

# THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 76 | JUNE 4, 2021



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



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the June 4 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

## **BIG happenings this week:**

- My Senate Republican colleagues and I unveiled a Parole Reform package.
- Legislation I am sponsoring to honor Korean War Veterans passed the Senate floor.
- My efforts to recognize purple heart veterans continues getting real results: One sponsored bill and one co-sponsored resolution passed the senate floor this week.

## **Other important news:**

- Legislation I co-sponsored connecting farmers and food banks passed the Senate and Assembly.
- Saint Basil's Troy Greek Festival is today and tomorrow!
- The Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Program is launching in Columbia County this weekend with an Open House event.
- Memorial Day Weekend Events!
  - Village of Stillwater Purple Heart Ceremony
  - East Greenbush Memorial Day Ceremony & Parade
  - Village of Philmont Parade & Memorial Day Purple Heart Ceremony
  - Town of Kinderhook Purple Heart Ceremony
  - Town of Stuyvesant Purple Heart Ceremony
- Ribbon Cuttings!
  - Stillwater Farmers Market
  - The Scott Varley Team
  - Heller's SS&P Wine & Liquor Warehouse
  - Rensselaer Plateau Alliance: Dorthy's Equal Access Trail

As always, I want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at [jordan@nysenate.gov](mailto: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

# Connecting Farmers and Food Banks Indefinitely



I'm proud to have co-sponsored Senate Bill S4892A, which has now passed both the Senate and Assembly unanimously. Simply put, this bill will connect farmers with food banks, so that excess food from farmers won't be wasted, but can be purchased by the food banks. This initiative was actually launched last year during the pandemic, but now, if the bill passes the Governor's desk, it will be made permanent across NYS.

S4892A

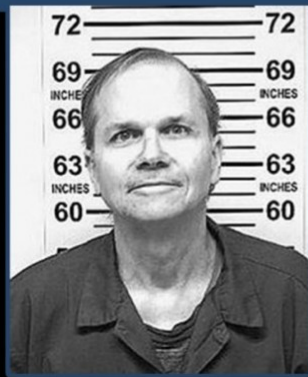
[READ ARTICLE HERE](#)

---

## Parole Reform Package



## PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY



**ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE, THANKS TO SENATE DEMOCRATS**

On Tuesday afternoon, my Senate Republican colleagues and I unveiled our Parole Reform package of bills for protecting victims of crime, fixing Governor Cuomo's out-of-control Parole Board, and keeping New York's most dangerous criminals behind bars.

Governor Cuomo's Parole Board is an unmitigated disaster and a public safety threat to all New Yorkers. By considering cop killers, serial killers, child killers, and notorious, remorseless killers like the Son of Sam and Mark David Chapman to be eligible for release, the Parole Board would further Cuomo and the Albany Democrats' reckless, disturbing, and insane policy of coddling criminals and giving early release to the worst of the worst. We need top-to-bottom reform of NY's broken Parole Board that will tip the scales of justice back in favor of victims, law enforcement, and society. The constant shootings and assaults in New York City prove that stupid Democratic policies of defunding the police and empowering criminals are an abysmal failure that have cost lives and made our state less safe.

[READ PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

# Legislation Recognizing Korean War Veterans



During session on Tuesday, my Senate Bill S2091A passed the Senate with strong bipartisan support. This bill establishes a Korean War Service Medal for members of the armed forces or organized militia serving abroad in the Korean War during the period of time from June 25, 1950 through July 27, 1953.

Inappropriately referred to as America's "forgotten war" the service and sacrifice of New York's heroes who served during the Korean War is not forgotten by their fellow citizens. On the contrary, all New Yorkers will forever remember and proudly honor - the service and sacrifice of the Empire State's Korean War veterans who proudly wore America's uniform and served with uncommon valor and courage during this war.

S2091A

[READ PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

---

## Designating New York as a Purple Heart State





On Tuesday, June 1, my Senate Bill S2279 designating NY as a Purple Heart State passed the Senate floor unanimously.

Since 2019, I've led a grassroots, nonpartisan, statewide effort to honor the courage and commitment of Purple Heart recipients, recognize these incredible heroes, and affirm a local community's respect and recognition of these proud patriots, so many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our nation and preserve our freedom. I'm thrilled that my bipartisan legislation passed the Senate so we can take the next step toward expanding this important designation. Now, the Assembly needs to follow suit and make this statewide designation a reality so we can fully honor New York's best and bravest, our Purple Heart recipients.

S2279

[READ PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

---

## "Purple Heart Day" in New York State



As a Member of the Senate Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee, I am very happy to announce that the bipartisan legislative resolution I cosponsor, J401, proclaiming Saturday, August 7, 2021, as “Purple Heart Day” in New York State, unanimously passed the State Senate during today’s session. The measure was previously adopted in February and was brought to the Senate Floor again today. I am a cosponsor of the legislative resolution which is sponsored by New York State Senator Kevin Thomas (D-6th District).

[READ PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

[WATCH MY FLOOR REMARKS HERE](#)

---

## Assembly Speaker Heastie: Bring Our Bill Honoring NY's Purple Heart Heroes to a Vote!

Today, I wrote Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie asking that he bring Assembly Bill [A.7961](#), bipartisan legislation sponsored by my good friend [Assemblyman Jake Ashby](#), designating the state of New York a Purple Heart State, to a vote this coming week, which is the final week of our 2021 Legislative Session. This legislation is the Assembly counterpart of my bill, Senate Bill [S.2279](#), which already passed the Senate on June 2, 2021 by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 62-1 (as noted previously in my Wrap). Speaker Heastie should bring our bill forward so the state can send a positive message to all of our Purple Heart heroes that New York appreciates their service and honors their courageous sacrifice!

I encourage you to send an email to Speaker Heastie regarding Assemblyman Ashby's companion bill on the Assembly agenda next week. It will be the last week of Session! You can send him an email at: [speaker@nyassembly.gov](mailto:speaker@nyassembly.gov)

**RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**  
LIBRARIES  
RACING, GAMING AND WAGERING  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
STATE-NATIVE AMERICAN RELATIONS  
WOMEN'S ISSUES  
  
**COMMITTEE MEMBER**  
AGRICULTURE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS  
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

**NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE**



**SENATOR DAPHNE JORDAN**  
43<sup>RD</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

**ALBANY OFFICE**  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ROOM 508  
ALBANY, NY 12247  
(518) 455-2381  
  
**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
1580 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE  
BLDG. 2, STE. 1  
CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON, NY 12033  
(518) 371-2751  
  
**EMAIL:** JORDAN@NYSENATE.GOV  
**WEBSITE:** JORDAN.NYSENATE.GOV

June 4th, 2021

The Honorable Carl Heastie  
Speaker of the New York State Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Speaker Heastie,

I write to you today to respectfully ask that you bring A.7961, legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Ashby which designates the state of New York a Purple Heart State, to a vote this upcoming week, which is the final week of legislative session this year. This legislation is the Assembly counterpart of my bill, S.2279, which passed the Senate on June 2nd, 2021.

The Purple Heart is a United States military combat decoration awarded to those wounded or killed in action on or after April 5th, 1917. From the very beginning, our State has a strong association with the Purple Heart. As you know, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is situated here in New York State. Its location derives from the creation of the Purple Heart's predecessor award by order of General George Washington from his headquarters in Newburgh, New York in 1782. This association has continued through today as many communities across the State have recognized the bravery and sacrifice of Purple Heart recipients and have adopted resolutions designating their community as a Purple Heart community.

As of writing this letter, 40 of New York's 62 counties have adopted resolutions designating themselves as Purple Heart counties. In my 43rd Senate District alone, 50 of 60 municipalities – towns, villages, and cities in all four counties – have designated themselves Purple Heart localities. This strong show of support is bipartisan in nature, with Republican and Democratic local officials alike demonstrating their appreciation for those military personnel who paid a significant price in defense of our country.

The legislation introduced by myself and Assemblyman Ashby, S.2279/A.7961, is the next logical step in recognition of our Purple Heart heroes. This legislation has strong bipartisan co-sponsorship in both houses and passed the Senate unanimously on June 2nd. New York State has previously adopted this designation in annual Assembly resolutions as recently as 2017. I thank you for allowing those resolutions to come to the floor, and I ask for your continued support in bringing this legislation to the floor next week, which would create a permanent designation

for our State honoring Purple Heart recipients. In so doing, New York State would join several other States in creating this permanent designation, joining Washington State most recently whose Governor signed their version of the bill into law on May 10th, 2021.

I once again ask that you take every step possible to ensure A.7961, the Assembly counterpart to my legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Ashby, comes to a vote on the floor of the Assembly next week. Thank you for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,

Daphne Jordan  
State Senator, 43rd District

Cc:  
Assemblyman Jake Ashby

---

## Troy Greek Festival



June 4- June 5, 2021

Online Order. Pick-up Only.

Fri 3pm-9pm, Sat 11am-9pm

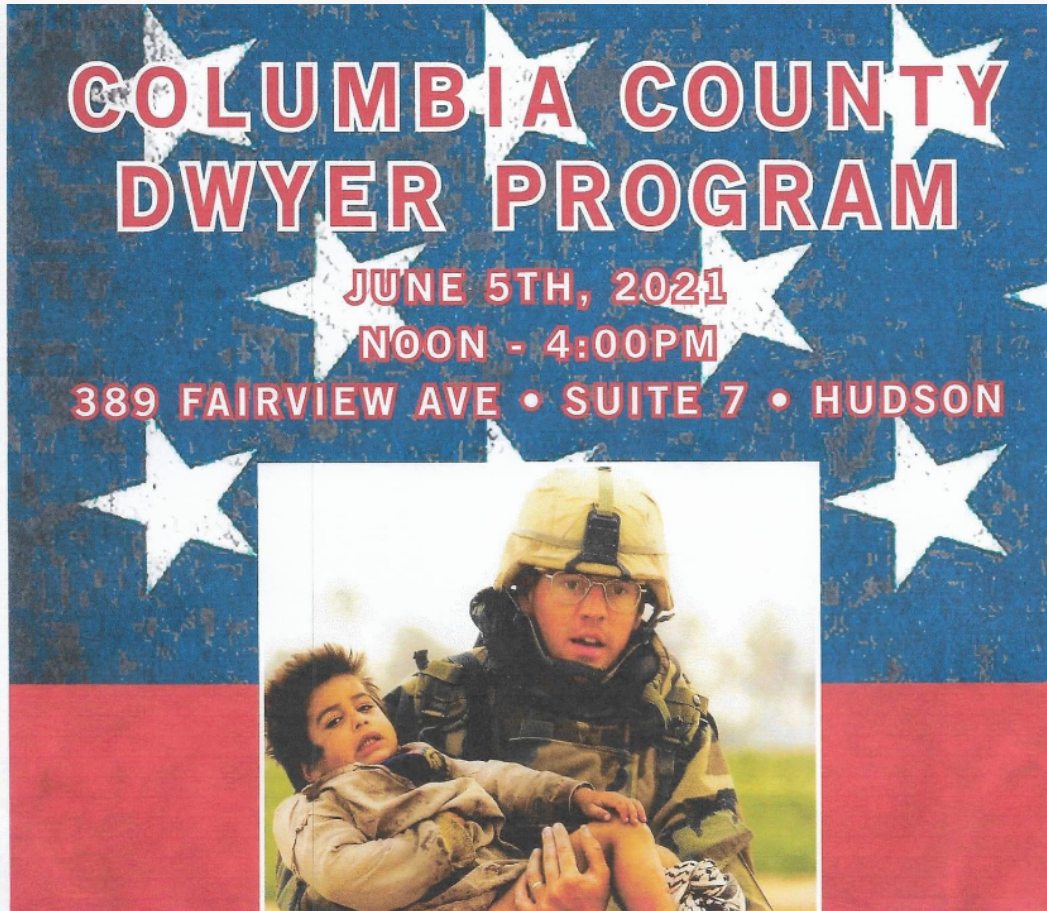
No indoor or outdoor seating will be offered.

The Troy Greek Festival starts TODAY and continues tomorrow! Hope to see you there!



VISIT THEIR WEBSITE

## Columbia County Dwyer Program Open House



**FREE EVENT**  
This will be catered for  
**Veterans, Widows and Families.**

Please call and confirm  
with the number of attendees.  
**518.828.3610**

The Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Program is officially up and running in Columbia County! There will be an open house tomorrow, Saturday, June 5. This is a great way for veterans to meet other veterans within the community and seek helpful resources.

# MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS



## Village of Stillwater Purple Heart Ceremony



I had the honor of presenting the Village of Stillwater with a NYS Proclamation for becoming a Purple Heart Community. Above, I'm pictured with Mayor Judy Wood Shaw and John Meehan, Master of Ceremonies. Thank you for all that you do for our community and honoring our veterans this past Memorial Day weekend!

## East Greenbush Memorial Day Ceremony &



# Parade



Above are photos of the East Greenbush Memorial Day Ceremony & Parade, honoring our fallen military men and women.

The parade was sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7338, the American Legion Melvin Roads Post 121 and the town of East Greenbush. The ceremony was at Melvin Roads American Legion Post #1231, and Commander Hugh Blake was the Master of Ceremonies.

Also speaking that morning were Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin, Assemblyman Jake Ashby, and Rensselaer County Director of Veterans Services Peter Goebel.

It was great to visit with Vice Chairperson of the Rensselaer County Legislators Kelly Hipwell Hoffman and PFC Allen Atwell, who served in the 28th Military Police Platoon during World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. PFC Atwell was also the Grand Marshal of the parade and kindly gave me a challenge coin (pictured below). We thank him for his service to our country and God bless the families of those who have lost a loved one while protecting our freedom.



Village of Philmont Parade & Memorial Day  
Purple Heart Ceremony





The first event of Memorial Day was the Village of Philmont walking parade followed by the Memorial Day and Purple Heart Ceremony.

In attendance in honor of our fallen troops were United States Congressman, Antonio Delgado, Village of Philmont Mayor Brian Johnson, Claverack Town Supervisor Clifford Weigelt, Memorial Day Chairman & District Commander Jeff French, District Commander Richard Morris, United States Army Command Sergeant Major & Columbia County Veteran's Services Director Gary Flaherty, And Minkler-Seery American Legion Post #252 – which played a central role in today's Purple Heart Ceremony!

We also gathered to recognize the Village of Philmont's wonderful news of becoming an official "Purple Heart Village" to honor our military veterans who sacrificed their lives or were wounded in wartime conflicts.

"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself." - Joseph Campbell

That truly describes our military heroes who paid freedom's high cost. Our armed forces gave their lives to something bigger than themselves – the safety, security, and future of our nation.

We can never thank them enough for their incredible sacrifice, their ULTIMATE sacrifice.

## Town of Kinderhook Purple Heart Ceremony



The second event of Memorial Day was a joint ceremony in the Village of Valatie where I was honored to present Purple Heart proclamations to the Town of Kinderhook, the Village of Kinderhook and the Village of Valatie.

Also in attendance were Congressman Antonio Delgado, Village of Valatie Mayor Frank Bevens, Town of Kinderhook Supervisor Patrice "Patsy" Leader, Village of Kinderhook Mayor Dale Leiser, Vice-Commander of the John W. Mc Connell, Post 47 American Legion Steve Matheke, Memorial Day Parade Chairman & United States Marine David Teator.

We spoke with one voice in offering our thanks, recognition, and prayers for America's fallen who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may be free. Free as a nation, free as a people.

## Town of Stuyvesant Purple Heart Ceremony





The third event of Memorial Day was the Town of Stuyvesant Purple Heart Ceremony.

Thank you to the Town of Stuyvesant Supervisor, Ron Knott for the invitation to be here today!

Pictured below, I'm standing with Congressman Antonio Delgado, Supervisor Knott, and town historian Mrs. Juanita Knott, who presented a book she wrote detailing the history of the town!

I was honored to present the Town of Stuyvesant with a special New York State Senate Purple Heart Proclamation in recognition of it becoming a local "Purple Heart Community."

"Purple Heart Communities" publicly recognize the service and sacrifice of those wounded or killed in action, and affirm a local community's respect and recognition of these proud patriots.

Within my 43rd Senate District, out of the 60 municipalities, 50 towns, villages and cities in all 4 counties – Saratoga, Rensselaer, Washington, and Columbia, have successfully passed local resolutions and have become Purple Heart Communities and Counties.

Also, out of the 62 Counties in New York State, 40 are now Purple Heart Communities – and several more are pending!

Eighteen other areas, including buildings, trails, and parts of highways, have been renamed with the Purple Heart designation.

I'm proud to have led this statewide movement that's putting the focus where it belongs: our incredible Purple Heart recipients. America is the home of the free because of our brave... because of our veterans.

---



Stillwater Farmers Market





The Stillwater Farmers Market opening day was Tuesday! It will be located every Tuesday from 3-6 p.m. at the Stillwater Library.

Thank you to my Community Liaison Debbie Curto for being there and presenting a certificate to the owner of Carpenter Farms on my behalf!

Seen in the pictures above are Mayor Judy Wood-Shaw, Deputy Supervisor Judy Wood-Zeno, and Roger Grout of the Mechanicville /Stillwater Chamber of Commerce.

[VISIT THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

The Scott Varley Team



Congratulations to The Scott Varley Team on the grand opening of their new Broadway location Wednesday morning! Scott Varley has been awarded “Top Realtor of NY Capital Region” for past 10+ years and is ranked in the top 1/2% of all realtors in the United States. Thank you to my Community Liaison, Debbie Curto, for presenting a Certificate of Recognition on my behalf! Wishing The Scott Varley Team continued success!

[VISIT THEIR WEBSITE](#)

Heller's SS&P Wine & Liquor Warehouse





Congratulations to Heller's SS&P Wine & Liquor Warehouse on their Grand Opening this past weekend! On Saturday, they had wine & liquor tastings, bottle engravings, a food truck, and giveaways! They're located at 3701 NY-43 West Sand Lake. Go check them out!

[VISIT THEIR WEBSITE](#)

## Rensselaer Plateau Alliance Opens Dorthy's Equal Access Trail

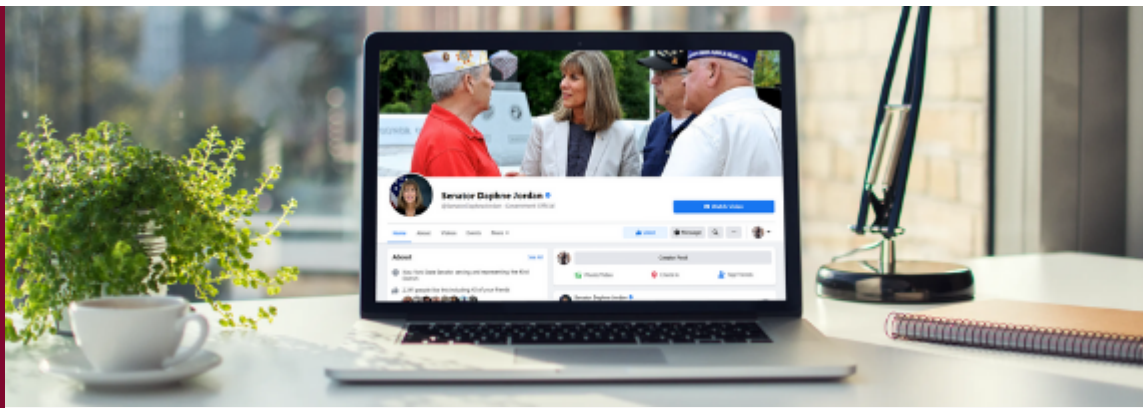


On Thursday morning, the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc. celebrated the Grand Opening of Dorthy's Equal Access Trail at the Poestenkill Community Forest. This allows for improved access to nature by those with disabilities. The project was planned and built with much care by Jeff Briggs, PCF Steward, and other dedicated volunteers. Thank you to Rensselaer Plateau Alliance Executive Director Jim Bonesteel for the invitation, and to Daniel Casale, my Director of Constituent Services, for being there on my behalf with a Certificate of Recognition!

[VISIT RENSSELAER PLATEAU'S WEBSITE](#)

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





FACEBOOK

TWITTER

INSTAGRAM

YOUTUBE

VISIT MY WEBSITE

---

**Albany Office:**  
188 State Street, Legislative Office  
Bldg.,  
Room 508  
Albany, NY 12247  
518-455-2381

**District Office:**  
1580 Columbia Turnpike  
Building 2, Suite 1,  
Castleton-On-the-Hudson, NY 12033  
518-371-2751



# THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE

---