



# The Vestal Town Crier



Proud to Be Your Hometown News for Over 44 Years



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**PET OF THE WEEK:**



## Moo Moo

Hi, my name is Moo Moo, and I turned 9 this week! To celebrate, my 2 brothers and I got to have puppy sundaes! This year, I plan to sleep, beg, and sploot more than ever before. Happy Birthday to me!

Send in a photo of your pet with a short bio to: [kirsten@tiersnews.com](mailto:kirsten@tiersnews.com) to have your pet in the paper!

**No Tricks... Just Treats.**



**THE CIDER MILL**  
DAILY 7 AM - 6 PM  
[cidermillendcott.com](http://cidermillendcott.com)

## Elementary Students Learn Fire Safety

Photos Courtesy Of Regina Felice



Giovanni, African Road Elementary, tries a firefighter's helmet on for size.



Vestal Firefighter Robert Hamilton tells Clayton Avenue students about the different tools that firefighters use.



Aiden, Glenwood Elementary, gets to sit in the fire truck.



Giovanna and Amna, Vestal Hills Elementary, in front of the fire truck



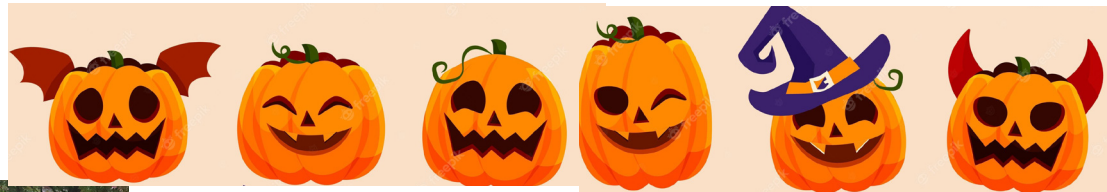
Students at Glenwood Elementary learn they shouldn't be frightened of how a fire fighter looks and sounds in full gear.



Zhenghan, Vestal Hills Elementary, meets Sparky the Fire Dog



African Road students Bradley, Charlotte, Kanishk and Zahrah help Firefighter Ken explain when to call 9-1-1.



**VHS Varsity Football VS UE**  
On Page 5!



**Trick or Treat**

**OCTOBER 31ST**

**5:00PM - 8:00PM**

**ENDWELL FIRE DEPT.**  
3508 COUNTRY CLUB RD



# Calendar

**Saturday, October 28th**  
**Trick-or-treat at the Oakdale Commons**  
**12PM-3PM**

**Tuesday, October 31st**  
**Trunk-or-treat at Endwell Fire Dpt**  
**3508 Country Club Road**  
**6PM-8PM**

**Wednesday, November 1st**  
**>FUNshop Improv Workshop VPL**  
**6:15-8PM**  
**>Town Budget Hearing**  
**@Oyster Bay Town Board**

**Monday, November 6th**  
**Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs**  
**6-7:30PM**  
**Youth Services Department**

**Thursday, November 9th**  
**VPL Yin Yoga, 6PM**  
**Sign up online at [www.vestaltownpubliclibrary.com](http://www.vestaltownpubliclibrary.com)**  
**Large Meeting Room**

**Wednesday, November 15th**  
**Board Game Night**  
**6PM, Vestal Public Library (VPL)**  
**All Ages Welcome**



## VESTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

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

*by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer*

10/18	19:43	West Access Road	Fire Alarm
10/18	22:16	Castle Gardens Rd.	Commercial fire alarm
10/19	01:14	Main Street	Smoke condition in the area
10/19	01:25	Murphy Avenue	Mutual aid to Endicott for a house fire
10/19	09:11	State Route 4013	Mutual aid to Apolacon for possible structure fire
10/19	13:26	Clubhouse Road	General fire alarm
10/20	02:55	Connector Road	Commercial fire alarm
10/20	10:46	West Drive	Smell of natural gas or propane in area
10/22	17:35	West Access Road	Smoke detector activation
10/22	19:36	N. Main Street	Commercial fire smoke detectors
10/22	22:15	Connector Road	Fire alarm
10/23	15:38	Vestal Road	Commercial fire alarm



**Christian Rozelle**, 32, Johnson City, arrested for two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for possessing Meth and Fentanyl during a larceny investigation.

**Paula Kliamovich**, 60, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Kohl's.

**Amy Sheahan**, 49, Vestal, arrested for suspended registration, uninsured motor vehicle, uninspected motor vehicle, and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for possessing Heroin during a traffic stop.

**Michael Sullivan**, 61, Vestal, arrested for Harassment 2nd Degree for putting his fist in the victim's face and pushing her head into the sofa during a physical domestic.

**Robert Glann**, 40, Vestal, arrested for Endangering the Welfare of a Child and Obscenity in the 3rd Degree for making vulgar statements in the presence of a child.

**Adrienne Patterson**, 40, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

**Adam Flint**, 31, Johnson City, arrested for suspended registration, uninsured motor vehicle, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and Criminal Use Drug Paraphernalia 2nd Degree for possessing Meth and a digital scale during a traffic stop.

### HALLOWEEN FUN FACTS!

1. Halloween is the second largest commercial holiday in the US.
2. Candy corn was originally called "chicken feed".
3. The fastest pumpkin carving ever only took 16.47 seconds.
4. Princesses and superheroes rank as the most popular kids' costumes
5. Skittles are the #1 Halloween candy purchased in the US.

## Vestal Town Crier

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### NEWS/ADVERTISING DEADLINE

The Vestal Town Crier goes to press on Wednesdays. Deadline for news and advertising is the Friday before the desired week of publication.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Subscription rates to The Vestal Town Crier are \$35 a year in Broome County and papers are mailed every Thursday from Conklin

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters to the editor are welcomed. All letters must be signed and include the phone number of the writer, to be used for verification of authenticity, not for publication. The editor reserves the right to refuse to publish letters which contain potentially libelous or erroneous statements. Also, letters endorsing political candidates are considered advertisements and should be prepaid as is all political advertising. No letters to the editor regarding political candidates will be accepted.

**We are delighted to have your news! Your photos are welcome! Contact us:**

**Call us today: 607 755 0472 E-mail: [kirsten@tiersnews.com](mailto:kirsten@tiersnews.com)**



## Book Sale

**Monday, October 30 - Saturday, November 4**

- Monday 10/30: 2:30pm - 8pm
- Tuesday 10/31: 9am - 8pm
- Wednesday 11/1: 9am - 8pm
- Thursday 11/2: 9am - 7pm
- Friday 11/3: 9am - 5pm
- Saturday 11/4: 10am - 3pm



# Undefeated Blue Raiders Sink Golden Bears

By Hal Ehrhardt

The Vestal Girls Swimming and Diving team fell to the undefeated Horseheads Blue Raiders by a final score of 110 to 73 last Tuesday as their record fell to 4-3 after three consecutive losses to STAC West division foes. Coach Joe Shore is optimistic as he looks forward to Sectionals next week based on the number of improved times last week. Vestal kept the first half of the meet close with a pair of early wins as Coach Shore moved swimmers around from their usual events.

Maddie Bishop swam to victory in the 200 Free as Stella Tomancik placed with her career best time. Jay Ratterree followed with a career best in the IM for a close come from behind win, while Keira DeVantier turned in her fastest IM of the season. Horseheads then won the next eight events, but Vestal's best times kept coming.

Yih Hui Lim finished 3rd in the 50 Free, but had her and the team's best time of the season, while Mary Sonnen finished right behind with another best time. Olivia Tanton improved on her 4th best in Vestal history 6-dive score, finishing 2nd in the diving. The 100 Free featured several best times as Fran Vallone finished 2nd with DeVantier, Sua Choi and Charlotte Coker all turning in career bests in the event. Sonnen and Reagan Young had their fastest 500 Free times, while Ratterree finished 2nd. Bishop finished 3rd in the Fly while Lim had her best time to finish 2nd in the Back. Megan Jones (2nd) and Choi had best times in the 100 Breast.

The Vestal 400 Free relay team of Bishop, Vallone, Tomancik and Lim came from behind for the win in the final event, while the team of Coker, Margaret Wood, Jones and Young also overcame a big deficit to finish 3rd. Lim, Jones, Young and Ratterree were runner-ups in the Medley relay while Bishop, Vallone, Ratterree and Young did the same in the 200 Free relay.



## Vestal 73 – Horseheads 110

- Medley Relay: 1st Horseheads (1:58.96); 2nd Lim, Jones, Young, Ratterree (2:11.41);
- 200 Free: 1st Bishop (2:11.73); 5th Tomancik;
- 200 IM: 1st Ratterree (2:28.54); 3rd Vallone;
- 50 Free: 1st S. Lowe (HH 25.74); 3rd Lim (27.05); 4th Sonnen;
- Diving (11): 1st Blowers (HH 236.85); 2nd Tanton (216.50); 3rd Anne Coleman
- 100 Fly: 1st M. Carro (HH 1:05.25); 3rd Bishop (1:11.83); 5th Wood;
- 100 Free: 1st A. Lowe (HH 59.07); 2nd Vallone (1:02.54); 4th Jones; 5th Tomancik;
- 500 Free: 1st S. Lowe (HH 5:32.51); 2nd Ratterree (5:34.45); 5th Sonnen;
- 200 Free Relay: 1st Horseheads (1:46.69); 2nd Bishop, Vallone, Ratterree, Young (1:55.80);
- 100 Back: 1st Lapierre (HH 1:04.83); 2nd Lim (1:07.24); 4th Wood;
- 100 Breast: 1st Janeski (HH 1:19.66); 2nd Jones (1:21.76); 5th Choi;
- 400 Free Relay: 1st Bishop, Vallone, Tomancik, Lim (4:12.55); 3rd Coker, Wood, Jones, Young;

This past Tuesday, the team hosted Binghamton on Senior Night with the results unavailable at press time. Next week is Class A Sectionals where Vestal finished 3rd last year behind Horseheads and Corning while edging out Ithaca. The swimming preliminaries will be held at Ernie Davis Academy in Elmira on Wednesday, November 1st at 5 PM, with the top 16 moving on to the Class A finals to be held at Watkins Glen on Saturday, 11/4, at 3:30 PM. Class A diving is being held at Ernie Davis Academy on Friday, November 3rd, starting at 3:15 PM. A reminder that Sectional tickets must be purchased on line (not available at the door) at <https://gofan.co/app/school/NYSPHSAIIV>.

## “Gannon Sparks Vestal Victory” By Roger Slawta, Vestal Statistician

In a key Section 4 Class A matchup, the visiting Golden Bears took down the state's No. 18 Class A ranked team, 28-7. Sophomore J.T. Gannon provided the first Vestal touchdown and helped set up the next two as well.

With 8:23 left before halftime, Gannon grabbed a 22-yard pass from quarterback Cam Schaffer to put Vestal on the scoreboard. The score capped a 7-play, 59-yard drive.

After exchanging punts, Gannon broke through to sack the Blue Raider quarterback near midfield. The ball squirted right into the alert hands and quick feet of teammate Logan McNamara - who took the ball the rest of the way, untouched.

Vestal expanded its 13-point halftime lead on their second possession of the third quarter. The drive covered 49 yards and the key play once again being the brilliant 20-yard catch by Gannon along the left sideline, setting the ball at the 2. Senior Liam Nealy took it in from there and with Schaffer's 2-point conversion run, Vestal took a 21-0 lead.

Vestal's final score followed a sack and a fumble recovery by junior lineman Jaden Bernardini at the Horseheads' 32-yard line. One play later, Schaffer hit a wide open Noah Kintner in the end zone, and with John McIntyre's PAT kick the Bears had finished their scoring.

Horseheads would answer with a score of their own at 6:02 in the fourth quarter, piling up runs of 7, 11, 13 and 30 yards.

Despite the late surge by the Blue Raiders, it would be the Vestal defense that would rule the evening as they pressured the quarterback all evening, registering seven sacks and causing two fumbles. Gannon and Bernardini both recorded two sacks.

Cam Schaffer completed 12 of 18 passes for 129 yards and 2 touchdowns. Liam Nealy finished with 118 hard-fought yards, including one TD.

Next up: Friday night at Binghamton

## Support Child Internet Safety Legislation

Free-speech is not at the heart of this legislation, but regulation of an industry that has had free run to influence the younger generations.

Newspaper Publishers supports of Senator Andrew Gounardes' introduced legislation to increase the safety of children on the internet and positively impact a healthier mental health environment and reduce addiction to social media platforms. The SAFE for Kids Act and the New York Child Data Protection Act, cite many studies that show increasing episodes of anxiety, suicidal ideations, depression, and negative self-thoughts in children and teenagers arising from the increased use of social media. The two new pieces of legislation have been sponsored by Sen. Gounardes, will help keep children safer online by regulating features found to be addictive aspects of social media platforms that negatively impact the mental health and development of children. It will also prevent the social media online businesses from gathering personal information and then deploying that information to 3rd party users to gain more influence on younger generations.

### Background on the new legislation:

#### Bill #1: Stop Addictive Feeds Exploitation (SAFE) for Kids Act

The SAFE for Kids Act will require social media companies to restrict the addictive features on their platforms that most harm young users. Currently, platforms supplement the content that users view from the accounts they follow by serving them content from accounts they do not follow or subscribe to. This content is curated using algorithms that gather and display content based on a variety of factors. However, algorithmic feeds have been shown to be addictive because they prioritize content that keeps users on the platform longer. Addictive feeds are corre-

lated with an increase in the amount of time that teens and young adults spend on social media and significant negative mental health outcomes for minors.

#### To address this problem, the legislation will:

- Ban social media platforms from offering addictive feeds to any persons under 18 without parental consent. Instead, users will receive a chronological feed of content from only the users that they already follow or feeds of generally popular content – the same way that social media feeds functioned before the advent of addictive feeds. Users may also search for specific topics of interest.
- Prohibit social media platforms from sending notifications to minors from 12AM and 6AM without verifiable parental consent.
- Allow users and parents to opt out of minors accessing social media platforms between the hours of 12AM and 6AM.
- Authorize the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to bring an action to enjoin or seek damages or civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation. Allow any parent/guardian of a covered minor to sue for damages of up to \$500 per user per incident, or actual damages, whichever is greater. This legislation will only impact social media platforms with feeds comprised of user-generated content along with other material that the platform recommends to users based on data it collects from them. For example, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, and YouTube would all be subject to this legislation.

#### Bill #2: The New York Child Data Protection Act

With few privacy protections in place for minors online, children are vulnerable to having their location and other

personal data tracked and shared with third parties. To protect children's privacy, the New York Child Data Protection Act will prohibit all online sites from collecting, using, sharing, or selling personal data of anyone under the age of 18 for the purposes of advertising, unless they receive informed consent or unless doing so is strictly necessary for the purpose of the website. For users under 13, this informed consent must come from a parent. The bill authorizes OAG to enforce the law and may enjoin, seek damages, or civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation.

#### The Times Union wrote:

"This is not a free-speech issue, but a simple matter of responsible regulation of a multibillion-dollar industry - one that Congress seems unwilling to seriously engage with unless the platform in question is being targeted by their favorite demagogue.

Study after study has made it clear that the spiking levels of anxiety and other deleterious mental conditions among young people are driven at least in part by the explosion of social media platforms competing for impressionable and developing minds. At worst, the consumption of this content can contribute to various forms of online bullying, depression and suicidal thoughts - or worse.

Tech companies complain that proving the age and identity of a child can be burdensome and pose privacy issues. We are confident that an industry as technologically evolved as this can work with regulators to find a workable solution to this challenge. Lawmakers who are beginning to plan their agendas for the 2024 legislative session would do well to consider these bills for fast action. Isn't the mental health of children worth it?"

Reach out to your legislators to support the prioritizing of these bills in the upcoming legislative session.



Jaelynn Wiggins escorted by Her mom, Nicole, her stepdad, Michael, her sister, Audrey & Grandma, Mary Jean

# VESTAL FIELD HOCKEY

Photos Courtesy Of Maryesther White-Brink

## Senior Night



Aubrey Wenner escorted by her parents, Cheryl & Mike and brother Dylan



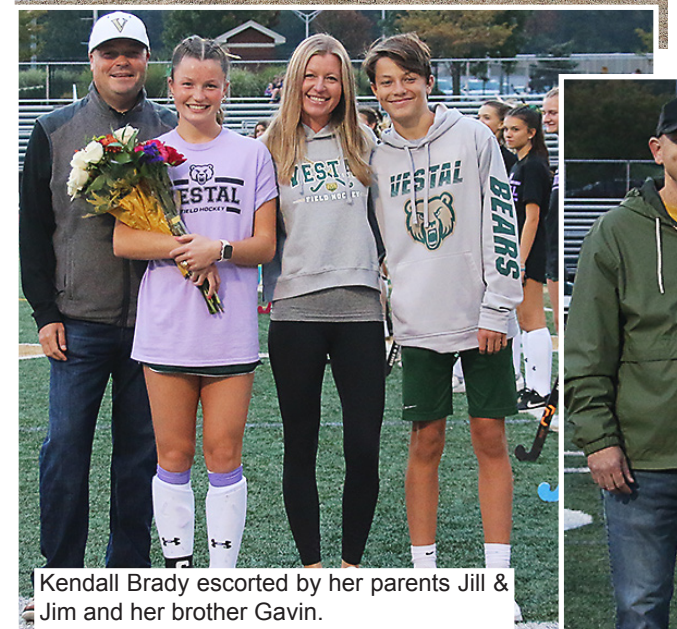
Madison Lilley escorted by her parents Tim & Trish and her brother Ethan



Adrienne Mayes escorted by her parents Chris & Diane and her brother Christopher



Morrigan Magill escorted by her parents Sean & Lisa and her brother Keeqa



Kendall Brady escorted by her parents Jill & Jim and her brother Gavin.



Reily Slorer escorted by her parents Joel & Heather and her Siblings, Hadley & Cooper



Chloe Burkhard escorted by her parents, Kari & Jack



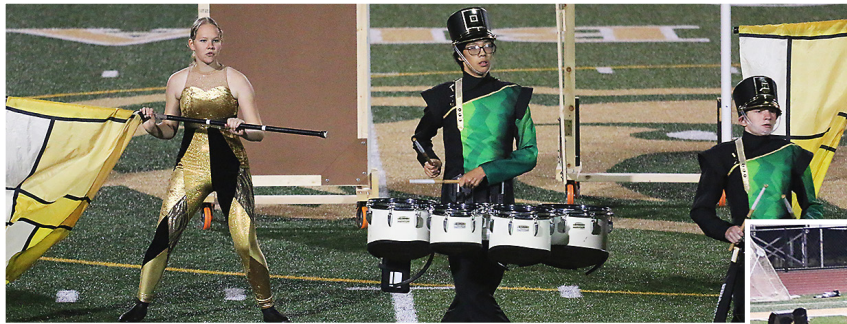
Molly Schoenbeldt escorted by her parents Derek & Kal

# SENIOR NIGHT

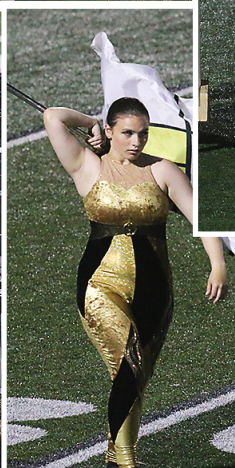
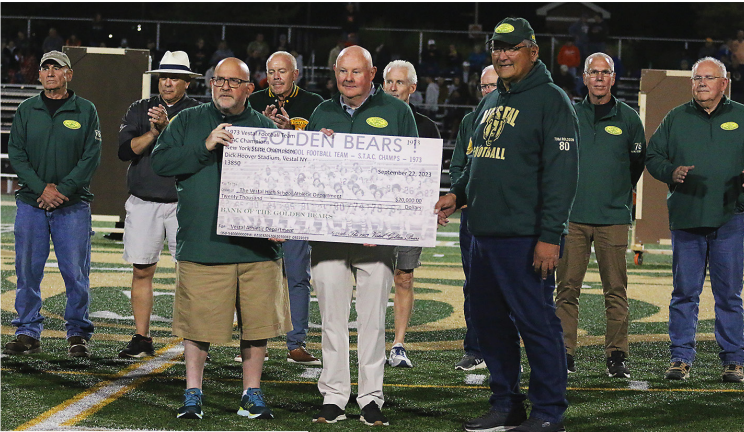
VESTAL GOLDEN BEARS VS. MAINE-ENDWELL SPARTANS  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023



# VHS VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME VS UE



Vestal Voices



Vestal Cheerleaders



JT catches the ball!



# New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection Provides Safety Tips for Adults and Children for an Enjoyable and Safe Halloween Celebration



## Don't Get Tricked, Follow Key Safety Tips for a Fun Halloween Celebration

Secretary Rodriguez: "The safety of New Yorkers is always the number one priority. Through these tips from our Consumer Protection team, we can help to ensure that Halloween festivities come with no tricks and only treats."

"Halloween is a thrilling time of the year for kids, parents, guardians, and extended family," said Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez.

"Simple steps like checking candy after trick-or-treating, and keeping an eye out for trick-or-treaters while driving, will help keep everyone safe on Halloween," State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said.

Children and adults can celebrate this traditional festivity and enjoy the activities by following these tips:

### Health

Be aware of any food allergies your child might have and avoid accepting candy that might not have proper labels, are repacked or homemade.

Have an honest conversation and set expectations on what a healthy amount of sweetness your child can eat from trick or treating. Consider spacing the consumption of treats over several days for long-lasting enjoyment.

Talk about donating or trading some of the candy. Many hospitals have Halloween candy exchange activities during the month of October.

### Treats

Examine any toys or small items for young children under three years of age. Pay attention to small parts or items that can detach that may pose a choking hazard.

Examine all treats. Although instances are rare, be aware of the possibility of tampering. Any treats that are unwrapped, unsealed, repacked, mislabeled or seem suspicious should be thrown away.

### Costumes

Look for fabrics labeled "flame resistant," such as nylon or polyester, when purchasing costumes, beards, wigs and masks. Flame-resistant materials are not flameproof, but they will resist burning and can be extinguished quickly.

Purchase or make costumes that are light-colored, bright and clearly visible to motorists. Dark-colored costumes are hard to see at night. Costumes should also have adequate ventilation, have eye holes large enough to allow full vision and should not limit hearing.

If purchasing costumes online, be cautious of scammers pretending to be legitimate online sellers, either with a fake website or a fake ad on a genuine retailer site or social media. For safe online shopping tips, check out our consumer alert.

While shopping at seasonal Halloween pop-up shops, always check the return policy and be sure to understand the store's policies before making a purchase. Ask if they will be operational after the holiday; if not, inquire how long they plan to stay open and if they will accept returns after October 31st.

### Decorations

Pumpkin carving is a fun activity, but it only takes a few seconds for an injury to occur. Remember to leave the carving to adults, and never let kids do the actual carving. Instead, for pumpkin carving safety, have them draw the pattern and clean out the pulp and seeds after.

Use battery operated tea-lights, LED lights or glow sticks instead of an open flame candle for your Jack-o-Lanterns. If using a candle, keep your decorated Jack-o-Lanterns away from curtains, decorations or other flammable objects that could be ignited. Do not leave an open flame candle unattended.

Keep any candles or Jack-o-Lanterns away from landings or doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flames and place them on a sturdy table.

### Trick-or-Treaters

Young children should be accompanied by an adult while trick-or-treating. If children will be trick-or-treating on their own, consider safety rules like staying with a group, reviewing their route, safety check-ins and agreeing on a time to return home.

Local governments may have curfews, designated hours or other rules relating to trick-or-treating, so make sure you are aware of any restrictions and communicate them clearly to children.

Use reflective tape as a trim for costumes, outerwear and even treat bags to make them visible to motorists at dusk and in the dark. Reflective tape is found in hardware, bicycle and sporting goods stores.

Cross the street on corners, use crosswalks and adhere to traffic signals.

Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of a motorist.

Walk on sidewalks or paths and, if there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far left as possible.

Put electronics down, keep your head up and walk (don't run) while crossing the street.

### Drivers

Be careful when passing stopped vehicles. They may be stopping to let trick-or-treaters cross the road or unloading passengers. The visibility of trick-or-treaters and other pedestrians may be obstructed.

Always look out for pedestrians, especially before turning at a green light or making a "right turn on red."



Halloween is full of spooks and frights, but air pollution should not be one of them. Halloween is one of the most celebrated holidays in the US, but also one of the most wasteful. To keep your Halloween as green as Frankenstein's monster, follow these fang-tastic tips:

### Pick-A-Pumpkin Pumpkin Patch

**Compost Your Pumpkins:** Decomposing organic material can release methane gas in landfills. To limit methane emissions, compost your pumpkins and food scraps at home or participate in a drop-off or residential collection service.

**Get Creative with Costumes:** The fashion industry is responsible for 10% of carbon emissions worldwide, with 23 billion pounds of clothing ending up in landfills across the US. Instead of purchasing a Halloween costume this year, try making a unique Halloween outfit with clothes already in your closet.

**Walk Instead of Drive:** As transportation makes up 28% of NYS' greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, walking from house to house will lower emissions while keeping our air clean.

**Avoid Plastic:** Plastic items generate greenhouse gases (GHG). Skip the plastic containers and collect candy in an old pillowcase or reusable bag instead.

Changing a few habits can green your Halloween and help keep the air we breathe clean, too.

## Employment Opportunity: Part-Time Library Clerk

Vestal Library is seeking a friendly, energetic, and highly motivated individual to provide excellent customer service to our patrons.

Salary: \$15.00/hour.

16 hours per week. Flexible schedule including some evenings and Saturdays.

This is a part-time position not eligible for benefits.

### Job Duties and Responsibilities

Performs circulation desk duties, including greeting patrons, checking in and out library materials, registering new patrons, collecting fines and shelving books.

Assists in library activities and programming as needed. Maintains library public areas in a clean and orderly fashion by sustaining orderly shelves, refilling displays and performing light cleaning and/or organizing tasks.

Works proficiently with basic computer software and the library's dedicated programs.

Assists patrons with computer use and troubleshoots basic computer and office equipment.

Assists with opening and closing duties.

Assists with special projects, events and outreach.

Follows and carries out VPL policies and procedures.

Performs other related duties as required.

### How to Apply:

Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Vestal Public Library

Melanie Niermeyer, Office Manager

320 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal NY 13850

Cover letter and resume may be dropped off at the library or emailed to [officemgr@vestalpubliclibrary.org](mailto:officemgr@vestalpubliclibrary.org)

## BROOME COUNTY LEGISLATORS

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# APALACHIN LIONS

Serving the Apalachin 13732 & Campville, NY 13760 & Little Meadows, Pa.18830 area.

**SINCE 1956**

The Apalachin Lions will be hosting its' 60 th Annual Senior Citizen Dinner on Wednesday November 2th at Donoli's Restaurant on Route 434, Apalachin.

This year we are again limiting invitations to residents of the Apalachin, Little Meadows, and Campville and Crestview Heights communities. These are the areas where the Apalachin Lions solicits its' funds to serve the local community.

Our routine mailing to our regular attendees will be sent out mid-October. If you are a senior citizen that resides in one of those areas and would like to attend but do not receive an invitation, please call Lion Donald Castellucci Jr. 607-687-0965. The event runs from 5:30-8:00 pm. The dinner includes a traditional Thanksgiving meal and entertainment.

Contact Person: Lion Terry White 625-4498

# Halloween: A Journey Through Time

Halloween, with its spooky costumes, eerie decorations, and trick-or-treating, is a beloved holiday celebrated by millions around the world. However, the roots of this popular celebration run deep, reaching back over two millennia. Let's take a journey through time to explore the rich history of Halloween.

## Ancient Origins: Samhain and the Celtic Traditions

The story of Halloween begins with the ancient Celts, who inhabited what is now Ireland, the United Kingdom, and parts of France. They celebrated a festival known as Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest season and the onset of winter. Samhain, which fell on October 31st, was a significant event in Celtic culture. It was believed that during this time, the veil between the living and the dead was thin, allowing spirits to return to the earthly realm.

## Roman Influence: Feralia and Pomona

The Roman Empire's conquest of Celtic territories brought a fusion of cultures. The Romans added their traditions to Samhain, leading to new celebrations. Feralia, a Roman holiday honoring the dead, became intertwined with Samhain. Additionally, the Roman festival for the goddess Pomona, symbolized by the apple, contributed to the autumnal celebrations.

## Christian Influence: All Hallows' Eve

In the 7th century, the Roman Catholic Church declared November 1st as All Saints' Day or All Hallows, a day to commemorate saints and martyrs. The evening before, October 31st, became known as All Hallows' Eve, which gradually transformed into Halloween over time.

## Medieval and Early Modern Traditions

Halloween's evolution continued in Europe, where various customs and rituals developed. People would light bonfires, carve turnips, and don costumes to ward off malevolent spirits and celebrate the holiday. These practices were brought to the United States by Irish and Scottish immigrants in the 19th century.

## Modern Halloween: Trick-or-Treating and Community Celebrations

The Halloween we know today began to take shape in the United States during the 19th and 20th centuries. Trick-or-treating, a practice where children go door-to-door for candies and treats, gained popularity in the early 20th century. Halloween also evolved into a time for parties, costumes, and community events, giving it the festive and fun atmosphere we associate with it today.

## Commercialization: An Industry Booms

Over time, Halloween transformed into a major commercial holiday. The sale of costumes, decorations, and candy generates billions of dollars in revenue each year. The holiday also expanded to include haunted houses, parades, and various forms of entertainment, making it an economic powerhouse as well as a cultural one.

## Global Influence: Halloween Around the World

Halloween's popularity has steadily spread to other parts of the world, reaching far beyond its Celtic and Christian origins. While the customs and traditions may vary from country to country, the core elements of costumes, sweets, and spooky themes remain universal. This global influence speaks to the enduring and cross-cultural appeal of the holiday.

In conclusion, Halloween's history is a captivating tapestry woven from ancient Celtic traditions, Roman and Christian influences, and the contributions of various cultures throughout the ages. It has evolved into a holiday that combines reverence for the deceased with a fun, spooky celebration suitable for people of all ages. As we continue to celebrate Halloween, we not only connect with our past but also honor the enduring human fascination with the mystical and macabre.

## Winter Annual Coat Drive

### Sponsored by the Apalachin Lions

The Apalachin Lions will be collecting CLEAN useable winter coats for those in need from October 2nd through November 19th. They can be left off at Blessed Trinity at St. Margaret Mary's in Apalachin on the table at the right as you exit mass, Apalachin United Methodist Church at 303 Pennsylvania Ave., Apalachin Library during regular hours and Johnson's Pools and Spas in Owego. Thank you in advance.

### Contact person

Lion Terry White  
Telephone: 607-625-4498



## "Hooked Rugs - Past and Present"



Early Renditions of Hooked Rugs...involved small cuts and floral/oriental themes. Graded swatches were popular for making florals. They often used "found" materials such as burlap sacks.



Grenfell Rugs used donated stockings from large cities which were sent to Labrador artists who made rugs in exchange for food coupons.

**The National Pearl McGown Rughookrafter's Guild of the Southern Tier, Chapter #1, will present its Biennial Rug Show**

**November 3 & 4, 2023**

**at Vestal United Methodist  
328 Main Street,  
Vestal, NY 13850.**

**Theme: "Past and Present"**

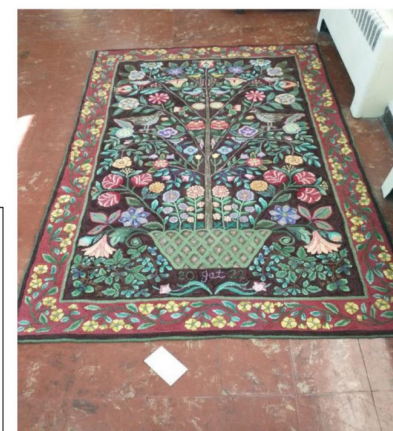
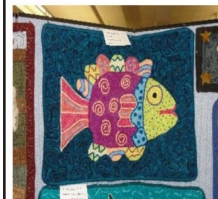
**Show times:**

**Friday, November 3, from 10 to 6  
Saturday, November 4, from 10 to 4**

**This is a free event to promote the art of traditional rug hooking.**

**Show Sponsors: VUMC's Margaret Akers Women's Circle**

Modern Day Rug Hookers have developed the art in many ways. Some use the traditional wool strips to create their art; some use wool yarn; some use ribbons and bows; and the designs are extremely varied. Rules are not as important to follow. However, better backing material such as linen make them more lasting.



### "Learn to Hook" Class

Saturday, Nov. 4  
11-1 pm - Vestal UMC  
Supplies Provided - \$

Reservations Required.  
Limited Class Size

Contact: 607-239-5029

# RE-ELECT JOHN SCHAFFER VESTAL TOWN SUPERVISOR

NOVEMBER 7, 2023  
CONTINUE THE TRADITION OF  
EXCELLENCE  
18 YEARS SERVING THE  
RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF  
VESTAL

PAID FOR BY THE FRIENDS TO  
ELECT JOHN SCHAFFER



# Vestal Bicentennial Cemetery Tour

Photos Courtesy Of Kaitlyn Hession

