



Assemblymember
Jen Lunsford

Dear Neighbor,

This month, my colleagues and I continued working towards passing this year's state budget. We released our Assembly One-House budget mid-month, which included a number of our highest priorities, including : an 8.5% cost of living increase for our direct service professionals in mental health and disability services; a \$50 million earmark for replacing lead water pipes in the Clean Water Infrastructure Act; and an 11% increase in early intervention services rates. I am also proud that one of my bills, a pilot program for volunteer-based adult literacy services upstate, also made it into the budget!

Now we enter the negotiation period where the Assembly, Senate, and Executive negotiate a single budget from the three proposals. The budget is not a single bill, but rather ten bills that cover different parts of the government. The debt service bill, which covers our debt obligations, was passed on Tuesday, March 28th to ensure that our responsibility to pay our existing financial obligations was met. The remainder of the budget is due April 1st.

Back in our district, my office began the month by honoring the East Rochester Fire Department on their 125th anniversary. I attended a legislative breakfast with our friends from the Public Employees Federation to discuss the critical need to fund mental health beds, and the state employees who provide care to people with disabilities and those suffering from mental health crises. I also attended the regional FIRST Robotics competition at RIT where several of our area's FIRST Robotics team competed, including Penfield's Team 1511 Rolling Thunder, the winner of this year's Impact Award for their incredible

advocacy on behalf of the FIRST Robotics program and STEAM education!

In Albany, I met with the Women Builders Council to discuss problems with our MBWE certification as well as various insurance issues. I also attended several press events to support public banking, lead pipe replacement and increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rates for our nursing homes. My office also met with dozens of other organizations, individuals, and constituents to discuss budget priorities throughout the month.

I will continue to keep you apprised of budget updates through my social media until the budget is passed--we are expecting some very long nights ahead of us!

Best,

Jen Lunsford



The Office of Assemblymember Jen Lunsford and Monroe County IMPACT have partnered for a community

NARCAN TRAINING

Join us
Saturday, April 15th
2-3pm
at the Fairport Village Hall
31 S Main St., Fairport NY

RSVP at nyassembly.gov/Lunsford

*RSVP IS NEEDED TO PROVIDE PROPER AMOUNT OF NARCAN TRAINING KITS FOR THOSE ATTENDING.
YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR RSVP.*



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HONORING ANITA MANCE

Thanks to the Legislative Women's Caucus, I had the privilege of honoring East Rochester native and historian Anita Mance in an Albany display this month for Women's History Month.

Anita's father came to East Rochester in 1906, and her parents married and began their family there in the 1920s. Her family had deep roots in the community as they owned and operated a local grocery store and served many positions in the schools and PTA. Anita established her own roots in East Rochester when she worked as a clerk at the ER Public Library in the 70s and an art instructor at the ER Recreation department in the 80s. She came full circle in the 90s when she became an educator in the library at Lois E. Bird Elementary School, which is the elementary school she attended as a child. Now, she educates the larger public through her work as a historian in East Rochester.

"As Historian I have the opportunity to share the past; and help us all better understand our future."

STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Did you know the Assembly has increased eligibility for families to receive childcare subsidies? If you are a family of four earning less than \$83,250/yr, you may qualify for big childcare cost savings! The Office of Children and Families Services has an online questionnaire to help determine your eligibility, and it takes less than a minute to fill out.

To access the questionnaire on Child Care Assistance eligibility, [click here](#).

New York State offers a vast amount of benefits that are often not widely utilized. Through the myBenefits page you can take a quick questionnaire to determine if you are eligible for state assistance. From the Home Energy Assistance Program to the Uninsured Care Program, there are many ways to save money if you're eligible. To access the questionnaire on general assistance programs you might be eligible for, [click here](#).

New Child Care Eligibility Tool



Online tool helps NYS parents see if they qualify for financial support

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
PENFIELD'S ROBOTICS
TEAM 1511, ROLLING
THUNDER!**



This month the Penfield FIRST Robotics Team 1511, Rolling Thunder, was honored with the Impact Award at the 2023 Finger Lakes Regional competition for their advocacy efforts on behalf of robotics programs across the State! The Impact Award "honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the mission of FIRST."

To learn more about their advocacy efforts, [check out this video.](#)

Congratulations, 1511 Rolling Thunder! This award is much deserved. You make us proud!



COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE

HOSTED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER JEN LUNSFORD

*Food shelves statewide are experiencing shortages.
My office is partnering with the Perinton Food Shelf and the
Pittsford Food Cupboard to offset the shortage.
Please consider donating for your neighbors if you're able!*

HIGH-NEED ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING:

- Frosting
- Brownie Mix
- Muffin/Cornbread Mix
- Instant Oatmeal
- Condiments
- Salad Dressing
- Instant or Scalloped Potatoes
- Coffee
- Juice
- Vienna Sausage
- Rice-a-roni
- Shelf-stable Stew & Hash
- Sloppy Joes
- Canned items:
 - Beets
 - Coconut milk
 - Collard Greens
 - Spinach
 - Olives
 - Mushrooms
 - Green Chiles
 - Diced Tomatoes
 - Chili
 - Pizza Sauce
 - Soup
 - Chef Boyardee



**Drop off donations:
April 10th - 21st
on the first floor of the
East Rochester Library:
317 Main Street, East Rochester**



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FREE COVID TESTS AVAILABLE!

CALL MY OFFICE TO ARRANGE A PICK UP AT 585-223-9130

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DISTRICT OFFICE
317 Main Street
Suite 2032
East Rochester, NY 14445
585-223-9130

ALBANY OFFICE
LOB 542
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-5784

Assembly District 135 | LunsfordJ@nyassembly.gov