



NEWS

January 2020

From Bill Magnarelli

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129th Assembly District

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Syracuse STEAM High School

This past year (2019) has been a very successful legislative year with many bills that I have sponsored, championed or co-signed becoming law. Education has been a priority of mine throughout my Assembly career. I believe that education is the foundation and backbone of a successful community, where people of all ages can avail themselves of multiple educational opportunities.



In June 2019, I was honored to help shepherd the Assembly legislation that would establish a regional high school and worker training center focusing on science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, or STEAM.

The STEAM regional school would be in a new renovated Central High School near downtown Syracuse, converting the abandoned facility into a multipurpose complex.

In Governor Cuomo's State of the State speech this month, he announced \$71.4 million to be dedicated to the creation of the state's first regional STEAM high school and new state-funded worker training center administered by SUNY Empire State College.

Governor Cuomo expanded the proposed project to include a new workforce training center that will offer high school equivalency degrees, advanced technical certification and college degrees.

The legislation approved by my colleagues in the Assembly and Senate authorizes the Syracuse City School District to establish the school in partnership with Syracuse and Onondaga County. In structuring the original STEAM school legislation, it allowed for more money to be available up front from the state, than for a typical state-supported school project.

The STEAM school would be operated by the Syracuse City School District but would open its doors to students from across Central New York. It is estimated that 60% of the new high school's students will be from Syracuse, with the remaining 40% from across the region. The school is expected to open in September 2021 with construction starting this year.

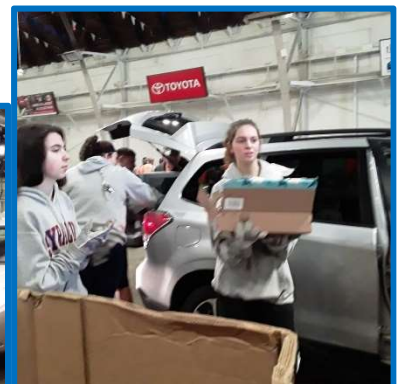
Syracuse University, LeMoyne College, Onondaga Community College and other local colleges and universities will partner to develop the STEAM school curriculum.

William H. Magnarelli

Helping Out by Properly Recycling Electronics

Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored a free Electronics Recycling Event on January 11 at the New York State Fairgrounds. The event attracted thousands of people who wanted to properly dispose of out-of-date electronics. More than 30 volunteers from the Solvay High School Athletics Association were on hand to help unload vehicles. The team will receive a portion of the proceeds from SunnKing, a New York State company that provides for the environmentally safe recycling of electronic equipment.

Assemblyman Magnarelli lends a hand at the recent Electronics Recycling Event. Student Athletes from Solvay High School helped unload vehicles at the event.



Limousine Safety Package Passes Legislature

Two of the bills Assemblyman Magnarelli sponsored will bring oversight and reform to the limousine industry. The Limo reform legislation is in the wake of the 2018 Schoharie limo crash that killed 20 people.

“These bills are designed to make stretch limousines safer for drivers, passengers and everyone on the road,” said Assemblyman Bill Magnarelli. “I believe these changes will save lives and prevent future tragedies.”

A.8990 (S.7134) Requires the use of seat belts by passengers older than 8-years old in taxis and livery vehicles, including stretch limousines. Drivers are prohibited from operating the vehicle unless all passengers between the ages of 8 and 15 are restrained by seatbelts.

A.9056 (S.6193) Authorizes the Department of Transportation to impound or immobilize stretch limousines that fail inspection. Upon adequate repair and inspection, the license plates and registration will be returned to the owner so the vehicle can again be used.

To further protect passengers, pedestrians and other motorists, the package also includes measures to:

- Require motor carriers to conduct pre-employment and random drug and alcohol testing of drivers who operate stretch limousines, taxis, and liveries that hold nine or more;
- Require DMV to maintain and annually update its website to provide information on motor carriers operating stretch limousines;
- Establish a stretch limousine passenger safety task force to study and provide a final report of other outstanding safety issues in the industry;
- Require drivers of limousines with seating capacities of nine or more to hold a commercial driver’s license with passenger endorsement;
- Require stretch limousines to use commercial GPS technology that meets federal standards;
- Increase penalties for illegal U-Turn violations by stretch limo drivers.

As a member of the Taxi & Limousine Commission in NYS, Uber and other ride-sharing companies would be subject to these regulations.

Tenant’s Rights Discussed

Assemblyman Magnarelli met with Tenant Advocates from Syracuse and Rochester to discuss their legislative agenda for 2020. Attending from Syracuse were Palmer Harvey and Mary Traynor of the Syracuse Tenants Union.

At the meeting with Assemblyman Magnarelli were Palmer Harvey of Syracuse Tenant Union Co-Founder, Kawanais Smith, organizer of city-wide tenant union of Rochester, Elizabeth McGaff of City Wide Tenants Union, Mary Traynor, attorney of Syracuse Tenants union, and Rolando Perdue, representing citywide Tenant Union of Rochester.



Libraries Look Ahead

Assemblyman Magnarelli attended the annual Legislative Breakfast for the CNY Library Resources Council at Beauchamp Branch Library in Syracuse.

This annual meeting allows library advocates from across Central NY to meet with legislators and advocate for additional funding and capital resources for libraries. Legislators also get an opportunity to see what the various libraries in the region are doing, what programming they are offering and how important they are to their individual communities.

NYS Adoptees Can Now Obtain Their Original Birth Certificates

Beginning Wednesday, January 15, 2020, people who were born in New York and then adopted will be able to request their original birth certificate that lists the names of their biological parents.

The legislation applies to people 18 and older who were born in New York, no matter where they were adopted or live now. There are two ways for most to obtain their original birth certificates:

- Either through the state’s Department of Health
- Or through a company called VitalChek.com

The governor’s office suggests that the fastest way is through VitalChek.com.

The application fee is \$45.

A link on the state’s Department of Health will answer frequently asked questions about the process, such as:

Who can get a pre-adoption certificate?

What identification is required to get the certificate?

How long will it take to process my request?

What if I am a direct line descendant of the adopted person?



Providing Beds to Those in Need

Assemblyman Magnarelli took a tour of the “Sleep in Heavenly Peace” Syracuse Headquarters on Brown Ave. The Non-profit builds, assembles and delivers bunk beds to children and families in need. They started in October 2018 and have delivered over 700 beds.

Jeff Pitt of the Syracuse Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization speaks with Assemblyman Magnarelli about the need in the community.

Westrock Celebrates 25 years

Assemblyman Magnarelli presented a NYS Assembly Proclamation in honor of the 25th Anniversary of Westrock's Solvay Mill. The Solvay plant produces base-paper for container board boxes made from 100% recycled cardboard. Congratulation to Westrock and all of the employees for the tremendous work you do!

Peter Tantalo, General Manager of Westrock, receives the proclamation from Assemblyman Magnarelli.



Replacing the Flag at OHA

Assemblyman Magnarelli presented Onondaga Historical Association Executive Director Gregg Tripoli with an American flag that flew over the New York State Capitol in Albany earlier this year. OHA is a distinguished organization that serves as a repository for the history of our county through its numerous and diverse collections. It's a gem in our community and I recommend you stop by soon.

Gregg Tripoli, executive director of the Onondaga Historical Association, received the flag from Assemblyman Magnarelli.

Meeting with ARISE

Assemblyman Magnarelli met with Phil Prehn, Jeff Parker and L.J. Freitag representing ARISE and the NYS Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The program provides volunteer advocates for residents of long-term care facilities and their families to resolve any issues residents have. ARISE helps administer the program in Central NY and was visiting to advocate for additional funding for the program in 2020.

Representing ARISE at the meeting with Assemblyman Magnarelli were Jeff Parker, L.J. Freitag, and Phil Prehn.



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>.