



NEWS

From Bill Magnarelli

February 2017

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MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO NEW YORKERS

“One piece of legislation, which passed for the second time and will appear on the ballot this year as a referendum to amend the state constitution, strips taxpayer-funded pensions from public officers convicted of corruption (A.1749).

Additionally, a joint resolution was passed requiring legislators in both houses to submit information about their outside income to the independent Legislative Ethics Commission (LEC), which will then issue an advisory opinion on whether a conflict of interest exists (B.404/C.25).

It’s important that we continue finding ways to make state government more transparent to hardworking New Yorkers we represent. These measures will help us build back the public trust and show that no one is above the law. Taxpayers should not be subsidizing the retirements of corrupt public officers. Nobody is above the law.

The pension forfeiture bill received strong bipartisan support during the last legislative session (A.10739-A of 2016). Second passage by the Legislature was required so it can be placed on the ballot in November. If voters approve the measure, it will become a new constitutional requirement.

As for the joint resolution, both houses approved it this week and it takes effect immediately. Legislators earning more than \$5,000 per year in outside income must seek a ruling from the LEC; current legislators are required to submit information within their first 30 days if they plan to continue earning outside income.

New Yorkers should have the utmost confidence that their leaders aren’t burdened by conflicts of interest.

As always, public participation remains vitally important to the Assembly. Your input is a valuable resource and helps me to better serve our community.”

Bill Magnarelli

Watch your mail! The 2017 Constituent Survey will be arriving soon!

Community Information Nights

In the coming weeks, I am hosting four Community Information Nights as opportunities to hear about relevant state issues from the residents in my district. The meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 16

Van Buren Town Hall

7575 Van Buren Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Thursday, March 2

Cecile Center

174 W Seneca Turnpike, Syr., NY 13205

Thursday, March 9

Henninger High School

600 Robinson St, Syracuse, NY 13206

Thursday, March 16

Geddes Town Hall

1000 Woods Rd, Solvay, NY 13209

Free Electronics Recycling Drop Off



I recently sponsored a free E-recycling event held at the NYS Fairgrounds in partnership with Assemblyman Al Stirpe and Sunnking.

There will be other E-recycling events at the NYS Fairgrounds on May 20 and at Destiny USA on July 29.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSTITUENT SERVICE

Assemblyman Magnarelli's district office, located in Syracuse, New York, operates twelve months a year and is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. The Assemblyman puts priority focus and efforts on his staff being responsive to constituent calls for assistance in state matters or just listening to constituent concerns regarding legislation.

In 2016, the Syracuse office received and responded to 2,226 contacts, either by phone, email, US mail, or in person visits. What is not reflected in this total is the outreach to the residents of the 129th District through mailings, e-blasts and calls regarding Magnarelli sponsored community events. The 129th District includes the Northside, Westside, Eastwood, Valley and Downtown areas of the City of Syracuse, as well as the Town of Geddes, including the Village of Solway, and the Town of Van Buren, including the portion of the Village of Baldwinsville located in Van Buren.

Some of the issues that our constituents contacted us about were: STAR tax rebate; Ride-sharing services; Education Aid; Minimum Wage, RT 81 Project; Health Insurance; Workers Compensation; Unemployment benefits; Juvenile Raise the Age and Paid Family Leave.

Assemblyman Magnarelli said, "I am proud of my staff for their diligence in assisting the people who call my office for help. 50% of my job as your Assemblyman is constituent service, but it is 100% of my staff's focus."

Labor Breakfast

Each year Assemblyman Magnarelli hosts a Labor Breakfast meeting to discuss priority union issues. This year over 28 different unions sent representatives to the roundtable discussion: including the carpenters, painters, bricklayers, roofers, ironworkers, and laborers from the 1199 SEIU Upstate, Bricklayers Local 2, CNY Area Labor Federation, CNY ALF-UniteHere 150, CSEA Central Region, CSEA Local 834, CWA Local 1123, IBEW Local 1249, IBT Local 1149, Ironworkers Local 60, Laborers Local 633, NE Regional Council of Carpenters, Painters Local 31, PEF, Plumbers & Steam Fitters Local 267, Roofers Local 195, Sheet Metal Workers Local 58, 1199 SEIU, Syracuse Teachers Association, Upstate NY Operating Engineers Local 158, Teamsters 317, and Syracuse Fire Local 280.



REMINDER! 10 DIGIT LOCAL PHONE CALLS



Please be aware that beginning at 12:01 am February 11, 2017, we will be required to dial an area code for all calls we make – even local calls. That means that all existing numbers that begin with area code 315, will need to include the area code on all calls. No exceptions. If you omit the area code, you will get a recording that will instruct you to hand up and try again.

Make sure to update cell phone contacts with area codes as well.

The reason for this change is that our CNY area has added an additional area code, "680," for some numbers and all new numbers; therefore, making it necessary to distinguish which area you are calling within our CNY region. March 11, 2017 is when the phone numbers in area code 680 will go into service. Nobody with an existing 315 number will have to switch area codes.

However, on February 11, 2017 it is MANDATORY for the 10-digit dialing system. All existing 315 area codes must be dialed along with the 7-digit phone number for your call to get through.

You will still dial just 911 for emergencies. Also still dial 411, 211, 511 and 811 for other services.

Your phone rates will not change for dialing the 10-digit numbers.

AMR Open House



American Medical Response of CNY (AMR), (formerly Rural Metro), held an open house in December 2016 to showcase their new state of the art facility on Richmond Ave in Syracuse. Assemblyman Magnarelli joined with Mike Addario and the local team of EMT's and Paramedics for a tour and demonstration of their new lifesaving technologies.

YWCA WOMEN'S RESIDENCE

In December, I was invited by the YWCA Executive Director, Fanny Villarreal, to visit with the staff and some residents of “The Women’s Residence”. This program provides safe, affordable, transitional and permanent housing to single and parenting women.

Through empowering and advocating for women and their children, the Program seeks to assist women in overcoming their diverse life obstacles and improving their quality of life. I learned about some of the Program’s features, such as housing, case management

services, first step programs, women to work program, My Sister’s Closet and W.O.W., a domestic violence support program. What I saw was a committed staff of knowledgeable and caring individuals who were long time employees of this program. In my opinion, consistency and continuity were key to the resulting successes. I also heard directly from the women and one of the children, a young man who practically grew up in this supportive environment. Just talking with him showed me the value-added that the YWCA is accomplishing.



Supporting ARISE and CENTRO

Recently, legislation I sponsored was signed into law by Governor Cuomo. Legislation A.9490 (Chapter 394 of 2016) forbids Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs) from exempting the portion of the Mortgage Recording Tax (MRT) that benefits public transportation authorities (e.g. CENTRO).

IDAs often provide exemptions to the MRT for companies pursuing economic development projects. A.9490 will not allow them to exempt the .75% of the MRT that goes to fund transportation authorities. CENTRO specifically requested this change in the law, and they estimate it will provide them an additional \$323,000 per year in revenue.

Over the past few years, I have heard often from community advocates urging additional funding for CENTRO. As advocates for the disabled who rely on mass transit, ARISE was a major advocate for this legislation and their support helped to get it passed. Going forward, I will continue to advocate in Albany for CENTRO because of how important its services are for those who have no other reliable source of transportation. I look forward to working with ARISE and other advocates to ensure CENTRO receives its fair share of State support.

Greater Syracuse Tenants Network

The Greater Syracuse Tenants Network bought new office equipment using \$8,500 of a state grant I secured. The organization represents the interests of low-income tenants throughout the Central New York area. Through a partnership with individual tenant associations, the Network serves as a source of information. The Network also reaches out to government authorities and the public citizenry to advocate policies that benefit low-income tenants.



About New York State Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli

Assemblyman William Magnarelli represents the 129th Assembly District, which includes the Northside, Westside, Eastwood Valley and Downtown areas of the City of Syracuse, as well as the towns of Geddes and Van Buren. He first won election in 1998 for an open Assembly seat and was reelected in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. During his terms in office, Assemblyman Magnarelli has focused his efforts on bringing more jobs to Central New York, lowering taxes, providing our children a better education at every level, improving our healthcare and keeping our families safe. For more information, contact Assemblyman Magnarelli’s District Office at (315) 428-9651 or visit <http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/magnarelli>.