

THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 91 | SEPTEMBER 17, 2021



NYS SENATOR DAPHNE JORDAN
(R, C, IP, REF) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the September 17 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

BIG happenings:

- I'm hosting a second blood drive with the American Red Cross and it's just under a week away
- Announcing \$433,343 in state aid for library construction
- Press conference with the NYS Comptroller regarding broadband access and affordability in NYS
- CDTA announces FLEX micro-transit program in Mechanicville, Halfmoon, and Clifton Park

Other important news:

- Grand opening of the "Touchstone, Remembering the 20th Anniversary of 9/11" exhibit at the FASNY Museum of Firefighting and attending the Halfmoon 9/11 remembrance ceremony
- Questar III BOCES and HVCC open new high school for STEM careers on campus
- Town of East Greenbush Honor a Veteran Ceremony
- Ribbon cutting celebrations for local businesses

As always, I want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at jordan@nysenate.gov or call my office at (518) 371-2751. Thank you for reading and subscribing to my Weekly Wrap. It's an honor and a privilege serving you!

– Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District



Yom Kippur

Starting this past Wednesday evening to Thursday evening, friends in the Jewish Community celebrated Yom Kippur. If you celebrated on this holy day of atonement I'd like to offer a sincere Yom Tov and would like to say G'mar chatima tova, or "May you be sealed in the Book of Life."

I'm hosting a blood drive on September 23



**Blood Drive Sponsored by
NYS Senator Daphne Jordan**

Saratoga Knights of Columbus

50 Pine Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
main hall

**Thursday, September 23, 2021
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**



**American
Red Cross**

Our second blood drive is less than a week away and I hope to see you there! As of today, 46 slots are filled and the goal is to have 52 people donate.

[Register here](#)

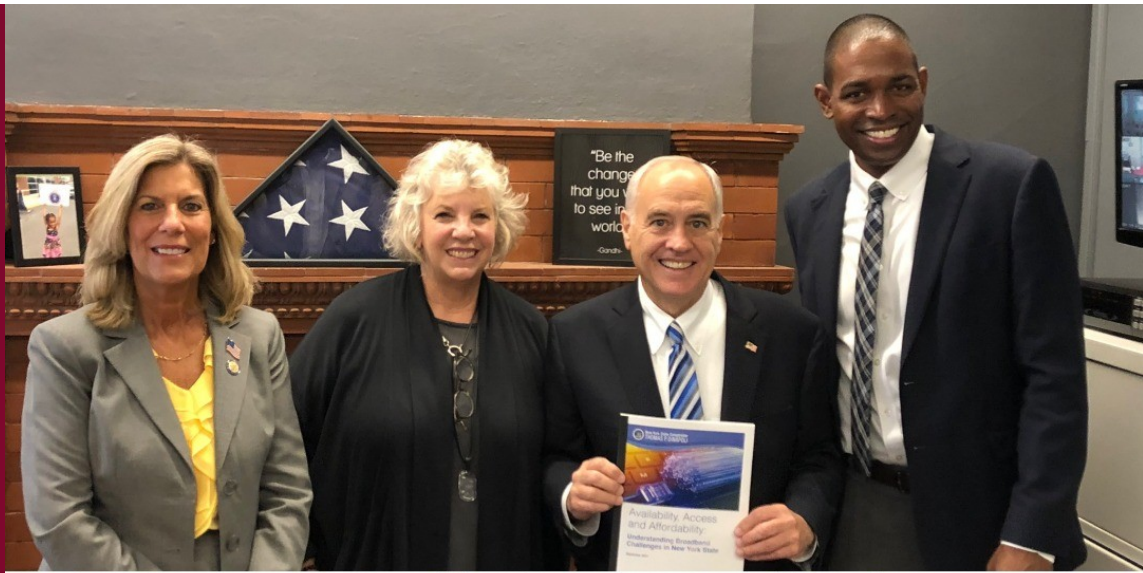
Announcing \$433,343 in state aid for library construction in the 43rd District



This week I was thrilled to announce \$433,343 in state aid for library construction to help our terrific public libraries! The funds are from \$14 million in capital monies for public library construction and broadband infrastructure projects provided in the FY2020-2021 State Budget. The Claverack Free Library, Philmont Public Library, Valatie Free Library, Stillwater Public Library, Brunswick Community Library, Cheney Library, and Nassau Free Library all received valuable State funding awards.

[Read Press Release](#)

Press conference with NYS Comptroller DiNapoli regarding broadband access and affordability in New York State



I was in Hudson Wednesday morning with NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Congressman Antonio Delgado, Assemblywoman Didi Barrett, and Mayor Kamal Johnson's representative Michael Hoffman for a press conference regarding broadband access and affordability in NYS.

According to State Comptroller DiNapoli's report released on Wednesday, "the state has made progress in making high-speed connections available to New Yorkers, ranking second in the U.S. in the percentage of the population with broadband available in their neighborhood, but more than one million, or 13.8%, of households do not have access or a subscription to home broadband services."

The acceleration of universal availability of the highest-speed connections statewide, especially in rural communities, along with enhanced broadband access for low-income households and improved affordability, are all smart goals worthy of strong bipartisan support at the local, state, and federal levels. Without question, New York must make it easier and more affordable for broadband providers to expand. I'm proud to be part of this important effort and thank State Comptroller DiNapoli for this comprehensive report.

[Read Report](#)

CDTA's FLEX micro-transit program expands to Mechanicville, Halfmoon, and Clifton Park



Lots of “flexing” on Thursday during a press conference held at the DeCrescente Distributors Sales Marketing Building in Mechanicville to highlight the Capital District Transportation Authority - CDTA’s new FLEX micro-transit program! Introduced to our Capital Region in January of 2020, CDTA’s FLEX micro-transit program offers flexible routing that uses real-time matching of demand and supply as customers request rides using a mobile application or by calling CDTA. Now, added to this micro-transit list, is Southern Saratoga County, as CDTA Flex service expands to Mechanicville, Halfmoon – my hometown – and Clifton Park next week.

FLEX will operate 3 vans within this newly expanded service area, with access to Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library, Halfmoon Walmart, and Halfmoon Town Hall. This is exactly what our area needs, as there presently is no public transit service, and in an area where people must use some form of transportation, besides

their own two feet, to get around. CDTA is “flexing” – and Southern Saratoga County will soon feel the strength of this innovative service!

CDTA’s a vital resource for our Capital Region and remains at the forefront of meeting the growing transportation needs of our growing region. CDTA delivers lifeline services and provides a full range of safe, convenient, and affordable transit options that, because of the pandemic, were needed more than ever. I’m proud to support the expansion of this wonderful service!

Pictured in the photos above with me are CDTA CEO Carm Basile, Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce President Todd Shimkus, DeCrescente Distributing Company (our gracious host) Vice President Carmine DeCrescente III, Mechanicville Supervisor Tom Richardson, Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, and Mechanicville Area Community Services Center, Inc. Executive Director Megan Quillinan. Congratulations to CDTA CEO Basile, and to all of the private and public sector partners in this important effort, on this great announcement!

[Learn more about the FLEX Program](#)

In The News



Comptroller's report finds gaps in internet services

Now more than ever, access to high-speed broadband is a public need and the demand will only increase from here. The well-thought-out and comprehensive new report by NY Comptroller DiNapoli is a must read.

[Read Article](#)



Questar III BOCES and HVCC open new high school for STEM careers on campus

Sharing some more information on the new Questar III and Hudson Valley Community College STEM High School. It's providing wonderful opportunities for students in the Capitol Region. [Read more](#)

[Read Article](#)



Serial pervert, cut loose because of bail reform, terrorizes NYC nabe

In response to this incredibly disturbing story, I've introduced a bill ([S7380](#)) which makes public lewdness a qualifying offense on which the offender can be held for bail. It's sickening to know this man has repeatedly been sent home.

[Read Article](#)



Republicans penned a letter to Governor Kathy Hochul to let her know mass resignations over the vaccine have begun

There are major concerns regarding staff shortages following the vaccine mandates. Read more below.

[Read Article](#)



New York State Comptroller And Lawmakers Call For An Expansion Of Broadband

Good read and listen from WAMC Northeast Public Radio re: the bipartisan press conference I recently took part in calling for broadband expansion and unveiling NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli's comprehensive, insightful, and excellent broadband report.

Commemorating the 20th anniversary of September 11th, 2001



It was a privilege to be at the grand opening event in Hudson, NY on Saturday morning for the FASNY Museum of Firefighting 9/11 Exhibit, "Touchstone, Remembering the 20th Anniversary of 9/11."

This museum is such a special resource and the world's largest firefighting museum displaying the past and present-day firefighting. Thank you to Jamie Smith Quinn, Executive Director and the FASNY Museum of Firefighting team for inviting me to be the keynote speaker for this event. May God bless our fallen firefighters on September 11th, their families, and our great and grateful nation, as we dedicate this exhibit in honor of the heroes of September 11th whom we remember today and every day.

Following this event was the Town of Halfmoon 20th Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony, which was well-attended, heartfelt, and beautifully done.



Town of East Greenbush Honor a Deceased Veteran Program



Tuesday morning's Town of East Greenbush Honor a Deceased Veteran Program recognized US Army Veteran John K. Curran, who enlisted into the Army in 1945, served with the infantry, fought in Germany, Italy and France, and was awarded the Army of Occupation & WWII Victory Medals. Thank you to my Community Liaison, Halie Northrop, for attending this ceremony on my behalf!

RIBBON CUTTINGS

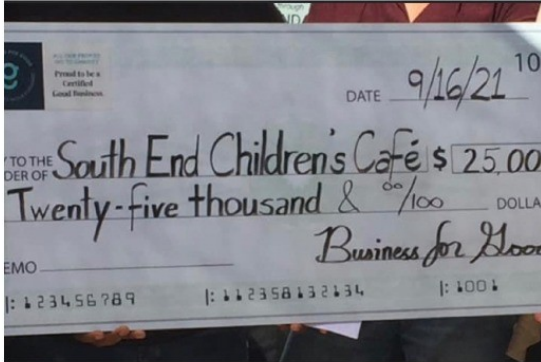
The Dogscape



My Director of Constituent Services (and Rensselaer County Legislature Member) Daniel Casale was on hand to celebrate the ribbon cutting and grand opening of The Dogscape on Oakwood Avenue in Troy held earlier this week. This event was sponsored by the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce. My Director of Constituent Services (and Rensselaer County Legislature Member) Daniel Casale represented me at this event. Dan is pictured here with The Dogscape owners Amanda Marie Rubino and Kristen Koenig. Dan also presented a NYS Senate Certificate of Recognition on my behalf to bark, I mean mark — the happy occasion. Also in attendance at this event and pictured above are Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin and Rensselaer County Sheriff Pat Russo. Congrats and best wishes to The Dogscape team!

[WEBSITE](#)

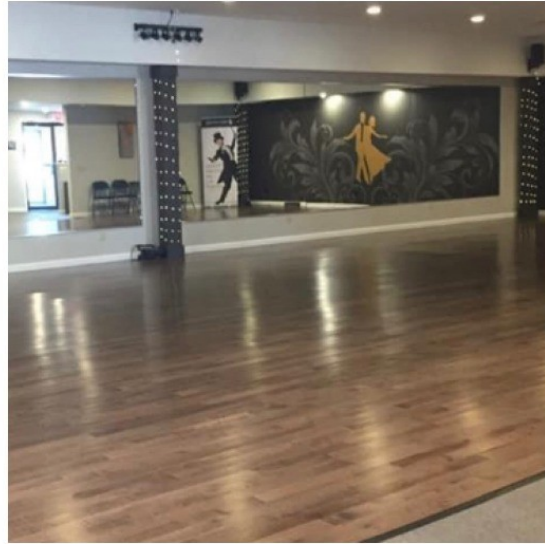
The Bread Basket Bakery



Thursday afternoon in Saratoga Springs was the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the second location of Saratoga Bread Basket Bakery. The Bread Basket Bakery is owned by Lisa and Ed Mitzen. All profits from the bakery go to Capital Region charities fighting food insecurity. “Business for Good” is the Mitzen’s non-profit foundation, which is venture philanthropy. This ribbon cutting featured a check presentation of \$25,000 (that’s a lot of dough!) to the South End Children’s Café on behalf of Business for Good, based on proceeds from the bakery. During the grand opening, I spoke about their philanthropy and what a wonderful model the Mitzen’s have created through private investment, providing people the tools they need for success to elevate themselves for life, rather than relying on just sustenance to help them maintain. Congratulations to Lisa and Ed Mitzen on your grand opening! More important, THANK YOU for doing good, making a difference, and helping others. Good things are RISING at Bread Basket Bakery! To read more about Business for Good, click [here](#).

WEBSITE

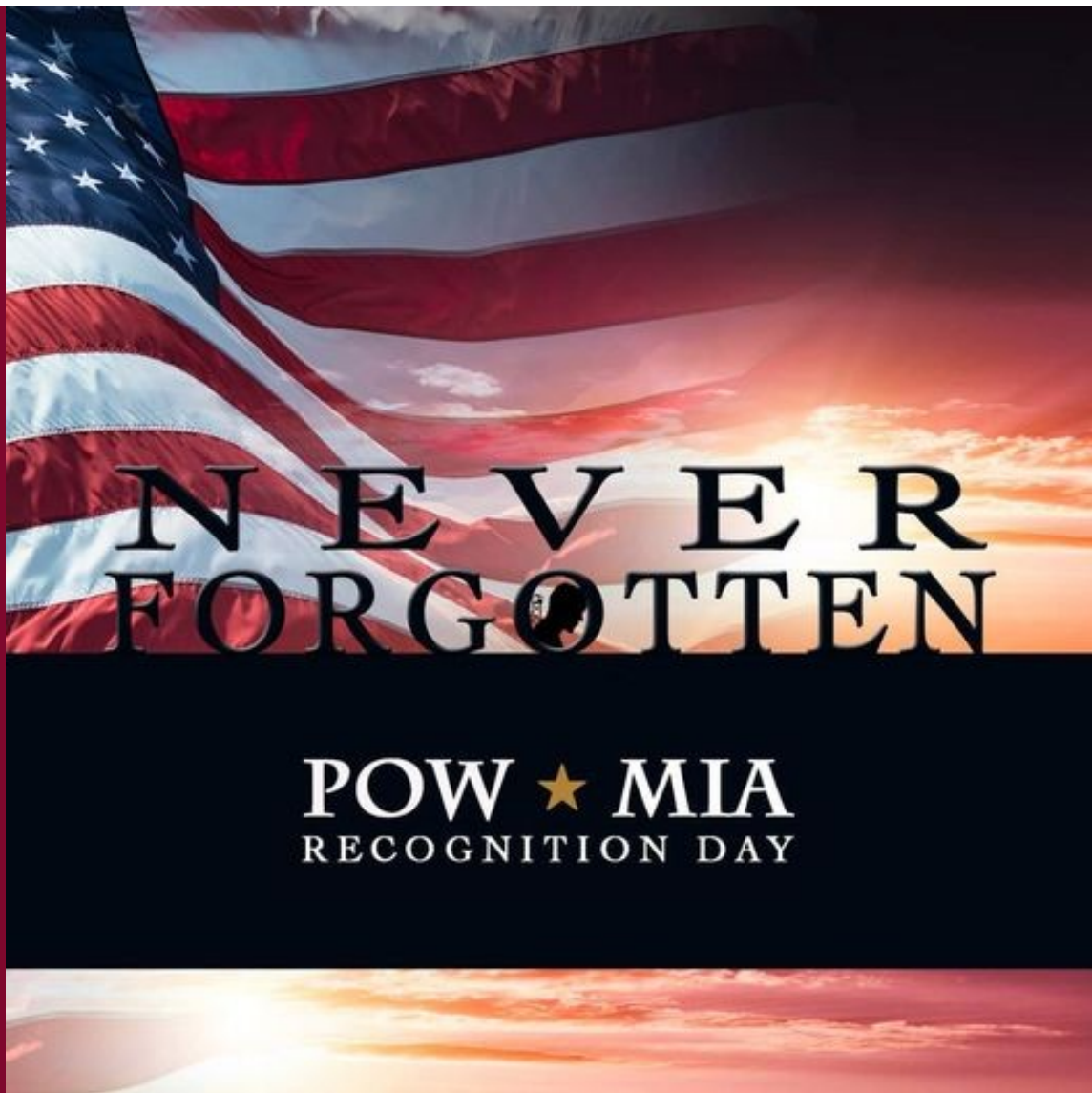
Fred Astaire Dance Studios



This week I visited the new location of Fred Astaire Dance Studios - Saratoga Springs. I'm pictured above with Grey and Elizabeth Masko, owners and instructors. I presented a NYS Senate Certificate of Recognition to celebrate their expansion. As shown in these photos, it's a gorgeous, spacious studio! Keeping with its famous namesake, FADS offers unparalleled, expert dance instruction. In the words of the great Fred Astaire: "Some people seem to think that good dancers are born, but all the good dancers I have known are taught or trained." Congrats to Grey and Elizabeth Masko and best wishes for success in your new location!

[WEBSITE](#)

POW MIA Recognition Day

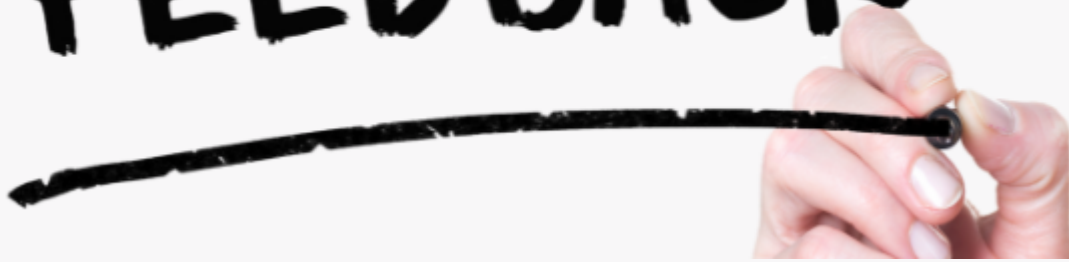


Over the course of American history, it's estimated that over a half-million servicemembers have been held as prisoners of war. As of today over 82,000 of our nation's bravest, who served in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam, remain unaccounted for.

On September 17, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we acknowledge and honor those heroes whose service cannot and will not be forgotten. And we acknowledge and honor the thousands of families who have gone years without knowing what happened to a loved one.

The sacrifices of these servicemembers and their families are not in vain; our nation is stronger and the world safer because of them. Our nation thanks them and we remain committed to bringing each and every servicemember missing in action back home.

FEEDBACK



I would love to hear your feedback on the Weekly Wrap! If you have any comments or suggestions please email me at jordan@nysenate.gov. Have a great weekend!

Stay up-to-date with me throughout the week
on Social Media!



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THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE
