



NEWS

January 2018

From Bill Magnarelli

District: 333 East Washington St, Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 428-9651 Albany: LOB 837, Albany, 12248 (518) 455-4826
129th Assembly District Magnarw@nyassembly.gov

Setting Priorities for the New Year

I would like to announce that on Saturday, January 27th, I will be hosting a FREE e-recycling event from 9:30 a.m.-1p.m. at the Center of Progress Building at the New York State Fairgrounds. In partnership with Sunnking, this event is an opportunity for people to dispose of their unused electrical equipment, including up to four old-style televisions (CRT TVs). This event is not for commercial entities, only households.

In New York State, it is illegal to throw away electronics – including DVD players, televisions, video game consoles, printers and tablets, because they contain materials, such as cadmium, lead and mercury that are harmful to the environment. Sunnking either recycles these items or disposes the materials properly to limit the environmental impact.

With technology changing so fast, we all have electronics that are outdated or no longer in usable condition lying around. This free e-recycling event is an opportunity to get rid of this clutter in an environmentally safe manner.

For the event on January 27th, residents are asked to use Gate 6 at the western end of the Fairgrounds and signs will direct people around to the Center of Progress Building. Volunteers from the Solvay High School Track and Field Team will be available in the Center of Progress Building to unload the electronics; there is no need for the driver to get out of the vehicle. Once the electronics are unloaded, the driver will be directed to Gate 2 and exit onto State Fair Boulevard.

As 2018 begins, a new Session of the New York State Assembly commences. On January 3rd, Governor Cuomo delivered his 8th State of the State Address outlining his vision for the upcoming year.

During this Address, the Governor put forth those issues that will be discussed and debated by the Legislature in the forthcoming months. Below are some issues mentioned:

***Implementing a \$65 million 4-point initiative to aggressively combat harmful algae blooms in Upstate New York that threaten our drinking water and the recreational use of lakes.** This proposal is important to Central New York because one of the lakes targeted, Skaneateles Lake, is the main source of drinking water for much of the area. Addressing the algae bloom problem would also have a positive impact on Upstate tourism.

***Making Shared Service Panels permanent.** The Legislature established these panels in the 2017 budget requiring counties to take the lead and work with other local governments to establish a two-year plan to reduce property taxes through sharing services. In the first year, nearly 400 projects state wide have saved more than \$200 million. The continuation of these panels has the potential to further reduce local property taxes.

***Remove all firearms from those who are convicted of domestic violence crimes.** This proposed legislation would require those with domestic violence crime convictions, including misdemeanors, to have firearms immediately removed from their possession. Research has shown that there is an inextricable link between domestic violence and gun violence. The goal of this law is to prevent additional tragedies.

***Invest \$100 million to launch Round 3 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative.** The downtown revitalization program is a unique approach to economic development efforts in our cities to transform downtown areas. Each Regional Economic Development Council would select a city in its region to receive \$10 million for economic and neighborhood development projects to revitalize its downtown.

These issues are just some of the many budget and legislative issues that the New York State Assembly will be debating as a part of its upcoming Session.

I look forward to seeing you at the e-recycling event. If you have any questions or comments on this or any other state issue, or if you would like to be added to my mailing list to receive my monthly newsletter, please contact my office as follows: by mail at 333 E. Washington St. Room 840, Syracuse, NY 13202; by e-mail at magnarw@nyassembly.gov; or by phone (315) 428-9651.

William H. Magnarelli

FREE Electronics Recycling Event

Mark your calendar!
Jan. 27



Saturday, Jan. 27
9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

NYS Fairgrounds
Center of Progress Building



Sponsored by:
Assemblyman
Bill Magnarelli

Thanks to our co-sponsor
Sunnking Electronics for
assisting with this event.



Proceeds to help: **Solvay High School
Track & Field Team**



What can be recycled:

- computers
- televisions
- small-scale servers
- monitors
- CPU keyboards and mice
- fax machines
- scanners
- printers
- VCRs and DVD players
- digital music players
- electronic or video game consoles
- typewriters
- circuit boards
- cell phones
- audio/video (AV) equipment



Items not accepted:

- smoke/carbon monoxide detectors
- air conditioners
- dehumidifiers
- alkaline batteries
- broken CRT (tube televisions/monitors) or bare tubes
- fluorescent lamps/bulbs

RISE: Provides Services for Immigrants and Refugees



Pictured above: Jay Subedi, Board Member, Nan Fechtner, Board Treasurer, Assemblyman Magnarelli, Haji Adan, Executive Director, and Tai Shaw.

Representatives of the Refugee & Immigrant Self-Empowerment (RISE) recently met with Assemblyman Magnarelli. RISE assists newly arrived refugees and immigrants in CNY promoting self-sufficiency through employment, education, social support and economic independence. The organization has a staff of 13, nearly 75% of them are former refugees. Annually, RISE provides services for nearly 400 refugee and immigrant families from over 25 nations world-wide. The services continue after the federally-funded first three months to help them pursue successful integration in the community. The most common programs are bridging case management and interpretation programs. They also offer housing assistance and referrals; family crisis intervention and mediation services; community resource referrals; and document translation services such as medical and legal interpretation.

Supporting Working People

In December, I wrote a Letter to the Editor of the Syracuse Newspapers outlining my concerns about the Federal Tax plan, which has become law. I continue to have concerns about the consequences this law will have for New Yorkers and would like to share it with you.

Dear Editorial Board:

I join my constituents, fellow public officials and community leaders in strong opposition to the tax bills being debated in Congress. Both the House and Senate bills will hurt, if not immediately, eventually, working and middle class families and endanger the quality of services provided by our federal, State and local governments. This legislation is a clear attempt to pass massive tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy and either make everyone else pay for them, or simply do away with programs that benefit working people.

The proponents of this legislation are being disingenuous calling it a “middle class tax cut”. The purported benefits for the middle class are small and temporary. It will also directly impact the New York State budget and the budgets of our local governments, creating the potential for large cuts to education, infrastructure and health care.

Additionally, this legislation would add \$1 trillion to \$1.5 trillion to the federal deficit. How is this going to be accounted for going forward? Republicans want us to believe it will spur enough of an economic upturn to cover the increased deficit. Not only do the vast majority of economists say it will not, but also recent history does not support this view. If this upturn does not occur, the next step will be steep cuts to federal programs and entitlements. Under the federal “Pay as You Go” law, Congress would be required to reduce federal spending by \$100 billion to \$150 billion per year to cover the impact to the deficit. This will mean real cuts to programs like Medicare. If this bill passes, our most vulnerable: children, seniors, the disabled and the poor will all be the targets of Republican cuts. Finally, in the long-term, these bills actually phase out any middle class tax cuts, while keeping corporate tax cuts and tax cuts benefitting the wealthy permanent.

I want to emphasize again the potential impact of these bills on our State and local governments. We are talking billions of dollars that could mean significant cuts to our State and local budgets that will harm our most vulnerable. In the end, this tax giveaway will be paid for by the middle class. I call on our federal representatives to reject this legislation and work across the aisle to enact meaningful tax relief for working people.

Seeing Results

The CNY Youth Mental Health Task Force produced a report which concluded that more beds for inpatient adolescent psychiatric care were needed in Syracuse. Upstate University Hospital has announced that it is creating a \$3.2 million unit at its main campus which will open in 2019. The new unit will provide inpatient treatment to young people between the ages of 12 and 17 and is expected to create about 25 new jobs.

The new unit will be a great asset to the Central New York community and will provide greater access to services for our young people in need of treatment. Every day an average of eight adolescents who are admitted to Upstate for inpatient psychiatric care are transferred to other facilities as far away as Buffalo and Saratoga. The new unit will help to address this issue.

An increase in inpatient beds was one of seventeen recommendations that were included in the final report of the CNY Youth Mental Health Task Force, a group consisting of parents and local providers that I formed along with Congressman John Katko in 2015 to address the need to increase local treatment options.

Providing care for adolescents facing mental health issues has been at the forefront of an on-going effort by many individuals in our community who recognize that access to treatment is of paramount importance to many Central New York families in crisis. This new unit will provide inpatient care to families on private insurance who currently have difficulty placing their children at Hutchings and other state-run facilities, and must send their children out of the area for treatment.

Hearing for Local Governments



The Assembly Committees on Local Governments and Cities held a hearing on January 16 to examine the impact of the 2017-18 State Budget on localities. The hearing focused on the provision in last year's budget requiring counties to convene meetings of local government officials to discuss shared services and develop a plan. The committees heard testimony from Onondaga County Executive Joanie Mahoney, other county executives and from the statewide organizations that represent local governments. The committees found from the testimony that despite early concerns from some officials, the shared service panels were successful in getting local officials to communicate about ways they can share services and save taxpayers money.

School Bus “Stop-Arm” Camera Legislation

Assemblyman Magnarelli was pleased to learn that his legislation (A.321) was included in the Executive Budget proposal. The proposal would allow school districts to contract with companies to install cameras on the “Stop-Arms” of school buses to catch and fine illegal passers. Those caught by the cameras would be fined \$250 per violation and the funds would be sent to school districts to offset the costs of installing and operating the cameras. Illegal passing of stopped school buses has become a serious public safety threat. Last year “Operation Safe Stop” ticketed over 1,000 violators on a single day. Unfortunately, current law requires a law enforcement officer to witness the violation to issue a ticket. This legislation would allow the use of cameras for enforcement. Other states have successfully implemented similar laws to keep our children safe. Assemblyman Magnarelli has sponsored this legislation since 2013 and will advocate strongly for its inclusion in the final State Budget.

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 was reelected in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. 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>.