

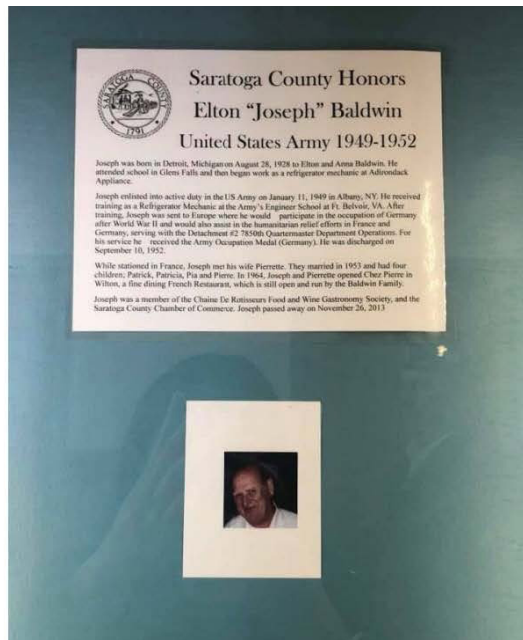


Dear Friend:

Good afternoon and welcome to my Weekly Wrap for January 24. This edition of my Weekly Wrap shares updates regarding Saratoga County's Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Program, the 2020-21 Executive Budget, my new tax cut accelerator legislation, a Beef Jerky Outlet grand opening, Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) funding restoration efforts for Saratoga Springs, and more. I hope you enjoy this edition of my Weekly Wrap and wish you another wonderful winter weekend!

– Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District

### Saratoga County's Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Ceremony



Tuesday, January 21 was Saratoga County's Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Ceremony honoring U.S. Army Veteran Elton "Joseph" Baldwin. Joseph enlisted in the U.S. Army on January 11, 1949, in Albany and trained as a refrigerator mechanic at the Army's Engineer School at Ft. Belvoir, VA. After training, Joseph served in Europe where he participated in the occupation of Germany after WWII and assisted with humanitarian relief efforts serving with the Detachment #2 7850th quartermaster Department Operations. He was discharged on September 10, 1952, and, for his service, was awarded the Army Occupation Medal. While in France, he met his wife Pierrette and, after the war, they opened Chez Pierre in Wilton, which is still owned and operated by the Baldwin Family. Joseph was a member of the Chaine De Rotisseurs Food and Wine Gastronomy Society and the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. Joseph passed away on November 26, 2013. We honor the faithful, dedicated service of U.S. Army Veteran Elton "Joseph" Baldwin and the Baldwin Family who are pictured above.

### **2020-21 Executive Budget Released**

Also on Tuesday, the Governor unveiled his 2020-21 Executive Budget. Presentation of the Executive Budget marks the formal start of the annual budget process in Albany. With its emphasis on billions more in government spending, looming new mandates on local governments, little to address New York's affordability crisis, and failure to recognize the serious public safety threat caused by the Democrats' disastrous bail reform, the Governor's 2020-21 Executive Budget represented more of the same when our state is calling out for bold change. I was especially disappointed that the Governor thinks bail reform is "an ongoing process." It's not; it's a public safety disaster that's seen the release of many dangerous criminals back into our communities. Despite the Governor's claims about achieving "balance" between Upstate and Downstate, there is no real parity in critical areas such as transportation and school funding. The Governor's mention of low unemployment while one-in-three New Yorkers are on Medicaid, the state has a \$6.2 billion budget deficit, and millions of New Yorkers continue leaving demonstrates the serious, severe disconnect between Albany and reality. As the 2020-21 State Budget process moves forward, I'll fight for a responsible spending plan that rejects tax hikes, Albany mandates, and fiscal gimmicks. Next week, the Senate's analysis of the Governor's Executive Budget proposal is expected to be available. I'll share a link to that analysis in my next Weekly Wrap so you can see more details regarding the Executive Budget.

### **New Tax Cut Accelerator Legislation**

In 2017, the State Legislature enacted landmark middle class tax cuts that will save taxpayers billions of dollars of their hard-earned money and help tens of thousands of small businesses grow, thrive, and create new jobs. This tax cut, part of Chapter 59 of 2017, was set to be phased in for 2018 to 2024. The harsh reality of New York's affordability crisis is that taxnavers need real relief and they need it NOW! That's why I introduced new legislation – Senate Bill S.7365 – that would ACCELERATE the rate of the tax cut by expediting its implementation by one year, effectively implementing 2022 projected rates in 2021. My legislation is estimated to save taxpayers \$438 million. That's serious savings for overtaxed, overburdened New Yorkers. I'm hopeful my common-sense solution will receive bipartisan support. You can view the details of my new Senate bill at this link: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s7365>.

## Beef Jerky Outlet Grand Opening



Wednesday was the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the 3rd location of the Beef Jerky Outlet in Saratoga Springs. The first location was Latham in 2017, and the second location is a pop-up store at Crossgates Mall. The outlet features over 100 varieties of premium and delicious jerky including exotic meats, gourmet snacks, jams, jellies, and hot sauces. The outlet also carries some locally-made products including honey, maple, and cheese. Owner brothers Mike and Tim Kinally and Cory Leggiero are pictured above. Good luck in your terrific new location, it's wonderful to have another great business in the 43rd Senate District!

## Fighting for VLT Funding

The 2020-21 Executive Budget's proposed elimination of Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Aid to the cities outside of Yonkers would result in the City of Saratoga Springs losing \$2,325,592 in VLT Aid. This constitutes a serious, significant hit to not only Saratoga Springs' finances but Saratoga County as well. Saratoga Springs and Saratoga County have continually exercised fiscal responsibility in their budgeting and cannot afford to absorb such a consequential financial impact caused by the loss of VLT

Aid. Saratoga Springs is home to the world-renowned Saratoga Racecourse, Racino and is the premier destination for racing, wagering, culture, arts, and entertainment. The Racino has contributed over \$1 billion to New York State education since January 2004. Saratoga Springs' draws tens of thousands of guests annually and the resulting influx of visitors puts incredible strain on the city, and particularly the Saratoga Springs Police Department. VLT Aid directly helps Saratoga Springs alleviate some of those considerable costs without overburdening local taxpayers.

Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner and I partnered together and sent a letter to the Governor urging the full restoration of VLT Aid for Saratoga Springs. You can view our letter here: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-jordan-and-assemblywoman-woerner-seek-restoration-vlt>. I'll keep you updated on our ongoing, bipartisan efforts to see this vital funding restored!

### Guaranteed Rate Open House



This week also featured an open house and ribbon cutting hosted by Guaranteed Rate and Laura Staerker to celebrate their new location in the City of Hudson. Also featured above is the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jeffrey Hunt at the event. Congratulations to the entire team at Guaranteed Rate!

### Halfmoon Winter Carnival: Tomorrow, Saturday, January 25



Tomorrow (Saturday, January 25), from 2 to 5 p.m., is the Halfmoon Winter Carnival happening at Halfmoon Town Hall. There will be plenty of family-friendly fun at Halfmoon's Winter Carnival tomorrow including fireworks, a bounce house, mac n' cheese cook-off, live ice sculpture demonstration, face painting, balloon artist, bonfire, live music by Dos Amigos and much more!

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