



The Vestal Town Crier



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Vestal Girls Swimming & Diving Season Kicks Off



Joe Shore and Sara Rostedt will coach the girls swimming and diving team for a third consecutive season this fall. Last year's team finished with their most wins and most sectional medals in the past 10 years, earning a 5-4 record, as three of the losses came to the Section 4 champions in Class A, B and C. This year's squad will open their dual meet season at Maine Endwell on Tuesday, September 5th, at 5:30 PM. Last year Vestal lost to the Spartans by a single point 93-92 in the season opener. That loss cost them the STAC Metro division title as ME finished undefeated in Metro (Vestal was 3-1) and also repeated as Section 4 Class B champions.

The Golden Bears primary goal for this year will be continued improvement in both their swimming times and their diving results. Topping Maine Endwell for the STAC Metro division title is within reach, as well as improving on their 3rd place finish at the Class A Sectionals behind Horseheads and Corning.

Vestal will be led by three tri-captains and five return-

ing STAC All-Stars. All Stars Maddie Bishop and Margaret Wood are joined by Stella Tomancik as the three senior Tri-captains. Class A 500 Freestyle champion, junior Jay Ratterree, along with classmate Reagan Young and sophomore Fran Vallone are the other returning Vestal STAC All-Stars.

Juniors Sua Choi, Charlotte Coker, Megan Jones, Jia Parikh and Mary Sonnen, along with Tomancik joined the All Stars in earning pre-season Section 4 Class A Top-25 rankings. Diving Coach Rostedt will have Class A ranked junior Anne Coleman returning, along with some new talent on the boards. Vestal starts with a total of 12 ranked athletes in Class A. Other returning veteran swimmers include: Nazli Deniz, Keira DeVantier, Angela Mellin, and Anjali Patel. Coach Shore is hopeful that some of the new swimmers will emerge over these first few weeks of practice to take on key roles in September.

Maine Endwell should return four of their seven STAC All Stars and 14 Class B Section 4 Top-25 ranked athletes. Comparing their top athletes in the STAC pre-season rankings, while the Spartans may dominate the diving, Vestal

has the higher ranked swimmer in 6 of the 8 individual events, while the Spartans have the faster time in 2 of the 3 relays. Vestal seven STAC Top-25 ranked swimmers hold a total of 18 spots, while Maine Endwell's 7 ranked swimmers and 3 divers also total 18 spots. This should make for another close meet to start off the season.

Vestal will open their home dual meet season on Friday, September 8th, at 5:30 as they take on cross-river and Metro division foe Union Endicott. Last year the Golden Bears defeated the Tigers by a final 52-47 score while winning all the swimming events.

**CORRECTION:
INDIA DAY 2023
SEPTEMBER 9TH
12PM-5PM
SEE ANNOUNCEMENTS PAGE 1**

Vestal Campfire Warning Issued By Rosemary B. West

Supervisor Schaffer noted at the August 23, 2023 Town Board meeting that "Vestal residents, please be aware of your surroundings, when having small campfires. We have been receiving a few complaints about the smoke in some of our Vestal neighborhoods. If, you have a campfire please be sure it is not affecting your neighbors. You are allowed to have a 3' x 3' campfire. However, if the smoke starts to affect the neighbors around you, it becomes a nuisance, Town code require you to extinguish your fire. If, you fail to extinguish your fire, the proper authorities will be called and informed regarding your failure to extinguish your campfire."

Part 2 of "Vestal Fire Station #4" By Kaitlyn Hession On Page 8!



mmm!
Cake Doughnuts
THE CIDER MILL
DAILY 7 AM - 6 PM
cidermillendicott.com

Begins This Week; Sign Up Now!

VESTAL YOUTH FIELD HOCKEY LEAGUE
WHO: GIRLS GRADES K-6
WHAT: FIELD HOCKEY PRACTICES & TOURNAMENTS
WHEN: SEPTEMBER 6-OCTOBER 28
PRACTICES WEDNESDAYS 6-7:30PM; TOURNAMENTS SATURDAYS 9AM-1PM
WHERE: PRACTICES ARE LOCATED AT THE VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS; TOURNAMENTS ARE LOCAL TO BROOME & TIOGA COUNTY
WHY: TO LEARN THE SKILLS OF FIELD HOCKEY AS WELL AS LIFE SKILLS SUCH AS TEAMWORK AND COOPERATION

SIGN UP AT
WWW.VESTALNY.MYREC.COM

THE VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER PARTY

Photos On Pages 4 and 5!



Calendar

Tuesday, September 5th
 VHS Swim meet
 Away meet at ME

Thursday, September 7th
 Zoning Board of Appeals
 6PM

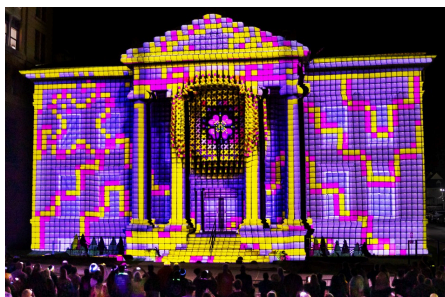
Friday, September 8th
 VHS Swim Meet
 Home Meet vs UE

Friday, September 8th-Saturday September 9th
 LUMA Projection Arts Festival
 8:30pm-11:55pm

LUMA is FREE, but we ask you to please contribute ANY AMOUNT to our KickStarter campaign to keep the festival going: <http://kck.st/45cGR33>
 TICKET INFO

Most features are totally free--you *won't* need a ticket. HOWEVER: We do ask you join our mailing list as 'payment' before attending.

We use signups to estimate attendance. That convinces our sponsors to fund more art! SIGN UP <https://lumafestival.com/maillinglist/>



Sunday, September 17th
 Picnic in the Woods
 Mountain Top - watch for details

Saturday, September 30th
 Haudenosaunee Festival
 Binghamton University Campus



VESTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

vestalfire.com

by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer

- 08/22 10:39 Route 17 Tractor trailer on fire
- 08/22 14:16 Vestal Parkway E. Commercial fire alarm
- 08/23 10:42 Route 267 Mutual aid to Silver Lake, PA for a motor vehicle accident
- 08/23 13:04 West Drive Roof fire alarm - smoke visible
- 08/23 13:47 West Drive Fire alarm
- 08/23 23:35 Ross Hill & Echo Rd. Motor vehicle accident with entrapment
- 08/24 06:19 Vestal Road Powerline arcing behind building
- 08/24 08:11 Woodlawn Drive Commercial fire alarm
- 08/24 15:38 S. Jensen Road Gas odor in lobby
- 08/24 18:15 Vestal Parkway E. Smoke detector activation
- 08/24 22:30 East Access Road General fire alarm
- 08/25 10:07 Vestal Parkway E. Commercial fire alarm
- 08/25 11:07 West Access Road General fire alarm
- 08/25 16:10 Vestal Parkway E. Dry storage heat activation
- 08/25 17:11 Seymour Road Smoke alarm activation
- 08/25 22:43 East Drive Elevator rescue - 8 people trapped
- 08/26 10:31 Vestal Road Odor of natural gas outside
- 08/26 12:22 East Access Road General fire alarm
- 08/26 19:28 Connector Road General fire alarm
- 08/26 20:03 Collins Road Smoke condition in area coming from woods
- 08/26 20:16 Almar Drive Odor of natural gas in garage
- 08/26 22:47 Vestal Parkway E. Commercial fire alarm
- 08/27 03:34 Vestal Parkway E. Commercial fire alarm
- 08/27 22:00 West Access Road Smell of something burning in building



VESTAL POLICE REPORT

Kenneth Teed, 84, Vestal, arrested for Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree for damaging the victim's vehicle after a road rage incident.

Jamie Walsh, 38, Binghamton, arrested on two counts of Petit Larceny and Burglary 3rd Degree for entering Wal-Mart, on two separate dates, and shoplifting after being banned from the location.

Ronald Gutierrez-Santos, 28, Yonkers, arrested for No Seat Belt and Criminal Impersonation 2nd Degree for providing a false name during a traffic stop investigation.

TOWN OF VESTAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT

VESTAL COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT SERIES

AT ARNOLD PARK, ANDREWS RD.
 PAVILION 3

THURSDAYS
 6:30 PM - 7:30PM

Vestal Scholars

Commonwealth University Announces Spring 2023 Graduate List

Sharul Heer, of Vestal, NY (13850)

Lily Woughter, of Vestal, NY (13850)

Seton Hall University is pleased to announce Trina Beckwith of Vestal has qualified for the Spring 2023 Dean's List.

James Madison University welcomes class of 2027

HARRISONBURG, VA (08/23/2023)-- James Madison University is excited to welcome the class of 2027 to campus this month. The incoming freshman class represents an accomplished, diverse group of individuals who hail from 35 states, the District of Columbia and 12 countries around the world.

The incoming class includes:

- Addison Kalina of Vestal, who plans to major in English - BA.
- Braden Strahley of Vestal, who plans to major in Kinesiology - BS.

Broome-Tioga BOCES Students Create Bike Racks For Regional Farmers Market

Six new bike racks are installed at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County (CCE) courtesy of a partnership between CCE, Broome-Tioga BOCES, and the Broome County Health Department. Students from BOCES' welding program created the new equipment with the support of the Health Department's Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) grant.

The bike racks depict farmers market style produce, representative of the fruits and vegetables that are offered at the market and each one was designed, welded, and painted by BOCES students. With recent changes to nearby infrastructure to make area more bike- and pedestrian-friendly, along with a renewed emphasis on alternate modes of transportation, CCE was a perfect location for the installation of the new bike racks.

"This project meant a lot to me in regards to the combination of work and school; being able to show my co-workers and our community what I do means a lot to me!" said Kaili Young, a BOCES welding student who has also worked at CCE.

As BOCES Welding Instructor John Shear explains, "This project was a good fit for our students, including Kaili and Ruthanne who have learned some new skills like bending the pipe and use of our CNC plasma cutter. I also involved several other welding students that helped sand and prepare the bike racks for paint shop. Thanks to Chad Barriger Zajdel (Auto Body Instructor at BT BOCES) and his students for quickly painting the bike racks so near to the end of the busy school year. The racks will last for years, and we hope all involved are happy with the finished product."

Through the CHSC grant, the Broome County Health Department has partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County for several years on a variety of health-promotion projects within area school districts. This year, with the goal of extending these projects beyond local school districts, the CCE campus was considered to be the ideal setting. Since CCE offers a variety of public places including the farmers market, retail store, and gardens, it serves as an excellent location for increasing opportunities for physical activity amongst community members.

CHSC is a five-year initiative funded by the New York State Department of Health to establish and support healthy behaviors in high-needs communities.



This Month At The Vestal Public Library

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
September means back to school and new routines! We know it can be tough to get back into the swing of things so we are offering two take and makes and one scavenger hunt in the Youth Department in September.					1	2
3	4 VPL Closed Labor Day	5 Lego Club 4 - 6 PM Ages 7-12	6	7 Fall Into Autumn Take & Make 10 AM Ages 0 - 4	8 Board Game Day 11AM - 3:30PM All Ages	9
10	11	12 Smell Ya Lat Summer! Take & Make 5 PM Ages 6-12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Read It & Eat: Book Club 4 PM Ages 10-13 Bookaneers! Book Club 4 PM Ages 7-9	20 Board Game Night 6PM All Ages	21 Tiny Tot Storytime 10AM Ages 0 - 3	22	23
24	25	26	27 I'd Rather Read YA Virtual Book Club 6PM - Ages 15 +	28 Tiny Tot Storytime 10AM Ages 0 - 3	29	30

Wreaths Across America Invites All Americans to Wave the Flag on September 12th

Volunteers, Gold Star families, veterans, first responders, and their families will all participate in a national flag-waving event intended to recapture the American pride and unity felt on September 12, 2001.



COLUMBIA FALLS, Maine – On Tuesday, September 12, 2023, between 9-10 am ET, national nonprofit Wreaths Across America (WAA) is calling for the nation to join them in flag-waving to remind all Americans of the feeling we had – the pride in country, the unity and patriotism – which was expressed on the days following 9/11/01. The event will be hosted LIVE on WAA's official Facebook page and broadcast over Wreaths Across America Radio. The broadcasts will include interviews and stories from volunteers, supporters, Gold Star families, veterans, first responders and members of the next generation.

WAA gathers every Tuesday morning from 9–10 am ET to raise the American flag and say the Pledge of Allegiance from the Freeport Flag Ladies Monument located on Route 1 in Jonesboro, Maine, near the 'tip lands' where balsam is harvested to make veterans' wreaths for placement on National Wreaths Across America Day each December. The monument was built by WAA in partnership with its founder, Morrill Worcester, in September 2019, after the Freeport Flag Ladies retired following 18 years of waving the American Flag in Freeport, Maine, each Tuesday since September 11, 2001.

"Now, more than ever, it is so critical for communities to come together to remember all those who served and honor their service and their family's service, especially those who volunteered during the War on Terror following the events of September 11, 2001," said WAA Executive Director, Karen Worcester. "But more than anything, we must teach our children about these men and women and the courage and commitment it takes to be a part of the small number of Americans who protect all our freedoms. Please join us on September 12, as we wave the American flag proudly like we do each Tuesday morning, and never forget that freedom isn't free and must be protected."

WAA encourages the American public to join this weekly tradition starting on September 12 by sharing their pictures and videos on social media using the hashtag #FlagsAcrossTheCountry. You can also submit videos and photos easily on the following link: <http://WreathsAcrossAmerica.memfox.io/flagwaving>. Follow WAA on Facebook, share where you are participating, and share on your own social channels.

This year, National Wreaths Across America Day will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023. To sponsor a \$17 wreath for an American hero or learn more about volunteering, please visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org.

VP THIS MONTH IN Youth Services

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR:

- **Read It & Eat and Bookaneers! Book Clubs** Stop in or call (607)-754-4243 ext. 3
- **I'd Rather Read YA - Truly Devious by Maureen Johnson** Virtual Book Club - Sign up online.

THE VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER PARTY



The Vestal Public Library recently wrapped up their 6 week long summer reading program with a Summer Reading Party in front of the library on August 11th. After a summer full of reading and activities, the library knew the best way to celebrate everyone's accomplishments was to host a party for all of those who participated in the programs held throughout the summer. Those who attended the celebration were given tickets to redeem a bag of popcorn and a sweet treat from the ice cream truck that was on the lot. With this, the Bookmobile was also there as well as Every Cat's Dream who showed participants the cats that were up for adoption. There was also a performance from the Java Joe Jammers Band, a meet and greet with a police dog, and so much more! "We thought this celebration would be a fun way for the community to engage with us as well as recognize everyone's hard work over the summer." said Emily Wilson, Adult & Young

Adult Collections and Programming Librarian at the Vestal Library. The library had a record-breaking number of attendees this summer for their reading programs as a whopping 1,000 people have attended the activities throughout the past couple months as well as over 600 people registered for the summer reading challenge. After a break, the Vestal Public Library will be back for more events during the fall season as storytimes at the library will continue as well as the annual Truck or Treat in October. "Vestal residents have really shown how much they love coming to their library." mentioned Youth Service Librarian Molly Creveling, "We're happy to see them and hope to see everyone from the town come here."



Games like Pinko were free to play



Two people read a book



Police Dog Meet and Greet!



Every Cat's Dream served food to guests



The Bookmobile makes a stop to the celebration!



We all scream for ice cream!



Those who attended got free tickets for popcorn and ice cream!



One of the kitties that are up for adoption



Everyone comes inside to look at the cats from Every Cat's Dream



The Java Joe Jammers Band brought music to the party



The Bookmobile's interior



Face painting

State's Division of Consumer Protection Offers Tips to Protect Older Adults From Consumer Fraud Scams

Secretary Rodriguez: "To help better protect our loved ones, these tips help to warn older adults and their family members about the different kinds of fraudulent schemes scammers use so they can avoid falling prey to their tricks."

The New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection is offering guidance to help prevent and protect seniors from consumer fraud and scammers in advance of National Senior Citizens Day on August 21st. Financial fraud and exploitation is one of the most prevalent types of elder abuse, and a recent AARP report estimates that the annual loss of victims of financial abuse in the United State is assessed to be at least \$28.3 billion dollars. Follow the New York Department of State on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and check in every Tuesday for more practical tips that educate and empower New York consumers on a variety of topics. Sign up to receive consumer alerts directly to your email or phone here.

"Older adults are too often targeted by predators that use a number of ever-evolving consumer fraud scams to steal personal information, money or more," said Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez. "To help better protect our loved ones, these tips help to warn older adults and their family members about the different kinds of fraudulent schemes scammers use so they can avoid falling prey to their tricks."

New York State Office for the Aging Director Greg Olsen said, "Scammers often use seemingly realistic or convincing scenarios to trick people into sending money or providing personal information. Older adults can protect themselves from being defrauded by exercising caution and by not clicking links or providing personal information to a person or organization that has contacted you unexpectedly. If you need assistance, or have a concern about scams, you can find local help by contacting NY Connects at 1-800-342-9871."

New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Acting Commissioner Suzanne Miles-Gustave said, "Financial fraud and exploitation of our elder New Yorkers literally robs them of the resources they need to maintain their independence, provide for their health care and other vital assistance that ensures their well-being. These crimes are often some of the most difficult to prevent and can inflict untold trauma upon the victims and their families. We thank our partners with the Division of Consumer Protection for offering these important tools and tips. You can also contact our bureau of adult services at 1-844-697-3505 for referrals on money management services and other financial programs to help protect these vulnerable New Yorkers."

Some of the most common older adult scams include:

Medical Device Scam: Unsolicited prerecorded messages, known as "robocalls," offering free medical alert devices by providing an address and credit card information.

Grandparent Scam: Scammers call or email asking for money while impersonating a beloved grandchild who is in some kind of trouble.

Ghosting Scam: Identity thieves obtain personal information about deceased persons from obituaries, funeral homes, hospitals, stolen death certificates and online web sites and use this information to establish credit and open accounts, take out loans, receive benefits, or even collect tax refunds filed under the stolen identity.

Jury Duty Scam: Scammers pretending to be law enforcement officers or court officials contact individuals to inform them that they have failed to report to jury duty and must pay a fine by credit card to avoid an arrest.

Funeral Notification Scam: Scammers send emails deceptively informing recipients of an upcoming farewell ceremony in remembrance of a friend or loved one, and upon clicking a link provided in the email, victims are sent to a third-party website where malicious software is downloaded so scammers can gain access to the user's information.

Sweepstakes Scam: Scammers entice consumers with various prize offers and then ask you to share personal information or pay a fee to enter the sweepstakes.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Imposter Scam: Phone scammers impersonate IRS agents and demand immediate payment of overdue taxes from victims via debit card or wire transfer to avoid being arrested.

Free Grant Scam: Scammers promise fraudulent grants in print or over the phone and ask for bank account and routing numbers.

For more information about how you can recognize the most common older adult scams or for more scam prevention tips, download The Division of Consumer Protection's informative Senior Anti-Fraud Education (S.A.F.E.) brochure. If you have parents or older family members, take the time to explain these scams to them.

Here are a few tips to follow if you or someone you know receives a call or email you believe to be a scam:

RESIST the urge to act immediately - no matter how dramatic the story is.

VERIFY the caller's identity - ask questions that a stranger couldn't answer. Check with a family member to see if the information is true.

DO NOT send cash, gift cards or money transfers. Once the scammer gets the money - it's gone!

DO NOT give your personal banking account information by email or over the phone OR log into bank accounts as directed by the caller (scammers can steal your information using screen mirroring).

About the New York State Division of Consumer Protection

The New York State Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers on product safety, as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection.

For more consumer protection tips, follow the Division on social media at Twitter: @NYSConsumer and Facebook: www.facebook.com/nysconsumer.

Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act Survey

The State has created a new web-based survey as part of ongoing efforts to involve stakeholders and all New Yorkers during the Bond Act rollout. The survey is not a formal funding application, but instead helps users share potential project ideas and other feedback on the State's funding mechanisms. The survey will help collect feedback about the types of projects communities may be seeking to support with Bond Act resources. Entries will be collected until Sept. 15, 2023.

The survey can be found at <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1009c5d5ef5e4bc4b09f47ba7012086b?portalUrl=https%3A//RambollGlobal.maps.arcgis.com>

Wage Transparency Law Set to Take Effect

A new law taking effect September 17 aims to enhance fairness and equity at businesses statewide by making salary information more transparent. The law will require all private businesses in New York State with four or more employees to list the pay or salary ranges for all advertised job openings, promotions, and transfer opportunities.

Transparent pay practices can enhance employee morale, promote trust, and reduce potential pay disparities, leading to a more motivated and engaged workforce.

The law also prohibits any retaliation against an applicant or current employee for exercising their rights under the law. Additionally, businesses exceeding a certain number of employees will need to conduct periodic internal audits to assess pay disparities and larger companies will be required to submit pay equity reports to the DOL.

Additional resources, including FAQ documents, will be made available in the coming weeks.

More information can be found at https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/S9427?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



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Governor Hochul Announces New York’s First State-Owned Utility-Scale Energy Storage System Now Operating in North Country

**20 MW Energy Storage Project in Franklin County Enables Renewable Energy Growth and Relieves Transmission Constraints
State-of-the-Industry Facility Supports State’s Nation-Leading 6,000 MW by 2030 Energy Storage Goal**

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that New York’s first state-owned utility-scale battery energy storage project is now operating in the North Country’s Franklin County. The 20-megawatt facility installed and operated by the New York Power Authority connects into the state’s electric grid, helping to relieve transmission congestion and pave the way for the utility industry and the private sector to better understand how to integrate more clean energy into the power system, especially during times of peak demand. The Northern New York Energy Storage Project will serve as a model for future storage systems and create a more reliable and resilient power supply in a region heavily powered by renewable energy. The project also will help accelerate the state’s aggressive target to install 6,000 MW of energy storage by 2030.

“Deploying energy storage technologies make our power supply more reliable and resilient, further enabling New York to build a robust clean energy grid,” Governor Hochul said. “The completion of the Northern New York Energy Storage project marks an important step to reaching New York’s energy storage and climate goals.”

The project, located in Chateaugay, about 40 miles northwest of Plattsburgh, is the Power Authority’s first utility-scale battery project and the first one built by New York State. The facility, maintained and operated by the St. Lawrence-Franklin D. Roosevelt Power Project, consists of five 53-foot walk-in enclosures, each with more than 19,500 batteries grouped in modules and stacked in racks. Each container pulls in and can disperse 4 MW of power, enough to power roughly 3,000 homes.

The Northern New York Energy Storage Project is strategically located in a region that generates more than 80 percent of its electricity supply from renewable resources, including the Power Authority’s St. Lawrence-Franklin D. Roosevelt Power Project, which generates more than 800 MW of hydropower, and more than 650 MW of wind generation.

New York Power Authority President and CEO Justin E. Driscoll. “This is a first-of-its-kind project for the Power Authority and with it we are breaking new ground as we actively help lead New York State’s decarbonization efforts. By demonstrating large-scale battery development and operation, we are showing our ability to execute forward-thinking strategies and new technologies. The Northern New York Energy Storage Project will help

New York achieve its aggressive climate goals and ensure that 70 percent of the state’s electricity supply comes from renewables by 2030. This project is a reliability and resiliency energy storage trendsetter that will be a model for others to follow.”

New York Battery and Energy Storage Technology Consortium Executive Director Dr. William Acker said, “Energy storage technologies are critical to meeting our climate goals and ensuring the reliability of the State’s electric grid as we add increasing amounts renewable energy and reduce our reliance on fossil-fuels. NY-BEST congratulates NYPA on commencing operations at this important new facility and we and our members look forward to working with NYPA and other partners to continue to safely and effectively deploy energy storage across the state.”

New York Independent System Operator President and CEO Rich Dewey said, “The NYISO congratulates the New York Power Authority on bringing this important storage project in service. The NYISO was pleased to work with NYPA as it developed the Northern New York Energy Storage Project, which is designed to help the state meet its ambitious energy goals and enhance the resiliency of the grid in the North Country. We remain committed to working with state leaders, utilities, and developers to deliver the grid of the future.”

State Senator Dan Stec said, “Creating a reliable, affordable energy grid is of paramount importance. This new battery storage project in Chateaugay will go a long way toward ensuring that, while also creating good jobs. I’m confident this project will make our region a leader in electricity generation and storage.”

Assemblymember Billy Jones said, “The North Country generates renewable energy that can be utilized locally and across the state and the new NYPA facility in Chateaugay will help in the transmission of this power. It not only created jobs during construction, but will continue to bring jobs in the future.”

Town of Chateaugay Supervisor Donald Bilow said, “We are excited to see the completion of this battery storage project. It will be a benefit to the North Country and the entire state of New York. It will help provide clean and reliable energy to the citizens of New York.”

The energy storage facility balances power demand by capturing any excess generation, storing it, and discharg-

ing it into the grid during times of peak demand, typically on hot summer days or cold winter nights. The energy storage system will supply the New York wholesale energy and ancillary service markets and will contribute to more economical and reliable electric power in New York.

Due to the intermittent nature of wind generation, the excess energy needs to be captured when the wind is blowing so it can be dispersed when there is no generation. Having the capability to store renewable energy for delivery during times of high demand will help eliminate the transmission constraints that often prevent the energy from being distributed throughout the statewide grid.

The system also includes inverters, transformers, a control house, and back-up generator, all connected to the Willis substation, located north of the project. The project, which provides 20 MW of power utilizing a lithium-ion battery system, was constructed by O’Connell Electric Company, Inc., of Victor, N.Y.

Advancing energy storage at scale is critical to meeting the State’s Climate Act goals and to ensure the safety and security of energy storage systems across the state, Governor Hochul announced the creation of a new Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group. While fires at energy storage facilities are rare, the Governor has directed the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Fire Prevention and Control, NYSERDA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Public Service, New York Power Authority, and the Department of State to lead the Working Group to independently examine energy storage facility fires and safety standards.

NYPA’s engineers were involved with the planning, development and permitting of the project and the project team met with local fire departments for training on the battery storage technology used at the facility. NYPA’s engineers have ensured that the Northern New York Energy Storage Project met all fire safety and permitting requirements. NYPA is also testing other types of battery technology, such as advanced lithium-ion and zinc-air technologies, that demonstrate a reduction in the potential for thermal runaway, the most common cause of energy storage fires.

Free Admission Night At The Discovery Center!

FREE ADMISSION NIGHT
SPONSORED BY:
VISIONS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

4-7PM
September 15

THE DISCOVERY CENTER OF THE SOUTHERN TIER



Stay Tick Free!

The ticks are out in full force this year. Be sure to follow these recommended tips to stay tick free:

Be Tick Free

1. Wear light-colored clothing with a tight weave to spot ticks easily
2. Wear enclosed shoes, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt
3. Tuck pant legs into socks or boots and shirt into pants
4. Check clothes and any exposed skin frequently for ticks while outdoors.
5. Consider using insect repellent
6. Stay on cleared, well-traveled trails and walk in the center of trails.
7. Avoid dense woods and bushy areas

Check out DEC’s website for additional tips for tick prevention.

New Vestal Fire Station #4

Part 2!

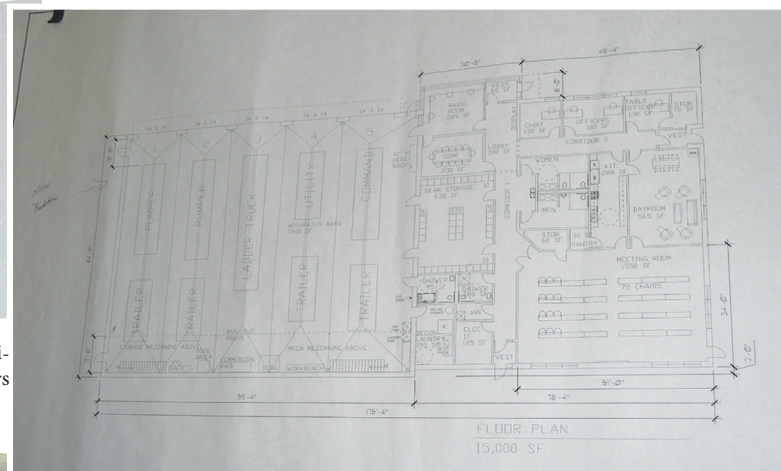
Pictures and Article by Kaitlyn Hession



The extra large new bay area



One of the more noticeable cracks that shows part of the outdoors



FLOOR PLAN
15,000 SF

an outline of the interior of the new station



even less room between the trucks and doors on the other bay area



Installation was applied to the window frame as well



The long staircase within the current station



Ceiling is too low



Station 4's new location is estimated to be finished during this fall

Town Board Approves Emergency Coal House Roof Repairs

By Rosemary B. West

Town Supervisor W. John Schaffer stated during the August 23, 2023, Vestal Town Board meeting that "I had the honor of throwing out the First Pitch at last Saturday's Rumble Pony's Baseball Game honoring Town of Vestal's 200th Anniversary Year. It was a great evening and I want to thank all who attended."

The first order of Town business on the meeting's agenda was the Town Board voting on and passing the authorization for the emergency repair of the Coal House Roof for \$26,400. It was pointed out this amount would be paid out of the Coal House budget reserve fund. This amount was in addition to the \$14,000 that had been previously voted on and approved. The Coal House Reserve must be repaid at least one-half of the expenditure in the next fiscal year. The balance then needs to be repaid by the end of the following fiscal year.



FUN FACTS!

1. There's a restaurant in New York that employs grandmas instead of chefs.
2. Velociraptors were actually feathered dinosaurs.
3. The man who invented pop-up advertisements deeply regrets it and says he's very sorry.
4. More than \$700 million worth of aluminum cans are thrown out by Americans every year.
5. Roosters have built-in earplugs, so they don't deafen themselves when they crow.