





## VOL. 32 NO. 11 SERVING THE SLATE BELT, SOUTHERN POCONOS & NORTHERN N.J. DAILY ONLINE AT WWW.BLUEVALLEYTIMES.COM AND FACEBOOK First Northern Bank \$50,000 Donation To Slate Belt Rising. First Northern Bank \$50,000 Donation To Slate Belt Rising.

## First Northern Bank \$50,000 Donation To Slate Belt Rising, Part Of Their \$300,000 6-year Commitment

By Michael Ortoski / Chair - Slate Belt Rising Facade Program SLATE BELT - This past Friday, the Director of Slate Belt Rising, Brian Fenstermaker, had the pleasure of visiting First Northern Bank & Trust at their Wind Gap branch. We were honored to receive a generous \$50,000 donation from First Northern Bank, which will support our various regional projects and programs. Theresa Thompson, Michael DePaulo, and Tiffany McDaniel from the bank joined us to offer their support, showcasing their commitment to the Slate Belt community.

This donation is part of the \$300,000 First Northern Bank has committed to Slate Belt Rising during our current 6-year NPP period, wich is our second 6-year term of our program. We are incredibly grateful for their ongoing partnership and support, as it plays a crucial role in shaping the future of the Slate Belt. Thank you, First Northern Bank, for your continued dedication to the SlateBelt!



**Housing Complex** 

MARCH 12, 2024

## Senator Boscola Happily Returns to the Slate Belt - Speaks at Chamber Event

By Office of Senator Lisa Boscola

SLATE BELT - It's great to be back representing the residents and businesses in the Slate Belt. From 1999 until 2014, I had the privilege. From 2015 until 2022, the privilege was Mario Scavello's. And thanks to the latest round of redistricting, it is once again my privilege.

Senator Boscolal was so excited when the opportunity was presented to me to speak to the Slate Belt Chamber. My door is always open to hear the concerns of both businesses



and residents. (And my closest door is my Slate Belt District Office, which is at 20 Market Street in Bangor and

currently open on Tuesdays and Thursdays!)

At this Chamber meeting, I was able to provide detailed information on Governor Shapiro's state budget (which includes a significant investment in economic development – which has always been a priority of mine) and his proposed economic development strategy (the Commonwealth has been lacking a coherent statewide economic strategy for far too long), how Harrisburg has been focused on the need for

permitting reform, the need for systemic change to fund our local schools following last year's Commonwealth Court decision ruling our funding system to be inequitable and the need for property tax reform to be part of fixing the inequities in school funding, and more! I thoroughly enjoyed the give and take with the Slate Belt Chamber members!



