

Look inside to see how
Assemblymember Hunter
**is making Central New
York a better place to
live**

Dear Friend,

The 2019 legislative session featured many local and statewide wins. From enacting groundbreaking tenant protections to keeping our families safe, I passed legislation to strengthen and uplift Central New York communities. And while session has come to a close, our work is far from over. I'm looking forward to spending more time in the summer and fall meeting with you to learn more about what needs to get done during next year's session.

With summer now in full swing, I hope to see you at one of the many great events happening across Central New York that emphasize our diversity and strong sense of community. If you can't find me there, you can always reach out to my office with any questions or concerns you may have.

Warm regards,

Pamela J. Hunter
Member of Assembly
128th District

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End of session
update from
**Assemblymember
Pamela J. Hunter**



Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul was on hand on Dec. 20 for the groundbreaking ceremony for the first phase of Byrne Dairy's Ultra Dairy plant expansion in the town of Dewitt. The initial phase includes a 42,000 square foot expansion that will allow the plant to increase its packaging capability as well as add additional processing capacity and storage space. It will also result in the creation of 30 new jobs and the retention of almost 200 jobs at the facility.



On Feb. 6, I attended a Public Utility Assistance Clinic hosted by Legal Services of Central New York, where I got the chance to speak to their staff attorneys during the work session.

Assemblymember Hunter is strengthening Central New York

Protecting tenants

To ensure every Central New Yorker has a safe place to call home, Hunter passed legislation to:

- enact the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act, which enacts historic tenant protections, supports affordable housing and prevents retaliatory evictions (Ch. 36 of 2019);
- prohibit landlords from collecting rent from properties where there is no certificate of occupancy, giving landlords a financial incentive to ensure their properties are safe to live in (A.1646); and
- allow tenants with disabilities to break their lease if it is medically necessary or if they are no longer able to live in their home due to their disability (A.2118).

Keeping our families safe

To protect our families, Hunter passed legislation that would:

- require out-of-state citizens who also have homes in New York to waive the confidentiality of their home state mental health records when applying for a New York State firearm license (A.1213); and
- create a human trafficking recognition training program for all public transportation employees to help them determine if a passenger is a potential victim of human trafficking (A.1283).

Preserving the environment

To safeguard our families' health and protect our environment, Hunter:

- passed a bill to establish a program for wildlife damage management that enables municipalities to determine wildlife remediation solutions (A.1599);
- sponsored a bill to include resource conservation, energy efficiency and green technologies when evaluating applications for PILOT projects (A.1606); and
- authored legislation to increase water performance standards for fixtures such as showers and toilets by 2022 (A.2286).

Expanding vital services

To ensure Central New York families receive the support they need, Hunter passed legislation to:

- update the responsibilities of the Division of Veterans' Services women veterans' coordinator to ensure that these brave veterans are getting the services they need (A.7594); and
- prioritize the reengagement of welfare to work services over sanctioning recipients, making recipients more likely to complete a work program and transition back to regular employment (A.2455-A).

Supporting local organizations

To support our local heroes, Hunter passed legislation to:

- permit the Howlett Hill and East Syracuse Fire Departments to recruit a greater percentage of nonresident firefighters in order to keep up with recruitment demands (A.6869, A.6870); and
- allow certain firefighters and police officers to opt into a retirement program that they were eligible for, but were not previously enrolled in through no fault of their own (A.6314, A.7890).

Fighting for insurance reforms

To help provide our families with the best care and service possible, Hunter passed legislation to:

- ensure additional, necessary services stemming from a pre-authorized procedure are covered (A.2880-B);
- give insurance companies more time to find lost life insurance policies (A.3075); and
- enable insurance providers to receive continuing education credits for membership in a statewide professional insurance producer association (A.5922).

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On Feb. 8, I had the pleasure of speaking to recruiting station commanders from upstate New York, New England and Pennsylvania, as well as company and battalion level leadership at the new U.S. Army Reserve Center in the 128th Assembly District. It was an honor to share my own experiences as an Army veteran with my fellow soldiers.



On March 19, I was honored to introduce members of the U.S. Army Syracuse Recruiting Battalion at the beginning of the Assembly session. As a veteran, it's always an incredibly rewarding experience to engage with military members. After session, the soldiers took a guided tour of the state Capitol.



On May 16, I hosted a table at the Onondaga County Office of Aging's Senior Day Celebration at Drumlins Country Club. This annual event recognizes some of our community's amazing seniors and always has a wonderful turnout. I was happy to join some of my constituents at the luncheon!



On June 3, I hosted the third annual Women Veterans Day Luncheon in Albany. As chair of the Assembly Subcommittee on Women Veterans, it's my honor to hold this event each year. Women veterans from across New York State spent the morning listening to speakers, exchanging information and getting acquainted with friends, new and old. At the event's conclusion, I introduced the group on the floor of the Assembly so they could be recognized by the Legislature.



Kicking off Women's History Month, I attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Ethel T. Chamberlain House on March 1. The existing Salvation Army women's shelter will be relocated to the new facility, which provides much-needed permanent supportive housing units.



On April 24, I toured the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Facility (OCRRA) – or Covanta Onondaga, L.P. – with Assembly Energy Committee Chair Michael Cusick. The Covanta facility processes 990 tons of municipal solid waste per day and generates 39.5 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, which is sold to National Grid.



I was humbled and honored to receive an honorary degree from LeMoyne College during their 69th Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony on May 19. From left to right: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Joseph G. Marina, S.J.; Assemblymember Hunter; President Linda M. Le Mura; and Professor and Education Department Chair Stephen C. Fleury. (Photo courtesy of LeMoyne College)



In honor of National Reading Month in March, I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Southside Academy Charter School and engage with some amazing students. Spending time with our next generation of leaders fills me with hope and optimism, and I was happy to help in any way that I could!

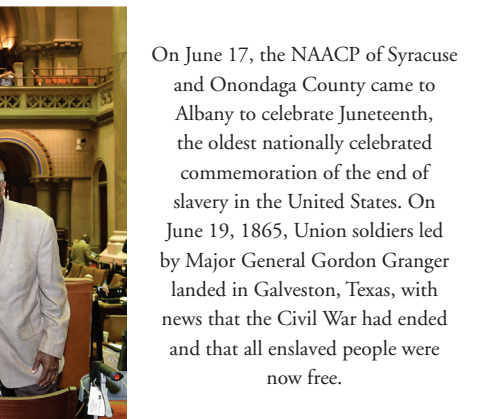


On May 3, I had the opportunity to tour the Greater Syracuse Sound Stage in the town of Dewitt to see Central New York's movie industry firsthand. That day, the crew was building the second story of a set house for the movie, "Paper Spiders." Our region's movie industry continues to grow and boost our economy. I look forward to their continued success.



On May 28, I held my annual Exceptional Women of Central New York Awards ceremony to honor the women who lift up our communities, inspire others and effect positive change. I'm happy to highlight their extraordinary achievements!

From left to right: Denise Moore, Mother of the Year; Asa Shenandoah, Education; Assemblymember Hunter; President Linda M. Le Mura; and Professor and Education Department Chair Stephen C. Fleury. (Photo courtesy of LeMoyne College)



On June 17, the NAACP of Syracuse and Onondaga County came to Albany to celebrate Juneteenth, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger landed in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that all enslaved people were now free.