



2026 END OF SESSION NEWSLETTER

ASSEMBLYWOMAN

Carrie Woerner

Dear friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well. With the end of the legislative session, I want to catch you up with what I have accomplished this year. We've made great strides on several fronts to move our region forward.

As chair of the Assembly's Racing and Wagering Committee, I championed a landmark problem gambling legislative package to enhance consumer safety and help address gambling addiction. I have also been focused on making our community and state more affordable while addressing other key issues, such as public safety, healthcare, environmental regulations and improving economic opportunities.

Now that the legislative session has ended, I have been hard at work supporting you at home and around Albany, from attending events to advocating for community issues. I look forward to meeting with you this summer, visiting our vital institutions and vibrant neighborhoods, touring local farms and taking in the wonderful events our community has planned for the upcoming season.

Warm regards,

ASSEMBLYWOMAN
Carrie Woerner



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LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

During this past legislative session, I successfully passed 13 bills through the Assembly, seven of which also passed in the Senate, and as of this writing three have now been signed into law. Here's some additional information about how four of these bills came to be:

Simplifying Self-Exclusion (A.9113-B)

As Chair of the Assembly's Standing Committee on Racing and Wagering, I took time last summer to tour racing and gaming facilities in the southern and western parts of the state. Visiting these businesses gave me an opportunity to see firsthand what is happening in the industry. One of the things I noticed was that while every casino has a room or cubicle set aside for people who decide they need to seek help for a gambling addiction, the process to do that self-exclusion is cumbersome and rooted in old, 1990s technology. I worked with my staff to make this process simpler and more accessible. We introduced A.9113 to shift the process online. It passed unanimously in both houses and is now awaiting the Governor's signature.

Annual Report on Food Security Trends (A.9168-A)

Last summer the USDA decided, after three decades, to end its annual "Household Food Security in the United States" report. This annual report gathered data from every state to assess the trends in food security. Importantly, this report provided to the states the information they relied upon to determine how much money to request for SNAP benefits in the coming year. I reached out to several hunger advocacy groups to get their input on how the state could replace this federal report so that the Department of Health would have an accurate picture of the state of food security across New York. With their guidance, we developed and introduced A.9168. Again, this bill now awaits the Governor's signature.

Keeping Health Insurance Costs for School Districts Low (A.10218-A)

Health insurance costs can be, and often are, substantial for any of us. For small, rural school districts, like many in the 113th Assembly District, purchasing small group insurance plans for employees in the marketplace would drive the property taxes in those school districts beyond what anyone could pay. The answer for many years has been a waiver that allows school districts to participate in special self-insurance trusts that provide the necessary negotiated health benefits at a price point that the school district, and taxpayers, can afford. With the waiver set to expire next year, but the schools beginning to negotiate multi-year contracts with teachers and staff, it was important for them to have the assurance that the waivers would continue. I introduced A.10218 to extend the waiver, and it passed unanimously in both the Assembly and Senate.

Honoring Former Assemblyman Bobby D'Andrea (A.8798-A)

Assemblyman Bobby D'Andrea served 14 terms in the New York State Assembly, from 1974 to his retirement in 2001. A man of great compassion, optimism, and determination, Assemblyman Bobby D'Andrea's legacy extends far beyond his accomplishments as a public servant. His compassion, his sincere concern for others, his integrity and his motivation to give of his time and energy stands as a beacon for those who aspire to serve their communities. When his daughter reached out to me about the family's hope that the bridge on Union Avenue, spanning the Northway, could be named in Assemblyman D'Andrea's honor, I was delighted to take this on. We drafted the bill, worked with the Department of Transportation to secure their agreement, and asked Senator Jim Tedisco to join the effort. The bill passed unanimously in both houses and has been signed by the Governor. The signage will be installed later this year.

Grant Funding in the 2026-27 Budget

I am pleased to report that the 2026-27 budget included funding for a number of organizations in the 113th Assembly District, supporting food security, public safety, arts and education, small businesses, tourism, and healthcare.

- ✓ Hudson Falls CSD received \$95,000 in additional school aid to cover unexpected shortfalls
- ✓ Wilton Volunteer Fire Company and the Gansevoort Volunteer Fire Department each received \$10,000 to purchase equipment through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program
- ✓ Middle Falls Fire Department will receive \$25,000 for equipment purchases
- ✓ The Strand Theater/Hudson River Music Hall in Hudson Falls will receive \$50,000 for operations under the Small Arts and Culture program
- ✓ The Northeast Construction Trades Workforce Coalition will receive funding for the Girls in the Trades Summer Camp
- ✓ Pitney Meadows Community Farm, Comfort Food Community, Battenkill Community Services, and the Warren/Washington County Homeless Youth Coalition will receive funding to support their food security efforts to keep people fed across Saratoga, Washington and Warren counties
- ✓ The Historic Hudson Hoosick Partnership will receive \$150,000 to operate the Champlain Canal Gateway Visitors Center in Schuylerville
- ✓ The Eastern Satellite of the Cornell Center of Excellence in Food and Agriculture, located at the 4H complex in Ballston Spa, received \$250,000 to continue providing support and services to small food producers in Northeastern New York
- ✓ The Land Trust Alliance received \$500,000 to conserve grassland bird habitat
- ✓ Olde Saratoga Seniors, the Senior Center of the Kingsbury and Fort Edward Area, and the Saratoga Springs Senior Center will all receive funding to assist in programming and transportation
- ✓ The Mechanicville Area Community Services Center will receive \$80,000 to support summer childcare programs
- ✓ Saratoga Performing Arts and Saratoga Opera received funding to extend their arts education for children programs
- ✓ The Southern Adirondack Health Initiative will receive \$35,000 to offer a two-day pop-up health clinic offering dental, vision and basic health screening services

RESOLUTIONS

This year, I introduced and passed numerous resolutions honoring individuals and organizations making a positive impact on our state while recognizing the issues they are working to address.

Annual Commemorations

- ✓ K.1093: Problem Gambling Awareness Month
- ✓ K.1134: Crime Victims’ Rights Week
- ✓ K.873: Blood Donor Awareness Month
- ✓ K.899: Stalking Awareness Month

Milestones & Memorials

- ✓ K.1193: Honoring the life and legacy of James R. Peluso, Vietnam War veteran, dedicated community leader and devoted husband and father
- ✓ K.1018: Alpine Skier Piper Dock of Glens Falls
- ✓ K.848: Stillwater Girls Varsity Soccer Team Class C State Championship title
- ✓ K.977: 100th Anniversary of Yaddo
- ✓ K.1463: Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of Saratoga Performing Arts Center
- ✓ K.1503: Commending the League of Women Voters of Saratoga County upon the occasion of hosting its 60th Annual Meeting
- ✓ K.1371: Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Queensbury Hotel

Recognized Saratoga County Veterans on Vietnam Veterans Day:

- ✓ U.S. Army E-5 Sergeant William Herschel Hicks of the 219th Reconnaissance Airplane Company from Saratoga Springs
- ✓ U.S. Army E-4 Corporal Robert Connors from Round Lake



Constituent Work

My office handles a large volume of constituent cases across a range of issues, including permitting, licensing, unemployment claims, housing, retirement and pension. So far this year, we have closed 171 constituent cases.

Historical Business Preservation Registry

I continue to honor businesses that have operated in and supported our communities and local economies for over 50 years, such as Caff  Lena and New Way Lunch. Recently, my nominees - Alpine Sport Shop and the Jointa Lime Company were added to the registry. Other nominations, including the Malta Drive-In Theater, Parillo's Sausage and a variety of local farms are currently underway.

Celebrating Schools, Organizations, and Clubs at the Capitol

- ✓ Welcomed Schuylerville and Greenwich agriculture education and Future Farmers of America (FFA) students to the Capitol
- ✓ Supported the Saratoga Regional YMCA Delegation at the New York State YMCA youth and government program debate
- ✓ Welcomed 5th graders from South Glens Falls Central School District to the Assembly



With Future Farmers of America (FFA) students



5th graders from South Glens Falls Central School District visiting the Assembly

At the Capitol

- ✓ Held Farm-to-Fashion event highlighting the connection between upstate farming communities and the 900 fashion houses in New York City
- ✓ Spoke at a nursing home crisis press conference to call for an increase in funding for nursing homes
- ✓ Organized the Ignition Interlock Bill press conference with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) held during Crime Victims' Rights Week to help reduce repeat drunk driving offenses
- ✓ Hosted a Grassland Bird Trust tabling event
- ✓ Organized the second "May is Beef Month" celebration
- ✓ Hosted the NY250 commemoration event with Assemblywoman Walsh
- ✓ Welcomed Rabbi Boaz Marmon, Congregation Shaara Tfilie in Saratoga Springs, to offer the opening prayer for the Assembly



Rabbi Marmon offering the opening prayer



Nursing Home Crisis Press Conference

American Red Cross Recognition

This past Spring, I was honored to be recognized as an American Red Cross Legislator of the Year for my work. I have been a blood donor since I was first eligible as a high school senior and began donating platelets as well as whole blood a few years ago. Last year, I saw firsthand how critical blood and platelet transfusions can be when my father was hospitalized for an extended illness. I have passed legislation to allow EMS companies to stock blood and blood products on ambulances and to authorize them to start transfusions for patients en route to a hospital – a lifesaving protocol that our EMS companies and Emergency Room nurses supported (Ch. 316 of 2024). Encouraging people to help save lives by donating blood is one of the ways that I participate in our communities. Each year, you will see me sponsoring blood drives with the American Red Cross throughout the district. And, I am pleased to say that Saratoga County has one of the highest donation rates in the state.

Women of Distinction

On April 26, I recognized 16 women from across the 113th Assembly District as Women of Distinction. In alphabetical order, the honorees are: Andrea Baxter, Dr. Erin Christopher-Sisk, Brittany Creel, Mandy D'Andrea, Nancy Deeb, Wendy Delacruz, Geri Lynn Feeder, Sheila Holman, Patricia Kilgore, Riley Lawrence, Darcy Leigh, Margo Olson, Patricia Pleu, Megan Quillinan, Sara Quartiers and Tabitha Slater.



American Red Cross
Legislator of the Year



Women of Distinction 2026 Honorees



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