



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patrick M. Gallivan

A Time to Give Thanks

PATRICK GALLIVAN November 25, 2024

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Thanksgiving is one of my favorite days of the year. It is the start of the festive holiday season, and it reminds us to take stock of what is most important in our lives. It is a time to reflect on the positive and to express gratitude for our family, friends, and community. Here are some of the things for which I am thankful.

I am grateful to the residents of the 60th State Senate District for once again placing your trust in me. It is an incredible honor to represent you in Albany, and I will continue to focus on the needs of our region and will do all I can to make Western New York a better place to

live, work and raise a family by advocating for fiscal responsibility, economic development and safe communities. I also appreciate how well-informed and engaged our citizens are on issues important to our state and our country. Civic engagement is critical to our democracy and by continuing to focus on the things that unite us instead of the things that divide us, we can help ensure greater success for our community and all citizens.

I am also thankful to live in such a wonderful community, made up of dedicated and hardworking individuals. Where would we be without teachers, health care workers, snowplow operators, small business owners, construction workers, school bus drivers, and the brave police officers, firefighters and first responders who keep us safe? Let us not forget those who have served and are currently serving in our armed forces. The sacrifices made by our troops and their families are enormous and we can never fully repay them. All have given their time and talent to protect our freedom, and many have given their lives. I am grateful to live in a nation where men and women are willing to step forward to defend our liberty and our way of life...and where residents respect and honor their service.

We should all be thankful that we live in a community that cares about its neighbors. Not just during the holidays, but throughout the year, Western New Yorkers generously help those less fortunate or who have fallen on hard times. From food and clothing drives to fundraisers and charity events, residents are always willing to support a worthy cause by giving their time and treasure. It is a reminder that the true reflection of a community comes from its people.

Finally, I am grateful for the love and support of my family. Two years ago in this column, I wrote that my wife, Mary Pat, and I welcomed our first grandchild, a boy. Just last week we were blessed with our second grandchild, another boy who will make this holiday season extra special. As the old saying goes, grandchildren fill a place in your heart that you never knew was empty.

From our family to yours, I wish you a safe and happy Thanksgiving.