



WINTER UPDATE FROM  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

# Pamela J. Hunter

Serving the people of the 128<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

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Reports to the people

# Pamela J. Hunter

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Look inside for a winter update

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## Winter Update

Dear Friend:

I hope that you are doing well, staying safe and having a great start to the new year! Please remain vigilant in protecting yourself and loved ones against COVID-19. Get vaccinated, wear a mask and follow health, safety and social distancing guidelines.

In this newsletter, you will find a glimpse of the many activities my office participated in over these past few months along with my Winter 2022 survey. I encourage you to complete the survey. Your views are important, and I want to ensure the needs of those I represent are strongly advocated for as I return to Albany for the 2022 Legislative Session.

As always, we are available to answer questions and advocate on your behalf. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to my office. I wish everyone safety and health.

Warm regards,

Assemblymember Pamela J. Hunter



# Community Events



## September 11 Memorial Ceremony

It was an honor to speak at the Town of Dewitt's 9/11 Ceremony memorializing 20 years since the 9/11 attacks. While much has changed since then, we will never forget those we lost that day or later, as a result of injury or illness incurred.



## Greater Syracuse South Side Neighborhood Association Food Distribution

As our office has done throughout the pandemic, we provided masks and hand sanitizer to be included with the Greater Syracuse South Side Neighborhood Association Food Distribution on Nov. 23.



## University United Methodist Church 150th Anniversary Celebration

In honor of their 150th Anniversary Celebration on Sept. 12, 2021, I presented University United Methodist Church with an Assembly Citation commemorating this milestone. University United Methodist Church is dedicated to continuing work – individually and in partnership with the city, neighbors and others – to address need in their urban corridor and to growing as a faith community dedicated to feeding God's people – body, mind and spirit. University Church has a long history as a visible and vocal advocate for social justice and for putting faith into action in service to its urban neighborhood, to the city and more.



## Beak & Skiff Tour

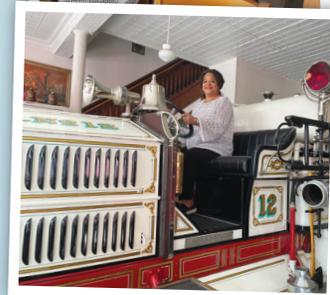
On Oct. 25, I visited Beak & Skiff Apple Orchards and toured the Cider House and Hemp House with President and Co-owner Eddie Brennan and CFO and Hemp House General Manager Mack Hueber. I was delighted to visit America's best apple orchard according to the USA Today Reader's Poll and a Central New York treasure. In addition to

their booming apple business, Beak & Skiff continues to grow and expand into new markets.



## Syracuse and Onondaga County Fire Museum

I toured the Syracuse and Onondaga County Fire Museum, which was partially built in the 1800s, on Oct. 15. I was able to see the many antique firetrucks and firefighter memorabilia and learn the history of the fire station where the museum is located on the city's Northside.



## 2021 Oneida County Indian Nation Veterans Breakfast

At a time when there seems to be so much division in our country, the unifying nature of the military and providing support for veterans and their families is a critical priority not only for me as a veteran, but for many community members and stakeholders as well. It was my pleasure to be invited to speak at this annual breakfast on Nov. 3 and provide an update on my efforts supporting veterans throughout New York State.



## Upstate Cord Blood Bank Tour

I toured the Upstate Cord Blood Bank on Sept. 16 and learned more about the importance of cord blood donation.

Upstate Cord Blood Bank is the region's only public cord blood donation center and is dedicated to saving and improving lives through the use of donated cord blood. They are a local, not-for-profit, public donation center for women who choose to give the lifesaving gift of cord blood. Umbilical cord blood is rich in stem cells and has been shown to have a beneficial value in fighting against blood cancers such as leukemia or lymphoma and as many as 80 other life-threatening diseases.





### Girl Scout Award Recognition

I joined Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli to honor eight Bronze Award Girl Scouts from Junior Troop 10427 on Nov. 29. The Bronze Award is one of the Girl Scouts' highest

honors and requires a minimum of 20 service hours per scout. Projects included building pig shades for Purpose Farm in Baldwinsville, which was devastated last December because of a fire at the farm, and designing a new letterbox course at the Girl Scout Camp in Tully at Hoover Adventure Center. The girls wrote the clues, mapped out the course and built new clue boxes and holders. I was happy to present the awardees with Assembly Citations and Medals of Distinction.

### Winston Gaskin Homes Ribbon-Cutting

I joined the Winston Gaskin Homes ribbon-cutting on Oct. 25. Winston Gaskin is the Housing Visions' and YWCA of Syracuse's first preservation project that includes substantial rehabilitation of 20 buildings of their original early projects, which resulted in the construction of 66 new housing units. This is a \$22 million project on Syracuse's Eastside and Northside.



### Turkey Distribution with Lieutenant Governor Brian Benjamin

It was great to join Lieutenant Governor Brian Benjamin, along with other local elected officials, for a Thanksgiving turkey distribution on Nov. 23 at the East Fayette Street Boys & Girls Club of Syracuse.

### National Veterans Resource Center Opening

Delayed initially due to COVID, it was great to attend the National Veterans Resource Center opening celebration on Nov. 3. I look forward to seeing all of the work that is done to serve our local veterans and those across New York State and the country for many years to come. The center provides veteran career services, research and programs to support the veterans in our city, county, region, state and nation.



# Winter 2022 Survey

[See back for return instructions](#)

I want to hear about the issues that matter most to you. Your input is critical in helping secure vital funding and resources for our communities and crafting legislation that will move our state forward. Please take a few moments to fill out my 2022 constituent survey below.

CLIP AND MAIL

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Do you support legislation to make it easier for New Yorkers to vote?  
 Yes  No
- Which of the following voting rights measures do you support? Check all that apply:  
 Same-day voter registration  
 No-excuse absentee ballots  Make Election Day a holiday
- There are currently four paths to U.S. citizenship for immigrants: being a lawful permanent resident for five years; marrying a U.S. citizen; serving in the U.S. military; or being a child of a U.S. citizen. Do you believe that our country provides a clear path for citizenship?  
 Yes  No - If no, what do you believe needs to change?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Would you like to see Central New York welcome more refugees?  
 Yes  No
- Has New York State done enough to keep illegal guns out of our communities?  Yes  No - If no, what additional steps would you like to see taken?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- During her first State of the State address, Gov. Hochul announced plans to invest \$25 billion over five years to create and preserve 100,000 affordable homes. Do you support this initiative?  
 Yes  
 No, we'd need a greater investment to address New York's affordable housing shortage
- As New York continues to recover from the COVID-caused economic crisis, how do you feel about the state of the economy?  
 Very Positive - the economy is back to where it was before COVID  
 Positive - the economy has not fully recovered, but we're in a far better place than 2020  
 Negative - the economy is still struggling and worker shortages are hampering our recovery  
 No opinion/I don't know
- In her 2022 State of the State address, Gov. Hochul laid out a plan to make it easier for New Yorkers to further their education through expanded part-time Tuition Assistance Programs and allowing work experiences to count toward degree credits, among several other initiatives. Do you support the governor's plan?  
 Yes  No
- What is your biggest concern about the direction our state is headed in?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What issues would you like to see addressed in the 2022 Legislative Session?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Information and Resources

## Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

HEAP can help you stay warm this winter! New Yorkers can now apply for the regular HEAP benefit and the emergency benefit.

The Clean and Tune Benefit can also provide eligible households with up to \$400 to clean or repair primary heating equipment. Eligibility and benefits are based on income, household size, primary heating source and the presence of a household member who is under age 6, age 60 or older or permanently disabled.

To apply or learn more, go to <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap>.

## Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsman Program is seeking compassionate and dedicated volunteers to become certified long-term care ombudsmen in Onondaga, Oswego, Cayuga and Cortland counties.

As an ombudsman, you will have the opportunity to regularly visit a local nursing home or other adult care facility to advocate for residents and help ensure they are receiving quality, person-centered care. Volunteers receive free training to become New York State Certified Ombudsman.

If you're interested in becoming an ombudsman, please contact Rebecca Alder, regional ombudsman coordinator, at **315-671-5108** or [ralder@ariseinc.org](mailto:ralder@ariseinc.org) to learn how to get started.



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PLACE  
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HERE

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Syracuse, NY 13210

**Fold and  
Tape Here**