



April 2016

# NEWS

## From Bill Magnarelli

District: 333 East Washington St., Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 428-9651 Albany: LOB 837, Albany, 12248 (518) 455-4826

129<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Magnarw@assembly.state.ny.us

### A Preventable Tragedy

In the past few months, we have been reading news articles regarding a parent or adult in our Central New York region shaking a baby, which subsequently ends in the death of the child. I just can't understand how an adult can act so violently toward a baby. It troubles me deeply.

This horrendous act of shaking a baby is known as Shaken Baby Syndrome. There are an estimated 5,000 cases of Shaken Baby Syndrome nationwide *each year*. In 2004, I was successful in passing legislation that amended the public health law, in relation to establishing a video on the dangers of shaking infants and young children to be viewed by maternity patients and fathers of newborn children. This bill directed that each hospital must ask all parents of newborns to view, while in the hospital or birth center, a video designed to present the dangers of shaking infants and young children. Following the viewing or upon refusal, each parent must sign a form demonstrating their decision, which will be collected by the Department of Health.

In 2006, I once again revisited the issue of Shaken Baby Syndrome and passed legislation amending the education law. The bill stated that the parenting skills curriculum in secondary schools may include instruction relating to the consequences and prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

In 2007, I again expanded the education and prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome by amending the correction law. This bill provided that all inmates receive education, on a periodic basis, on the consequences and prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is a dangerous but preventable condition. One of every four shaken babies will die; two out of every four who live will suffer from brain injuries that cause comas, paralysis, seizures, blindness, cerebral palsy, severe learning and behavioral problems, mental retardation, hearing and speech loss. Most who survive SBS are dependent on others the rest of their lives. The average age of an SBS victim is 3-8 months, although injury may happen as late as age 5, and the most common perpetrators are males ages 24-27.

Despite these facts, it is estimated that as many as half of all Americans do not realize the danger caused by shaking a baby. Education is, therefore, the key to preventing incidence of SBS.

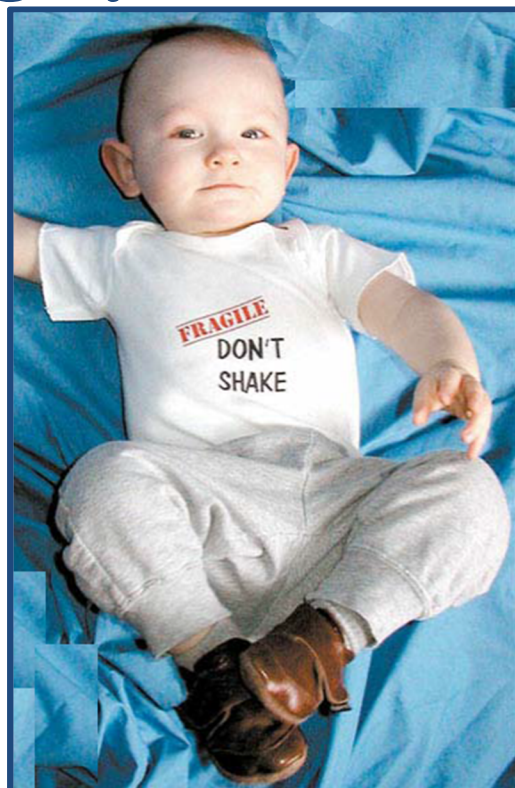
There is no typical profile that describes a parent or caregiver who shakes a child. Anyone can shake a child in moments of frustration or anger. Mothers, fathers, boyfriends of mothers, baby-sitters and other caregivers give into frustrations and take it out on the child.

I need your help in my campaign to reduce Shaken Baby Syndrome in our community. I am asking that you view an 11 minute video, "Portrait of Promise". This instructional video can be viewed on the internet at the state Department of Health Web site. Go to: [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/consumer/sbs/portrait\\_of\\_promise.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/consumer/sbs/portrait_of_promise.htm).

I am also asking that you show this video to your family members who are caring for an infant, show this video to your healthcare providers, pediatricians and schools. We must all do our part to educate and prevent this terrible act of child abuse.

Every year at this time I sponsor a resolution in the NYS Assembly to raise awareness of Shaken Baby Syndrome, in conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about this or any community issue by calling my Syracuse office at 315-428-9651, or email me at [magnarw@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:magnarw@assembly.state.ny.us).

*Bill Magnarelli*



### SAVE THE DATE

TBA – Progress Report

July 13 – Community Services on the Road, Ray Middle School, Baldwinsville

July 13 – Blood Drive, Ray Middle School

July 30 – Electronics Recycling Event, Baldwinsville Schools

Sept. 13 – CNY Volunteer Fair - DestinyUSA – 3 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 12 – CNY Veterans Parade and Expo – NYS Fairgrounds

# 2016-17 NYS Budget Highlights

Assemblyman Bill Magnarelli said, “This year’s state budget marks a monumental point in New York history. It is not just a spending plan, but rather a far-reaching, comprehensive plan to put families first and strongly invests in New York’s future.

- The budget includes a historic raise in the minimum wage, gradually increasing it over several years with a quicker implementation in downstate counties where the cost of living is higher;
- Paid family leave is now a reality in New York State and ensures no worker is forced to risk their job to care for a loved one;
- This year’s budget marks the largest investment in New York’s education system, a total of \$24.7 billion, which is a \$1.4 billion increase from last year, including:
  - \$627 million increase in Foundation Aid
  - \$434 million to fully repeal the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GPA)
  - \$807 million for pre-K programs
  - \$175 million to convert schools into community schools
- The budget also has a robust plan to repair New York’s aging roads and bridges;
- Further, the budget includes significant funding for upgrades to local water and sewer infrastructure statewide;
- A middle class tax cut has been created so that hardworking families can keep more of their hard-earned money;
- The budget makes strong investments in economic development projects that revitalize our communities and provides significant funding for hospitals statewide.

## Huntley Building Rescued

On April 26, Assemblyman Magnarelli was invited to tour the renovated Huntley Building by the Strathmore neighbors responsible for “rescuing the building”. The Strathmore group, which subsequently became managing partners, came to the Assemblyman in 2012 because they needed help qualifying the Huntley Building for State Historic Preservation Tax Credits to finish the project. At the time the Huntley Building was not in a qualifying census tract. Working with Senator David Valesky, in 2014, after meetings with the NYS Parks department, the criteria for State Historic Preservation Tax Credits were changed.

Assemblyman Magnarelli said, “I give these folks a lot of credit for undertaking a risky financial proposition. I was glad to help, but these neighbors were committed and focused on saving their community by ridding the neighborhood of drug activity and undesirable influences, by restoring a blighted property and turning it into an asset.”



**Shown with Assemblyman Magnarelli are managing partners John Lacey, Margaret Carrillo-Sheridan and Garth Coviello. Not shown was managing partner Brenda Colella.**



The Huntley Building has 43 apartments consisting of studio, one, two and three bedroom units. The lease for each unit includes heat, hot water, cable and wi-fi, with the tenant paying electricity. For further information, contact the property manager Keith Murphy at 315-422-2086.



## Around Town



Members of Jubilee Homes visited Assemblyman Magnarelli's office in Albany to discuss revitalization of Syracuse's Southwest Neighborhood.



West Genesee Students got a first-hand experience in advocating for education funding during their recent trip to Albany.



Assemblyman Magnarelli attended the League of Women Voters conference with Assemblyman Stirpe and Assemblywoman Hunter. The League focuses on encouraging participation in government about issues that affect citizen's lives. Some of the issues discussed were: campaign finance reform, increasing voter access and improving voter turnout.

### 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 and Valley areas of the City of Syracuse, as well as the Towns of Geddes and Van Buren. He first won election in 1998 for an open Assembly seat and was re-elected in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. 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>.

## Safe Driving Pledge

As prom season draws near, Assemblyman Magnarelli is asking students and parents to take the Arrive Alive pledge, an anti-drinking and driving campaign that encourages safe driving practices.

"We all know that driving under the influence can have devastating consequences," said Magnarelli. "That's why I'm encouraging young people to take this pledge and reminding them to never drink and drive or ride with someone who has been drinking."

The pledge asks parents and guardians to drive teens home at any time of the night – with no questions asked – and for teens to refuse to drink and drive or accept a ride from anyone who has been drinking.

Magnarelli noted that car accidents are the leading cause of death for teens, with a quarter of those crashes involving an underage driver who has been drinking. Statistics collected by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) also show that 4,700 people die each year as a result of teen alcohol use and one in seven teens binge drink.

"Underage drinking occurs, and we shouldn't ignore it," said Magnarelli. "What we need to do is have an open and honest conversation with our sons and daughters to warn them about the dangers of drunk driving."

**Arrive Alive**  
The No-Drinking-and-Driving Prom Promise

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(student or youth signature)  
promise not to drink and drive  
or to accept a ride from someone  
who has been drinking.

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian signature)  
promise to provide a ride, no  
questions asked, regardless of the  
time I am called.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Courtesy of  
Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli



Assemblyman Magnarelli's staff attended a press conference held by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand on April 4<sup>th</sup> to urge the passage of legislation to help fight opioid addiction. She was joined by John Socci, who has lost loved ones to this terrible epidemic, and representatives from CNY's Chemical Dependency treatment services community. Opioid related deaths are at an all-time high and deaths in Central New York have increased nearly 3,000 percent since 2004. Senator Gillibrand's legislation would require the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to issue guidelines for prescribing opioids for the treatment of acute pain.