



# The Vestal Town Crier



Proud to Be Your Hometown News for Over 44 Years



Vol. 34 No. 48 NEWSTAND PRICE \$1.00 Friday, July 21, 2023 SUBSCRIBE at [Pulisher@TiersNews.com](mailto:Pulisher@TiersNews.com)

## Vestal High School Student Wins First Place and Overall Champion in Computer Game & Simulation Programming at National FBLA Conference



A student from Vestal High School won top prizes at the 2023 National Leadership Conference of Future Business Leaders of America, Inc. (FBLA), the nation's largest Career and Technical Student Organization focused solely on business. The event held June 27 - 30, 2023, in Atlanta, GA, attracted more than 13,000 middle school and high school students and educators from across the country.

Vestal High School is proud to share that these students qualified to compete in the National Competition - Ameet Ashok, Solomon Chen, Daksh Dhamsania, Abhiram Kandanati, Andrew Lee, Rayaan Lodi, and Miron Sulicz. Miron, a rising senior, captured first place in the category of Computer Game & Simulation Programming. He was also crowned the overall champion in this event!

More than 8,700 High School members from

nearly 1,600 high schools and more than 850 Middle School members from more than 250 middle schools competed in more than 100 competitive events over four days. Students also engaged in learning workshops, met with representatives from more than 60 colleges, universities, and employers, and heard from Jordan Davis, an educational speaker and FBLA alumnus, during the opening ceremony.

"Our Vestal High School student members did an exceptional job," said Vestal HS FBLA advisor Annette Mezzadonna. "They wowed the judges with their keen understanding of areas as diverse as Accounting, Banking and Financial Systems, Communications, Securities and Investments, Political Science, Financial Math and Computer Game & Simulation Programming."

FBLA President & CEO Alexander T. Graham said. "They headed home with a renewed sense of accomplishment, a robust network of peers from across the country, and connections to colleges and employers as they explore future career opportunities."

## Vestal Town Board Not Banning Dogs on Rail Trail

By Rosemary B. West

Town Supervisor W. John Schaffer announced at the July 12th Vestal Town Board meeting "The Town Board has been made aware some people using the Rail Trail have been approached and given literature claiming that the Town Board is planning to ban dogs from the Rail Trail. That is not true!! There has not been any Town Board discussion currently regarding banning dogs on the Rail Trail. The Rail Trail is not a Town Park and dogs ARE allowed to enjoy the Rail Trail space with their owners. But be sure to do your duty as a good dog parent and user of the Rail Trail. Pick up and deposit in the bins on the trail any doggie poop they might have to do. The Rail Trail hosts a multitude of user groups engaged in a wide range of activities."

Some tips suggested to having a safe and enjoyable time on the Rail Trail for Walkers and Runners: Keep to the Right. Pass to the Left. Keep your children close to you and to the right. Do not block the full width of the trail. Dogs should be walked on a four-foot leash. No retractable leashes. Using Earphones may impair your hearing, which can end up being unsafe.

Bike Riders: Keep Your speed below 10 MPH Speed Limit. Keep to the right. Pass on the left. Using Audible signals are helpful such as: Ring a bell or, verbalize when passing. Ride single file. No pets riding on bikes, scooters or scooting around on a roller blade, Keep speed at a Safe Pace! Remember Children are Unpredictable! Remember to SMILE - Say Hi - We are all neighbors! This can result in everyone enjoying the Vestal Rail Trail together.

## Ending Soon!

**TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**VOLLEYBALL CAMPS**

July 17 - 21 10am - 12pm	6th - 8th Grade
July 17 - 21 12:30pm - 2:30pm	3rd - 6th Grade
July 24 - 28 9am - 11:30am	7th - 8th Grade
July 24 - 28 12pm - 2:30pm	9th - 12th Grade

ALL CAMPS ARE AT THE VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
 \$50 RESIDENT \$60 NON-RESIDENT  
[vestalny.myrec.com](http://vestalny.myrec.com)

**TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**TENNIS LESSONS**  
 Monday - Thursday

Tioga Hills Elementary School  
 Glann Rd, Apalachin

Session 1: June 26 - July 7  
 Session 2: July 10 - July 20  
 Session 3: July 24 - August 3

Ages 6-12:  
 \$45 Resident \$55 Non-Resident

Ages 13 & up  
 \$55 Resident \$65 Non-Resident

Ages 6-9: 9-10am	Ages 10-12: 10-11am	Ages 13+: 11am-12:30pm
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[vestalny.myrec.com](http://vestalny.myrec.com)

THURSDAY 27 JULY **BACKYARD BIRDING**

Local birding expert Ritchie Lettis is coming to VPL on Thursday, July 27 at 6 PM to teach us how to attract and identify our native birds. The presentation is for all ages and includes pictures, fun facts, and Mr. Lettis's wealth of knowledge. Apply your new bird knowledge on a guided hike at Waterman Conservation and Education Center on Saturday, July 29 at 8:00 am (when the birds are most active). No registration is required. All ages are welcome to attend one or both events!

**GUIDED BIRDING HIKE** SATURDAY 29 JULY



# Calendar

**Saturday, July 22nd**

**Tracy Creek Memorial Church Family Fun Day  
11AM-2PM**

**Monday, July 24th  
TBWS 5PM**

**Wednesday, July 26th  
1. TBM 5PM**

**2. July 26th-31st – Broome County Fair, Broome  
County Fairgrounds, Whitney Point**

**Thursday, July 27th  
Zoning Board of Appeals 6PM**

**Thursday, August 3rd  
Vestal Senior Picnic, Vestal Senior Center, 9:00AM –  
2:00PM**

**August 5th-7th  
Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park**

**Saturday, August 5th  
Brian Kelley Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park,  
7:00PM**

**Sunday, August 6th  
Lou Gramm Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park,  
6:00PM**

**Monday, August 7th  
Gary LeVox Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park,  
6:00PM**

**Monday, August 7th  
TBWS 5PM**

**Tuesday, August 8th  
Planning Board Meeting 6PM**

**Saturday, August 12th  
Movies in the Park: The Goonies, Otsiningo Park,  
8:30PM**

**Wednesday, August 16th  
Broome Bands Together: Two Dollar Pistol, Stage at  
Otsiningo Park, 6:00PM**



## VESTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

vestalfire.com

*by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer*

07/11	23:25	Knapp Road	Carbon monoxide alarm
07/12	08:59	Vestal Parkway W.	Carbon monoxide alarm
07/12	22:15	Belmont Avenue	Residential fire alarm
07/13	13:02	Murray Hill Road	Lab PreAction System
07/13	17:49	Route 17 West	3 car motor vehicle accident / car on fire
07/13	20:28	Vestal Parkway E.	Dumpster fire
07/14	10:19	Vestal Road	Brush fire
07/14	11:12	Clayton Avenue	Smoke / Carbon monoxide alarm
07/14	16:15	Vestal Road	Subject stuck in elevator
07/15	12:57	Vestal Parkway W.	Pull station fire alarm
07/15	19:09	Cornell Avenue	Residential fire alarm
07/16	04:32	Charles Street	Inside odor of natural gas
07/16	20:40	West Drive	Fire alarm



### Résumé Building and Interview Skills at Tech Center in The George F. Johnson Memorial Library

In person only, registration required.  
Thursday, July 27th at 6:00 p.m.  
Join us on National Intern Day! During our workshop, we will help you create a miraculous résumé that you can be proud of. We will also give you the interviewing skills needed to ace the interview process, so you can score the job of your dreams.

# VESTAL POLICE REPORT

**Katie Bush**, 34, North Pitcher, NY arrested for Grand Larceny 4th Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for shoplifting merchandise valued over \$1000 from Wal-Mart and possessing Meth.

**Amy Graham**, 50, North Pitcher, NY arrested for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for possessing Meth during a larceny investigation.

**Benjamin Gaynes**, 40, Vestal arrested for Obstructing Governmental Administration 2nd Degree for refusing to comply with police orders to come out and speak with them during an investigation.

**Melissa Brooks**, 51, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

**Stephen Potenziano**, 54, Binghamton arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

**Jacob Young Sr.**, 49, Binghamton arrested for Illegal Dumping for dumping household garbage on private property.

**Michael Garren**, 48, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

**Damein Spencer**, 42, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Weis Markets.

**David Williams**, 45, Vestal, arrested for Criminal Trespass 3rd Degree for entering a Mirabito gas station after previously being banned from the location.

**Michael Roldan**, 47, Binghamton, arrested for Harassment 2nd Degree, Menacing 2nd Degree and Endangering the Welfare of a Child, for punching the victim in the face and brandishing a machete during an argument in the presence of a child.

**Jodi Lunn**, 37, and James Lunn, 38, of Johnson City both arrested for Endangering the Welfare of a Child- Fail to Exercise Control of a Minor for allowing a juvenile to shoplift from Kohl's.

**Andre Ross**, 39, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 5th Degree for shoplifting from Tractor Supply and possessing Meth.

**Brittany Hall**, 22, Johnson City, arrested for Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle 3rd Degree for failing to return a rented Hertz vehicle on the rental agreement date.

**Joey Rosa**, 33, Homeless, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Dick's.

**Muhammad Crosswell**, 38, Hancock, arrested on two counts of Criminal Contempt 2nd Degree for contacting the victim on two separate dates, violating a valid order of protection.



# Lining History and bird cages

Windsor is home to one of the oldest newspapers in New York. It was established 148 years ago, when the United States Congress approved the annexation of Texas. In March, President John Tyler signed the bill authorizing the United States to annex the Republic of Texas. Florida is admitted as the 27th U.S. state and the Postal reform act of Congress standardizes nationwide mail rates. Today, Ms. VanWalterop is the publisher.

VanWalterop is often asked, "You haven't heard, but newspapers are history. They're finished."

"I've heard, and we took over 3 on April 1st and the joke is built in!" she laughed.

But instead of cutting, she is fighting the trend: hiring more staff, working to expand digitally across Broome, and investing heavily in, of all things, state-of-the-art computing. Local ownership means we can do, more or less, what we need to do.

"Are you in it any more to make money?"

"The answer to that is no,". "This is not the business to make money in."

70 million plus people in America now live in a "news desert."

What happens in communities without reliable local news and scrutiny of local officials, expands disinformation, loss of being held accountable, and eventually corruption. "We see what happens when communities do not have their local newspapers, the Binghamton Press is a good local example. It has been gutted. A couple of months ago it even missed its printing deadline for the most circulated edition. It's important to have local context, not just a reference to local news, but a very look at issues in a good newspaper."

In Broome county, 3 local newspapers this year were within days of being discontinued and closed. And even though they currently survive, they are difficult to keep operating week to week. Broome hasn't quite recovered from the hard economic times that started in the 1990's. The weekly newspapers locally are, in order of age, The Windsor Standard, The Country Courier and The Vestal Town Crier. One-half of its reporting staff is provided by a board of part-time editors.

What do the Broome papers cover? "Anything and everything having to do with our local towns," Van Walterop said. "So if you email to our office and say, My daughter just won a competition, will you please put a picture of her in the paper?' We do it. We also want to do more and dig deeper, and develop investigative stories that many small papers will not do for fear that they may face blowback from individuals and the community. But once they are gone, they will not be back"

Some of our local stories: Town board members indicted. Alleged murderers. County leaders obfuscation of issues. Summer activities.

60 miles North in Syracuse, you have the Post Standard. This is a very good local paper that Newspaper Publishers aspires to when we go looking to report. Gretchen Van Walterop is Publisher and is an owner of the local weekly Broome papers. She manages the paper, writes at times in the paper, delivers copies to businesses around town, and on the rare occasion you can find, she answers the phone in the office.

"Gretchen, most publishers have got people to do this kind of thing for you. Your staff will not help?" "I am the staff," she replied. Friends and the former owners help, as well as college students. Without Kir and Ana, both college students and the papers' designers, the papers would not be able to be produced.

When locals are asked, "What do you find in the local newspaper that you don't find in The Wall Street Journal? We like this paper, because it's the truth, and it's what's happening in Broome," a subscriber replied. "That's why we get this paper."

You won't be surprised to learn that Gretchen does not do it for the money. "I think most people know that we make very little, if any money! A lot of people are realizing that if Newspaper Publishers was not here, they would likely not know what was going on." Finding money to pay for real reporters? That issue is one we all have in common, from the small towns to the big city paper in Syracuse. "So, we find what the root of journalism is, local content and local information that people will not find somewhere else."

"Do you actually think that anybody cares anymore Gretchen?"

"I think they do."

"How do you know?"

"Well, we continue to get positive feedback," Van Walterop said, "Windsor and Vestal's local school superintendent and information personnel had basically taken over the narrative in their town and really help us."

Wan Walterop said, "Some local governments are just great, leaders are helpful and provide information. And then, there's others that do have things to hide. Then it's hard to get information and we will then set our sights to keep a sharper eye out for those that stonewall. There is likely a reason the voter may not appreciate."

"For our story to be on the front page of the Charleston Post and Courier was huge," she replied. "It substantiated that we're a good newspaper, that we turn out good work."

Van Walterop said "I don't know many people in these local towns. There are people that do, so, we work quietly to develop relationships, to make the news better for our readers and the community as a whole!"

The Editorial board has stated, "We look to expand our corruption work and work to expose public officials, with investigations and audits, in order to expose sweetheart deals, non-compliance, and conflicts of interest. This will be a long-term effort to build a culture of deterrence that prevents future misconduct."

When asked "Ten years forward, do you feel newspapers will just be a historical thing?"

"It will be up to the local residents," Van Walterop replied, "but I hope that with some change and digital help that there will be a new dawning of information, to survive will require a team effort and we are working with our new team to slowly build to this destination."

Gretchen has a different measure of success. Readers can renew an annual subscription of any one of the 3 local papers for \$35. One reader of another local small paper returned the renewal offer with an editorial comment:

"In-between the spaces on our little mailer it said, 'No, I do not want to.' And I'll have to do a little judicious self-editing here: 'I do not want to subscribe to your bleeping paper. Y'all are the most up-in-everybody bleepin' business newspaper I've ever seen in my whole bleepin' life.' Didn't sign it. Didn't put a return address. I wish he had! 'Cause I wanted to write him and say, 'Man, thank you! That's the best compliment anybody's ever paid us!'"



## Summer Hires

By Rosemary B. West

Recreation Planner Patrick Harnan received Town Board authorization to appoint the following for the summer Softball Camp Instructors: Brian Donlin, Emily Silverio, Vickie Sax, Taylor Dubois, Lauren Policare, Raveena Rai, and Kymora Wang. Coed Basketball Camp Coaches: Andrew Carr, Matthew Carr, Billy Newberry, Brogan Bopp, Peyton Alig and Frank D'Esti, Girls Lacrosse Camp Instructors: Lilly Wlostowski, Ava Parsons, Aubree Wenner, Riley Smith and Mary Pierce. Playground Instructor: Thomas Valley. Vestal Recreation Planner Patrick Harnan was also authorized by the Town Board to accept all donations made specifically for the Vestal Challenger Baseball League throughout out 2023. Donations will be used for continuing the operation of the Challenger League Baseball that will now be operating under the umbrella of the Town of Vestal.

## Vestal Approves Defibrillation Agreement

By Rosemary B. West

At the Wednesday night Vestal Town Board meeting, Town Supervisor W. John Schaffer signed the NYS Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Services Notice of Intent to provide public Access Defibrillation and Public Access Defibrillation Agency Collaborative Agreement. He pointed out this type of document is required for placement of Access Emergency Defibrillators in Town of Vestal buildings. The required training will be provided to employees on a voluntary basis by the Vestal Police Department. All the required signed paperwork will be sent to the Broome County 911 Center and the Susquehanna Regional EMS Council.

### July 26 Public Hearing

A public hearing was scheduled to be held on July 26, 2023, at 5p.m. at the Vestal Town Hall. This hearing concerns the establishment of Consolidated Water District No. 1, Extension No. 205 at 517 African Road. The Petitioner is Deborah Christensen.



# VHS 2023 GRADUATION CONTINUED

This Concludes Graduation Photos!



Group shot!



Mary Pierce and Lilly Wlostowski



Stephen Marcin, Nathan Scheel, Sam and Mike Olsen



Steven Pittman and his Family



Nicholas Poulton, Luke Hughston, Kaden Grayson, Nolan Grayson and Liam Hughston



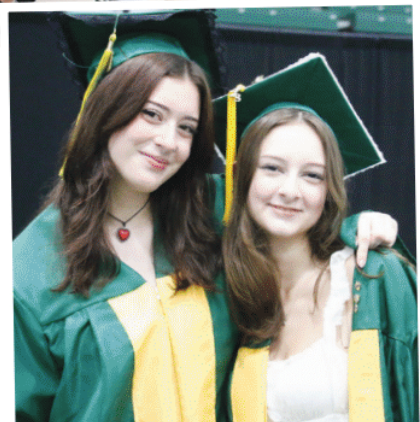
Gabrielle and Brenden Horn



Elise Abell and Taylor Bryson



Lucas Catarella, Grace Gdovin, Carmella DiRenzo and Ulrich Traore



Eva Michitti and Deb Maerz- Vestal Hills Elementary



Brenden Wilcox



Joseph Fletcher, Nathan Scheel, Thomas Hayes, Cole DeVantier



Melissa Restuccia and Christopher Rockhill



Mary Pierce and Her Family



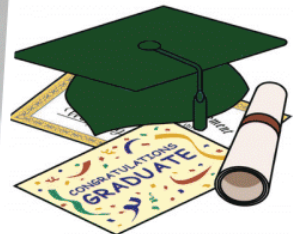
Alexander Matt and Luke Sensenig



Gianna, Kyle Bennette, Edna Kiefer, Kelsey Brady and Nicholas Labosky



Audrey Jump and her Family



Autumn Carter and Emma Ceccaglia



Rashee Shuler Jr and Family



Raveena Rai, Kathryn Meza, Grace Gdovin, Carmella DiRenzo, Elizabeth Egan,



Langelihle, Ngonidzashe Mandizha and their family

# PARK STORYTIME @ ARNOLD PARK

THURSDAYS @ 10:30

PAVILION #1 BY THE MAIN PARKING LOT

FORGING NEW PATHS



IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, CHECK THE VPL WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR CANCELLATIONS OR LOCATION CHANGES.

Runs in 2 week sessions. Must sign up for both dates in a session, but you do not have to sign up for all 3 sessions. Ages 6 - 11

**Session 1: July 5 & 12**  
Registration starts June 21

**Session 2: July 19 & 26**  
Registration starts July 5

**Session 3: August 2 & 9**  
Registration starts July 19

Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3 PM

## READER'S THEATER



Broome County Summer Meal Program

FOR KIDS & TEENS 18 & UNDER MEALS MUST BE CONSUMED ON SITE.



<b>Palmer Middle School</b> 213 Main Street, Windsor July 10th - August 3rd MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>ABC Childcare &amp; Learning Center</b> 546 Hooper Road, Endicott July 5th - August 25th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Lunch 12:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	<b>Union-Endicott High School</b> 1200 E. Main Street, Endicott July 17th - August 10th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
<b>Windsor High School</b> 1191, NY Route 79, Windsor July 10th - August 17th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Jennie F. Snapp Middle School</b> 101 Loder Avenue, Endicott July 17th - August 10th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Deposit Elementary School</b> 171 Second Street, Deposit July 10th - August 24th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
<b>Whitney Point Daycare</b> 2496 W. Main St., Whitney Point July 10th - August 18th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Southern Tier Community Center</b> 1 Clubhouse Road, Endicott July 5th - August 25th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	<b>Maine Memorial Elementary School</b> 2693 Main Street, Maine July 10th - August 18th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
<b>Tioughnoga Riverside Academy</b> 2887 NYS Route 11, Whitney Point July 10th - August 17th MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>St. Anthony's Learning Center</b> 906 Jenkins Street, Endicott July 3rd - August 25th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	<b>Maine Summer Recreation</b> Town of Maine Park, Maine July 10th - August 11th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
<b>Harpursville School</b> 54 Main Street, Harpursville July 10th - August 3rd MONDAY-THURSDAY Breakfast 7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	<b>Highland Park Summer Fun</b> 801 Hooper Road, Endwell July 5th - August 11th MONDAY-FRIDAY Breakfast 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	

-Event by Vestal Public Library  
-Arnold Park  
-Duration: 1 hr  
-July 27 & August 3, 10

Get some fresh air with VPL Storytimes at Arnold Park this summer on Thursdays at 10:30 AM! VPL Summer Storytimes are going to Arnold Park on Andrews Road in Vestal for the summer session starting July 6. Come out for some camping & outdoors-themed stories and enjoy some playground time afterward.

Can't make it to the Park? Hear the stories in Youth Services at the Library on Friday at 10:30!

TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Summer camps are keeping us busy here in the Recreation Department! Have you signed your kids up for the fun? We still have openings in the following camps:

**Week of July 24:**  
Running Camp - Grades 4th - 6th  
Volleyball Camp - Grades 7th - 12th

**Week of July 31:**  
Girls Basketball Camp - Ages 7-12

**Week of August 7:**  
Field Hockey Camp - Grades Kindergarten - 6th

**Week of August 14:**  
Girls Advanced Soccer - Grades 7th - 12th

Sign up at: [vestalny.myrec.com](http://vestalny.myrec.com)

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**  
52 issues for \$35 per year

Mailed Right to your home in Broome County

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."  
- Maya Angelou

"To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all."  
- Oscar Wilde

Broome County Youth Bureau

## Playground Sites Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars...

On the following dates, your park counselors will create special activities based on the theme! Ask your counselor for the details and join in on the fun! Dates are subject to change depending upon the weather.

Friday, July 21 - Happy Birthday to All!  
Tuesday, July 25 - Santa in July  
Friday, July 28 - Superhero Day  
Tuesday, Aug. 1 - Halloween  
Wed., Aug. 2 - Summer Celebration!  
Friday, August 4 - Back to School Day ☺ (sites close at Noon for the season)

# Marena Kline Travels to Finland For Education Field Course

Marena Kline of Vestal, NY, was one of eight SUNY Oneonta students who traveled to Finland to study the country's educational system, consistently ranked the best in the world, for the eight-day field course "Cross Cultural Comparisons of Educational Systems." They were accompanied by Dr. Ann Fradkin-Hayslip.

The group visited schools in Finland, from pre-K through high school, observing in classrooms and meeting with administrators, teachers and students. They discovered a completely different educational system, one where teachers "are highly revered and respected, on par with doctors" and have "tremendous autonomy," Fradkin-Hayslip said. In Finland, standardized testing, homework and school buses do not exist, and shoes are not worn inside the school. Instead, students are encouraged to play, walk to school or ride their bike. In addition to their academic courses, students take cooking and carpentry classes that let them learn important life skills. Kline is studying Early

Child/Childhood Ed (B-6) at SUNY Oneonta.

"Traveling to Finland through a faculty-led program was an incredible experience," Kline said. "Given that it was my first trip abroad, I learned a lot about how cultural values and ways of life vary from place to place. I specifically learned about how Finns value equality, trust, and nature, which are all things that I would like to appreciate more in my own life. As a future educator, it was eye-opening to explore Finland's education system. It was amazing to get a first-hand look at what makes Finland have one of the best education systems in the world. I plan to implement some of the Finnish ways of education into my own classroom, including having many breaks throughout the school day, an early introduction of foreign languages, and a connection to nature. Overall, my experiences in Finland made me motivated to learn more about education systems around the world and make positive changes in schools in the United States!"

Short-term, faculty-led programs incorporate coursework, cultural experiences and, many times, elements of service learning. The trips give students the opportunity to learn and earn credit in a completely new setting, often covering unique subject matters not regularly taught on campus.

"Faculty-led programs are wonderful because they allow our students a 'mini study abroad', if you will," said Office of Global Education Director Michelle Lopez. "We're incredibly happy to be able to offer these life-changing opportunities again after a necessary pause during the pandemic. Faculty-led trips mean invaluable experiential learning for students, something we prioritize at SUNY Oneonta!"

## Vestal Rec Dept Summer Camps!

**TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**New! RUNNING CAMP**

JULY 24 - AUGUST 11  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM | DICK HOOVER STADIUM, VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES: 4TH - 6TH

\$50 RESIDENT, \$60 NON-RESIDENT

vestalny.myrec.com

**TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**New! GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP**

JULY 31 - AUGUST 4  
MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM | VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL GYM

AGES: 7 - 12 YRS

\$55 RESIDENT  
\$65 NON-RESIDENT

vestalny.myrec.com

**TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY CAMP**

- August 7 - August 11 Monday - Friday
- 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Dick Hoover Stadium, Vestal High School
- Ages: Kindergarten (age 5) - 6th grade
- \$50 RESIDENT  
\$60 NON-RESIDENT

vestalny.myrec.com

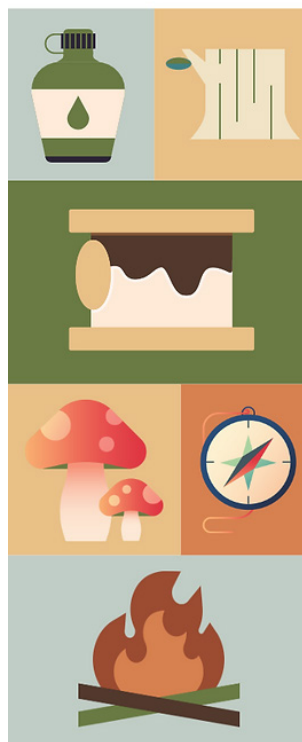
### Colesville Quilt Show and Craft Fair!

Colesville Quilt Show and Craft Fair will be held on August 5th, from 10:00-4:00 at the Colesville Ambulance building behind the Maribito in Harpursville, N.Y. Many local quilts and crafts will be on display. There will be vendors, a DJ, pulled pork lunch for sale, and a wide variety of baskets and gift certificates for raffle. A queen size quilt in Harpursville school colors is also being raffled. The tickets for this are on sale now at the Colesville Town Hall. They are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Please see Tomi or Adam at the Clerk's office for more. There will be a knitting machine demonstration and a trunk show during the day as well. There is no admission fee and all proceeds will go to the Colesville Digital Museum project. So please save the date and come out to support our community.

Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open.

John Barrymore

Forge a new path with Elementary S.T.E.A. M. on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening. Ages 6 - 11 can try these nature themed programs designed for fun, critical thinking, and creativity. Sign up in person or call (607)-754-4243.



# Vestal Scholars

**Vestal Alumni Named to President's List**  
Hudson Valley Community College Spring President's List  
- Laura Annunziata of Vestal

**Vestal Alumni Named to Dean's List**  
Coastal Carolina University  
- Colby Murock of Vestal, NY 13850

**Hamilton College Spring Dean's List**  
- Jessica Elie, of Vestal (13850)

## ELEMENTARY STEAM

SCIENCE. TECHNOLOGY. ENGINEERING. ART. MATHEMATICS.

- SOLAR SMORES**  
July 11 @ 2 PM and July 12 @ 6 PM  
Registration starts June 27
- CIRCUIT BUGS**  
July 18 @ 2 PM and July 19 @ 6 PM  
Registration starts July 3
- DIY BIRD FEEDER**  
July 25 @ 2 PM and July 26 @ 6 PM  
No Registration - While Supplies Last  
ALLERGY WARNING: Activity uses Peanut butter.
- BIRCH TREE COLLAGE**  
August 1 @ 2 PM and August 2 @ 6 PM  
Registration starts July 18
- SUN PRINTS**  
August 8 @ 2PM and August 9 @ 6PM  
Registration starts July 25

# FOOD AND DRINK ON THE RAIL TRAIL

As part of Vestal's bicentennial celebration, the Vestal Museum hosted a 'Food and Drink on the Rail Trail' event on July 8th.

Throughout the evening, many locals came out to sample a variety of delicious foods and drinks from restaurants, breweries, and wineries from across Broome County. Some of the vendors included Kampai Japanese Steakhouse, Basa's Lebanese Grill, Waterman's Café & Tasting Barn, the Kitchen Counter food truck, and New Leaf Cider Co. Along with this, the Susquehanna Valley Railway Historical Society made their appearance as well as Maryann Thompson, the author of *The Awful Trainwreck* book. The Happy Squirrel bakery that runs within the Coal House was also open during this event.

While patrons walked the trail, not only did they enjoy their samples, but they also enjoyed music as the food and drink event coincided with the museum's Second Saturday Music Festival.

Rather than performing at the museum, this week's concert took place outside of the Vestal Coal House as December Wind took the stage. This was the third concert this season for the music festival. Despite this being the Vestal Museum's first time holding the food and drink event, it received a very positive turnout as attendees flooded the area looking to try some new things from local eateries.

"This is the first time we've held this event and it might not be our last!" said Director of the Vestal Museum Cherese Wiesner-Rosales



The Kitchen Counter Food Truck



Folks take a look at historic trains and stations



The Halladay Family enjoy their time at the event



Kampai Japanese Steakhouse gives out samples

A long line for the new leaf



Maryann Thompson promotes her new book!



Someone gets a sample at the New Leaf Cider Co.



Some great conversation!



Seems like a great turnout!



Time to pick out a cake pop at Waterman's!