

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

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Get Ready for the 2024 FLEX Annual Meeting!

It's that time of year again! The FLEX Annual Meeting is just around the corner, and we couldn't be more excited to bring everyone together to celebrate our successes and map out what's next. This year's meeting promises to be both productive and fun, and it's an event you won't want to miss!

Join us on Thursday, November 21, at 5:30 p.m. at 237 Seneca Street, the old Karma Coffee building in Oil City. Just like in years past, we're keeping the evening casual but engaging, with plenty of time for networking over hors d'oeuvres and drinks.

We'll kick off the evening with a presentation by FLEX leadership, reviewing the highlights and milestones of 2024. From our signature events to professional development opportunities, it's been a year of growth and collaboration, and we're excited to celebrate those accomplishments.

We'll also give into some exciting plans for 2025, covering everything from upcoming events to new initiatives aimed at supporting young professionals. In addition, we'll be electing new committee chairs and officers who will help lead FLEX into the future.

One of the highlights of the evening will be our FLEX Member Highlight Awards, where we'll take time to recognize outstanding members for their contributions, leadership, and dedication to making FLEX an incredible community for young professionals. Whether they've spearheaded an initiative, mentored others, or made a lasting impact, these individuals deserve to be celebrated.

We've prepared an exciting trivia game with questions that will test your knowledge on a range of topics. Whether you're a trivia master or just love a challenge,



there are prizes up for grabs, so bring your A-game and get ready for some friendly competition!

And that's not all! Need a fresh professional headshot? We've got you covered! Attendees can take advantage of a complimentary headshot session—perfect for updating your LinkedIn profile, adding a polished touch to your resume, or simply refreshing your personal brand.

Whether you're a FLEX member or a young professional looking to get involved, this is your chance to meet like-minded individuals and contribute to a thriving community.

Be sure to RSVP by emailing flex@venangochamber.org or register online for free by scanning here:



We can't wait to see you there!

"The Future of Venango Area Business!"

Leading with FLEX by Rachel O'Neil

Are you looking for a way to become more involved in FLEX and are interested in leadership positions?

Now is a great time to reach out and learn more about the 2025 opportunities!

For myself, it's been an honor to serve on the Events and Fundraising Committee over the past nine years and a wonderful learning and growth experience. Planning events that represent the needs and interests of young professionals is fun and fulfilling, especially when you see individuals interacting and connecting with one another, who may have never met otherwise. FLEX events are planned within a supportive environment and the opportunity to meet and connect with local young professionals who share the same passion for learning, development, and enjoying the Venango area.

If you're wondering what it means to lead the Events and Fundraising committee, here is an overview:



The committee meets monthly and plans the upcoming events, some sub-committees, such as FLEX Presents and Bike & Brew will meet weekly leading up to the large event. And the chair of the E&F committee will meet monthly with other leadership to report on the

status of their committee. Other responsibility that are shared by the committee includes, planning events for groups of 5 to 120 people, contacting vendors to reserve locations, food, music, developing the event within a budget and contacting sponsors by engaging with local business, inviting fellow young professionals to attend, and involving other young professions to help plan or help set up/clean up or work the event.

I couldn't recommend this leadership role enough!

For me it has had a very personal impact. It taught me skills such as: organization, attention to details, preparing and following a budget, communication, inside and outside your team, negotiating skills, and the chance to build and nurture strong relationships.

These skills and connections have benefited me, from my career in accounting, planning my wedding, to starting my own business. And above all that the connection with other young professionals has led to lifelong friendships and personal and professional opportunities that have made it possible for me to thrive here in Venango area!

I feel very strongly that if you are choosing to live somewhere, it is your responsibility to invest in the area and people there, to help those around you flourish and what better vehicle than FLEX, whose sole mission is to support young professionals and advocate for the sustainability of our home here in the Venango region!

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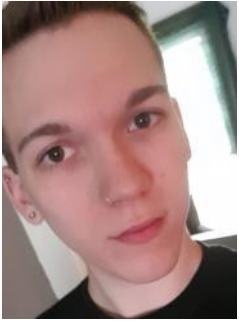
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Member Profile: Devin Rossey



Devin Rossey is the Multi-Unit Team Leader at H&R Block. He holds an associate's degree in Business Administration from Bradford School in Pittsburgh, PA.

Originally from Meadville, Devin now resides in Franklin, where he continues to make a positive impact

on the community. Devin developed *Guardy*, a mobile app available on both iOS and Android platforms. The app serves as an inventory and member management tool, specifically designed for High School and DCI Directors and Instructors across the nation.

In addition to his work in technology, Devin serves as the Color Guard Director for Girard High School's

Marching Band. He also engages in freelance work, collaborating with Cricket Wireless Authorized Dealers to improve back-office solutions. Devin's goal is to foster growth and innovation in the community by creating job opportunities, mentoring students, and contributing to local events and initiatives.

A lover of nature, Devin moved to the area to enjoy its beautiful landscape and pursue his passion for kayaking. He is dedicated to building lasting relationships within the community and facilitating connections with key stakeholders, industry leaders, and potential collaborators to expand business networks.

Welcome to FLEX, Devin!

Volunteer Opportunity: Trunk or Treat

FLEX is planning to set up at Two Mile Run County Park's "Trunk or Treat" on Friday, October 25, from 6 to 10 p.m.

We will provide the candy and other handouts, but would love some young professionals to join us! If you'd like to volunteer, please contact us at flex@venangochamber.org.

Can't attend but want to join us at a future community event? We're planning to decorate a tree for the Barrow Civic Theatre's display this year. Stay tuned for details!



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"The Future of Venango Area Business!"

Event Photos: First Friday Lunch, Mixers, Wind Chime Making



October Events & Meetings:

Coffee Chat: Tuesday, October 8 • 7-9 a.m. • Perk Up, Seneca

Marketing Committee: Thursday, October 10 • Noon • Zoom

Events & Fundraising Committee: Monday, October 14 • 5:30 p.m. • Zoom

Boo Mile Trunk or Treat: Friday, October 25 • 6-9 p.m. • Two Mile County Park

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

Marketing Strategy Meeting: TBD • Chamber

SAVE THE DATE:

Thursday, November 21st 5:30-7:30 p.m. FLEX ANNUAL MEETING

Check out our Facebook page or contact us for meeting zoom links at flex@venangochamber.org

New Members:

Isaiah Dunham

Interested in joining?

Email the FLEX Membership

Committee Chair

Juliet Hilburn

Juliet.hilburn@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

