



NEWS

November 2018

From Bill Magnarelli

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November - A Month of Gratitude

November is a month traditionally associated with being “Thankful”. In addition to the upcoming holiday – Thanksgiving, Veterans Day is a great opportunity to express our gratitude in the month of November.

The 11th Annual CNY Veterans Parade and Expo was held on Nov. 10 at the NYS Fairgrounds. Thousands of members of the Central New York community attended the event to say “Thank You” to our service members and to learn about resources in the community. More than 80 local organizations – including veterans organizations, active and reserve military, and high school marching bands – made up the hour long parade. More than 100 organizations participated in the Expo which offered displays of historical military items, organizations that serve veterans, and a children’s area. Spectrum and the Smithsonian Channel offered a special screening of “The Lost Tapes: TET Offensive” – a television program that will be airing soon.

This year, the Expo also hosted a breakfast by the Valley American Legion 1468, prepared by members of the 174th Attack Wing and the Valley American Legion. The breakfast was free for veterans and proceeds benefited the Valley American Legion Post 1468.

The National American Legion Headquarters brought a large display about the 100 year history of the organization and about its role in the passage of the GI Bill. Members and officers of the National American Legion were at the event to talk about the organization and its multifaceted roles in the community.

Rena Nessler was chosen as the Grand Marshall of the Parade. In 2017, she was named New York State Commander of the American Legion, and served as the first female in that position. She is a Navy veteran and a dedicated member of the American Legion near her home in Geneva.

As we spend time thinking of what we are grateful for this Thanksgiving, it is important to remember the men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation through military service.

William H. Magnarelli

Ribbon Cutting at Harborbrook Apartments in Geddes

A ribbon cutting was held at Harborbrook Apartments, a \$12.6 million development that includes 60 affordable apartments for senior citizens in the Town of Geddes. Harborbrook is a partnership between Christopher Community, Inc and St. Camillus. The 3-story building includes a community room, wellness room, laundry facilities, computer lab, bike storage, outdoor patio and garden space. Assemblyman Magnarelli helped to facilitate the support for state incentives which helped secure the project.



New Salt Shed in Town of Van Buren Being Used



Assemblyman Magnarelli visited the Town of Van Buren's new Highway facility on Walters Road when the first load of salt was delivered to the new salt shed. The Assemblyman helped fund the new salt shed with a NYS grant of \$300,000. Along with him are Van Buren Town Supervisor Claude Sykes and Highway Superintendent Doug Foster, and Town of Geddes Supervisor Gerry Albrigo, Deputy Supervisor Ed Weber Jr. and Highway Superintendent Paul Travato. The Town of Geddes will also use the facility.

Renovations to Magnarelli Center Unveiled

Assemblyman William Magnarelli joined Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh, Common Councilor Steve Thompson, and Syracuse Parks Commissioner Julie LaFave to unveil a series of improvements to the gymnasium at the Armond Magnarelli Community Center at McChesney Park. The improvements include a new gymnasium floor, new basketball hoops, a curtain wall and courts for pickle ball, a popular game among city seniors. Assemblyman Magnarelli secured state grants of \$150,000 for renovations to the community center. While at the ribbon cutting, friends and neighbors from the community taught Assemblyman Magnarelli a little about how to play Pickle Ball.

Parks commissioner Julie LaFave, Assemblyman Magnarelli, Mayor Ben Walsh, and Councilor Steve Thompson cut the ribbon to the renovated Magnarelli Center.



New Educational Center at Green Lakes State Park



Assemblyman Magnarelli joined Senator John DeFrancisco, Assemblyman Al Stirpe, New York State Park Commissioner Rose Harvey and H. W. Smith Students at the opening of the Educational Center.

Assemblyman Magnarelli attended the ribbon cutting at the New Educational Center at Green Lakes State Park. Students from H.W. Smith took part in the ceremony. Completion of a \$6 million makeover of the Green Lakes State Park waterfront featured a new year-round environmental education center. This project converted a deteriorated 1940's boat house on Green Lake into a modern facility to house park events and enhance environmental education programming. The historic boathouse materials were disassembled and rebuilt away from the water's edge. The new 1,100-square-foot center includes indoor classroom/multipurpose space and restrooms in the building, as well as an outdoor classroom, lakefront boardwalk and canoe/kayak landing, new boat rental booth and storage racks. School Children from all across the region will be able to visit the center to learn about this unique area.

Playground for Van Buren Elementary



Matthew J. McDonald, Superintendent of Baldwinsville School District and Assemblyman Magnarelli stand in front of the playground as it is opened to the students.

Assemblyman William Magnarelli attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new playgrounds at Van Buren Elementary School. He secured a \$125,000 grant for the playground equipment. Van Buren Elementary had the oldest playground in the district. The community came together to help install the equipment for the children.

Touring Franklin Elementary School



Assemblyman Magnarelli toured Franklin Elementary with Superintendent Jamie Alicea and Principal Kimberly Coyne.

National Grid Hosts Students and the Assemblyman

Assemblyman Magnarelli took a tour at the National Grid building to learn about their updated technology systems. He also addressed students from Solvay High School attending National Grid's Learning Academy about the importance of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) jobs education for future jobs.



CNY Veterans Parade and Expo 2018

Despite the cold weather, thousands went to the CNY Veterans Parade and Expo on Nov. 10 at the NYS Fairgrounds to say "Thank You" to the men and women who have served our country through military service. The 11th Annual event hosted by Assemblyman Magnarelli highlighted the centennial anniversary of the beginning of the American Legion. The National American Legion Headquarters brought a large display about the history, and their role in establishing the GI Bill. The Parade, which proceeds around Chevy Court, included about 80 veteran organizations, high school marching bands and active military units. The Expo was held in the Center of Progress Building and included local organizations that serve veterans, displays of military artifacts, a children's area, a breakfast by the Valley American Legion and 174th Attack Wing, and a special screening of a television series by Spectrum and the Smithsonian Channel about the TET Offensive.



Assemblyman Magnarelli with Parade Grand Marshall Rena Nessler, former state commander of the American Legion.



Gates Keystone Club Police Pipe and Drums entertain the crowds watching the parade.



Dunbar American Legion Color Guard in the parade.



Attendees check out the antique military vehicles on display by the EASY Company of the NY-PENN Military Vehicle Collectors Club



Motorcyclists from the Patriot Guard, the Cicero American Legion Post 787, Sons of Sam and Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association participated in the parade.



Earl Fontenot, Chief Strategy Officer of Clear Path for Veterans, accepts a \$5,000 check from Alice Kim, Spectrum Government Affairs Liaison, at the screening of "The Lost Tapes: TET Offensive."



Bands filled the Parade route with patriotic music. Left: Fort Drum 10th Mountain Division Color Guard and Band. Above: Members of Henninger High School Marching Knights.



Attendees read through part of the display brought by the National American Legion Headquarters on the 100 year history of the American Legion.



National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion, Greg "Doc" Gibbs from Hamburg, NY met with Assemblyman Magnarelli.



People work their way through the Expo in the Center of Progress Building.



Assemblyman Magnarelli and the mascot from the Madison County Marine Corps League Toys for Tots pose for a picture.



Assemblyman Magnarelli sat and chatted with some veterans at the Breakfast by the Valley American Legion.



Veterans ride through the parade on a vehicle driven by the Mattydale Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3146.



Jeff Stoffer, Director of the American Legion Media and Communications Division, and Assemblyman Magnarelli stand in front of the National American Legion Exhibit.



Assemblyman Magnarelli hands out military coins to members of the 10th Mountain Division as they enjoy the Breakfast prepared by the Valley American Legion.

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>.