



# Operation Our Town Reporter

A monthly newsletter about our efforts to help prevent  
and reduce drug abuse and crime in Blair County

Volume 17, Issue 7 - July 2025



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

**Board Members:**

Michael A. Fiore  
Joe Sheetz  
Phil Devorris  
Ron McConnell  
Greg Drew, R.Ph.

**Administration:**

Shawna Hoover, Executive  
Coordinator  
Nick Gordon, Community Outreach  
Coordinator

**Steering Committee:**

Tom Brandt  
JR DiAndrea  
Edward DiSabato  
Brian Durbin  
Matthew Fox  
Zane Gates, M.D.  
Donna Gority  
Sue Griep  
Lisa Hann  
Cheryl Johns  
Mayor Matt Pacifico  
Judy Rosser  
Rick Seipp  
Amy Streightiff

**Sustaining Members:**

1<sup>st</sup> Summit Bank  
Blair Companies  
Curry Supply Company  
First National Bank  
Jeff S. Long Construction  
John & Doug Wolf  
Lee Industries, Inc.  
Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.  
McLanahan Corporation  
M&T Bank  
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.  
New Pig Corporation  
NPC, Inc.  
Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.  
Reliance Bank  
Rockland Manufacturing  
Sheetz, Inc.  
Small Tube Products  
Stuckey Automotive  
The Hite Company Division of Mayer  
Electric  
Thompson Pharmacy  
UPMC Altoona  
Value Drug Company  
Ward Transport & Logistics Corp.

\*\* August 7, 2025 \*\*

See below to save and/or print the coupon:

View - OOT Day at DelGrosso's coupon

Print and bring this coupon or show on your  
mobile device on August 7

**DelGrosso's PARK LAGUNA Splash**

**Come Celebrate Operation Our Town Day at DelGrosso's Park**

Learn more about Operation Our Town and how the funds they raise help fight drugs and crime in Central PA

Come Check Out Drug Dog Demos & Other Special Activities!

Our Town... A Great Place to Live!

On-site Demos Subject to Change

Visit [www.OperationOurTown.org](http://www.OperationOurTown.org) to Learn More About Operation Our Town and to Donate!

**\$23 ALL-DAY FUN PASS**

For each Coupon redeemed, \$3 will be  
donated back to Operation Our Town!

Coupon Valid August 7, 2025 Only. Not Valid With  
Any Other Offer. DelGrosso's Park is Cashless.

All-Day Fun Pass Regular Price: \$37.00 ea.

[MyDelGrossoPark.com](http://MyDelGrossoPark.com)

Print and Bring this Coupon or Show on Mobile Device

PR - Operation Our Town Day



995-7

Exits 41 & 45 Off I-99

## 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

**BLAIR DRUG & ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS**  
*Empowering Healthy Lifestyles*  
814-381-0921



Click on the image above to view the 2025 OOT Annual Report!

## Month of July - Meetings

7/10

Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting

10:00am

Blair County Chamber

# 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL **Our Town GOLF** TOURNAMENT

Taking Back Our Neighborhoods

## Monday, September 15, 2025

### Schedule of Activities

4:00pm - OOT Mini-Golf Tournament at Lakemont Park

- **View - Mini-Golf flyer & Registration form**

5:00pm - "Our Town" Appreciation Night sponsored by Imler's Poultry at Park Hills

- **OOT supporters, golf sponsors, and friends welcome!**

## Tuesday, September 16, 2025

### Schedule of Activities

**View - 2025 OOT Golf Brochure & Registration form**

7:00am - Morning registration & breakfast provided by Sheetz

8:00am - AM Shotgun start

11:00am - Afternoon registration & lunch provided by Sheetz

12:30pm - AM putting contest for \$5,000

1:00pm - PM Shotgun start

6:00pm - PM putting contest for \$5,000

Cocktail reception following afternoon golf



## **\$5,000 PUTTING CONTEST**



A \$5,000 cash prize from Park Hills will be awarded to the winners of the AM & PM putting contests!

# Grant Recipient Highlight:

## Young Life of Central PA

### Young Life Camp

By: Nick Gordon, Operation Our Town  
Community Outreach Coordinator



For over 50 years, Young Life of Central Pennsylvania has been involved in youth development in Blair County, offering programs for students in grades 6 through 12. By providing positive role models and engaging activities, Young Life aims to align with Operation Our Town's mission to prevent drug abuse and crime among adolescents. In today's challenging environment where teens face increasing pressures, the organization plays a critical role in fostering healthy choices and resilience.

Teenagers today are faced with undue stress and indifference, with many turning to unhealthy coping mechanisms like drug use. A 2019 Pew Research Center survey found that 51% of teens aged 13-17 view drug addiction as a major issue among their peers. Locally, the 2023 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) revealed a concerning trend: among 12th graders in Blair County who vaped in the past year, 31.6% reported using marijuana or hash oil, a figure that has risen annually since 2015. Young Life counters these risks by connecting teens with mentors who model drug-free lifestyles. Research, such as a 2020 study by Erdem and Kaufman, suggests that mentorship can significantly reduce substance use by fostering positive behaviors and beliefs.

Young Life's approach emphasizes meaningful activities to keep teens engaged and supported. The University of Michigan Health and American

Addiction Centers advocate for involvement in structured programs like sports, scouting, or faith-based groups to prevent substance abuse. Young Life's faith-based programs, including weekly events and its Young Life Camp, provide such opportunities. The camp offers exciting activities like ropes courses, water skiing, and climbing walls, creating potentially life-changing experiences that inspire teens to make wise choices. Many participants return as junior leaders, eager to positively influence their peers.

To ensure inclusivity, Young Life invites all teens to participate without requiring formal signups or membership. With camp costs rising, approximately 75% of students require financial assistance. Young Life of Central Pennsylvania remains committed to empowering youth, fostering resilience, and building a brighter future through mentorship, faith, and community. For more information about any of the services Young Life of Central PA offers through Young Life Camp or to learn more, please check out their info below.



Young Life of Central PA  
Contact: Tim O'Brien  
Email: [yltimo@gmail.com](mailto:yltimo@gmail.com)  
Address: 117 Quince Ct, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
Phone: 814-312-2061  
Website: [www.centralpa.younglife.org](http://www.centralpa.younglife.org)

