

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

brought to you by the future leaders & entrepreneurs exchange

Volume 11 | Issue 3 | March 2023

The Importance of Recognizing Excellence

The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner is a chance to celebrate accomplishments, recognize area businesses and organizations, honor Chamber members and volunteers, and thank those who have made the Venango Area a great place to live and work. This year's event honored Denise Jones as the Citizen of the Year, Patti Shontz as the Volunteer of the Year, Klapac Trucking as the Business of the Year, and the Oil Region Library Association (ORLA) as the Partner in Business of the Year.



For FLEX, the dinner also serves as an excellent opportunity to network with local leaders, business owners, and community members. This year's

dinner saw great attendance, with 260+ attendees, including 21 FLEX members. FLEX Member Daniel Newberry said, "It was a good chance to network and to learn more about the tremendous community members and businesses we have here."

It's important to recognize members of our community who have gone above and beyond to make a difference. These events highlight the accomplishments of individuals, organizations, and businesses that have significantly contributed to our community's well-being. By celebrating these successes, we encourage others to reach for their goals and make a difference in our community. "Our community is full of passionate people who do things worthy of recognition daily. Events like the Annual Dinner are the perfect opportunity to showcase our region's best. Likewise, Venango County has young professionals blossoming into tomorrow's leaders, and they will have a chance to be recognized at the FLEX Presents banquet in April," said FLEX President Saxon Daugherty.



FLEX Presents is an opportunity to honor young professionals in our area that are active in the community. It's an annual event celebrating the achievements of local young professionals who contribute to their community through civic engagement, entrepreneurship, and leadership.

Don't miss the perfect time to honor a young professional you know has been active in our community. You can complete a nomination by visiting venangochamber.org/flex-presents. The event will be held on Friday, April 21, from 6:00-8:00 PM at Wildcat Mansion in Franklin, and tickets are available online through FLEX's website.

Follow FLEX on Facebook for more updates for young professionals, from young professionals!

"The Future of Venango Area Business!"



FLEX Feature:

Kingdom Guard Financial Group with Eli Busch

Tell us about Kingdom Guard Financial Group.

We are a holistic financial services company. We offer many different insurances, investments, group benefits, and business consultation. We are able to offer our clients more financial tools than a captive or franchise agency can. We'll find a tailored fit for you, no matter what it takes. We are located at 3052 PA-257 in Seneca.

What is your role at Kingdom Guard?

I am one of three owners of the company. As owner, my primary responsibilities include meeting with clients, managing client services, and training new agents and employees.

What is your favorite part about working for this company?

My favorite part about my role at Kingdom Guard is being able to meet new people, build relationships and help them achieve their God given potential in life and finance.

What would surprise people about this company?

The diverse amount of services and products we are able to offer. We are more than just insurance and investments.

Is there anything else you'd like to share about Kingdom Guard?

Our mission is very clear. We want to help people make financially sound decisions to improve their way of life and position them to be able to bless others in every aspect of life. Our motto is "See The Difference," and we strongly believe that everyone we have talked to will agree that they saw the difference because we are called to be here to educate and assist, not sell for a corporation.

Disclosure:

Registered Representative of and securities offered through OneAmericaSecurities, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA, SIPC. Kingdom Guard Financial Group is not an affiliate of OneAmerica Securities and is not a broker-dealer of Registered Investment Advisor. Investing involves risk, which includes potential loss of principal.

There's **Music** INSIDE YOU... LET IT OUT AT PORCH MUSIC STORE!

1253 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323
814-493-7329
porchmusicstore.com

INSTRUMENT SALES, LESSONS AND WORKSHOPS.

HR doesn't have to be a puzzle.

WATKINS HR STRATEGY

HR and Management Consultant
Specializing in Organization Design, Talent Acquisition, Management Coaching, and Training and Development

(814) 671-5652 • info@watkinshrs.com • watkinshrs.com

HOME • AUTO • BUSINESS • LIFE • MEDICARE

ROSSBACHER INSURANCE GROUP

P.S. * Personal Service since 1928!

Contact us for a *better* insurance experience!

7137 US 322 • CRANBERRY 814.677.4095
6 STATE ST • OIL CITY

WWW.TEAMROSSBACHER.COM

Upcoming Events

March 3 - First Friday Lunch - Benjamin's

Meet us at noon to network with other young professionals and support a local business. Lunch is dutch treat.

Only have a short break for lunch? We encourage you to order ahead so your food is ready when you get there.

March 17 - Celebrate St. Patty's Day with FLEX

Meet us at Grumpy Goat Distillery in Franklin anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Come and go as you please and grab a bite to eat and/or drink while you're there.

Member Profile: Matthew Yeager



Matthew Yeager is originally from Atlanta, Georgia and joined FLEX in November of 2022.

Matthew has a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Georgia University, and he works as a Senior Software Engineer for Ford Motor Company.

When asked about his recent achievements, Matthew says a few years ago, he learned how to roast coffee beans. "It was a lot of fun, plus you get to drink inappropriate amounts of coffee in the name of education," he says.

His future goals include continuing to work on a location based social media platform, that he plans to release for testing initially in the Venango area. He hopes to eventually build a company around it.

Matthew's hobbies include music and coffee. He said he loves to make really good espresso and lattes.

It's no surprise then that one of his favorite local spots is Iron Furnace Coffee in Franklin. He says it's a really fun place to people watch. Matthew also mentioned Bella Cucina, especially their cheesecake, which he described as "epic".

Matthew is enjoying living in Franklin, and appreciates that there are plenty of events to choose from.

Speaker Series Recap: Local Govt. 101

Local government 101 was a great opportunity to become engaged as a citizen and gain a better understanding of how local governments work. A panel of elected officials and unelected municipal government leaders discussed their personal roles and experiences in local government. The panel participated in a moderated discussion, and there was time for networking and refreshments by Woods & River Coffee. Citizens were exposed to an overview of how their local government works, which includes functions such as budgeting and policymaking.

We learned that the local government has many responsibilities, including public health and safety, infrastructure, and public opinion management. Understanding local government is essential for engaged citizenship which is why it was particularly helpful to become aware of the resources available in our area for citizens to access.

We learned about the responsibilities of local administrators, and discussed how citizens can play a holistic part in their communities. When answering questions like "What do people think you do that the position does not do?" each of the panelists had multiple examples. There was open discussion about what each of these roles want/need from the public that will help them achieve their community goals. All of the panelists agreed that an active or engaged citizen is someone who attends public meetings and stays informed on what is happening in your communities. If you are looking to better understand local government or election procedures, you can reach the Venango County Voter Registration & Election Services coordinators at (814) 432-9514.

WOODS & RIVER COFFEE
2 W Front Street
Oil City, PA 16301
+1 814-493-8932
woodsandrivercoffee@gmail.com

HOURS	
SUNDAY	8AM-2PM
MONDAY	6:30AM-2PM
TUESDAY	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY	6:30AM-2PM
THURSDAY	6:30AM-2PM
FRIDAY	6:30AM-2PM
SATURDAY	8AM-2PM

7 Foot Productions & Marketing LLC

ATTRACT, ENGAGE, INSPIRE YOUR IDEAL CUSTOMERS

- Video Production
- Social Media Management
- Website Design
- 3D Virtual Tours

(814)-670-0478 | 7footproductions.com | 19 Central Ave 3rd Floor Oil City, PA 16301

@7footproductions | @7ftproductions | 7 Foot Productions & Marketing

"The Future of Venango Area Business!"

Event Photos: Speaker Series, First Friday Lunch, Super Bowl Party



March Events & Meetings:

Marketing Committee: Thursday, March 2 • 12 p.m. • Zoom

First Friday Lunch: Friday, March 3 • 12 p.m. • Benjamin's Roadhouse, Franklin •
Join us for lunch! (all food and drinks are dutch treat)

Events & Fundraising Committee: Monday, March 20 • 5:30 p.m. • Zoom

FLEX Monthly Meeting: Monday, March 27 • 12 p.m. • Zoom

Find more event details on our Facebook page or in our Weekly Update email.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Join today - be our newest
FLEX member!*

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

