



Blue Valley Times

VOL. 31 NO. 5

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JANUARY 31, 2023



Bangor Womens Club Announces 2023 Hoby Recipient Gianni Goodrich

By Marilyn Mehas

BANGOR - Deanna Keyser Education Chair Bangor Womens Club announced that Gianni Goodrich will represent Bangor at this year's HOBY Leadership training. He is the son of Alicia R. Zito and Matthew G. Goodrich. He is a sophomore in Bangor Area High School class of 2025. He is a member of the varsity Football and Baseball teams. He participated in Bangor's MiniTHON.

Gianni's community service is assisting in fundraising events by The Friends of The Library and he is an altar server at his church.

After graduating Gianni plans to attend a 4-year University, either Penn State or Lafayette, to major in Engineering.



An Update on our Economy

By State Rep Ann Flood

PEN ARGYL - Today, I attended the GLVCC Lehigh Valley Economic Outlook at the Artsquest Center at SteelStacks. There was a record crowd in attendance this year. We heard from Wells Fargo Economist, Dr. Jay Bryson who presented relevant economic data, insights and the financial outlook for our region. Dr. Bryson started out by stating that New Home building was down by 20% because of the higher interest rates.

I also learned that there is a rotation movement showing people are moving away from spending on goods to services. Manufacturing is in a contracting state and exports are taking a hit. Even though inflation has come down from 9% to somewhere between 6-7%, it is still having an impact on disposable income. Individual purchasing power is also down by 3%, despite wage increases. Household savings is also down because people are significantly saving less to spend more on services and to no surprise, credit card debt is rising sharply.

Even after all this, the economists are only expecting a mild contraction in economic output in 2023. Overall, the fundamentals of the economy are still "kinda" good right now and the conclusion is there is no reason to expect a downturn.

It was a great time learning about the impact inflation has had on the economy. As your representative, I always enjoy learning more about our region.

"Fake Is Real" Campaign To Raise Awareness Of The Dangers Of Fentanyl

By Michael Ortoski

Bethlehem TWSP. - Lamont McClure and the Department of Human Services (DHS) held a press conference on "Fake is Real," a campaign to educate teens, young adults and community members on the dangers of fentanyl on Tuesday.

Speakers include Lamont McClure, DHS Director Susan Wandalowski, District Attorney Terry Houck, Coroner Zach Lysek, Administrator of Drug and Alcohol Kathleen Jiorle and Sarah Clark from Kudu Creative.

A majority of young people are unaware that four out of ten pills sold on the street contain lethal doses of fentanyl. Two milligrams of fentanyl can be a lethal dose—the size of a few grains of sand.

Northampton County is launching the "Fake is Real" campaign to educate young adults and others about the dangers of fentanyl and to reduce demand for counterfeit prescription pills.

"Illegal drugs pose a clear danger to our children and our society," says Lamont McClure. "The County will continue to raise awareness to prevent addiction and to offer services to treat addiction. We aren't going to leave anyone behind."

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