



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



Dear Friend:

Welcome to the January 8, 2021 edition of my Weekly Wrap! I hope that you enjoyed the holidays and were able to safely spend some quality time with loved ones. For many, including myself, the holidays were much quieter than in previous years. However, it was wonderful spending the holidays with my husband and two sons.

The New Year is finally here and wrapped up with an important, positive decision by the New York State Farm Labor Wage Board in favor of our state farmers. We want to see our hard-working family farmers prosper, as they are the strong backbone of our economy. You can read more about the good for farmers in this week's Wrap.

In a previous Weekly Wrap, I mentioned a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the reopening at Bow Tie Cinemas. This past weekend, my husband and I were able to go and watch a movie at this very theater. It was terrific to see this local business safely re-open!

My office is receiving many questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and testing sites. I've included some helpful information on this important issue which you can see below. While some of the sites are located outside my 43rd Senate District, I wanted to provide you with a comprehensive listing, so individuals have as many options as possible. Also in my Weekly Wrap, you can read about our Senate Republican Conference's "Reset New York State" plan that my colleagues and I unveiled earlier this week.

Wednesday was the first day of Senate Session for 2021, and I was honored to stand with my colleagues as we took the oath of office. We stand ready to answer the challenges that this year will bring and are ready to advance big, bold solutions that can help all New Yorkers. You'll also read my public comment regarding the protest at the U.S. Capitol that turned violent and deadly. I will NEVER condone violence or lawlessness in any way, and there was no exception to what occurred Wednesday afternoon.

This week, we welcomed a new legislative session, and I especially want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, concern, or idea, email me at 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 to continue serving you in the New Year!

- Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District

NYS Farm Labor Wage Board Decision

FARM LABOR WAGE BOARD DECISION TO MAINTAIN OVERTIME THRESHOLD SUPPORTS ALL WHO DEPEND ON NY AGRICULTURE

The Farm Labor Wage Board made the right decision today to delay consideration of lowering the 60-hour farm labor overtime threshold during this unprecedented year. New York Farm Bureau President David Fisher supported Chair Brenda McDuffie's position of delaying a decision and avoiding any unintended consequences that could negatively impact New York's farmworkers, family farms and access to local food.

"I had encouraged giving the process more time to fully evaluate what a lower threshold would mean for all involved, especially with such limited data from this challenging year. I'd like to thank my fellow wage board members for their time and professionalism and encourage the Department of Labor to continue to work with the farming community to do what is best for our farms and employees. We need each other for agricultural production and our rural economies to flourish," said NYFB President Fisher.

New York Farm Bureau also thanks its members who testified and submitted written comments. The care they have for the men and women who are essential workers on their farms is evident. We all value their work and want the very best for farm employees, that includes the ability to earn a good livelihood in the profession they have chosen.

Late last week, the New York State Farm Labor Wage Board decided to delay a decision on lowering the 60-hour overtime threshold (the public comment from the New York Farm Bureau regarding the decision is posted above). I'm pleased that common sense and our advocacy prevailed! This was good news for our hard-working family farmers. Our farmers have such a small profit margin, meaning they cannot pay time and a half. I hope when the time comes to reevaluate, the Farm Labor Wage Board will see that lowering the 60-hour overtime threshold is not a good idea.

Bow Tie Cinema back in business!



As Weekly Wrap readers know, Bow Tie Cinema re-opened on December 18 and I was there for the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Last weekend, my husband Phil and I had a great time watching a new movie, Wonder Woman 1984, in a movie theater! It was socially distanced, sparkling clean, and a great time.

Columbia County COVID-19 testing update



At-home COVID-19 testing is available: LabCorp currently offers an at-home COVID-19 test, which can be viewed [here](#). This test does not detect antibodies or immunity. It is designed to determine active infection with the virus that

causes COVID-19. After completing a short eligibility survey, choose a billing option, which can be through personal insurance, the use of federal funds to cover the cost of this test if uninsured, or with a credit card. The test kit will arrive via FedEx. After collecting and returning the sample, the average time to deliver results is one-two days from when the sample is received at the lab, according to LabCorp.

Directly below is the latest update from Columbia County Department of Health that I received this afternoon:

**LATEST UPDATE FROM COLUMBIA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ON
COVID-19 VACCINATION SCHEDULE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
75 YEARS OR OLDER**

According to the Columbia County Department of Health, individuals who are 75 years or older may now call or email the Department of Health to register their names to sign up for COVID-19 vaccination when vaccinations for that group become available.

CALL: 518-828-3358, Listen to All Prompts to Go to Option #7

EMAIL: ccdoh@columbiacountyny.com (At this time, emails are preferred due to the overwhelming volume of calls being received for COVID-19 related issues.)

LEAVE A MESSAGE OR SEND AN EMAIL WITH THE FOLLOWING:

Name

Date of Birth

Best Contact Information – Telephone Number/Email Address

INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE 75 AND OLDER WHO CALL OR EMAIL TO SIGN UP SHOULD NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE A RETURN CALL OR EMAIL AT THIS TIME. THOSE INDIVIDUALS WILL BE CONTACTED ONCE VACCINATIONS FOR THOSE 75 AND OVER ARE AVAILABLE. ONCE THAT PHASE BEGINS, THOSE WHO HAVE SIGNED UP WILL RECEIVE A CALL OR EMAIL WITH INFORMATION ABOUT WHERE AND HOW TO RECEIVE THE VACCINATION.

VACCINATIONS WILL BE ADMINISTERED AT MOBILE CLINICS RUN BY THE COLUMBIA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. AT THIS TIME, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DOES NOT HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT WHICH TYPE OF VACCINE WILL BE AVAILABLE NOR THE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF THE MOBILE CLINICS.

Phase IA

New York State is currently in Phase IA of the vaccination program. This is the phase during which only healthcare providers and nursing-home and long-term care employees and residents are receiving vaccinations.

Phase IB

Phase IB is the phase during which individuals who are 75 years or older will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination. According to New York State, this will be the next vaccination phase of the state's vaccination program. Columbia County Department of Health hopes to begin this next phase – which can only begin under directive from the NYS Health Department – by the end of January. Columbia County Health Department emphasizes that this timetable is not guaranteed. The timetable depends on vaccine availability and distribution.

For more information: Go to

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/phased-distribution-vaccine>

January 7, 2021

Rensselaer County COVID-19 test information



Rensselaer County Test Result Information

- Phone: 518-270-2659 (Monday-Friday, 9-4)
- On weekends, please leave a voicemail with your name and number and your call will be returned on Monday

Rensselaer County Department of Health Urgent After Hours

- Phone: 518-857-4660
- For Health Department issues that cannot wait for the next business day

Rensselaer County Department of Social Services

- Phone: 518-266-7800/518-266-7850

Rensselaer County Department for the Aging

- Phone: 518-270-2730 9-5 M-F
- After Hours: 518-270-2767

Rensselaer County Mental Health Department

- 24-Hour Hot Line: 518-270-2800

Rensselaer County COVID-19

- Email: Coronainfo@rensco.com

CAN I GET TESTED FOR COVID-19?

If you think you need to be tested for COVID-19, you have choices: Contact your health care provider.

- **UAlbany Test Site:** Call the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) 2019 Novel Coronavirus 24-hour hotline at 1-888-364-3065 to schedule an appointment to be tested. Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30 & Saturday 8:30-2:30. No walk-ins are allowed at the UAlbany testing site. You must make an appointment and be in a vehicle.
- **Rensselaer County:** The IMA Group and Lab is doing testing for symptomatic residents. Appointments are NECESSARY and can be made by calling:

Phone: 1-800-245-4245

Address: 85 Bloomingrove Dr., Troy NY (Van Rensselaer Manor)

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-4.

- **Community Care Physicians Urgent Care:** Accepts walk-ins. Also provides COVID-19 Antibody Testing for patients
Phone: 518-782-3888
Address: 711 Troy Schenectady Rd. Latham, NY
Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (**Suite 109**)
Monday-Friday from 5 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., weekends from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.) and holidays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (**Suite 102**)
- **Whitney M. Young, Jr Health Center:** Phone (518) 465-4771 ext. 3506 to be screened for a testing appointment. Sites and hours vary.
- **CVS Albany- Limited appointments, must call ahead**
Phone: 866-389-2727
Address: 885 Central Ave, Albany
Hours: Verify when scheduling an appointment.
- **Rite Aid Troy:** Make an appointment online at riteaid.com
Phone: 518-272-1355
Address: 83 Vandenburg Ave, Troy
Hours: Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m.- 8 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m.- 5 p.m.
- **WellNow Urgent Care:** Offers COVID-19 testing and COVID-19 antibody testing at all locations.
 - **Latham:** 800 New Loudon Rd, Latham, NY 12110
Phone: (518) 218-4220
Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 - **Albany:** 1438 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203
Phone: (518) 649-9986
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - **Clifton Park:** 1694 U.S. 9, Clifton Park, NY 12065
Phone: (518) 930-7486
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - **Niskayuna:** 445 Balltown Road, Schenectady, NY 12305
Phone: (518) 387-3566
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - **Hudson:** 446 Fairview Avenue, Hudson, NY 12534
Phone: (518) 267-3496
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- **Walgreens Albany**– Offers Rapid testing for symptomatic individuals
Address: 41 Holland Ave.
Phone: 518-426-2976
Hours: Monday-Friday: 9-5
- Visit the [NYSDOH COVID-19 Testing and Assessment Webpage](#)

Saratoga County COVID-19 Information

Saratoga County



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Saratoga County Public Health Services

- COVID-19 Hotline: 518-885-2276. 7 days/week, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- New York State Department of Health Hotline: 1-888-364-3065. 7 days/week, 8 a.m. -4 p.m.

Reset New York State press conference



On Tuesday afternoon, my Senate Republican colleagues and I stood up for the working men and women of New York State by calling for a safe restart of our economy, rethinking how our state operates, and renewing our commitment to residents. We unveiled our “Reset New York State” plan designed to achieve these goals by helping our small businesses safely reopen, rethinking state government’s overspending and overuse of emergency powers, foster the growth of our communities, and ultimately reset New York State to help provide a better, brighter future for everyone. To read our full press release that has more details on our newly unveiled Reset New York State plan, click [here](#).

First day of Senate Session for 2021



This past Wednesday was the first day of our 2021 Senate Session! I'm pictured above proudly taking the oath of office with my Senate Republican colleagues. My colleagues and I, the "Band of Twenty," will be a bold voice for the millions of New Yorkers we represent this term. We will continue to fight for a healthy and strong New York as we work to build it back.

My comment on the outrageous lawlessness at the U.S. Capitol

The following is the public comment I issued Wednesday afternoon in response to the shocking, unlawful, and completely unacceptable violence that took place at our nation's capitol.

"The violence at the U.S. Capitol Wednesday afternoon was an outrage. Yes to peaceful protest and our Constitution, NO to lawlessness and rioting. My prayers go out for the safety of the U.S. Capitol police and for a swift end to this."

Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund



The restaurant industry has been one of the hardest-hit sectors through the COVID-19 pandemic. More action needs to be taken to help these hardworking business owners and employees that are such a vital part of our economy. There's a new program launching, the "Raising the NYS Bar Restaurant Recovery Fund," in an effort to help support our local bars and restaurants. Starting Monday, January 11, full-service restaurants, and bars can apply for \$5,000 state grants. For more information, click [here](#).

Current updates regarding the COVID-19 vaccine



Group 1a qualifies to receive the vaccine first, this includes healthcare workers. There are 2 million healthcare workers in the state, and there are 900,000 vaccines. Distribution is not the issue, but supply is.

Group 1b will be receiving the vaccine second, which includes police officers, firefighters, teachers, public safety, and those over 75-years old. There are 3 million people in this category, and the vaccines will be distributed by private sectors, including EMS/EMT for first responders, pharmacies for residents over 75, and health networks within schools and public safety for the teachers and public safety workers. Again, distribution is not the issue, but the short of supply is.

Be assured that our NYS hospitals are making real progress. They are now administering over 50,000 vaccinations a day. In the meantime, stay safe. We are all in this together!

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518-455-2381

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Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
518-371-2751



THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE