

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

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Foundations for Effective Communication

“We communicate to understand each other, form meaningful connections, and inspire change.”

Hind T. Karns, Managing Director of Wemanigit, a new local business consultancy, spoke to young professionals at the FLEX Speaker Series in May on the importance of communication and how to do it effectively.

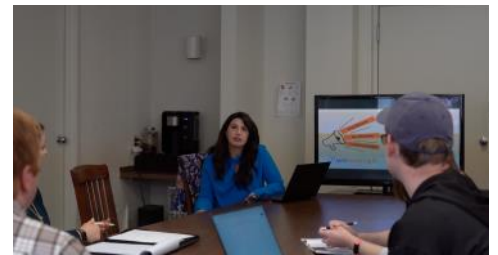
One important takeaway from the evening was how to inspire change, through elements such as authenticity, visibility, and trust.

How to be a better listener was also discussed and some ways Hind shared for teaching yourself to improve included being curious,

asking open-ended questions, monitoring body language, and clarifying.

Another important part of the conversation included finding common ground. Personalities and styles play a big role and Hind had attendees take a Communication Style quiz, which talked about four types of styles—connector, planner, thinker, and mover. If you’d like to take the quiz, you can find it at personalitylingo.com/free-communication-style-quiz.

“Communication is a gift. If every individual takes responsibility for their own actions, communicates with love, authenticity, and



purpose—our world will be a much better place,” Hind told the group.

A lot about communication was covered in just a short amount of time and we appreciate all the knowledge Hind shared with young professionals! To learn more about her business, visit wemanigit.com.

Have a topic you’d like us to focus on at an upcoming speaker series? Let us know!

Planning Underway for 2022 Bike ‘n Brew—July 16th



The Oil Heritage Festival Bike ‘n Brew Committee is excited about a day of biking activities and local, craft beer for the event in July. Similar to 2021, this year’s Bike ‘n Brew will include a curbside package full of beer and other swag, as well as a VIP tasting for a limited number of attendees.

NEW this year—Jim with 4 Season Cycle in Franklin is helping plan a biking poker run, where riders will visit multiple businesses and spots in Oil City and get entered to win some awesome prizes. Tickets for the beer portion of the event go on sale June 17th. Find more details & updates at ohfbikenbrew.org. See inside for details on other upcoming FLEX summer events.



FLEX Feature: Electralloy with Quinn Mitchell

Our FLEX Feature articles have been a mix of nonprofit organizations and businesses, and we're excited to introduce a local manufacturer this month!

Tell us about Electralloy.

We make specialty steel, nickel, and copper alloys for the aerospace, shipbuilding, energy production, and industrial products industries. The material starts as scrap and is melted in our electric arc furnace. The melt shop works to perfect the chemistry of the alloy by adding and reducing elements of interest. It then can either be remelted in our vacuum arc remelt (VAR) furnaces or electro slag remelt (ESR) furnaces, and forged/rolled to size in Braeburn, PA, or sent to our network of converters and then heat treated, tested, and machined to size at our Rouseville, Siverly, and Cherry Tree locations.

What is your role at Electralloy?

I'm the Chief Chemist and responsible for managing all aspects of the chemistry lab. We work with the melt shop to produce quick and accurate results throughout and after the melt. We use four types of methods—X-ray, optical emission, combustion, and fusion. We just acquired a new x-ray machine and we are busy calibrating and running studies on its capabilities. Soon I will be creating and updating procedures on how to run the different grades of steel on the new machine.

What is your favorite part about working for this business?

Electralloy has been a steady source of employment for Venango County residents since the late 1960's. It has even given me the ability to move home. I studied Food Science in the hope of running a creamery off my family's farm. We (Mitch-Hill Dairy) just started bottling milk in January 2021, but it still is not enough to pay a salary. Therefore, my day job at Electralloy helps sustain that dream in hopes it can be profitable in the future. I am thankful Electralloy has given me a career. I started as a technician and worked my way to management. They have provided some training and I am learning new things about this industry every day.

What would surprise people about Electralloy?

I think our coolest customer is SpaceX! We make the metal that goes into the rocket engine nozzles for when they blast off and the steering mechanisms for the boosters that are landed on barges when they return to earth. Our favorite saying in the lab is: "Sometimes we make spaceships and sometimes we make spoons." Spaceship making day is the most exciting.

Is there anything else you'd like to share?

Fun fact — we used to get and use scrap that came with armed guards, like foreign coins and firearms that were being recycled.

Also, we are environmentally conscious. As mentioned earlier, we use an electric furnace and that is the greenest form of energy to melt steel. Most other mills use natural gas, coal coke to power their furnaces. Our lab also tests the water quality once a week to make sure any runoff to the river is safe for the local wildlife.

Thank you, Quinn, for sharing about Electralloy! You can learn more about the business at electralloy.com.

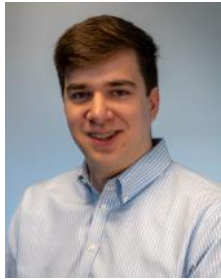
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Member Profile: Devin Zagar



Devin Zagar is the owner of 7 Foot Productions & Marketing, a business that offers a variety of marketing services, like videography, photography, and social media marketing.

He is originally from this area, and earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the College of Wooster, as well as multiple certifications in Digital Marketing.

Devin has enjoyed starting his own company and being able to help local businesses and organizations. Some of his other achievements include being nominated for Young Professional of the Year and graduating from the Leadership Venango program.

Lifelong learning is important to Devin and he plans to continue to expand his knowledge and grow relationships and build new ones. He also has goals for

his company to grow to continue helping local small businesses and organizations.

In his free time, Devin has fun playing basketball (which he played in college), podcasting, learning, hanging out with friends, riding his one wheel or motorcycle and volunteering.

Enjoying all Venango County has to offer is important to Devin, too, and he often goes out to local restaurants and breweries, attends community and FLEX events, and uses our local trails and waterways.

"I love working with the people here," he told us. "Starting a new company is never easy and I am thankful for all the support I have received from others in our community including businesses and their owners, the Venango Chamber, and friends and family. I love being able to capture and help share the beauty of our area and the people in it through video."

Summer Events for FLEX

As we get into summer, the FLEX schedule is filling up with fun events and socials!



We hope to see you at some of the following happenings:

- **First Friday Lunch:** Friday, June 3, 12PM at Casey's Restaurant in Oil City • Network with other young professionals and support a local business.
- **Summer Kick-Off:** Friday, June 24 & Saturday, June 25, at Two Mile Run County Park • A weekend of fun outdoor activities, like hiking, camping, and kayaking. Come for the whole time, or stop by for a little.
- **Oil Heritage Bike 'n Brew:** Saturday, July 16, Oil City • Biking activities, craft beer, and more. Attend or volunteer! We will also be distributing posters for the event at our "Poster Raid" on Friday, June 17th.
- **Oil Heritage Ice Cream Social:** Thursday, July 21, in Central Ave. Plaza, Oil City • Volunteer with us as we serve ice cream to the community during Oil Heritage Festival!

Updates for these events will be shared in our weekly email update and on our [Facebook page](#). Contact us at flex@venangochamber.org with any questions!

Photo above from 2021 Summer Kick-Off at Oil Creek.

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Event Photos: First Friday Lunch & Leadership Venango Graduation



Congratulations to the FLEX members who graduated from Leadership Venango (pictured top right)! Find more photos in the main June [Venango Chamber newsletter](#).

June Events & Meetings:

- First Friday Lunch:** Friday, June 3 • 12 p.m. • Casey's, Oil City
- Bike 'n Brew Committee:** Friday, June 3 • 6 p.m. • Venango Chamber
- Membership Committee:** Monday, June 13 • 5 p.m. • Venango Chamber
- Bike 'n Brew Poster Raid:** Friday, June 17 • 6 p.m. • Join FLEX as we distribute posters for Bike 'n Brew throughout Venango County!
- Events & Fundraising Committee:** Tuesday, June 21 • 12 p.m. • Zoom
- Marketing Committee:** Thursday, June 23 • 4:15 p.m. • Zoom
- Summer Kick-Off:** June 24 & 25 • Two Mile Run County Park
- FLEX Monthly Meeting:** Monday, June 27 • 12 p.m. • Zoom
- Contact us for meeting zoom links at flex@venangochamber.org, or find links in our Weekly Update email.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joseph Brooker
Jenna Dillion
Zach Miller
Kyle Peasley
Caleb Williams

Interested in joining?
Email the FLEX Membership Committee Chair Joslyn Dechant at joslyn.dechant@gmail.com or join online: VenangoFLEX.org.

FLEX 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.

CONNECT WITH US: VenangoFLEX.org • flex@venangochamber.org

