Dear Neighbors:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the voters in the 120th Assembly District for your support on Election Day. During the campaign, we spent the past six months listening to my constituents, to your fears and frustrations – and yes, anger. What I learned by meeting with people on their doorsteps, at regular meetings and through mailings will be brought to Albany this coming session.

Since 1998, my focus as a member of the New York State Assembly has been on revitalizing our local economy, providing tax relief, investing in quality education and improving health care. I am grateful that my constituents have confidence in and see the positive outcomes of my efforts.

In the next term, I plan on further working on these issues, as well as serving the state as Chair of the Assembly’s Veterans Affairs Committee.

I look forward to representing the 120th Assembly district – to the best of my ability – in the coming session.

Sincerely,

William A. Magnarelli

The Landmark Theatre recently marked the beginning of a $16 million renovation that will turn the 1928 ornate theater into a performing arts center.

“Since 1928, the Landmark Theatre has been a vital part of the Syracuse Community,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli. “My cousin, Armond Magnarelli, former president of Syracuse City Council, was instrumental in saving this building. I look forward to finishing what he and others began through the contemplated renovation and expansion, which will allow the Landmark Theatre to continue serving this community.”

The renovations will greatly expand the stage and back-stage facilities to allow the theatre to attract musicals and Broadway-type theatrical productions.

A $6.5 million state grant that Assemblyman Magnarelli helped to secure and $.5 million in federal funds secured by Congressman Jim Walsh are helping fund the project. The remaining $9.5 million is in private financing.

Assemblyman Magnarelli took part in the unveiling of improvements at the Sunnycrest Ice Rink. The improvements include a new ice rink floor, new refrigeration systems, new energy efficient lighting fixtures and new paint for walls, benches, locker rooms and restrooms. The renovations were funded in part by a $125,000 grant secured by Assemblyman Magnarelli. Federal stimulus money and funds from the City of Syracuse were also used to pay for the improvements.

Reggie Tripoli, executive director of the Onondaga Historical Association, recently took Assemblyman Magnarelli on a tour of the facility. Assemblyman Magnarelli secured $150,000 for three capital improvement projects to the historic 1906-era building. The money will be used to restore the façade and main foyer, provide state of the art technology equipment for the new Research Center and assist in building out the new retail store portion of the museum.

The restoration of the building’s façade will include replacing the brick in-fill of the street-level windows with glass, which will create showcase exhibit areas.

Gregg Tripoli, executive director the Onondaga Historical Association, points to the areas that will be renovated through the grants.

William Fisher, Deputy County Executive, Onondaga County; John Cowin, Deputy Mayor, City of Syracuse; Assemblyman Magnarelli; Bill James Breuer, President, Hueber-Breuer Construction; and Paula Deckman, Landmark Theatre Board Chair, unveil posters of the planned renovations.
For the third year in a row, Downtown Syracuse streets were filled with patriotic sounds as veterans from across the Central New York region took part in the CNY Veterans Parade on November 6. The parade was lead off by the 10th Mountain Division Band from Fort Drum. Other active and reserve military members in the parade included the 198th Army Marching Band, the 174th Fighter Wing, the 27th Brigade Combat Team, Marines from the Echo Company and the U.S. Coast Guard Station at Oswego.

This year’s parade featured more than 50 local veterans groups from across the region that participated with color guards, vintage military vehicles and motorcyclists. Veterans from as far away as Richfield Springs, Central Square, Lee Center, Port Chester, Lyons and Auburn marched.

High school marching bands from Baldwinsville, East Syracuse-Minoa, Henninger, Phoenix and West Genesee joined the Brigadiers, the Syracuse Scottish Pipe Band and the Chittenango High School Dixieland Band in providing music for the parade.

The CNY Volunteer Fair held in September successfully matched local people wanting to help with more than 40 non-profit and volunteer organizations in need. The fair, held at Carousel Center Skydeck, attracted people of all ages. Representatives from hospitals, literacy advocacy sites, organizations advocating for those with specific diseases or ailments, community centers, and centers for senior citizens set up tables with information about volunteer opportunities.

“Local residents have the time and talents to help others,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli, who hosted the event. “This was a great opportunity for the organizations and citizens to make connections that can benefit everyone in the community.”