



## SENATOR JIM ALESI



### Community Update 05/23/12

#### **Dr. Barry Culhane Inducted Into Veterans' Hall of Fame**



I am proud to announce that Rochester native Dr. Barry R. Culhane was inducted yesterday into the 2012 New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame. Dr. Culhane was welcomed to Albany May 22nd, where he was honored at a ceremony at the State Capitol.

A tenured faculty member and associate professor at RIT since 1981, Dr. Culhane served in the United States Army as a medic from 1969-1971, and has been active in local veterans organizations for over forty years, including twenty years (1987-2006) as the President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial of Greater Rochester. Dr. Culhane was instrumental in securing community support and financial resources to complete the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park, and has received numerous honors for his efforts, most notably, when the County of Monroe and the City of Rochester declared September 8, 2006 "Barry Culhane Day" in Monroe County.

The New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame was created to honor and recognize outstanding veterans from the Empire State, like Dr. Culhane, who have distinguished themselves both in military and civilian life. Dr. Culhane has been a tireless advocate for our veterans and I am proud to nominate him for induction into the Veterans' Hall of Fame. His service to our nation and to his fellow veterans deserves the special recognition that only a Hall of Fame can provide.

Dr. Culhane joins the late Ralph Chinelly of East Rochester (2005), Norbert Rappl of Irondequoit (2007), John Perrone of Penfield (2010), and Nick Verzella of East Rochester (2011) as members of the Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame nominated by Senator Alesi. Please click [here](#) to read Dr. Culhane's full biography. To view all of this year's honorees, please click [here](#).

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## Senator Jim Alesi Unveils "New Jobs-NY" Job Creation Plan

Controlling Spending – Cutting Taxes – Helping Businesses Grow



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### THE 2012 NEW JOBS-NY JOB CREATION PLAN

I joined members of the Senate Republican Conference yesterday to continue my strong focus on job creation and economic growth to announce that the Senate will pass legislation next week to advance the 2012 NEW JOBS-NY Job Creation Plan. The Senate's comprehensive plan will help create thousands of new private-sector jobs by delivering tax relief to small businesses and manufacturers, reducing energy costs, and enacting major fiscal reforms to make New York State more economically competitive.

Small businesses and manufacturers form the foundation of a healthy economy. Cutting taxes for New York's business community will help provide job opportunities for tens-of-thousands of people, significantly reenergizing our economy and improving our quality of life. The 2012 NEW JOBS-NY Plan expands upon my efforts to include tax cuts and job incentives in this year's budget, and presents a comprehensive approach to economic growth and job creation in communities throughout the Rochester area and across New York State. This plan seizes our momentum and continues to move New York in a positive direction toward economic prosperity.

Highlights of the plan include:

- **Reducing the Job-Killing Tax Burden on New York Manufacturers:** The plan would spur creation of thousands of manufacturing jobs by dramatically reducing taxes on manufacturers over a three year period (\$495 million in tax relief).
- **20 % Tax Cut for Small Businesses:** This tax cut will save nearly 200,000 small businesses \$49 million.
- **10 % Tax Credit for Small Businesses:** This tax cut will save 800,000 small businesses \$80 million.

· **New Incentives for Each New Job Created:** The bill includes new job-creating incentives that would give businesses a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for each new job they create; up to an \$8,000 if the new job goes to someone on unemployment; up to a \$10,000 credit if a business hires a returning military veteran.

Visit my [website](#) to learn more about the “New Jobs-NY” Job Creation Plan.

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## Seneca Park Zoo Unveils New Exhibit



*The Seneca Park Zoo held its Grand Opening and Ribbon-Cutting ceremony last week to unveil “A Step Into Africa” – the zoo’s newest exhibit.*

Recently, I joined Seneca Park Zoo officials, elected officials and zoo patrons to unveil “[A Step Into Africa](#)” at the [Seneca Park Zoo](#). The exhibit focuses on the Ngorongoro Crater region of Tanzania, Africa. Last week’s celebration marked the completion of the third and final phase of the project, the lion exhibit funded in part by a \$500,000 grant I secured for the zoo in 2008.

*A Step Into Africa* provides infrastructure and exhibits for animals – including lions, elephants and baboons native to the Ngorongoro Crater region in Africa – and will educate visitors about vital conservation, research and ecology issues in the region. When first approached by zoo officials years ago for state funding, I recognized instantly the tremendous value this project would have on improving and expanding the zoo’s facilities and exhibits as the zoo continues to enhance its experience for visitors.

Earlier this year, I was pleased to announce that the Seneca Park Zoo has been awarded nearly \$400,000 in Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council funding for the expansion and restoration of its education facility. Funds from the Finger Lakes Council will help to support a two-unit education complex: one modular structure will be located at the front of the zoo and will be utilized for education animal housing while the second structure is slated to be used as education program offices located across from the interactive building and classrooms.

## Celebrating EMS Week



I was privileged to introduce a resolution in the New York State Senate commemorating May 20th-26th as Volunteer Firefighter and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. Volunteers are the lifeblood of fire companies and emergency service corps throughout our community and across New York State. The contributions from these men and women stem from a strong desire to serve neighbors through their courageous dedication. They place the safety and welfare of others before all else and for that we are eternally grateful. EMS teams are prepared to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week and we cannot replace the level of care or devotion volunteers exhibit in our community. Please join me in thanking our many wonderful fire and ambulance volunteers.

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