

# Vestal Town Crier

Your Town. Your News ~ Official Newspaper for the Town of Vestal



Vol. 34 No. 40

NEWSTAND PRICE \$1.00

Friday, May 19, 2023

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## Town Board Approves Case Drive School Zone Speed Limit

by Rosemary B. West

During the Wednesday May 10th Vestal Town Board meeting, Town Supervisor W, John Schaffer explained Vestal Central School District Superintendent Jeffrey Ahern had requested the Town Board consider Case Drive being deemed a school zone with a 15-mph speed limit. Superintendent Ahern had noted, “We have received complaints from parents of Vestal Hills Elementary School, as well as Case Drive residents regarding the dangerous situation the 30 mph speed limit on Case Drive located behind the elementary school presents. There is an increase of traffic there during the morning/afternoon hours parent drop-off/pick-ups of students. As part of our current capital project a parent drop-off / pick-up zone is planned to be located in front of the school. However, this will not be completed for another 2-3 years. Meanwhile, for the safety of the students, as well as Case Drive residents, we are requesting that section of Case Drive speed limit be lowered to 15 mph.” The Town Board agreed to the that section of Case Drive be declared a school zone and lowering the speed limit from 30mph to 15mph.

Mary Sonnen presented her Girl Scout Gold Award proposal to the Town Board at the Town Board’s May 8th Monday night Work Session meeting Mary explained, “I would like to put signs up at each of the Town of Vestal parks providing information about the Town of Vestal’s history. Each sign will highlight the change and advancements of the Town of Vestal during their 50 year historic time span.”

The Town Board voted their agreement at this Wednesday night Town Board meeting to her proposal. They added, “We are looking forward to seeing this completed historical signs. Project.

During the public comment section of this meeting’s agenda, some of the twenty-four Vestal residents attending, explained to the Town Board their main reason why so many of them had decided to attend this evening’s Town Board meeting was they wanted to inform and share with the Town Board their frustrations, concerns, and questions they had regarding the results of their latest Vestal property re-assessments. Vestal residents Marcus Smith and Mindy Bell explained their property assessed values have been increasing a great deal over the past couple of years, even though no additional changes have been made to their properties. Since 2021, their property assessed values went up a total of 25 to 30 percent. Smith said, “My 2021 assessment was \$105,050. Last year \$177,200. This year it was \$203,800.” Mindy pointed out, “My husband and I moved to Vestal 17 years ago from Dutchess County thinking we were moving to a more reasonable area.

Now, we’re getting priced out in Vestal.” Some residents questioned, “What does the assessed value increase mean, when it comes to our property taxes?” Town Supervisor Schaffer explained that just because assessed property value increases, it doesn’t necessarily mean a tax increase. Vestal Town Board Member John Fletcher suggested that those who don’t agree with their current assessment should go and fill out and file an assessment grievance form with the Town of Vestal Assessment Department.

Town Board returned to the rest of the Town’s business on the meeting’s agenda. A Public Hearing was scheduled to be held 5pm at the Vestal Town Board room on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. The Public Hearing is for a proposed Local Law concerning the adoption of a Town of Vestal Nuisance Law.

Vestal Museum Director Chereese Wiesner-Rosales request for the Town Board to waive the alcohol restriction on the Rail Trail for their Second Saturday Music Festival Series being held May thru October 2023. The Town Board approved the waiver she requested, however only if all requirements are met and presented to the Town Board before the event. The requirements are: Insurance Indemnification and a day use Liquor License from New York State Liquor Authority from each participating vendor serving alcohol. If food is served, a Broome County Health Department permit must also be provided.

The Town Board then voted and agreed to increasing the annual base salary for the position of Town Engineer to \$150,000 effective with the first full payroll in July 2023. Supervisor Schaffer explained, “This increase is to address current and future recruitment and retention issues.”

Town Supervisor W. John Schaffer signed the Supplemental Agreement for the Main Street Bridge Replacement Project for additional soil boring, stormwater and archeological services.

Town Board authorized Vestal Police Chief, Stace Kintner to sell the retired Police Department’s 2020 Dodge Durango. Police car that will be sold in “as is” condition via Auctions International.

Before the closure of this evening’s meeting, Town Board members, as the Board of Fire Commissioners approved and welcomed these new Vestal Fire Department volunteers at the following Vestal Fire Stations: Fire Station 1- Grace Kelley. Fire Station 2 – David Kubeli and Jacob Kubeli and Fire Station 4 – Mark Pradun.

**VESTAL PARKS DAY**  
**Saturday May 20th**



## Vestal High School IB Students Devote Day of Service to CHOW and Discovery Center

Students in Vestal High School’s International Baccalaureate classes have scheduled their annual community activity service (CAS) projects at The Discovery Center and CHOW Warehouse from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

Groups of students will be gardening, painting or otherwise getting The Discovery Center ready for the season. Another group of students will be sorting and packaging non-perishable food donations at

the Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse. “Vestal students have long demonstrated both an interest in helping those in need in the community and in promoting educational opportunities for other young people,” said IB-Honors Facilitator Jeffrey Dunham. “I’m proud to share that our participation level in these service activities is at an all-time high.”

Creativity, Activity, Service is a mandatory core component of the IB Diploma Program, and these seniors have finished their individual CAS projects to fulfill requirements for graduating with an IB Diploma in June. These group projects are a fun way for them to finish the school year together in the spirit of community.

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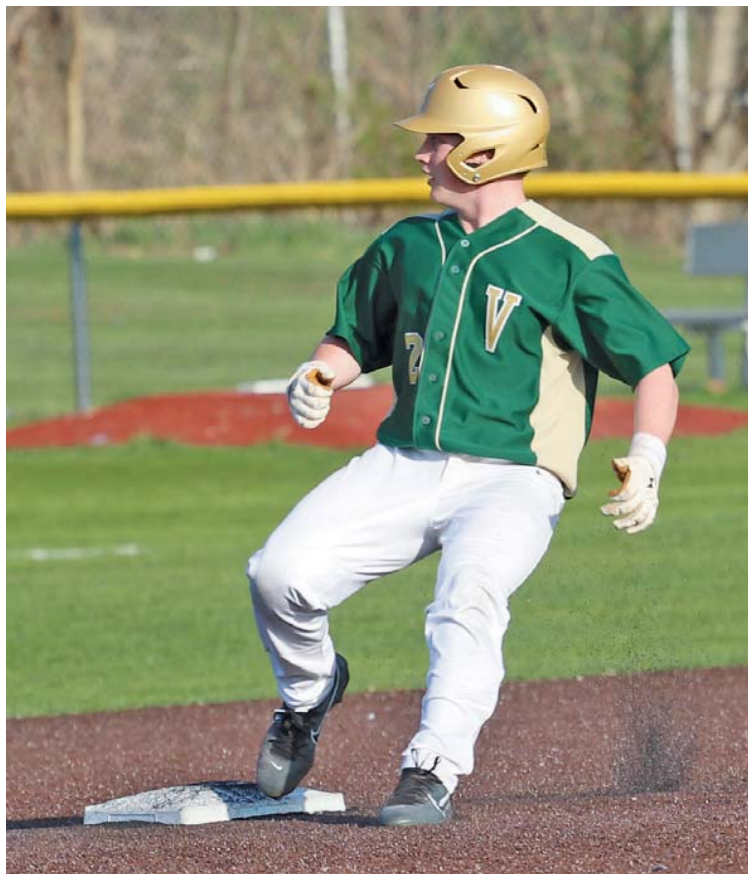
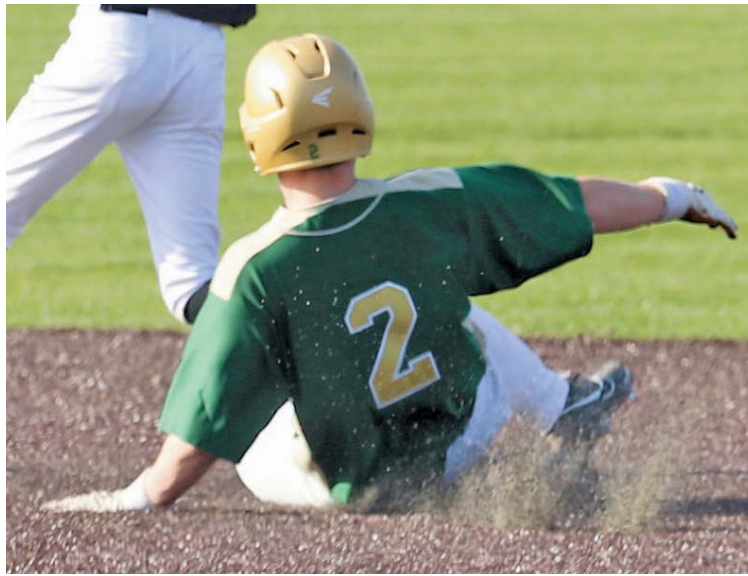
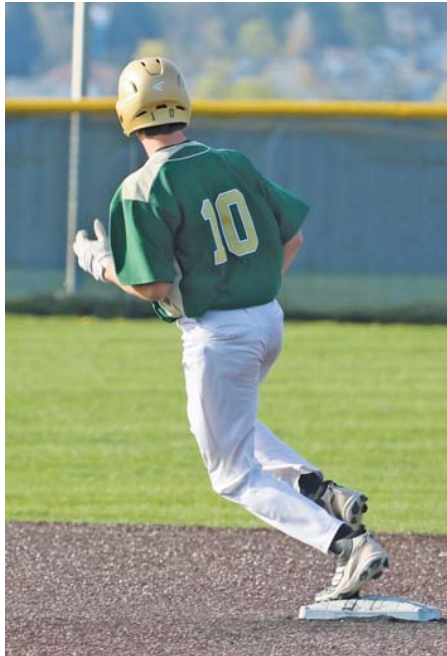
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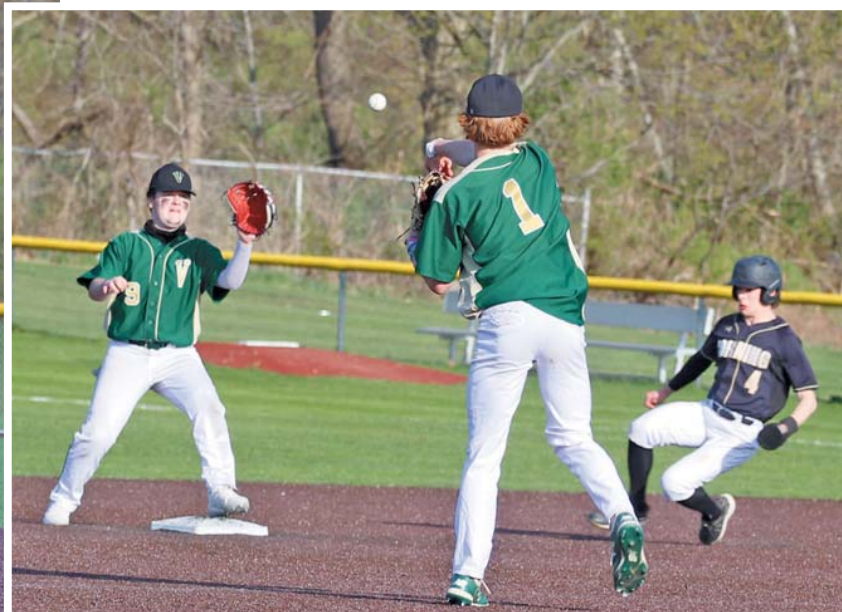


# Vestal JV vs Corning BASEBALL

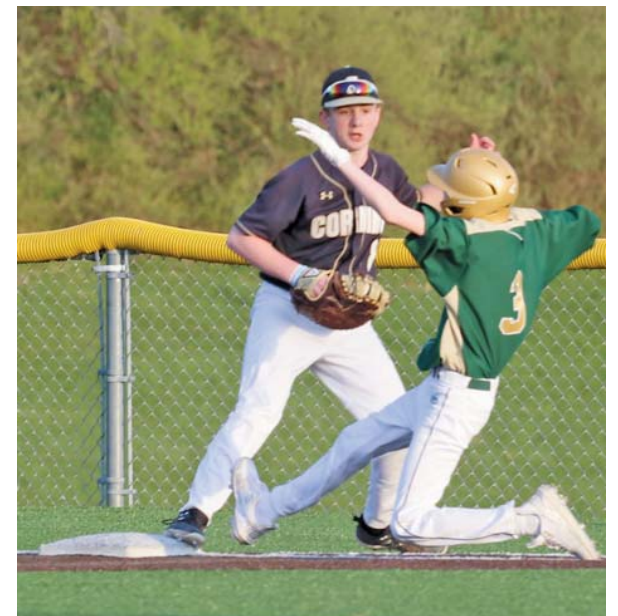


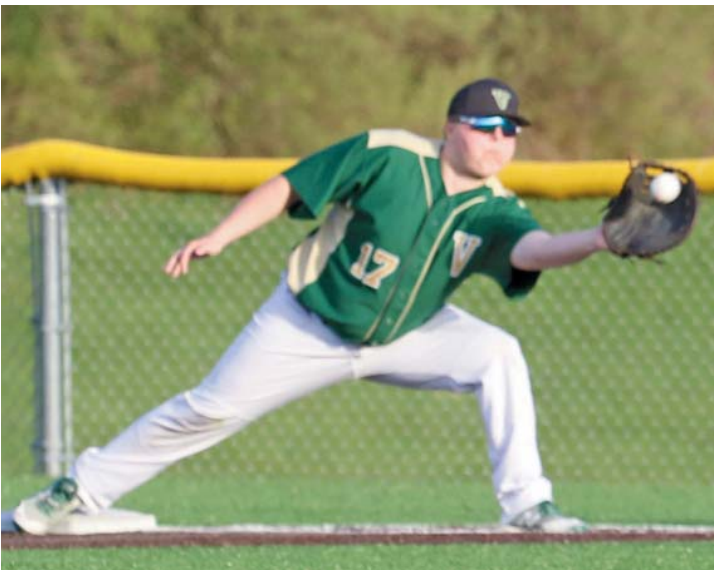
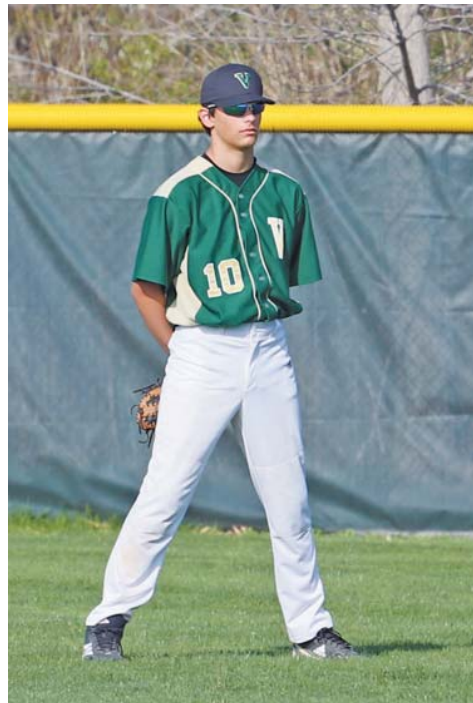
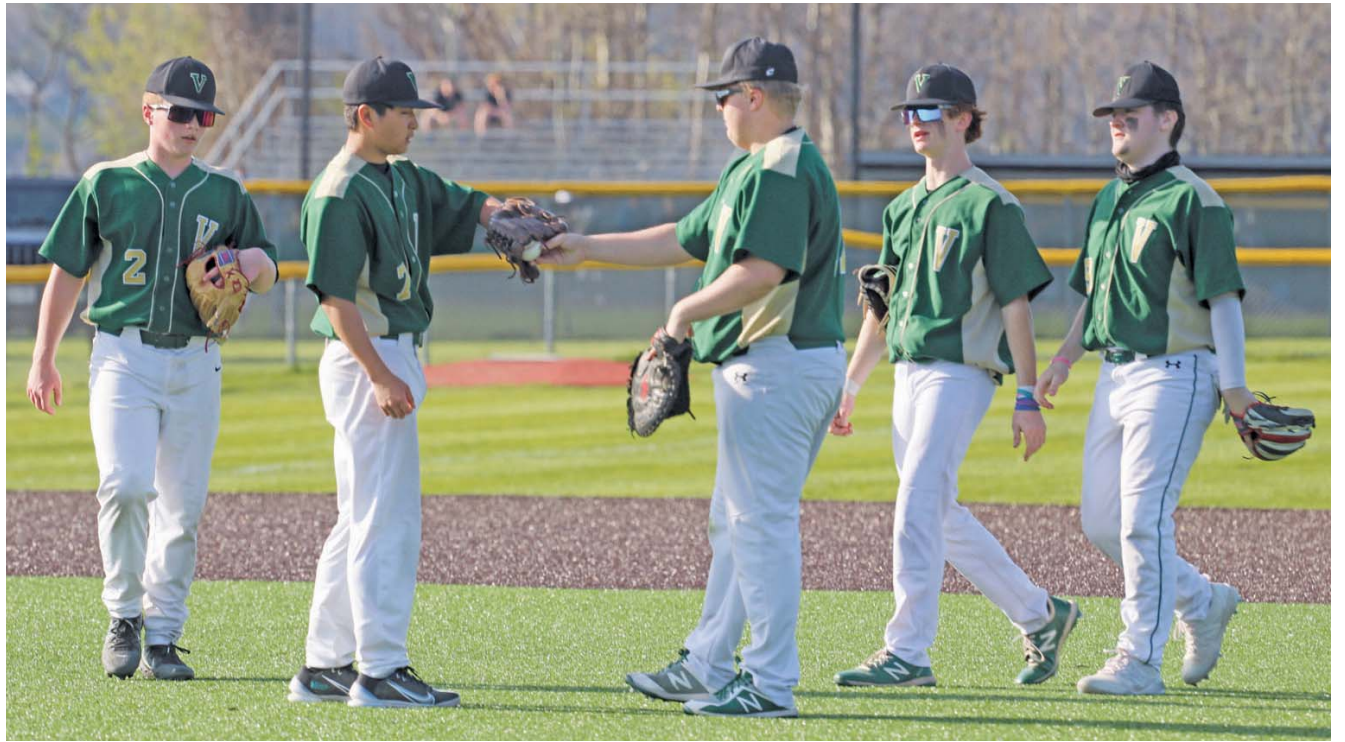
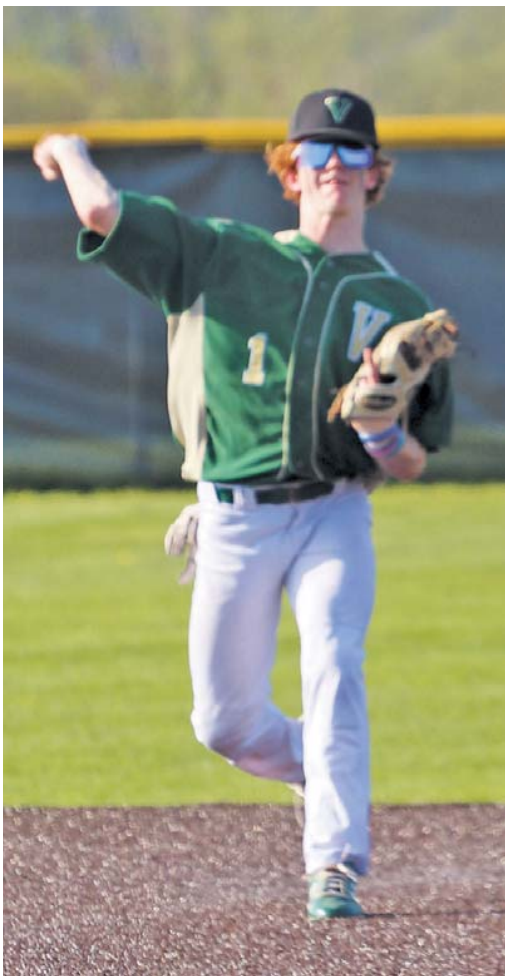
Mike Franz, Head Coach

#	Name	Grade
9	Alex Bailey	10
17	Jaden Bernardini	10
16	Chrystian Burdick	9
14	Benjamin Elie	10
1	Joshua Gannon II	9
5	Max Hatala	9
2	Colton Hubbard	10
8	Canyon Kalina	9
7	Logan Kim	10
16	Henry Lay	9
4	Landon Pancoast	9
13	Barrett Scanlon	9
3	Alexander Sculley	9



Photos by Maryesther White-Brink





LOU GENNETT  
BASEBALL FIELD  
VESTAL'S "SKIPPER" 1957-1977

E		INNING	GUESTS	
10		7	4	
BALL	STRIKE	OUT	H	E





# Calendar

**Saturday, May 20th**  
**Vestal Parks Day. Bicentennial Event**

**Sunday, May 21**  
**PAST Sacred Sites Tour**

**Monday, June 3rd**  
**Vestal Front Street Day. Bicentennial Event**

**Saturday, July 15th**  
**Vestal Antique Car Show. Bicentennial Event Rail Trail Wine & Food Tasting.**



**“Time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time”**

Marthe Trolly-Curtin

**“I’m going to stop putting things off, starting tomorrow!”**

Sam Levenson

**“Better three hours too soon than a minute too late”**

William Shakespeare

# VESTAL POLICE REPORT

**Virgil Rohmann, 56**, Vestal, arrested for Harassment 2nd Degree and Endangering the Welfare of a Child after a physical domestic where he hit the victim in the face with his hand in the presence of a child.

**Nikki Hotaling, 42**, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Moved from Lane Unsafely and Failed to Keep Right after a traffic stop.

**John Foley, 33**, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Leaving the Scene of a Property Damage Motor Vehicle Accident, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 3rd Degree, Refusal of Breath Test, Moved from Lane Unsafely and Unlicensed Operator after a motor vehicle accident.



## VESTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

[vestalfire.com](http://vestalfire.com)

*by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer*

05/08 22:04 Stonehedge Drive  
Strong odor of unknown gas throughout residence

05/09 12:09 Vestal Road  
Possible building fire

05/09 12:19 Harrison Avenue  
Mutual aid to Endicott for a building fire

05/09 15:31 Harvard Street  
Smell of natural gas in residence

05/10 11:49 Vestal Parkway E.  
Smoke from front of building

05/10 13:39 Tracy Creek Road  
General fire alarm

05/10 21:10 Commerce Road  
Commercial fire alarm

05/10 23:10 West Drive  
Fire alarm activation

05/11 09:38 Vestal Parkway E.  
Commercial fire alarm

05/12 17:58 Kimball Road  
Possible powerline issue

05/12 21:39 Badger Avenue  
Mutual aid to Endicott for a fire issue

05/13 05:00 Ash Road  
Carbon monoxide alarm

05/13 08:42 Vestal Parkway E.  
Commercial fire alarm

05/13 11:37 Vestal Road  
Motor vehicle accident with injury

05/13 16:08 Ash Road  
Truck hit wire - towed truck leaning

05/13 18:18 Vestal Parkway E.  
Brush fire in parking lot

05/14 20:56 Bearcat Blvd.  
General fire alarm

05/15 11:01 Bunn Hill Access Rd.  
Lobby fire alarm

05/15 13:20 Murray Hill Road  
Bedroom smoke detector activation



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## Vestal Town Crier

Vestal Town Crier (USPS 0052-26)

Published weekly by Newspaper Publishers LLC  
PERIODIC POSTAGE PAID at Conklin, NY 13748

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:  
Vestal Town Crier PO Box 208 Conklin, New York  
13748-0208 (Broome County)

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Published Weekly on Friday

How to Reach Us:  
PO Box 208, Conklin, New York 13748-0208

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# Bailout Training for Vestal Firefighters

by George Allen

Interior Firefighters of the Vestal Volunteer Fire Department are Firefighters who are trained to go into a burning building to search for trapped occupants. They never go into a burning building by themselves, always go in with a buddy, and bring a pressurized hose with them. They go in with an airpack that allows them to breathe clean air for about 15 minutes. While everything is done to assure the safety of a firefighter, there are cases where a firefighter could be trapped in a building and

would need to “bailout” of an upper story building to escape. This Training session was to train firefighters how to “bailout” or escape from a burning building.

The training officer “Ivan” wanted to teach firefighters how to escape, so had firefighters go to a window without an airpack to emphasize the process of escaping. Note that a “belay” line was attached to each firefighter with several men holding on to that safety/belay line to prevent the firefighter from falling.

The fighter attached himself to a window frame or a vertical stud in the building, then exited the building through the window and slid down his escape line. While this process may appear to be a bit scary, the

firefighters had two lines of attachment: one line of attachment to the building, the other safety line attached to a different point on the building. If something were to go wrong, the safety line would hold a firefighter in “mid-air” so he could be safely lowered to the ground.



## Public Safety Town Halls In Vestal and Windsor

The Broome County Sheriff’s Office announced two more Public Safety Town Halls taking place this month in the towns of Windsor and Vestal.

Sheriff Fred Akshar, Undersheriff Sammy Davis, and other members of the BCSO will be on hand to discuss public safety issues, answer questions, and share progress from the new Sheriff administration’s first few months.

The Windsor Public Safety Town Hall will take place on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 from 6:00pm-7:30pm at the Windsor Central High School Cafeteria located at 1191 NYS Route 79, Windsor, NY 13865.

The Vestal Public Safety Town Hall will take place on Thursday, May 25, 2023 from 6:00pm-7:30pm at the Vestal Elks Lodge No. 2508 located at 2071 Vestal Pkwy W, Vestal, NY



**VESTAL PARKS DAY**  
**Saturday**  
**May 20th**  
**9-5**

See Ad on Back Page



“In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours”

Mark Twain

“The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.”

Henry Van Dyke

**VESTAL** CENTRAL SCHOOL **DISTRICT**

**ART SHOW**

FEATURING ARTISTS GRADES **K-12**

Showing at the **VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**MAY 18-JUNE 6**

Opening reception will be held **May 18th at 5 pm**  
 with activities sponsored by the High School Art Club



# VESTAL VARSITY vs U-E BASEBALL



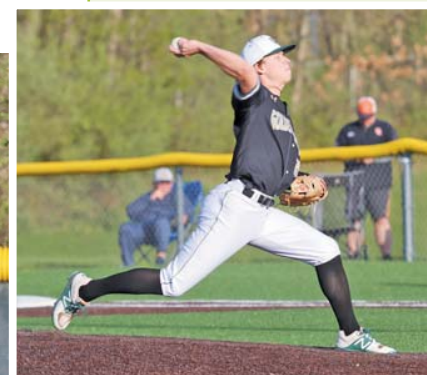
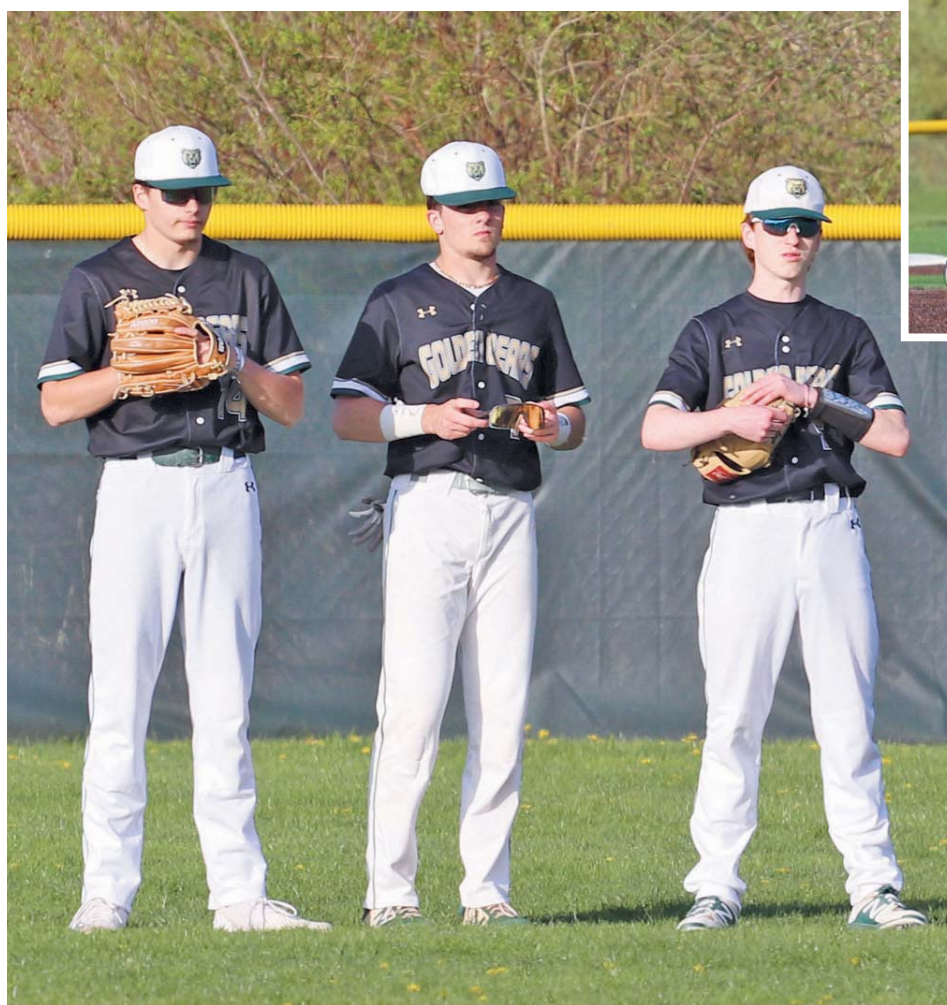
#10 Braden Strahley



#12 Kaden Grayson

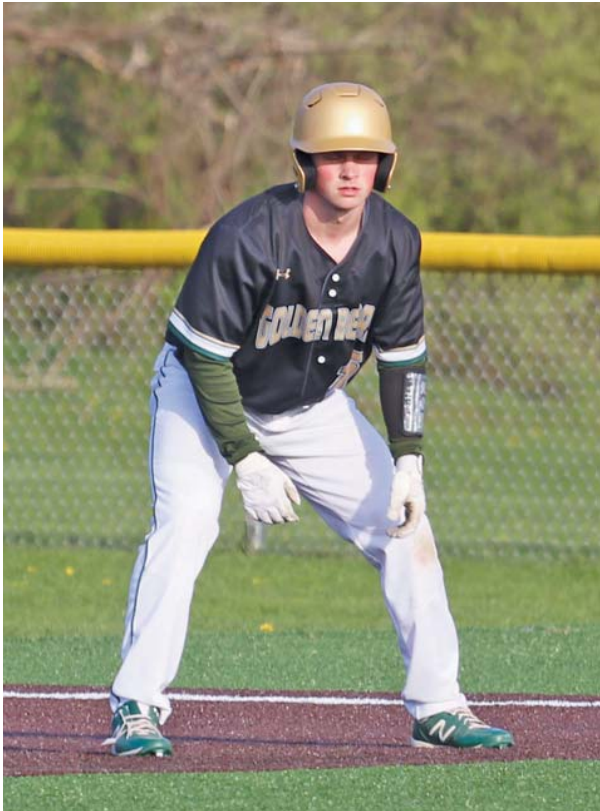
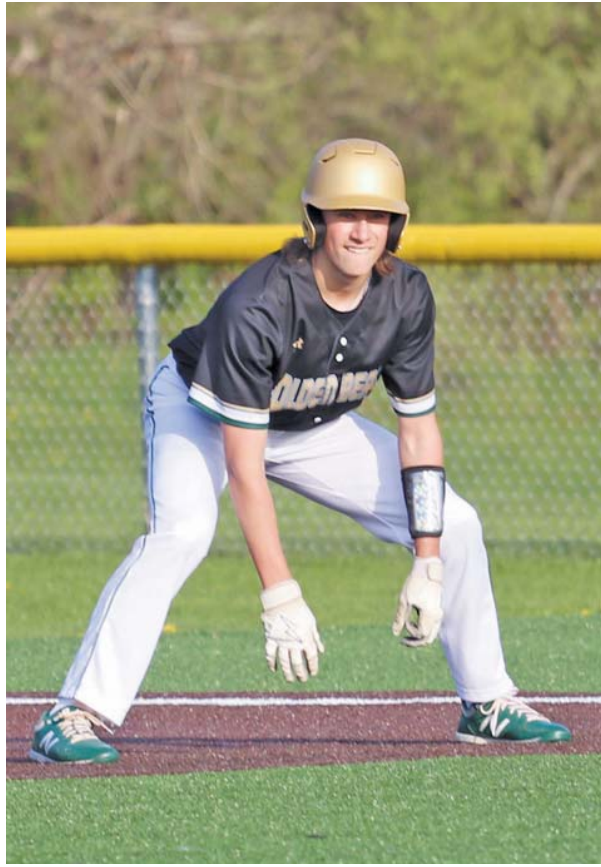
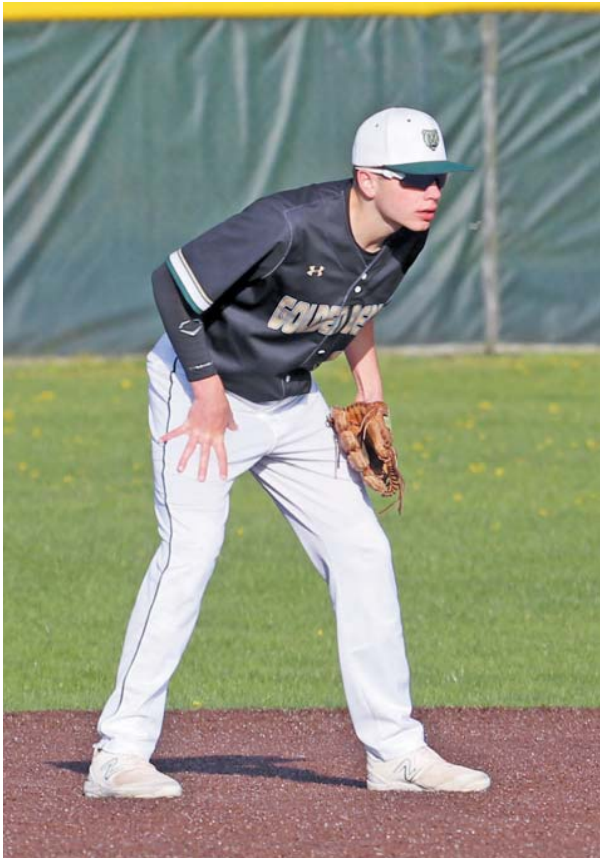


#17 Benjamin Tanton

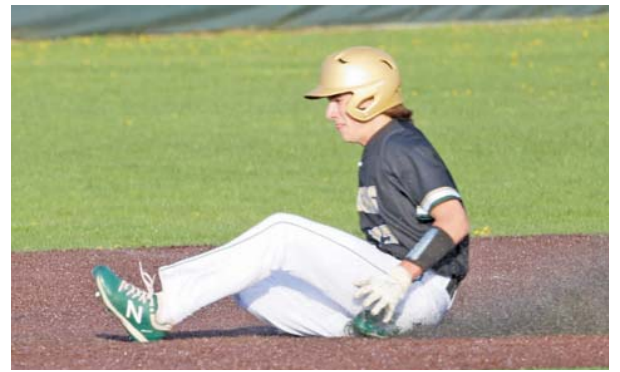


John Anderson, Head Coach

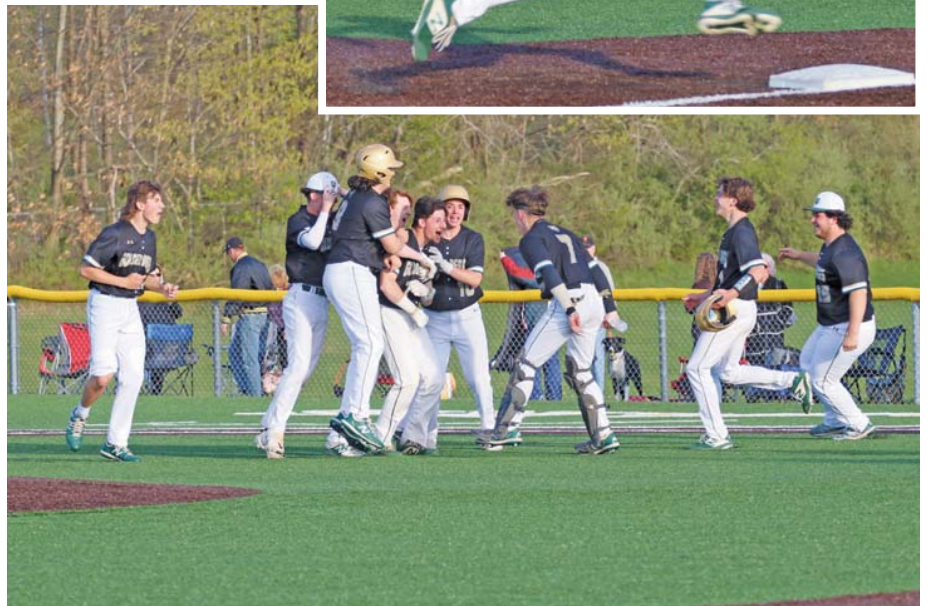
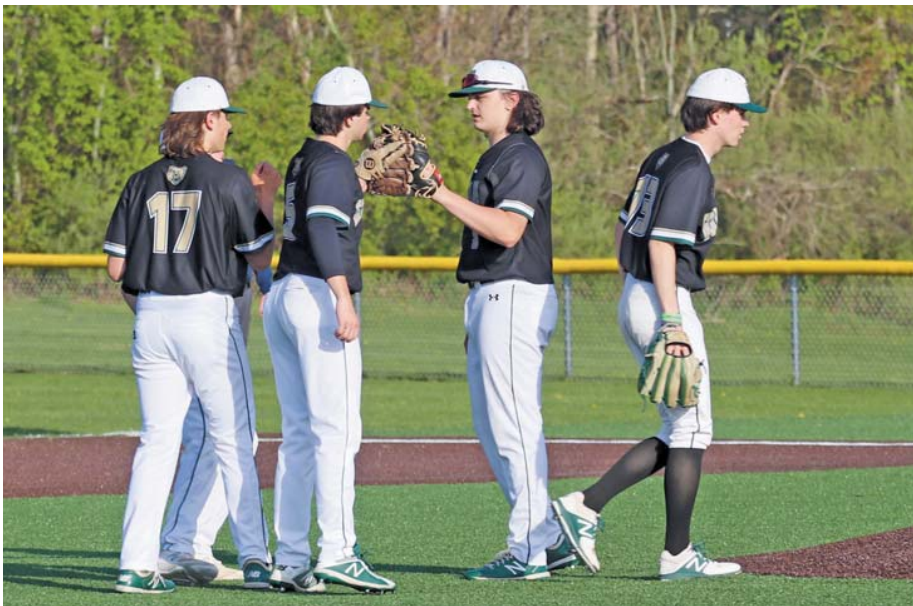
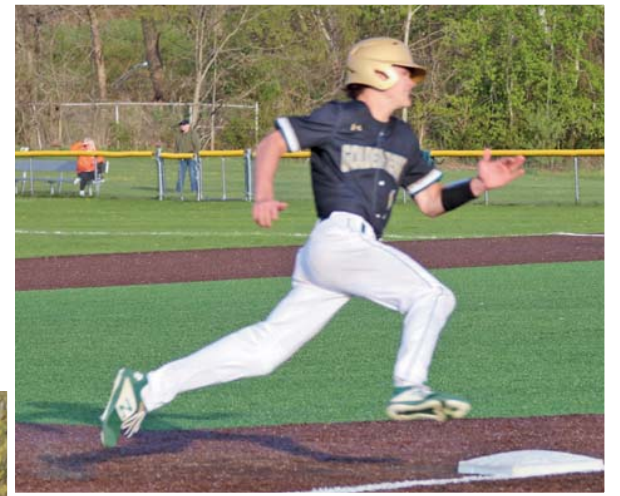
#	Name	Grade
6	Joshua Dozoretz	11
4	Nathan Fimbres	12
1	Jack Gannon	12
5	Jacob Gdovin	11
12	Kaden Grayson	12
13	Nolan Grayson	10
16	Owen Hatala	11
7	Liam Hughston	10
11	Jacob Kemmery	11
14	Grayson Kilpatrick	12
3	Noah Kintner	11
9	John McIntyre	11
15	Elijah Ramia	12
8	Camden Schaffer	11
18	Colin Shea	11
10	Braden Strahley	12
17	Benjamin Tanton	10
2	Aidan Traver	11



They won!



Photos by Maryesther White-Brink



## Alicia Yin Initiated into Omicron Delta Kappa

Lexington, Virginia, on December 3, 1914. A group of 15 students and faculty members established the Society to recognize and encourage leadership at the collegiate level.

Alicia Yin, of Vestal, was recently initiated into the Emory University Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

The Society's national headquarters are located in Lexington, Virginia



The Society welcomed 787 new initiates from 32 universities during March 2023.

Students initiated into the Society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/professional-students in the top 35% of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals.

## Vestal K-12 Art Show at Vestal Public Library

This year's District K - 12 Art Show will bring the community together May 18 - June 6, 2023, as it's hosted by the Vestal Public Library.

Fewer than five percent of students on a campus are invited to join each year.

Join us for the opening Artists Reception beginning at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, with activities sponsored by the Vestal High School Art Club.

Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the National Leadership Honor Society, was founded in

Town of Vestal Bicentennial Committee Presents

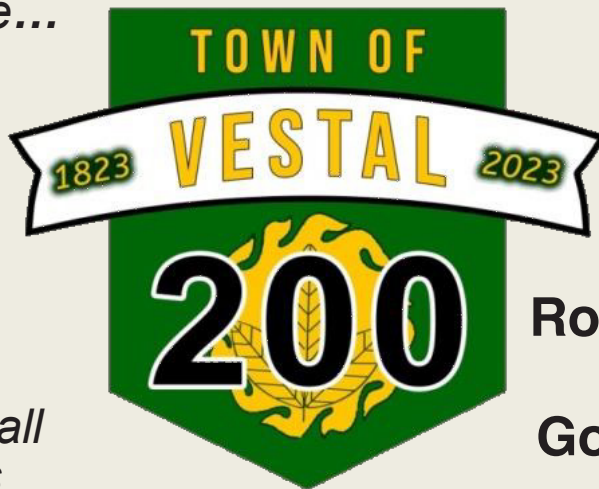
# VESTAL PARKS DAY

## Saturday, May 20, 2023 • 9am – 5pm

Choose your adventure...

- Archery Clinic
- Disc Golf Clinic
- Geocaching
- Guided Hikes
- Pickleball Clinic

...try one or try them all for a chance at prizes



Featuring

- Arnold Park** – Archery, Disc Golf, Geocaching  
*Andrews Road*
- Jones Park** – Guided Hikes  
*State Line Road*
- Ross Corners Park** – Pickleball  
*Old Owego Road*
- Gordon Allen Park** – Dedication of park renovation  
*Ethel Place*

Wrap up the day with Food, Live Music, and Raffle Prizes at Arnold Park

Check online for full schedule and times – Free to Participate  
[vestalny.gov/residents/vestal\\_bicentennial/](http://vestalny.gov/residents/vestal_bicentennial/) #Vestal200