

# THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 104 | DECEMBER 17, 2021



NYS SENATOR DAPHNE JORDAN  
(R, C, IP, REF) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the December 17 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

## **BIG happenings:**

- Honoring my 2021 Veteran of the Year, Jeffrey French
- My letter to Governor Hochul in support of the Dwyer Veterans Support Program
- My statement on Governor Hochul's new mask mandate
- Boar's Head Yule Log Christmas Pageant at Hoosac School
- Retirement Celebration for Saratoga Springs Mayor Meg Kelly

## **Other important news:**

- Celebrating the Anniversary of the National Guard
- New York State Senate Youth Leadership Award
- Business to check out:
  - Where Smiles Grow

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

## IN THE NEWS





### DMV online testing was restarted despite cheating, security lapses

ALBANY — An online testing system that's led to rampant fraud in New York's driver permit program was restarted in February despite warnings from county clerks and motor vehicle workers that they were seeing evidence of cheating as well as the widespread use of counterfeit identification documents.

[Read Article](#)



### Grammy nomination for Shen grad 'surreal,' 'exciting'

Danni Bouchard was my neighbor. I've been a fan of her music since her days in the folk / indy pop band Oh Honey.

[Read Article](#)



### Cuomo may get to keep \$5.1M book profits after AG warns ethics panel order is defective

Governor Cuomo used taxpayer resources to enrich himself in the middle of the pandemic. He should be forced to return every dime he took!

[Read Article](#)

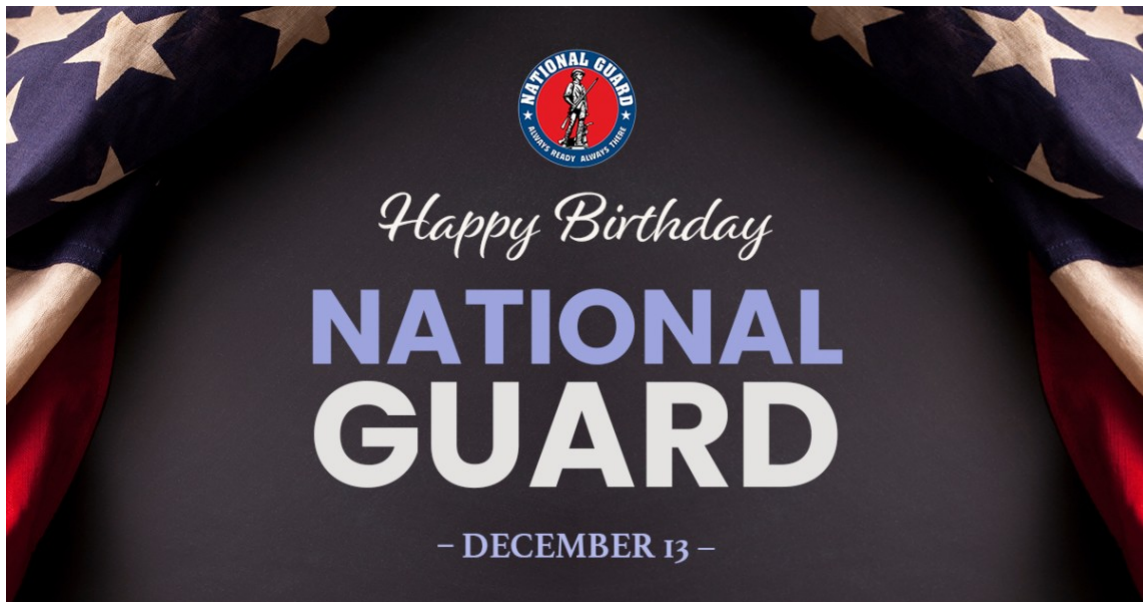


### Record warmth, but snow on way to Capital Region, Adirondacks

ALBANY — The mercury should climb into the mid-50s again Friday but winter weather is not far behind. The National Weather Service in Albany predicts snow will hit the Capital Region and Adirondack Mountains on Saturday, potentially dropping up to 8 inches of snow around Glens Falls. The Albany area is expected to receive a more modest amount though meteorologists say up to 4 inches of snow could fall in the area. Parts of the Mohawk Valley could see similar totals.

[BUTTON](#)

## Happy Birthday to the National Guard



On December 13th, 1636, the first militia regiments were organized and the National Guard was born. Let's take a second to acknowledge the men and women who have served and continue to serve in our National Guard, and thank them for always being at the ready for our communities in times of need.

## Honoring my 2021 Veteran of the Year Jeffrey French



This week, we celebrated Jeffrey French's induction into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. Every year, each of the 63 NYS Senators select their inductee to recognize and thank these patriots for service to our Nation and our State and for their continued public service at home in civilian life. Out of the 800,000 veterans in NYS, it is quite an honor to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Once you read Jeffrey French's biography, you will see why he is my 2021 inductee. Thank you for your service!

[Read his Biography](#)

## Letter to Governor Hochul in support of the Dwyer Veterans Support Program



Since being founded in 2012 in honor of PFC Joseph Dwyer, the Dwyer Peer-to-Peer Support Program has helped thousands of veterans and their families get the support they need to handle the transition back to civilian life. It especially helps those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). In the 43rd District, we are grateful to have Command Sergeant Major Gary Flaherty in Columbia County, USMC Sergeant Daniel Wargo in Rensselaer County, and Specialist Frank McClement in Saratoga County as dedicated program directors and I cannot thank them enough for all the hard work they do. It is important that State funding of this program be continued to ensure our veterans get the support they need. Please read my letter calling on Governor Hochul to include funding of the Dwyer Program in her 2022-2023 Executive Budget Proposal.

[Read the Letter](#)



## My statement on Governor Hochul's new mask mandate



Governor Hochul's mandate raises many questions, especially regarding who would have the responsibility for enforcement — will it fall to employees at businesses? The \$1,000 fine also raises serious concerns as County Health Departments are responsible for enforcement. This constitutes a massive burden they can't oversee, as these departments already are incredibly busy and do not have enough staff.

The Governor's mandate adds yet another burden on our struggling small businesses, so many of whom have made herculean efforts to protect their customers and safeguard their employees. We need to expand COVID testing to help stop the uptick, as it would ensure that our small businesses are not forced to police their own customers.

Lost in the Governor's mandate is the critical issue of personal responsibility and choice, and that individuals can make the choice that's best for them and their personal health.

## Boar's Head Yule Log Christmas Pageant at Hoosac School



I'm officially in the Christmas spirit after the Boar's Head Yule Log Christmas Pageant last Friday night at Hoosac School. Every student (about 225 from all over the world) participated in the 133 year old tradition. In between Parts 1 and 2, we all enjoyed a magnificent feast! I eagerly anticipated this event since my tour of the school in summer 2020. Thank you Schodack Town Supervisor, Dave Harris (an alum) and his wife, Adele for inviting me to be their third wheel. Many thanks to Headmaster Dean Foster and his family for making me feel so welcome. I can hardly wait to go back to Hoosac!

[Learn about Hoosac School](#)

## Celebrating the Retirement of Saratoga Springs Mayor Meg Kelly



Thank you Mayor Meg Kelly for your leadership and public service through unusually tough times. Despite that, Mayor Meg Kelly's accomplishments were many for the world- renowned city she's always called home. It was my honor to celebrate Mayor Kelly with the many people who call her their friend. Best wishes on her next chapter!

## New York State Senate Youth Leadership Award





**YOUTH LEADERSHIP**

RECOGNITION AWARDS



Help recognize student leaders  
who make our school and community proud!

To learn more about this award program, and to  
nominate a deserving student, please visit:

**JORDAN.NYSENATE.GOV**

**Senator Daphne Jordan**

43<sup>rd</sup> New York State Senate  
Senate District

Every year the New York State Senate is proud to present the Youth Leadership Recognition Award, to high schoolers that will become the next generation of leaders. Any high school sophomore, junior, or senior who excels academically, and demonstrates leadership through their extracurricular activities, is eligible for the award. All applications must be submitted by March 25th, 2022 so if you have a student you would like to nominate don't wait! Check the link below to learn more and to fill out the application.

Learn more about the Youth Leadership Recognition Award



Where Smiles Grow

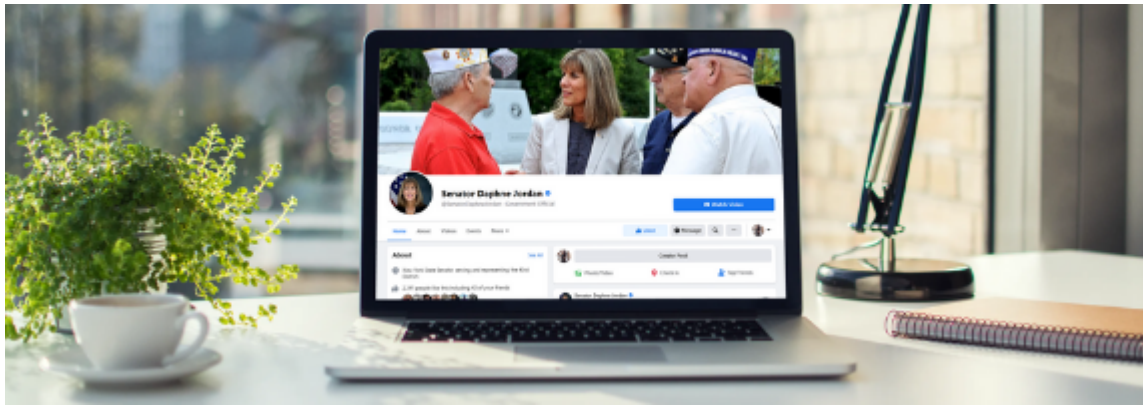




Another ribbon cutting with the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce to celebrate, congratulate, and offer best wishes for success to a new business in the 43rd Senate District! Welcome to Schodack Where Smiles Grow - Pediatric Dentistry! Where Smiles Grow is the proud winner of the 2021 Times Union "Best of the Capital Region" award for Best Dentistry. The dedicated doctors and staff have served the Capital Region for over 40 years and have two other locations in Latham and Delmar. After visiting the new office this week, I too was full of smiles knowing that children that visit Dr. Jen and Dr. Dan (whom I was able to meet out of the full team) will grow up not fearing dentists or having their teeth cleaned.

Business Website

Stay up-to-date with me throughout the week  
on Social Media!



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INSTAGRAM

YOUTUBE

VISIT MY WEBSITE

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## THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE