



## SENATOR JIM ALESI



**Community Update 06/06/12**

### **Fairport Canal Receives Funding**



On Friday, I had the privilege of joining New York State [Canal Corporation](#) Director Brian Stratton, Village of Fairport Mayor Fritz May, and members of the [IDA board](#) for a grant presentation to the Village of Fairport. The village was awarded \$135,000 as part of the Finger Lakes Regional Development Council's consolidated funding application (CFA) to complete canalside and promenade repairs and improvements, including landscaping and boater services. Upstate NY canalside communities will share in \$1.5 million in Canal Corporation funding for improvements along the NYS Canal System.

As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business, I was proud to partner with Governor Cuomo and Lt. Gov. Duffy to create the 10 Regional Economic Development Councils during the 2011 Legislative Session. In emphasizing our region's unique assets, the Finger Lakes Council secured vital funding – including the grant presented on Friday – that will capture the cultural significance of the canal in Fairport. I am optimistic that this project will continue economic development and job creation in the Rochester area. The Fairport canalside, which receives 250,000 visitors annually highlighted by this week's annual Fairport Canal Days, represents more than \$5 million in private-sector investment – mostly coming from small businesses.

## Continuing CPR /AED Awareness



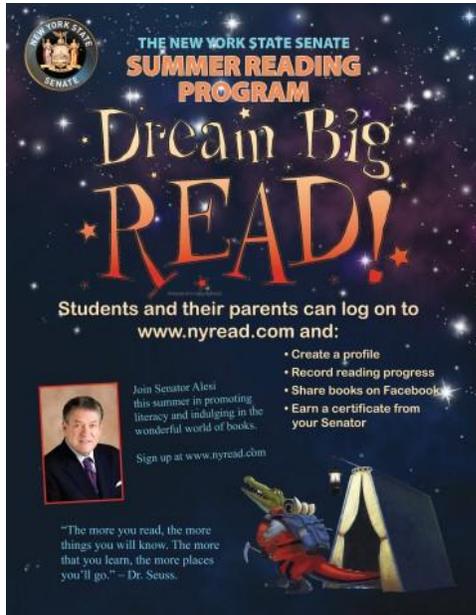
Yesterday on the Senate Chamber floor, I was proud to [speak](#) on behalf of a resolution I introduced memorializing Governor Cuomo to proclaim June 1-7, 2012, as CPR & AED Awareness Week in the State of New York. National CPR Awareness Week is part of National CPR & AED Awareness Month to highlight the importance of knowing how to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

I sponsor legislation ([S.2491](#)) in the Senate that would arm entire generations of New Yorkers with CPR training by incorporating basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instruction and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) into high school physical education or health curriculum. While this legislation does not require students to become *certified* in CPR, the *basic instruction* will provide students with the valuable skills necessary to save lives. Unquestionably, this legislation will increase awareness and knowledge of these crucial lifesaving techniques. It is my hope that high schools across New York State will see the benefit of training their students in CPR and AED use, and that more and more individuals can be saved when suffering cardiac arrest.

Over the past few months, I have had the pleasure of attending a number of CPR-related events including: [visiting](#) Averill Park High School outside Albany to celebrate more than 1,000 students being trained in CPR in the last three years; [welcoming](#) the American Heart Association to Albany; and [discussing](#) the merits of CPR instruction with members from Mercy Flight Central. As a first step in leading by example, my staff and I took a [certification class](#) at the Penfield Community Center in March, where we were all certified in CPR and AED use.

In 2010, the American Heart Association revised its CPR guidelines to place a greater emphasis on chest compressions — commonly known as the ["hands-only" method](#). This June, in honor of National CPR & AED Awareness Month, I encourage you and your family to learn more about the “hands-only” CPR method. Click [here](#) to view a one-minute educational video.

## 2012 Summer Reading Program



I am happy to announce once again that with the end of the school year rapidly approaching, my 2012 Summer Reading Program is underway. I would like to invite all students – specifically those in grades four through six – in my district to participate in the program. In order to participate, students should read at least three books over the summer and record their thoughts about their chosen works in online reading journals. Students who submit a completed journal by the end of the summer will receive a Summer Reading Certificate to recognize their efforts. This year’s program will once again feature the NY Read website, [www.nyread.com](http://www.nyread.com).

Reading throughout the summer provides students with additional building blocks for a strong foundation going into the next school year. I always look forward to offering the Summer Reading Program to young students because I enjoy reading the journals that are received by my office. Any student interested in participating in the program can do so [here](#). Should you have any questions or if you would like more information about the Summer Reading Program, please contact my District Office at (585) 223-1800. Happy reading!

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