

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

Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 04:31PM

Subject: Weekly Wrap: Reopening Saratoga County, delivering NYS Hand Sanitizer for community organizations, pushing for Phase 4 & MORE!



Dear Friend:

Summer is finally in full swing and it's time for my Weekly Wrap for the week ending today, Friday, June 26. It's been a busy week as I've been traveling across the 43rd Senate District making special deliveries of New York State Hand Sanitizer to local governments and community organizations. I've also been working hard in my continued advocacy for a safe, sensible reopening of more small businesses under Phase 4 to help rebuild, restore, and revitalize our economy and help the thousands of New Yorkers who've lost their jobs and want to get back to work.

In this week's edition of my Weekly Wrap, you'll read about:

- **Reopening Saratoga County;**
- **Delivering NYS Hand Sanitizer;**
- **Reopening of Saratoga Battlefield Tour Road;**
- **Unemployment claims and the State Department of Labor;**
- **Governor's cuts to local government aid; and**
- **My urging Governor Cuomo to stop moving the Phase 4 economic reopening goalposts**

As always, thanks for reading my Weekly Wrap, and have a terrific weekend! If I may be of

assistance, please call my district office at (518) 371-2751, or email me at jordan@nysenate.gov.

– **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Reopening Saratoga County









I was proud to take part in, and speak at, our Reopening Saratoga County event that took place in Halfmoon last Friday. I'm pictured above with Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce President Todd Shimkus, Halfmoon Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen, Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh, and so many others. This local event was one of two dozen ribbon cuttings that took place throughout Saratoga County, celebrating the successful Phase 3 reopening of our local economy, as I've been championing and advocating for these past several weeks. It's terrific that our economy and so many of our local small businesses can move forward. We truly are stronger together!

Delivering hand sanitizer to Wicked Eatery, Pub, and Entertainment



When I heard that owner Tim Berlin had spent over \$1,000 in PPE and still needed Hand Sanitizer, I delivered New York State Hand Sanitizer to Trick Shot Billiards and Wicked Eatery, Pub, and Entertainment in Halfmoon last Friday. I'm pictured above with Julie Drake, Manager of this terrific local business. Hand sanitizer is one of many important resources that our small businesses need to reopen successfully and safely, and I was happy to make this special delivery!

Update on Saratoga Battlefield Tour Road





The Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce recently shared some important information regarding park access that I wanted to provide to my Weekly Wrap readers. Starting July 1, 2020, Saratoga National Historical Park will reopen access to the Battlefield Tour Road, and vehicles may drive the road from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. More details for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists can be found [here](#).

CBS 6 report on unemployment claims at State Department of Labor



WRGB CBS 6 News featured some great reporting regarding continued problems at the State Department of Labor (DOL) and unresolved unemployment claims. As the story notes, DOL is now answering just 60% of calls concerning unemployment. While that is better than the previous amount of 10%, it's not good enough. DOL needs to do better, much better. One

constituent has waited 59 days for a call back from DOL! These ongoing long waits are simply unacceptable. My office will continue doing all it can to help individuals seeking assistance from DOL.

In terms of new requests for assistance with the unemployment crisis that my office has received, here are the latest figures: this week, my office received 18 new inquires with 73 emails exchanged just this week between my office and DOL on all new and remaining cases. A total of 495 constituents have now reached out for help, and there have been a total of 1,629 exchanged emails between DOL and my office. If you need help with an unemployment claim, call my district office at (518) 371-2751, and ask for Daniel Casale, my Director of Constituent Services. Dan has been working hard and doing an excellent job helping people get their claims submitted and processed so they can finally receive their unemployment benefits.

Senate Minority Leader Ortt speaks out on Governor's decision to delay AIM payments

Our terrific new Senate Republican Leader Senator Rob Ortt was 100% on point with his recent statement (below) on Governor Cuomo's targeting of local communities. The Governor and the Senate Democratic Majority's wasteful spending on their radical political agenda drove NYS into the fiscal ditch. Local governments — and local taxpayers — shouldn't be on the hook for Albany's fiscal irresponsibility.

STATEMENT FROM NYS SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER ROB ORTT

Governor Cuomo's decision – and by extension the Senate Democrats who empowered him to unilaterally make serious budget decisions – harms local governments and property owners who receive tax relief through AIM funding.

Instead of withholding 20% of AIM from local governments, the Senate Republican Conference demands Democrats stop wasteful spending on things like \$27 million on free tuition for illegal immigrants, \$100 million to fund their political campaigns, and \$420 million to support Hollywood. AIM funding is used to pay for essential workers like firefighters, police, and sanitation workers who undoubtedly deserve our respect for serving our communities.

In this time of crisis our taxpayers deserve a government that works for them, and not one that is flush with cash only when it comes to their pet issues.

Information from the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce regarding Phase 4 reopening



The Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce issued an e-update this week that discussed Governor Cuomo once again moving the goalposts (my words, not the Chamber's), on Phase 4 of NY's economic reopening. That message is below and you can learn more by visiting the Chamber's website at www.saratoga.org.

June 24, 2020

Phase 4 reopening not going as expected

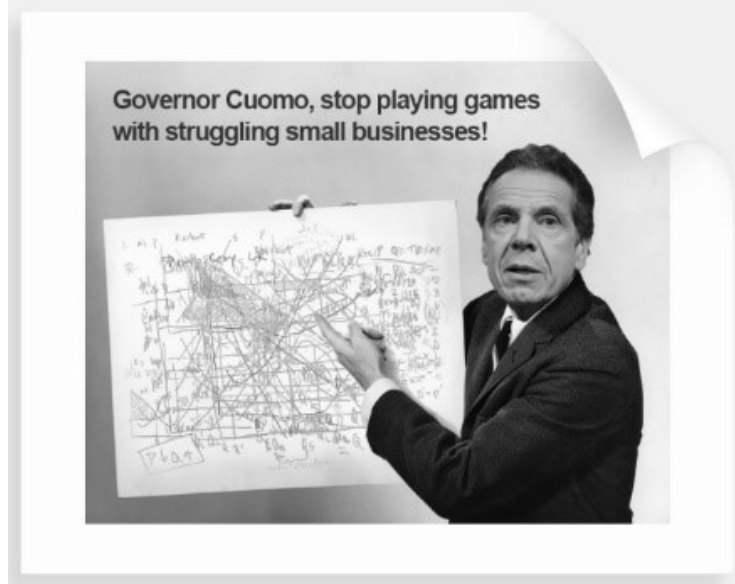
Saratoga County and our region remain on-schedule for a Phase 4 reopening on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. During the last 24 hours, the Governor's office has released guidance documents for organizations classified as Higher Education; Low-Risk Outdoor Arts & Entertainment; Low-Risk Indoor Arts & Entertainment; and Media Production. While fitness facilities, movie theaters and malls had expected to be included in Phase 4, the Governor's office late yesterday announced that this is no longer the case. We spoke this morning with Saratoga County Administrator Spencer Hellwig and asked him to advocate in the region's control room to change this. Here is the latest guidance for gyms:

Gyms and fitness centers remain closed indefinitely. Beginning July 6, outdoor sports and recreational activities may be conducted by gyms, fitness centers, training facilities, and other related facilities. However, gyms, fitness centers, and other such facilities are limited to no more participants than is allowed (25 as of today) under the non-essential gathering restriction that is in effect for their region; and gyms, fitness centers, and other facilities are prohibited from conducting indoor activities at this time.

We know of two local fitness facilities, one in Clifton Park and a second in Saratoga Springs, that have already permanently closed. The vast majority of Saratoga County's health and wellness community is comprised of locally owned small businesses. Since 2014 when we created our Healthy Saratoga movement, we've been a visible and vocal promoter of these local businesses. Now it is our mission to lead an advocacy effort to save these small businesses.

As we know, these health and wellness organizations have always been focused on the HEALTH of their clients. This means they should be able to safely open using all best practices indoors and out putting health first as we do in Saratoga County.

My call for Governor Cuomo to stop playing games with Phase 4 reopening



Earlier this week Governor Cuomo inexplicably reversed course on weeks of public promises to small businesses and local communities regarding New York's Phase 4 economic reopening. I issued the following statement (below) after Governor Cuomo once again moved the economic reopening goalposts which caused even more confusion and delay for affected small businesses who are struggling to survive. Governor Cuomo needs to stop the games so our small businesses can finally reopen!

For Release: Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Senator Jordan: Governor Cuomo chooses Hollywood heavyweights over main street, calls on Governor to stop playing games and reverse changes to Phase 4 rules so more small businesses can reopen

Halfmoon, NY – Senator Daphne Jordan (R,C,I-Halfmoon) today released the following statement blasting Governor Cuomo's latest irresponsible decision to backtrack on previously established Phase 4 reopening rules:

"Governor Cuomo's continued shut down of our economy is hurting small businesses, sending more New Yorkers onto the unemployment lines, and is wrecking our economy. As a former small business owner, I know it will take years to undo the economic damage this

Governor has done. The Governor's latest bungled decision to move the reopening goalposts yet again sends a terrible message and causes further economic hardship for job creators who are struggling just to keep their heads above water. It's outrageous that the Governor has chosen Hollywood heavyweights over main street to move ahead in the Phase 4 reopening. Frankly, the Governor's latest inexplicable decision goes against the very criteria that his administration has been telling small businesses and communities for the past several weeks. It's as if the Governor wants to delay a full economic reopening just so he can hang onto his expanded powers for a while longer. Governor Cuomo needs to stop playing games and allow affected businesses to move forward under Phase 4 as originally planned."

According to guidance originally issued by the state, Phase 4 reopening would include malls, gyms, and movie theaters. However, late last night local officials quietly received guidance noting that these businesses would not be opening as originally planned. Instead, they were told media production, including motion picture, TV, and streaming service production, as well as 'low-risk' indoor and outdoor arts and entertainment could resume operations. While the state has indicated these other businesses can open "soon," no date, plan or guidelines have been released that would indicate when that would be.

Sign my petition urging Governor Cuomo to allow small businesses to reopen



The New York State Senate



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR
Daphne Jordan



MESSAGE SENATOR

Join Senator Daphne Jordan's Fight To Support Local Business!

SEN. DAPHNE JORDAN | June 25, 2020 | ISSUE:

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC; COVID-19; SMALL BUSINESSES



Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, New Yorkers have gone above and beyond to do their part to protect public health. Now, as regions move towards Phase 4 of the reopening process, in the dark of night, the state is re-writing the rules and making arbitrary decisions about who can open next and who cannot.

I recently launched a petition urging Governor Cuomo to allow small businesses affected by his Phase 4 reopening reversal to open as originally scheduled. Concerned taxpayers and small business owners should visit my Senate website at <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/daphne-jordan> to sign my petition and make their voices heard!

News from NYS Canal Corporation on summer lock operating schedule



The New York State Canal Corporation announced that portions of the New York State Canal system are scheduled to open today, Friday, June 26, 2020 at for the 2020 navigation season.

Construction and maintenance activities continue at several locks across the system.

Due to roving operators, some delays may be experienced during certain periods in the Waterford Flight. Vessels arriving at the Waterford Flight from either direction prior to scheduled closing will be admitted through the entire Flight.

Vessels arriving at Lock CS-2/3 in Seneca Falls or Lock E-34/35 in Lockport from either direction prior to scheduled closing will be admitted through both chambers. Vessels arriving westbound at Lock E-21 in New London or arriving eastbound at Lock E-22 in Verona prior to scheduled closing will be admitted through both locks.

Vessels arriving southbound at Lock C-4 in Stillwater or arriving northbound at Lock C-3 in Mechanicville prior to scheduled closing will be admitted through both locks. Locks C-7 and C-8 in Fort Edward will require scheduled lockings until August 10. Lock C-7 will provide lockings on odd-numbered hours and Lock C-8 will provide lockings on even-numbered hours. Scheduled times will be northbound on the hour and southbound at quarter past the hour.

The Canal system is scheduled to close to navigation on October 14, 2020. The Canal Corporation appreciates the public's patience during this time and urges all users to register to receive updates through the "Notice to Mariners" notification program. For more information visit www.canals.ny.gov or contact Steve Ramsey, New York Power Authority at 518-469-4998 or Stephen.ramsey@nypa.gov

Several sensational stops along the NYS Hand Sanitizer express











Hand sanitizer is an essential asset that helps our local governments and community organizations reopen safely, securely, and successfully. These visits allow me to meet with local organizations and local governments and have great discussions with them as to their operations and the important work they do for the people of my district!

On Wednesday and Thursday, I made several hand sanitizer deliveries throughout my 43rd Senate District. My first stop on Wednesday was in Stillwater, where I'm pictured above with Stillwater Village Clerk Sheristin "Sher" Tedesco. My second stop was at Stillwater Central School, where I'm pictured above with Mike Cavanaugh, District Treasurer. My third stop

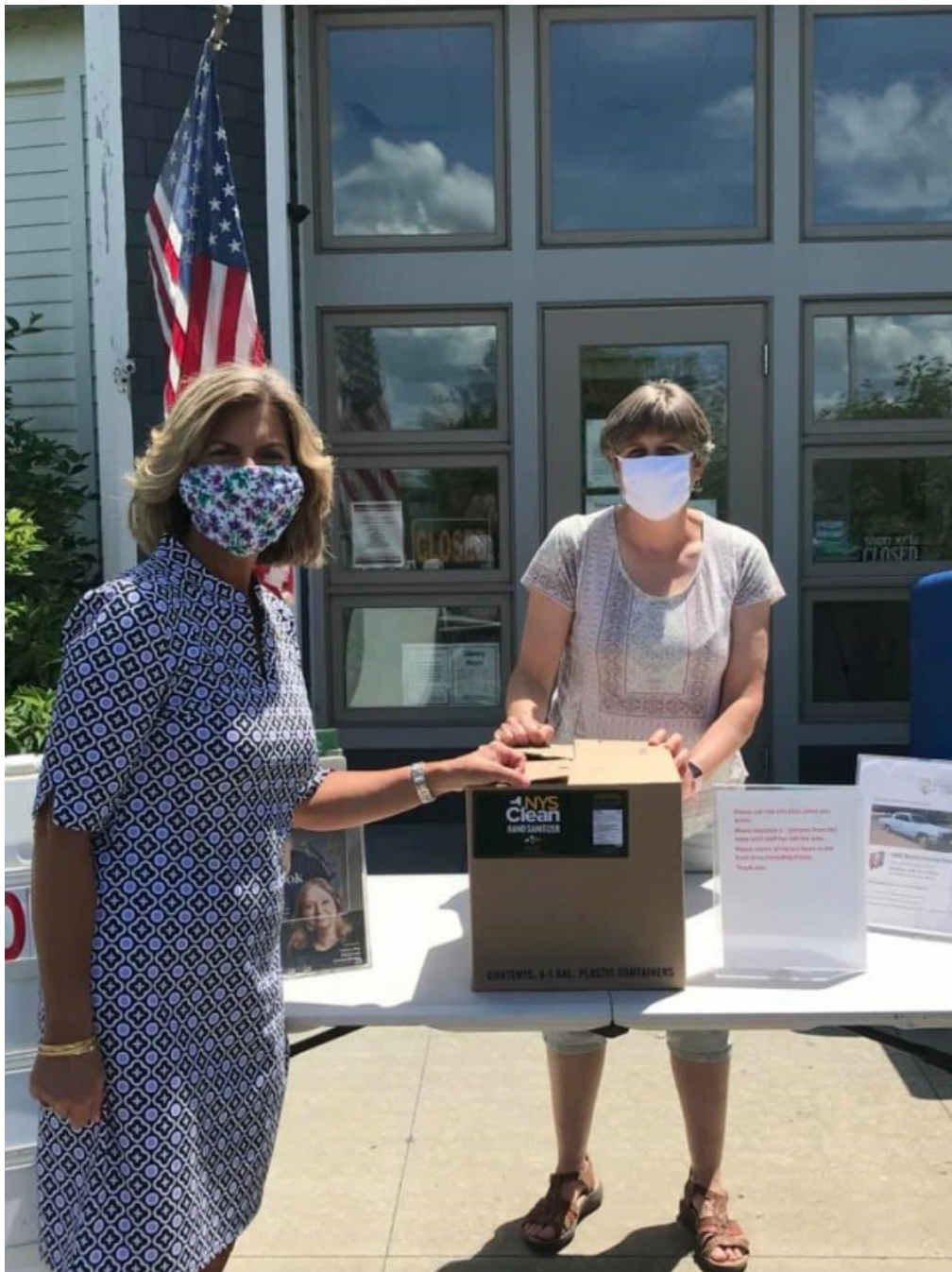
was at the Salvation Army in Saratoga, where I'm pictured above with Lieutenant Bree Barker. My fourth stop was at the Franklin Community Center in Saratoga, where I'm pictured above with Kari Cushing, Executive Director. My fifth and final stop was at Wellspring Saratogian, where I'm pictured above with Maggie Fronk, Executive Director.

On Thursday, I was on the road again, making even more hand sanitizer deliveries, this time focusing on Columbia County.









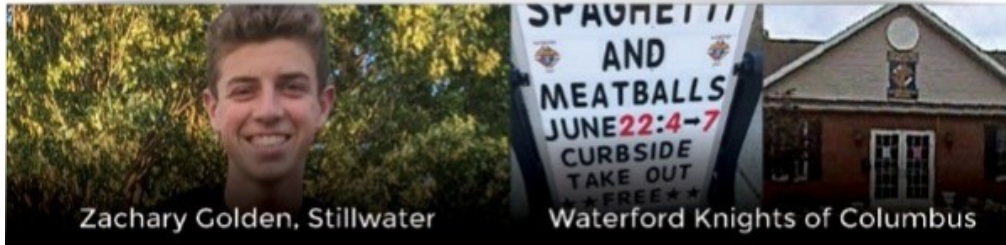
My first stop was at Columbia County Pathways to Recovery, where I'm pictured above with Desiree Graziano, Board Secretary. My second stop was at the FASNY Museum of Firefighting, where I'm pictured above with Jamie Smith Quinn, Museum Director, and Molly, the Museum's dog. My third stop was at the Roeliff Jansen Community Library, where I'm pictured above with Tammy Gaskell, Director.

It's always terrific being able to deliver this much-needed hand sanitizer. I look forward to these opportunities to lend a helping hand to localities and community organizations throughout my 43rd Senate District.

Hailing more Hometown Heroes for the 43rd District



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



Zachary Golden, Stillwater

Waterford Knights of Columbus



Today marks the 10th edition of recognizing Hometown Heroes for my 43rd Senate District! Hometown Heroes are the terrific, community-minded individuals, organizations, and small businesses that have been making a positive difference throughout the COVID outbreak. Two terrific Hometown Heroes are the feature of this week's edition: Zachary Golden of Stillwater, and the Waterford Knights of Columbus. Congratulations to these latest Hometown Heroes and thank you for all you've done to make our communities safer, stronger, better places.

Zachary Golden, Stillwater

Zachary Golden, a member of the Stillwater 2020 graduating class, was boating on the Hudson River between Mechanicville and Stillwater on Sunday, June 14. He noticed a burning boat on the water and drove towards the boat telling all five people aboard to put on life jackets, jump in the water and swim toward his boat. The owner of the burning boat tried to swim underwater to stop the fire, but Golden jumped in the water and brought him safely to his boat.

Waterford Knights of Columbus

The Waterford Knights of Columbus recently gave out 500 spaghetti and meatball dinners as people drove up to the tent and didn't even have to get out of their cars. Volunteers, including Chef Joe Forget, a culinary instructor at the Capital District EOC and a Navy veteran, worked all day. "It's a great way to give to the community," said Forget. "People still need. People still are hungry. Some don't have good nutrition and as part of what we do is always giving to charity." They had to prepare a lot of spaghetti, sauce, and meatballs. "Just a good meal," said Grand Knight Bliss Canfield. "And a little bit of support, maybe, let everybody know we're here, and we are trying to help." The funding for this free dinner comes from all the donations that came in when the Knights of Columbus held a soup giveaway at the end of April.

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