



SERVING THE SLATE BELT, SOUTHERN POCONOS & NORTHERN N.J. **VOL. 29 NO. 13** DAILY ONLINE AT WWW.BLUEVALLEYTIMES.COM AND FACEBOOK

MARCH 30, 2021

## Community Action appoints Dawn Godshall as next Executive Director



By CACLV

BETHLEHEM - The Board of Directors of Community Action Lehigh Valley is pleased to announce the appointment of Dawn Godshall as the organization's next Executive Director. Currently serving as the organization's Deputy Executive Director for Operations, Godshall has been with the agency since March, 2014, and has held various leadership positions including Associate Executive Director for Community Services and Director of the Sixth Street Shelter in Allentown. She will succeed Alan Jennings, who is retiring at the end of May after more than 40 years with the agency.

"Dawn Godshall inspires confidence in the board, staff, and community we serve. Her comprehensive knowledge of our agency, her first-person understanding of the causes and effects of poverty, and her unflappable presence draw people in," said Wayne Barz, Community Action's Board President. "Given the year we've just been through as a nation and community, we think everyone who meets her will feel inspired by the future of what this agency and community can accomplish."

Godshall grew up in Buffalo, New York. Her mother passed away when she was five years old, leaving her father to raise her and her two sisters, ages six and seven, on his own. Despite not making it past sixth grade, her father spoke three languages (Italian, German, and Spanish) fluently and instilled the importance of education in his daughters. When she was 12 years old, her father passed away and she spent the rest of her childhood in the foster care system. Although she had to overcome adversity from an early age, she notes that it has made her who she is today: a fighter.

"I wasn't born into a life of privilege. I'm a woman of color who grew up in foster

Continued on page 6

## Da Vinci Science Center Chief Administrative Officer & CFO Maureen Michael Receives Women of Influence Award

By Caroline Scutt

ALLENTOWN, PA. March 26, 2021 - Maureen Michael, Da Vinci Science Center Chief Administrative Officer and CFO, has been named a 2021 Women of Influence Honoree by the Lehigh Valley Business Journal as part of the annual Lehigh Valley Business Women of Influence Awards. The honorees were selected based on professional experience, community involvement and a commitment to mentoring.

"I am thrilled that our colleague and friend, Maureen Michael has been selected as a Woman of Influence Honoree for her achievements and the strong expertise she brings to the Da Vinci Science Center and to our community," said Lin Erickson, Executive Director and CEO of the Da Vinci Science Center. "Maureen is the glue that bonds together the functional departments, ensuring that people connect with and support one another and that work gets done across the organization. Her hard work, energy, and positive attitude are contagious."

Michael joined the Da Vinci Science Center in August 2015 as the Chief Financial Officer. Fifteen months later, she added Chief Administrative Officer to her scope of responsibilities. Since 2015, Maureen has transformed a small, business office responsible for day-to-day accounting to a finance and administration department with streamlined processes for tracking and reporting business activity.

She played a pivotal role in ensuring the organization successfully navigated through the pandemic, including leading scenario planning, prepared numerous financial reports to secure

Continued on page 7

## Ed's Auto & Tire 1109 Blue Valley Dr. (Rt. 512), Pen Argyl Pa Public Accountant Paying Cath FREE Pick Up 610-253-4000 • 800-370-8294 1400 NORTHAMPTON STREET - EASTON, PA 18042-4024 369-257

Debbie Pettinari, Agent 106 S Broadway Wind Gap, PA 18091 610-881-4433 Debbie.pettinari.wz73@statefarm.com

31 W First St. Wind Gap Office: 610-863-8444 www.KesslerHometeam.com

Joe & Nancy Kessler

and Corinne Groff