



Operation Our Town Reporter

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

Volume 16, Issue 3 - March 2024



OperationOurTown.org

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UPMC Altoona
Value Drug Company
Ward Transport & Logistics Corp.



BREAKFAST CLUB

A YEAR IN REVIEW

THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF OPERATION OUR TOWN

WITH
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PETER WEEKS
Overview of Drug Trends

2024 Community
Partnership Award
Operation Our Town
Golf Committee

2024 Law Enforcement Awards

\$20 • Chamber members
\$30 • non-members
Reservations: call 814-943-8151
online at blairchamber.com



MARCH

14

7:45-9 a.m.
The Casino at
Lakemont Park

-Sponsored by -



HOOPSFEST

Mission

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



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



814-381-0921

Month of March - Meetings

3/4	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Rec & Park Commission
3/5	Northern Blair Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	The Bull Pen restaurant
3/7	Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting	10:00am	Blair County Chamber
3/15	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom
3/20	Marketing Roundtable meeting	4:00pm	OOT office
3/21	Faith-based Roundtable meeting	2:00pm	Blair Drug & Alcohol Partnerships and Zoom
3/28	Housing Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	U.S. Hotel

Operation Our Town Grant Training



Friday, April 5, 2024
9:00am to 10:15am
at Park Hills Golf Club
(219 Highland Terrace Altoona, PA)

Free to attend
Coffee and water provided

Reviewing the Under \$3,000 and Over \$3,000
Operation Our Town grant application process and
highlighting information needed under each section

Pre-registration required by March 29:
Email: oot@operationourtown.org OR
Call: (814) 296-8730

Grant Cycle Opens: May 1
Grant Cycle Deadline: June 7

Grant Recipient Highlight: Tyrone-Snyder Public Library Socialize Our Salute

By: Nick Gordon, Operation Our Town
Community Outreach Coordinator



Photo Courtesy of Julie White, The Daily Herald

When thinking of where veterans might gather and talk about life's experiences, a bar is often one of the most stereotypical places that comes to mind. Unfortunately, while bars do offer a social environment, they can also promote unhealthy behaviors such as substance abuse. For the Northern Blair community, this is where the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library comes into play.

Socialize Our Salute aims to provide a space for veterans to come together over shared experiences to cultivate a sense of camaraderie, community, and support in a casual and comfortable setting free from alcohol. The program meets on the first Thursday of each month from 6-8pm at the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library in the Hazel "Skip" Androski Community Room, which is equipped with comfortable chairs, calming décor, and a television for presentations or music.

This room is typically used as a meeting space for other adult clubs/activities, and sometimes programs for teens and older children. Hot and cold drinks, snacks, and baked goods are available to veterans who participate in Socialize Our Salute, free of charge.

While there are other opportunities for veterans to gather in Blair County, they either do not occur as often as some veterans would like, take place in environments with alcohol, or serve areas too distant for veterans in the Northern Blair area to reasonably attend.

Before Socialize Our Salute began, those organizing the program got feedback from local veterans and found that they preferred a more informal social gathering. With this in mind, the Tyrone Library decided to have a veteran lead the group and utilize veteran resource organizations who can work with individuals through their needs or challenges.

As of the time of writing, the next Socialize Our Salute meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7, 2024. If you are a veteran of any kind who would like to attend, the Tyrone Library would love to have you. For more information about any of the services the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library offers or to inquire about Socialize Our Salute, please reach out at the contact info below.



Photo Courtesy of Meredith Peachey, The Daily Herald

1000 Pennsylvania Ave Tyrone, PA 16686

Website: tyronelibrary.org

Contact: Lana Conrad

Phone: 814-684-1133

Email: info@tyronelibrary.org

See Website for Hours of Operation

