



Dear Friend:

Season's greetings and welcome to my Weekly Wrap for the week ending December 20, 2019! This week's edition features some of the latest news and events happening across my 43rd Senate District and throughout New York State. Contained in this edition are some updates regarding the Town of Claverack becoming NY's newest "Purple Heart Community" and the dedication of the Town of Halfmoon's powerful First Responder Memorial. Also included is my appearance on Spectrum News' In Focus program with Solomon Syed, where we discussed my bill preventing Porch Piracy, and a snapshot of my new legislation protecting County Clerks and County DMV employees from lawsuits expected from NY's Green Light Law (which gives driver's licenses to illegal immigrants) that went into effect December 16.

This edition marks the final Weekly Wrap for 2019. After a brief holiday break, my Weekly Wrap will return in 2020, jam-packed with more news and updates regarding our new 2020 Legislative Session focusing on the policies being discussed and debated in Albany. Thank you for reading the Weekly Wrap these past several months, and my very best to you and your loved ones for a blessed and Merry Christmas! – **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Claverack Becomes NY's Newest "Purple Heart Community"

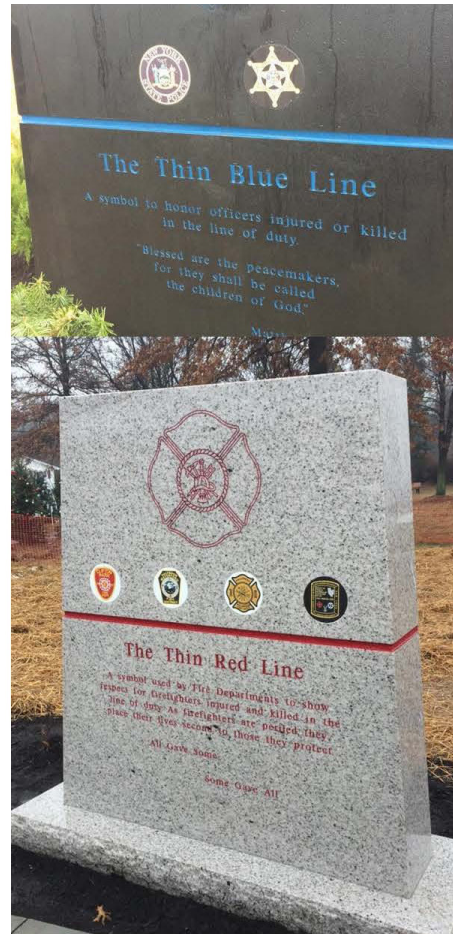


Last Thursday, I attended the Town of Claverack Board Meeting and presented an NYS Senate Proclamation (pictured above) in recognition of their becoming NY's most recent "Purple Heart Community." Claverack is the first Purple Heart Community in Columbia County. My office is working closely with local governments all across the 43rd Senate District in encouraging more localities to become "Purple Heart Communities" to recognize the courage and sacrifice of the men and women of America's armed forces. To learn more about becoming a Purple Heart Community, or for a sample local resolution making this important designation, e-mail my office at jordan@nysenate.gov. My office will continue promoting this non-partisan effort throughout 2020. Congratulations to the Town of Claverack!

Green Light Law Takes Effect

On December 16, the Green Light Law giving driver's licenses to illegal immigrants went into effect. This measure opens the door to unprecedented ID fraud, lawsuits, and ultimately jeopardizes public safety. Under the Green Light Law, illegal immigrants will be able to show foreign documentation (no Social Security Number needed) to obtain a driver's license. After a 40-minute webinar provided as training to verify identity documentation, DMV Clerks and personnel are simply not prepared to vet false identity (they have told me so). Because of the Green Light Law, anyone can reinvent themselves time and again and no one will be able to tell whether someone is who they say they are. In addition, because registration to vote occurs on the electronic tablets while one is checking out from getting a driver's license, anyone can register to vote by following the prompts. The name is transmitted to the Board of Elections (BOE) without anything to tell the BOE that an Illegal immigrant – a non-citizen – has just registered to vote. Posted below is a link to a video of my remarks from a June 5 press conference in opposition to the Green Light bill. The only thing that has changed since then is that this bad bill is now law! <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/video/daphne-jordan/senator-daphne-jordan-opposes-drivers-licenses-illegal-immigrants>.

Halfmoon's First Responder Memorial Dedication





On Saturday, I spoke at the Halfmoon First Responders Memorial Dedication. This Memorial recognizes and honors the everyday heroes who display uncommon courage. Men and women who risk their lives and answer a call for assistance and a cry for help. Public servants whose professionalism, pride, and purpose makes a difference and saves lives. I'm pictured above at the dedication ceremony with Halfmoon Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen, whom I presented an NYS Senate Proclamation in honor of the dedication. This powerful Memorial stands as a testament to Halfmoon's finest, our first responders, the "Thin Blue, Red and White Lines" – our New York State Police, Saratoga County Sheriff's Department, our volunteer fire departments, our Saratoga County Emergency Services Department, and our Clifton Park Halfmoon EMS. Real heroes don't wear capes; they wear badges and boots. They are our first responders and Halfmoon families sleep peacefully under the blanket of safety and security they provide. My thanks to all of our first responders and congratulations to the Town of Halfmoon on this impressive new Memorial!

Gavin Park Tree Lighting in Wilton

Bill O'Donnell, Publisher of the Wilton Report, sent me a wonderful video displaying the official Gavin Park Tree Lighting Ceremony in the Town of Wilton. As noted in the video description from the Wilton Report, this festive occasion featured Dorothy Nolan Kindergarten providing a holiday music introduction, and Santa as well, though the Wilton Fire Department had to step in for the reindeer. A link to the tree lighting video is pasted below, credit (and my thanks) to Bill O'Donnell and the Wilton Report for sharing this video capturing one of the many Christmas Tree lightings in my 43rd Senate District. Tree lighting video: <https://youtu.be/Q10BVQJR97U>.

Putting Porch Piracy "In Focus"

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On Sunday, I appeared on In Focus with Solomon Syed on Spectrum News discussing my new legislation to prevent Porch Piracy and keep holiday deliveries safe. In Focus is a terrific 30-minute public affairs program hosted by award-winning reporter and evening anchor Solomon Syed, running exclusively on Spectrum News. In Focus airs on Spectrum News each Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and repeats Sunday’s at 3:30 p.m. In 2017, 25.9 million Americans experienced package theft, up from 23 million in 2015, 74% of packages are stolen from homes during the day when homeowners are at work, and the average value of stolen packages is \$50-100. In case you missed it, a link to my conversation with Solomon Syed on In Focus is below: https://spectruminfocus.com/section/in-focus/in-focus-shows/2019/12/13/senator-proposes-making--porch-piracy--a-felony?cid=share_fb&fbclid=IwAR2OB7CRv8NJ-jeQepRYrfFYAjPR1_nZ8VSMgPJbjwKbzFRykT3gdCGWVUs.

Protecting County Clerks and County DMV Personnel from Green Light Lawsuits

I debated the Green Light Law (giving driver’s licenses to illegal immigrants) on the Senate Floor, voted NO, and am opposed to it. Driver’s licenses are a privilege, not a right. They can be revoked for breaking the law – illegal immigrants have broken our laws and are in our country illegally. However, I’m not so naïve to think the law can be repealed under one-party rule in the Senate – the Democratic Party pushed this law through. Therefore, I have introduced fixes to it. On Thursday, I partnered with Saratoga County Clerk Craig Hayner in advocating for my new legislation to protect the individuals working at State and County DMV offices and duly elected County Clerks who serve taxpayers. My initiative, Senate Bill S.6907, would indemnify DMV employees and County Clerks from lawsuits arising from criminal acts related to the use of non-federally compliant driver’s licenses expected under NY’s Green Light Law. My second piece of legislation, S.6910, would amend the Green Light Law, creating a “Driver Privilege License” for those who cannot prove their lawful status in the United States. My legislation addresses concerns by law enforcement and County Clerks regarding identity fraud stemming from the lax regulations and qualifications for an NYS Standard Driver License, allowing for holders to earn the privilege to drive while restoring security standards in the issuance of Standard Driver Licenses, which are used as identification by 70% of NY drivers. This would put NY in line with other states that offer drivers licenses only for the privilege of driving, not for ID.

I opposed – and continue opposing – the Green Light Law. It is an open invitation to identity fraud and voter fraud the likes of which New York State has never seen. DMV offices are now required by law to accept foreign identification even though DMV employees did not receive adequate training or proper resources to determine fraudulent forms of foreign identification. The result is that DMVs will not be able to verify that someone is who they say they are and individuals can then endlessly reinvent themselves. It will allow non-citizens to register to vote at a DMV Office on one of the electronic tablets used, which is a gateway to voter fraud. My bills are common-sense steps to try to address the many shortfalls of the Green Light Law that will make our state and our streets less safe and throw open the doors to identity fraud and voter fraud. You can read the full press release that contains more details and links to my new legislation at the following link: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-daphne-jordan-pushes-indemnify-dmv-employees-lawsuits>.

Stephentown Christmas Luncheon

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I'm pictured above attending Thursday's Stepentown Christmas Luncheon. I was happy to help spread some Christmas cheer and have a great opportunity to visit with my constituents. Merry Christmas to everyone in my 43rd Senate District!

Albany Office:
508 Legislative Office Bldg
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-2381

District Office:
1580 Columbia Tpke, Bldg 2 Ste 1
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
518-371-2751



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