

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

brought to you by the **future leaders & entrepreneurs exchange**

Interns in Venango County

Many local businesses and organizations employ college students as interns each summer, from our region and some from even further. These interns provide many benefits to our community. Interns help businesses to function, in which they bring a fresh perspective, creative ideas, energy, and emerging technical skills to the workplace. In return, the interns gain experience and knowledge from their summer working in a company.

JOY Global in Franklin, under the direction of Human Resource Manager Alan McBride, has taken this opportunity to engage and invite a future workforce, in which they have employed a total of eight interns this summer. These student engineers range in ages from freshmen to seniors going on to grad school. Their majors focus on Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering Technologies, and Electrical Engineering and they are assigned to many departments within the business, including Controls & Automation, Mechanical Technologies, Longwall Systems, Longwall Shearers, Miners, Testing, Continuous Haulage, and Haulage. The interns at JOY come from schools around the state and even out of state—Grove City College, Penn State Behrend, Penn State Main Campus, Slippery Rock University, and Youngstown State University.

JOYGLOBAL

The Student Engineering Program at Joy Global allows the company to train and grow younger professionals into hopefully becoming full-time Associate Engineers at Joy Global upon graduation. JOY is very happy to be strengthening their Student Engineering base and are even beginning to develop team building exercises and outdoor activities outside of working hours. Alan told us, “They will be ingrained in the culture of Joy Global Engineering this summer and we are excited to assist in developing their skills by giving them real world experiences as they move toward attaining their college degrees.”



Interns at last year's FLEX Intern Mixer

Do you have interns at your business? We'd love to meet them and have them attend our intern events! Send us an email to chamber@venangochamber.org or give us a call at (814) 676-8521.

What to do When Your Plan Fails

by Kurtis Bell

“Go to college”, they said. “It’s the only way to get ahead in the world”, they said. So you did, and now you’re buried in piles of student loans. Also, you’ve come to realize that the job market in your field (I’m looking at you, education majors. Don’t worry, I was one too.) is absolutely saturated. So now you’re the kid who’s working summers underachieving with your college degree when you thought you would be tearing up your field and blazing new trails that would be remembered and lectured on for generations to come.

One way to break out of your funk and get to doing some meaningful work is to think outside the box. For example, my training was always in music. Music education, if we want to be specific. Upon graduation, I saw the market shrinking as fine arts programs were being cut across the state. Now, I run a cleaning and disaster restoration firm. At first, in my mind these things could not be more different and unrelated. The more I became involved in my work and fully committed, the more similarities I noticed. What drew me to music education was the ability to help others. This could be helping someone learn how to play an instrument or sing, learning a new technique, or even helping one understand the thought process that went in to the composition of a piece. What has helped me thrive in my career outside of music has been very similar. My love for helping others drives me daily in my new endeavor in cleaning and restoration. It is not the same type of thing that music education may have provided, but I am convinced it is every bit as rewarding if not more. Now, I get to help people who are in various situations. Whether it is simply cleaning up to host a major family function, or restoring a home after a fire or flood; my job still revolves around helping others.

Hopefully this may be helpful to those struggling to find meaning in their field of work that is totally unrelated to their field of study, as well as those who have recently graduated college. Regardless of whether you actually think you are using your degree or not, you will apply lessons learned in college each and every day in your career. As always, if you would like to open a discussion or have any questions on how I have made use of a music degree in the cleaning and restoration industry, feel free to email me: kurtis.smbybell@gmail.com.





“Special of the Month”
Spring for Art in 2015!
 15% off Custom Framing
 for Art purchased in the gallery!
 Offer valid May 1st through May 31st
 Franklin, PA 814-437-9509



Dr. Kate Eckert
drkeckert@gmail.com
www.chirodrkate.com
 1047 Allegheny Avenue
 Oil City, PA 16301
 P: 814.657.1854
 F: 814.676.6200

The Best of Both Worlds



URBAN
Insurance Agency
www.urban-ins.com
814-677-4095



SENECA
INSURANCE SERVICES
www.senecainsuranceandnotary.com
814-677-6071

Proud Partner of Team Rossbacher

7137 US 322 • Cranberry, PA

Volunteer with the Chamber!

Looking for a way to volunteer and help out your community? The Oil Heritage Festival will be here before we know it, and we'd love to have young professionals volunteer with us. Some opportunities include the FLEX Ice Cream Social, Children's Parade, Basket Raffle, or helping down in the park during concerts.

We are also searching for a chair person for our button raffle! This commitment is for about two to three weeks and we'd need someone who is organized and punctual! The button chair person works with staff to distribute and sell buttons. We'd love for you to take part in the festival! If interested, send us an email at chamber@venangochamber.org or give us a call at (814) 676-8521



OUR 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.

Where you'll find FLEX this month:

FLEX **First** Friday Lunch - June 5th

Monthly FLEX Meeting - June 17th

Chamber events - Check out the Chamber's Calendar of Events at www.venangochamber.org



VenangoFLEX

Text FLEX to 42828 to be added to our email list

email: flex@venangochamber.org