

THE WEEKLY WRAP

ISSUE NO. 112 | FEBRUARY 11, 2022



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



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the February 11th edition of my Weekly Wrap!

BIG happenings:

- Governor Hochul Ends Mask Mandate For Businesses
- My Petition to Governor Hochul Calling For An End To School Mask Mandates.
- The Republican Conference Introduce Legislation To Force DOH To Investigate Nursing Home Policies
- Speigletown Fire Company Held Its Installation Banquet

Other important news:

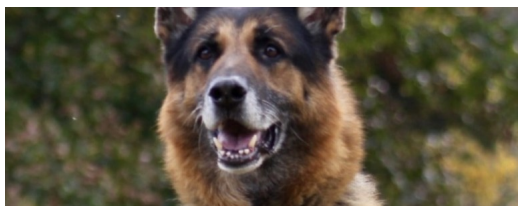
- COVID-19 Test Distribution To Non-Profit Organizations
- Olana State Historic Site Receives Large State Grants
- New Supermarket In Halfmoon
- East Greenbush Native Edmonia Lewis Honored With USPS Stamp
- Meeting With Capital Region Farmers

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

IN THE NEWS





Saratoga County Sheriff's Office retired K9 passes away

The Saratoga County Sheriff's Office announced that retired K9 Lee has passed away. K9 Lee was assigned to Deputy CJ Brownell. It was an honor to have met you, Lee. Rest in Peace.

[Watch Tribute Video](#)



SHOUT OUT TO CAPITAL REGION PLOW DRIVERS

Thank you to all of the hardworking plow drivers! Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and are appreciated. Please continue to stay safe throughout the rest of the winter! #snowplows #winterweather

[Read Article](#)



Explaining the Need for Recruiting Volunteer Firefighters

John D'Alessandro, Secretary of FASNY stopped by the podcast to discuss the need for volunteer firefighters throughout the entire state of New York. There has been a 20% decline in volunteers; why? And what does a declined volunteer pool mean for the safety of communities, particularly upstate? John also discusses what businesses and the public can do to support volunteer departments beyond becoming a member.

[Read Article](#)



Fonda's Carter Petersen raising the bar in senior season

Coach Hogan is a good friend of mine. I want to share this because he has been and continues to be a best friend to countless student athletes whether it be in pole vaulting, diving or strength training. He produces champions not only in the sports he coaches, but champions in good character... champions for life. He coached my son James in the Shen Swim Team and I know this first hand. Thanks Coach!

[Read Article](#)

Governor Hochul Ends Mask Mandate for Businesses



Reports that Governor Hochul is finally lifting her indoor mask mandate imposed on businesses is long overdue and welcome news for countless small businesses that have struggled under the weight of the Governor's unconstitutional, costly edict. Now, as COVID cases have thankfully cratered, it's well past time for Governor Hochul to follow the science and rescind her mask mandate on schools. We need to remove this mandate and unmask our kids so they can – after two incredibly long, difficult years – finally have a normal school day. Governor Hochul needs to stop the bureaucratic delays and follow the science, follow the facts, and follow the lead of states like New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and so many others that are making masking voluntary. The time has come to unmask our kids and get back to normal!

[Read the Full Story from WTEN](#)

My Petition to Governor Hochul Calling for an End to School Mask Mandates.



This week the Governor announced that her statewide indoor mask mandate for businesses will END! However, the Governor's school mask mandate has not been included in this decision. In response, I collected signatures for a petition to end this mandate. In just **3 Day** my office collected **1127 Signatures** to send to the Governor! We know that COVID is not a serious threat to children; it's time to follow the science and follow the facts. I am calling on the Governor to end her destructive mandate that continues to harm students' mental and emotional health.

Senate Republican Conference Introduces Legislation To Force DOH To Investigate Nursing Home Policies



On Tuesday, I joined Senator Sue Serino, Senator Jim Tedisco, and my Senate Republican Colleagues as we introduced legislation to force the Department of Health (DOH) to conduct a full investigation into the State's pandemic policies in relation to the 15,000 lives lost in nursing homes from the coronavirus. Dr. Bassett, the new Health Commissioner does not want to look backward, but that is the only way we can learn from our mistakes and move forward. In order to ensure that something like this never happens again, it is imperative that we understand exactly what went wrong. In addition the families need answers and deserve closure after almost 2 years. We are calling on the Governor to follow through on her promise to have the most transparent administration, by including this legislation in her 30-Day Budget Amendments.

[Read The Bill](#)

Speigletown Fire Company Held Its Installation Banquet



Thank you Speigletown Fire Company for inviting me to your Installation Banquet Saturday evening. More importantly, thank you for your service to your community and Congratulations to all of the Firematic and Administrative officers that were installed. In addition to Senate Certificates of Recognition for all of the installed officers, I also delivered over 100 COVID rapid tests for the department to hand out as they feel is needed.

Speigletown Fire Company Website

COVID-19 Test Distribution To Non-Profit Organizations



Yesterday, I spent time driving around to some of my favorite not-for-profit organizations delivering tests and masks. We started off at the Saratoga Springs Salvation Army where I met with Captain Bree Barker. After that, I stopped in at the Franklin Community Center where I was able to meet with Peter Falco, the Food Pantry and Facilities Manager, and MaryBeth McGarrahan the Development Director. From there we traveled over to The Shelters of Saratoga Springs where Duane Vaugh, Executive Director, and Stephanie Romeo, Program Director, discussed their successes, current projects, and ongoing concerns. Finally, we finished up at the Mechanicville Area Community Services Center where Executive Director Megan Quillinan updated me on their needs and opportunities. I want to thank these fantastic organizations for all of the vital work that they do for our communities. If you are interested in volunteering, donating, or need help please check out their websites below:

Saratoga Spring Salvation Army

Franklin Community Center

Shelters of Saratoga Springs

Mechanicville Area Community Services Center

Olana State Historic Site Received Large State Grants



Great news for Olana State Historic Site, the former home of artist Fredric Church, as they have secured \$11.1 million towards their \$15 million capital campaign. I am proud to have written a letter in strong support of grants from the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority's Carbon Neutral Economic Development grant program and the Empire State Development Corporation's Market NY Regional Tourism Capital grant program. With the \$3.2 million from these grants, Olana is a big step closer to its fundraising goal and being able to construct a solar array and new visitors center that will help reduce its environmental impact. I am excited to see the future of this great state historic site.

[Visit Olana State Historic Site](#)

New Supermarket In Halfmoon



Halfmoon has a new addition to its community. Last Friday, Toha Mohammad and his wife Shaharin, opened Al-Amin Asian Supermarket, in the shopping center on Guideboard Road and Route 236 in Halfmoon. This supermarket will cater to Middle Eastern, American, and Asian clientele with its wide selection of goods from Asia and the Middle East. The store will also include a butcher shop that will observe dietary restrictions such as not mixing beef knives with those used on chicken, lamb & fish. Thank you to Pete Bardunias and the Capital Region Chamber for helping us celebrate this great new addition to Halfmoon and the 43rd Senate District. Congratulations and wishes for much success Toha and Shaharin!

Supermarket Website

East Greenbush Native Edmonia Lewis honored with USPS Stamp



This past week The Town of East Greenbush honored the life of sculptor Edmonia Lewis and her incredible contributions to the art community. Edmonia Lewis was born in Greenbush, NY in 1844 to a Native American mother and African American father. She persevered throughout her education and career despite facing racial and gender discrimination. Edmonia Lewis attended Oberlin College and became a sculptor before moving to Rome and becoming a world-renowned artist, creating famous works such as the bust of Colonel Robert G. Shaw. Thanks to the hard work of Bobbie Reno, the East Greenbush town historian, and Michelle Deal Winfield, the USPS has honored Edmonia Lewis with a forever stamp as part of their Black Heritage series. Thank you to Halie Northrop, my community liaison, for helping to present a New York State Senate Proclamation to Bobbie, and Michelle, in honor of Edmonia Lewis's contribution to the arts and the United States.

[Learn More](#)

Meeting With Capital Region Farmers



On Thursday I met with the Alliance for New York's Farmland and discussed the critical need for farmland preservation as well as some of the challenges that our farmers face. I heard stories from farmers across the Capital Region who expressed their support for legislative and budget efforts which will ensure that agriculture, our State's largest industry, can be carried on by future generations. Thank you to Renée Bouplon of Agricultural Stewardship Association, Carli Fraccarolli of Scenic Hudson, Tori Roberts of Saratoga PLAN, Olivia Fuller of American Farmland Trust, Rhiannon Wright of Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship, Christine and Fabio Ritmo of Nimble Roots Farm, and Sam Calhoun of Columbia Land Conservancy for meeting with me to discuss this important issue.

Alliance For New York's Farmland Website

New York State Broadband Survey

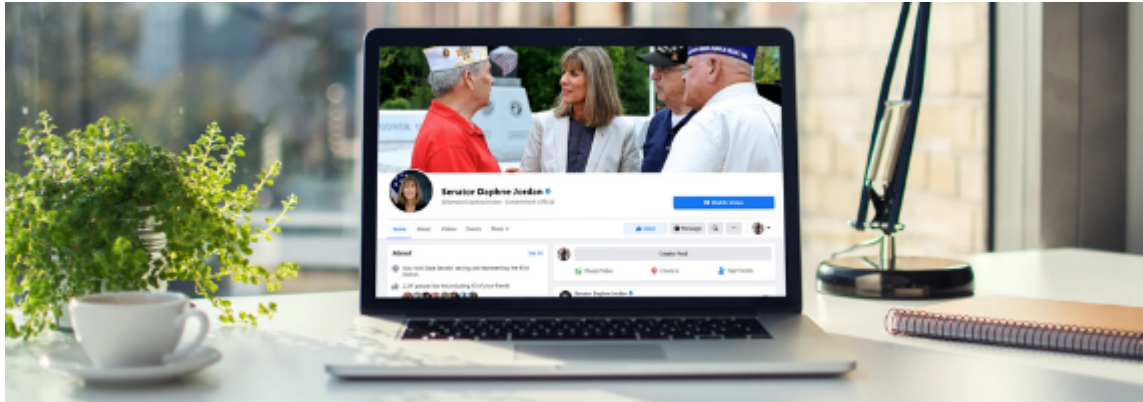


The New York State Broadband Assessment Program is a vital step in bringing broadband internet to every New Yorker. This survey will allow the Department of Telecommunications to determine where services are still needed, where they can

be improved, and where affordability is an issue. Please fill out the survey at the link below:

Take the Survey

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



FACEBOOK

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INSTAGRAM

YOUTUBE

VISIT MY WEBSITE

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