

FLEX FLEX Your Ideas

FYI

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

FLEX Holds Annual Meeting

The Future Leaders and Entrepreneurs Exchange, Venango County's Young Professionals, held its 2nd Annual Meeting on October 15th, 2014 at Venango College - Clarion University. The annual dinner began with networking and refreshments. Approximately 35 attendees met and approved the changes to the bylaws as presented before hearing a presentation by Pam Watkins, Human Resources Manager with Kraus Flooring. Pam talked to the young professionals about; work, life, balance. She explained how a good leader and a good person needs to balance work, home life. Her presentation was followed by several questions from the audience.

FLEX President Will Price introduced the current officers of FLEX and announced the 2015 FLEX officers, which are Will Price (United Way of Venango County) President, Bobbie Haag (Kraus Flooring) Past President, Elizabeth Griebel (Urban & Seneca Insurance Agencies) Secretary/ Treasurer. FLEX will continue scheduling First Friday Lunches and monthly meetings.

Attention on Young Professionals

FLEX Presents is an annual event that celebrates the achievements of Venango County's young professionals, those under 40 who contribute to their community through civic engagement. Community members are invited to nominate those who they believe meet the criteria. Like communities across the country, we recognize the value of retaining our talented and motivated young people. A key to this should be recognizing those who choose to work and volunteer here now!



We encourage you to **pay careful attention** to those "under 40" that you encounter each day in your community, your work and even in your home and help us to celebrate our most valuable assets and the future of our region.

We will be sharing more soon about the application process and timeline to nominate young professionals to be recognized at FLEX Presents 2015.



Jennifer Riley may be a familiar name to you as she is a Licensed Office Representative at Sandy K. Hovis Insurance Agency, Inc. in Reno. Like many of our young professionals, Jennifer chose to leave the area for college attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania to earn her BA in Journalism while also graduating from the Robert E Cook Honors College. She was awarded the honor of graduating Magna Cum Laude.

After completing her degree at IUP, Jennifer returned home to be closer to her family. Through her move back to the area, she was presented with the opportunity to join the team at Sandy K. Hovis Insurance Agency, Inc. In her time at the agency, Jennifer has attained licenses in property and casualty as well as life and health insurance. She takes pride in her role with the agency and truly enjoys working with their clients to help them protect themselves and their families.

Away from the office, Jennifer enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband Patrick, daughter Brynna, and son Liam. Family fun is always on the agenda whether it be a trip to the zoo, a vacation to the beach, or simply enjoying the beauty the oil region has to offer.

When asked to provide a brief description of Venango County, Jennifer noted that the county is "Beautiful, friendly, and full of potential."



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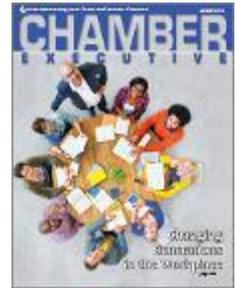


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Generations Diversity Offers Opportunity and Challenge

The Summer Issue of the American Chamber of Commerce Executive magazine focused on changes going on in the workplace. The feature article *Changing Generations Mean a Changing Workplace* by Josh Dukelow sites these notable changes.



Location First: Researchers such as urban theorist Richard Florida have told us that the "creative class" will find the place they want to live first, and then worry about finding a job there. This makes community development and quality of life a top priority for regions that want to compete for scarce talent. Employers, chambers, and local governments are teaming up to cultivate the kind of experiences and opportunities that will attract the new generation of highly mobile workers.

Untethered to the Desk: New technology frees us from the office. In fact, young entrepreneurs find settings such as coffee shops or co-working spaces preferable to traditional offices. They can get calls, email, and documents on their mobile devices, and attend webinars or Skype calls on their laptop anywhere they have a wi-fi signal. If you don't offer your employees remote access to email and files, some job-seekers might keep looking for an employer who does.

Flexible Schedules: Given their embrace of creative places and the power of mobile technology, a top consideration for young workers choosing an employer is a flexible schedule. Late mornings, mid-day yoga classes, early evening happy hours, and late night brainstorming are normal for Millennials (not usually all in one day!), and none of these have to get in the way of productivity. Their passion for results and "making a difference" means



Stephen Reinsel, optometrist at Wagner Family Eye Care, is a Venango County native. Stephen returned to Oil City after some time away to further his education and develop himself professionally. He holds his bachelor's degree from Gannon University and his OD from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Growing up locally, Stephen was offered a great opportunity to shadow the doctors at Wagner's. He has always had an interest in the healthcare field, but during the shadowing opportunity he fell in love with optometry.

Stephen proudly serves as the president of the Pennsylvania Optometric Association's Northwestern Optometric Society. He is also a Rotarian and organizes a large fundraiser for the organization.

Outside of his professional and charitable responsibilities, Reinsel enjoys seeing the world through travel. His Instagram account, flooded with scenic panoramas of his travels, is a testament to this. He also takes time to enjoy the whole craft beer experience, noting New Belgium and Southern Tier as two of his favorite breweries. While travel takes him away quite often, when he is around he likes to spend his time outdoors enjoying what the Oil Region has to offer, whether is paddling on the river or running the trails.

Looking to the future, Stephen is excited for what lies next. He is looking forward to marriage and home ownership as well as continuing to enjoy everything the region has to offer, especially the beautiful scenery and great fall weather each year.

they are just as motivated to get things done as any other worker; they just want to get it done at the time that is convenient for them.

The entire article can be found at <http://www.acce.org/magazine-archive/summer-2014/changing-generations-mean-a-changing-workplace/>

The Millennial Glossary

Autonomy – Identifying the destination, but not the route to reach it.

Co-working Space – A desk in an office for a person without an office.

Slacktivism – Supporting a cause or advancing a movement by doing #virtuallynothing.

LifeHack – Solving a problem using what's available at hand, a la MacGyver.

Facetime/Skype – Remember the video phone from the Jetsons? It's like that.

Fail Fast – Just do it; it's better to try, fail, learn, and try again, than never to try in the first place.

The Cloud – Access to all of your music, cat videos, and selfies from any device, anywhere.

Innovate – Using wild ideas to solve the world's problems.

Disruptive – When everything changes all at once. You're welcome.

Crowd-Funding – Financing your startup with money from many small investors. In essence, digital begging.

Ear buds – You might call them headphones.

Tablet – It doesn't have anything to do with medicine; the light, flat wireless computers that are taking over the world.

Drone – Small flying machines; in the Army they shoot missiles, but here they are used to shoot video.





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Junior Achievement seeks Classroom Volunteers

Volunteers play a key role in bringing Junior Achievement to life. By combining your personal and professional experiences with JA program lessons, students learn about entrepreneurship, finances, and explore careers. You help them make the connections between what they learn in school and what they will need to succeed in work and life.

We need your help to meet the demand for our programs. Your participation helps bring the JA experience to more schools in our community.

Junior Achievement makes volunteering fulfilling, with flexible scheduling options. Our curriculum and training provides everything you need to make participation in JA interactive and engaging for students. Your Junior Achievement experience will leave you feeling proud, energized and hopeful about a better future for our young people.

Junior Achievement seeks Board Members

Vision: An Advisory Council Member's most important role is an ADVOCATE for Junior Achievement. Giving of their time, talent and treasure, a member opens doors for JA. Members have and demonstrate a commitment to forge new as well as maintain and cultivate existing partnerships between the organization and the business and education communities. Council members bring their enthusiasm, energy and new ideas to expand JA's financial and volunteer resources and programmatic opportunities. JA staff and members enjoy a strong working relationship.

The advisory council's responsibilities are focused in developing relationships in their local community, as the governance and fiduciary responsibility for the organization lie with the JAWPA board of directors.

Meetings: The Advisory Council meets monthly the third Tuesday of each month from 8:00am-9:00am at Venango Training and Development Center in Seneca.

Please contact Gail Whitney, Executive Director for more information gwhitney@jwesternpa.org 814-323-9956 .

The Oil City Housing Authority Seeks Board Members

The Housing Authority currently has 2 open seats and would invite interested parties to contact them. Candidates must reside in Oil City. Executive Director Ed Slye can be reached at (814) 676-5764.

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

Where you'll find FLEX in November:

FLEX **Second** Friday Lunch November 7 Location TBA

Monthly (Annual) Meeting - October 15th @ 5:30 pm, Venango Chamber Conf. Room

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