



New York State Senator  
**DAPHNE JORDAN**  
(R, C, IP, REF) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the March 12 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

It's been an extremely busy week! Recently, the biggest stories have been regarding six of Governor Cuomo's former and current aides accusing him of sexual harassment, intimidation, and workplace bullying. In addition to these accusations, the Governor is under an ongoing investigation regarding his role in covering up 15,000 nursing home deaths. Despite these serious matters, the Governor still manages to hold onto his expanded emergency powers that my colleagues and I have been fighting to take away since last year.

Last Friday, Senate Bill S.5357, passed by the Democrat Majority, supposedly stripped emergency powers from the Governor. In this week's Wrap, I explain why their legislation was a complete sham. I also share my statement regarding the six serious and credible sexual harassment allegations and continued call for the Governor to resign or face bipartisan impeachment.

While it seems as if everything has recently been related to the Governor, there is plenty of other news that you will find in this week's Wrap! Details on Copake's Town Hall meeting, pool players heading back to the halls, \$3.1 million being awarded to our hard-working farmers, and my good friend and colleague State Senator Sue Serino being declared cancer-free! In a world of constant news, stories, and notifications, I hope you get a chance to unplug and spend some quality time in the fresh air with the ones you love this weekend!

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

**Copake virtual town hall**



Late last week, I attended the town hall virtual meeting about the Copake solar facility, hosted by Sensible Solar for Rural New York, where we talked about Hecate Energy's solar facility plans.

I stand with the Copake Town Supervisor Jeanne Mettler and many others in that this project is too big for the rural community by violating the zoning laws and will have a lasting, negative impact on the character and vitality of the community.

While renewable energy is a great step forward in clean energy production, many expressed that the scale and location of Hecate Energy's proposed project are not right for Copake. It is my hope that Hecate Energy can come up with a plan that is acceptable to the Town. Thank you again to Sensible Solar for this impressive and informational presentation. I will continue to advocate for the care of this great community!

### **HVCC Legislative Breakfast**



Whether one is pursuing a college degree or being trained for the many workforce careers in our Capitol Region, Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) cultivates a fantastic environment of exceptional learning and mentorship from the most qualified faculty.

I was happy to be with HVCC President Dr. Roger Ramsammy, Assemblymember John McDonald, Assemblyman Jake Ashby, and Dr. Patricia Klimkewicz, Dean of HVCC's School of Health Science (and also my 2020 Senate Woman of Distinction of the 43rd Senate District), at their Legislative Breakfast. Thank you HVCC!

**Cuomo Administration altered numbers on nursing home deaths**



◆ WSJ NEWS EXCLUSIVE

# Cuomo Advisers Altered Report on Covid-19 Nursing-Home Deaths

Changes resulted in a significant undercount of the death toll attributed to long-term-care facility residents



Melissa DeRosa, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's top aide, pictured with the governor in September 2018.

MARY ALTAFFER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

By *Joe Palazzolo* [+ Follow](#), *Jimmy Vielkind* [+ Follow](#)

More details continue to emerge into the Cuomo Administration's attempt to cover-up the true death toll of the Governor's deadly, disastrous decision to force nursing homes to accept COVID-19 positive patients. *Wall Street Journal* reporter Jimmy Vielkind covered this story

again, writing “New York Governor Andrew Cuomo’s top advisors successfully pushed state health officials to strip a public report of data showing that more nursing home residents had died of COVID-19 than the administration had acknowledged, according to people with knowledge of the report’s production.” These are incredibly serious allegations of malfeasance and potentially criminal acts by the Cuomo Administration in their attempted cover-up, which is being investigated by the Federal Department of Justice.

**New allegations of sexual harassment lodged against Governor Cuomo by six members of his staff**

ANDREW CUOMO · Published 1 hour ago

## **New former Cuomo aides accused Dem of sexual misconduct, reportedly inviting one to 'dimly lit hotel room'**

# Cuomo faces new sexual harassment allegation, this time at Executive Mansion

**Female aide claims governor touched her  
inappropriately; complaint reported to AG**

I said it before and I’ll say it again, Cuomo must go!

This past weekend, two more individuals have come forward with serious, credible allegations of Governor Cuomo’s continued sordid and wholly inappropriate workplace conduct. Then on Tuesday, another woman came forward, making a total of SIX sexual harassment claims. In light of these latest allegations, and now three other substantive accusations of sexual harassment, intimidation, and workplace bullying, and his outrageous,

illegal attempted cover-up of his culpability in the deaths of 15,000 senior citizens, it is clear: Governor Cuomo must resign, immediately.

I continue calling on the Governor to resign and end his destructive, deadly pattern of lying, bullying, cover-ups, deceit, deception, incompetence, and gross negligence. For the good of New York State, Cuomo must go!

### **Pool players heading back to the halls**



Billiard Halls are now open at 50 percent capacity, which is a step in the right direction. I continually advocated on behalf of these businesses, which remained closed for almost a full year while other similar facilities were allowed to reopen. I first sent a letter to the Governor in [October](#), then followed up again in [January](#) and again in [February](#). It is good to see real results from my advocacy. Hardworking New York small business owners are more than capable to reopen safely and sensibly.

**Sham Senate Bill S.5357 ([Click here to watch the video](#))**





Like many bills in the last two years, Senate Bill S.5357, the measure we voted on during last Friday's Senate Session, has been deceitfully marketed and falsely advertised. The Democratic Majorities in both houses are selling this as a bill to 'strip' the extraordinary emergency powers from Governor Cuomo, who has fallen into scandal and disgrace.

Rather than taking away Governor Cuomo's emergency powers, this bill extends them. There is no sunset clause or end date. The end is when the Governor decides the State emergency is

over. Meet the new ‘boss’... same as the old ‘boss.’

Nothing changes under the Democrat’s sham bill. There will still be one-man rule. The Governor will still control the number of guests you may have in your home for holiday dinners, the hours a restaurant may be open, the food that must be served when ordering a drink in a bar, the shuttering or not of any business.

He will still decide whether your child’s sports team can play, whether your child’s school can be open, whether services for the disabled are on or off and whether or not you can go to work. He will still have the power to control every aspect of our lives.

The bill still allows one-man rule, which is antithetical to our democracy.

Friday’s bill was a bag of bad goods. I’m not buying it, and neither should anyone else who genuinely wants to rescind the Governor’s extraordinary emergency powers.

**Sign my petition to end Governor Cuomo’s middle-class tax hike**



You may have seen some of my previous Weekly Wraps advocating for middle-class families regarding the Governor's proposal to eliminate the \$400M tax cut. I will not allow this issue to slip under the radar. We MUST protect the middle class from this tax hike, especially after such a hard year. I hear your concerns. I'm standing with you. [Sign my petition here](#) and make your voice heard!

**Recognizing American Red Cross Month**



## 2020 District Summary



- ✓ Responded to 35 local disasters
- ✓ Installed 100 free smoke alarms
- ✓ Kept 136 volunteers ready
- ✓ Held 229 blood drives
- ✓ Collected 10,956 units of blood
- ✓ Managed 83 SAF cases



My thanks to the American Red Cross, and their incredible, dedicated volunteers, for all they do in Senate District 43! March is American Red Cross Month and the perfect opportunity to recognize and support all of the many good works of the American Red Cross and the positive difference this wonderful organization makes in the lives of millions.

### Resources to help



**STRONG COMMUNITY**

**STARTS HERE**

Recently, my office met with the Troy Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (TRIP), Inc., which has had an incredible impact on the Capital Region, serving 15,000 families a year. Please feel free to share this information below so that all can know these services are available!

Homeowners, if you are struggling to pay your mortgage, get FREE assistance from HUD-approved nonprofit housing counseling agencies.

- Receive a personal review of foreclosure prevention options
- Receive a referral to legal service agencies

- Learn if you are eligible for a mortgage relief program
- Get help with lender negotiations

Your best options are available when you act sooner rather than later!

Visit HomeSave - Home ([www.homesave.info](http://www.homesave.info)), or call a number below:

- Affordable Housing Partnership (AHP), 518-434-1730
- Albany County Rural Housing Alliance, 518-765-2425 x2589
- Better Neighborhoods Inc., Schenectady 518-372-6469
- TRIP NeighborWorks HomeOwnership (TRIP), Rensselaer, 518-272-8289x7226

### **\$3.1M awarded to conserve farmland across New York**



As a long-time advocate for New York State's hard-working family farmers, I was happy to hear that a total of 15,600 acres across 22 New York farms will be protected via the Farmland Protection Implementation Grants (FPIG) program. According to a [Local News Channel 10 article](#), some of this funding will go to the following areas within the 43rd Senate District:

- **Agricultural Stewardship Association: \$1,438,623 for:**
  - Sheffer's Grassland Dairy in Hoosick and Pittstown, Rensselaer County
  - Lindgren Farm in Hebron, Washington County
  - Ro-Acres Farm in White Creek, Washington County
  - Swezey View Farm in Hartford, Washington County.
- **Columbia Land Conservancy: \$1,537,982 for:**
  - High Low Farm in Copake
  - Taking Care Farm in Ancram
- **Saratoga PLAN: \$870,826 for:**
  - Barber Brothers Dairy Farm II in the Northumberland
- **Agricultural Stewardship Association: \$1,374,555 for:**

- Hayfields Farm in Pittstown and Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County.

**My good friend Senator Sue Serino declared cancer-free**



This week, my friend and colleague, Senator Sue Serino, declared that she is cancer-free! I am so thankful for this wonderful news. In my last Weekly Wrap, you may recall my topic on the fight against Lyme disease. This is just one area that Senator Serino has had continued



leadership and advocacy in, who I stand alongside in calling for \$1.5 million to be included in this year's State Budget to fund research, prevention, and education to help combat the spread of Lyme disease. If Senator Serino can combat breast cancer, I know she can certainly combat Lyme for NYS residents! You can read the full article on Senator Serino being cancer-free [here](#).

## COVID-19 vaccine update

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE COVID-19 VACCINE? Eligible New Yorkers Include:	
✓ Age 60+	✓ People with Qualifying Comorbidities & Conditions
✓ Healthcare personnel	✓ Residents & Staff at Long Term Care Facilities
✓ Teachers & Child Care Workers	✓ Residents & Staff in Congregate Settings
✓ Public Transit Workers	✓ First Responders & Corrections Workers
✓ Grocery Store Workers	✓ Restaurant Workers & Restaurant Delivery Workers
✓ Hotel Workers	✓ For-Hire Vehicle Drivers

NYS residents ages 60+ are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. To learn more, [visit the New York State website here](#).

Calling on Governor Cuomo to resign ([Click here to see my press release](#))



As I called for last Saturday evening, in light of the recent, continued disturbing allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct against the Governor, his ongoing role in covering up New York's tragic nursing home death toll caused by his disastrous, deadly policy, and new

questions about the propriety of his book deal, it's clear that Andrew Cuomo has broken the public's trust and must immediately resign.

If the Governor won't resign then a bipartisan impeachment needs to move forward in the State Assembly. I want to be clear: I am calling for the Governor's resignation based on a totality of troubling, shocking, and deeply disturbing allegations and revelations.

While the Governor should be afforded due process, the fact remains that he faces six credible accusers claiming sexual harassment, inappropriate workplace behavior, intimidation, and an apparent refusal to follow proper protocols for reporting these serious allegations. I was one of five Republican State Senators who initially called for State Attorney General Letitia James to probe the serious harassment claims made against the Governor by current and former members of his staff. I'm glad to see this necessary investigation moving forward so his many accusers may be heard.

Equally important in my call for the Governor's immediate resignation is the ongoing Federal Department of Justice investigation into Governor Cuomo's attempt to cover up his, and his administration's, complicity in the deaths of 15,000 New Yorkers due to his disastrous, deadly mandate that forced nursing homes to accept COVID-19 patients, a terrible edict that led to the virus spreading like wildfire among the most vulnerable.

In addition to all of these concerns, the Governor's ongoing pattern of lies, deceptions, strong-arm tactics, bullying, incompetence, and utter mismanagement of the State Budget and our State finances, has also proven that he is unfit to remain in office.

I don't trust Governor Cuomo – and neither do a bipartisan number of New Yorkers who want our state to move beyond the serious ethical, personal, and governmental scandals engulfing this Governor. For the good of our state, Governor Cuomo must resign, immediately, or face bipartisan impeachment and removal.

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**THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE**