

NEWS June 2011 From Bill Magnarelli

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

120th Assembly District

Magnarw@assembly.state.ny.us

The Assembly is working on three pieces of legislation that are of importance to the Central New York Community. I invite everyone to contact my office at 428-9651 or at magnarw@assembly.state.ny.us to give me their opinions on each of these pieces of legislation.

• Millionaire's Tax

(A7802) - This legislation would protect working families by keeping millionaires in their current tax bracket, instead of moving them to the same tax bracket as families of four making \$40,000 a year. This proposal would affect less than one percent of tax payers and ensure that the richest New Yorkers share the burden instead of getting a tax break. Thirty-percent of the revenue gathered through the "Millionaire's Tax" would go to the Educational Assistance Fund to be distributed to struggling school districts.

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• Ads on Exterior of School Buses

(A7701) - This legislation would allow boards of education to enter into contracts for the lease or sale of advertising on the exterior sides of vehicles owned or leased by the school district. The legislation prohibits advertising of tobacco or alcohol products or for political advocacy, in addition to any other advertisement products or services that the school board or commissioner deems inappropriate.

At a time when our school districts are facing unprecedented cuts in education funding, we need to look at alternative means for bringing in revenue. Some states, including New Jersey, have enacted laws allowing ads on school buses. Selling or leasing advertising space is a creative way to allow school districts to raise revenue to support important scholastic activities.

• Payment of Taxes in Installments (A6719) -

This is a bill I sponsored to amend the real property tax law to allow property owners to pay their tax bill in smaller installments. Currently, if a bill is to be paid in installments, the first installment must be at least 50 percent of the total. In these economic times, allowing the installments to be smaller would lift a burden off many tax payers. The flexibility of the bill would allow tax collectors to accept payments from taxpayers rather than turning them away if the payment was not high enough.



• Senator Kirsten Gillibrand recently visited Syracuse to help promote the Urban Jobs Act of 2011. The legislation which she is sponsoring would amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to authorize grants for national nonprofit organizations to create programs to help prepare youth for entry into the job market.

"Central New York would greatly benefit from funding that creates programs to prepare youth for entry into the job market by offering educational opportunities that lead to employment," said Assemblyman Magnarelli. "I support Senator Gillibrand's efforts with the Urban Jobs Act of 2011. Helping youth who are unemployed understand the needs of the ever-modernizing workforce will create a more stable local economy."

Annual Lifesaver Blood Drive and Health Fair

Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

Save the Date for the 5th Annual Lifesaver Blood Drive and Health Fair to be held from noon until 6 p.m., Tuesday, July 19th at

Gillette Road Middle School, 6150 South Bay Road, Cicero, NY 13039.

It has become one of the biggest blood drives in Central New York, in which blood donations during each of the past four years have exceeded 100 pints. Considering an average drive produces about 30 pints, this number is significant. For this reason, and with the urging of Red Cross officials, I determined that this event, which was started by Al Stirpe, is far too important to our community to end.

Giving blood is one of the most important gifts a person can give and this blood drive is planned during the summer, when there is always a shortage of blood on hand. As a matter of fact, blood donations during this time decrease by 10 to 15 percent, while need escalates because of increased outdoor work and recreational activities. This is another reason why it is very important to continue this blood drive to help save lives.

To donate blood, if you have any questions or need more information, please call 428-9651 or email abdellad@assembly.state.ny.us.





• The Centers at St. Camillus recently celebrated a new \$3 million expansion for outpatient brain injury and rehabilitation and adult day health programs. The expansion, named for Honorable William Robert and Sally Roy, will enrich the Central New York community by enabling St. Camillus to care and support our loved ones in times of need.



• Assemblyman Magnarelli greeted people during the Baldwinsville's Memorial Day Parade.

Exciting news about the CNY Veterans Parade!

moving to the **New York State Fairgrounds** at noon,

Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011 and will be accompanied by a veterans' themed EXPO at the Center of

The CNY Veterans Parade is



Progress Building. For more information, to volunteer or to register for the CNY Veterans Parade and Expo on

Nov. 5, 2011, please contact Diana LaMattina Abdella at <u>abdellad@assembly.state.ny.us</u>.



• Assemblyman Magnarelli donated an American Flag to be displayed at Canton Woods Senior Center in Van Buren. Senator John DeFrancisco donated a New York State Flag. The Mayor of Baldwinsville, Joseph Saraceni, acted as master of ceremonies.



• Assemblyman Magnarelli was a guest server at Crouse Hospital's employee appreciation picnic.



• Assemblyman Magnarelli visited Miss Armani's first grade class at Solvay Elementary to help instill the importance and fun of reading.

About New York State Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli

Assemblyman William Magnarelli represents the 120th 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 reelected in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010. During his previous six 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.