

Presenting Sponsor:



Nominations Being Accepted for Leadership Blount Class of 2013

Nominations are being accepted until Jan. 31 for the Class of 2013. Nominate an individual online by visiting the Leadership Blount website www.leadershipblount.com or contact the Leadership Blount office by phone at 984-9368 or e-mail at office@leadershipblount.com

Electric Charging Station Arrives in Townsend

Another step towards “going green” has come to East Tennessee as the Blink electric vehicle charging station is now in operation at the Smoky Mountain Visitors Center in Townsend.

Use of the charger is free for the next few months. There are 28 chargers sponsored by Black Bear Solar Institute in Blount, Sevier and Knox counties. Revenues generated from the chargers goes toward building a new facility for the Appalachian Bear Rescue (www.appalachianbearrescue.org) which rehabilitates orphaned and injured black bear cubs from the National Park and surrounding areas.

“We’ve driven over 500 miles so far at a cost of 2 cents per mile and \$10 of electricity has been the total cost,” Bob Harris of the Black Bear Solar Institute.

“Electricity and eventual tire replacement are the only operating costs, since there’s no engine oil to change, transmission to service, or any other normal maintenance items that a vehicle with a gasoline or Diesel engine would have.

“With gas at \$3 per gallon, that’s the cost equivalent of getting 150 miles per gallon of gas, plus there’s no oil or gas consumed and no exhaust emissions from the vehicle. If the LEAF’s battery was completely discharged, it would take six to seven hours to recharge its 110 mile range, which is normally done at home overnight. The battery can be charged anytime for shorter periods to give a mid-day boost to its range.”

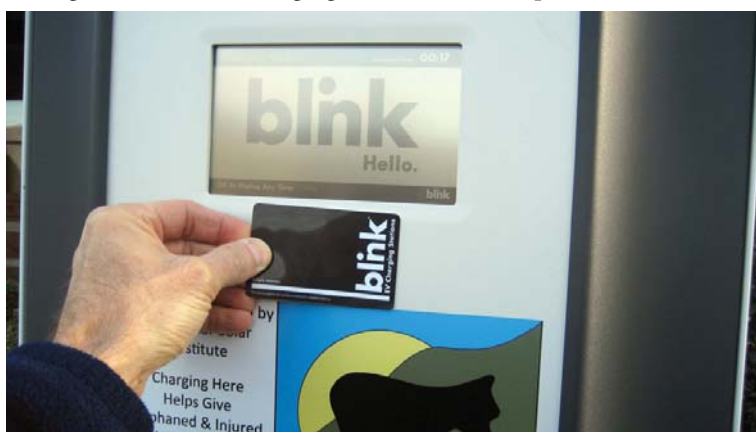
To find Blink charging stations nationwide, log on to www.blinknetwork.com/locator.html



1. Pull into the charging space; 2. Open the charging port hatch



3. Plug cable from the charging unit into the car’s port



4. Use the Blink card which is mailed to all new EV owners to start the charging session. Simply unplug the charging cable from the car when finished.

New Members

Always Buy Chamber – New Members

By joining the Blount Chamber, the following companies have made an important decision in their business. Use the ABC theory -- Always Buy Chamber. It’s good business to do business with Chamber Members. Use them for your professional and personal needs. Find out more information on all 1300 plus Chamber Members online at www.blountchamber.com, click on Business Directory.

Quick Fitness 24/7 — www.quickfitness247.com
Melanie Graves & Andrew Graves — Gym — 865.233.0518

Drop9 Creative — www.drop9creative.com
Jeremy LaDuke — Web Design, Social Marketing — 865.724.8190

Volunteer Excavating — 865.983.2286
Susan Headrick — Excavating

AYSO Region 1159 — www.blountsoccer.org
David Kemp — Youth Sports — 865.980.7789

The Lewis Group Architects — www.lewisgroup.net
Jerry Lewis & Craig Lewis — Architects — 865.584.5000

BK Plumbing — 865.257.3644
Brian Sandy & David Morelock — Plumbing Contractor

SGH Enterprises — 865.898.8769
Sherri Gardner Howell — PR, Marketing, Writing & Editing

Event Calendar

Your Chamber has great opportunities each month for members to connect and network with potential customers. The events and meetings below will be held at the Chamber unless otherwise noted. Visit our website to receive notices of events and meetings you would like to attend – www.blountchamber.com, click on Chamber Calendar of Events. For more information, call 983-2241.

- Jan. 18 2:00 p.m. Chamber Ambassador Training
- Jan. 19 9:00 a.m. Small Business Counseling
- Jan. 26 9:00 a.m. Small Business Counseling
- Jan. 26 7:45 a.m. Coffee Club at Tennessee Rehabilitation Center
1749 Triangle Park Dr., Maryville
- Feb. 2-5 All Day Winter Heritage Festival
- Feb. 2 5:30 p.m. 92nd Chamber Annual Meeting
- Feb. 2 9:00 a.m. Small Business Counseling
- Feb. 6 8:00 a.m. PlanET Meeting
- Feb. 8 8:00 a.m. Human Resources Focus Group
- Feb. 16 8:00 a.m. VIP sponsored “sneak peek” at Coulter Grove Intermediate School on Sevierville Road
Open to entire Chamber membership
- Feb. 23 7:45 a.m. Coffee Club at Kingdom Design Ministries
334 S. Washington St., Maryville

To schedule a free small business counseling session or to make an appointment with a representative from the Tennessee Small Business Development Center call Vicky at 983-2241.

Did You Know?

Did you know that by using Constant Contact, you have the ability to use email marketing to reach a wider customer base? Contact the Chamber at 983-2241 to receive up to a 25-percent discount on the initial sign-up fee.

Don’t Forget

Gain Exposure in Operation Thank You

Sign up today to gain exposure and brand marketing as you promote your business during “Operation Thank You” in March 2012 for \$150. Send gift certificates, brochures or business promotional pieces to us and we will distribute them. For more information, call 865.983.2241

Chamber Ambassadors

Want to connect one-on-one with Chamber members? Become an Ambassador today. Come to the Jan. 18 Chamber Ambassador training session (2-4 p.m.) Call 865-983-2241 to sign up.

Winter Heritage Festival

The sixth annual Winter Heritage Festival takes place Feb. 2-5 in Townsend. The Festival is a celebration of the human history, natural beauty, and cultural traditions of Townsend, Cades Cove and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The event involves many community groups and businesses and the National Park. It is free, except for lunches and suppers, where there are reservations required, with charges for meals. Music workshops require pre-registration.

For more information, log on to:

www.smokymountains.org/do/events_festivals/winter_heritage.aspx

Annual Meeting Set For Feb. 2

The Blount Chamber’s 92nd Annual Meeting is set for Feb. 2, 2012 at the Airport Hilton. Reception begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Featured guest is Tennessee Speaker of the House Beth Harwell.

Tickets are \$50 each and available by calling 865.983.2241

Annual Meeting Corporate Sponsors



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