



Volume 15 | Issue 12 | December 2019

# Introducing the 2020 Class of Leadership Venango

*See pages 6 & 7*





The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce builds, serves, and promotes regional business.

# Welcome New Members

**Bobbie Jones Yoga**  
Contact: *Bobbie Jones*  
BobbieJonesYoga@gmail.com  
(814) 516-1383  
Bobbiejonesyoga.com

Bobbie Jones is an independent certified yoga instructor and offers Beginner, Ashtanga, Vinyasa, and many other types of yoga. Bobbie also offers private sessions and meditation services, and provides “flexibility to customize your yoga practice to your individual needs.”

## Newsletter Advertising - Three Spots Open!

Would you like to see your business or organizations ad in this newsletter? We have a few spots left for our 2020 newsletter and want to give you the opportunity to have your ad seen by our readers every month.

We mail *VenangoWorks!* to about 500 members and our email distribution is more than 1,400. If you are interested in featuring your ad, contact Tessa by phone at (814) 676-8521 or by emailing [tbyham@venangochamber.org](mailto:tbyham@venangochamber.org)



## Chamber Welcomes Matt Deal to Board of Directors



Matt Deal, funeral director and owner of Morrison Funeral Home in Oil City, was appointed to the Venango Chamber’s Board of Directors at the October monthly meeting. Matt will begin his first three-year term in January 2020. Matt will be featured in an upcoming “Meet the Board” article.

We would also like to recognize Carol Williams and Alan McBride, who are finishing up their board terms this month. Thank you, Carol and Alan, for your years of service and dedication.

*Thank you to our Visionary Members for their ongoing support:*



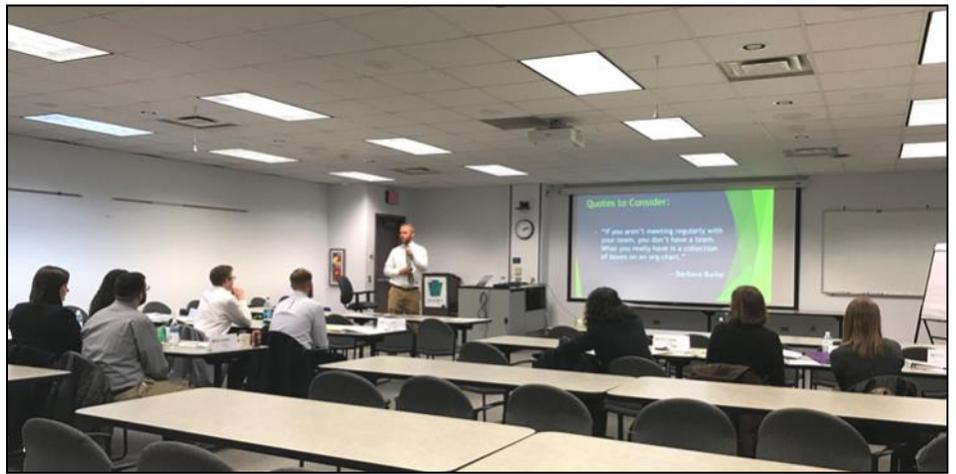
## Leadership Venango Holds Second Session: Maximizing Clean Communications

The 2020 Class of Leadership Venango met on November 13 at PennDOT's District 1 Office in Oil City to discuss "Maximizing Clean Communications."

The day began with a welcome from Jim Foringer, District Executive of PennDOT District 1. Jim provided an overview of PennDOT District 1 territory and responsibilities, helping the class better understand the scope of work that comes out of our region.

The rest of the morning was spent with Jill Harry, PennDOT District 1 Press Officer and Ashley (Cowles) Sheffer, program manager of Be Here. Jill shared her experience working in Media Relations. She reviewed how to appropriately and effectively connect with different types of media to provide them the information they are seeking, while best representing your business or organization. Ashley provided insights on how to use social media to connect with customers. She reviewed the features of the social media platforms to market your business. Jill and Ashley engaged the class in several interactive exercises.

Over lunch, Lucas Salusky with Identity Studio & Design took a class photo on the steps of the Venango Museum and took each class member's professional headshot.



Betsy Kellner, Executive Director of the Venango Museum, gave an overview of the museum and demonstrated their Theatre Organ. Several class members were visiting the museum for the first time. Cindy Urban, President of Klapec Trucking Co (KTC), and Greg Lander, Vice President of KTC, joined the class for lunch. Greg is also a 2019 Leadership Venango graduate.

To begin the afternoon, Brian McNulty, Assistant District Executive at PennDOT District 1 and 2019 Leadership Venango Graduate, gave a presentation about Project Management. He provided an overview of PennDOT projects and explained the process they use, beginning with the goals in mind. Brian then worked with the class to explore how this process could work for them with the Leadership

Venango team projects.

The remainder of the day was spent with Susan Hileman, Strategic Business Advisor for Northwest IRC, on Effective Communication. The class learned about communication channels and barriers and discussed verbal and non-verbal communication and listening skills. Susan also talked about communication across different generations and cultures.

While class feedback showed that every part of the day was appreciated by participants, many cited the value of being reminded to actively listen and suggested they would be more mindful of this, in returning to work and home.

Find bios for the 2020 class of Leadership Venango on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

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## Cross Creek Resort Annual Holiday Mixer

Join us on Wednesday, **December 4** at Cross Creek Resort for a joint mixer with the Franklin, Meadville, and Titusville Chambers. Enjoy an evening of food, drinks, and networking!

RSVP to Tessa at  
[tbyham@venangochamber.org](mailto:tbyham@venangochamber.org)  
or by calling our office at (814) 676-8521



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## CASA Hits Milestone: 100 Volunteers

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), was launched in 2005 to provide support for a child going through the court system because of a parent's or guardian's abuse or neglect. Despite the doubts of many local officials, the program continues to respond to a child's legal and social needs,



with the support of volunteers. In November, CASA hit a milestone, celebrating more than 100 volunteer child advocates.

Attorney William Cisek, who serves as CYS solicitor and CASA instructor remarks: "Cinnamon Evans, CASA's executive director, and Judge Lobaugh have transformed the dependency system and it is no longer so adversarial. That has been instrumental in having this be so successful. God has really blessed us with this program."

Learn more about CASA by visiting [casaofvenangocounty.org](http://casaofvenangocounty.org).

## Gates & Burns New Franklin Location

Gates & Burns Realty has relocated their Franklin office to 1318 Liberty Street, the previous location of Venango Real Estate, effective December 1st.

Vicki Henderson and David Bennett have both joined the Gates & Burns Realty Sales Team and will continue to serve clients at this location.

Vicki has been the broker/owner of Venango Real Estate and has been active in the local real estate market for 25 years. Dave is a life long Venango County resident and has been in real estate for 4 years. Dave is an active member of the Atlantic Ave United Brethren Church and was previously employed by Joy Global.



Stop in and visit! They are excited to be in the same location and offer the same great service. Additional sales associates at this location include Carl Valetich, Sherry Shawgo, and Ralph Aylesworth. All are members of the National, State, and Local Associations of Realtors.

## FIRST NIGHT® OIL CITY 2020

The First Night® Oil City 2020 Celebration, proudly orchestrated by the Oil City Arts Council, will take place on Tuesday, December 31, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The theme of this year's popular, non-alcoholic, family-friendly New Year's event in Oil City is "Woodstock."



Admission to entertainment venues requires the purchase of a button for \$10. With the purchase of a button, you will receive a ticket that can be entered into a basket raffle, and a mini-flashlight. Buttons will be available for purchase at the Oil City Library, Spilling the Beans, Transit Art Gallery & Gifts, Karma Coffee, and the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce prior to New Year's Eve, but only at Spilling the Beans (southside) and the Transit Fine Arts Gallery (northside) on December 31.

This year's performers include: Max Schang, Smokin' Section, Dennis Geib, The Syndicate, Uptown Rhythm and Brass, Ron Yarman, Samantha Sears, Erie Ice Works ice sculpture, Cliff Hopkins magician/illusionist and J's Sound and Light laser show.

Follow First Night® Oil City 2020 on Snapchat and Facebook!

## Creekside Granite Welcomes Jessica Ewing-Falco

Creekside Granite and More (CSG) in Reno is growing and expanding its business and showroom. In 2019, CSG hired on a fulltime manager and sales position. Jessica Ewing-Falco started in July and has helped grow the Creekside showroom to a fully stocked tile and granite gallery.

CSG has always offered these products, but now clients can come in and see and feel them for themselves before making a large decision on their home improvement. Also in 2019, Creekside Granite added a new piece of equipment. A Denver 5 axis bridge saw was added to the arsenal of tooling and equipment used to achieve the highest level of accuracy and detail possible.

Now when you hire Creekside Granite to fabricate your kitchen or bathroom counters, you can rest assured knowing that the highest level of measuring, fabrication, and installation are being used.

Creekside Granite makes it their top priority to achieve your dreams when designing and completing your home improvement projects.



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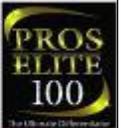
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*Leadership Venango is a nine-month program designed to identify, educate, involve and motivate individuals who desire to become more effective leaders.*

## Introducing the Class of 2020



**Kaylee Azzopardi** is a Human Resources Generalist at UPMC Northwest in Seneca. Kaylee earned a bachelor's degree in Health Policy and Administration from Penn State University. She lives in Clarion with her dog and enjoys volunteering with her local Humane Society as part of the Human Resources Day of Service. She has also helped organize career fairs and donation drives at the hospital and

assisted with the United Way Annual Campaign.



**Thomas Chase** is a Dempseytown native and 2019 graduate of Oil City High School. Thomas is a video producer with his company, CluenMedia, and does freelance video production and editing work. Thomas also works in maintenance at Lowrey's Auto Body and for InstaCart. He is a volunteer for the Oakland United Methodist Church, Relay for Life, Community Services, and the Salvation Army.



**Damien Cherico** is a Clarion native and works as a Plant Metallurgist at the Oil City Webco facility. Damien graduated from Clarion High School and earned a bachelor's degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Penn State University. At Penn State, Damien was a member of the Glee Club and still enjoys singing. Damien moved to Franklin in 2018 and is an active member of FLEX and enjoys exploring the Venango County area and

spending time outdoors. Damien plans to go back to school for a master's degree in Materials Science and Engineering.



**Saxon Daugherty** is the Communications and Public Relations Specialist at Child Development Centers where he handles the media relations for their nearly 400 employees and 2,000 children in Venango, Crawford, and Erie counties. Saxon is a Cranberry High School graduate and still lives in the area with his wife and daughter. He earned a bachelor's degree in Communications and Media Studies from Edinboro University in 2015 where he

was named the Most Outstanding Graduating Senior in the Communications department. Saxon will serve as the Vice President and Secretary of FLEX in 2020 and assist with youth ministry at Venango Youth for Christ.



**Matthew Deal** is the Funeral Director and Owner of Morrison Funeral Home in Oil City. Matt has a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from Penn State and an associate degree in Mortuary Science from Hudson Valley Community College. Prior to becoming a funeral director, Matt worked in asset protection management in retail sales with his biggest responsibility being a retailer that grossed over \$60M annually. Matt relocated to Oil

City in 2012, and he and his wife purchased the funeral home in 2017. Matt is currently serving on the board of the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce and on the NWPA Funeral Directors Association board beginning in 2020.



**Ethan Gravatt** is a Franklin native and 2008 graduate of Rocky Grove High School. Ethan works for Klapac Trucking Company as a Logistics Coordinator. In 2010, he joined the United States Army and attended basic combat training at Fort Leonard, Missouri. He deployed as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom to Afghanistan in 2013. During his time in the service, he traveled to Germany, Poland and South Korea, earning various awards

and accommodations along the way. He recently moved back to Venango County and now lives in Franklin with his wife and two children. He attends Galloway Methodist Church where he volunteers as a greeter and enjoys Steelers football and outdoor recreational activities.



**Carrie Karns** is a Venango County native and graduate of Rocky Grove High School with a bachelor's degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Slippery Rock University. Carrie was a recreation therapist at UPMC Northwest Behavioral Health before taking on her current role as Lifestyle Engagement Director at Oakwood Heights, where she loves working with the residents and their families. Carrie served as assistant coach for the Franklin YMCA

competitive gymnastics team from 2005 to 2018. She lives outside of Oil City with her daughter and their dog and enjoys spending time outdoors, visiting antique shops, and attending local events.



**Annie Welsh** is the Youth Services Coordinator for the Oil Region Library Association in Venango County and the surrounding district, encompassing 14 total libraries. Annie earned a master's degree in Library Science in 2008 and oversees all aspects of the Children's Department at the Oil City Library, as well as cataloging children's materials for all three Venango County Libraries. She also assists with developing and presenting

youth focused workshops and training new employees. Annie lives in Clarion with her husband and two children and volunteers at her children's school as well as for the Clarion Free Library's Friends of the Library group.



**Amy Keth** is the Assistant Director of the Clarion University Small Business Development Center, where she has been a business consultant since 2004. Amy works with small business owners in Forest, Jefferson, and Venango counties, providing free and confidential consulting services as well as instructing programs and seminars. She attended Clarion University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in finance, and she also earned her MBA in 2016. Amy

lives in Clarion and is involved with Charitable Deeds and her children's high school booster clubs.



**Jessica Schultz** is the Marketing Coordinator at Child Development Centers where she is responsible for the marketing, advertising, graphic design and website for Venango, Crawford and Erie Counties. Jessica graduated from Pittsburgh Technical Institute with an associate degree in Graphic Design and was awarded the Richard S. Caliguiri top of the class recognition. Since graduation, Jessica has worked in marketing departments on the

global and national level. Jessica serves on the board of Jamie's Kids, a local nonprofit, as a youth leader for her church, and has volunteered with Cranberry High School's musical productions.



**Tracy Lander** works for Klapec Trucking Company in Reno where she manages IT, Payroll, and Accounting. Tracy graduated from Penn State Behrend with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and spent a semester abroad in Australia. Tracy moved to Ohio after graduating from college and returned to the area when she got married. Tracy and her husband live in Oil City with their two children and love the Venango County area. Tracy is an active volunteer

and serves as a Be Here ambassador, a greeter and lector at her church, St. Stephen's parish, and as treasurer for St. Stephen's Home and School.



**Kathryn Thompson** moved to Venango County in high school and graduated from Christian Life Academy. She earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Spring Arbor University in Michigan and spent 3 years living in XinZheng, China, while teaching at Sias International University. Kathryn is employed as the Talent Engagement Facilitator for Northwest PA CareerLink where she enjoys traveling throughout the

region meeting with individuals and community organizations. Kathryn lives in Oil City and is involved with the Oil City Vineyard Church, serves as a Be Here ambassador, and will serve as the President of FLEX in 2020.

**To learn more about this program,  
visit [leadershipvenango.org](http://leadershipvenango.org)**

## Visioning for Ourselves & Our Community

Where do you hope to be in 10 years? What growth do you wish to see in your business in 5 years? What is your goal of a certain project you are working on for the next month?

You may have an idea in your head of what you want the future to look like, whether it's for your personal life, career, or a smaller project or situation, and writing a vision can help make that happen.



On November 6, about 50 people came together at Wanango Country Club for a Zingtrain Workshop hosted by our Be Here initiative. Based out of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Zingtrain is part of a community of businesses that started as the Zingerman's Delicatessen and has grown to add a coffee shop, bakery, candy shop, restaurant, and much more.

After spending years visioning for themselves and practicing great customer service, Zingerman's added Zingtrain to their group of businesses with the goal to not only provide training to their own employees, but also to share what they've learned with outside organizations and individuals.

We brought Zingtrain to Venango County for a full day—half about “Creating a Vision of Greatness” and the other half on “The Art of Giving Great Service.”

You can learn more about our ZingTrain Workshop at [beherevenango.org/zingtrain-visioning](http://beherevenango.org/zingtrain-visioning), and be sure to check out the “ZingTrain Tip of the Month,” a new feature in our 2020 *VenangoWorks!* Newsletters.

## NETWORK Visits Venango County

The NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice invited Sr. Tina Geiger, RSM and Sr. Marian Wehler, OSB of The Catholic Rural Ministry to convene a roundtable discussion on Wednesday, November 20 at the Carone Center in Oil City. Two sister lobbyists from Washington D.C., Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS and Sr. Emily TeKloste, SP, posed the question: “It is essential that there be rural perspectives considered on the federal level if we are to create any healing in our nation. Will you help us to bring the perspective of your community back with us to Washington?”

What followed was a lively discussion between over 25 community members, representing social services organizations, education, human services, the faith, business, and health care communities. Several local leaders who were not able to attend submitted responses in writing to Sr. Campbell.

The meeting was designed to be listening session. Noted challenges included generational poverty, the shortage of some health and mental wellness resources, and the complexity of communicating information throughout the community. Transportation was identified as an obstacle that impacts people across income groups and



generations, a problem that can be complicated and expensive to solve.

Venango County is uniquely collaborative, as groups commonly meet to tackle ongoing needs. Judge Lobaugh spoke of the Children's Roundtable and Pastor Randy Powell shared the work of Mustard Seed Ministries. These are just two examples of people and organizations working together to accomplish what anyone alone could not tackle.

The day ended with each attendee sharing what they loved about living in Venango County. This was a wonderful reminder of what our region has to offer.

***Hope is a communal virtue. -Sr. Simone Campbell***

## Oil City Designated as Newest Keystone Main Street Community

The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) announced the designation of Oil City as the commonwealth's newest Keystone Main Street. The designation will further enable the city to support downtown businesses and improve the quality of life for residents.

As a Keystone Main Street, Oil City will benefit from priority consideration for several DCED community development programs like the Keystone Communities program. The city will also receive technical assistance and training for local leaders and managers through the Pennsylvania Downtown Center, and networking opportunities with other designated areas.

Additionally, this designation makes Oil City eligible for consideration under the Neighborhood Assistance Program, which encourages private investment into community development projects in low-income areas.

DCED Northwest Regional Director Kimberly Thomas was joined by local officials for a formal designation presentation event in celebration of Oil City's classification as a Keystone Main Street.

"We are excited to be officially designated by the commonwealth once again, this time as a Keystone Main Street community," said Kathy Bailey, Main Street Manager for the Oil City Main Street Program. "It is a testament to the hard work of our volunteers, and the commitment of many partners including the City of Oil



City, the Oil Region Alliance, and many local businesses and individual donors.

We've made some great strides over the past eight years, but still have lots of work ahead of us in our continued mission to make downtown Oil City a more attractive and vibrant place for years to come."

The primary goals of designated Main Street areas are to improve the quality of life in a community by making traditional downtown areas a more attractive place to live and work. The designation also strives to increase business development and create jobs in the area, improve the level of planning in the community, and ensure that public and private investments are impactful to the local economy.

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## Business Review and Forecast Deadline January 8

The Derrick and The News-Herald will publish the 80th annual Business Review and Forecast on Monday, February 17. This special section will feature more than 300 articles on area businesses and agencies, giving information about progress and changes that occurred during 2019 and plans that may be in the works for 2020.



There is no fee involved in having a news story published in the Business Review and Forecast; however, the story must be "newsy" in nature. Articles should

contain information about new products or services, staffing changes, expansion projects, an anniversary or milestone, etc.

Submitted articles will be edited for content and space. Photos and company logos will be considered as space allows.

Articles may be dropped off at the newspaper office at 1510 W. First St., Oil City; mailed to: Venango Newspapers, ATTN: Cindi Power, P.O. Box 928, Oil City, Pa. 16301; or emailed to: [specialsections.thederrick@gmail.com](mailto:specialsections.thederrick@gmail.com).

The deadline to submit your story is Wednesday, January 8.

## Vantage Remodels Four Locations

Vantage has recently given their local home medical equipment stores in Franklin, Meadville, Erie, and Hermitage a facelift.

Vantage wants to make your visit a pleasant experience. From the customer service to the ease of finding the products you need; Vantage wants you to leave feeling that you were taken care of by experts.

They have added displays directing you to the products you need and moved departments to ease maneuvering throughout the stores. The carpeting and flooring have been cleaned or replaced along with fresh paint for a pleasant experience.

Along with the remodels, Vantage continues to offer products for Better Breathing, Home Comfort, Aids to Daily Living and Mobility along with Health and Wellness retail and insurance items.



Stop by the local Franklin store at 1283 Liberty Street and sign up to win a holiday CBD giveaway package valued at \$140, in the month of November and again in December.

Vantage is also a proud participant in the City of Franklin's Christmas Cash promotion; spend \$15 or more and enter into a chance to win Christmas Cash. Contact Vantage at 814-677-5794; or visit their

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## Reflections from the Commissioner's Seat

Vince Witherup had never served in an elected position when he made the decision to submit a letter of interest for an open seat for Venango County Commissioner nine years ago. After working at Conair for 42 years and then consulting, he had accumulated an abundance of business knowledge and was willing to put that to use in the community.



Beyond that one-year appointment, he successfully won the seat for two four-year terms. Susan Williams sat down with him this past week to talk about what he had learned in his years of service.

**Susan:** What surprised you the most about County government and do you wish others knew about the role of County Commissioners?

**Vince:** There is a tremendous difference between how business and government work. In business, you can identify a problem and often execute a solution quickly. Getting things done in government is a process and is much slower. Many of the issues the community is dealing with are beyond the control of County government, fiscally and authoritatively.

**Susan:** What was the biggest challenge the County faced in recent years?

**Vince:** The economic impact of larger companies leaving our area in the last couple of decades has created real challenges for our communities. The lack of population and tax base have resulted in financial loss.

**Susan:** What accomplishments of the commissioner's office are you most proud of?

**Vince:** I have worked with great teams here and together we have been successful at placing the County in a fiscally healthy position, with a fully funded pension program and no long-term debt.

**Susan:** As we seek to attract and develop new leaders, what qualities do you think are most important?

**Vince:** Great leaders should be able to work with teams, must be approachable, and should have common sense.

**Susan:** What are you looking forward to the most, as you leave your position as County Commissioner?

**Vince:** I am always looking forward to my next adventure, whatever it may be.

## 2019: A Year in Review

Written by Susan Williams, Chamber President/CEO

In 2017, the Chamber's Board of Directors crafted five year strategic plan, with three overarching objectives:

- Create stronger business to business connections within the Venango Region
- Develop the next generation of business leaders for the Venango Region
- Be the business information connector for the Venango Region

Each year, we review these objectives, along with our commitment to ensure the sustainability of the Venango Chamber, considering what has been accomplished to date and where our resources will be best focused in the future.

Your stories and news continued to be the focus of the *VenangoWorks!* newsletter, with recurring features on education, leadership and advocacy. With the assistance of the Chamber's summer interns, social media posts were more engaging with members and the community.

Monthly Tech Talks held at the Chamber were in response to members' requests to convene technology natives, to discuss best practices and share favorite tools and tactics. Chamber staff welcomed regulars and new attendees on the third Friday of each month at 8 a.m. Take-a-ways were shared in the following newsletter.

While mixers and the Chamber's Golf Outing were modestly attended, a perfect August day drew 100 members and guests to the Annual Steak Fry at the Oil City Boat Club.

Oil Heritage and Cranberry Festivals were blessed with perfect weather and great member and volunteer support, continuing a tradition of community pride.

The Annual Awards Banquet and FLEX Presents celebrations set the stage for recognizing business, non-profit, and individual accomplishments.

The Chamber's Education Committee added several teachers and administrators this year, to better identify the challenges and opportunities to connect local business to our schools. By gaining a better understanding of school mandates and goals around career exploration and planning. We can now be better partners in responding to those activities that prepare a workforce for local employment.

FLEX members (now over 120) met several times each month, for social and volunteer activities, and held four professional speaker events this year.

The Be Here Initiative, with Program Manager Ashley Sheffer, was more visible than ever in 2019. Community members met for Community Conversations, more than 50 attendees learned about visioning and giving great customer service at a ZingTrain workshop, and billboards displayed across the County demonstrated why now is the best time to Be Here. Ashley met with students and teachers at local schools, helping them better understand the attributes of our area. Students from Rocky Grove volunteered as ambassadors, delivering maps and brochures to

local businesses and visitor stops.

Leadership Venango graduated its first class of 13 in May and the new class of 12 began their year with a one-and-a-half-day retreat, before beginning monthly leadership classes. The inaugural class completed projects that not only helped them gain a better understanding of the relationship between education and workforce, but created tools to advance these relationships.

The Advocacy Committee hosted candidate forums in the Spring and Fall, with those running for Venango County Commissioner.

Chamber President Susan Williams, Executive Assistant Tessa Byham, and Program Manager Ashley Sheffer attended the annual Pennsylvania Association of Chamber Professionals (PACP) conference in October, where they continue to learn how your chamber can be most impactful in our mission to build, serve and promote regional business.

As change comes faster, your staff seeks to be on the cutting edge of nurturing a thriving business environment in Venango County.



## Gaining Advice & Strategies at Monthly Tech Talks

With so much required of a business owner, it can be easy to put marketing at the bottom of the list. Between paying bills, training employees, working with vendors, and the everyday operations of a business, who has time to update a website and post on social media?

Marketing, however, plays a huge role in attracting customers and building relationships. Without marketing, how are people going to get to know you and learn about what you have to offer?

In February, we began a series of “Tech Talks,” to bring members together to discuss strategies for marketing their businesses and organizations. The idea was brought to us by Jessica and Saxon with Child Development Centers Inc.

“As we were working on growing our organization’s marketing, we needed a way to brainstorm with other advanced users and to get new ideas,” said Saxon.

“Each month, we leave with new strategies and a better understanding of marketing, and we are also able to learn more about other businesses and organizations in our region,” said Jessica.



Natalie Cubbon with the Oil Region Library Association (ORLA) has been a regular at the monthly Tech Talks and has been applying what she’s learned to her organization.

“Tech Talks at the Chamber allow me to grow as a digital content creator & social media marketer,” Natalie said. “Being able to learn from other businesses and organizations is so valuable and has been a great opportunity to form connections within our community.

Tech Talk topics have ranged from photography and videography, to online crisis management and analytics and measurement.

Our next Tech Talk will be Friday, December 20, and the topic will be “Instagram and Facebook Stories.” The Tech Talks are held on the third Friday of each month from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Chamber Office.

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## SHARE YOUR STORY



The last of our Be Here billboards are up throughout the region, including one on Route 8 near Ellectralloy featuring CJ Hurley and Barbara Pierce.

CJ and Barbara are local artists who relocated to Oil City from Portland, OR, for the access to nature, historic architecture, proximity to larger cities, and more. They run their

business (CJ Hurley Century Arts) out of the National Transit Building.

You can read CJ and Barbara’s full story on our Be Here testimonials page, as well as multiple other stories of people who live and work in the Venango Area.

We want to share YOUR story too. Just visit the website at [www.beherevenango.org/testimonials](http://www.beherevenango.org/testimonials) and click the “share your story” button at the bottom of the page.

## Seneca Hills Bible Camp Welcomes Joe Illig

Seneca Hills Bible Camp welcomed a new program director, Joe Illig, in September.



Joe is originally from Butler and spent several years working on their summer staff while in high school and college. He holds a Marketing and Management Degree from La Roche College and a master's degree from Columbia International University.

Joe is excited to bring his experience to his role as program director at Seneca Hills Bible Camp and to partner with local churches and children's ministries. He has big visions for expanding the programs at Seneca Hills and teaming up with local ministers. Joe expressed that: "as a homegrown product of this area, I'm beyond excited to be a part of a ministry that has served the youth of our region since 1936."

If you have never been to Seneca Hills, or would love to learn more, reach out to Joe at [joe.illig@senecahills.org](mailto:joe.illig@senecahills.org) or give them a call at (814) 432-3026.

---

## Planning & Budgeting for 2020

Before you make your New Year's resolutions, now is a great time to reflect on the past year's successes and challenges, considering a simple plan for your 2020 spending.

Budgeting can be intimidating, but having a plan can not only assure that you are spending wisely, it can also save you time. Rather than struggling over each decision on what to commit to advertising and sponsorship as the requests pour in, consider a review of the last year and note what you will support in 2020. In many cases, you can work with vendors and organizations to plan how payments work best for you.

The Chamber would welcome the chance to meet and discuss how you would like to invest in your business through our many advertising and sponsorship opportunities. Many businesses chose to "pay as they go," but others would like to make a single commitment to be billed once a year or in installments.

If you aren't sure how your money would best support your goals while supporting your Chamber, let's schedule a meeting. Among advertising options will be the annual printed Membership Directory and printed materials for the Cranberry and Oil Heritage Festivals. Sponsorship options include the Annual

Dinner, FLEX, Leadership Venango, the Chamber Golf Outing, and festivals. Your support ensures that together we can continue these member offerings, while promoting your business or organization.

The logo for Cranberry Mall features the name "CRANBERRY MALL" in a large, red, serif font. A stylized red cranberry with a green stem and leaf is positioned between the words "CRANBERRY" and "MALL".

6945 US 322 • Cranberry PA 16319

A photograph showing the exterior of the Cranberry Mall building, a modern structure with large windows and a sign that reads "CRANBERRY MALL".

Dunham's Sports, Ollie's Bargain Outlet, Label Shopper, The Movies @ Cranberry & more!

[www.cranberrymall.com](http://www.cranberrymall.com)

814.676.2353

A photograph of the Oakwood Heights building, a modern structure with large windows and a fountain in the foreground.

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Logos for accessibility, including a wheelchair icon and a house icon.An advertisement for ServiceMaster Restore. It features a man and a woman standing in a room, looking at a document. The text "AT YOUR SIDE. ON YOUR SIDE." is prominently displayed in large, bold letters. Below it, "WATER, FIRE & MOLD DAMAGE EXPERTS" is written. The ServiceMaster Restore logo is in the bottom left corner, and "ServiceMaster by Bell 877-214-1664" is in the bottom right corner.

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The logo for Caldwell Signage Solutions features the name "Caldwell SIGNAGE SOLUTIONS" in a red, serif font. Below it, "Design • Manufacture • Install • Service" is written in a smaller font. The logo is framed by a red and white border with the word "SIGN" at the top and "MAKERS" at the bottom.

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## Students Benefit from Career Activities

Written by Caleb Stanish, Owner of Stanish Media and Student at RGHS

Mock interviews are a great tool to develop essential soft skills. Allowing young professionals to jump into something they are uncomfortable with is the best avenue to help them grow.

While mock interviews help young professionals grow, they have helped me in a whole new way. Mock interviews have shined light on the power of networking. Earlier this year I participated in an event called "Search and Work Day" at Rocky Grove Jr/Sr High School.



This is where I met Susan Williams from the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as a few other business professionals. Through the Chamber, I've gotten the chance to meet and learn from dozens of local professionals who I've learned a great deal from.

Connecting with these local professionals has excelled my success significantly. Because of the connections the Chamber has provided, I've been able to connect, pursue, and succeed in business.

## Oil City Career Fair

It's once again time to start planning for the OCHS College and Career Fair. Please complete the form at the link below if you are able to attend this year's event on Wednesday, March 11. Set-up begins at 7:15 a.m. and students start arriving at 7:50 a.m. The event will conclude at 11:15 a.m.



There will be students available to assist with set-up/tear-down, etc. There will also be

beverages and refreshments provided for all vendors. Please, feel free to forward this form to any other parties you feel may be interested in attending the 2020 OCHS College & Career Fair.

[bit.ly/OCCareerFair2020](https://bit.ly/OCCareerFair2020)



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(814) 827-0800



## Keystone Community Foundation Receives Award



The 2019 Outstanding Group Program is the Keystone Community Education Council and their Plastics Process Technician Apprenticeship Program. The Plastics Process Technician Apprenticeship Program is a collaboration of twelve plastics manufacturers in NW PA who pioneered the unique program.

The idea took fruition through the Next Generation Plastics Industry Partnership when partners determined what was wanted and needed in a plastics apprenticeship program. From those needs, a partnership was struck between the American Injection Molding Institute (AIM) and Clarion University as AIM provides the technical training and Clarion University provides the general education components.

Employers were satisfied with the knowledge that their employees received through the first cohort of the program and recommended the program to their industry peers.

# DECEMBER 2019

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 5 Oil City's Christmas Past**  
Dec 5 - 8 | Oil City
- 6 Old-Fashioned Retail Walk**  
Dec 6 - 7 | Franklin
- 7 Foxburg Light Up Night**  
4:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Foxburg
- 13 Transit Concert Series**  
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. | National Transit Building, Oil City
- 14 Winter Vendor Show**  
10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Oil City Warehouse Mall
- 19 Card Party**  
12 - 3 p.m. | Venango Museum, Oil City

Find details for these events & more at: [beherevenango.org/events](http://beherevenango.org/events)

## United Way Helping to Supply Area Care Closets

Before students can truly focus on learning, understanding, and using the information presented to them in classes each day, their basic needs, such as food, clothing/hygiene, and shelter, must be met. Local school districts are trying to help meet these needs for their students with their 'Care Closets'. Each local district, and usually each school within the district, has a Care Closet set up where students can come for supplies, such as hygiene products, clothing, and even food.



The United Way of Venango County is working to help supply items to our school district's care closets. In August, the United Way delivered supplies to the Cranberry Area, Franklin Area, Oil City Area, and Valley Grove School Districts. These supplies included 240 bottles of shampoo and 240 bottles of conditioner, 420 tubes of toothpaste and 1440 toothbrushes, 132 bottles of mouthwash, 996 packages of feminine hygiene products, 384 bottles of deodorant and 240 packages of laundry soap pods. Another supply distribution is being planned for January.

Needed items are determined by contact and surveys with the organizers of the Care Closets. The United Way then sources and purchases the products and delivers the items to each school district. Organizations or individuals who would like to help the United Way make a bigger impact may call (814) 676-6545 to make a monetary donation specifically for the Care Closet program.

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| <b>Tessa Byham</b>    | <i>Executive Assistant</i> |
| <b>Ashley Sheffer</b> | <i>Program Manager</i>     |

### Chamber Events Calendar

#### DECEMBER

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 04 | Cross Creek Holiday Mixer, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. |
| 05 | FLEX Holiday Party                         |
| 11 | Leadership Venango                         |
| 19 | Chamber Board Meeting, 8 a.m.              |
| 20 | Tech Talk, Venango Chamber, 8 a.m.         |
| 24 | <b>Christmas Eve - Office Closed</b>       |
| 25 | <b>Christmas Day - Office Closed</b>       |

#### JANUARY

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 01 | <b>New Years Day - Office Closed</b>     |
| 08 | Leadership Venango                       |
| 10 | Winter Kickoff Mixer, Seven Springs      |
| 16 | Chamber Executive Board Meeting, 12 p.m. |
| 17 | Tech Talk, Venango Chamber, 8 a.m.       |



COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS AVAILABLE AT  
[VENANGOPLAYS.ORG](http://VENANGOPLAYS.ORG)

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# FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

## FYI

brought to you by the **future leaders & entrepreneurs exchange**

Volume 7 | Issue 12 | December 2019

### Taking Control of Your Career Development

No matter what stage of your career you are in, there are always opportunities to learn and grow.

At our Speaker Series in November, Kat Thompson with PA CareerLink and Deb Eckelberger of the Franklin Industrial and Commercial Development Authority shared their knowledge and wisdom around career development.

Attendee ages ranged from an 18-year-old high school senior, to a President & CEO in their late 50s, and everyone was able to take away something beneficial from the presentation.

Kat touched on topics including soft and hard skills, setting goals, taking trainings and courses, and the importance of networking and getting involved in the community.

“No one starts out being perfect or knowing everything,” said Kat. “It’s essential to recognize your weaknesses, understand why it’s important to work on them, and then practice until you improve.”

Deb has worked for various organizations throughout our region and shared how she got to where she is today.

She started out planning to go to nursing school, but instead went right into the workforce. She got her Realtors license, and eventually went back to school and is now in the economic development industry.

“I always knew I wanted to work in my hometown, and now I have a job here that I absolutely love,” said Deb. “Two of the things that have contributed to my success have included networking in the community and finding great people to be my mentors.”

If you missed the Speaker Series but are looking for ways to develop in your career, you can find resources on the right. You can also find more photos on the back of this FYI.



### CAREER DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

**ResCare Academy:** Free courses on a variety of professional topics; Must register through Kat (email [Kathryn.Thompson@nwpacareerlink.org](mailto:Kathryn.Thompson@nwpacareerlink.org))

**Occupational Research (O\*NET OnLine):** Database of occupational information; Visit [onetonline.org](http://onetonline.org)

**FLEX Leadership Development Resources (LDR):** Collection of professional books, documents, videos, and more; Visit [bit.ly/FLEXLDR](http://bit.ly/FLEXLDR)

**Traitify:** Personality and career assessment; Visit [pa.careerlink.traitify.com](http://pa.careerlink.traitify.com)

**Big Interview:** Free job interview training; Visit [pacareerlink.pa.gov](http://pacareerlink.pa.gov) (click “Individuals,” then “Interview Practice”)



**Ryan O'Neill** is originally from Titusville and now works as an Account Executive at Forever Media. He attended Edinboro University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

Ryan is also an Army Combat Veteran and served in Iraq from 2003 to 2005.

He is excited to be back in our area and has hope for the future here. "I like how personable, approachable, and helpful people are. You get a real sense of community and genuine caring," he said. "The area is growing and evolving to meet the needs of a changing world and you can see this through the expansion of our industries, cultural centers, and retail establishments."

At his job with Forever Media, Ryan gets to be a part of this growth and work with local businesses, which he describes as a "humbling and exhilarating experience

and one that I truly enjoy doing day in and day out."

In his free time, Ryan reads, lifts weights, hunts, fishes, cooks and bakes, hikes, camps, and spends time with his nieces and nephews. He also has dreams to go into business for himself someday and spends time working on business plans while also learning and volunteering to improve the community.

Some of Ryan's favorite places to visit in our area include the hiking and biking trails and the local libraries, which he says are "a truly valuable resource." Ryan also likes to visit the small businesses and loves to see them grow from startups to viable businesses. You can find him at local festivals and events, too, including Applefest, the Venango County Fair, and other smaller gatherings that occur frequently in our area.

Ryan looks forward to getting even more involved with FLEX, to network and have access to ideas and resources from fellow professionals and entrepreneurs. Welcome to FLEX, Ryan!

## Want to be Happy? Be Grateful

We hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the holiday season! During this time of year, it's especially important to recognize what we have and to be grateful. Our last TED Talk recommendation is all about the connection of gratefulness to happiness, and speaker David Steindl-Rast tells us: "It's not happiness that makes us grateful, it's gratefulness that makes us happy."

It's not just about grateful experiences, but grateful living. How do you do that? "By experiencing, by becoming aware that every moment is a given moment, as we say. It's a gift. You haven't earned it. You haven't brought it about in any way. You have no way of assuring that there will be another moment given to you, and yet, that's the most valuable thing that can ever be given to us, this moment, with all the opportunity that it contains," he said.

We can't be grateful for everything, but we can aim to be grateful in every given moment for opportunities we are given. Listen to Steindl-Rast's TED Talk at [bit.ly/SteindlRastGrateful](http://bit.ly/SteindlRastGrateful).



**Dr. Kate Eckert**  
 drkeckert@gmail.com  
 www.chirokeckert.com

1047 Allegheny Avenue  
 Oil City, PA 16301  
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**Valerie Perry** grew up in Oil City and is among the first group of Cruise & Travel Directors for Holland American Line. This company is redefining the cruise industry by changing the role of the Cruise Director and providing education and enrichment on the history and culture of destinations.

Prior to her current job, Valerie worked at National Geographic, where she was the Head of Programming and Production for National Geographic Live—a speaker series where explorers share their stories from the field.

“I got to work at National Geographic which is pretty great, but I also had the courage to walk away when I knew it wasn't quite the right fit anymore,” she said. “It would have been easier to stay—seeing people's jaws hit the floor when you tell them where you work never got old—but Holland America Line offered me a job to do what I really loved doing: public speaking and getting people excited to travel.”

Valerie attended Cranberry High School, where she graduated as Valedictorian in 2003. She then studied at Grove City College where she earned bachelor's degrees in Communication and Christian Thought. She considers herself a lifelong learner and will attend a class or webinar about anything.

In the future, Valerie would love a larger platform to speak to people about travel (a television or digital series is her dream) and someday she'd like to own a travel planning company. She'd also like to start a scholarship fund to help area youth pursue their dreams, too.

Valerie's hobbies include photography, hiking, camping, spending time with family and friends, and visiting National Parks, of which she has visited about 120. She is also a travel writer—theroadlotstraveled.com chronicles her journeys and she wrote a guidebook to Caribbean ports called "Sea More: Caribbean."

There are many reasons Valerie loves living in Venango County. She loves the quiet, being away from crowds and traffic, and being surrounded by nature—much different than when she lived in Washington, DC. She also likes that there is always something to do when she's had enough quiet, like grab a beer at Trails to Ales or see friends in a show at the Barrow Civic Theatre.

Valerie does not technically work in Venango County; she works onboard Holland America Line ships for 3-5 months at a time. During her contact she works every single day, so to make up for the lack of weekends and days off, she then has 1 or 2 months off in-between contracts. This gives her months at a time to explore and enjoy this area.

We wish Valerie the best of luck as she heads back to work, and we look forward to seeing her again when she's back in the area!

---

## 2020 Tip of the Month: Professional Development

We hope you enjoyed our TED Talk recommendations this year! In 2020, we plan to share monthly “Professional Development Tips” in each newsletter, on various topics including personal branding, networking, work and life balance, and mentorship.



We want to share these tips FROM young professionals. If you have a tip or advice you'd like to share, please email Tessa at [tbyham@venangochamber.org](mailto:tbyham@venangochamber.org).



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FLEX had a busy month in November! We had a fun night of bowling, learned about career development at our Speaker Series, and participated in Franklin's Light-Up Night parade.



## OUR MISSION

FLEX represents the needs and interests of Young Professionals by positioning ourselves as leaders, entrepreneurs and advocates for the sustainability of the Venango Area through civic engagement, leadership development, and networking.

### Upcoming Events & Meetings:

- **Ugly Holiday Sweater Party & Food Drive:** Thursday, December 5, 6 - 8 p.m., FoxTales Pub, Franklin (Bring a donation for the food drive!)
- **Membership Committee Meeting:** Thursday, December 12, 5 p.m., Oil City Library (Heritage Room)
- **FLEX Monthly Meeting:** Wednesday, December 18, 5:30 p.m., Venango Chamber

Find more event details at [facebook.com/VenangoFLEX](https://facebook.com/VenangoFLEX) or [members.venangochamber.org/events](https://members.venangochamber.org/events)

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

William Woods

Interested in joining? Email Laura at [laura.ordaz@mining.komatsu](mailto:laura.ordaz@mining.komatsu).

Connect with us:



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— 2020 —

# W I N T E R K I C K O F F

Multi-Chamber Mega Mixer at Seven Springs Mountain Resort  
Friday, January 10th from 5-8pm

[www.WinterKickoff2020.com](http://www.WinterKickoff2020.com)

## 2020 ANNUAL WINTER KICKOFF Mega Mixer & Networking Reception

Join us for this annual multi-chamber business networking reception as we mix and mingle with over 30 regional business organizations!



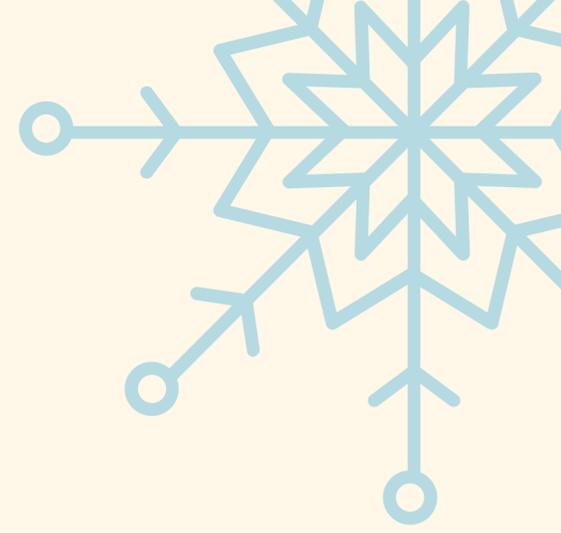
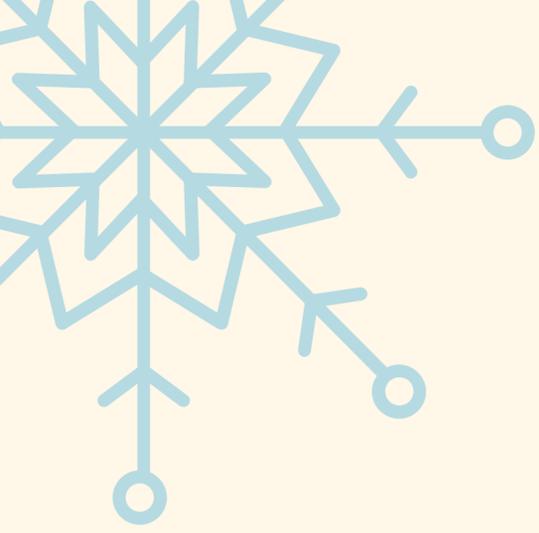
Don't miss the perfect networking event to kick off 2020! Join hundreds of business owners, entrepreneurs, and other professionals at Seven Springs Mountain Resort. Mix and mingle with the leadership and members of over 30 regional business organizations. Enjoy cocktails and light fare at this annual gathering of business professionals. Discounted room rates and lift tickets are available to all participants! Exhibitor tables are available during the reception and sponsors receive tremendous visibility with a substantial amount of pre-event marketing! Join us!

Register: [www.WinterKickoff2020.com](http://www.WinterKickoff2020.com)



### 2020 PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS





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- Scarves, turbans, and hats
- Style tips (a video)

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This program is offered through a collaboration of the Look Good Feel Better Foundation and the Professional Beauty Association. Dignity Health Cancer Institute is a member of the Look Good Feel Better Alliance.

### Upcoming Workshop date:

UPMC Northwest:  
December 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm  
UPMC Northwest Hospital  
100 Fairfield Drive, Seneca, PA 16346  
Hillman Cancer Center entrance

**Registration is required due to limited space.** To register for a workshop, visit [www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org](http://www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org) and look for the Program Finder. For more information about the workshop, please call 814-676-7746.

A special thanks to Northwest Hospital Foundation for generously funding this program.



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## UPMC Northwest Occupational Health

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  - > Fit for duty/return to work
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- Consultations
- Case manager conferences
- Medical letters
- Medical reviews
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - > Examinations
  - > Urine drug screening
  - > Vision screening
- Urine testing
  - > Dipstick testing
  - > Drug screening
  - > Observed urine collection
- Hair collection and hair drug testing
- Breath alcohol testing
- Hearing screening
- Vision screening
- Tuberculosis (TB) testing
- Tuberculosis (TB) questionnaire review
- Pulmonary and respiratory services
  - > Review of OSHA respirator medical evaluation questionnaire
  - > Respiratory clearance evaluation
  - > Respirator medical physical exam and evaluation
  - > Respirator fit mask testing
  - > Pulmonary function testing (PFT)
- Treatments for minor injuries

### • Vaccinations

- > Influenza
- > Twinrix (hepatitis A and hepatitis B)
- > Hepatitis A
- > Hepatitis B
- > Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (TDaP)

### UPMC Northwest Occupational Health

3512 State Route 257

Seneca, PA 16346

Phone: 814-678-5292

Fax: 814-678-5294

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Directions

UPMC Northwest Occupational Health has moved from its previous location at UPMC Urgent Care, 464 Allegheny Blvd., Franklin, to 3512 State Route 257 (in the same building as Chest Medicine Associates) in Seneca.

- 1) UPMC Urgent Care
- 2) UPMC Northwest Occupational Health
- 3) UPMC Northwest



**LIVE UNITED**

**United Way**



United Way of Venango County

DONATED BY:



**WIN A CAR!**

-DONATE AS LITTLE AS \$5 A PAY, MINIMUM OF \$130, TO UNITED WAY OF VENANGO COUNTY 2019 CAMPAIGN!

-TEN LUCKY CONTESTANTS WILL BE SELECTED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

**DONATE TO WIN!!!**

VISIT [UNITEDWAYVENANGOCOUNTY.ORG](http://UNITEDWAYVENANGOCOUNTY.ORG) FOR RULES & DETAILS

**WIN A RADIO PACKAGE**

30, 30 Second Spots, for 30 Days, on Mix 96 & Fox Sports News.

-ANY SMALL BUSINESS THAT DONATES \$250 OR MORE TO UNITED WAY OF VENANGO COUNTY'S 2019 CAMPAIGN!  
-\$250 MAY INCLUDE CORPORATE PLEDGE AND/OR EMPLOYEE PLEDGES.

SPONSORED BY:



104.1 FM  
1120 AM  
ON CITY



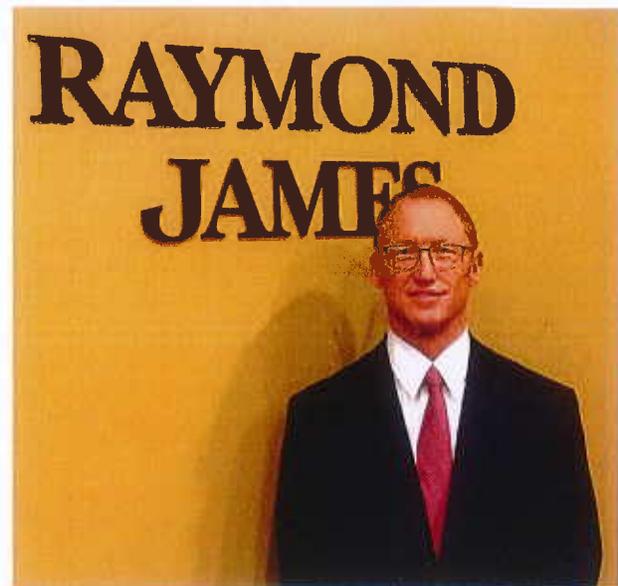
Donations can be made at [www.unitedwayofvenangocounty.org](http://www.unitedwayofvenangocounty.org), by check at P.O. Box 303 Reno, PA 16343, or by calling 676-6545.

**IS YOUR FINANCIAL ADVISOR  
RETIRING AND LEAVING YOU WITH  
SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW?**

*This may be a good time to get a second opinion on your  
investments.*

**Gunter Financial  
Group of  
Raymond James**

*David Gunter,  
Financial Advisor  
2 E Second Street, Oil  
City, PA 16301*



**Business hours:**

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**B 814.493.8120**

**F 814.670.0454**

**TF 844.545.2254**

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## CHARITABLE DEEDS ANNUAL UTILITY CAMPAIGN TO HELP THE POOR AND NEEDY IN YOUR AREA

Charitable Deeds and Services helps the poor and needy in Venango, Clarion, and Forest counties. We have now started our 18th Annual Utility Campaign for the poor and needy. There are so many families out there without electric, gas, and water. I can't believe this is happening in the United States of America. We continue to raise money each and every day, but it is not enough to keep up with the increasing need. If you ever had a thought that some day it was time to give back because the Good Lord has been so good to you, now is that time.

Charitable Deeds and Services is an organization that has 1,000 plus members. It has no expenses, no administration fees, and no one gets paid. There are 2 local families that takes care of all the expenses that we may incur. Because of this, we can give back 100 percent of what we raise, to the poor and needy. These 1,000 plus members do this for the love of God and neighbor. We are starting this campaign on November 11<sup>th</sup> and will run thru the cold winter months. We are starting this campaign early, due to the overwhelming amount of request coming in daily. We are now pleading to the public, businesses, churches and other organizations to help with this campaign. You can send your donations to Charitable Deeds and Services, 98 Hickory Nut Lane, Knox, PA 16232. Our phone number is (814) 221-9966. On November 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be starting our 18th year of helping the poor and needy. In all those years, we have yet to turn anyone away that needed our help, if they were worthy. Please pray to the God Lord that we may be able to take care of all those seeking Charitable Deeds help.

***"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35***

If any trust, foundation, or other charity that would like to send us a grant, we can distribute it in their name, and send back an application for each family that we helped. We would like to have banks, businesses, and factories help us with this Utility Campaign. We have a 501C3 status. All donations are tax deductible. Sometime in your lifetime the Good Lord will repay 10 times or more for helping the poor and needy.

***"Feed the hungry! Help those in trouble! Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you shall be as bright as day. And the Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy you with all good things, and keep you healthy too; and you will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. (TLB, Isaiah 58:10-11)***

P.S. We will be having a Huge Garage sale on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. We are located at 200 & 260 High Point Road, Knox Pa 16232 from 8am – 2 pm. There are many new and gently used items. The money raised for these sales goes into the general account to help the poor and needy with their utility bills.

John R. Kerle (814)221-9966  
Bobbi Wolfgang (814)797-0286  
Charitable Deeds and Services

# DRAKE WELL MUSEUM AND PARK



FUN IN THE FORECAST

## DECEMBER

*Happy Holidays*

Drake Well Museum Store  
202 Museum Lane • Titusville PA 16354

**10% OFF**  
Entire Purchase

MEMBERS SAVE MORE!

**15% OFF**  
Entire Purchase

11/30/19—12/23/19 | Not Valid Online



## JANUARY



## FEBRUARY

PITHOLE CABIN FEVER

1

## MARCH

CHARTER DAY

8

WISDOM & WINE: MUSEUM LECTURE SERIES

5, 12, 19, 26

## APRIL

ENGINE START-UP DAY

25

## MAY

MEET-U TRAIL RACE:

5 MILE RUN &

HALF-MARATHON

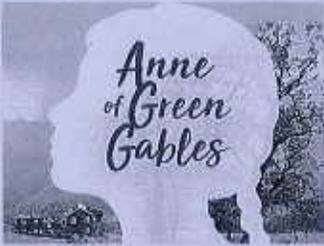
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[WWW.DRAKEWELL.ORG](http://WWW.DRAKEWELL.ORG)



# 2020 Season

1223 Liberty Street, Franklin (814) 437-3440 [barrowtheatre.com](http://barrowtheatre.com)



## Anne of Green Gables

Main Stage

March 13, 14, 20, 21 at 7:30pm | March 22 at 2:00pm

She's a wildly independent orphan with fiery red hair and a temper to match. Whether you're meeting her for the first time or are an old friend, this brand new stage adaptation captures all of the charm and brilliance of one of classic literature's most unforgettable characters, Anne of Green Gables. Rated G. Tickets \$14-\$20.



## Pippin

Main Stage

April 24, 25, May 1, 2 at 7:30pm | May 3 at 2:00pm

Young Prince Pippin, captivated by a mysterious group of circus performers, embarks on a dangerous journey to find the meaning of life. Full of death-defying acrobatics, wondrous magical feats, and soaring songs from the composer of *Wicked*, this unforgettable musical spectacle takes audiences to dizzying heights of artistry and imagination. Rated PG13. Tickets \$14-\$20.

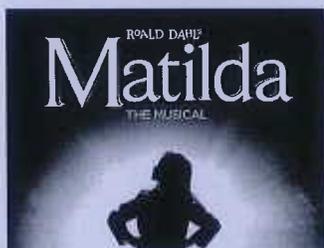


## Catch Me If You Can

Main Stage

June 19, 20, 26 at 7:30pm | June 21, 28 at 2:00pm

Based on the incredible true story and major film, *Catch Me If You Can* tells the high-flying tale of an American teenager who leaves home in search of a glamorous new life, using nothing but boyish charm and phony checks. It's a big and bright musical comedy that's all about chasing your dreams... and not getting caught. Rated PG. Tickets \$14-\$20.



## Matilda

Main Stage

Sept. 25, 26, Oct. 1, 2, 3, 9, 10 at 7:30pm | Sept. 27, Oct. 11 at 2:00pm

From the brilliantly batty Roald Dahl comes the story of Matilda, a genius little girl born into a less-than-genius family. Things only get worse when her parents send her to Crunchem Hall, where she meets the tyrannical Miss Trunchbull. But, armed with bravery and a big imagination, she proves that everyone has the power to change their destiny. Rated PG. Tickets \$14-\$20.



## Elf the Musical

Main Stage

December 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 at 7:30pm | December 6, 13 at 2:00pm

*Elf the Musical* is the hilarious tale of Buddy, the accidental elf on a quest to find his real identity. He truly believes in the magic of the season and tries to share his enthusiasm with everyone he meets. This modern-day holiday classic will make everyone embrace their inner elf! After all, "the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." Rated PG. Tickets \$14-\$20.

Adult  
\$48 / \$80

Senior/Military  
\$45 / \$75

Student/Child  
\$33 / \$55

Adult Couple  
\$96 / \$160

Senior Couple  
\$90 / \$150

## 2020 Season Subscriptions

Choose 3 or all 5 shows!

## Become a Member

Benefits include FCOA ticket vouchers, first access to Season Subscriptions, Season Program recognition, and more. Call us or visit [barrowtheatre.com/members](http://barrowtheatre.com/members).



# Upcoming Events



December 2019

**Barrow-Civic Theatre**

1223 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA

(814) 437-3440

/barrowcivictheatre



## **A Seussified Christmas Carol**

Main Stage

**December 12, 13, 14 at 7:30pm | December 14, 15 at 2:00pm**

What would happen if Charles Dickens and Dr. Seuss collaborated on a play? *A Seussified Christmas Carol*, of course! From zoot-fruited juices to binka-bird geese, from stockings and presents to a feast of roast beast - this whimsical reinvention of a beloved classic will fill the whole family with holiday cheer! Rated G. Tickets \$14-\$20.



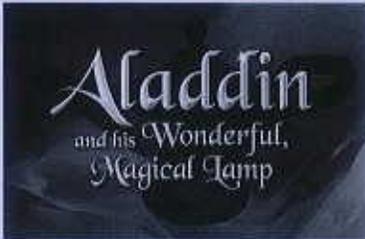
## **Handel's Messiah**

Main Stage

**December 20 & 21 at 7:30pm**

Celebrate the holidays with FCOA's special biennial production of one of George Frideric Handel's most cherished works. Tickets \$14-\$16.

**The Barrow-Civic Theatre will be closed from Dec. 22 - Jan. 2. Happy Holidays!**



## **Auditions: Aladdin and His Wonderful, Magical Lamp**

Main Stage

**January 4 & 5 at 2:00pm**

Join FCOA Youth Theatre's all-youth musical and visit the exciting city of Shammar in Old Arabia! Actors ages 8-16 and Tech ages 10-18. (2019 Summer Camp students who are still 7 may participate.) Sign-ups will be held in the main lobby. Auditions will be held for singing or speaking parts. Everyone willing makes the show! School performance February 13. Public performances February 14 & 15.



## **Celebration of Talent 2020**

Main Stage

**Enter now - January 6**

Do you have a special talent? Would you like to perform on stage for a chance to win up to \$500? Enter now for *Celebration of Talent*, a variety talent competition where the winners are determined by audience vote! All ages and all talents are welcome! The event will take place on February 8, 2020. Learn more and enter online at [barrowtheatre.com/talent](http://barrowtheatre.com/talent).



## **Liberty Cabaret: One-Hit Wonders**

Little Theatre

**January 17, 18, 24, 25, 31 at 7:30pm | February 1 at 7:30pm**

An original Off-Barrow production with laugh-out-loud skits and a soundtrack that will celebrate some of the most well-known one-hit wonders of all time! Mature Audiences. Tickets \$15.

give the gift  
of theater

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3<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
**Adult Prom**  
**at the Quality Inn**

1411 LIBERTY STREET, FRANKLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

**MARCH 20 – 8 TO 11 P.M.**

A night of dancing, prizes, light hors d'oeuvres & fun!  
Details on Facebook — Adult Prom Franklin PA

\$25 tickets available at the Franklin YMCA.

Presale tickets only — by March 13. No tickets sold at the door.

Limited number of tickets available. This event sold out last year.

To be guaranteed a favor purchase your ticket by Feb. 28.

This is a formal event. Proper attire encouraged. Must be 21 or older to attend.

Every ticket holder is guaranteed a seat at a table.

Doors open at 7:30 P.M. Registration closes at 9 P.M.

\$100 for a reserved seating table

(guarantees eight seats together)

A King & Queen will be elected from attendees.  
Mention Adult Prom for a discount on a room at the Quality Inn.

Proceeds benefit the Franklin YMCA.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Adult Prom 2020 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE YOUR COMPANY AS A LEADER IN VENANGO COUNTY.

Last year's event sold out and had a HUGE social media following. Which means as a sponsor of the Adult Prom the amount of advertising you'll get for your sponsorship dollar goes a long way! PLUS it helps a great cause — The Franklin YMCA.

Sign up to be a sponsor today! Just fill out the form below and send it to the Franklin YMCA.

The Franklin YMCA, local communities, attendees and volunteers thank you for your consideration.

Please check the box for the level of sponsorship you'd like:

- \$1,000 Event Sponsor:** Recognition on Facebook, on all event materials at the event, and event banner. Includes a private table and eight event tickets.
- \$500 King & Queen Sponsor:** Recognition on Facebook, on all materials and presentations related to the king & queen election, and announced with king & queen election. Includes four event tickets.
- \$250 Basket Sponsor:** Recognition on Facebook, on basket sponsor banner, announced with basket, and on the basket at the event.
- \$125 Table Sponsor:** Recognition on Facebook and on a table at the event.
- \$100 Table Reservation:** Guarantees eight seats together.

**DON'T WAIT! SEND IN YOUR SPONSORSHIP/RESERVATION NOW!**

Recognition Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed

Invoice Me

Please contact the Franklin YMCA (or see the flyer on the other side) with any questions, or for more information.