

From: "Senator Daphne Jordan" <jordan@nysenate.gov>

Date: Friday, June 12, 2020 02:26PM

Subject: Weekly Wrap: Reopening resources, helping New Yorkers secure unemployment benefits, legislative successes & MORE!



Dear Friend:

Good afternoon, happy Friday, and welcome to my Weekly Wrap for the week ending June 12, 2020! Lots of good news to share in this week's edition including:

- **Reopening resources to help businesses in Saratoga County re-open safely, sensibly, and successfully**
- **My continued focus on helping New Yorkers who are STILL waiting for benefits from the State Department of Labor**
- **Recognizing the 76th anniversary of D-Day**
- **Successfully advocating for on-site summer school for students with specialized needs**
- **Calling on the Governor to provide waivers for the reopening of Triform Camphill Community, Day Habilitation services, and a boutique fitness facility in South Glens Falls to reopen safely and successfully**
- **Saluting my 8th round of Hometown Heroes from my 43rd Senate District**

All this and more are here in my Weekly Wrap. Have a terrific weekend everyone! – **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Saratoga County online reopening resource



- **Latest News**
- **Business Reopening Resources**
- **Business Safety Plans**
- **PPE Resources**
- **Financial Support**
- **Regional & County Metrics**
- **Child Care Resources**
- **Membership**
- **Contact Us**

FAQs

The Capital Region has been cleared to begin **Phase 2** of the reopening process



As more regions, sectors, and segments of our economy continue moving forward and reopen, Saratoga County has a terrific online resource that provides vital, updated

information and tools to help our businesses reopen safely, sensibly, and successfully. As the website (pictured above) says, the goal is helping businesses in Saratoga County “reopen, restore, and recover.” Saratoga County’s website contains important information including the latest news, business reopening resources, business safety plans, PPE resources, financial support, regional and county metrics, and childcare resources. I encourage you to access Saratoga County’s informative and helpful website at the following link:

<https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/county-reopening/>.

Continuing to help New Yorkers with unemployment assistance



After my Weekly Wrap was sent last Friday, I was contacted by a sharp-eyed constituent who raised an excellent point inquiring why there was no mention of the continued backlog of unemployment claims at the State Department of Labor? This excellent point was well-taken! Unfortunately, thousands of New Yorkers are STILL waiting for their unemployment benefits and the state’s system is still too cumbersome, time-consuming, and frustrating. Dan Casale, my Director of Constituent Services continues working hard to help constituents receive their benefits.

In fact, as of Thursday, my office saw 465 constituents’ email for help and there have been 1,506 exchanged emails between my office and the State Department of Labor regarding unemployment claims. In the last four days, my office had 34 constituents, new and old cases, request assistance due to not being called or helped by the State Department of Labor.

These constituents have been waiting to hear back from the Department, often waiting anywhere from 1 to 61 days AFTER applying for their benefits back in March. These long delays by the State Department of Labor are unacceptable!

If you or a loved one are still waiting for assistance from the State Department of Labor regarding an unresolved or unprocessed unemployment claim, please call my district office at (518) 371-2751 and ask for Dan Casale who will do everything he can to assist you!

More special deliveries









Last week, I once again was out delivering New York State Hand Sanitizer to businesses and local governments throughout my 43rd Senate District. It's so important that businesses and localities have the resources they need, resources like hand sanitizer, to reopen, and do so safely and successfully. I'm pictured above with Town of Saratoga Supervisor Tom Wood, Saratoga Five Points Market & Deli owner Maura Pulver Miler (Five Points Deli was one of my recent Hometown Heroes for the 43rd Senate District), Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce President Todd Shimkus, and Roohan Realty President Tom Roohan. It was great being able to see everyone and make these special deliveries!

Celebrating Palette Café's first anniversary



Last Friday, I congratulated Palette Café owner Catherine Hover on her wonderful Café's first anniversary! I also presented a New York State Senate Certificate marking the happy occasion and provided some New York State Hand Sanitizer as one of my many deliveries during the week. Congrats to Catherine and her entire team at Palette Café – and here's to many more years of success!

Successfully advocating for on-site summer school for students with specialized needs

Also on Friday, I partnered with Shenendehowa Central School District Superintendent Dr. L. Oliver Robinson in writing the Governor and Interim State Education Commissioner Shannon Tahoe requesting that Shenendehowa High School be allowed to offer on-site

summer school for children with specialized needs. I'm thrilled that just a few hours after our letter was sent, the Governor reversed course and signed an Executive Order stating that schools will now be able to offer on-site summer school for students with specialized needs. This is a big win for families and students, and I'm happy that our advocacy and the voices of so many parents were heard! To read the letter Superintendent Robinson and I sent to the Governor that successfully restored on-site summer school for students with specialized needs, visit my Senate webpage: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-jordan-successfully-advocates-site-summer-school>.

Recognizing the 76th anniversary of D-Day



This past Saturday was the 76th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy. Known as D-Day, this event laid the groundwork for the end of World War II and the fall of Nazi Germany. Because of the brave men who sacrificed their lives on this date, the forces of fascism were pushed back, and the ideals of liberty and justice prevailed. We remember and thank our courageous heroes for their service, sacrifice, and role in making a better, more just world.

Advocating for reopening of Triform Camphill Community and the restoration of Day Habilitation services

I recently wrote Governor Cuomo once again advocating for the re-opening of Triform Camphill Community and the restoration of Day Habilitation services and corresponding programs provided throughout the state. On May 14, 2020, I had originally written the Governor requesting the reopening of Triform Camphill Community in Columbia County. I recently renewed my advocacy for this important effort. A copy of my correspondence to the Governor can be found at my Senate website: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-daphne-jordan-again-advocates-reopening-triform>.

Calling for the reopening of small, boutique fitness facilities

I also wrote the Governor on behalf of Kathy Scherer, owner of Go-For Fitness, located in South Glens Falls, which is in the 43rd Senate District. Ms. Scherer contacted me asking for my assistance and advocacy in helping her beloved boutique fitness facility receive a state waiver to reopen. Ms. Scherer's business has operated in the community for six years and was closed upon the issuance of the Governor's New York on PAUSE initiative back in March.

Since that time, Ms. Scherer's business has lost a significant amount of income which has caused economic hardship. Many of Ms. Scherer's clients have asked for the facility to reopen so they may resume their health and wellness routines. Go-For Fitness is 3,300 square feet and has class sizes of less than 10. With such a small group size, and so much space, Ms. Scherer can easily implement social distancing requirements, and adhere to CDC and NYSDOH best sanitary practices for cleaning, disinfecting, and the use of facemasks by clients and facility staff, and the facility does not utilize equipment, so there is much less to sanitize. You can read my full letter to the Governor on behalf of Go-For Fitness here: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-daphne-jordan-advocates-reopening-small-boutique>.

My legislation helping Saratoga Springs passes State Senate



FIND YOUR SENATOR

Senate Bill S6759

2019-2020 Legislative Session

Relates to qualifications for holding certain offices in the city of Saratoga Springs



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Daphne Jordan
(R, C, IP, RFM) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT

CURRENT BILL STATUS VIA A8609 - PASSED
SENATE & ASSEMBLY

During this week's session, my Senate legislation helping the City of Saratoga Springs passed the State Senate. My legislation, Senate Bill S.6759, permits a person to hold the office of Deputy Mayor, Deputy Commissioner of Finance, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety, or Deputy Commissioner of Accounts for Saratoga Springs, provided that such person resides in Saratoga County.

My bill was introduced at the request of the City Council of the City of Saratoga Springs and would allow the Council more flexibility in appointing their deputies by waiving the requirement that those deputies must reside within the city limits.

Saratoga Springs is one of two localities in New York State to employ a commission form of government. In this form of government, there are five City Council Members: Mayor, Commissioner of Finance, Commissioner of Public Safety, Commissioner of Public Works, and Commissioner of Accounts. These positions are part-time elected offices with part-time salaries. Each Commissioner and the Mayor has an appointed deputy who works full-time, with a full-time salary. Under this form of government, no deputy shall ever ascend to an elected position because of the absence or inability of the Mayor or any Commissioner. Consequently, removing the residency requirement for the Deputy Mayor does not set a precedent for executive officers in other localities, as the position is not in the line of succession for office of Mayor. My bipartisan bill passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 55-7. My bill has also passed the State Assembly and will be sent to the Governor for signature.

My legislation helping Village of South Glens Falls passes State Senate



FIND YOUR SENATOR

Senate Bill S8299

2019-2020 Legislative Session

Relates to qualifications for holding certain offices in the village of South Glens Falls



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Daphne Jordan

(R, C, IP, RFM) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT

CURRENT BILL STATUS - PASSED SENATE & ASSEMBLY

Another one of my bills passed the State Senate during our session this week. My legislation, Senate Bill S.8299, permits a person to hold the office of Clerk-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, Deputy Treasurer, Code Enforcement Officer or Building Inspector for the Village of South Glens Falls, provided that such person resides in Saratoga County or an adjoining County.

My bill comes at the request of the Village of South Glens Falls and will allow them the flexibility to find and appoint strong candidates for the offices of Clerk-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, Deputy Treasurer, Code Enforcement Officer, or Building Inspector. These are part-time, appointed positions. My bill passed the Senate unanimously by a vote of 62-0, has also passed the State Assembly, and will be sent to the Governor for signature.

Delivering New York State Hand Sanitizer to Waterford Clock Company



On Wednesday, I had a wonderful time recognizing a terrific local small business while making another special delivery of New York State Hand Sanitizer. I'm pictured above at the Waterford Clock Company with owner Laurie Marble, who also serves as Councilwoman in the Town of Waterford. We were in her store Wednesday afternoon and with her adorable grandchildren!

Proud to salute more Hometown Heroes



Proud to again recognize some terrific [#HometownHeroes](#) from my 43rd Senate District for all they're doing to help the community.



I'm happy to continue recognizing the special people and businesses that have gone above and beyond in helping others during the COVID-19 outbreak and, in so doing, have made our community a special place. This edition of my Hometown Heroes shines the spotlight on Owen Ball of Columbia High School, Moon Dogs of Ghent, Saratoga Wilton Elks Lodge #161, Michelle Alfiler Blaauboer and Jeff Blaauboer of Waterford, and Operation Adopt-A-Soldier of Gansevoort. Congratulations one and all to these terrific Hometown Heroes!

Owen Ball, Columbia High School

Owen Ball is a 17-year-old Columbia High School student who's made hundreds of face shields on his 3D printer and donated them to frontline healthcare workers. Ball, valedictorian of the Class of 2020 and part of East Greenbush's nationally-ranked Science Olympiad Team, was contacted by a family friend about the Northeast Face Shields Project, which was organizing volunteers to use 3D printers to manufacture facemasks and distribute them to regional hospitals. When the East Greenbush School District heard about his innovative efforts, it loaned Ball a second 3D printer so he could produce even more. Ball monitors the machines, which produce hundreds of masks a day, through an app on his phone.

Moon Dogs, Ghent

Moon Dogs is a popular food truck in Columbia County helping those in need during the COVID-19 outbreak. Moon Dogs is located just off Route 66 in Ghent at the VFW parking lot. Since the outbreak began, they've been doing an initiative called "pay what you can." Moon Dogs doesn't want anyone going hungry, so if someone can only pay a dollar, then a dollar is what they pay! Owner Adam Moon said their initiative is going a step further as he's donated extra money to Price Chopper and a local auto parts store, so they may also pay it forward to help others in need.

Saratoga Wilton Elks Lodge #161

Volunteers from Saratoga-Wilton Elks continued the Elks' mission of serving the community and helping senior citizens by delivering bags of food to 18 seniors living in the Wilton Commons Senior Apartments. Volunteers from the Saratoga-Wilton Elks also delivered critically needed food to 32 senior citizens living at the Raymond Watkin Senior Apartments to ensure that they had a supply of nutritious food during the outbreak.

Michelle Alfiler Blaauboer and Jeff Blaauboer, Waterford

The Anthony Blaauboer Kindness Foundation is donating packages with essentials to local individuals and families in need during the COVID-19 outbreak. Michelle Alfiler Blaauboer and Jeff Blaauboer tragically lost their son, Anthony just three days shy of his 15th birthday. Anthony was an ambassador of kindness and after he passed, his parents created a foundation to continue his kindness. Today, the Anthony Blaauboer Kindness Foundation, Inc., spreads kindness. Michelle and Jeff are helping numerous people across the community during this difficult time with their generosity and compassion.

Operation Adopt A Soldier, Inc., Gansevoort

Operation Adopt A Soldier, Inc. (OAAS) was founded back in 2003 by Cliff Seguin and Dominick Commisso who began their efforts at the Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility in Wilton. OAAS first started when Cliff began sending packages to a platoon of soldiers from the 368th Combat Engineers, which included his son Steven and were stationed overseas in Iraq. OAAS is a purely volunteer program whose mission is to raise awareness about the daily sacrifices that the men and women stationed overseas, and their families make to preserve our freedom. The main goal is to provide a sense of home to soldiers and make them feel as comfortable as possible through care packages, gifts, letters, phone cards, and more. You can help OAAS fulfill its mission and restock its shelves by dropping off much-needed donations at the Route 9 Office (3 Carpenter Lane, Saratoga Springs, near the Middle School) on Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Albany, NY 12247
518-455-2381

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1580 Columbia Tpke, Bldg 2 Ste 1
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518-371-2751



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