



# The Vestal Town Crier



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## COUNTY VETERAN OVERSIGHT MOVED TO WELFARE

Moving veterans to Welfare was made under false pretense



In 2011, The Broome County Legislature Human Services Committee falsely claimed and wrote into the Resolution (163) that “Director of Veterans Services Agency requested oversight of Broome Veterans Burials be Administered by the Welfare Department aka Department of Social Services.” The false assertion is common knowledge to veterans and key funeral directors interviewed for this story.

The Legislative body in 2011, overseen by Chairperson, Dan Reynolds, then proceeded to move oversight of VA funerals to Welfare. This move is reported to have increased the difficulty to apply by using a 4 page application rather than the 1 page previously used, no clear guidelines communicated to families or funeral directors, create added time delays that were not existent previously under Veterans Administration oversight, increased the difficulty of needy Veteran families to receive benefits, and significantly decreased the number of Veterans and their family members that would qualify for benefits even though the need was increasing. The legality of moving “Section 148” veteran services to the Welfare Department (via resolution 163 in 2011) is questionable on many levels, and may be in violation of NYS Law, as NYS Law states that Veteran benefit oversight is

not to be placed under the direction of the County Welfare Department. A funeral home business owner stated “that the new Veteran

assistance application has changed from one page to four pages with family members that have no “legal” responsibility according to NYS Social Services Law ss:101 being asked to source and locate documentation that often is unavailable.” Adding, “the county then delays approving the application and meanwhile the Veteran is decomposing in a morgue or other facility like the box behind the jail.

Time is of the essence but Kyle White, Broome overseer seems to not care.” In a March 2022 letter to Howard Schultz, Deputy County Attorney, the Broome County Funeral Directors Association legal representation raised many legal concerns about Broome policies and procedures. To date the county has provided no clarification and essentially has ignored their local experts, whose 22 members also represent the trust of every Broome County resident. NPP will be reporting further on this in the coming weeks.

Broome County Funeral Director Association members who were interviewed, state that it was well known that the false basis was the reason for moving veterans’ oversight to Welfare and taking it away from the VA oversight and was likely intended to cut benefits to Veterans. Benefit cuts are exactly what has happened since the law went into effect. A BCFDA member reported that using the standard for inflation (which the county uses) from 2000 to current, a Veteran funeral would reimburse at \$3,736 and not the current \$2,169 which is a \$1,567 cut in Veteran benefits. In 2000 Veteran families received \$2,069 in funeral support, 23 years later in 2023 there has been a \$100

increase. The Law replaced decades of Broome County caring for “indigent” veterans and their family members. Broome County Veterans represent the largest block of taxpayers, property owners, and voters in the county. Research by NPP shows that there are nearly 40,000 Veterans and their family members in Broome County. Veterans (key voters and taxpayers) are beginning to join a PAC; Newspaper Publishers has spoken with residents forming a new Veterans based Political Action Committee to act on behalf of veteran based issues. The launch date of the new PAC for veterans has not been set but we are reporting that they are gathering media buying information to assist in moving veteran services forward in Broome County during the next election cycle. The County Executive position is a 4-year term, whereas the Legislators are elected to 2-year terms. The deafening silence from Broome County officials indicates a complete lack of respect for Veteran issues.

*(Story Continued On page 6)  
(Response From Executive Assistant, Chris Whalen, And Editorial Reply On Page 6)*

**“WHITE, WASHES OVER VETERAN SERVICE CUTS” COMING NEXT WEEK...**

vestal museum  
**Second Saturday Series** at the coal house - vestal, ny

8/12 MISS TESS  
9/9 BOBBY HENRIE & THE GONERS  
10/14 KID BESS & THE MAGIC RING

ALL SHOWS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC. 7-9PM

**WHATCHA GONNA DO AT THE CORN FESTIVAL THIS YEAR?**

Information On Page 7!

**SUMMER BLOCK PARTY**

ALL AGES WELCOME!  
VPL Patio and Parking Lot  
320 Vestal Parkway East

5 - 8 PM  
Friday, August 11 | Free Entry

FORGING NEW PATHS

END OF SUMMER READING 2023

**FREE Ice Cream!**  
from The Maine Scoop

Face Paint & Glitter Tattoos | Outdoor Games & Activities

Every Cat's Dream with Kittens and Merch

LOCAL SAFETY VEHICLES

mmm!

**Cake Doughnuts**

**THE CIDER MILL**

DAILY 7 AM - 6 PM  
[cidermillendicott.com](http://cidermillendicott.com)

Vestal Public Library Book Sale!

**VP Book Sale**  
Wednesday, August 22 - Saturday, August 26

Volleyball Camp  
Photos On Page 8!

YPA Defensive Tactics On Page 4



## VESTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

vestalfire.com

by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer

08/01 03:24	Vestal Road	Commercial fire alarm
	- left office smoke detector	
08/01 08:24	Vestal Parkway E.	Fire alarm - nothing visible
08/01 15:43	Bunn Hill Road	Kitchen heat and hall smoke alarm
08/02 18:26	Anderson Road	Odor of natural gas in basement
08/02 19:01	Vestal Parkway E.	Odor of natural gas
08/04 03:07	Route 17	One vehicle leaking gas
08/04 05:47	East Drive	10 people stuck in elevator
08/05 01:29	Gates Road	Commercial fire alarm
08/05 02:41	Gates Road	Commercial fire alarm
08/05 20:30	Route 26 & Hazel Dr.	Motor vehicle accident - Rollover down embankment
08/07 01:36	Bunn Hill Access Rd.	Fire alarm
08/07 10:07	West Drive	Fire alarm
08/07 16:18	Vestal Road	Person stuck in elevator



**Oven-Fresh Pies!**

**THE CIDER MILL**  
DAILY 7 AM – 6 PM  
cidermillendicott.com

# VESTAL POLICE REPORT

- Keisha Wright, 26, Hancock, arrested for Bail Jumping 3rd Degree for failing to appear in court on a scheduled date or within 30 days thereafter.
- Vincent Skiba, 37, Endicott, arrested for Bail Jumping 3rd Degree for failing to appear in court on a scheduled date or within 30 days thereafter.
- Vernon Lee, 46, Johnson City, arrested for Petit Larceny and Burglary 3rd Degree for entering Wal-Mart and shoplifting after previously being banned from the location.
- Melony Amos, 31, Vestal, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.
- Jake Jamgochian, 31, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Failure to Signal, Uninspected Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle and Consumption of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle after a traffic stop.
- Nash Vincent, 23, Endicott, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Speed in Zone and a Muffler violation after a traffic stop.
- Nicholas Espe, 37, Newark Valley, arrested for Uninspected Motor Vehicle, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and Fugitive from Justice for possessing Meth during a traffic stop. He was also wanted on a warrant out of Pennsylvania.
- Danielle Agosto, 30, Endicott, arrested for Uninspected Motor Vehicle, Operating Out of Class and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 5th Degree for possessing cocaine during a traffic stop.
- Vincent Skiba, 37, Endicott, arrested for Escape 3rd Degree for fleeing from police officers at the hospital while being in custody.
- Anthony Jackson, 34, Vestal, arrested for Criminal Mischief 4th Degree and Criminal Contempt 2nd Degree for violating a no-harass order of protection by preventing the victim from using her cell phone to call for police assistance.
- Gabriella Franskevicz, 27, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Failed to Stop at a Stop Sign and Moved from Lane Unsafely after a traffic stop.
- Kistadet Liimonti, 53, Endicott, arrested for six counts of Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Lowe's on various dates. He was also arrested as a Fugitive from Justice, with a warrant out of Pennsylvania.
- Jeremy Miller, 36, Binghamton, arrested as a Fugitive from Justice, with a warrant out of Pennsylvania.
- Travis Casselman, 30, Binghamton arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated-More than .18 BAC, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 1st Degree, Reckless Driving, Speed in Zone, Unlicensed Operator, Fail to Keep Right, Moved from Lane Unsafely, and Uninspected Motor Vehicle after a traffic stop.
- Kiersten Ferris, 31, Endicott, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicate-More than .08 BAC, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated-More than .18 BAC, Speed in Zone and Unregistered Motor Vehicle after a traffic stop.
- Thomas Nasoni, 64, Johnson City, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated and Following Too Closely after a motor vehicle accident.

- Friday, August 11th**  
> Open Game Day  
11-3:30PM-MeetingRoom  
> SUMMER BLOCK PARTY!  
5 - 8 PM - Outside
- Saturday, August 12th**  
Movies in the Park: The Goonies, Otsiningo Park,  
8:30PM
- Tuesday, August 15th**  
Sound Bath 6:30PM-MeetingRoom (Vestal Public Library)
- Wednesday, August 16th**  
> Broome Bands Together: Two Dollar Pistol, Stage at Otsiningo Park, 6:00PM  
> FUNshop (ages 16+)  
6:15PM-MeetingRoom (Vestal Public Library)
- Saturday, August 19th**  
> Artisan Market  
9AM-2PM-Outside (Vestal Public Library)  
> Rumble Ponies Vestal Bicentennial Night  
Gates Open at 5:00 pm
- Monday, August 21st**  
> Vestal Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting  
6:30PM-MeetingRoom  
> Town Board Work Session- 5PM
- Wednesday, August 23rd**  
Town Board Meeting  
5PM
- Thursday, August 24th**  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
6PM
- Monday, August 28th**  
Movie Monday (Death On The Nile)  
3PM- Meeting Room (Vestal Public Library)

## Ending This Week!

**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 14:**  
Girls Advanced Soccer - Grades 7th - 12th

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

# Vestal Girl Scouts' Silver Award Project Helps Mom's House in Johnson City

Vestal, N.Y. (August 8, 2023) – Vestal Girl Scouts Ava Ryczak and Ellie Russell, both age 14, have redesigned a room for nursing mothers at Mom's House in Johnson City as part of their Girl Scout Silver Award project. The girls are members of Troop 30524, part of the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways (GSNYPENN) Council.

The Silver Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Cadette (grades 6-8) can earn. Girls who pursue it look around their neighborhoods and/or schools and develop a project to make their community better in the process.

Mom's House is a non-profit organization that empowers economically disadvantaged single parents to complete their education by providing free, New York State-licensed childcare in an environment that nurtures both parent and child.



(L-R): Vestal Girl Scouts Ellie Russell and Ava Ryczak of Troop 30524, part of the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways Council

For their project, Ave and Ellie researched the rights of breastfeeding mothers, interviewed a lactation consultant and received ideas from local mothers to make the room a functional and cozy space for working nursing moms to use.

The pair held fundraisers at yard sales and town events and collected donations from friends. Through their efforts, they handmade a cushion for the rocking chair, created a sign for the door, sewed curtains for the window, and equipped the nursing room with a shelf they painted themselves that includes a tiny fridge, sound machine, snacks, bottled water, phone chargers, hand sanitizer and even homemade bibs donated by a friend. They also added a nursing pillow and step stool for comfort.

"I learned so much about Mom's House and all they do for our community," says Ava. While Ellie shared that she's hopeful that this Girl Scout Silver Award project will "create a useful and relaxing space for moms."

To learn more about the project or get in touch with these local Girl Scouts, contact Troop 30524 Co-Leader Molly Russell at 607.341.1239.

GSNYPENN serves girls in K-12 across 26 counties: Allegany, Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Oswego, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne and Yates in New York and Bradford and Tioga in Pennsylvania. Annual membership is just \$25; financial assistance is available. To start her adventure, visit [gsnypenn.org/join](http://gsnypenn.org/join). To become a volunteer, learn more at [gsnypenn.org/volunteer](http://gsnypenn.org/volunteer). To help make Girl Scouting possible for girls in your community, visit [gsnypenn.org/donate](http://gsnypenn.org/donate).



# Red Cross Service to Armed Forces Program Hosting Resource Event

## Military and Veteran Resource Barbeque to be held in Elmira on August 12

After a three-year pause due to the Covid-19 pandemic the American Red Cross of Western New York is resuming its annual Military and Veteran Resource Barbeque. The event, scheduled for Saturday, August 12 at Eldridge Park in Elmira, is hosted by the Red Cross Southern Tier Chapter Service to the Armed Forces committee, with food graciously donated and prepared by the Elmira Elks Lodge #62. The event starts at 11:00 a.m., with the program starting at 12:00 noon, and is free for all active and veteran military members and their families and friends. Service providers will be present to share information on community resources available to active and retired military and their families.

For more than 140 years, the American Red Cross has provided critical assistance to military families – beginning with our founder, Clara Barton, on Civil War battlefields - and has deployed alongside the U.S. Military for every conflict since. The American Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) Program helps members of the military, veterans and their families prepare for, cope with, and respond to, the challenges of military service and continues to serve U.S. veterans after their service ends. Each year, the Red Cross provides nearly 550,000 services to service members, veterans and their families, including 24/7 global emergency communication, in-person support for troops on all military installations in the U.S. and on more than 35 overseas installations including the Far East, Middle East and Europe and other support in military and veteran health care facilities across the country and around the world.

The Keynote Speaker for the event is Master Sergeant (Ret.) Brian Eisch, a native of Wisconsin, He joined the Army in 1992 as an infantryman and served in various duty positions over his 20-year career including Scout, Senior Scout, Radio Operator, Army Instructor, and Drill Sergeant. Brian attended Airborne, Air Assault, Army Instructor Course, Ranger School, Foreign Weapons Course, and more. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star for Valor, Purple Heart, 3 Meritorious Service Medals, 5 Army commendation medals, 4 Army Achievement medals, and more. In 2010 while on a joint Raid with Afghan National Police in Kunduz Province, Afghanistan, Brian was shot three times in his legs while attempting to save a wounded Afghan policeman. Brian was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor for his actions and retired in 2012 because of his wounds. Netflix released an Emmy award-winning documentary named "Father Soldier Son" about Brian Eisch and his boys.

Seating space is limited, so please RSVP by August 4 to Darla Roote at 607-454-8795 or [darla.roote@redcross.org](mailto:darla.roote@redcross.org).

### About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families.

The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](http://cruzrojaamericana.org), or follow us on Twitter at @RedCross.

## 19TH ANNUAL GARLIC FESTIVAL

Date  
**AUGUST 12th, 2023**  
11:00am to 4:00pm

Ethnic food | Bbq | Music & cultural performances |  
Garlic Ice Cream | Bounce House

Place

ROSS PARK ZOO  
60 Morgan Rd, Binghamton

# Johnson City's Dicks Sporting Goods "House of Sport" Prepares for Opening

The construction progress of the expansive "House of Sport" Oakdale Commons establishment in Johnson City is reaching its final stages, concurrent with ongoing recruitment efforts in anticipation of the scheduled summer debut. Dick's Sporting Goods, established in Binghamton, is in the process of erecting a sprawling 140,000-square-foot retail complex situated near Harry L Drive. Notably, this forthcoming store will stand as the largest within the company's "House of Sport" portfolio. According to Marc Newman, a partner at Oakdale Commons, the construction timeline is well on course to hand over the future retail area to Dick's Sporting Goods by the conclusion of June. Although Dick's Sporting Goods has yet to officially announce the precise opening date, House of Sport's executive director, Steven Franklin, has communicated to local authorities that a "soft opening" is anticipated on August 9, followed by the formal grand opening on August 19. Plans are in motion to invite notable athletes to Johnson

City for the inaugural celebration of the new store. Approximately 200 individuals are projected to be employed at the upcoming establishment. The House of Sport shoe department itself is said to require 50 staff members, offering a diverse array of shoe styles to patrons. Dedicated attendants will be at hand to assist shoppers. Among its offerings, the store will boast a towering 35-foot climbing wall, batting cages, and an expansive 17,000-square-foot turf field that will double as an ice rink during colder months. Upon the launch of the Johnson City House of Sport location, the Dick's Sporting Goods store situated in Vestal's Town Square Mall is expected to shutter its operations. However, the smaller, more traditional store located on Court Street in Binghamton will remain operational. This particular store holds historical significance as it is positioned near the original East Side location where 18-year-old Richard Stack commenced the company as a fishing tackle business.

# YPA Middle School Defensive Tactics

Photos Courtesy of Rebecca Smith



Basic defensive tactics were demonstrated by Chief of Police Kintner and Lieutenant Shirley. Students then were able to practice the moves.





# Vestal Community Band Bicentennial Concert



Photos Courtesy of Rebecca Smith



# Local Officials Voice Support for Family of Murder Victim Cheri Lindsey as Killer Considered for Special Parole

Broome County leaders are rallying behind the family of murder victim Cheri Lindsey as her murderer is being considered for parole for a second time in the same year. James Wales was convicted for the rape and murder of 12-year-old Cheri Lindsey in 1984 and sentenced to 33 years-to-life. After becoming eligible for parole in 2017, Wales has been denied for parole four times, including earlier this year. Despite being denied parole in April, Wales is once again being considered by the New York State Parole Board for a potential release, this time on medical parole.

According to the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Office of Victim Assistance, to be eligible for medical parole, the incarcerated individual must be “suffering from a terminal condition, disease or syndrome and be so debilitated or incapacitated as to be physically or cognitively incapable of presenting any danger to society.”

Cheri Lindsey’s family was notified late last week that Wales had been approved to be interviewed by the Parole Board due to a “non-terminal medical condition” sometime in the coming month.

Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar, along with Broome County Executive Jason Garnar, Binghamton Mayor and members of the Broome County Legislature gathered in support of the Lindsey family on Thursday to urge the community to contact the Parole Board and recommend a fifth denial of parole for Wales.

“James Wales committed an unspeakable and gruesome crime, murdering an innocent 12-year-old girl and depriving a loving family of their beloved daughter and sister,” said Sheriff Fred Akshar. “He should never see the light of day. We are gathered in solidarity with the family of Cheri Lindsey and asking the community to once again rally behind them to help ensure the Parole Board keeps Mr. Wales exactly where he belongs for the rest of his life.”

“The scars of the Cheri Lindsey tragedy are still very much with Binghamton’s North Side and the City of Binghamton as a whole,” said Binghamton Mayor Jared M. Kraham. “Every time Cheri’s murderer is considered for parole, our community relives the trauma of that day. There are no circumstances under which James Wales should be released from prison. I join members of law enforcement and the Lindsey family in urging the Parole Board to deny his parole.”

“James Wales committed one of the most horrific crimes in the history of our city – the brutal rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl,” said Binghamton Police Chief Joseph T. Zikuski. “I was a patrolman in the Binghamton Police Department when Cheri Lindsey was killed. It’s unfathomable her murderer could be released. I stand with the Lindsey family, members of local law enforcement and the broader Binghamton community in asking the Parole Board to deny the parole of James Wales.”

“Cheri Lindsey had a full life ahead of her that was cut short due to a criminal that cannot manage nor control any emotions,” said Broome County Legislature Chairman and 5th District Legislator Dan J. Reynolds. “This violent criminal poses a clear, continued threat to everyone in our community. I don’t believe this individual should be released and his medical condition doesn’t negate the heinous actions he committed. He was sent to prison for a reason, and he can receive the necessary medical care while incarcerated.”

Community members who would like to submit letters of opposition to Wales’ parole can do so by following this link: <https://doccs.ny.gov/form/letters-in-support-or-opposition> and reference the following information regarding James Wales:

Name: James B. Wales

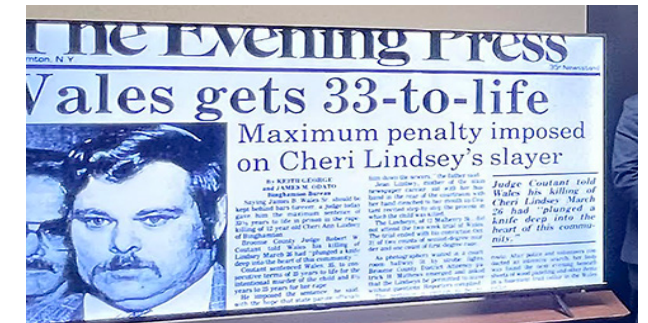
DIN: 84C1060

Early this year, Cheri Lindsey’s father, Dave Lindsey, died at the age of 81. A former Binghamton Police Officer and Broome County Legislator, Dave Lindsey became a lifelong community advocate for crime victims’ rights after his daughter’s murder. The Lindsey family partnered with local volunteers and donors to establish a scholarship fund for Binghamton High School students as well as the Cheri Lindsey Memorial Fund, which has funded park improvements and various donations to Toys for Tots, the Humane Society and Binghamton schools over the past 40 years. In 1984, Stow Park on the Northside of Binghamton was renamed Cheri A. Lindsey Memorial Park.



The Lindsey family released the following statement: “We would like to thank everyone for their continuous support. Before our dad passed, we as a family assured him that we would continue his and our mother’s fight. It has already been a very difficult year for us and now this. How many parole hearings is this convicted murder going to be allowed to have? Our family has lived in a terminal hell since this monster killed our sister and daughter. Many prisoners die in prison, that’s what James Wales needs to do, he has no right to ever be a free man again. Please write your letters to the NYS Parole Board and include James Wales Din# 84C1060. His hearing will be held within a month, we are begging you to help us keep James Wales in jail!”

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### Veteran Story Continued From Page 1

Newspaper Publishers has contacted for comment on this article and for additional information, and clarification of the reason for the move. but providing no response for this article was the County Executive, Jason Garnar, Legislature Chairperson Dan Reynolds (who oversaw the removal from VA oversight to Welfare in 2011), both Democratic and Republican Leaders of the Legislature. The silence is deafening to those that are becoming aware of the mishandling of veterans issues.

The Broome County Funeral Directors Association, which represents the 22 licensed funeral homes in Broome, according to the NYS Funeral Directing website, was not involved in the decision process overseeing the 2011 Veterans move and some even protested the move. In 2022 the Broome County Legislature again ignored the local Broome County funeral directors and owners and then significantly cut well below surrounding counties DSS assistance for funerals. Multiple funeral directors would not speak on the record with Newspaper Publishers fearing reprisal from the county.

**Here is a response (FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT) to the request for comment that was sent yesterday:**

“This claim, along with past articles on this topic written by an anonymous author, is categorically false. Longtime readers of this newspaper are familiar with the countless articles that have been published over the years related to

the funding, programs, and services from the County that have been devoted to the men & women who have served on our behalf. County officials even offered to meet or have a phone call with the new owner to discuss and answer questions raised by the newspaper - an offer that was declined. If any readers have concerns or questions about anything related to Broome County we encourage them to call 778-2109 so that factual and verifiable information can be provided to them.”

Chris Whalen Executive Assistant Broome County Executive Jason Garnar  
christopher.whalen@broomecountyny.gov 607-778-3950

### EDITORIAL STAFF RESPONSE:



Mr. Whalen’s statement of categorically false representation addresses none of the questions, nor facts, such as the photo of the “County Morgue” (LEFT).

NPP uses email, and a part-time staff due to stresses on Newspapers nationwide, email provides a non arguable basis of a conversation rather than he said - she said, or false claims of representation. Please email Newspaper Publishers examples of the “devotion” to Veterans. Funding has been cut.

# New Yorkers are urged to Prepare for Severe Weather Impacts Throughout New York State Monday Into Tuesday

Governor Kathy Hochul today urged New Yorkers to prepare for severe weather beginning later today as thunderstorms bringing excessive rainfall, damaging winds and the potential for isolated tornadoes are in the forecast across the state. Flash flooding and power outages are possible in vulnerable locations. Parts of the Southern Tier and western portions of the Mid-Hudson Regions are expected to experience the strongest winds, including the possibility of an isolated tornado through this evening. On Tuesday, severe thunderstorms are forecast to impact areas east of I-87 with excessive rainfall, flash flooding, and damaging winds expected for areas mainly north of I-90. Governor Hochul directed her administration to prepare for weather impacts and stand ready to support local officials with emergency response. New Yorkers should monitor local forecasts, prepare their households and vehicles for severe weather, and use extra caution when driving, especially near potentially flooded roadways.

“A strong weather system is expected to impact the state today with heavy rainfall and high winds, especially in the Southern Tier and western portions of the Mid-Hudson Valley, and more severe weather is set to impact additional upstate regions on Tuesday,” Governor Hochul said. “My administration is fully prepared to respond to any weather-related emergencies and assist our local government partners. I urge all New Yorkers to watch the weather forecast closely this week and prepare to act, if necessary, to protect yourself and others.”

For a complete listing of weather alerts and forecasts, visit the National Weather Service website at [alerts.weather.gov](https://alerts.weather.gov). New Yorkers are encouraged to sign up for NY Alert, the State's free emergency alert system, at [alert.ny.gov](https://alert.ny.gov). County-by-county emergency information can be pushed by text or email.

New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner Jackie Bray said, “More summer storms are on the way today into tomorrow. Keep a close eye on the forecast and prepare now so you can take action in the event of a flash flood emergency or tornado.”

## State Agency Preparations

New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' State Watch Center is monitoring weather and travel conditions, and coordinating any response needs with local governments. State Fire and State Emergency Management teams are prepared to respond with personnel and resources, in the event of flash flooding.

## New York State Department of Transportation

The State Department of Transportation is prepared to respond to the weather event with nearly 3,500 operators and supervisors available statewide. Statewide equipment numbers are as follows:

- 1,393 large dump trucks
- 317 large loaders
- 84 chippers
- 77 wheeled and tracked excavators
- 30 traffic tower platforms
- 21 vacuum trucks with sewer jets
- 14 tree crew bucket trucks

## Thruway Authority

Thruway Authority staff is closely monitoring the weather forecast and is proactively inspecting storm drains across the system, ensuring equipment is ready to respond to any wind or flood related issues, as well as checking rock slopes in areas that are expecting heavy rain. The Thruway Authority has 653 operators and supervisors prepared with small to medium sized excavators, plow/dump

trucks, large loaders, portable VMS boards, portable light towers, smaller generators, smaller pumps and equipment hauling trailers, as well as signage and other traffic control devices available for any detours or closures. Variable Message Signs and social media are utilized to alert motorists of real time weather conditions on the Thruway.

The Thruway Authority encourages motorists to download its mobile app which is available to download for free on iPhone and Android devices. The app provides motorists direct access to live traffic cameras, real-time traffic information and navigation assistance while on the go. Motorists can also sign up for TRANSalert e-mails which provide the latest traffic conditions along the Thruway, follow @ThruwayTraffic on X (Formally Twitter), and visit [thruway.ny.gov](https://thruway.ny.gov) to see an interactive map showing traffic conditions for the Thruway and other New York State roadways.

## New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

New York State DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officers, Forest Rangers, Emergency Management staff, and regional staff are on alert and monitoring the developing situation and weather forecasts, and actively patrolling areas and infrastructure likely to be impacted by severe weather. All available assets, including swift water rescue teams, are positioned to assist with any emergency response.

With the potential for heavy rains, hikers in the Adirondacks are advised to temporarily avoid all high-elevation

trails and trails that cross rivers and streams. Hikers are encouraged to check the Adirondack Backcountry Information webpages for updates on trail conditions, seasonal road closures, and general recreation information for the Adirondacks, particularly in the wake of recent flooding.

## Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

New York State Park Police and park personnel are on alert and closely monitoring weather conditions and impacts. Park visitors should visit [parks.ny.gov](https://parks.ny.gov), check the free NY State Parks Explorer mobile app or call their local park office for the latest updates regarding park hours, openings and closings.

## Department of Public Service

New York's utilities have approximately 5,500 workers available to engage in damage assessment, response, repair, and restoration efforts across New York State for this event. Agency staff will track utilities' work throughout the event and ensure utilities shift appropriate staffing to regions that experience the greatest impact.

## New York State Police

State Police are prepared to deploy additional Troopers, as needed, to affected areas. All State Police specialized vehicles, including four-wheel drive vehicles and Utility Task Vehicles, are staged and ready for immediate response. All Troop emergency power and communications equipment has been tested.

# WHATCHA GONNA DO AT THE CORN FESTIVAL THIS YEAR?

## WHEN & WHERE

Klumpp Park, Windsor, NY on Saturday, August 26 th noon – 5:00 pm

## FREE ADMISSION

Please bring canned or boxed food products to donate to Windsor's Human Development. There are over 500 local families who need our help. Personal care items are appreciated as well. Donation cans at both park entrances.

## TRACTOR DISPLAY

Come see the tractors old and new, restored or original and enjoy a chat with the owners, many of whom have a farming history.

## TRACTOR PARADE NEW THIS YEAR

At 4:30 pm the tractors will drive around Klumpp Park as they say good-bye for another year.

## CORN

enjoy one of the many corn recipes being provided by our food vendors. We have food that isn't corn, too! You won't go hungry! Some of the treats included Kettle Corn, Ice Cream and Snow Cones. Fresh grown corn will be for sale to take home and cook also.

## WINDSOR FFA

will be bringing fresh produce. Learn about the agricultural program led by Jessica Swingle at our own Windsor Central High School.

## SOUTHERN TIER BEEKEEPERS

learn about the importance of bees in the food chain.

## LIVE BANDS

The Stoutmen and The Binghamton Steel Drum Band will be there for your listening pleasure. Enjoy some great music, sit under the big tent and listen, sing along or get up and dance!

## CORN CONTESTS

Corn contests for all. Games and crafts for the kids. The older kids love the bumper corn game.

## VENDORS

Vendors offer crafts, wares, information and lively conversation.

## CORN HOLE

The West Windsor Baptist Church will have corn hole boards set up just for fun. We will not be doing a tournament this year. Have fun and enjoy the comradery.

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

Northland Power DBA Bluestone Wind Farm, the Town of Windsor, Bill & Linda Titus and Dan Burdick.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 607-655-3399 or email [elainelcard@gmail.com](mailto:elainelcard@gmail.com)

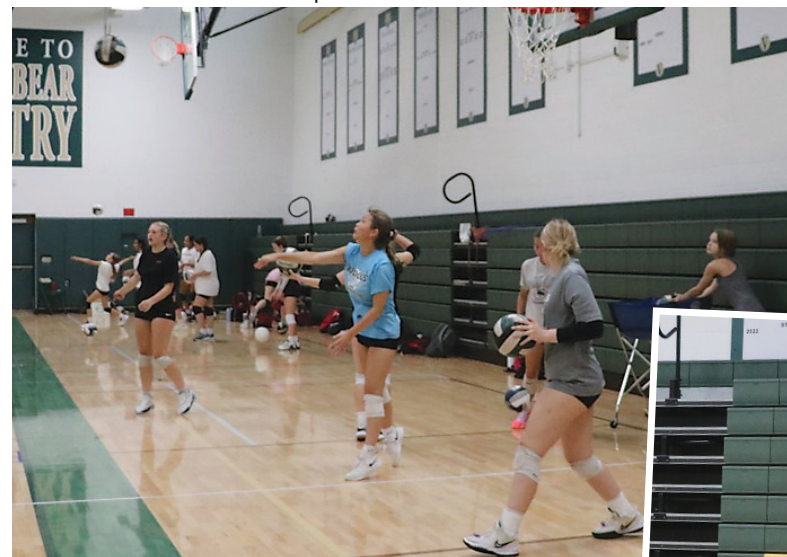
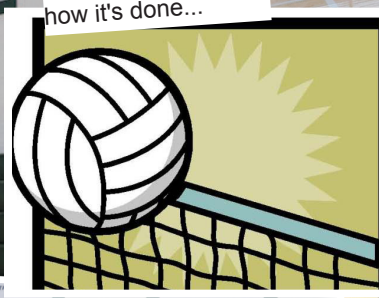
# VOLLEYBALL CAMP

Photos Courtesy of Maryesther WhiteBrink



Double Hoop Drill

Coach showing them how it's done...



High Jump Volleys

