Flood Announces Over $6 Million in Infrastructure Projects in District

By Rep. Ann Flood (R-Northampton)

HARRISBURG – I'm pleased to announce over $6 million in new funding to the 138th district for two projects that will improve the lives for citizens of the Lehigh Valley.

Flood played a key role in securing this funding through Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP).

St. Luke's Anderson Campus has been awarded $4.3 million for construction that will aid with relocating and expanding the emergency department. This project will renovate the existing/former space for an expanded pre-operative and post-operative area, an additional operating room and space for the new radiology residency program.

"I was more than happy to advocate for these building projects," said Flood. "Investing in our health care infrastructure is vital in making sure each and every patient that is admitted into the hospital is met with top-tier medical care.

Majestic Realty Co. has been awarded $2.5 million for construction of backbone public infrastructure on Lehigh Valley International Airport's (LVIA) unimproved land to be used as a flex park. This includes surface improvements (road paving, striping, curb, gutter, sidewalk, and adjacent landscaping, fire hydrants, street lights, etc.), subsurface wet and dry utilities (water, sewer and storm pipes, electrical and telecom lines, conduits and vaults, and natural gas lines) and other improvements as needed.

"Similarly to St. Luke's, the Lehigh Valley International Airport is a vital asset to our region, and I am incredibly excited to see these funds be put to good use by creating a business park that will be located across the street from the airport. This will open up the opportunity for more jobs in the region and encourage economic growth."

RACP is a Commonwealth grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational and historical improvement projects.

NORTHAMPTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NCC Named One of USA's Top Online Colleges

By NCC

BETHLEHEM, PA - Northampton Community College (NCC) has been named to Newsweek's list of America's Top Online Colleges 2023. The college was ranked 54th out of 200 highly rated colleges and universities across the United States.

The list highlights the nation's top colleges with online degrees based on a survey of more than 9,000 online learners and independent research conducted by Statistica Inc. NCC was the only Lehigh Valley college to earn a spot on the list and was the highest ranked Pennsylvania community college included.

"It's exciting to have our online education programs recognized nationally especially as we continue to grow this modality as an important part of our future," said David A. Ruth, president of NCC. "What's especially rewarding is that the rankings are based on feedback from our online students who highly rated their education and online learning experience with NCC."

Institutions were rated based on organization and accessibility, support and service, cost of program, perceived organizational reputation, expected success, and practical relevance of contents. The participants were also asked to what extent they would recommend it to others.

More than half of NCC's 8,400 students enroll in online classes. The college offers 34 fully online degree programs and more than 250 online classes. Ruth said many of the College's students rely on online programs and classes to enable them to pursue their education when it best fits their schedules so that they can blend learning with busy work and home lives. "That's critical in helping them earn a degree or credential to advance in their current job or obtain a new position," he said.

NCC's Chief Information Officer Brian Gardner, who oversees the College's online learning programs, said "NCC's online learning program is great because of the teams who make it happen. We have incredible faculty, a top-notch online learning and educational technology team, and offices across the campus that work in a beautifully diverse chorus towards a singular end, the success of our students!"

Gardner added, "The best is yet to come, with more services and options that will help get our students from wherever they are to where they want to be."

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