May 2016 Newsletter



Assemblymember

Assembly District 138

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Budget offers substantial funding for local infrastructure

The 2016-17 state budget includes a sizable investment in Monroe County roads and bridges in an effort to improve aging infrastructure.

It's no secret that our local roads and bridges are in bad shape. By fixing or replacing crumbling infrastructure, we're making roads safer for our families, reducing maintenance costs for drivers and improving the quality of life in our community.

A 2015 report conducted by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) found that more than 50 percent of New York bridges are over 75 years old and one-third of the state's major highways are rated as poor or fair.[1]

This year's budget allocates nearly \$5.4 million in Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funding for projects in Monroe County. Additionally, Rochester will receive over

\$3.6 million from CHIPS, while the towns of Chili and Henrietta will receive about \$173,000 and \$220,000, respectively.

[1] infrastructurereportcard.org/wpcontent/uploads/2015/09/NY_ReportCard_FullReport_9.29.15_FINAL.pdf

Equal Pay Legislation Continues the Fight for Full Women's Equality

The Assembly passed several pieces of legislation to ensure women in New York earn equal pay for equal work. Women have waited far too long for fair pay, and these actions I took with my colleagues will help put an end to pay inequity once and for all.



Nationally, women earn 79 cents for every dollar men make. Women of color are at even greater disadvantage, with African-American women making 64 cents and Latina women making 54 cents to every dollar earned by white men.[1],[2]. New York's gender wage gap is slightly smaller - women earn 87 cents for each dollar earned by a man, this is unacceptable - nothing short of true pay equity will suffice [3].

When more and more women are the primary breadwinner of their household, the pay gap means their families suffer. Too many working mothers struggle to make ends meet. Add to this the cost of child care and the basic expenses of raising a child, and the burden can often become unmanageable. Equal pay is not only a matter of fairness - it is vital for New York families.

1. www.aauw.org/files/2016/02/SimpleTruth_Spring2016.pdf 2. www.aauw.org/2015/06/04/78-cents-whole-story 3. www.aauw.org/files/2016/02/SimpleTruth_Spring2016.pdf

In the District...

Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)

The Rochester Area Parent Leadership Training Institute is a leadership course for parents seeking to make change to improve the community for children and families. Being a guest lecturer provided a great opportunity for a very engaging discussion with Rochester area parents about state government and issues impacting all of us.



Worker's Memorial Day

This past Worker's Memorial Day I stood in Highland Park with my brothers and sisters in labor to remember those who lost their lives on the job. We gathered at the Worker's Memorial monument to honor those who have been injured or died and talked about the importance of worker safety. No worker should fear for their health and safety on the job. In the words of Mother Jones, "Mourn for the dead and fight like hell for the living."

