



NEWS June 2022

From Bill Magnarelli

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129th Assembly District

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Approaching Summer

The start of summer is usually a time of rest and relaxation after the school year ends, a time to enjoy being in the nice weather with family, friends and loved ones. And although many people take vacations over the summer, our office is always there for you, working to help our constituents no matter the time or season. Even after the end of Legislative Session earlier in June, our office continues to respond to constituent inquiries and assist constituents and organizations in need of assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any constituent matter you may have (315-428-9651) or email magnarw@nyassembly.gov.”

Bill Magnarelli

Bills Passed Both Houses, Waiting for Governor’s Signature

Three important pieces of legislation Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored passed both the Assembly and the Senate and await the Governor’s signature to become law:

Tenant Dignity and Safe Harbor Act

Tenants would have the right to bring actions against landlords in city, district and/or justice court for habitability and housing code violations if legislation A354-B is signed into law.

“Tenants in New York City currently have this right, whereas outside New York City, tenants are unable to bring an action in court against an unscrupulous landlord,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli, D-Syracuse, Geddes, Van Buren.

“For example, in the City of Syracuse, a tenant usually can only get into City Court when a landlord brings an eviction proceeding for the non-payment of rent. Without this bill, a tenant cannot proactively take action on their right to a habitable premise.”

“For many years, tenants in New York City have had a simplified procedure to ask a court to order landlords to make critical repairs in their homes,” said Dennis A. Kaufman, Executive Director of Legal Services of Central New York. “This bill allows everyone in New York to do the same – even if the tenant does not have a lawyer.”

The bill allows a tenant to bring a simple summary action in local courts to compel a landlord to fix code violations, remedy unsanitary conditions and/or make necessary repairs. It will allow them to do so without fear of retaliatory eviction. Tenants will be able to make these claims using a simple form with or without the assistance of an attorney, and the bill gives the court broad discretion to fashion relief. Additionally, it requires the court to notify local housing agencies about potential code violations. The bill applies statewide except for Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Improving access to the courts will help tenants outside of New York City assert their rights against bad landlords without fear of eviction. Allowing tenants to bring these claims will help hold landlords accountable for unsafe conditions and notify local authorities about problem properties. All tenants in New York deserve to live in safe conditions. This legislation will help ensure that.

Registration System for Contractors in Public Works

A registration system for contractors that wish to bid on contracts for public work would be created by legislation A1338-C. “This registration ensures that contractors do not have previous labor law violations and that they will abide by New York labor laws and regulations, including prevailing wage requirements,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli. “This legislation creates proper oversight on taxpayer funded construction projects and increases contractor accountability and compliance.”

Contractors and sub-contractors will be required to pre-register under this legislation with the State Department of Labor. They are also required to disclose any previous labor law violations or if they have been debarred from bidding on public works by the federal government, or other states within the past 10 years.

If a contractor fails to register and bids on public work, they can be fined up to \$1,000. If the Department of Labor finds a contractor unfit, it is required to give notice and provide for a hearing. This legislation closes a loophole where unscrupulous contractors break the law and fail to comply with New York’s legal requirements, such as insurance and worker’s compensation regulations. Similar systems are used in New Jersey and California.

Green Lights for Mobile Crisis Vehicles

Vehicles of members of a mobile crisis team would be allowed to display green lights when engaged in an emergency operation, if legislation A9511B is signed into law.

“Time is of the essence when responding to emergencies. New York State is preparing to implement more crisis centers with trained mobile crisis response staff members to respond to various mental, emotion, physical and behavioral distress calls in order to prevent critical incidents,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli. “Green lights are an effective tool used by some emergency personnel to alert drivers to pull over to allow for emergency vehicles to pass en route to emergency calls.”

NYS Historic Business Preservation Registry

Two local companies received a place on the NYS Historic Business Preservation Registry. I was honored to nominate Hueber-Breuer Construction and the Cathedral Candle Company for this registry that highlights businesses in operation for at least 50 years, which contributed to their communities' history. Hueber-Breuer is celebrating 150 years and has worked on some of the most notable buildings in the community. Cathedral Candle is celebrating 125 years and continues to make beeswax liturgical candles for churches around the world.



The registry can be found at www.parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/business-registry/.

<https://parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/business-registry/>

Top Left: Andy Breuer, president, Jim Breuer, Chairman, and Charlie Breuer, executive vice president accept the award from Assemblyman Magnarelli.

Left: Louis Steigerwald III, president and Mark Steigerwald, vice president, are joined with the staff of Cathedral Candle Company to accept their



Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Assemblyman Magnarelli visited with seniors from P.E.A.C.E. inc at the Syracuse Mets game recently. The seniors were able to attend the event because of a \$20,000 grant Assemblyman Magnarelli secured to provide P.E.A.C.E. Inc with field trips and outings for their seniors. PEACE, Inc. is Onondaga County's federally designated Community Action Agency, which seeks to help people become more self-sufficient by strengthening families, improving the conditions in which people live, encouraging people to own a stake in their own community, and developing partnerships with other organizations, businesses, and individuals to support these efforts.



A Night Appreciating the Everson Museum

Assemblyman Magnarelli attended the 2022 Spring Celebration at the Everson Museum of Art. In 2021, Assemblyman Magnarelli secured \$1.5 million for capital improvements to the museum's building which was designed by internationally-known architect I.M. Pei. The Everson is home to over 10,000 works of art: American paintings, sculpture, drawings, video, graphics and one of the largest holdings of international ceramics in the nation- a must see for all Central New Yorkers.

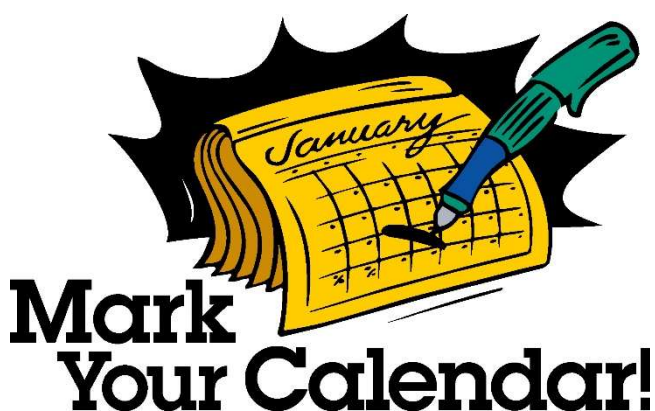


Elizabeth Dunbar, Director of the Everson Museum of Art, Anne Lindberg, artist, Derek Porter, artist, and Assemblymember Didi Barrett of Hudson, NY, posed with Assemblyman Magnarelli in front of Derek Porter's design.

September 10- Shredding Event- 9 a.m. to Noon at NYS Fairgrounds Orange Lot. Registration to be released soon.

October 29- E-Recycling Event- time and location to be determined

November 5 – CNY Veterans Parade and Expo at the NYS Fairgrounds and Center of Progress Building. Information at CNYVeteransParade.org



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, Syracuse University area, Outer Comstock, as well as the towns of Geddes and Van Buren. He first won election in 1998 for an open Assembly seat and has been reelected since then. 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>.