



Dear Friend:

Happy Valentine's Day and welcome to the February 14, 2020 edition of my Weekly Wrap! This week's edition features an update on the Green Light Law's negative impact on New York State and also includes a special update on my good friend Halfmoon Deputy Town Supervisor and Town Councilman Paul Hotaling who is battling cancer and is an inspiration to us all. In addition, this week's Wrap highlights the recent Park-Halfmoon Fire Department Annual Inspection Dinner, the Annual Pittstown Fire Installation Banquet, and my meetings and visit with the YMCA and Scenic Hudson. All this and more are contained in this latest edition of my Weekly Wrap. Have a terrific weekend! – **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Green Light Law Continues Impacting New Yorkers

In light of the reckless "Green Light Law" that hands out state driver's licenses to illegal immigrants, the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that it would no longer let New Yorkers enroll in its "trusted traveler" programs. The program was suspended because New York's Green Light Law blocked federal immigration officials from accessing motor vehicle records, thus compromising the integrity of our state's driver's licenses as a verifiable form of identification. This is not just an identity problem, but also one of public safety. These are some of the law's many negative outcomes that I warned against last year. You can read my comments on this issue in the article linked here:

<https://tinyurl.com/va5mwnj>

We Stand With Paul





On Saturday, it was a packed house at the Fairways of Halfmoon for Halfmoon Deputy Supervisor Paul Hotaling who is fighting mantle cell lymphoma. Food and many wonderful raffle prizes were donated for this important fundraiser. My good friend and community liaison, Debbie Curto, attended with me (and is also pictured above with Paul). She is one of Paul's inspirations as a two-time cancer survivor herself. Blessings to both. As we all say, "Paul, you've got this!"

Pittstown Fire Installation Banquet





Saturday was the Annual Pittstown Fire Installation Banquet. Rensselaer County Legislator and my Director of Constituent Services Dan Casale represented me and presented Fire Chief Jason Harris with a 75th Anniversary congratulatory Senate Certificate to observe the occasion. Congrats to Chief Harris and Pittstown-Fire-Rescue on 75 years of excellence in protecting and serving our community, we are forever grateful for your service!

Attending the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire Department Inspection Dinner



Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire District #1



Second to None!



Annual Inspection Dinner
February 8, 2020



On Saturday evening, I had a terrific time attending the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire Department Annual Inspection Dinner held at the Mohawk River Country Club and Chateau. I attended with my husband Phil Jordan, along with Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh, Halfmoon Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen and his wife Rebecca Tollisen, Halfmoon Town Councilman John Wasielewski, who gave our opening prayer, Commissioner Arthur Hunsinger, who served as our Master of Ceremonies, and Bob Jacobowski, who was named "Firefighter of the Year." Supervisor Tollisen and Clifton Park Town Supervisor Phil Barrett swore in the officers. My congratulations to everyone at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Fire Department, thank you for your dedicated service to our communities!

Meeting with YMCA Advocates

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On Tuesday, I met with advocates from the YMCA regarding their priorities for the 2020-21 State Budget (we're pictured above). Shannon Bristol-Romanowski, District Executive Director, Greenbush Branch, shared two of the YMCA's important areas with me. The first was the YMCA's "Safety Around Water Program," a water safety program for children of all ages and backgrounds to learn life-saving water skills to prevent drowning. As "America's Swim Instructor," the YMCA teaches one million children to swim each year in the U.S. As a Swim Mom, I know that teaching children how to be safe around water isn't a luxury; it's a necessity! The second was the YMCA's support for civic engagement programs like Youth and Government that teach middle and high school teens the principles of civic engagement. The Y's suite of civic engagement programs is delivered through partnering YMCAs and local school districts across NYS, having served 5,000 students over the past 10 years. They now engage over 550 high school youth and 325 middle school youth each year from across our state in learning programs that build, strengthen and encourage life assets and positive character traits. Thank you again to the YMCA for sharing your priorities with me!

Senate Democrat Proposes Bill to Criminalize Law Enforcement

Also on Tuesday, Democrat Senator James Sanders introduced new legislation, Senate Bill S.7723, that would criminalize prosecutors and law enforcement officers by creating the new, so-called crime of "Circumvention of Bail Reform." Senate Democrats want to criminalize law enforcement while killers, pedophiles, and serial offenders continue being released on a daily basis thanks to the Democrats' disastrous bail "reform" law. The fact that this abhorrent bill was introduced mere days after the attempted assassinations of NYPD officers, and a public plea from NYPD Police Commissioner Shea to stop the anti-police rhetoric, illustrates the utter disdain and contempt Senate Democrats have for the men and women of law enforcement and the rule of law. Our heroes who risk their lives to protect and serve deserve better than this latest outrageous assault on them, decency, and common sense. While the enacting clause for this legislation has since been stricken, the fact that it was introduced at all was terrible. You can read the bill here: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s7723>.

Taking Part in the Racing, Gaming and Wagering Roundtable



As the Ranking Republican Member on the Senate's Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee, I took part in Wednesday's Roundtable Discussion regarding unused NYS casino licenses. Senate Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee Chairman Joseph Addabbo hosted the roundtable. We discussed the economic impact on the three unused downstate casino licenses and I advocated for the needs of my 43rd Senate District, home to the world-renowned Saratoga Race Course and the Saratoga Casino Hotel.

Meeting with Scenic Hudson

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On Thursday, my good friend Pete Bardunias, Senior Vice President of Community Advancement at the Capital Region Chamber, and members of Scenic Hudson visited my Albany office. They met with my Legislative Director Pat Cronin and discussed their legislative priorities for the Environmental Protection Fund and other environmental programming that helps keep communities green and economically healthy. Their discussion focused on the great work and partnerships formed to restore and promote the river, lands, and waterfronts of the Hudson River. Thank you for visiting and sharing your priorities!

Village of Waterford Consolidated Fire Station Project Groundbreaking





Earlier today, I was honored to speak at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Village of Waterford's Consolidated Fire Station Project. I'm pictured above with Village Mayor Bert Mahoney (who also was past Fire Chief), Assemblymember John McDonald, and Suzanna Randall, Deputy Director Community Reconstruction and Infrastructure at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery. Also at today's ceremony were Waterford Town Supervisor Jack Lawler and Fire Chief Donald Baldwin. This impressive project is a 15,000 square foot, \$7 million facility consolidating three Fire Department buildings, with a centralized building serving as a command center during future emergencies. The consolidated facility will help maximize the efficiency of departmental operations on a more routine basis. The three aforementioned Fire Departments consist of Knickerbocker Steam Co #1, JW Ford Hose Company, and CH Kavanaugh Hook & Ladder. The oldest Village Fire Department building was built in 1867 and is actually still in use. Congratulations to everyone in the Village of Waterford on this terrific new project — and thank you to all of our courageous firefighters who protect and serve Waterford and all of our communities!

VLT Funding Restoration Update

The Saratogian recently ran a news article covering my and Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner's bipartisan effort to restore VLT Host Aid for municipalities outside of Yonkers. Unless revised, the Governor's proposed VLT Host Aid elimination would cost Saratoga Springs \$2.3 million and Saratoga County over \$775,000, negatively affecting local budgets and local taxpayers. I'll keep working to restore this vital funding. You can read the Saratogian article that has more details on the issue at this link: https://www.saratogian.com/news/jordan-woerner-advocate-for-restoration-of-vlt-aid-to-saratoga/article_ffd8ca18-c0d1-5f16-9835-09c7954afd8b.html.

Albany Office:

508 Legislative Office Bldg
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-2381

District Office:

1580 Columbia Tpke, Bldg 2 Ste 1
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
518-371-2751



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