



Dear Friend:



Veterans Day is this Monday, November 11, and is the perfect opportunity to say a heartfelt “**THANK YOU!**” to America’s heroes, our military veterans who have defended our freedom and made our way of life possible. In keeping with the importance of Veterans Day, this edition of the Weekly Wrap includes many events, legislation and program funding related to helping and honoring our veterans. If you love freedom, thank a veteran! Please feel free to e-mail me at [jordan@nysenate.gov](mailto:jordan@nysenate.gov) if I may be of assistance to you or your loved ones. My thanks to all of our veterans, this Veterans Day and every day, for your faithful, honorable service. We owe you everything!

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

**Capital Region Chamber Veterans Breakfast**





It was my honor to serve veterans at Thursday's Capital Region Chamber Veterans Breakfast! I'm pictured above with my colleagues Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin, Senator Jim Tedisco, Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh, Town of Glenville Supervisor Chris Koetzle, Town of Glenville Board Member Gina Wierzbowski, and Niskayuna Town Supervisor Yasmine Syed as we served area veterans.

Thank you to all of our veterans who have defended our freedom and served our nation with honor and distinction.

#### **Hoosick Falls Senior Center Veteran Appreciation Luncheon**



Also on Thursday, I attended and spoke at the Hoosick Falls Senior Center Veteran Appreciation Luncheon held at the Hoosick Falls Senior Services Center and presented NYS Senate Certificates to the local veterans recognized. I'm pictured above with Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin, Assemblyman Jake Ashby, Rensselaer County Legislature Members Bruce Patire and Jeff Wsocki, Carol Rosbozom, Rensselaer

County Commissioner of Aging, Cindy Bugbee Mattison, Director of the Hoosick Falls Senior Center, Peter Goebel, Director of Veterans Services for Rensselaer County, and Tom McMartin, guest speaker for the luncheon. Rensselaer County has a proud legacy and fantastic record of honoring, recognizing, and celebrating veterans and meeting their important needs. I appreciated the invitation to be part of this great event and help salute Rensselaer County's veterans!

### **Supporting Legislation and Advocating for Funding to Help Veterans**

As State Senator, I've made it a priority to sponsor and co-sponsor pro-veteran legislation, including the following measures:

**+ Real Property Tax Exemptions:** Provide real property tax exemptions for 100% disabled veterans (or the unmarried surviving spouses of such veterans) who served in a combat theater or combat zone of operations (I co-sponsor this measure).

**+ Extension of Contracting Set-Asides for Veteran-Owned Businesses:** Expand state contracting set-asides for all veteran-owned businesses (I sponsor this bill).

**+ Make Permanent State Contracting Benefits for Veteran-Owned Businesses:** Make Chapter 22 of the Laws of 2014, which provides a service-disabled veteran-owned business enterprise with increased participation in state contracting, permanent (I sponsor this bill).

**+ 55-c Eligible Jobs Notifications:** Requires State Agencies to prominently identify on any job posting that meets the requirements of section 55-c of the Civil Service Law that such a job is 55-c eligible. The 55-c program allows State Agencies to set aside certain state positions to be filled by disabled veterans, but this initiative is not being fully utilized (I co-sponsor this bill that has passed the Senate and Assembly).

### **Securing Dwyer Program Funding**

In addition to sponsoring and supporting the bills listed above, I also advocated for the successful restoration of \$3.7 million in state funding for the PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer-to-Peer Counseling Program. This is a peer-to-peer support program for veterans facing the challenges of post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injuries, and reintegration into civilian life. The Dwyer program serves all four counties that are part of the 43rd Senate District, including Columbia County, which received \$100,000, Rensselaer County, which received \$145,000, Saratoga County, which received \$185,000, and Washington County, which also received \$185,000 (along with Warren County as part of a joint program, my colleague Senator Betty Little advocated for Washington-Warren's Dwyer Program funding). I'm proud to have helped deliver this vital funding for our local communities that have this active program to assist more veterans.

### **Advocating for the Health and Safety of Nassau Families**

I recently supported an important, bi-partisan effort led and championed by Nassau Town Supervisor David Fleming to protect the health and safety of local residents. I wrote the Environmental Protection Agency urging that it immediately and directly implement protective measures at the Dewey Loeffel Superfund Site water treatment facility to keep 1,4-dioxane discharge under .35ppb as required by Rensselaer County. A copy of my letter to the EPA is posted on my Senate website <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/daphne-jordan>. This is a vitally important and ongoing effort!

### Visiting Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School Students



I'm pictured above in the Senate Chamber during my recent visit with 45 Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School students and their teacher, James Thompson. I shared my public service journey with the students and enjoyed our conversation.

### Celebrating 10-Year Anniversary of Hello Nails



Tuesday was the 10-year anniversary of Hello Nails located in Saratoga Springs. Deborah Curto of my office represented me at this special event and is featured in the photo above, along with Todd Shimkus, President of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce, and Hello Nails owner Elson Qiu. Congratulations to Hello Nails and best wishes for continued success!

### Palette Upstairs Ribbon-Cutting



Thursday was the official ribbon-cutting for Palette Upstairs, a wonderful co-working space for women in Saratoga Springs. I'm pictured here with Palette Upstairs Owner Catherine Hover, as well as Steve von Schenk, President and CEO of Adirondack Trust, Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, Saratoga Springs Finance Commissioner Michele Madigan, and so many friends and supporters of Palette Upstairs who took part in this great event. Palette Upstairs is an extension of Catherine Hover's Palette Cafe. She also owns Saratoga Sip and Paint, and is a young entrepreneur with energy, enthusiasm, and terrific ideas!

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