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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 11 - November 2022



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

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**Founding Members & Committed**

**Businesses:**

Blair Candy Company  
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Sheetz, Inc.  
Small Tube Products  
Stuckey Automotive  
The Hite Company  
Thompson Pharmacy  
UPMC Altoona  
Value Drug Company  
Ward Trucking



## Landlord Educational Workshop Friday, November 4, 2022

### Altoona Grand Hotel

1 Sheraton Drive  
Altoona, PA 16601

Registration - 8:30-8:45am

Program - 8:45am-3:00pm

**Free to attend - Lunch included**

**Main Topics Covered for All Attendees:**

- Magisterial District Judge
- Eviction Process
- Fair Housing
- Affordable Housing Challenges Discussion

**Breakout Sessions Offered:**

**Session 1 (choose one)**

- A. Warning Signs of Illegal Drug Activity & How to Use UJS Portal
- B. Blair County Community Action Agency & Center for Community Action programs

**Session 2 (choose one)**

- A. Landlording 101 (tenant screening, home modifications, city codes)
- B. Section 8 (AHA & COBRAH)

Pre-registration is required by October 28<sup>th</sup>:

Email: [oot@operationourtown.org](mailto:oot@operationourtown.org) or

Call: (814) 296-8730

**\*Please indicate your preferred Breakout Sessions\***

# Mission

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



# Month of November - Meetings

11/1	Northern Blair Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	Bull Pen Restaurant
11/3	Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting	10:00am	Blair County Chamber & Zoom
11/7	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Rec & Park Commission
11/16	Marketing Roundtable meeting	4:00pm	Zach's
11/17	Criminal Justice Advisory Board Roundtable	12:00pm	Blair County Courthouse
11/17	Faith-based Roundtable meeting	2:00pm	Blair Drug & Alcohol Partnerships & Zoom
11/18	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom

REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY  
**PUSH OUT THE PUSHER**  
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)

**BLAIR DRUG & ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS**  
Empowering Healthy Lifestyles

814-381-0921

Why do people give in to peer pressure from those who use drugs? What are some of the best ways to avoid giving in to peer pressure?

**YOU TELL US!**

**The Best ME Is Drug FREE!**



## Taking Back Our Neighborhoods

The Altoona Mirror & Operation Our Town invite area students in 6th through 12th grade in Blair & surrounding counties who are 11 or older to enter

"Why do people give in to peer pressure from those who use drugs? What are some of the best ways to avoid giving in to peer pressure?" contest by submitting an essay on the topic.

The local winner, selected by the Marketing Roundtable of Operation Our Town, will be awarded **\$250.00** in gift cards to The Meadows Original Frozen Custard located in Hollidaysburg, which may be used towards the purchase of frozen custard or miniature golf.



Submit entries to:  
[oot@operationourtown.org](mailto:oot@operationourtown.org)

OR  
Operation Our Town  
5508 6th Avenue, Rear  
Altoona, PA 16602  
Attn: Essay Contest

Entry Deadline: Friday, November 4, 2022

**Altoona Mirror**

Making It Happen For You

### ENTRY FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOOL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

#### OPERATION OUR TOWN Essay Promotion Rules

**GENERAL:** No purchase is necessary. The act of entering constitutes acceptance of the rules and decisions of Operation Our Town.  
**ELIGIBILITY:** The contest is open to 6th through 12th grade students in Blair & surrounding counties who are 11 or older.  
**CONTEST:** The contest begins on October 1, 2022 and ends at midnight on November 4, 2022.  
**ESSAY TOPIC:** The submitted essay topic is "Why do people give in to peer pressure from those who use drugs? What are some of the best ways to avoid giving in to peer pressure?" Essays will be judged on:  
• Creativity & originality  
• Persuasiveness  
• Grammar & spelling  
• Relevancy of response to topic  
• Entries must be 500 words or less.  
Applicants may opt to cite external references. All external references must be properly cited and will not be counted toward the word count.  
All entries must be original work of the applicant and have not been previously entered in another competition nor been previously published.  
**PRIZE:** \$250.00 in gift cards to The Meadows Original Frozen Custard 4771 Monocline Drive, Danville, PA 15535.  
**HOW TO ENTER:** Entries are to be mailed directly to the Operation Our Town office - 5508 6th Avenue, Rear - Altoona, PA 16602 - Attention: Essay Contest, or emailed to [oot@operationourtown.org](mailto:oot@operationourtown.org) no later than Nov. 4th. All entries must include the applicant's name, age, grade and school.

#### CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION:

- All submitted entries become the exclusive intellectual property of OOT. OOT obtains all rights to use and republish all or any part of each entry upon submission.
  - OOT and its members may use prize winners' names, likeness and other identifying information (such as hometown, school or grade) in promotional materials relating to this competition.
  - Winners (or their parents/guardians) will be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility, originality and compliance with the official rules, a liability release, and a publicity release as a condition to receiving their prize.
  - All taxes shall be the responsibility of the winners of the competition.
  - By submitting an application and/or entry to OOT, the applicant agrees to all of the terms and conditions set forth in these official rules.
- MISCELLANEOUS:**
- No entry will be given preference over any other entry on the basis of an applicant's name, school, grade, gender, race, ethnicity, geographic origin, or any legally protected status.
  - No entries will be returned to the applicants.
  - No notice will be given to the applicants with non-winning or non-conforming entries and applications.

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# Grant Recipient Highlight: 18<sup>th</sup> Street Community Church Sanctuary Recovery House

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



Sanctuary Recovery House provides year-round service for men recovering from addiction, ages 18 and older. Sanctuary House is a Victorian style house that is fully furnished with a home atmosphere that is free of drugs and alcohol. The house has five bedrooms, including single and double rooms. The living room has a large screen TV with cable and all the bedrooms are equipped with cable TV.

Every resident is provided bed linens, a dresser, and closets. The house is fully equipped with kitchen and appliances, furnished living room, multiple bathrooms, washer and dryer. The house has a computer with internet access, and air conditioning. It is conveniently located on the bus route, which offers access to stores in town and employment opportunities.

The mission of Sanctuary House is to provide a structured living facility where residents can focus on their recovery process, formulate a solid foundation of lasting sobriety, and develop the skills needed to lead a productive and fulfilling life. Sanctuary House aims to provide residents with a safe drug and alcohol-free environment so that they can get a fresh start on life. They want to help recovering addicts who struggle with addiction to learn new coping skills that will teach them how to function in society again.

Sanctuary House is proud to be a licensed recovery house through the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol and certified through the Pennsylvania Alliance of Recovery Residences. As such, residents are required to attend three Alcoholics Anonymous meetings or Narcotics Anonymous meetings a week. All residents must obtain a sponsor to be a resident and must stay clean and sober or they can no longer reside at the Sanctuary House. Church services and learning about spirituality are offered but not required to be a resident at Sanctuary House.

Random drug and alcohol testing is performed to ensure the safety of all residents at Sanctuary Recovery House. In addition, each resident is assigned a daily household chore, must participate in cooking and cleaning up meals, and abide by a set curfew. For more information about any of the services the Sanctuary Recovery House offers or to learn more, please reach out at the contact info below.



PO Box 1092 Altoona, PA 16603  
Website: [www.sanctuaryrecoveryhouse.org](http://www.sanctuaryrecoveryhouse.org)  
Contact: Pastor Nate Germany  
Phone: 814-330-8197  
Email: [sanctuaryhouse1234@gmail.com](mailto:sanctuaryhouse1234@gmail.com)

