

Subject: Weekly Wrap: Welcoming businesses, recognizing local excellence, celebrating a new Purple Heart Community, & MORE!



Dear Friend:

Welcome to the February 21 edition of my Weekly Wrap. Inside this week's edition, you'll read about some of the latest business ribbon-cuttings in the 43rd Senate District, celebrating Saratoga Springs as a new Purple Heart Community, and my partnering with Veterans Service Agency Directors Gary Flaherty, Peter Goebel, and Frank McClement in seeking to restore state funding for the Dwyer Program that helps our heroes. All of this and a lot more are in this latest edition of my Weekly Wrap e-newsletter delivered right to your inbox. Have a terrific weekend! – **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Bound By Fate Farm Brewery Ribbon-Cutting





Last Friday, was the Bound by Fate Farm Brewery official ribbon-cutting and grand opening in the historic Village of Schuylerville. Pictured above are Mayor Dan Carpenter, Pam Prachadith-Demler, owner, the Demler family, Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, my Community Liaison Halie Northrop who represented me at this event, and Pete Bardunias, Senior Vice President of Community Advancement at the Capital Region Chamber. Small businesses provide jobs to more than half of all New Yorkers and are a vitally important economic engine for our economy. As the former owner of two successful small businesses, I understand firsthand the serious challenges facing small businesses

and will continue advocating for job creators, and a stronger economy for all, as State Senator.

Town of Halfmoon Recognized for Excellence in Safety





On Tuesday, the Town of Halfmoon was recognized for excellence in safety, receiving the “Risk and Responsibility Award” at the Association of Towns

meeting in New York City (pictured above). This recognition was truly an honor for all of the Halfmoon staff who work so hard and are incredibly dedicated to serving the community and making our Town a better place for everyone. I'm so proud – Halfmoon Proud – of my hometown and the entire Halfmoon team on their receiving this prestigious award!

Cutting the Ribbon at Gordmans







Tuesday was also the official ribbon-cutting ceremony at Gordmans at Fairview Plaza in Greenport. Gordmans is an off-price chain focusing on apparel, home decor, footwear, gifts, accessories, and fragrances. By year's end, Gordmans will have opened 700 stores nationwide. I was proud to welcome this business with Kathleen Eldridge, Greenport Town Supervisor, and Jeff Hunt, President, and CEO of the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce. The ribbon-cutting also featured the Hudson Senior High School Jazz Band and some great toe-tapping music. As a vested partner in the community, Gordmans presented Hudson Senior High School with a \$1,000 donation. Congratulations to all at Gordmans!

Saratoga Springs Becomes Newest “Purple Heart City”







Additionally, on Tuesday, the City of Saratoga Springs officially became a “Purple Heart City,” joining municipalities across my 43rd Senate District as a “Purple Heart Community.” Several other municipalities have also committed to passing local resolutions to become Purple Heart Communities in the next couple of months. I presented a framed New York State Senate Proclamation honoring the event during the Saratoga Springs City Council’s Session. I’m pictured above with Saratoga Springs Supervisor Matthew E. Veitch; Saratoga Springs Commissioner of Accounts John Franck; Saratoga Springs Public Safety Commissioner Robin Dalton; Saratoga Springs Commissioner of Finance Michele Madigan; Saratoga Springs Mayor Meg Kelly, Saratoga Springs Commissioner of Public Works Anthony “Skip” Scirocco, and Saratoga Springs Supervisor Tara Gaston. City

resident Tony Izzy found a Purple Heart Medal that Saratoga Springs Mayor Meg Kelly is pictured above holding. The Purple Heart is America's oldest military decoration awarded to individuals wounded or killed while serving in our nation's military. Thank you, Saratoga Springs, for recognizing America's Purple Heart heroes – and thank you to all of our veterans and active-duty military who serve and sacrifice so we may remain free! **Special Note:** In a previous edition of my Weekly Wrap, the Town of Nassau was inadvertently omitted as one of the early Purple Heart Communities. In fact, the Town of Nassau became a Purple Heart Community back on November 14, 2019. Prior to that, the Town also successfully instituted Veteran Parking in the community. Thank you to Supervisor David Fleming, and the Town of Nassau, for your continued commitment, care, and concern in honoring our veterans and for recognizing New York's courageous Purple Heart recipients!

Advocating for Dwyer Program Funding to Help our Heroes

Last Friday, I proudly partnered with Veterans Service Agency Directors Gary Flaherty (Columbia County), Peter Goebel (Rensselaer County), and Frank McClement (Saratoga County), in writing the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, and Assembly Speaker requesting restoration of \$3.7 million in funding for the Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer-to-Peer Program within the final 2020-21 State Budget. This funding restoration is of vital importance for New York's veterans who served with patriotism, professionalism, and pride. Created through the 2012-13 State Budget, the Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer-to-Peer Program is a groundbreaking initiative that helps veterans dealing with the invisible wounds of war, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury

(TBI), and depression. The program empowers veterans to meet with other veterans in a safe, secure, comfortable atmosphere so they may help one another by providing life-saving counseling services and support. Military veterans are much more likely to confer in, and trust, their peers who have endured similar experiences. The urgent need for this program is without question as an estimated 400,000 service members live with depression, PTSD, and TBI. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has estimated that 11% to 20% of returning soldiers from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom suffer from PTSD. Additionally, individuals suffering from PTSD are six times more likely to commit suicide. Last year, after our advocacy for a successful restoration, funding for this life-saving program totaled \$3.7 million, reaching 23 counties across our state, including Columbia (\$100,000), Rensselaer (\$145,000), and Saratoga (\$185,000), all of which reside in my 43rd Senate District. Funding for veterans' programs is not a luxury, it is a priority. The Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer-to-Peer Program is wholly deserving of a full restoration in the 2020-21 State Budget and I am hopeful we will see this valuable funding restored. You can read our letter at my Senate website at this link: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-jordan-veterans-service-agency-directors-gary-flaherty>.

Boots to Business Reboot SBA Course Takes Place March 7

STARTING OR GROWING A VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS

Sign up for Boots to Business Reboot, an entrepreneurship training program for veterans and their spouses.

OWNING A VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS

Veterans have the character, discipline and skills needed to succeed as small business owners and entrepreneurs. Wondering what it takes and how you can prepare? Enroll in Boots to Business Reboot.

ABOUT BOOTS TO BUSINESS REBOOT

Boots to Business Reboot is a two-step training program that provides participants an overview of business ownership as a career vocation, an outline and knowledge on the components of a business plan, a practical exercise in opportunity recognition, and an introduction to available public and private sector resources.

Step one is the Introduction to Entrepreneurship course eligible to Veterans of all eras, service members (including members of the National Guard and Reserve) and their spouses. This course is instructed by SBA and its partners, who are skilled business advisors.

Step two is one of the online follow-on courses instructed by a consortium of professors and skilled business advisors from the SBA Network. Please email the team at boot-to-business@sba.gov if you've already attended an in-person Boots to Business class, and wish to sign-up for an online course.

Note: All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact: the Boots to Business team at 202-205-8381 or email boot-to-business@sba.gov.

Saturday, March 7, 2020

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Division of Military Naval Affairs
330 Old Niskayuna Road
Latham, NY 12110

Atrium Class Room 205

For More Information

Email: aamoroso@arsenalpartnership.com

Call: (518) 326-6328

To register for a Reboot class:

<https://sbavets.force.com>

For Additional Information:

Call: Darlene Stanton – 518-470-7310

BROUGHT TO YOU LOCALLY BY:



The Boots to Business Reboot program is provided through the coordinated efforts of the SBA and the following valued partners:



LEARN MORE AT
WWW.SBA.GOV/BOOTSTOBUSINESSREBOOT

AND FOLLOW US AT
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AND ON
TWITTER.COM/BOOTS2BUSINESS

As mentioned in a previous edition of my Weekly Wrap, Emil Baker, New York State Director of Employer Outreach ESGR at the U.S. Department of Defense is promoting an upcoming Boots to Business Reboot. This is a free SBA entrepreneurship-training course available for all veterans and current military members. The informative course will focus on how to open a Veteran-Owned Business and is being held at the NYS Division of Military & Naval Affairs in Latham on Saturday, March 7. A flyer with more details on Boots to Business Reboot is featured above. Don't miss out on this free training! For more information, email aamoroso@arsenalpartnership.com, or call (518) 326-6328.

Ongoing Impact of Bail “Reform”

The New York Post recently ran a story highlighting the negative impact of New York’s new bail “reform” law on local District Attorneys, in particular, the Nassau County District Attorney’s Office. The Post’s story chronicles how all of the new paperwork requirements, mandates, workload and costs imposed by the law are already negatively affecting District Attorney Offices. This story is worth a close read and is linked here: <https://nypost.com/2020/02/13/nassau-da-walloped-by-bail-reform-officials-say-at-long-island-event/>.

Bag Ban Update

On March 1, 2020, certain plastic shopping bags will be banned across New York State. This was one of many provisions inserted into last year’s 2019-20 State Budget that I voted against. There is a great deal of confusion about the upcoming bag ban caused by a lack of clear and consistent information coming from Albany. Below is a link to a recent video by News Channel 13 reporter Asa Stackel discussing New York’s forthcoming bag ban in detail. I encourage you to watch this segment that shares important facts and feedback about the bag ban, along with its likely financial impact on consumers, as well as other key details: <https://wnyt.com/investigative-news/new-york-plastic-bag-ban-/5643585/>.

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