



The Vestal Town Crier



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Stored BC Veterans, held in deplorable conditions Veterans, and others held in dismantled tractor trailer boxes behind the Broome County Jail



Recently, another Broome County Veteran passed away and the family needed assistance from the Broome County Veterans (Legislative) Burial resolution. The resolution was changed by the Legislature and removed from the oversight of the Broome County Veterans Coordinator. In this case the adult children completed an application provided by the DSS Office, as best as they could. The did not have all the information given their father was a fully functioning adult prior to his death. The children do not have the resources to provide for their father. Broome County is obligated to assist in such matters. Unfortunately, Michelle Kemmerer (who was in our email string), and who was in charge for a vaca-

tioning person in the DSS office made the process much more difficult and stonewalled the family's attempt to have their father cared for under the law. Newspaper Publishers has reached out to the Broome County Executive, and the Chairman of the Broome County Legislature.

Newspaper Publishers has not had a response from the Broome County Executive's Office, nor the Legislative Chairperson, but feel the public deserves to know how Veterans who have fallen on hard times are being treated. Below are photographs of the "storage" facility, one that a county Broome employee, Kyle White, stated previously that it was up to him "how long they stay there" "even 30 days." The fact is the human body begins to break down immediately following death, a "cooler" helps to slow the process but does not stop the process. Your loved one will continue to deteriorate until they are embalmed, the effectiveness which is limited by time, they are cremated or they are placed at rest in a cemetery. If a Veteran were allowed to stay in the Broome County facility for 30 days, they would likely be unrecognizable to any person. Holding someone, especially a person who has been identified, their family is aware and does not have resources, for multiple days, weeks, or a month is unconscinable and should be looked into from a legal standpoint. Why would Broome County want to create a more traumatic situation for Veterans and the family they have left behind. The Legislature changed the oversight and it hard to see how this treatment of Veterans and their families could be argued to be better "service" for those who served their country.

Broome County is called on to spend \$100,000 (of a \$400,000,000 dollar budget) per year on Veterans that do not have resources to pay their final expenses. Veterans and their dependents account for around 40,000 of the Broome County population of 200,000 people. With 20% of the county population and

an annual budget of over \$400 Million the 20 percent of the Veterans family county population should receive better representation, if they spent 1 percent of the tax paying Veteran base it would equal \$1 Million dollars per year.

Why make it harder on Veterans and their families?

What was the purpose of the resolution in the first place?

Who initiated the resolution?



The Vestal Public Library's Summer Reading Program!

Senior Center Picnic

On Page 8!



A great turnout!

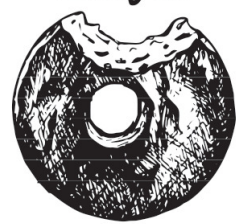


Maelu May with her beautiful sunset

Article On Page 7,
More Photos On
Page 4 (Photos &
Article by Kaitlyn
Hession)



The Start of a Great Day...



THE CIDER MILL

DAILY 7 AM – 6 PM
cidermillencott.com



Calendar

Friday, August 4th

>In Library Storytime

4 10:30 AM - Youth Service Dept.

>Camp Crafts - Ages 12 -18

5 - 6:30 PM - Meeting Room

>Library Camp-In - All Ages

5 - 7:30 PM - Meeting Room

August 5th-7th

Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park

Saturday, August 5th

>Brian Kelley Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park, 7:00PM

>Pond Life Talk & Demo

Sunday, August 6th

Lou Gramm Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park, 6:00PM

Monday, August 7th

>Gary LeVox Concert, Spiedie Fest, Otsiningo Park, 6:00PM

>Sensory Take & Make

1:30 PM - Meeting Room

>Pick Up at Youth Services 1 PM
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

07/24	21:14	State Line Road	Four people lost in woods
07/25	12:47	Vestal Parkway E.	Smoke detector activation
07/25	14:38	Vestal Parkway E.	Smoke detector activation
07/26	04:00	Evergreen Street	Odor of gas in kitchen
07/26	08:43	Murray Hill Road	Stair sprinkler alarm
07/26	11:27	Vestal Parkway E.	Fire alarm
07/26	13:47	Murray Hill Road	Fire alarm
07/26	16:03	Torrance Avenue	House fire
07/27	03:38	Chalburn Road	Tree on transformer
07/27	13:07	West Access Road	General fire alarm
07/27	16:09	Vestal Parkway E.	Possible electrical fire
07/28	08:09	Vestal Parkway E.	Smoke detector activation
07/29	17:10	Grippen Hill Road	Tree down on wires
07/31	07:06	Vestal Road	Disabled vehicle - possible fuel leak
07/31	18:17	West Drive	General fire alarm



VESTAL POLICE REPORT

Donald Field, 54, Vestal, arrested for Endangering the Welfare of a Child after sending inappropriate text messages to his daughter.

Brandy Lane, 33, Vestal, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from the Dollar General.

Michael Bill, 40, Binghamton, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for possessing Suboxone during a larceny investigation.

Eryn Duffy, 34, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Scott Siskin, 35, Conklin, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated-More than .18 BAC and Moved from Lane Unsafely after a traffic stop.

Saad Haji, 26, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument 2nd Degree for possessing a forged business check and attempting to deposit it.

Scott Farrell, 60, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Following Too Closely and Drinking Alcohol or Using Cannabis in a Motor Vehicle after a motor vehicle accident.

Tyler Petro, 25, Endicott, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Christian Burke, 28, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Lowe's.

Mark Woodruff, 54, Johnson City, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Moved from Lane Unsafely and No/Inadequate Lights after a traffic stop.

Dustin Smith, 29, Barton, arrested for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 2nd Degree, Muffler violation and four counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for possessing Meth and other controlled substances during a traffic stop.

Steven Goldstone, 22, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Refusal of Breath Test, Failure to Keep Right, No Turn Signal and Driving Left of Pavement Markings after a traffic stop.

Stacy Parker, 58, Kingsley PA, arrested for No Turn Signal, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and Criminal Use of Drug Paraphernalia for being found in possession of Meth and a digital scale during a traffic stop.

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.

TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT

VESTAL COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT SERIES

AT ARNOLD PARK, ANDREWS RD.
PAVILION 3

THURSDAYS
6:30 PM - 7:30PM

The Vestal Central School District, Vestal, New York, Board Of Education Reorganization Meeting, July 11th, 2023 At 6:00pm



District Clerk
Michelle Lewis

By Paula Babey

The Vestal Central School District, Vestal, New York, Board of Education held a Reorganization Meeting on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 at 6:00pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance and the Minutes of the last meeting were approved the meeting started and happening once a year! The Board of Education reorganization took place with newly elected Board of Education Members Kay Ellis, Joshgua Mertens and Lisa Milkovich sworn in by our Legal representative Michael Sherwood. Next sworn in was our newly elected Board of Education President for the 2023-2024 school year, Kathryn Egan our Vice President, Shoba Agneshwar, and Michelle Lewis our District Clerk. Congratulations to all those sworn in and we are honored that you are serving the Vestal Central School District. We look forward to your support and guidance to enhance the School District for the better of the Vestal Students and our community. Also our new Student Government is Ian Chung.

There was a discussion at the Public comment on Agenda items. Kristina Pearce and the Athletic Director asked the Board of Education if they had made a decision on the proposal to have a Varsity Ice Hockey Program. This program would be a Merger Program with other local School Districts. Windsor High School has agreed to host the Merger between schools that would like to participate in this program. Other schools interested in this Merger are Union Endicott, Seton Catholic, Susquehanna Valley to name a few, but Vestal sets a precedence and Windsor School District were hoping for a commitment from Vestal which would encourage more school Districts to participate. Some Board Members had some concerns with the process of the Merger, namely that they would like to see written facts such as By-Laws, financial commitment, transportation, insurance etc. The program would be run the same as other High School Sports with its own Handbook and insurance. The BCC Ice Rink would host Home Games and ice time for practices would have to be booked. Kristina also said that their farm had a full size outdoor ice rink which they would hold practices to gain more 'ice time' weather permitting and that they would hold some 'special events'. With the Merger players would be able to practice and compete a long season than there currently is now. However, those that would not make the try outs or would prefer to stay at Club level could do so too. There is a positive view on this Merger to give students the opportunity to play at a higher level. The Board of Education Members requested more information on what the Merger entailed for the District.

The recent High School Graduation was a huge success and was very well run this year with everything going smoothly, thanks go to High School Principal Dawn Young. The Board of Education Members delight in seeing student graduate from the District with some saying "Its the best day of the Year". Congratulations to all Seniors graduating and we wish them well for the future. Then the meeting move forward to the appointment of Officers for the 2023/24 School years.

The Cheerleaders from Vestal in Grades 7 to 12 will be attending Cheer Camp in Beach Lake, PA from August 28 through August 31. We hope they all have a great time and that they stay cool and drink plenty of water. So where

and when did Cheerleading start? It was originally called 'Yell Leading' or 'Cheer Leading' and was first done by men in the 1800's who were cheering and yelling from the crowds at Ivy League Football games. With cheering, and words repeated in rhyme to encourage and support their Team, a man named Johnny Campbell jumped over the stands and onto the field to 'Cheer' for his team and in unison more students joined in and Cheer Leading born. Cheers evolved with not just Cheering but with athleticism, acrobatic moves, costumes and those familiar Pom Poms. Cheerleading became recognized as a sport in 2007 and during World War II when men went to war, women took to Cheering which evolved to as Cheerleading is now with mostly women taking part. Many schools and Colleges have Cheerleading Teams to boost morale for the student athletes taking part and its also a crowd pleaser as many spectators love to watch the Cheerleaders. The Vestal Cheerleaders will be at the Camp with Cheerleaders from other school Districts and its hoped that they make new friends and acquaintances and that they can learn from each other.

Clifford Kasson gave an update on the Buildings Maintenance regarding the school's plumbing. Lead testing use to be 15 parts per million but this has been updated and amended by the State to 5 parts per million. Faucets that do not meet this requirement have been marked 'Do Not Drink'. The old faucets are in the process of being replaced with new ones, as well as some of the copper plumbing which in the past have been soldered with lead. Some of the Water Fountains require new Bubbler and these will be replaced also. The sinks in the Science Labs will also be replaced in the future.

With water in mind, please stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water during the Summer months. Wishing students, teachers and staff are making fond memories with friends and families whilst they are off from school. There are plenty of indoor and outdoor activities that can be done, such as Bowling, Miniature Golf, going to a local park, taking your dog for a walk or just hanging out with friends or your other pets.

If you are available Tuesday evenings then please support students and staff by attending a Board of Education Meeting where you can meet the Board Members and see what discussions they have for the benefit of students and the District. Future Regular Meetings are held in the South Conference Room - Administration Building, 201 Main Street, Vestal, NY 13850. Dates for meetings are: Tuesday, July 25th at 6:00 pm and Tuesday, August 8th at 6:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there.



Vice President
Shoba Agneshwar



Board President
Kathryn Egan



From L to R newly Elected Board Members
Joshgua Mertens, Lisa Milkovich, Kay Ellis

Vestal Central School District Safety Plan Comment Period Ends August 10th

The Vestal Central School District, 30-day comment period on the updated District Wide School Safety Plan as required by the SAVE Act of 2000 ends August 10, 2023. This document is available on the District's website: www.vestal.stier.org or by contacting the District Clerk at 201 Main Street, Vestal, New York.

The Vestal Central School District, will hold a Public Hearing of the qualified voters of the District, on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM on the subject of the District Wide School Safety Plan. Any questions or public comments should be submitted to the District Clerk at district-clerk@vestal.k12.ny.us or by calling 757-2265 by August 10, 2023.

Ending Soon!

ELEMENTARY STEAM

SCIENCE. TECHNOLOGY. ENGINEERING. ART. MATHEMATICS.

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.



SUN PRINTS

August 8 @ 2PM and August 9 @ 6PM
Registration starts July 25



Youth Police Academy, K9 and Traffic Stops

— Middle School

Photos By Rebecca Smith



Reign demonstrates search and passive detection



Reign is a passive detection dog. When she finds her goal, she sits.



Officer Gavin, Anouk, and Officer Talbout – Vestal School Resource Officer – demonstrate criminal apprehension



Johnson City Police Officer Gavin shows the students a protective vest that his dog, Anouk, frequently wears. Anouk is a criminal apprehension/bite dog

Vestal Police Officer Smith and K-9 Reign speak to the class about what K-9's do to assist the police.



Officer Gavin explains some of the different training methods.

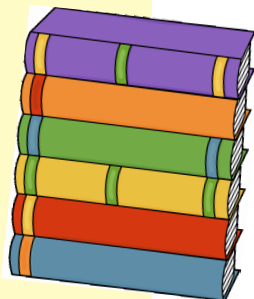


After classroom discussion, students get a try at mock traffic stop scenarios.

The Vestal Public Library's Summer Reading Program!

(Photos and Article by Kaitlyn Hession)

Everyone's creations



Ian Yan with his awesome rainbow!



A group of kids get creative with their woodslices!



Music Unlimited Little Big Band- Swing and Jazz



Some Dancing Fun



Music Unlimited Little Big Band-Swing and Jazz



Photos Courtesy of Maryesther White-Brink



Girls from the Vestal Rec.Dept.



Ending August 11th!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
 52 issues for \$35 per year
 Mailed Right to your home in
 Broome County

Free Family Movies
 Arnold Park, Andrews Rd., Vestal

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

Vestal Mountain Dulcimer Players Concert

In accordance with our mission to promote the natural and historical resources while improving the quality of life for the residents along the Otselic River, the Otselic Valley Fishing and Heritage Association is offering a second free concert at the North Pitcher Church on Sunday, August 6 at 2:00 pm.

Please join us for a wonderful musical afternoon of dulcimer music, performed by the Vestal Mountain Dulcimer Players. Their repertoire includes selections from Celtic, Irish, old-time music, folk, hymns, and country. One of the players is Beth (Crandall) Fallon, a 1994 graduate of OVCS. Let's give her a warm welcome home. Once again, Kandi's Kitchen food trailer will join us to provide "homemade food for the soul." If you missed our earlier concert featuring the John Liuzzo Band in July, you don't want to miss this opportunity to enjoy some sweet dulcimer music along the banks of the Otselic River, nestled among the hills and farms of the Otselic Valley. What a great way to spend a summer afternoon!

Thursday August 10

Rain date: Friday, Aug 11

8:30 PM (Dusk)

Encanto



Rated PG - 99 minutes

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

The Vestal Central School District, Vestal, New York, Board Of Education Meeting July 25th, 2023 At 6:00pm

Bring your chairs, blankets, snacks, drinks, family, friends and flashlights. Showing behind shelter #2. Free popcorn.

By Paula Babey

The Vestal Central School District, Board of Education had their meeting on Tuesday, July 25th at 6:00pm. This week's meeting highlights was short and sweet. Updates on the Capital Project and the Middle School Gym has been now been repaired and fully restored after it suffered severe water damage this past Winter. The time taken to so repairs is always on a compact schedule to allow for minimal disturbance during school time. The floor also has Glycol which in the future will prevent any standing water on the floor freezing. A presentation was given by Highland Associate, Lechase Construction, on the Capital Project in particular the school buildings repairs, new and updated HAVAC systems Trane Technologies. The water fountains have been repaired, mainly with new faucets (which we call Taps in the UK.) and some of the copper piping. The replaced fixtures will be retested and there will be no pipes that can freeze. The District are always improving the buildings to ensure they are up to date with the State regulations as well as making them better for the students.

The Ice Hockey program was discussed. The Board Members had received more information on the set up of this program but they still felt more facts and information was needed before they could move forward with a decision. Again more information was needed on insurance, financial costs, by-laws and the what liability could incur using the outdoor Ice Rink kindly offered by Katrina Pearce at their farm. Whilst those schools already enrolled in the Program are anxious for a commitment from Vestal, The Board of Education Members whilst positive about the Ice Hockey Program have to consider the liability and what impact to the students, their families, the community and staff this Program will have but also the liability aspect too. Information and discussions are on-going with the District and those involved in putting the Ice Hockey Program together.

Board of Education Members are looking forward to the upcoming Board Retreat being held Tuesday, August 15th. Lots of team building with the new Board Members as well as presentations and discussions on the schools and the District. The Board Members get together regularly always for the benefit of the School District and the Students.

If you are available Tuesday evenings then please support students and staff by attending a Board of Education Meeting where you can meet the Board Members and see what discussions they have for the benefit of students and the District. Future Regular Meetings are held in the South Conference Room - Administration Building, 201 Main Street, Vestal, NY 13850. Dates for meetings are:

Tuesday, August 8th at 6:00pm. On Tuesday, August 15th, the Board of Education are having a Board Retreat from 9:00am-3:00 pm. On Tuesday, August 22nd at 6:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there.


Runs in 2 week sessions. you do not have to sign up for all 3 sessions.

Must sign up for both dates in a session, but Ages 6 - 11

Session 3: August 2 & 9
 Registration starts July 19

Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3 PM

READER'S THEATER



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 August 7:
 Field Hockey Camp - Grades Kindergarten - 6th

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

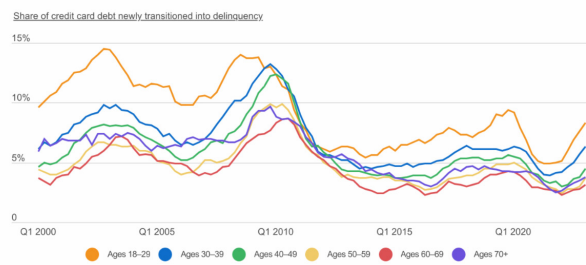
Sign up at: vestalny.myrec.com

New York State Students Are 9th Most Heavily Targeted by Credit Card Marketing

Having a strong credit score is a fundamental pillar of financial wellbeing. Making a major life purchase sometimes requires a loan or a line of credit, and in hard times, credit can be a bridge to help make ends meet. A good credit score can often help borrowers secure more favorable interest rates and terms, saving them money or hassle over time.

With the benefits that good credit can offer, it is important for young people to get started and learn to responsibly maintain lines of credit. Opening and managing a credit card is an excellent way to do so. However, for many young adults—especially those in college—this can be challenging.

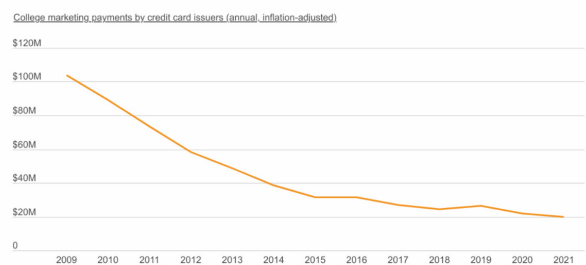
Delinquent credit card balances are rising, especially among young adults



One common risk for younger borrowers is that they fall into delinquency more frequently than their older counterparts. With lower incomes and less savings than older people who are more established in their careers, younger credit card users may have more difficulty repaying their balances. For most of the last two decades, borrowers aged 18 to 29 have had the highest share of credit card debt transitioning into delinquency of any age cohort. Delinquency among this group has grown from a low of 4.9% in mid-2021 to 8.3% in the first quarter of 2023.

The federal government introduced policies meant to provide new protections for consumers, including young borrowers, early in the Obama Administration. The Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure (CARD) Act of 2009 helped protect consumers from practices like excessive fees and unannounced interest rate hikes. For young people specifically, the law also made it so that consumers under the age of 21 require sufficient verified income or a co-signer before applying for a credit card. This can help ensure that young borrowers have the means to repay credit card debt, but it can also hinder those living off of student loans from valuable years of credit building.

College credit card marketing has dramatically declined since the Credit CARD Act of 2009

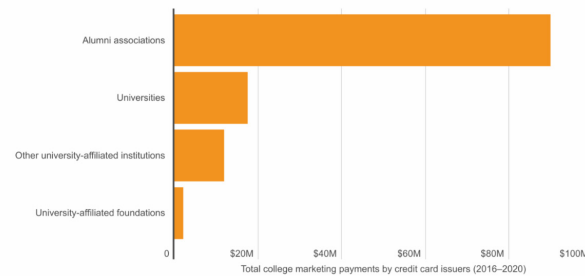


One of the Credit CARD Act of 2009's other protections for young borrowers was to place new limits on how credit card companies market to college students. For example, credit card companies were more restricted in their ability to mail card offers to students or to provide giveaways or other inducements for students to apply for a card. As a result of these changes and other factors, the amount of money spent on college credit card marketing

Card Marketing

has declined dramatically since the law passed. In 2009, card issuers spent \$103.6 million on college marketing after adjusting for inflation. By 2021, that figure had fallen to just \$19.8 million.

Nearly 75% of college credit card marketing payments are made to alumni associations



Despite a decline in college credit card marketing payments overall, card issuers continue to target alumni groups most heavily. Young people remain an important market for credit card companies and they can also benefit from access to credit in early adulthood. Alumni are also more likely to be above the age of 21 and not subject to some of the same marketing restrictions included in the Credit CARD Act. Nearly 75% of college credit card marketing payments were made to alumni associations, totaling \$89.7 million from 2016 to 2020 (the latest years with available data).

Colleges and universities have been a willing partner in making these sorts of agreements. In exchange for providing access to alumni and others affiliated with the college and occasionally licensing university branding, colleges may receive fees and royalties from the credit card issuers with whom they have agreements. A total of 44 credit card issuers and 324 institutions of higher education participated in college marketing agreements from 2016 to 2020.

Issuers have targeted colleges and universities in some states more so than others to expand their marketing reach. California is home to several large and notable college institutions that collectively lead the nation with more than \$15 million in credit card marketing payments received from issuers. And while other largely populated states rank highly, population isn't the only indicator. States like Kansas, Indiana, Alabama, and Iowa all rank in the top 15 states for credit card marketing payments collected by colleges and are all home to universities with decorated sports programs.

To determine the locations where credit card companies spend the most marketing to students, researchers at Upgraded Points analyzed data from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The researchers ranked states according to the total marketing payments made to college organizations by credit card issuers from 2016 to 2020. In the event of a tie, the state with the greater total new credit cards opened from college marketing agreements from 2016 to 2020 was ranked higher. Universities, alumni associations, and other university-affiliated institutions and foundations were considered college organizations for the purposes of this analysis.

The analysis found that college organizations in New York State received \$4,186,019 in marketing payments from credit card issuers during the study period. Among college organizations in all 47 states with complete data available, those in New York State received the 9th most in marketing payments from issuers. Here is a summary of the data for New York State:

- College marketing payments by credit card issuers (2016-2020): \$4,186,019
- New credit cards opened via college marketing (2016-2020): 11,861

- Total credit card issuers with college marketing agreements (2016-2020): 4
- Total college institutions with marketing agreements (2016-2020): 13

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

- College marketing payments by credit card issuers (2016-2020): \$121,243,395
- New credit cards opened via college marketing (2016-2020): 266,111
- Total credit card issuers with college marketing agreements (2016-2020): 44
- Total college institutions with marketing agreements (2016-2020): 324

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, see States Where Credit Card Companies Spend the Most Marketing to Students on Upgraded Points.

The Vestal Public Library's Summer Reading Program

By Kaitlyn Hession

Every summer, the Vestal Public Library hosts their annual Summer Reading Programs where kids of all ages can participate in various activities at the library each week while they are out of school for the summer. The tradition keeps going with this year's theme being 'Forging New Paths' as kids between the ages of 12 to 18 had the opportunity to get creative as they painted wood slices for this week's art activity on July 28th.

The teens were set up with paint trays and their wood slice at a table with other participants as they were encouraged to paint whatever came to their minds. The results were amazing as the kids got super creative with their canvas with one of them painting a sunset while another painted the branch to a cherry blossom tree. "We always like to run art programs because it always gets the creative juices flowing," said the Adult & Young Adult Collections and Programming Librarian Emily Wilson. By the end of the activity, there were rows of unique paintings on the table.

The teens aren't the only ones to have activities throughout the summer as kids of all ages can participate in various programs as well. For 0-5 year olds, Storytimes are held at Arnold Park Thursdays starting at 10:30am as well as Sensory activities at the Library on Mondays and library story times on Fridays. If you know someone who is 6-11 years old, they could participate in various S.T.E.A.M projects on Thursdays along with Reader's Theater every Wednesday. While teens can get creative with the art programs, anyone regardless of age can discover new things with the Local Foraging and Guided hikes or Family Camp-ins.

All these activities are also part of the Vestal Public Library Summer Reading Challenge where all ages are encouraged to read during the summer while providing community engagement through the events and programs. Many locals love participating in these activities during the summer that a record-breaking number of people joined the programs, most of them being kids. "This is our busiest time of the year and it's also the most exciting since we get to see the kids take part in the programs," mentioned Wilson, "Breaking our record shows that we are doing great work and connecting with the kids and the community."

The last day of the Vestal Library's Summer Reading Programs will be August 11th as a big block party will be held outside of the library. Many activities will be held including 'Touch a Truck' with the Vestal Fire Department, Every Cats Dream, Face Painting, the Bookmobile, and so much more! The festival will be from 5pm-8pm and it's free to the public.

Senior Center Picnic 7-25



The Country Revival, Rudy, Robin, John, Bob and Marion



53d anniversary of the Senior Center



Winning some money from the 50-50



Pulling names for free lunches at the Senior Center



Ed and Marilyn Morhring



Winning some money



Nettie Lukovich, Committee President



Pulling names for free lunches at the Senior Center

Photo Credits Go To Maryesther WhiteBrink!



Another Winner!

