



News from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

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[Photo Gallery Link](#)

Freeholders Name Pedestrian Bridge For SSG Andrew T. Lobosco

BRIDGEWATER – SSG Andrew T. Lobosco, who grew up in Bridgewater and graduated from Immaculata High School in Somerville, was posthumously honored this month when the Somerset County Board of Freeholders officially named the pedestrian bridge near the high school in his memory.

More than 150 people attended the Feb. 17 dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony in the parking lot at the Bridgewater Commons Mall, near the end of the footbridge. State, county and local officials, along with family members, friends, local veterans' organizations and SSG Lobosco's military unit, were in attendance.

State Sen. Christopher "Kip" Bateman, who spearheaded the bridge memorial, hosted the event along with the Freeholder board. Speakers included Col. Mark Gorton, deputy commander of SSG Lobosco's unit, Congressman Leonard Lance, Freeholder Director Jack M. Ciattarelli, Somerville Mayor Brian Gallagher and Bridgewater Mayor Patricia Flannery.

"A bridge named in honor of Andrew Lobosco is the most perfect of symbolisms," said Freeholder Director Ciattarelli. "His supreme sacrifice on behalf of his country, like all those before and, if necessary, after him, is – must be – a bridge to a place where life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is without burden."

The Bridgewater Police Department Honor Guard presented and retire the colors. Bridgewater Township Councilman Dan Hayes, a co-organizer of the event, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Monsignor Seamus Brennan of Immaculate Conception Church gave the invocation. The Immaculata High School band played the national anthem, "The Army Goes Rolling Along" and "The Ballad of the Green Berets."

Participants included Company C, 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne); the Special Forces Association; the Knights of Columbus, Council 5959, Our Lady of the Hills, Martinsville; Bridgewater PBA Local 174; and the Lobosco family – father Robert, mother Bonnie and twin sister Lisa.

Bridgewater PBA Local 174 President John Mitzak and Special Forces Association, Chapter XIX President Walter Rosario presented a plaque to the Lobosco family. Capt. Michael E. Loconsolo of Company C presented a pair of flags to the local Knights of Columbus Council 5959 as a thank-you for their participation in a crutch drive organized by SSG Lobosco. Robert, Bonnie and Lisa Lobosco presented a flag flown over the nation's Capitol to Immaculata High School student Steven Wright, who came up with the idea to name the bridge in SSG Lobosco's honor.

[Photo Gallery – Bridge Ceremony](#)

**Jack M. Ciattarelli, Freeholder Director • Robert Zaborowski, Freeholder Deputy Director
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