" in Tyrone

June 24th

Cove Relay For Life

Roaring Spring Athletic Field

2:00pm-7:00pm

Operation Our Town
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Call 296-8730

Central PA's largest 3 on 3 basketball tournament is back for the summer! HoopsFest will take place on July 16th this summer and all teams must be registered by Monday, July 11th. There are 14 divisions in total with divisions for both youth and adult teams. There is a \$75 registration fee and all proceeds benefit the Joshua House. For more information or to register, please visit www.HoopsFest.net or call 814-684-2032.

Tyrone Community Garden Gathering Momentum

July 1st

Booker T. Washington Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

11:00am-12:00pm

Booker T. Washington Playground

After the idea was suggested by numerous participants in the "Tyrone: Our Unstoppable Town" campaign, a Tyrone area community garden is in the works for spring/summer 2012. An incredibly talented and diverse group of volunteers has come together to form a Tyrone community garden committee to help get the garden started. Right now, the group is working on identifying a lot for the garden, with several properties in Tyrone being looked at. Once they have secured a property, clean-up work and planning will be done through the fall and they hope to have the garden up and running by next spring. The next Tyrone community garden meeting will be on June 23rd at 6:00pm at the Tyrone library. Anyone interested in helping the garden get started is more than welcome to attend! If you have questions or would like more information, please e-mail Theresa Yanchetz at tyanchetz@tyronehospital.org.

Operation Our Town At The Altoona Curve

Target Child's Fingerprinting Event

Date & Time TBA

Target Parking Lot

Operation Our Town
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Call 296-8730

Altoona Curve Charity Mondays are in full swing! The next one is scheduled for June 27th at 7:00pm. Use the coupon below or follow the instructions for online sales to help your ticket purchase to support Operation Our Town! And if you come to the game, be sure to stop by our table and say hi! Thank you for your continued support!

July 30th

Spring Dam Days

11:00am-3:00pm

Roaring Spring

Operation Our Town
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Call 296-8730



Altoona Curve Charity Monday's Fundraiser



Altoona Curve will donate \$2 of every ticket sold for each game that this coupon is used to purchase the tickets online, or at the box office.

To Benefit: Operation Our Town

Fundraiser Dates:

April 18, 2011 vs Harrisburg Senators at 6:30 PM

May 2, 2011 vs Akron Aeros at 6:30 PM

May 23, 2011 vs Bowie Baysox at 6:30 PM

June 27, 2011 vs Reading Phillies at 7:00 PM

August 22, 2011 vs Richmond Flying Squirrels at 7:00 PM

September 5, 2011 vs Richmond Flying Squirrels at 12:00 PM

Ticket can be purchased:

Online at www.altoonacurve.com

or present this coupon at the Blair County Ballpark Box Office

Directions for online sales: Go to www.altoonacurve.com, then click the TICKETS button on the top left tool bar. Once in tickets the lower right corner would be a box for Charity Tickets. Then click on the Charity Link and the date you would like to purchase the tickets. Make sure to select the tickets with the charity name in the tickets you select to purchase.

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have \$2 of each ticket to be donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in or around the ballpark or within the perimeter of the parking areas.

Valid for dates listed above.