

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

brought to you by the future leaders & entrepreneurs exchange

Volume 11 | Issue 8 | August 2023

Celebrating Interns and Our Local Community

Internships are much more than a stepping stone toward a future career; they hold immense value in shaping lives, fostering growth, and enriching community. FLEX highlights internships in our community because of the profound impact these opportunities can have on young professionals.

Matthew McMillen's experience at Komatsu exemplifies how internships can open doors to a world of opportunities beyond work and education. "The culture within includes support, collaboration, and friendships that extend well beyond the workplace. The town of Franklin has felt like home from the locally owned small businesses, limitless outdoor activities, and ambitious personalities of community leaders. I have no doubt this will be a life-changing experience for future employees as well," said Matthew.

PennDOT also offers diverse opportunities for students to gain valuable experience across various disciplines.

One such program, the High School Intern (HIS) Program, enables vocational technology students to co-op during the school year and work full-time in the summer, fostering valuable skills and potential career paths.



FLEX
future leaders & entrepreneurs exchange

Intern Appreciation Luncheon

Join us to celebrate! All local interns welcome.
Food and drink provided.

August 4th, 2023 — 12 - 1:30

RSVP @ LAURA.ORDAZ@GLOBAL.KOMATSU

Komatsu Mining - 120 Liberty Street
Franklin, PA 16323

Internships play a pivotal role in our local community, serving as catalysts for the growth and development of aspiring young professionals. Matthew's testimony illustrates how these experiences can transform lives, leading to a deeper appreciation of the community, its culture, and values. As the importance of internships continues to grow, let us celebrate their impact and recognize them as vital pillars in shaping the

leaders of tomorrow.

FLEX is devoted to connecting young professionals with the local community. We are hosting an internship appreciation luncheon on August 4 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Komatsu Mining, located at 120 Liberty Street, Franklin. RSVPs can be made to Laura Ordaz by emailing laura.ordaz@global.komatsu.

The intern appreciation luncheon creates an opportunity for interns to network with local professionals and leaders; exploring the region's offerings. FLEX presents invaluable opportunities for interns to engage with the community, discover local initiatives like the Be Here campaign, and appreciate all our region has to offer.



FLEX Feature:

New York Life with Jacey Blum

Tell us about New York Life.

New York Life is the largest mutually owned life insurance company in the United States, as well as a top 25 money manager in the world. We have offices all over the country, however, I work out of our Pittsburgh-Johnstown office.



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What is your role at New York Life?

My role as an Agent at New York Life is to help individuals, families, and businesses with their income, retirement, and protection planning. Additionally, I specialize in creating individualized and comprehensive financial snapshots for clients.

What is your favorite part about your job?

My favorite part about working for New York Life would have to be meeting networking and meeting new people. I have built a majority of my clientele base is here in Venango County so I am constantly getting involved in events in the area and doing everything I can to meet people.

What would surprise people about NY Life?

I think when people hear "New York Life", they think we only offer life insurance. When in reality we are a top 25 money manager in the world, in addition to being a top provider of business solutions and retirement. Some of the things we offer include: life insurance, annuities, disability insurance, long-term care insurance, business retirement solutions, and so much more.

Is there anything else you'd like to share about the business?

A couple fun facts that stuck out to me when I started with New York Life are that they were established the same year that Florida became a state, as well as they are one of only two companies in the United States that have perfect financial strength ratings across the board.

Member Profile: SaVanha Scott



SaVanha Scott is the Assistant Manager at Core Goods and a Cashier at Woods & River, both located in Oil City. Growing up with her dad in the military, SaVanha considers multiple areas as her hometown including Oil City, Sharon, and Aliso Viejo, California.

SaVanha's passion for community service led her to volunteer at the YMCA, where she was recognized as Volunteer of the Year. Now, with almost three years of experience at Core Goods and a recent promotion to Assistant Manager, SaVanha is determined to continue learning and growing as a leader, while making a positive impact on her community.

When she's not at work, SaVanha indulges in her hobbies of cooking, baking, and decorating. She loves strolling

along the scenic bridge loop in Oil City, especially in the enchanting evenings.

Beyond her professional and personal pursuits, SaVanha's love for her community shines through. You can often find her attending live music shows or soaking up the vibrant atmosphere at Music in the Park, Pipeline Alley, and the Barrow Civic Theatre. She also enjoys exploring the local trails and parks for fishing, hiking, and more. The beauty of this area never ceases to amaze her!

SaVanha's greatest joy comes from connecting with people. Working at Woods & River and Core Goods allows her to meet new faces every day and learn their stories. She thrives on the opportunity to make meaningful connections with others.

Welcome to FLEX, SaVanha!

FLEX Update: New Promo Video

Have you noticed Devin Zagar of 7 Foot Productions at some of our recent FLEX events? He is gathering footage for a new video promoting our group.

Devin is a FLEX member and his business provides services like videography, photography, 3D tours, social media marketing, and website design.



We're excited to work with Devin and can't wait to see the video come together and show what FLEX is all about. If you have any questions or want to help with future FLEX promotional efforts, join our Marketing & Community Partnerships Committee meeting on Thursday, August 3.

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July Events: Thank You!



We had two successful events in July—Bike 'n Brew and the Ice Cream Social—both part of the Annual Oil Heritage Festival!

Huge thank you to everyone who contributed to these events, through volunteerism, sponsorship, donations, and attendance. Find more photos on the back page of this FYI newsletter or on our Facebook page.

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Event Photos: Bike 'n Brew, Summer Kick-Off, & Ice Cream Social



August Events & Meetings:

Marketing Committee: Thursday, August 3 • 12 p.m. • Zoom

Intern Luncheon: Friday, August 4 • Noon • Komatsu, Franklin

Dinner Social: Friday, August 18 • 6 p.m. • Billy's, Oil City

Events & Fundraising Committee: Monday, August 21 • 5:30 p.m. • Zoom

FLEX Monthly Meeting: Monday, August 28 • 12 p.m. • Zoom

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Chad Skoch
Gage Clark
SaVanha Scott**

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

