

THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 102 | DECEMBER 3, 2021



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



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the December 3 edition of my Weekly Wrap!

BIG happenings:

- Happy Hanukkah to all who celebrate!
- Nourish NY is now permanent
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced the release of the Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street Record of Decision
- Read my statement regarding remedies to the Green Light Law
- I introduced legislation to establish a Fire Station Construction Grant Program

Other important news:

- Make A Difference Luncheon
- Halfmoon Senior Center Monthly Meeting
- Saratoga Springs Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Stewart's Shops holiday match program has begun
- Washington County Fairgrounds is hosting a holiday lights display

As always, I want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at 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 Hanukkah!



Happy Hanukkah to all my Jewish friends, neighbors and to my stepdad! Sunday night began eight wonderful nights of celebration. I hope that all who celebrate receive great blessings during this Festival of Lights!

Nourish NY Now Permanent



I am proud that the bi-partisan Nourish New York bill was signed into law. This bill permanently extends a program that connects our farmers and local food banks in order to provide nourishment to those most in need. This is a big win for our farmers who have struggled through the pandemic. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I will continue to deliver for our farmers.

[Read more about Nourish NY](#)

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announces the release of the Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street Record of Decision



For Immediate Release: 12/03/2021

Contact: Maureen Wren | (518) 402-8000
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DEC RELEASES FINAL PLAN TO PROVIDE NEW PERMANENT CLEAN DRINKING WATER SOURCE FOR HOOSICK FALLS

State Continues to Hold Responsible Parties Accountable for PFOA Contamination

DEC Announces Release of Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street Record of Decision

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the release of the Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street Record of Decision, the final plan to provide a permanent water source to address perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) contamination in the village of Hoosick Falls' water supply. As part of the State's commitment to ensuring residents in the Hoosick Falls Water District continue to have access to clean and reliable drinking water, DEC's Record of Decision (ROD) incorporates findings from the [Municipal Water Supply Study](#) and public comments received on the State's plan to select a groundwater source outside of the contaminated aquifer, in addition to the continued use of a granular activated carbon (GAC) filter to fully protect public health.

"Today's announcement is a significant milestone in our multi-year efforts to provide a permanent and clean water supply to the people of Hoosick Falls," **Commissioner Seggos said**. "From day one, we followed the science, addressed immediate risks, and worked closely with community leaders and residents to develop a long-term plan for a sustainable water supply in the village. DEC couldn't have done this without Mayor Rob Allen and the dedicated members of the Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group and we will continue to work together to advance this plan and continue to oversee ongoing cleanup efforts in the region."

"New York State has led the charge nationally in setting protective and enforceable standards for emerging contaminants in drinking water while assisting communities to gain access to infrastructure and treatment solutions where needed," **said State Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett**. "Village of Hoosick Falls residents can feel confident that this new water source, together with the existing treatment, will continue to provide drinking water that meets strict quality standards."

"The Hoosick Area Community Participation Working Group (CPWG) is pleased to see the arrival of a decision regarding a new water supply for the Village of Hoosick Falls," **said Brian Bushner**, a co-chair of the Hoosick Area CPWG. "This has been a long time coming but the group is comfortable that the process was as complete as possible and the decision reflects community priorities. The CPWG appreciates all of the time that our community has invested in providing feedback and guidance to DEC, as well as the incredible amount of work that the DEC has contributed to making this come to fruition. The water crisis has been one of the largest

challenges our community has ever faced, and to see a resolution and rectification on the horizon brings great relief to all."

After PFOA contamination was confirmed in the village of Hoosick Falls' drinking water supply in 2016, under DEC oversight, Saint-Gobain and Honeywell installed a GAC treatment system at the village water treatment plant to eliminate the community's exposure to this contamination. The GAC treatment system removes PFOA and other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from the drinking water supply.

As part of the State's actions to advance a comprehensive cleanup, **DEC compelled Saint-Gobain and Honeywell International Corp.** to undertake a detailed study to evaluate potential options for a permanent, clean, and reliable drinking water source for the Hoosick Falls Water District. The study was released in December 2020. The release of the final Record of Decision to advance the new, permanent drinking water source follows the release of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan for public comment in April 2021, and a close review of the input DEC and the state Department of Health (DOH) received on the proposed plan. The final ROD includes:

- Developing two new groundwater supply wells. Existing test wells south of Hoosick Falls will be converted to production wells;
- Retaining one existing village well. Redundancy is required in the case of an outage of the primary wells;
- Constructing a water transmission line from the new wells to the village water treatment plant along public rights of way;
- Continued operation of the public water supply treatment plant to remove naturally occurring elements, and ensure disinfection and distribution to meet applicable water supply requirements; and
- Retaining the existing GAC treatment system to ensure removal of ambient organic compounds.

The full ROD is available at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html>. The companies responsible for the contamination in the Hoosick area will now be expected to perform the actions needed to implement the new alternate water supply source, under strict DEC oversight

In addition to the implementation of the new, clean drinking water supply, DEC continues to require Honeywell and Saint-Gobain to identify and address the sources of PFOA contamination in this community.

DEC and DOH will continue to provide Hoosick area residents with information and [updates regarding ongoing remediation efforts](#). In addition, state agencies continue to engage the [Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group \(CPWG\)](#) to discuss the progress of the PFOA cleanup.

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This afternoon the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced the release of the Saint-Gobain – McCaffrey Street Record of Decision. This is the final plan to provide a permanent water source to address perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) contamination in the Village of Hoosick Falls water supply. As noted in the DEC's press release, the Record of Decision incorporates findings from the Municipal Water Supply Study and comments received on the State's plan to select a groundwater source outside of the contaminated aquifer, in addition to the continued use of a granular activated carbon (GAC) filter to fully protect public health. More details are contained in the DEC's press release. I remain committed to ensuring that Hoosick Falls residents continue to have access to safe, clean, and reliable drinking water and am sharing this important news with the community as the process moves forward.

Read press release

My statement regarding changes to the Green Light Law



NEWS

from New York State **Senator Daphne Jordan**

43rd Senate District | LOB Room 508, Albany, NY 12247 | Phone: 518-455-2381 | Jordan@nysenate.gov

This week I released a statement alongside Saratoga County Clerk Craig Hayner regarding remedies to the Green Light Law. These changes will identify deficiencies, protect public safety, and save taxpayer dollars.

[View Press Release](#)

Introducing legislation to establish a Fire Station Construction Grant Program

Senate Bill S7558

2021-2022 Legislative Session

Establishes the fire station construction grant program and the fire station construction fund; and makes an appropriation therefor

Our firefighters are some of the most hard-working members of our communities. Whether paid or volunteer, they put their lives on the line for us every day to ensure that on our worst days there would be someone there to help us. Unfortunately, many of these brave individuals are being asked to do more with less. In many rural and low-income areas, firefighters are using firehouses that are over 100 years old. This makes it next to impossible for them to get the most modern equipment because in many cases it just won't fit. These old firehouses simply cannot keep up with the needs of a 21st-century community and they need to be upgraded. Therefore, Wednesday I sent a letter to the Governor asking her to include my new bill in her 2022-2023 Executive Budget. This bill would create a grant process for fire departments to help cover the costs of fire station

construction or renovation and is modeled after a similar program that already helps restore public libraries around the State. My proposal would help direct existing state funds to fire departments that need additional support. We are asking our firefighters to do a 21st-century job with 19th-century infrastructure, and it is time to change that. This bill will provide our brave firefighters with the tools they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. Please read my letter to the Governor below and let her know that you support our firefighters.

Read Bill Text

Read my Letter to Governor Hochul

Make A Difference Luncheon



Tuesday I had the pleasure of attending Saratoga Casino Hotel's "Make a Difference Luncheon". As part of #givingtuesday, the Saratoga Casino Hotel presented eleven organizations with grants of \$10,000 each.

The community organizations honored on Tuesday included:

- **SnacPack**, which provides additional food to children K-12 that are in need. The program helps over 245 children each week.
- **Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar**, which assists economically disadvantaged students in Saratoga Springs afford college. Since 2008 they have contributed to over 140 students.
- **Lifepath**, which helps aging communities in the Capital Region by providing activities, and delivered lunches.
- **Saratoga Performing Arts Center**, for its cultural impact on the region.
- **Saratoga Hospital's Saratoga Community Health Center**, which provides high-quality medical care to the people of Saratoga regardless of their ability to pay.
- **The Donna M. Crandall Memorial Foundation**, which helps families deal with the financial burdens associated with Cystic Fibrosis, including hospital visits and mortgage payments.
- **Franklin Community Center**, which provides help to over 6,000 people annually with life's essentials like food, clothing, after-school care, and housing.
- **The Wesley Foundation**, which offers seniors independent senior housing, independent & assisted living apartments, skilled nursing and memory care.
- **Wellspring**, which assists those suffering from domestic violence or sexual assault in Saratoga County.
- **Jake's Help from Heaven**, which helps cover the costs families have when caring for a child with special needs. The organization was founded by Heather and Brian Straughter in honor of their son Jake.
- **The Joseph C. and Anne T. Palamountain Scholarship Fund** which provides opportunities through scholarships at Skidmore College.

I was also proud to present an official Senate Proclamation to Dan Gerrity, President and CEO of Saratoga Casino Hotel and his son Sam Gerrity, for being the driving force behind these grants. The generosity of the Gerritys and Saratoga Casino Hotel is a great reminder to all of us this holiday season and all year long to help others.

All of the organizations recognized Tuesday play an integral part in helping our community prosper and I want to thank each of them for their amazing work.

Halfmoon Senior Center Monthly Meeting



I had a great time on Wednesday in my hometown of Halfmoon visiting with friends and neighbors at the Halfmoon Senior Citizen Association's monthly meeting. As we head into this winter I shared some important information about programs available to help seniors lower their heating costs, and get the health services they need. I was also happy to share some fantastic cookies from The Cookie Factory in Halfmoon. Our seniors play an important role in our community and it is important for all of us to lend a helping hand to anyone who needs it.

[Visit the Senior Center's Website](#)

Saratoga Springs Tree Lighting Ceremony



I had a great time Thursday evening at the Downtown Saratoga Springs Business Association's Tree Lighting Ceremony. Thank you to all the organizers including Mayor Meg Kelly, Deann Devitt, President of the Downtown Business Association, and Heidi Owen West, Vice President of the Association. Thursday night's Tree Lighting marks the beginning of the 35th Annual Victorian Streetwalk which this year is a weekend-long event. Throughout the weekend there will be many live performances to come and enjoy. You can get your Christmas shopping done at the many terrific shops and enjoy many great restaurants to get the flavor of the season. It truly is a one-town-stop Christmas extravaganza! The Tree Lighting and arrival of Santa Claus also ushered in the good tidings and great joy of Christmas. So I say to all of you, have a very Merry Christmas!

[See all Victorian Streetwalk events](#)

Stewart's Shops Holiday Match Program



Thank you to Stewart's Shops for their incredible generosity. It is fantastic to see a company like Stewart's truly caring about the communities they serve. Our communities are stronger thanks to the private donations of everyone who supports this amazing program. When you get your morning coffee, pick up your chili for lunch, shop for milk, ice cream, and eggs, or fill up with gas on your way home at Stewart's, give a little. Lots of "little" adds up and is then matched by Stewart's.

[Read Troy Record article](#)

[Learn more about Stewart's Shops Holiday Match Program](#)





Washington County Fairgrounds hosts big holiday light display

The Washington County Fairgrounds is having their inaugural Holiday Lighted Nights. This is a drive-thru holiday display that is going on through the next few weeks.

[Read Article](#)



The smart, fair way to pay farmworkers

A great article by Assemblyman Chris Tague in the New York Daily News. The Farm Laborers Wage Board is currently contemplating a provision that could devastate small family farms across New York.

[Read Article](#)



Schuylerville moves into Class C football state final with impressive win over Dobbs Ferry

Congratulation to the Schuylerville football team on their win in the state semi-finals. Be sure to cheer them on tonight, Friday, December 3rd as they play for the NYSPHSAA Class C state football title. GOOD LUCK!

[Read Article](#)

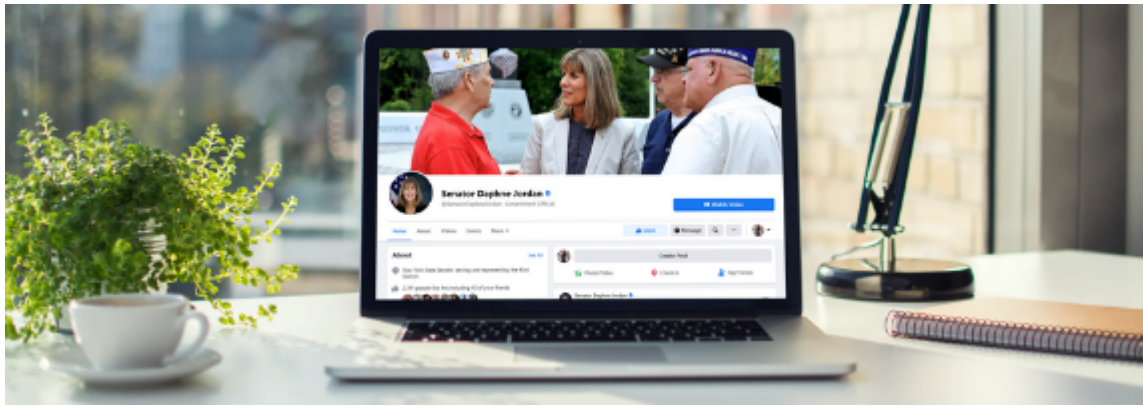


DOJ probing Andrew Cuomo sexual harassment claims, contract reveals

The U.S. Department of Justice is probing claims of sexual harassment by former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a newly disclosed document reveals

[Read Article](#)

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