



# NEWS

December 2019

## From Bill Magnarelli

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129<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

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### Happy Holidays

The holiday season is a time to focus on our families, traditions and the joy of spending time with family and friends. It is with optimism that we look toward the New Year and the hope that it brings a year of happiness and good health.

In preparation for the New Year, I am continuing to work on our shared goals of creating economic prosperity, tolerance in our community and improvements to our quality of life.

As your Assemblyman, these are the things I focus on representing the people of the 129<sup>th</sup> District, whether I am in Albany or Syracuse. Throughout the year, I meet with many people and organizations that present ideas for bettering our community including: the education system, access to healthcare, keeping our families safe, promoting economic development, environmental concerns and supporting our veterans. I will use this information in the new legislative Session that begins in January to introduce bills where necessary, and to help to pass a NYS Budget which will benefit our communities.

It is important that I hear from my constituents in these matters, which is why I annually hold town hall meetings in February and March to hear directly from the people. It's also an opportunity for citizens to hear about potential legislation, the pending budget, and other current topics. In addition to town hall meetings, early next year my office will once again send out a constituent survey containing questions about the budget and other state government issues. By participating in a town hall meeting, returning a completed survey or contacting my office directly, citizens have an opportunity to directly communicate with me.

Equally as important, my office regularly sponsors community events that are a very important part of bettering our community. I am pleased that we will be sponsoring an electronics recycling event which will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020. The recycling event will begin at 9 a.m. and end at noon and will be held in the Center of Progress Building at the NYS Fairgrounds. Thank you to the Solvay High School Athletics Association for volunteering once again to unload vehicles.

For more information about this or any other state government issue, please call my office at (315) 428-9651, or email me: [magnarw@nyassembly.gov](mailto:magnarw@nyassembly.gov)



### Honored for Mental Health Advocacy

On Tuesday December 10th, Assemblyman Magnarelli joined NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Syracuse, Inc at its annual Christmas Party, where he was a recipient of the 2019 Friends of NAMI Award. Assemblyman Magnarelli received the Friends of NAMI Award for his advocacy for mental healthcare in Central New York.

Maggie Wilcox Bristol, Board Member of NAMI, presented Assemblyman Magnarelli with the award.



### The Importance of Railroads to NYs Economy

Assemblyman Magnarelli spoke on December 10 to the Railroads of NY at their board meeting held at the Hotel Syracuse. The Railroads of NY represents the freight rail industry in NY. As Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Assemblyman Magnarelli spoke about the importance of freight rail in NY, keeping trucks off the road reducing carbon emissions and bills of concerns to the industry.





## Volleyball Champions

Assemblyman Magnarelli was pleased to meet with the Westhill Ladies Volleyball Team to present them with an Assembly Citation in honor of their 2019 New York State Class B State Championship. The team compiled a perfect 18-0 record over the course of the 2019 season and defeated Ardsley in the State Championship game in straight sets. Congratulations to the team, Coach Karla Prince, parents, and the entire Westhill Community on an incredible season!



## Transportation Hearings in Albany

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Assemblyman Magnarelli held a hearing for the Assembly Transportation Committee in Albany. The purpose was to review the implementation of the final year of the current NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) 5-Year Capital Plan as funded by the 2019-20 State Budget. The hearing received testimony from local highway superintendents, the construction industry, labor and other interested parties. Witnesses spoke favorably about the implementation of the current plan, but cautioned that additional capital investment was needed to maintain and improve our transportation system. The testimony will help the Committee as it reviews NYSDOT's new 5-Year Capital Plan that will be presented as part of next year's State Budget.



Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson (104<sup>th</sup> District), Assemblyman Magnarelli and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic (25<sup>th</sup> District) respond to questions at the hearing.

## Legislation to lessen farmer's paperwork signed into law

Governor Cuomo signed into law bill A.3860-A sponsored by Assemblyman Magnarelli that reduces the amount of paperwork farmers will have to complete in order to register their farm vehicles with the State. Previously farmers had to file paperwork every time they added a new destination for a farm plated vehicle. The new law now only requires the vehicle's registration to note the point of origin, saving them time and money. This change in the law will allow farmers to spend more time concentrating on their business and not at the DMV.



## Discussing the Role of Veterans in Politics

Assemblyman Magnarelli spoke to students in the Veterans in Politics initiative program at the Institute for Veterans & Military Families and the Maxwell School at Syracuse University.

He shared his journey through civic engagement and public service to elected office, and encouraged the veterans to continue their learning in how best to connect the veteran culture to public affairs.



## The Role of Arts in the Community

Assemblyman Magnarelli toured the Redhouse with Executive Director Samara Hannah and Board President Emeritus Bill Hider. Redhouse, located at 400 S. Salina Street in Syracuse, is a tremendous asset to our CNY arts community, and its 40,000 square foot arts center in the former Sibley's Building is modern and welcoming. Redhouse hosts five main theatre productions each year, and also hosts smaller events, concerts, and classes and camps for students.

Redhouse Board President Emeritus Bill Hider and Executive Director Samara Hannah greeted Assemblyman Magnarelli for the tour.



## SUNY ESF Student Shares the Status of the College

Assemblyman Magnarelli met with Jourdyn-Evonne Lee, a student at SUNY ESF and a member of the SUNY Student Assembly, to discuss funding and issues important to SUNY ESF and the SUNY System in 2020. Jourdyn is a native of Syracuse and the Chair of the SUNY Student Assembly's Committee on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

SUNY ESF student Jourdyn-Evonne Lee met with Assemblyman Magnarelli in the Syracuse office.



**About New York State Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli**

Assemblyman William Magnarelli represents the 129<sup>th</sup> 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>.