

Strengthening Our Special Needs Community

By State Rep. Ann Flood

My Special Needs Expo on Saturday at the Forks Township Community Center in Easton brought together families, individuals and community members for a day full of learning, connection and support. The event showcased a wide range of programs and services designed to help those living with special needs thrive, from educational resources to health and wellness support.

Attendees met vendors from government, nonprofit and private organizations, including Colonial Intermediate Unit 20, whose Parent Support Team shared valuable resources and answered questions for families. Their Colonial Cafe 71 served delicious drinks while promoting independence and skill building for students preparing for future employment opportunities.

Throughout the day, families and individuals had the chance to explore services, connect with experts and engage in meaningful conversations. It was inspiring to see our community come together to learn, share and build lasting connections.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and to all the organizations that made this event possible. Your dedication helps ensure that our community has the resources, support and opportunities every individual needs to succeed.



Advancing Mental Health Initiatives in Pa.

By State Rep. Ann Flood

Last week, I attended the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Mental Health Summit, one of seven held across the state. The summit brought together regional members of the judiciary, behavioral health providers and community stakeholders to discuss ways to improve outcomes for individuals with mental and behavioral health challenges who encounter the justice system.

I was joined by state Reps. Zach Mako and Eric Weaknecht; Craig Dally, president judge of the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas and my predecessor in the 138th District; and Lori Vargo Hefner, president of the Northampton County commissioners.

Celebrating Veterans in Roseto, Steve DeFranco Sr., Recognized as Veteran of the Year for 2025

By By State Rep. Ann Flood

Roseto's Veterans Day program offered a heartfelt tribute to the men and women who served our nation. The Slate Belt Band and the Bangor Area High School band provided music throughout the ceremony, and the American Legion presented a moving gun salute. Two participants appeared in period attire. One of them, Rachel Bailey, performed two classic songs with an incredible voice.

Congratulations to Steve DeFranco Sr., who was recognized as the Joint Veterans Council Forks of the Delaware Veteran of the Year for 2025. His recognition is well deserved.

My legislative aide, Ann, attended on my behalf and shared how meaningful the program was. She was joined by state Rep. Zach Mako. Thank you to the organizers, volunteers and everyone who came together to honor our veterans.



"Steve DeFranco Sr., was recognized as the Joint Veterans Council Forks of the Delaware Veteran of the Year for 2025"

