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# Operation Our Town Reporter

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

Volume 14, Issue 2 - February 2022



[OperationOurTown.org](http://OperationOurTown.org)

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## Our Town Times

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

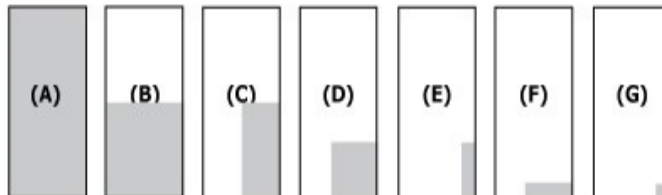


**Distributed at the Annual Blair County Chamber Operation Our Town Breakfast and throughout the year to local businesses and community organizations!**  
**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY PRIDE!**

The 2022 report will provide an update to the readers from this past calendar year. We will hear from law enforcement, treatment providers, healthcare professionals, business leaders and others in our community about the impact Operation Our Town has made over the past 15 years and the importance of prevention.

Get the inside scoop from Operation Our Town Roundtables on their projects and efforts to help keep our community safe!

Please help us...



Ad sizes	Width	Height	Cost
(A) Full Page	10"	21.33"	\$900
(B) Half Page	10"	10.66"	\$650
(C) 1/4 Page Vertical	5"	10.66"	\$450
(D) 1/3 Page Square	6.633"	6.633"	\$400
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(F) 1/6 Page Horizontal	6.633"	1.833"	\$200
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Will you be submitting final artwork?  Yes  No  
 Use the same artwork from last year? (no charge) Yes  No

## Mission

To facilitate partnerships between community and business to fight drug abuse and crime through proven law enforcement, treatment, and prevention techniques.



814-693-3020

**2-1-1**

Pennsylvania  
Get Connected. Get Help.™

PA 2-1-1 is a comprehensive database that includes information about health & human services.

PA 2-1-1 can be accessed by phone 24/7 or the web at:

[www.pa211.org](http://www.pa211.org)



814-381-0921

## Month of February - Meetings

2/1	Northern Blair Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	Bull Pen Restaurant
2/3	Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting	10:00am	Blair County Chamber & Zoom
2/7	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Rec & Park Commission
2/16	Marketing Roundtable meeting	4:00pm	OOT office
2/17	Criminal Justice Advisory Board Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	Blair County Courthouse
2/17	Faith-based Roundtable meeting	2:00pm	Family Services & Zoom
2/18	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom
2/24	Housing Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	Al's Tavern

## 12th Annual Community Classic Dinner and Auction

**Saturday, February 26, 2022**  
**The Bavarian Hall 5:30 P.M.**

**\*Doors will open at 4:30\***

Presenting the 2022 Respected Citizen Award to:



# Bill Schirf

**Featuring:**

# Craig Wolfley



Tickets can be purchased at the Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission Office  
2101 Fifth Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 and  
Grandview Meats, 1544 Pleasant Valley Blvd. Altoona, PA 16602  
For info call: (814) 949-2231 or visit [www.cbrcparks.org](http://www.cbrcparks.org)



**Tickets**  
**\$45.00**



**Event Sponsor:**



# Grant Recipient Highlight: Refuge Youth Network Backyard Events

By: Nick Gordon, PMSC AmeriCorps Member  
with Operation Our Town



Refuge Youth Network is known for their weekly youth group gatherings at each of the three campuses in Altoona, Bellwood, and Tyrone. However, when the weather is nice enough to do so, they also hold pop up backyard events throughout the community in Blair County. Over the course of their grant cycle, Refuge Youth Network was able to serve over 200 local teens.

While the focus of these events is on youth ages twelve to eighteen, the events are open to all ages. Refuge Youth Network partners with other agencies that host community outreach events geared towards the whole family, and they also hold their own outreach events focusing primarily on engaging their target demographic. In either case, there is never a cost to participate in their backyard events.

Even though a big draw to these events are the games and food they provide, Refuge Youth Network also provides information on community resources. Sometimes, there is a disconnect between the people in need and the services available to meet those needs, so having this piece in place can really help to bridge the gap between people and the services available to them.

This leads nicely into the mission of these backyard events. Refuge Youth Network aims to provide experiences to disadvantaged youth in our communities who would otherwise not be

given those opportunities due to the lack of resources or income. Operation Our Town was happy to support Refuge Youth Network in this mission by providing funding that was used to purchase the inflatable basketball hoop game pictured, as well as multiple sets of corn hole games to be used at these events.

As you can imagine, these events don't run themselves. Refuge Youth Network utilizes volunteers or "leaders" for their backyard events as well as their campus nights throughout the entire year. Clearances are required to serve with Refuge Youth Network, so that's something to keep in mind if interested in serving. For more information about any of the services Refuge Youth Network offers, or to learn more, please reach out at the contact info below.



600 Ritts Rd, Altoona, PA 16601  
Website: [refugeyouthnetwork.org](http://refugeyouthnetwork.org)  
Contact: Micah Marshall Phone: 814-889-9113  
Email: [office@refugeyouthnetwork.org](mailto:office@refugeyouthnetwork.org)  
Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

