



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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## Community Update: Week Ending 5/7/10

JAMES S. ALESİ May 7, 2010

and bridge construction projects, as well as for capital improvement projects for the State University of New York (SUNY), to be released to continue construction and keep people working.

Several weeks ago, the Governor made a unilateral decision to suspend payments on current capital projects, and Senate Democrats have refused to include the payments as part of the emergency extenders – passed in lieu of a state budget – regardless of the fact that contractors have signed agreements with the state with the understanding that payment would be forthcoming. Therefore, to safeguard hundreds of projects and thousands of jobs, I joined my fellow Republicans by proposing amendments to the extenders that included the necessary funding for road and bridge construction – the overwhelming majority of which is Upstate – and SUNY capital improvements. Unfortunately, each amendment was voted down by the Senate Majority, and as a result, contractors across New York State have shut down projects and announced layoffs.

With more and more New Yorkers' jobs in jeopardy, Senate Democrats finally listened to the concerns of non-New York City Senators, and agreed to legislation that would circumvent the Governor's decision to



Last Saturday, I was on hand to help Penfield Little League celebrate their 2010 Opening Day. I walked in the parade with hundreds of team members, and then greeted the players as they entered Zabkar Field to take part in the opening ceremonies. This year marked the 58th opening day for Penfield Little League, and the parade was led by honorary Grand Marshal, and former Penfield Supervisor, George Wiedemer, who was recognized for both his years of public service, and his many years as a coach and supporter of Penfield Little League. In a meaningful moment, Mr. Wiedemer was given the honor of throwing out the ceremonial first pitch to his grandson, Andrew, behind home plate to catch his toss.

I wish each and every player the best of luck throughout the upcoming season, and I commend the