

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

Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 06:03PM

Subject: Weekly Wrap: Delivering Real Results, Grand Opening Celebrations, searching for answers regarding NY's COVID-19 response & MORE!



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the August 21 edition of my Weekly Wrap, always delivering important legislative and community updates right to your inbox.

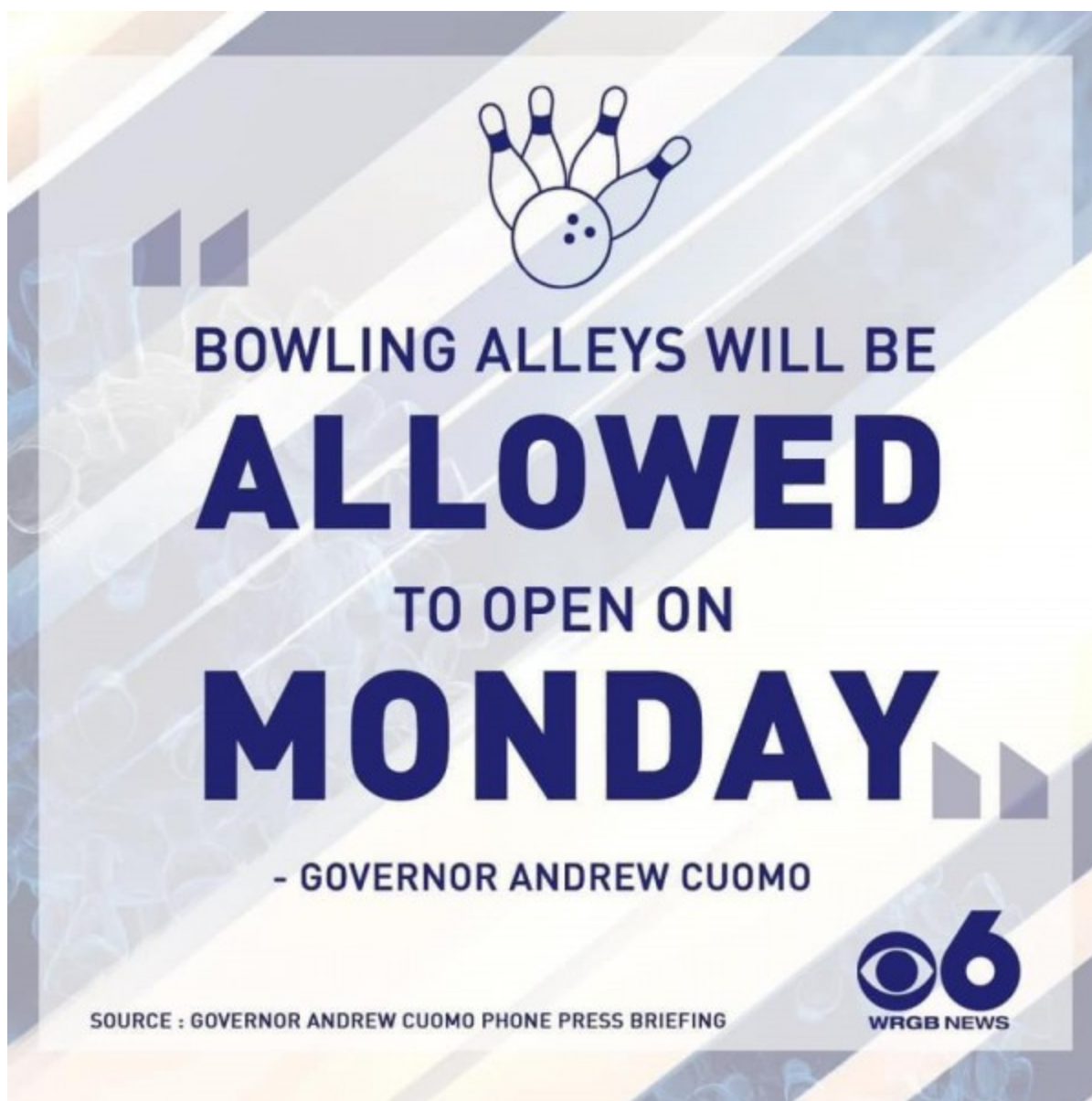
I was happy to lead the successful effort to get bowling centers across New York State re-opened as this great news was announced last Friday. I'm glad the Governor listened to my advocacy and heard the concerns of bowling center owners. This is a real result that will help save 9,000 jobs statewide.

I also was in attendance for the opening of the PFC Dwyer Day Room, a great resource for our veterans, and my staff was out in the district celebrating the ribbon cuttings of some new local businesses in the area. Do you have, or know of any, local businesses opening or re-opening? Let us know! I'm always proud to support and recognize our local business owners and Chambers of Commerce.

Additionally, the week highlighted some wonderful historic milestones, like the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment, allowing women the right to vote, and the Commemoration of the Battle of Bennington, which happened right here in the 43rd District! I was proud to attend a remembrance ceremony, honoring all who served and lost their lives in the battle.

Thank you for being a subscriber and reading my Weekly Wrap. If I can be of assistance, please email me at jordan@nysenate.gov, or call my office at (518) 371-2751. It is my honor and privilege serving and representing YOU! – **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Ready to roll!



New York State is now ready to bowl, thanks to my successful advocacy and sensible, safe, smart reopening plans advanced by bowling center owners! The Governor announced, during a press conference last week, that bowling centers will be able to open at 50% capacity with every other lane closed off. I have been a proud supporter of these important small businesses; a copy of my letter to the Governor from July 14 advocating for bowling centers to reopen can be found [here](#). As Weekly Wrap readers will recall, on Friday, July 31, at Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center, I stood with Kingpin's owner and President Doug Bohannon and members of the New York State Bowling Proprietors Association at a press conference asking for the Governor to review their reopening plans and engage them in an effort to reopen. I'm proud to champion for these 300 small business owners and 9,000 employees and communities in New York State to ensure that bowling centers are able to provide an enjoyable and safe recreational experience during this time!

Celebrating the grand opening of the PFC Dwyer Day Room



I was delighted to attend the Grand Opening of the PFC Dwyer Day Room on Saturday! Command Sgt. Major Gary Flaherty who also serves as the Executive Director of the Columbia County Veterans' Service Agency worked steadfastly to bring this space to fruition.

The Dwyer Day Room is a place for Columbia County veterans suffering from PTSD to gather, socialize, play pool, use the computer, and participate in training or other events. The PFC Dwyer program is funded by New York State. I am pleased that the four counties that comprise the 43rd Senate District receive this money. The funding of the PFC Dwyer program is something that I have fought to be included in the NYS Budget for each of my two years in the Senate. Only half of the counties in the State receive Dwyer funding (which is problematic).

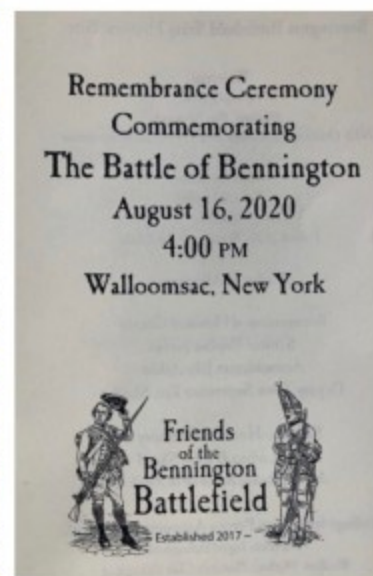
This program is for Veterans suffering from PTSD and the PFC Dwyer Day Room provides a space for peer to peer counseling, activities, and events. Columbia County's program also

provides for outdoor events like camping and equine therapy. I'm pictured in the photo above with Laura Corsun, the Founder and Director of High & Mighty Therapeutic Riding who provides this service to Columbia County.

As always it was a wonderful afternoon spent with Gary Flaherty, Assemblyman Jake Ashby who is also a decorated veteran, Matt Murell, Chairman of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, Stephanie Gardinier who will be volunteering at the Dwyer Day Room and the many veterans in attendance. It was my honor to present Gary Flaherty with a NYS Certificate of Recognition celebrating his achievement and a NYS Flag that recently hung over the State Capitol in Albany.

Of special note is a photo with Tom Miglio of the Kinderhook Elks Lodge #2530 who donated coffee pots, a Keurig, coffees galore and plenty of snacks for the Day Room. The best part of the day was meeting a new friend who spoke so eloquently about his battle with PTSD. God Bless you Peter. God bless all of our Veterans and God bless the men and women of our military who serve today.

Commemorating the Battle of Bennington



Our region has such a rich, storied history, and played such a pivotal role, in America's fight for freedom, independence and self-governance. My thanks to Peter Schaaphok, President of the Friends of the Bennington Battlefield, David Pitlyk, Historic Site Assistant NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, Heather Mabee, Saratoga Chapter DAR and Tim Mabee, Vermont Society, SAR and all of the other participants for the wonderful ceremony last Sunday commemorating the Battle of Bennington that I was honored to speak at. You all made history come alive! This battle was a critically important conflict in the American Revolution. The Battle of Bennington was part of the Saratoga campaign and took place on August 16, 1777.

A rebel force of 2,000 men, led by General John Stark and reinforced by Vermont militiamen led by Colonel Seth Warner and members of the Green Mountain Boys, were triumphant over British General John Burgoyne's army. This battle is viewed as part of the turning point of the Revolutionary War.

American patriots defeated the British Empire, which at the time, was the greatest military force the world had ever known. The citizen-soldiers of the Battle of Bennington fought, bled, and made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of liberty. Two hundred and forty-three years later, we are reminded of the courage and fortitude of the citizen-soldiers of America's armed forces who continue to serve our nation and defend our freedom. God bless each one of them and God bless the USA.

Sharing important DMV information



I recently shared an important informational update from my good friend Columbia County Clerk Holly Tanner regarding licenses and registrations on my Facebook page. I wanted to share this helpful information with Weekly Wrap readers as well. Columbia County Clerk Holly Tanner's message is right below:

Let's talk Licenses and Registrations!! The Governor has again extended the Executive Order that essentially says if your license or car registration expired after March 15 you can **LEGALLY STILL DRIVE** due to the virus!! This extension is 'UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE'. What does this mean for you? What this means is, if your license or car registration expired any time after March 15 and you haven't renewed yet, you still have time to renew and you will **NOT** get a ticket (for unlicensed driving or expired registration). No need to worry or rush in to a DMV office (if that is even possible these days).

What you **CAN** do: for car registrations, if you need to renew you should be able to do online. While not ideal for county revenue, it is easiest! You can also **MAIL** to 560 Warren St, Hudson 12534 with the invitation or MV82 form and form of payment (the online MV82 form that prints has a credit card form attached you can use, that we shred), or you can use our **DROP BOX** with the same info (mv82 or invitation from mail, and form of payment) - the DB is located on 6th St., in Hudson. We will process and mail right out! Finally you can come into the office, this is a walk-in appt., M-F from 9am to 445pm, 6pm on Thursdays with your form. Please note we are **VERY** busy on Monday's, Friday's, and in the am. Also, all are welcome.

For licenses, if you can get an eye exam you can mail or use the drop box to renew if you are not upgrading or needing a new photo! You need the form from the mail or the MV44 form filled out, and form of payment along w/the eye exam! Very easy!!!

*edit one, if you wish you can of course come in person. We do the eye exam (that never changed, we always did, and a new photo if you wish but you don't need to for a standard renewal)...

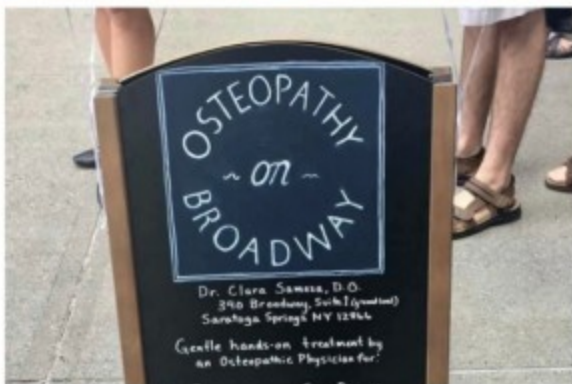
edit number twothe state has stopped sending renewal notices in the mail!! Please be aware**

We appreciate your patience during this extremely crazy time period. Please remember, we are all in this together, and the steps being taken are necessary and required. If you have ANY questions, please DO NOT CALL as we are not staffed to answer the phones (all staff are waiting on customers), you can email me at holly.tanner@columbiacountyny.com and I will get back to you as soon as I can!! Thank you, be well!

In addition to sharing Clerk Tanner's information, I also wanted to share an important update from my good friend Saratoga County Clerk Craig Hayner regarding the Saratoga County DMV. The link to Craig Hayner's update is here:

<https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/DMV/>.

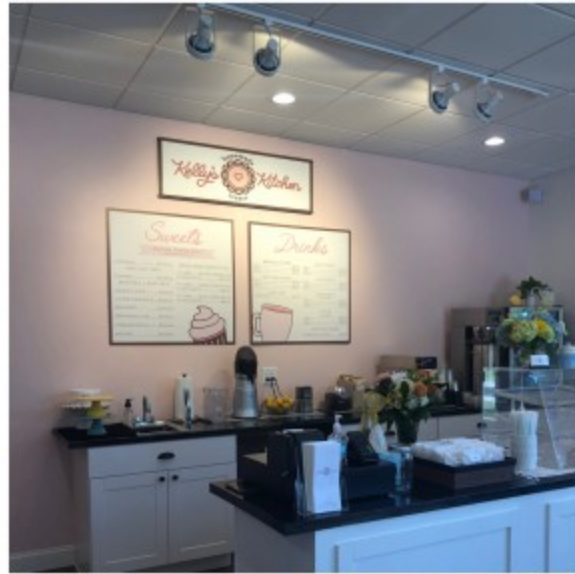
Celebrating the Grand Opening of Osteopathy on Broadway



Congratulations to Dr. Clara Somoza on the recent Grand Opening celebration of her practice, Osteopathy on Broadway, PLLC! After practicing Emergency Medicine for 19 years she opened her own practice. Dr. Somoza also continues to work part time at Ellis Hospital Medical Center and Saratoga Hospital Malta Emergent Care.

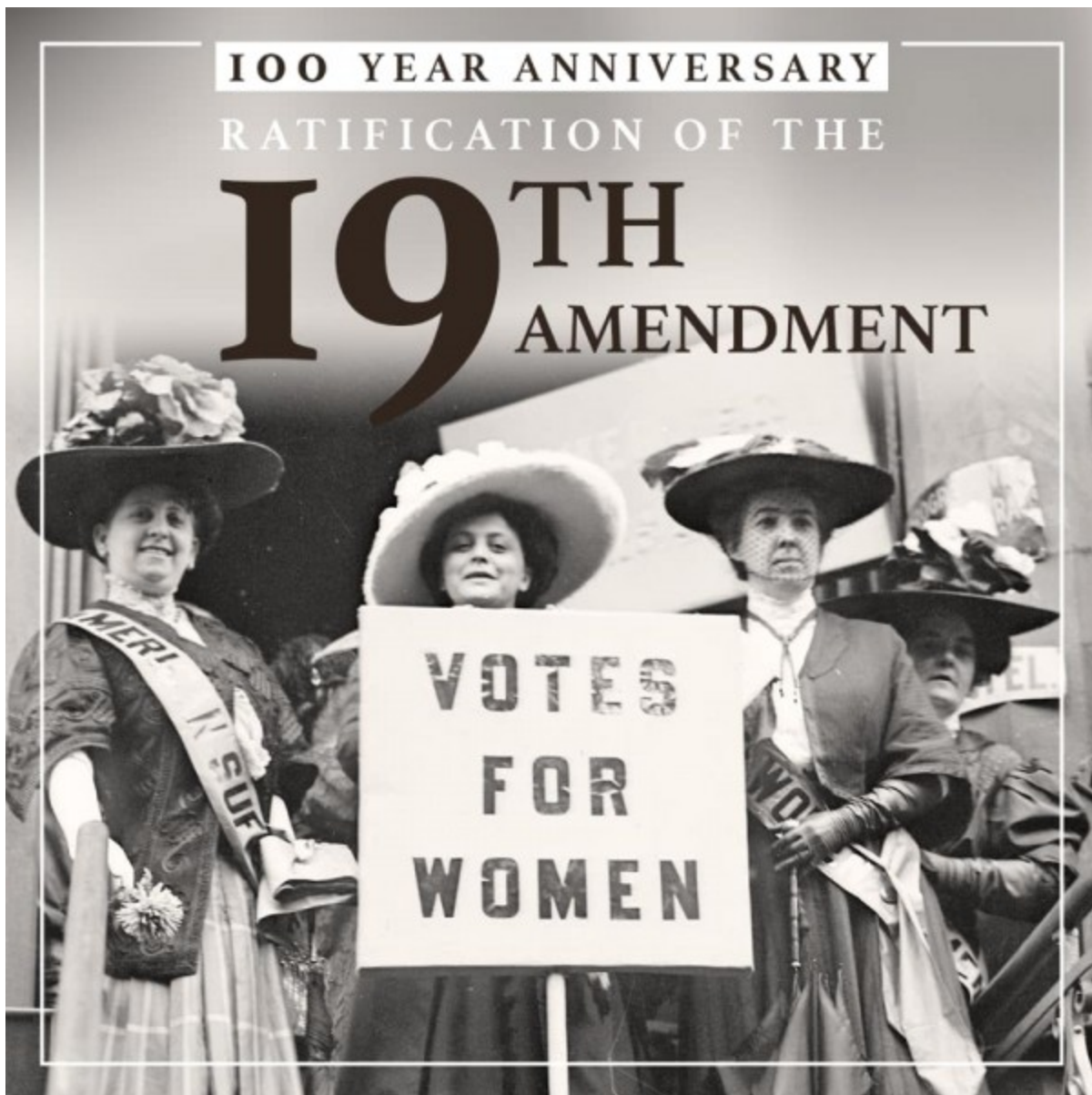
As a DO, she focuses on prevention, tuning into how a patient's lifestyle and environment can impact their well-being and is trained to promote the body's natural healing. As an alternate to opioids, Dr. Somoza uses hands on techniques to ease pain. She has received special training in the musculoskeletal system and strives to help patients be truly healthy in mind body and spirit. Dr. Somoza is pictured with her three sons who were at the ribbon cutting. Debbie Curto from my office represented me on Monday and presented Dr. Somoza with a NYS Senate Certificate of Recognition. Best wishes for success Dr. Somoza!

Celebrating the Grand Opening of Kelly's Kitchen



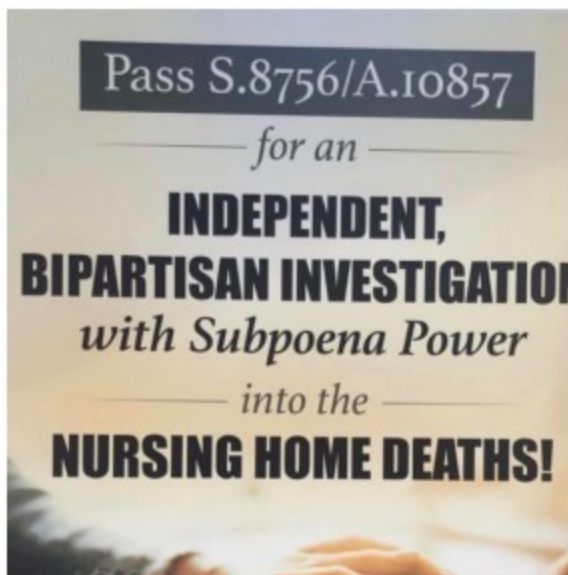
Tuesday marked the official ribbon-cutting for Kelly's Kitchen (which creates homemade delicious treats including cakes, cupcakes and much more) located in Saratoga Springs. I was represented at this fun event by Halie Northrop of my office. Halie is pictured above with owner Kelly Groff, whom she presented a NYS Senate Certificate on my behalf recognizing the happy day and wonderful occasion!

Recognizing the Centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment!



The 19th Amendment, which ensures all women have the right to vote, was ratified on August 18th, 100 years ago in 1920. Its passage is a symbol of the important work that goes into preserving our democracy and ensuring that all Americans' voices are heard and represented.

Continuing my efforts to advocate or answers on NY's COVID Nursing Home Response



On Wednesday, I continued advocating for answers and accountability regarding New York's response to COVID-19 in nursing homes and the preventable loss of over 6,400 senior citizens due to a reckless and irresponsible State mandate issued by the Governor and his Department of Health. During a bi-partisan press conference in the State Capitol I stood with my good friend, Senator Jim Tedisco, Majority Democratic Assemblyman Ron Kim (who lost an uncle in a New York nursing home to COVID-19), along with Republican and Democratic state legislators. We were honored to be joined by Fox News Senior Meteorologist Janice Dean who tragically lost her in-laws that were residents of state-regulated elder care facilities to the coronavirus. We continued calling for passage of legislation establishing an independent, bi-partisan state commission to fully investigate the deaths of over 6,400 New York senior citizens who died from COVID-19 in nursing homes.

I cosponsor this important, bi-partisan legislation, Senate Bill S.8756 and Assembly Bill A.10857, that would establish an independent, unbiased, bi-partisan investigation with

subpoena power to perform a comprehensive review of what happened in the state's nursing homes to get answers and provide a measure of closure for the families of those who lost their lives and also help prepare for a possible second wave of the pandemic. Passage of our legislation is crucial in the ongoing search for answers and our bi-partisan call for accountability in investigating the Governor and State Department of Health's deadly mandate that nursing homes accept COVID-19 positive patients. I'll continue working with my colleagues to see this important bill enacted.

To watch my remarks from Wednesday's press conference, click below for the video:

<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/video/daphne-jordan/senator-jordan-continues-calling-answers-and-accountability>

To see Janice Dean's remarks from Wednesday's press conference, click below for the video:

<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/video/daphne-jordan/janice-dean-advocates-bi-partisan-investigation-nys-covid-19-response>

Honored to now serve on the Senate Veteran's Committee



Things in my 43rd Senate District have been so busy that I'm just now sharing the terrific news (as you'll see on the updated Senate nameplate outside my Albany office that I've posted above) that I've been appointed to serve on the Senate's Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee. This is an incredibly important Committee (and is a Senate Committee assignment that I had wanted going back to last year) and I'm thrilled that our new Senate Republican Leader Senator Rob Ortt appointed me to serve in this capacity. I look forward to continuing my bi-partisan advocacy for our veterans and active duty military

personnel, and their families, on this Committee.

If you reside in the 43rd Senate District and have a question, concern, idea, or need assistance regarding an issue pertaining to our Senate's Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee (benefits, casework, programs, lost medals, becoming a Purple Heart Community, honoring a veteran, etc.) please email me at jordan@nysenate.gov and my office and I will do everything in our power to be of assistance.

THANK YOU to all of our veterans and active duty military members who defend our freedom. I'm honored to advocate for, and serve, YOU!

Hailing the latest Hometown Heroes for my 43rd Senate District

Thank you!

Hometown **HEROES** 43RD NYS SENATE DISTRICT

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



Another week means another terrific opportunity to honor more Hometown Heroes for my 43rd Senate District. Hometown Heroes are the dedicated individuals, non-profits, and small businesses that always go out of their way to help, support, and strengthen our local communities and citizens. The Hometown Heroes I'm honoring this week are the New Lebanon Central School District and the East Greenbush Central School District. Great job to both of these excellent school districts for going above and beyond the call of duty to help

local families in need – you truly are Hometown Heroes and I'm proud to recognize your efforts!

New Lebanon Central School District

With the help of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, the New Lebanon Central School District was able to help distribute 17,000 pounds of food to approximately 200 families during their recent Community Food Giveaway. "A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered their morning to help out at our bi-weekly food giveaway. It was absolutely incredible and would not be possible without our many volunteers," said Walter B. Howard Elementary School Principal Andrew Kourt. The next Community Food Giveaway will be Monday, August 24, at 9:00 a.m.

East Greenbush Central School District

The East Greenbush Central School District recently extended its Food for Families program, which provides free food to families in the school community, through August. This successful program, which is available to anyone, has had quite the impact since it began in March with highlights including 1,450 boxes of food distributed and 53 families currently being served. At their highest point they were serving 75 families and 400+ people. Huge thanks to Mike Leonard, Audra Di Bacco, the volunteers, school bus drivers and everyone who has donated to this wonderful program!

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