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JUNE 2022



Leadership Venango Graduates Fourth Class

See page 3

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Contact: *Kathryn Hartman*
357 North Craig Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
(800) 664-0480
allofuspa@pitt.edu
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Iron Furnace Coffee

Contact: *Hannah Gamble*
1236 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323
(814) 518-5151
info@ironfurnacecoffee.com
facebook.com/ironfurnacecoffee

Trilogy Wellness

Contact: *Angela Perillo*
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Franklin, PA 16323
(877) 446-6331
recovery@trilogywellnesscenters.com
trilogywellness.org

CHAMBER EVENTS

"Ask HR" Virtual Series • June 9

Join us via Zoom for a virtual series featuring Pam Watkins of Watkins HR Strategy. Pam is an HR expert, who will be answering your anonymous HR questions. Register for this event by emailing tbyham@venangochamber.org and submit your questions for Pam at members.venangochamber.org/form/view/25890.

Golf Scramble • June 23

Register now for the Chamber's Annual Golf Scramble, held at Wanango Country Club. Enjoy a pre-golf Trade Show, lunch, prizes, and steak dinner as part of your registration!



44th Annual Oil Heritage Festival • July 21-24



Join us in downtown Oil City for 4+ days of music, fun, food, and more! Follow Oil Heritage Festival on Facebook and check out our website at oilheritagefestival.com for more information.

Find Chamber event and registration information at:
venangochamber.org/events

Leadership Venango Program Graduates Fourth Class

By Susan Williams, Chamber President/CEO

I participated in my first formal leadership program in 2005, right here in Venango County. Similar to Leadership Venango, the nine-month program included exploration of our region and introduced us to local leaders, through topics that we would be likely to encounter. Looking back, I can identify the connections and relationships as the most valuable aspect of my participation.

As we envisioned Leadership Venango, my reference to that past was accompanied by the models of successful leadership programs across the country. With a little anxiety, we launched Leadership Venango in the fall of 2018, with our first class of 12 participants. We had a vision of “preparing our future leaders.” By the end of that first year, the anxiety was gone, replaced with assurance in knowing that meaningful relationships had been forged.



We just graduated our fourth class—the largest yet. This year’s class had the greatest age and experience range, adding to the overall diversity. Perhaps the most critical aspect of leadership is the ability to use your current level of experience, along with the point-in-time and people you are sharing your time with, to explore how to grow towards better. Our leadership journey should be continually evolving, in connection with those around you.

With this in mind, we are updating our logo and messaging to “preparing leaders for a better future,” which more accurately reflects our intention to deliver a program that is relevant, regardless of what stage of leadership you are in.

Each class of Leadership Venango promises to introduce participants to other leaders who are navigating the current challenges of the community and workplace. While the curriculum is continually evaluated, by the class and organizers (Tessa and myself), we are learning that the experience will be unique each year. The Class of

“My time in Leadership Venango was incredibly valuable and the lessons I learned are long-lasting. I loved meeting all of the different presenters we had and hearing a multitude of perspectives on leadership, community, and making connections. The most valuable part of Leadership Venango for me is the relationships I formed with my classmates.”

-Natalie Cubbon, Class of 2022

2019 could never have imagined what it would be like to lead through a pandemic. The Class of 2022 will never know a world not impacted by the hardships of the past two years.

Our vision for preparing leaders also includes connecting them across graduating classes, through a robust alumni network. We have begun the work on this and for the first time, invited all past graduates to join us for graduation, a chance to meet and celebrate together.

Enrollment for the class of 2023 is well underway. You can apply online now or reach out to us for more information!

Congratulations to the Leadership Venango Class of 2022

Liz Amendola, ELA Handmades & El Toro

Ashleigh Bennett, Porch Music Store

Brandon Boocks, Venango Museum

Matthew Craig, Webco Industries

Natalie Cubbon, Oil Region Library Association

Nick Gammello, Rossbacher Insurance

Ashlee Goodman, Raymond James Financial

Ben Hart, UPMC Prehospital Care

Jarred Heuer, Clarion County EDC

Chris Loll, Klapec Trucking Company

Amariliz Sanchez, Clarion University Venango

Kelly Smerker, UPMC Northwest

Megan Weber, Komatsu Mining

Heidi Whistle, Gibbons Business Solutions

Devin Zagar, 7 Foot Productions & Marketing

Find photos from graduation on page 9.

MEMBER NEWS

4YCC Celebrates 20 Year Anniversary

Congratulations to 4 Your Car Connection, who will celebrate their 20th year in business this year! Owned by Scott Snow, the Cranberry business has been named "Dealership of the Year" by Preferred Warranties Inc. several times over their 20-year tenure.

4 Your Car Connection offers a large inventory of pre-owned vehicles as well as a broad selection of financing options including financing with banks, credit unions, secondary lenders, and their own Buy Here Pay Here program

The team is planning some exciting events to celebrate their 20th year, including a fireworks show and concert on June 11, and a free BBQ and car show on June 25. Follow 4 Your Car Connection's Facebook page for more information.



Oil City Eye Associates Welcomes Dr. Gary Hawk

Oil City Eye Associates would like to welcome Dr. Gary Hawk to their eye care family!

Dr. Hawk is a Titusville native and has been practicing for 47 years, both at local eye offices and on the island of Guam.

In his free time, Dr. Hawk enjoys gardening. He will be seeing patients at the Titusville and Oil City locations, so say "hello" and schedule your appointment with him today!

For more information, visit Oil City Eye Associates Facebook page, or call (814) 677-2066.

Welcome, Dr. Hawk!



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MEMBER NEWS

Milliken Adds New Employee

Milliken & Company is excited to announce they have added a new Plant Accountant to their team, Meredith Obenrader.



In this role, Meredith will be responsible for inventory control and reconciling, maintaining operational expenses while managing capital expense budgets and ensuring an effective internal control environment.

In her free time, Meredith enjoys spending time with her husband and three dogs at their home in Fryburg.

Welcome Meredith!

eAcademy Holds Demo Day

eAcademy is a dual enrollment program for high school seniors, facilitated by Taylor Mosher, Entrepreneurship Program Manager from the Venango County Economic Development Authority.

The program runs throughout the school year and concludes in students pitching their business start-up to a panel of judges. In addition to a 5-minute pitch, students also create a business plan and prototype for judges to review.



This year's judges were Ashley Smith from Venango County Regional Planning, Deb Eckelberger from the Franklin Industrial and Commercial Development Authority, and Jess Carroll from the Northwest Commission.

At "Demo Day" held on May 19, Lauren Johnson, a Cranberry student and VenangoREADY designee, won first place which includes a \$1,000 scholarship. Alexa Boley from Cranberry, Brooke Wagner from Titusville, and Emily Ripple from Rocky Grove also participated in the eAcademy program. Congratulation eAcademy students!

For more information or to enroll in eAcademy for 2022-2023, go to vceda.com/672/Learn, facebook.com/VenangoeAcademy, or email tmosher@co.venango.pa.us.

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Lexi Returns for Second Summer with Chamber

By Lexi Henry, Chamber Intern



I'm very excited to be back at the Venango Chamber for another summer! I learned a lot during my sophomore year at college and am eager to apply these skills to my duties here. Classes like Management Information Systems, Business Analytics I,

and Productivity Software have proven to be largely beneficial when working with all of my festival spreadsheets. I am working to alter last year's information to make it more efficient and effective.

While at school, I picked up roles in clubs such as the Public Relations and Fundraising Chair of Chess Club, and the Philanthropy and Scholarship Chair of Slippery Rock's Chapter of the National Honor Society of Dance Arts. This allowed me to keep up with professional social media activity and communication skills. I also have two

on-campus jobs secured for my junior year which are an Honors College Peer Mentor and a Mailroom Attendant.

These positions, along with taking 18 credits and participating in Dance Theatre, will help me keep up my time management skills, challenge me intellectually, and improve my communication and collaboration skills.

Since I was a summer intern at the Chamber last year, I am already comfortable with all of my duties and left myself notes of how to improve aspects of the festival for this year. I have already mailed out parade and basket raffle postcards as well as scheduled many posts on social media.

I also feel like I am better able to help Tessa, Ashley, Kat, and Susan with their daily tasks now that I have experience with a lot of their activities.

I am looking forward to another good summer and a great Oil Heritage Festival!

Why Understanding the ADA Is Worth Your Attention

By Pamela Watkins, Watkins HR Strategy

When I was talking with an employer several months ago, I asked them about their ADA policy/practice. I was told: "We are good. Our facility is handicap accessible."

Not so fast. The Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into law in 1990, is layers deeper than just accessible facilities. It is a *comprehensive* piece of civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination and guarantees people with disabilities the same opportunities for employment.

A few highlights of this important legislation follow:

- Applies to organizations with 15 or more employees
- Prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities
- Requires reasonable accommodation unless the



accommodation creates a business hardship

What is a qualified individual with a disability? This is someone who meets the skill, experience, and education requirements of a position. This is someone who can perform the essential job functions of the job with or without accommodations.

There has been much discussion over what a "reasonable accommodation" may be or how "undue hardship" is evaluated.

This is a shortened version of an article. Find the full article at: venangochamber.org/understanding-ada.

Join us at an HR Series webinar with Pam on Thursday, June 9, at 8AM. Register at venangochamber.org/events.

Business Tip of the Month: *Customer Loyalty*

There are many things that are important for business; relationships building with customers being one of the top. If your customers don't feel aligned with your mission and loyal to your business, it will be hard to be successful. So, how can you build this customer loyalty?

- **Get to know them:** Learn names and facts about them, and interact when you can. If you don't talk to customers regularly, teach and encourage staff to do this.
- **Let them know you:** It's a two-way street. Just as you get to know them, share information about yourself so they can know you. It doesn't have to be too personal—even talking about your favorite sports team or sharing where you're going on vacation. Anything to create that personal connection.



- **Be transparent:** Things happen; but continuing to be open is key. Need to close for a few days because a staff member has COVID? Didn't get a product in because you forgot to order it? Don't hide it! Be honest and tell your customers what is going on.
- **Treat them well:** We all know the customer service basics—be polite and friendly, help them, answer questions, etc—but we encourage you to go the extra mile to create loyalty. You could offer a sample, send a card, or hold an item aside.

- **Ask for feedback:** Show that you care about their opinion and want them to have the best experience. Ask them for feedback about your products or services and what you could do to make it better.
- **Continue to improve:** Don't just ask for feedback—take action on it. You don't have to do everything people suggest, but if you receive some good feedback, consider implementing that change. A customer seeing you did something that they suggested can make them feel great and want to continue coming back.

The more you connect with your customers, the better chance you have of building relationships and seeing them return again and again. It's never too late to begin taking some of these steps to create customer loyalty!



MEET OUR BOARD

Ann Richar

Ann Richar, CPA and founding partner in Richar Shields & Co PC, joined the Venango Chamber Board of Directors this year.

A lifelong resident of Venango County, graduating from Cranberry High School and Clarion University, Ann resides in Cranberry with her husband and two sons. She also serves on the Library Finance Committee and is going on her 15th year as an official for the Oil City YMCA Swim Team. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor activities like biking and golf.

Richar Shields & Co PC is a CPA firm, located in Seneca, that Ann started in 2013 after 12 years of work as a controller for a manufacturing company. Ann said what she enjoys most is working with small businesses.

"I have watched this community grow and I believe small business is the key to that continued growth," she said when asked why she is excited about serving on the Chamber Board. "My work allows a firsthand view of the success and the challenges of many local small businesses. I hope to bring that business perspective to the board."



Chamber staff and many Chamber members participated in recent local career events. Titusville High School held their Career Day on May 5 (pictured far right) and the Venango Technology Center held their Student Employment Event on May 11 (pictured right).



Cranberry Students Earn VenangoREADY Designation

After many years of planning and preparing, the VenangoREADY program has reached a milestone. On Monday, May 23, Kat Thompson and Chamber board member and VenangoREADY Supporter, David Snedden from Hagan Business Machines, attended the Cranberry High School Senior Award Ceremony. They presented VenangoREADY designation to 27 students who took the initiative to complete the program.

Achieving this designation includes a certificate of completion and a tri-colored graduation honor cord, in addition to a seal of approval image which they can include on their resumes.

This is the very first class in our region to complete the program designed to better match local employers with a quality workforce who have achieved desired levels of

proficiency in the skills employers want and businesses need to be successful. We look forward to growing the program and expect several more school districts to graduate VenangoREADY designees next year.

Pictured below from left to right: Kat Thompson presents Cadince Delaney with her certificate, Jacob Schultz holds his certificate, and Chamber Board Member David Snedden shakes the hand of Chris McElhinney.



(Pictured left) Susan Williams, talks to Mackenzie Arcuri from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) based in Harrisburg. The PSBA traveled to our area to film a story about VenangoREADY, as part of a statewide series highlighting career readiness programs. They interviewed Cranberry VenangoREADY students and faculty, Chamber staff, and Chamber board member Ryan Bell from Webco. We look forward to sharing their completed project!

To learn more about the Chamber's involvement in education, join our email list at: www.venangoready.org or view the education page at: www.venangochamber.org/education

PHOTOS FROM LEADERSHIP VENANGO GRADUATION



LEADERSHIP VENANGO

preparing leaders for a better future

Wanango Country Club
May 27, 2022



Photos by Bright Ideas Photography

Klapec Trucking Company Named Safest Motor Carrier Fleet in PA

Klapec Trucking Company (KTC) was the recipient of the prestigious 2021 Fleet Safety President's Award on May 20, at the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association's (PMTA) Annual Conference Fleet Safety Awards banquet.



This coveted award is presented once a year to the motor carrier fleet that meets and exceeds the stringent safety criteria established by the PMTA for reportable and non-reportable accidents based on miles traveled. By being the recipient of this award, KTC has been named, and is considered, the safest motor carrier fleet throughout the entire state of Pennsylvania.

Along with the President's Award, KTC also earned First Place in the General Commodities Truck Load Division as well as First Place in the Flat-Bed Truck Load Division

from PMTA. KTC also received Great West Casualty Company National Safety Awards Platinum Award for Outstanding Achievement in Highway Safety. This marks the 14th consecutive year KTC has earned gold and platinum awards for safety excellence.

"All of these achievements have been earned by our outstanding, hard-working team of drivers, shop technicians and office staff putting their best foot forward every single day. We are so proud of our excellent team,"

says Cindy Urban, KTC President.

Pictured from KTC with all 3 awards from PMTA are (from left) Dean Summerville, Safety Director, Cindy Urban, President, and Greg Lander, Vice President.

Congratulations to Klapec Trucking Company!

Primary Health Network Appoints George Garrow, M.D. as CEO

Primary Health Network (PHN) is pleased to announce that George C. Garrow, M.D., Chief Medical Officer for the Network, has been appointed as its new Chief Executive Officer. PHN is one of the largest community health centers in Pennsylvania and the nation, providing access to both primary and specialty care services across 50 sites throughout 16 counties in Pennsylvania and one in Ohio.



Dr. Garrow was chosen as CEO after an extensive search involving dozens of external and internal applicants. He will assume the role on June 1.

"George is impassioned by his work," his predecessor, Thomas Burich, said. "He brings a wealth of leadership experience, knowledge, and fortitude that can only assist in enriching and expanding the community health center

mission." He vigorously led our COVID-19 and tele-health growth initiatives, in addition to enhancing PHN's strategy, quality, and clinical services. All the while, he has shown that he deeply cares about the organization and improving the well-being of our communities with his vision, compassion, and understanding of the social determinants of health."

Garrow states: "It is an honor to be selected as the new leader of PHN. I consider it a privilege to have served the community health center mission for the past six years as Chief Medical Officer. I look forward to working with the entire PHN team to fulfill our mission of providing access to care and services that is compassionate, equitable and of the highest quality." *Congratulations Dr. Garrow!*



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Virgile Iron & Steel

With Owner, Randy Wyant

Tell us about Virgile Iron & Steel.

RK Virgile Scrap Metal was originally opened in the 1980's by Raymond and Cheryl Virgile. It solely operated on Union Street until November of 2021 when we expanded to a second location towards Rouseville, at the old Pennzoil location.

We are a recycling center for metals, both ferrous and non-ferrous. The difference between ferrous and non-ferrous metals is that ferrous metals contain iron and non-ferrous metals do not. We collect and haul away scrap metal as well as offering tilt bed services, environmental services, roll-off boxes, and more.

What do you love most about working in Venango County?

We really enjoy working in Venango County because it is a tightknit community and has a lot of rich history.

What is your favorite part of owning a business?

Meeting new and interesting people is one of my favorite things. It's also nice to know we own a business that helps the community.

What is one thing about your business that would surprise people?

Probably the unique items and metals that are brought in. We see it all!

What steps do you plan to take in the future to improve or further your business?

We'd like to expand the area to accommodate more recycling products.

Describe some traits of your ideal customer.

Anyone who is easy-going! We also love it when customers bring their pets for a visit. We have an office dog, Duke, who loves visitors.



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Class of 2022 Reactions

"The overall experience was phenomenal. I am grateful for the friendships and networking that have developed over the last nine months. These relationships will help carry us into the next chapter of our leadership lives."

- Matt Craig, Webco Industries



Trilogy Wellness Opens Franklin Location

Trilogy Wellness, an outpatient addiction clinic that specializes in Medication Assisted Treatment, is a new business to the Venango Area.

Their mission is to bring the highest quality of care to individuals suffering from Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). At Trilogy, patients will find compassionate providers and staff who are down-to-earth, patient-oriented, and passionate about their care.

Many of their staff have personal connections to patients suffering from addiction. They understand addiction, it's causes, and the importance of the provider-patient relationship in helping patients to succeed at the difficult work of recovery.

Trilogy Wellness takes the responsibility of helping patients through their recovery journey very seriously. Trilogy is excited to provide services to the residents of multiple counties throughout Pennsylvania. Healing individuals is healing our communities as a whole.

Join them at an Open House to meet their staff and providers on Saturday, June 4 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, visit trilogywellness.org or call (877) 446-6331.

TRILOGY WELLNESS

OPEN HOUSE

We would like to invite everyone to our Franklin Office Open House! Stop by to meet our staff and providers, enjoy refreshments and gain more information regarding our services!

Saturday, June 4, 2022
 11am-2pm

150 Prospect Ave. Suite 104 Franklin, PA 16323
 877-446-6331

MEMBER NEWS

Venango Technology Center Signing Day

Venango Technology Center's (VTC) first Signing Day was held on May 5.

At this event, 13 co-op students and 11 local employers signed letters of intent for full-time employment upon graduation. Families and community members gathered to congratulate these students as they embark on their career paths.



"We are trying to get recognition of students going into the workforce," said Bob Moore, the center's cooperative education coordinator. "We hope to do this every year."

Pictured above, Gunner Crawford from Franklin signs a letter of intent with Ron Myers from Myers Custom Woodworks.

Izaak Walton League Celebrates Centennial

The Izaak Walton League of America, created in 1922, is celebrating its centennial this year! The Ike's is one of the oldest of the country's conservation and shooting sports organizations. The Oil City Chapter is just four years younger, having been founded in 1926.



The Oil City Chapter remains a local voice for conservation, the shooting sports, hunters, anglers, and all that love the outdoors. The Chapter's Waltonian Park, located off Deep Hollow Road, features a dedicated handgun range, a 300-yard rifle range, a dedicated .22 rimfire range, an archery range, and more.

The Chapter sponsors and/or hosts a wide-range of youth programs, including Youth Field Days and the annual Oil Heritage Festival Fishing Derby, as well as a variety of shooting events from practical pistol to bench rest competitions.

On this, the Ike's centennial year, the local Chapter invites all in the community to learn more about the Izaak Walton League of America and the Oil City Chapter. Information can be found online at IWLA.org or at [Facebook.com/OilCityIkes](https://www.facebook.com/OilCityIkes).

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Addressing the Shift in Workplace Dynamics

From My Benefit Advisor

The past few years have seen drastic shifts in the workplace environment. Today's workforce has taken on a look different from that of the past, with employee demographics more diverse than ever before, including an ever-widening range of ages, racial groups, and ethnic backgrounds.

Many of these groups, notably including women, are commanding a greater sphere of influence and power. Furthermore, the employees of today are demanding new approaches to work culture, looking for employers to recognize their personal needs and value, both in the workplace and in their home life.

Business owners, aware of these shifts and the dynamic changes between employer/employee relationships, have taken notice and are reshaping their workplace practices and benefit portfolios to avoid any potential turnover in their workforce.

As a result, employers are offering more competitive pay, enhanced health benefits, and flexible work-from-home arrangements. But more than just competitive pay, employees have demanded racial, gender and pay equity. Employers have recognized that creating an inclusive culture is not only the right thing to do, but important to the success of their company and its long-term growth and profitability, since today's employees are quick to begin searching for new employment if they feel needs are not being met.

The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information about My Benefit Advisor, visit our website at vacc.mybenefitadvisor.com or contact Matthew Bricker at (800) 377-3539.



***Thanks for those who joined us at our May Mixers at
Voyten Electric and the Venango Museum!***



JUNE 2022

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2 Thursday Concerts in the Park
June 2 - August 25 | Bandstand Park, Franklin

4 Chalk Walk
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. | Transit Art Gallery & Gifts, Oil City

8 Pipeline Alley Concert
7 - 9 p.m. | Pipeline Alley, Oil City

13 STEM Workshops
June 13, 20 & 27 | Venango Museum, Oil City

17 Pollinator Workshop
1 - 3 p.m. | Oil Creek State Park

18 Franklin Blues & Barbecue
June 18 & 19 | Bandstand Park, Franklin

Find more event details & post your own event at: beherevenango.org/events

Ribbon Cutting Photos from Artist's Attic and Iron Furnace Coffee



Congratulations to **Artist's Attic** in Oil City (pictured above) and **Iron Furnace Coffee** in Franklin (pictured below) on holding recent Ribbon Cutting/Grand Opening ceremonies.

Please visit these new businesses and let them know the Chamber sent you. We wish you both the best of luck and know you will thrive in the Venango Region!



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CHAMBER CHECKLIST

We'd love for you to engage with the Chamber and there are many ways to do so! Here are some ideas:

- Review your listing in the online membership directory (members.venangochamber.org/list)
- Contact us to create an account to update your own listing (chamber@venangochamber.org)
- Sign up as a supporter of VenangoREADY (venangoready.org)
- Add your job opening to the Be Here Job Board (beherevenango.org/jobs)
- Add your event to the Be Here Calendar (beherevenango.org/events)

Have questions? Contact us at (814) 676-8521 or chamber@venangochamber.org

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Volume 10 | Issue 6 | June 2022

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.

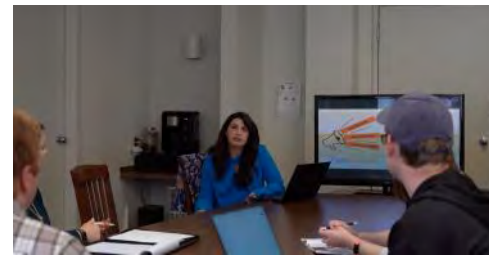
One important takeaway from the evening was how to inspire change, through elements such as authenticity, visibility, and trust.

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





2022 BIKE 'N BREW SPONSORSHIP

Thank you for your interest in Bike 'n Brew sponsorship! This year we are doing a hybrid event, with both curbside and in-person attendance. Attendees receive a beer package with beer from local breweries & swag. VIP ticket holders also participate in a small tasting event.

Tickets go on sale **June 17**, and the event is **July 16**. See below for sponsor levels:



KEG SPONSOR - \$1000

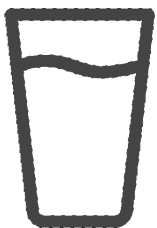
ONLY ONE AVAILABLE! FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

- Logo on outside of tote bag (given to each attendee)
- Two VIP tickets for event & two free "packages" with beer and swag
- Option to provide items for inside of bag, such as branded merchandise or flyers/business cards
- Logo recognition in all event promotion—website, social media, etc.



GROWLER SPONSOR - \$500

- One VIP ticket for event & one free "package" with beer and swag
- Option to provide items for inside of bag, such as branded merchandise or flyers/business cards
- Logo recognition in all event promotion—website, social media, etc.



PINT SPONSOR - \$250

- Option to provide items for inside of bag, such as branded merchandise or flyers/business cards
- Logo recognition in all event promotion—website, social media, etc.



TASTER SPONSOR - \$100

- Name recognition in all event promotion—website, social media, etc.

SEE BACK FOR FORM.

Learn more about the event: www.ohfbikenbrew.org

BIKE 'N BREW SPONSORSHIP FORM

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(As it should appear in promotions)

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Email: flex@venangochamber.org





OHF BASKET RAFFLE 2022

Due by July 15, 2022

Name of business, organization, or individual

Will donate the following:

Basket

Gift Certificate

Monetary Donation

Will drop off at the Chamber Office
(located at 24 Seneca Street, Oil
City) by July 15

Will call (814) 676-8521 ASAP to
arrange pickup

Don't forget to include a business card or brochure!



2022 OHF Basket Raffle

The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce will hold the annual Oil Heritage Basket Raffle again this year. Festival attendees will have a chance to win various prizes donated by local businesses and organizations. Donations are now being accepted. A few of the themes from the past include "Date Night," "Car Care," "Family Game Night," and "For The Animals."

Baskets will be displayed at Oil Heritage Festival headquarters, which will be open Wednesday, July 20 through Sunday, July 24. Baskets will also possibly be displayed during evening festival activities.

Tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each or 7 tickets for \$5.00.

The winning tickets will be drawn on Sunday, July 24.

For more information and a digital form visit oilheritagefestival.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2022



Barrow-Civic Theatre

1223 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA

(814) 437-3440

/barrowcivictheatre



A Musical Cooking Lesson w/ The Calamari Sisters

Main Stage

June 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the kitchen. The Calamari Sisters are local celebrities in Brooklyn, NY as the singing, dancing, and cooking stars of the public access cable cooking show, MANGIA ITALIANO. Be prepared to eat your heart out and laugh until your sides hurt. Tickets: \$19.00 - \$24.00



Something Rotten!

Main Stage

July 8, 9, 15, 16 at 7:30 p.m. | July 10, 17 at 2:00 p.m.

Something Rotten! is set in the 1590s, where brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of Renaissance rock star "The Bard." When a local soothsayer tells them that the future of theatre is singing, dancing, and acting, the brothers decide to write the world's first musical. This cast of over the top characters are sure to have you laughing while its large musical numbers will have you dancing in your seat. Rated PG13. Tickets \$14 – \$20.



Off Barrow: Agatha Christie's Black Coffee

Little Theatre

August 12, 13, 19, 20 at 7:30 p.m. | August 14 & 21 at 2:00 pm

Black Coffee is one of Agatha Christie's most gripping country house murder mysteries. Accomplished physicist Sir Claud Armory has constructed a workable formula for one of the most deadly weapons known to man - the atom bomb. Detective Hercule Poirot, with the help of Captain Hastings and Inspector Japp, is called in after the formula is mysteriously stolen and Sir Claud is callously murdered. A superbly crafted whodunit with endless red herrings and subplots of infamous spies.

AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

New audition opportunities are always around the corner! As audition dates and more information on how to prepare become available, we will update our website. Visit barrowtheatre.org/auditions for the latest updates!



Matilda the Musical (all roles except Matilda)

June 5 from 2-4 p.m. & June 6 from 6-8 p.m.

- Please prepare 32 bars of music
- Everyone who is auditioning will be asked to cold-read from the script.
- Please dress comfortably you will be taught a short dance routine to perform at auditions
- If auditioning to be in Matilda's class will also be doing a tumbling audition.

Show Dates: September 30, October 1, 6, 7, & 8 at 7:30 p.m. & October 2 at 2:00 p.m.



Agatha Christie's Black Coffee

June 18 from 2-4 p.m. & 19 from 6-8 p.m.

- Please prepare a 60 to 90 second monologue, preferably (but not necessarily) period appropriate to the 1930's
- Everyone will also be asked to cold read both solo and with other auditioners

Show Dates: Aug. 12, 13, 19, & 20 at 7:30 p.m. & Aug. 14 & 21 at 2:00 p.m.



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2022

Barrow-Civic Theatre

1223 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA

(814) 437-3440

/barrowcivictheatre



Broadway's hilarious hit *Something Rotten!* opens on the BCT stage

Another laugh-out-loud musical comedy is coming to the Barrow-Civic theatre this July, presented by the Franklin Civic Operetta Association.

Something Rotten! is set in the 1590s, where brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of Renaissance rock star "The Bard" (William Shakespeare). When a local soothsayer tells them that the future of theatre is singing, dancing, *and* acting, the brothers decide to write the world's first musical.

This cast of over-the-top characters are sure to have you laughing while its large musical numbers will have you dancing in your seat. The number "A Musical" pays homage to quite a few Broadway hits - you are sure to recognize a few!

Directed by Judy Millar and Ryan Carter as Musical Director. Choreographed by Taylor Nelson. Produced by Laura Ordaz and Deanna Wolfgang.

Something Rotten! is a musical comedy with a book by John O'Farrell and Karey Kirkpatrick and music and lyrics by Karey and Wayne Kirkpatrick. It was nominated for ten Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and won one.

Showdates are July 8, 9, 15, 16 at 7:30 p.m. and July 10, 17 at 2:00 p.m.

The Calamari Sisters return June 11 *A Musical Cooking Lesson with the Calamari Sisters*

Be prepared to eat your heart out and laugh until your sides hurt on June 11 at 7:30 p.m. with the Calamari Sisters!

The Calamari Sisters are local celebrities in Brooklyn, NY as the singing, dancing, and cooking stars of the public access cable cooking show, MANGIA ITALIANO.

In this rare treat, Delphine and Carmela have taken their culinary expertise on the road to spread their unique brand of Italian teaching to the masses. With outrageous musical numbers, hilarious family anecdotes, and some help from some of you, these sisters will give you a cooking lesson that you'll never forget.

The Calamari Sisters have

performed at the Barrow-Civic Theatre twice before. They were such a hit, that we are bringing them back again with a different show!

The show was created by Dan Lavender, Jay Falzone, and Stephen Smith at a "cocktail-party-gone-awry." The creators site growing up in Italian families as the inspiration for this outrageously funny show.

Tickets are on sale now for \$19-24. Thank you to Main Street Market for generously donating groceries for the show!

Box Office:
814-437-3440
Monday-Friday | 10am-4pm
barrowtheatre.org

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Noon - 5:00 pm

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- OCHS Rhapsody in Blues Vocal Group
- Bill Toms & Hard Rain featuring The Souville Horns
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