



NEWS February 2021

From Bill Magnarelli

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Session Begins – Your Opinion Counts

The pandemic has forced my annual Community Information Night to be virtual. This year I will be holding two Zoom meetings – 7 p.m. Feb 25 and 7 p.m. March 4. During these meetings, residents will be able to speak with me about the issues on my 2021 Constituent Survey as well as their concerns about the state budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

The 2021 Constituent Survey was sent to all households in the 129th Assembly District. There is still time to add your voice to the results of this survey. We will be including all responses in the final survey tabulation until March 7th. The survey and registration for the virtual Community Information Nights can be found online at www.nyassembly.gov/mem/William-B-Magnarelli.

Eligible Central New Yorkers have shown great resiliency in decreasing the COVID-19 numbers in Onondaga County and getting their vaccinations. Further appointments are posted when available at covid19.ongov.net/vaccine and am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/. If you do not have computer access, calling 211 will put you in touch with those who can help you schedule appointments.

As we continue to recover from COVID-19 both economically and emotionally, the Legislature has gone back into session and is discussing the 2021-2022 budget issues. Our priorities are combatting the pandemic and keeping people safe, helping the public get vaccinated and fully re-opening the economy safely. Also a priority this year is funding infrastructure in Upstate New York, improving passenger rail, mass transit and rural public transportation. As always, the Legislature is concerned about balancing funding and supporting programs in education, healthcare, local governments and the economy. These issues are just some of the many budget and legislative issues my colleagues and I in the Assembly will be debating as a part of this Session.

Feel free to contact my office at (315) 428-9651 or at magnarw@nyassembly.gov if you have any questions or concerns. I hope to see you at one of my Zoom Community Information Night meetings.

William B. Magnarelli

Virtual Community Information Night Meetings

Save the Date – 2021's Community Information Night meetings, due to the ongoing pandemic, will be held through Zoom. The meetings, as in years past, are an opportunity to speak with Assemblyman Magnarelli and to discuss the proposed 2021-2022 budget.

There will be two meetings:

7 p.m. Thursday, February 25 for Van Buren and Geddes
and

7 p.m. Thursday, March 4 for City of Syracuse



Please contact the office at abdell@nyassembly.gov or visit nyassembly.gov/mem/William-B-Magnarelli to receive the Zoom Link.

School Representative Discuss Budget Priorities

“Assemblyman Magnarelli met with representatives of New York’s 4201 Schools to discuss their State Budget priorities via Zoom. There are ten 4201 schools in New York that serve the blind, deaf and seriously disabled children. These schools are privately run, but funded by the State of New York and provide the types of intensive one-on-one services these children need to succeed. Like every school, they have had to deal with the impacts of COVID-19, which is particularly difficult for schools where close interaction with students is required.”



#GetTickedOff Panel

Discussion on Lyme Disease

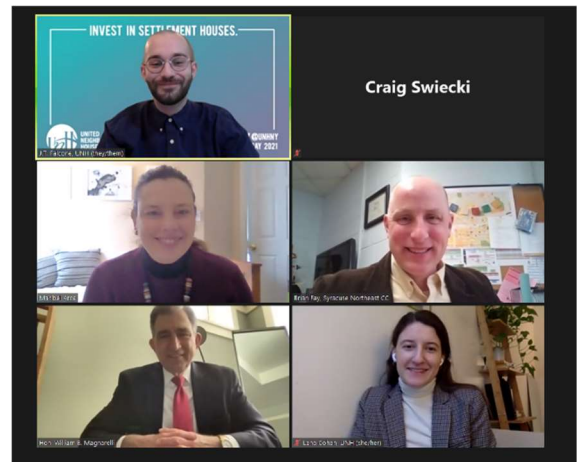
Assemblyman Magnarelli co-sponsored a virtual panel discussion with his colleagues Assembly member Didi Barrett, the Dutchess County Tick Task Force and the CNY Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Alliance. The discussion topic was Lyme Disease being the so-called “great imitator” and the lack of instant solutions to it and other tick-borne diseases. The agencies advocated for support from New York State.

A virtual panel discussion and update on tickborne illness research, featuring:



Discussing Housing Issues with Community Centers Representatives

Assemblyman Magnarelli met via Zoom with representative of United Neighborhood Houses of New York and the Syracuse Northeast Community Center. United Neighborhood Houses is a coalition of community centers across New York that provides social services, activities, food and career services to their communities. The attendees shared the impact of COVID-19 on their centers and the services they provide. Additionally, they were advocating for additional funding in the State Budget to help them with their mission.



COVID-19 Briefing for Upstate Majority Members with the Iroquois Hospital Association

In conjunction with the Iroquois Hospital Association, Assemblyman Magnarelli co-hosted a briefing with several of his Upstate colleagues on February 5th. The purpose of the meeting was to brief Upstate Majority Members of the Assembly on the impacts of COVID-19 on their member hospitals, their financial situations, and their roles in vaccine distribution. The IHA represents 52 hospitals that serve Upstate New York, including SUNY Upstate Hospital, SUNY Upstate Community Campus and Crouse Hospital in Central New York. The briefing provided important data on COVID-19 in Upstate New York, and will help Assembly members when advocating for additional funding for our hospitals in the State Budget.



Annual Labor Breakfast – Held Virtually

Assemblyman Magnarelli recently held a virtual Labor Breakfast to meet with and discuss the many issues that labor unions are concerned with and that require attention. Members of the building trades and service labor unions were among those who attended and discussed their concerns regarding the upcoming budget and legislative season. Holding annual breakfasts with union representatives is a tradition Assemblyman Magnarelli started when he first took office.



Honoring Local Legends

Assemblyman Magnarelli recently introduced two resolutions into the NYS Legislature honoring local legends: Floyd Little and Rod Wood.

The resolution honoring Floyd Little for his outstanding football career was introduced upon his death on January 1, 2021 at the age of 78. As a 5'10 running back, in Little's three seasons at Syracuse University, he became the program's first and only three-time All-American running back and ranked fifth in Heisman Trophy voting two years in a row. His notable collegiate football career included 2,704 yards rushed and 46 touchdowns. He led the nation in all-purpose yards (1,990) and punt return average of 23.5 in 1965. Little still holds the Syracuse Career record with six punt returns for touchdowns. The Denver Broncos selected Little with the No. 6 pick in 1967 AFL-NFL Draft. He played nine seasons with the Broncos. He was inducted to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1983, the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2010 and the Greater Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame in 2019.



The resolution honoring Roderic Woodruff Groat "Rod Wood" for his outstanding career as an anchor at NewsChannel 9 was introduced upon the announcement of his retirement after 44 years in the media.



Rod Wood, a native of Syracuse, attended Nottingham High School and Onondaga Community College before joining the Army in 1960. Upon completion of his military service, he returned to Syracuse, began working at WOLF Radio and later, WNDR and WHEN Radio stations. He then started at what became known as NewsChannel 9 in 1976 as a news anchor. Throughout his career he has earned numerous awards, including recognition from the New York State Broadcasters Hall of Fame. He and Carrie Lazarus partnered on the anchor desk for 31 years, making them one of the longest-running anchor teams in the nation.

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>.