

Dear Friend:

Happy Thursday and welcome to a special Thanksgiving edition of my Weekly Wrap!

**BIG happenings:**

- Don't forget to shop local on this Small Business Saturday
- COVID visitation restrictions lifted on nursing homes
- New York Assembly releases their Impeachment Investigation Report
- I sat down with WGRZ - Channel 2, Buffalo's Robert Hackford to discuss my Porch Piracy legislation
- Franklin Community Center Building Dedication
- Columbia County Honor a Veteran Program

**Other important news:**

- American Legion Post 1450 Breakfast Buffet
- Saratoga National Bank Ribbon Cutting

As always, I want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at [jordan@nysenate.gov](mailto:jordan@nysenate.gov) or call my office at (518) 371-2751. Thank you for reading and subscribing to my Weekly Wrap. It's an honor and a privilege serving you!

– Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District

Happy Thanksgiving!



Sending good wishes to you this Thanksgiving!

Remember November is the time to be thankful, a time to remember, and to embrace those who enrich our lives.

May you have all the best delights in life. Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving!

## Small Business Saturday



Small businesses are the backbone of our economies. Don't forget to shop local this Small Business Saturday, Nov 27th!

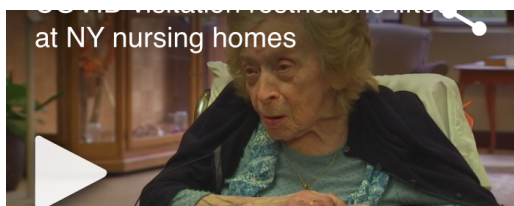
[Shop small in the Capital Region](#)

[Shop small in Columbia County](#)

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[Shop small in Washington County](#)



### **COVID visitation restrictions lifted at NY nursing homes**

Families with a loved one at a nursing home are celebrating a policy change in New York. The Department of Health has lifted all visitation restrictions.

[Read Article](#)



### **Saratoga Children's Museum Groundbreaking**

Children's Museum at Saratoga breaks ground on new location in historic Lincoln Baths; merging with CMOST.

[Read Article](#)



### **Top Democrat on Assembly panel says Cuomo report will be made public in coming days**

Lawmakers on the state Assembly Judiciary Committee Thursday afternoon began the process of reviewing a report that is the culmination of a months-long investigation of myriad scandals and controversies that have dogged former Gov. Andrew Cuomo for much of the year.

[Read Article](#)



### **Red Cross offers 10 Thanksgiving cooking safety tips**

As Thanksgiving approaches, it's time to prepare the holiday feast and brush up on home fire safety. Plus, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect communities, planning your celebrations may be a little different this year.

[Read Article](#)

## **Impeachment Investigation Report confirms Cuomo's unethical, illegal behavior**

The NYS Assembly Impeachment Investigation Report issued by the Assembly Judiciary Committee on ex-Governor Andrew Cuomo confirmed what I've said all along: there is **OVERWHELMING** evidence that Cuomo covered up the true number of nursing home deaths, used state resources to draft his book (and pocket \$5.2 million in personal profit), and engaged in a pattern of sexual harassment, intimidation, and coercion. It's all documented in the Assembly Judiciary report that you can read.





[View the Story](#)

[Read Assembly Report](#)

Stopping porch pirates, which method is better,  
deterrence or prevention?



BUFFALO, N.Y. — With more shopping being done online than ever before, more packages are being shipped and delivered to homes across Western New York. It's made for easy pickings for “porch pirates” during the pandemic but with the holiday season kicking into gear, could a change to New York’s penal code deter would-be thieves?

[View the Story](#)

## Franklin Community Center Building Dedication



This past Friday, I took part in the Franklin Community Center, Inc. building dedication in Saratoga Springs. The Franklin Community Center is a non-profit service agency that was founded in 1983 in Saratoga Springs, and provides basic necessities and services to less fortunate individuals and families.

Elliot and Cathy Masie built the Masie Center on the east side of Saratoga Springs in 2001, and it quickly became one of the most notable buildings. Michael and Stacie Arpey gifted one million dollars to the Franklin Community Center, and their incredible generosity helped to facilitate the purchase of the Masie building, conveniently located right across the street from their 10 Franklin Street location,

allowing the organization to expand their services.

The building will be the fourth facility Franklin Community Center manages in order to bring basic necessities and services to the public, with administrative offices, a community room and a food pantry being housed at 10 Franklin Street, a distribution center across the corner at 101 Washington Street, and a 19-unit rental building at 95 Congress Street.

The Masie Center has offered business-focused online seminars and was an e-learning think tank, extensively wired for online access, and this existing infrastructure will make it easier for the Franklin Center to communicate with clients.

The Franklin Center's programs include a food pantry, a free after-school program for local students and affordable housing for low-income individuals, as well as assisting with furniture, clothing and household needs, among others.

Over the past five years the growth in demand for the types of services and outreach that the Franklin Community Center provides made it clear that more square footage was needed. Since the start of the pandemic, the Franklin Community Center's food pantry has served 2,300 families with 588 families seeking services for the first time.

Elliot and Cathie Masie are thrilled that the Masie Center will have a new chapter, supporting the Franklin Center's mission, as the center uses the technologies and facilities in their new home to provide support, services, and programs.

The purchase of the Masie Center, and the expansion of the Franklin Community Center, will help ensure that families in Saratoga Springs have an inviting place to receive the resources they need for the years to come.

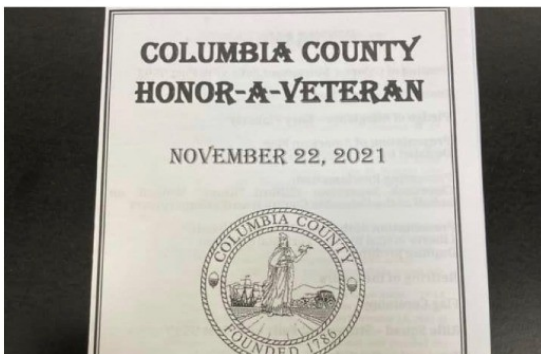
I also presented Kari Cushing, Executive Director of the Franklin Community Center with the NYS Senate Empire Award, and an official NYS Senate Proclamation. Additionally, I presented Michael and Stacie Arpey with the NYS Senate Commendation Award in recognition of their dedicated service and outstanding commitment to the community.

Congrats to the Franklin Center, and to Michael and Stacie Arpey, on this wonderful project!

[Learn more about the Franklin Community Center](#)

## Columbia County Honor a Veteran Program





On Monday morning, I had the privilege of taking part in Columbia County's wonderful Honor-A-Vet Program in Hudson. This ceremony recognized and honored the life and legacy of U.S. Army Veteran Donald Milton Johnston, whose service record (below) demonstrates his incredible bravery. I also presented the NYS Senate Liberty Medal (the highest civilian honor that can be bestowed by a member of the NYS Senate upon a resident of New York State) and a NYS Senate Proclamation, to Mr. Johnston's family. Monday's ceremony featured the Posting of the Colors and Rifle Squad by the Stuyvesant Falls Memorial VFW Post 9593, an invocation by John Neary, the Pledge of the Allegiance led by Columbia County Director of Veteran's Services, and United States Army Command Sergeant Major, Gary Flaherty, and a proclamation presented by Claverack Town Supervisor Clifford "Kippy" Weigelt on behalf of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. God bless Donald Milton Johnston and all of our veterans. We appreciate you and are forever grateful for your service!

### **United States Army Veteran Donald M. Johnston**

Donald M. Johnston was born April 22, 1918, to Barson and Grace Powell Johnston in Mellenville, NY. He attended Philmont Elementary and High School, graduating in June of 1935. Prior to his enlistment, he worked as a mechanic. Donald entered the United States Army on August 8, 1942, in Albany, NY as a 2nd



Lieutenant and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in May of 1944.

Lt. Donald M. Johnston was assigned to the 8th Air Force, 303 Bomber Group (Hells Angels), 360 Squadron as a B-17G pilot in the ETO. Stationed at Molesworth, England, he flew 36 missions over France and Germany. After flying the B-17 named "Iza Vailable Too" on a bombing mission of a railway station in Berlin, he received flak damage causing a fire on his #2 engine. In the after-action report, he stated: "Flak had damaged the fuel line and the engine caught fire when the fuel booster pump was turned on. At about 300 feet over the runway, the #4 engine became a ball of fire. As I cleared the runway, onto the grass side, my main concern was injuring any of our crew as they cleared our burning aircraft. Alone I departed through the cockpit side window to the left-wing."

What was left of his B-17 was used as spare parts. 1st Lt. Don M. Johnston returned to the states and was assigned to the 563rd AAF Base Unit. He was honorably discharged on November 14, 1945, at Drew Field, Fl.

For his service, 1st Lt. Donald M. Johnston was awarded the following: Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal w/3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, and the EAME Campaign Medal. Don returned home and was employed at B.W. Johnston Construction Co., and later was the Maintenance Supervisor at Taconic Hills Ockawamick Central School; where he retired in 1984. Active in his community, he was a member of Philmont Rod and Gun Club (life), Am. Legion Post #252, Commissioner of Mellenville Fire District, and Claverack Republican Club (charter member), and the Philmont Santa Claus Club.

Don passed away on February 2, 2009, and was interned in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Philmont, NY. He left behind three children Marcia, Mary, and Michael, 8 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. He was 91 years old

## American Legion Post 1450 Breakfast Buffet



The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 1450 sure know how to cook up a breakfast buffet! Yummy... It was great to catch up with the many friends I saw there on Sunday. By the way, that was Phil's full dish!

[Visit the American Legion's Facebook Page](#)

## Lung Cancer Awareness Month



November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Sadly, lung cancer causes more deaths than any other type of cancer in the country. It's more important than ever to raise awareness and take action to save lives. I encourage all to learn how they can take part by visiting the American Lung Association website.

Visit the American Lung Association's Website



Saratoga National Bank





Monday afternoon was the Saratoga National Bank & Trust ribbon-cutting ceremony in Saratoga Springs as we celebrated the opening of their new Wilton Square Branch. I presented a NYS Senate Certificate to President and CEO Dave DeMarco. Also in attendance was Ray O'Connor, Chairman of the Board. Saratoga National also made a generous \$5,000 donation to CAPTAIN Community Human Services, as noted in the photo. Monday's ribbon-cutting was sponsored by the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. My thanks to the Chamber for sponsoring this event, Chamber President Todd Shimkus is pictured above as well. Congratulations to Saratoga National Bank & Trust Company, and thank you for your community-minded generosity.

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## THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE