

*News from* Assemblymember Pamela J. Hunter

# **128 Assembly District**



#### Dear Friend,

As Thanksgiving and Veterans Day approach this month, I find myself reflecting on the many blessings in my life, and one of the greatest is the privilege of representing you in Albany. I am humbled by your continued trust and support. I am also profoundly thankful for our veterans and their families, and I extend my warmest wishes to them on this Veterans Day. As a veteran myself, I understand the unique challenges they face, and will continue to work hard in the upcoming legislative session to ensure they receive the care and respect they deserve.

October has swiftly come to an end and I am incredibly grateful for the numerous opportunities I had to connect with friends and neighbors in our community. The month began on a high note with the vibrant atmosphere of the Westcott Street Cultural Fair, where perfect weather, delicious food and incredible live music made for a memorable experience. Wrapping up the month, the Town of DeWitt Trunk or Treat brought families together for a fun-filled Halloween celebration. I look forward to even more memorable community events as we enter the holiday season.

As always, my office is here to assist and advocate for you. If you have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone or email.

Warm Regards, Assemblymember Pamela J. Hunter



Assemblymember Hunter in the Community...

Westcott Street Cultural Fair



The Westcott Street Cultural Fair took place on **October 1st**. The perfect weather, incredible food, and outstanding music, made for an amazing day. It is always one of my favorite days of the year!

# **Menorah Park Visit**



On **October 2nd**, I joined the leadership and staff at Menorah Park of CNY at a ribbon cutting for their beautiful new Arts and Minds Community Room. I also had the



opportunity to tour their facility and see the vital services they provide to the community.



# 75th Anniversary of the Desegregation of U.S. Armed Forces



I had the privilege of attending an event hosted by The Syracuse University Office of Veteran and Military Affairs to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the desegregation of the U.S. Armed Forces on **October 3rd**. I was happy to mark this historic anniversary with a number of fellow veterans.





# **MACNY Legislative Breakfast**



On **October 10th**, I attended The Manufacturers Association (MACNY) Annual Legislative Breakfast to discuss legislative and regulatory issues impacting the manufacturing industry in New York State.

# Syracuse Hebrew Day School Visit





I was invited to tour of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School on **October 10th** to learn about the STEM opportunities being offered at the school, which were made possible by the state's STEM Reimbursement Program.

# **Manufacturing Week Tour**





On **October 12th**, I joined Empire State Development and members of the Business Council on a tour of local manufacturing businesses in celebration of Manufacturing Week!

First stop: Cathedral Candle Company, where I witnessed the meticulous craftsmanship behind their renowned candles. The dedication to tradition and quality was truly aweinspiring. This company has called Syracuse home since 1897.

Next, I had the pleasure of revisiting Morse Manufacturing. I was there for the Grand Opening of their Syracuse factory in 2019 and again at their 100th Anniversary Celebration earlier this year. It's incredible to see how they've grown and evolved.

# Portrait by Daniela Nikolavsky

I was honored to be the subject of a portrait painted by a very talented local artist named Daniela Nikolavsky. Daniela painted a series of portraits of individuals living in Central New York that is on display at 400 S Salina Street.



# **Justice For All Breakfast**



On **October 18th**, we attended the Justice For All Breakfast hosted by Hiscock Legal Aid Society and were provided a glimpse into the incredibly important work they do for our community.

# **MICRON Cleanroom Lab Event at OCC**

We were excited to attend the unveiling of the Micron Cleanroom Simulation Laboratory renderings at Onondaga Community College on **October 19th**. It is encouraging to see all that OCC is doing to help prepare our workforce for the jobs of tomorrow.



# Veterans in Politics Program at Maxwell School



I was grateful for the opportunity to address the Veterans in Politics program at Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, held on **October 19th**. Veterans bring a unique perspective to public service and elected office – one rooted in sacrifice, service, and a commitment to our nation. It's crucial that this perspective is represented in our leadership.

# **Amazon Tour**





Amazon's massive facility in Liverpool on **October 20th**. It was fascinating to learn all that goes into Amazon's daily operations and the opportunities they provide for their employees.



# **Town of Dewitt Trunk or Treat**



I had a blast at the Town of Dewitt Trunk or Treat on **October 21st**! It was so fun to see everyone in their costumes and enjoying the spirit of Halloween.

# **Breaking Cycles of Harm & Violence Rally**

On **October 24th**, we attended the Breaking Cycles of Harm and Violence rally

hosted by the People's Campaign for Parole Justice and Release Aging People in Prison - RAPP held in Billings Park, to call for the passage of parole reform legislation and honor members of the community who have dedicated themselves to this cause.



# **Focus Greater Syracuse Wisdom Keeper Celebration**



We were proud to help celebrate Mary Nelson and Stan Linhorst at the FOCUS Greater Syracuse, Inc. Wisdom Keeper Celebration on **October 24th**. Thank you both for the tremendous work you do for our community.

# **Proclamation Ceremony**







We were honored to attend a proclamation ceremony on **October 25th**, recognizing local artist and sculptor Sharon BuMann. Among BuMann's many works is the Jerry Rescue Monument, which stands proudly at Clinton Square to memorialize our city's rich abolitionist history. Congratulations and thank you Sharon BuMann for your many contributions to Central New York.

#### NYS Route 370 Community Meeting



On **October 25th**, we attended a community meeting to discuss plans for the reconstruction of NYS Route 370 through the Village of Liverpool. Residents were shown plans for the roughly one mile section of construction that will repair and reconstruct Route 370, small portions of neighboring streets and update crosswalks and sidewalks. Construction is set to begin April of 2025 and conclude November of 2025. Thank you New York State Department of Transportation and Mayor Stacy L. Finney for organizing this informative meeting.

# **Milton CAT Open House**





We had the chance to tour Milton CAT's impressive new facility in North Syracuse on **October 27th.** Milton CAT's dedication to supporting green jobs, investing in clean sustainable technology, and fostering local economic development is truly commendable.

# **Banks Committee Chair Update**



Throughout the month of October, we visited a number of financial institutions across New York State including Mountain Valley Federal Credit Union, Sunmark and Hudson Valley Credit Union. I also had the pleasure of visiting both BNY Mellon and the Municipal Credit Union on my visit to New York City as Chair of the Assembly Banks Committee.





While these institutions serve different needs within the financial services industry, all are working to increase access and inclusivity in banking. I look forward to continuing my work with the leaders within banking to ensure New York remains the global leader in financial services while making new inroads in our communities to improve the lives of everyday New Yorkers.

When You You don't Contact have to say 988 Who you are or Where you are. You will get support from a trained **Crisis** Counselor. There is Hope. Call or text 988, - Ø or chat 988Lifeline.org 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS

# Community News...

# **Community Turkey Giveaway**

I am proud to join with Molina Healthcare and Connected Life Family Worship Center for a Community Turkey Giveaway that will be held on **Saturday, November 18th from 11AM to 1PM at 107 E. Beard Street**. Contact my office at **315-449-9536** for more information.







# **Student Debt Relief Webinar**

I will host a free "Finding Student Debt Relief" webinar with Empire Justice Center on **Thursday, November 30th at 5:30PM** to provide useful information for individuals with student loan debt. Learn if you qualify for some of the many programs available to those struggling with student loans and how to apply. Please email **Jonesm@nyassembly.gov** to register for this webinar or call our office at **315-449-9536**.





# Finding Student Debt Relief: Navigating the One-Time Payment Count Adjustment, Forgiveness, and Repayment Options



Program



Sponsored by: Assemblymember Pamela J. Hunter



In partnership with:



The Empire Justice Center is a part of the EDCAP Network, a program of the Community Service Society of New York (CSS).



# NYS Council on the Arts Capital Projects Grants Available!

Governor Hochul recently announced that up to \$37 million is available to support capital projects for arts and cultural organizations through the New York State Council on the Arts' FY2024 Capital Projects Fund. Guidelines and details are available on the NYSCA website at **www.arts.ny.gov**.



# Applications Open for Capital Improvement Grants for Arts and Culture!

**NEW YORK** 

Council on the Arts

**arts.ny.gov** Deadline Jan 11, 2024

# **Student Loan Assistance**

The Biden administration announced a new student loan repayment initiative called the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) plan. Many borrowers with loans held by the Education Department, which include direct subsidized and unsubsidized loans, Direct PLUS loans for graduate and professional students and direct consolidation loans, will be able to lower or eliminate their monthly payments. For more information and to sign-up visit https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/save-plan.

# on your student loans!

# **Fall Prevention Program**

The Town of DeWitt and LeMoyne College Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment (CARE) will offer a Fall Prevention Program beginning in December. This 7 week inperson program, taught by Occupational Therapists, will concentrate on learning about fall risk factors and the modifications that can be made to decrease them as well as strengthen muscle groups and improve balance to decrease the likelihood of a fall occurring.

The program is offered free of charge through a grant with Onondaga County Office of Aging and will be held on Thursday afternoons December 21st through February 1st from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the DeWitt Town Hall's Recreation Activity Room.

This program is FREE – there is no charge to participate but space is limited so registration is required.

Register at https://townofdewitt.recdesk.com/Community/Program/Detail?programId=1007







# I-81 Project Open House



The New York State Department of Transportation I-81 Viaduct Project

invites you to a

1-81/I-481 South Interchange (Interchange 16) Open House

> WHEN: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 6:00–8:00 PM

WHERE: Clary Middle School 100 Amidon Drive Syracuse, NY 13205

Project Email:I81Opportunities@dot.ny.govProject Hotline:1-855-I81-TALK (855-481-8255)

Un intérprete de español estará presente.

This location is handicapped accessible.

Please contact TeNesha Murphy at (315) 728-4251 if a sign language interpreter, assisted listening system, or other accommodation will be required to facilitate your participation in this meeting.







# **Meals on Wheels Syracuse Needs Volunteers**

Meals on Wheels Syracuse is in need of volunteers to help make, package and deliver meals to home-bound senior citizens in our community. To learn how you can be a part of this important work, **CLICK HERE**!



# About Assemblymember Hunter

Pamela Hunter grew up in Upstate New York and served in the U.S. Army, honorably discharged with a commendation medal and two achievement medals. Assembly Member Hunter represents one of the most diverse districts in the state, which includes urban, suburban and rural areas including the Onondaga Nation. The district includes the southern, near west and eastern portions of the City of Syracuse and the surrounding towns of Dewitt, Onondaga and Salina.

As a Member of the Assembly, Pamela Chair's the Assembly Banks Committee. Additionally, she is currently the only female veteran in the state Legislature, giving her unique insight as the Chair of the Assembly Subcommittee on Women Veterans. Pamela is a member of the Insurance, Energy and Veteran Affairs Committees, as well as the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Caucus and the Women's Caucus. Nationally, Pamela serves as Treasurer for the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL). As an NCOIL participant, she introduces model laws for adoption in states across the country.

Assemblymember Hunter has been a stalwart defender of human rights, and as such has sponsored legislation to protect the most vulnerable residents of New York State. She has championed anti-poverty legislation, such as the Driver's License Suspension Reform Act which reforms disproportionate negative effects on our poor and populations of color. Another of her enacted bills secured a property tax credit for low-income households that are required to carry flood insurance. Ms. Hunter also sponsors numerous professional industry bills that aide businesses in the delivery of services, improves the quality of products available to consumers and makes communities better and safer. One such bill, which has been signed into law, ensures medical patients receive care without further insurance pre-authorization, if unexpected additional services become necessary during a procedure that was already authorized. This ensures that something like nausea can be treated during an insurance authorized chemotherapy appointment.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pamela Hunter ensured that those in her district and beyond had access to food, face coverings and sanitizer while assisting individuals and businesses that



Assemblymember Hunter was elected to the New York State Assembly in 2015 and lives in Syracuse with her husband, son, and rescue dog.

# Visit my website for more news and updates!

Assemblymember Pamela J. Hunter 128th Assembly District Office 711 E. Genesee St, 2nd Floor Syracuse, NY 13210 Phone: 315-449-9536

NYS Assembly 128th District | 711 E Genesee St, 2nd Floor, Syracuse, NY 13210

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