

THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 72 | MAY 7, 2021



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



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the May 7 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

BIG happenings this week:

- Advocating for landlords
- Introducing new legislation for Vietnam War Veterans
- Introducing legislation for 9/11 servicemen and women
- Calling on the NYS DOL to fix its broken unemployment system

Other important news:

- Town of Halfmoon hosts a Shop Local Event
- National Military Appreciation Month
- Lebanon Valley Speedway opening day
- Olana State Historic Site announces new partnership with Columbia-Greene Community College
- Noble Gas Solutions opens a third storefront location in South Glens Falls
- New York Transco's Groundbreaking Ceremony
- Town of Austerlitz Visit with Supervisor Rob Lagonia
- National Teacher Appreciation Week
- National Nurses Week
- Mother's Day!

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

Halfmoon Shop Local Event



This was our constituent services setup at the Halfmoon Shop Local Event on Saturday. It was a windy but beautiful day!

Celebrating Greek Orthodox Easter



To my Greek family and friends as we
celebrate Greek Orthodox Easter:

CHRISTOS ANESTI

My family and I celebrated Easter this past Sunday. Whether you celebrated this weekend or not, I hope you had some time with the ones you love!

National Military Appreciation Month



NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

Thank You
TO ALL OUR TROOPS & VETERANS

May is National Military Appreciation Month, and I want to fully extend my unwavering gratitude to our service members for their commitment and sacrifice to our great nation. Thank you.

Veterans, Homeland Security & Military Affairs



During my Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee meeting on Monday, I am happy to say that the committee approved my bill ([S2089](#)), an act to issue a New York State Vietnam War Service medal, affording the proper appreciation that's due to veterans of the Vietnam War. It has now been moved to the finance committee for its consideration.

September Eleventh Service Medal

"By creating a New York State September Eleventh Service Medal, we will better recognize the selflessness and willingness for sacrifice exemplified by our American heroes."

NYS SENATOR DAPHNE JORDAN, 43RD DISTRICT



In addition to the Vietnam War Service Medal, I am proud to be introducing legislation ([S6474](#)) that creates a New York State September Eleventh Service Medal in recognition of military and National Guard personnel who served in the response and recovery at Ground Zero. This September will be the 20th anniversary.

Lebanon Valley Speedway Opening Day



What a thrill to sit and watch the races for opening day this past Saturday with Lebanon Valley Speedway owner Howard Commander! I also got to say those four magic words... "Gentlemen, start your engines!" It was great to watch the races together, live and IN PERSON.

Advocating for Landlords



I voted against extending the “COVID-19 Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2020” and extending the “COVID-19 Emergency Protect Our Small Businesses Act of 2021” until August 31, 2021. Here's why:

- The bill accepts that NYS was not able to help tenants or small businesses by this past Saturday, May 1, which is when the current moratoriums expired. That’s unacceptable.
- NYS has been given \$2.4 billion in federal assistance to be specifically distributed to tenants and landlords. My colleagues and I have been asking for this to be distributed since LAST December.
- Now, the Budget Director stated that the APPLICATION for this financial relief won’t be ready until the end of May, while neighboring states are already distributing.
- If we wait any longer, this relief will not be nearly enough to help all landlords.
- NY needs to focus on getting IMMEDIATE assistance into the hands of these small businesses that are landlords, rather than extending it for another four months. This will only do more damage. Most cannot wait any longer.

Landlords may never recover because of this. Remember, time is money! It’s for these very reasons that I voted NO.

[WATCH MY FLOOR REMARKS HERE](#)

Calling for Action to Fix New York's Broken Unemployment System



On Tuesday, I stood with my colleagues calling for action to fix New York's broken unemployment system. Specifically, we are calling for:

1. A complete, forensic audit of the state's IT systems to identify failures and weaknesses, and to strengthen the digital infrastructure to avoid future catastrophic failures; and
2. An accurate and honest assessment of potential fraud and efforts to recoup it, particularly as the state's unemployment insurance fund is facing a \$10 billion deficit, leading to dramatic increases in costs to our small businesses.
3. A state tax break of up to \$10,200 on unemployment benefits collected during the pandemic last year, which would be in line with recently enacted federal exemption; and

4. A one-time forgiveness for unemployment overpayments, which the state Department of Labor is currently trying to claw back from struggling New Yorkers.

[VIEW MY LETTER TO THE NYSDOL HERE](#)

Olana State Historical Site Press Conference



On Tuesday morning I attended the [Olana State Historic Site](#) press conference, in Hudson NY, announcing the new internship and workforce development program with [Columbia-Greene Community College](#). This is an exciting partnership! I was happy to speak at this event and stand alongside Sean Sawyer, President of the Olana Partnership; Carlee Drummer, President of CGCC; Stacy Hill, PHD, Assistant Professor of Business; Rebecca Pinder, PHD, Associate Professor of Biological

Sciences; Provost George Timons, Dean of Administration; Daniel McKay, NYS OPRHP Deputy Commissioner of Historic Preservation; and Assemblywoman Didi Barrett.

It is fitting that they chose this date to announce the partnership because the famous American Painter Frederic Church, who called Olana home, was born that very day 195 years ago!

Noble Gas Solutions Ribbon Cutting



Congratulations to [Noble Gas Solutions](#) on the opening of their third storefront location in South Glens Falls!

The facility is 6,000-square-feet and includes a storefront retail area, offices, and warehouse space to store medical, specialty, industrial and consumer gases.

Thank you to my Community Liaison Debbie Curto for attending the event on my behalf. Shown below in the ribbon photo is Vice President Colleen Kohler, President David Mahoney, and Donna Mahoney. Also pictured speaking is Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Mike Bittel.

2020 marked the 80th anniversary of this beloved, family owned and operated business!

New York Transco's Groundbreaking Ceremony



It was great being at [New York Transco's](#) celebratory groundbreaking event Thursday morning for their energy solution project launch! The project originates in my 43rd Senate District in the Town of Schodack and included the towns of Stuyvesant, Stockport, Ghent, and Claverack. This is a terrific project and one I'm proud to have supported stretching back to 2019.

I'm pictured at yesterday's wonderful event with Transco NY President Vic Mullen, Chairman of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation Dave Fingar, IBEW Local 1249 Business Manager Mark Lawrence, VP and Senior Counsel for Transco NY Kathleen Carrigan, Director of Capital Projects James Mooney, Senior Project Manager Lisa Kettle, Construction Director Court Canfield, and Scott Wigger of Plummer and Wigger, LLC. It was fun being presented with a hard hat and safety vest, being made an Honorary Member of the NY Energy Solutions Construction Team!

The New York Energy Solution is vital toward improving our energy delivery system, which benefits residents and businesses. This initiative is critical toward improving function, reliability, and clean energy flows.

It will help alleviate electricity bottlenecks that currently exist and allow for greater use of clean energy produced upstate, improve grid resiliency and storm hardening, while upgrading and replacing existing 80-year-old structures with about 230 fewer, more modern structures.

When finalized, this project will relieve transmission system congestion and provide a more efficient and reliable flow of renewable energy from upstate resources to customers.

Our state needs power to grow and a more efficient, modernized transmission system to facilitate the supply of renewable energy, get our economy back on line to meet future demand, and get folks back to work. This project will help deliver all of that - and more.

This project was done the RIGHT way, which is so important to ensure broad support and community buy-in. There has been great public information sharing, clear communication, and coordination with all impacted community stakeholders and respect for local input have been hallmarks of this effort.

Local tax revenues will be generated, and many good-paying jobs will be supported by this project, two things that our state desperately needs more of.

After more than a year on lockdowns and our lives being turned upside down, getting our economy and communities successfully re-opened, getting us back to normal - not a new normal, but normal - are urgent priorities.

Town of Austerlitz visit with Supervisor Rob
Lagonia



During my visit today to the Town of Austerlitz in Columbia County, I had a great conversation with Austerlitz Town Supervisor Rob Lagonia and discussed local issues of concern to Austerlitz including broadband, cell service, and the Town's 64 miles of roads. Supervisor Lagonia also showed me the beautiful Austerlitz Town Hall that was refurbished and expanded without using taxpayer money. It includes a large meeting room, stain glass windows, a fire proof room for record keeping and other amenities. Many thanks to Supervisor Lagonia, I look forward to visiting again very soon!

Thanking our Teachers



Thank you to all of our teachers! They have undergone so many challenges in the past year, and we thank them for continuing to persevere and adapt through it to give our children the best education possible. We appreciate you!

National Nurses Week



This week, May 6-12, is Nurses Week. Nurses are constantly putting their health on the line for others, and I thank them for all their hard work & compassion. You are appreciated!

Celebrating Mothers



This Sunday is Mother's Day, and I want to say thank you to all the moms out there who go above and beyond to raise up the generations after us. You are appreciated!

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



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THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE
