



The Vestal Town Crier



Proud to Be Your Hometown News for Over 44 Years



Vol. 35 No. 15 NEWSTAND PRICE \$1.00 Friday, December 1, 2023 SUBSCRIBE at Publisher@TiersNews.com

See You Next Fall.



Thanks for a Great Season.

LAST DAY - NOV. 30th
OPEN AUGUST 2024
cidermillendicott.com

PET OF THE WEEK:

Sophie



Hi my name is Sophie! I love to sleep on my mom's head at night and make biscuits in her fuzzy blankets. I love to bully my brother cat and enjoy many treats. My mom says I have big paws but I would disagree!

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

Satellite GBHC Mental Health Clinic to open at Vestal High School

Vestal Central School District Administration is pleased to share that the District is collaborating with the Greater Binghamton Health Center to bring a satellite mental health clinic to Vestal High School.

Part of the District's efforts to make high-quality mental healthcare more accessible to Vestal students, the resolution approving this was passed by the Vestal Board of Education at its meeting on November 21, 2023. Because Greater Binghamton Health Center directly bills clients and their health insurance, the clinic comes at almost no cost to the school district!

In most respects, the office will provide the same services that clients would receive if visiting the Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Center on the Greater Binghamton Health Center campus.

The clinic will operate 8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and will be staffed by Kristin Jamba, a licensed clinical social worker with GBHC. It will be located within the school's Counseling and Guidance Office.

The clinic functions by appointment only, and clients must register initially through GBHC's open access. The clinic will be open to Vestal High School students. At some point in the future, it may be opened to students from other Vestal schools. Students and parents may inquire about the clinic through their school counselor.

Geoffrey Ahearn, superintendent of the Vestal Central School District, recently retired!



The cake to celebrate Superintendent Geoffrey Ahearn's retirement.

Which reads 'Thank You for your Leadership' And the hashtag '#Stay Golden'

Here he is with the delicious cake that the Board of Education provided to share at a recent meeting.



Annual Coat Drive Sponsored by Apalachin Lions THANKS!!

The Apalachin Lions would like to thank the community for the hundreds of winter coats donated for those in need.

A special thanks to Blessed Trinity at St. Margaret Mary's, the Apalachin Library, Johnson's Pools & Spas in Apalachin Methodist Church Penn. Ave for collecting the coats, and the Open Door Mission Outreach for distributing the coats for 2023.

Photo : L-R Lion Sue Whiteing ,Lion John Whiteing ,Lion Terry White ,Lion Leigh Ericson

Every Cat's Dream PRESENTS

Whiskers In Wonderland Adoption Event

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
11:00-2:00PM

Vestal Public Library
Kittens, Bake sale, Crafts, Merchandise, and more!



Calendar

Friday, December 1st

The Discovery Center's Gingerbread Village Grand Opening, 4PM-7PM

Saturday, December 2nd

>84th Annual Endicott Holiday Parade 4PM, Washington Ave, Endicott

>Homebrewed Comedy At The Vestal Elks Lodge, 7PM-9PM

>Every Cat's Dream "Whiskers In Wonderland" Adoption Event; more info on page 3

Sunday, December 3rd

VTA Vestal School Holiday Craft Show 10AM-3PM, Vestal High School

Monday, December 4th

VPL "Read to Therapy Dogs" Event 6PM-7:30PM

Wednesday, December 6th

Fire District Meeting, 6PM 605, Vestal Pkwy W

Saturday, December 9th

>Bicentennial Event: The Polar Express at VPL! Enjoy hot cocoa and popcorn while you watch "The Polar Express" beginning at 2PM >New Moon Wellness Grand Opening 12PM-7PM, visit newmoon-wellness.com for more info

Saturday, December 9th at 9AM to Sunday, December 10th at 12PM

Photos With Santa!

Tractor Supply Co, 154 Vestal Pkwy W

Sunday, December 10th

Christmas Cookie Decorating Party, 12PM-2PM, Vestal Volunteer Emergency Squad inc. All sign ups due by 12/3/23

Tuesday, December 12th

VPL Teen Game Day 3PM-6PM, YA Section

Vestal Winter Parking Ban Now In Effect

Please be aware that the following parking ban goes into effect beginning December 1st at 12 AM.

Vestal Town Law Section 14-85:

The parking of vehicles is prohibited in all town and county streets and highways between the hours of 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM during the period Decembr 1st to March 31st.



Vestal Fire Department Responses

vestalfire.com

by Walt Schlundt, Public Information Officer

11/21 05:43	Keenan Drive	Fire alarm
11/21 23:25	Route 26	Active fire in roadway
11/22 00:18	Main & Charles St.	Tree down with possible wires
11/22 00:24	Rano Blvd.	Explosion from substation
11/22 00:32	Oak St. & Vestal Rd.	Possible transformer blew
11/22 01:07	State Line Road	Unknown type wires down
11/22 01:29	S. Jensen Road	Service wire down
11/22 01:30	Owego Road	Wire down
11/22 01:46	Tracy Creek Road	Tree down in road
11/22 02:10	Echo Road	Primary wire down blocking driveway
11/22 02:26	Woods Road	Tree on house
11/22 02:35	Foster Road	Secondary lines down in yard
11/22 03:17	Glenwood & Echo Rd.	Unknown type wires down
11/22 03:18	Bunn Hill Road	Wires down/Smoldering
11/22 03:35	Noyes & Ridge Rd.	Tree down across several wires
11/22 03:36	Dodd Road	Tree down on several wires
11/22 04:10	Jones Road	Tree down on lines
11/22 06:22	Tracy Creek Road	Tree and power line down across driveway
11/22 09:48	N. Main Street	Smoke condition behind location
11/22 10:06	Underwood Road	Wires down in field, small fire/smoke condition
11/23 15:03	Murray Hill Road	Fire alarm in living room
11/24 11:54	Vestal Parkway E.	Commercial fire alarm
11/25 08:59	Vestal Parkway E.	Breakfast smoke detector
11/26 07:19	Rano Blvd.	Carbon monoxide alarm with symptoms
11/26 09:30	Vestal Parkway W.	Strong odor of natural gas in building
11/26 09:48	Glenwood Road	Burning tree in backyard
11/26 13:15	Willow Street	Residential fire alarm - bedroom smoke alarm
11/26 20:41	Rano Blvd.	Transformer fire
11/26 20:43	Main Street	Transformer fire
11/26 21:26	Connector Road	Commercial fire alarm
11/26 23.23	West Drive	Elevator rescue



VESTAL POLICE REPORT

Tashryha Crowley, 27, Binghamton, arrested for Bail Jumping 3 rd Degree for failing to appear in court on a scheduled court date or within 30 days thereafter.

Qin Zheng, 46, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Zing Zheng, 44, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Sarah Frey, 33, Endicott, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated-More .18 BAC, Uninspected Motor Vehicle, and Unregistered Motor Vehicle after a traffic stop.

Donald Doster, 29, Binghamton arrested for Bail Jumping 3 rd Degree for failing to appear in court on a scheduled court date or within 30 days thereafter.

Connor Bryant, 28, Apalachin, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Lowe's.

William Hastings, 60, Vestal, arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated-More than .08 BAC and Open Container after a motor vehicle accident.

Daniel Eletto, 54, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Best Buy.

John Bogart, 43, Owego, arrested for Grand Larceny 4 th Degree for shoplifting merchandise valued over \$1000 from Wal-Mart.

Heather Aviles, 36, Owego, arrested for Burglary 3 rd Degree and Grand Larceny 4 th Degree for shoplifting merchandise valued over \$1000 from Wal-Mart after being banned from the location.



Reminder: Cutoff Date for Fertilizing Lawns is December 1st

If you plan to fertilize your lawn this fall, remember that it is against New York State law to fertilize lawns between December 1 and April 1. Some areas also have local laws about selling and using lawn fertilizers.

Choose a lawn fertilizer with no phosphorus.

Lawn fertilizer can have unnecessary phosphorus that runs into waterbodies. Excess phosphorus in freshwater lakes and ponds can cause algae overgrowth, with serious impacts to the environment and public health.

The law does not apply to agricultural fertilizer or fertilizer for gardens. Visit DEC's Lawn Fertilizer webpage for more information.

New Faces Dominate Golden Bear Boys Swimming & Diving Team

By Hal Ehrhardt

Coaches Joe Shore and Sara Rostedt are joined by 11 of last year's team members and a dozen new athletes for the upcoming season. The team will be led by their three senior captains, Adi Banerjee, Logan Kim and Ocean Sun. Kim is the team's sole returning STAC All Star as he has preseason Section 4 Top 25 rankings in both the Fly and Back and is the fastest returning Vestal 200 Freestyler. Banerjee is the highest ranked (preseason listing) Golden Bear swimmer, as he is 12th in the Breast and also has the team's fastest 100 Free and 200 IM times.

Junior diver/sprinter Ben Elie has the highest ranking as he is listed 5th in the 6-dive event and 8th for 11 dives. Freshman Ben Hutchings has the fastest 50 sprint time on the team with Kim and Elie right behind, while sophomore Lucas Matt leads the distance swimmers in the 500 Free. Other key members who scored at last year's sectionals include junior Harrison Cappellett and freshman Sayum Singhal. Experienced returning swimmers also include: Keith Dai, Gavin Hantsch, Luke Sobel along with Sun. Joining them will be another senior, Ian Chung, who did not compete last season, but swam for Vestal in the 2021-22 season.

Last year the team finished their 7th consecutive winning dual meet season (5-3), good for 2nd in the STAC Metro division behind Maine Endwell who the Golden Bears will visit this coming Tuesday, December 5th at 5:30 PM. At Sectionals they fell to 5th place among the seven teams, behind repeat champion Horseheads. The percentage of new team members may be a record for Coach Shore in his 28th season and should prove a challenge as it will take much of the dual meet season to establish the best fit for all the newcomers as they aim for Sectionals in mid-February. This is Rostedt's 7th season as the Vestal diving coach and she looks forward to what Elie can accomplish in his second season.

Golden Bears Finish Eventful Season

By Roger Slawta, Vestal Statistician

Currently ranked #16 in Class A, the Vestal football team (8-2) posted its best season since 2002 when they recorded a 10-2 record, ranked 8th in the state. The Whitesboro Warriors (currently ranked #5) ended the Bears' season a week ago at Dick Hoover Stadium.

The campaign was marked by impressive wins over Class AA schools: Baldwinsville 28-7, Elmira 27-0, Corning 41-8 and Binghamton 42-16.

There were numerous offensive statistical standouts:

* Liam Nealy rushed for 1097 yards on 171 carries, scoring 102 points to lead the Golden Bears.

* Quarterback Cam Schaffer completed 83 of 133 passes for 1307 yards and 16 TDs.

* Sophomore receiver J.T. Gannon set new Vestal marks with 44 receptions for 718 yards. He also scored 60 points and led the team in sacks (5).

Schaffer and Nealy also placed among Vestal's all-time career leaders in several categories.

Schaffer's career completion percentage (61.3%) is first in the Vestal record book. His career passing yardage (2555) is fourth and his touchdown passes fall second on the list at 26.

Nealy finished near the top in a number of career categories: 3378 yards rushing (2nd), 4131 total yards (2nd), 304 total points (2nd) and 230 tackles (4th)

Section 4 All Stars included: J.T. Gannon, Logan McNamara, Liam Nealy, Cam Schaffer and Tucker Zostant.

Recently three Golden Bear alumni were honored by being listed in the All-Time Section 4 Girls Swimming and Diving Top-25. Fifteen former Vestal boys' team athletes were included on the most recent Boys All-Time Section 4 ranking. Included were Vestal record holders Mike Zvolensky (1991 – IM & Breast), Adam Bielecki (2007 – 50 & 100 Free), Walt Kintner (1985 – Fly), Jim Shank (1982 – 500), RJ Standish (2001 – Back) and diving record holders Mike Canino (2011 – 6 Dives) and Sean Danek (2008 – 11 Dives). Other former greats who made the list were Dave Bittler (1990 – IM), Nick Dupree (2008 – 50), Ryan Graham (2005 – 6 Dives), Mike Hagedorn (1983 – 50 & 100 Free), Jim Gault (1987 – 500), Don Carpenter (1989 – 500), Jason Beaver (1998 – Back) and Mike McFadden (1982 – Breast). Bielecki and Shank also made the list in the IM, as did Canino for 11 dives. Surprisingly no Vestal relay team made the Top 25 in any of the three relay events and even 200 Free record holder Hagedorn missed the list in the only individual event that Vestal was not listed. The highest Vestal ranking is Bielecki's 7th in the 50 Free.

SANTA'S MAILBOX 2023

November 20 - December 10



Santa would love to hear from all the boys and girls in Vestal! Write your letter and Santa will send you one back. Ask him a question and he will answer it! Santa's mailbox will be located on the front porch of the Recreation Office located at 516 Front St., Vestal. Don't forget to write your first and last name and put your address somewhere so Santa knows where to write back to you. You can also bring your letter to Santa to the Christmas Tree Lighting and give it to him in person.



Apalachin Lions Annual Christmas Basket Program

The Apalachin Lions will again be holding our annual Christmas Basket program this year for families in need. This program includes the Apalachin, Crestview Heights and Little Meadows areas and will provide gifts and gift cards for children 15 and under as well as food certificates. If you would like an application, send an email to Christmas@Apalachinlions.org by November 23.

Contact Person: Lion Terry White 625-4498



Christmas Tea

Everyone is welcome to join us for a music service, refreshments, and a Christmas carol singalong!

DECEMBER 3

At 328 Main Street
Vestal, NY 13785



The United Women in Faith of Vestal United Methodist Church, 328 Main Street, Vestal, NY invite you to their Annual Christmas Tea beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

The event will begin in the sanctuary of the Church, with entertainment provided by "Chenango Brass". They will play hymn tunes and holiday pieces.

Following the program, and a short hymn sing, refreshments will be provided in the dining room. All are welcome to attend this festive occasion.

Vestal Town Crier

Vestal Town Crier (USPS 0052-26)
Published weekly by Newspaper Publishers LLC
PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Conklin, NY 13748
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Vestal Town Crier P.O. Box
Publisher: Gretchen VanWalterop
607 775-0472
Member



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, \$100 outside of 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: news@tiersnews.com



**VHS Varsity Football
Game VS Horseheads**

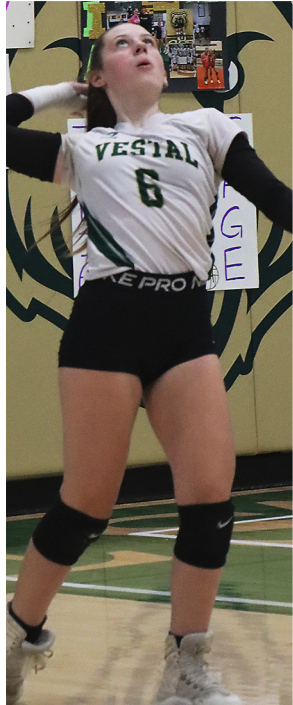




JV VOLLEYBALL SENIOR NIGHT



Photos Courtesy Of Maryesther White-Brink



Vestal Board of Education

By: Paula Babey

The Vestal Board of Education has lots of upcoming news firstly Superintendent Geoffrey Ahearn is retiring from the Vestal Central School District after many great years of service to the School District. At the recent meetings the Board Members and school staff thanked Mr Ahearn for his work, leadership, commitment and contributions to the School District, students, staff, and teachers. He will leave knowing he has left his job in great hands with Mr Clifford Kasspn taking the reins! Cake and other sweet treats were provided as a fond Farewell. We wish Geoffrey all the best in his retirement.

A presentation from Stace Kintner, Vestal Police Chief Officer regarding their role with the Vestal Central School District and the roles of the School Resource Officers (SRO) they provide to keep our schools safe. The School Resource Officers assigned to the Schools in the Vestal area are active police officers. There are companies that provide retired Correction Officers and retired Police Officers who have no connection with the community or the area, therefore the Vestal program on the other hand has an interest in the local area and an investment in the community. The SRO's go above and beyond to make the district safe answering calls at any hour and they have a strong partnership with the Superintendent and the administrators. SROs are not inside the classrooms but are by the doors.

SRO's provide support to the grounds and areas adjacent to the school. Other services are traffic control with radar in school zones and once a year the canines (dogs) are used inside the High School to search for drugs. Several officers interview students about trafficking and/or narcotics that may be distributed in schools as well as online threats made to the schools.

The SRO's take their job seriously, if a call is received at 10 pm and there is a legitimate concern they will act accordingly. Other local programs are not so diligent as the State Police and/or the Sheriff's Department will have to be contacted before the appropriate Police Department can take action making the response time longer.

If one of the SROs, either Chris 'Cards' Cardarelli or Conner Talbut receives a call

he will respond accordingly. This could mean sitting with a family to make sure it's a credible situation and not just social media. If there is a situation and a concern that there may be guns in the house then a search warrant will be issued, it is hoped that guns are locked up. The Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) is for some States that have 'Red Flag Laws'. The ERPO allows the removal of someone's firearms who is deemed a threat to themselves or others and put in place to prevent gun tragedies. Unlike Vestal, whose SROs are available around the clock, some local School Districts do not have the same program and their SROs are only available during the day. The sharing of information is different between each District too.

With good communications with the State Police, the Vestal Police Department are always looking out for the protection and safety of students, staff, and the community here in Vestal. Out of the Four SROS, two were members of a SWAT Team and therefore have tactical training. Every SRO has training and has been trained. Each year they train together, with school safety in mind.

The Vestal Police Academy has had approximately 600 student graduates. The Academy focuses on Physical Fitness, CPR, Crime Scene Investigation, team building, critical Incident response. Mental Health, Narcotics, school safety - driving related speeding etc, and social media being one of the biggest things, train the officers in this region providing knowledge and communication. With the Vestal Program, security is better with 4 SROs and future plans are to increase that number allowing coverage in all the buildings as well as making Police Officers are readily available.

Along with keeping our students safe they also get to have some fun by attending field trips, some are hard work, and some are just having plain fun. Approximately 15 Business/FBLA students from the Vestal High School from Grades 9-12 attended the FBLA Fall District meeting in Canastota, NY on November 3rd, 2023, and next year approximately 250 Vestal Middle School students will be having a class trip to Dorney Park in Allentown, PA on May 31st, 2024, let's hope the weather is nice for those trips and that students enjoy themselves.

Vestal Central School District loves to accept kind donations and this one is from the 1973 Vestal Football Team in the amount of \$20,000 for athletic equipment. Wow, a huge thank you for their generous donation. The program Weis4School Rewards Program from Weis Markets is still being successful with donations of \$502.72 to the Vestal Hills Elementary School and \$200.00 to the Clayton Avenue Elementary School.

The Student Government has got off to a good start with Homecoming, whereby students worked hard to make this event successful with advertising from local businesses and the Vestal Spirit Posters along the Vestal Parkway. Many of you might have spotted them on your drive to the Town Square Mall and other destinations. The Vestal Marching Band was spectacular, and the Club designed a huge 'Bear Mask' as an attraction which was 2 meters tall, and although hit some trees in the Parade, survived well.

After their first and initial meetings the student Clubs are up and running. This year there is a Billboard which shows the date and time of the Club meetings and room location, making it easier for students to find out when and where they are going as well as the date of the meetings.

Vestal Hills, has a theme 'Keep Your Head Up' to be positive and maintain positivity. Book Fairs, PTO meetings, Fall Party, Vendor nights, Science Club, Lego Club and Cider Mill fundraisers have kept students, staff, and parents busy.

A generous check of \$20,000 was presented to the Athletic Department for a Stadium Score Board and other equipment from the Football Team of 1973 who came to the school for a reunion. The Donation check was number 1973 from the Bank of the Golden Bears, very cool. The Checking Account 350 which was the total points that season the Team had as well as 9 Wins. The district thanked the Team for their kind donation and their thoughtfulness.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays with family and friends. Stay safe with the weather changes and make sure your car has good tires and is reliable for traveling. Most of the leaves have fallen off the trees by now and are looking bare and our beautiful Fall colors are no more. With snow around the corner, we will be able to watch the snowflakes fall and sun's rays glistening on the snow on those sunny days.

Vienna Boys Choir Celebrates Christmas at Binghamton University

Thursday, December 7, 2023, the Anderson Center for the Performing Arts welcomes the world-renowned Vienna Boys Choir to Binghamton University to celebrate the season with their holiday program, Christmas in Vienna. This illustrious group of child musicians has been delighting music lovers across the globe for six centuries with their purity of tone, distinctive charm and popular repertoire. The enormously popular chorus is composed of four touring choirs that hail from dozens of nations and together give over 300 concerts a year around the world. Christmas in Vienna showcases these gifted musicians with voices of unforgettable beauty in an extraordinary program featuring Austrian folk songs, classical masterpieces, popular songs and, of course, holiday favorites. The Fort Worth Star Telegram raves "There's no more gratifying sound than that of children singing. And there's no more polished ensemble of children's voices than the Vienna Boys Choir." This performance takes place at 7:30 p.m. in the Osterhout Concert Theater. Tickets for the general public range from \$25-60, with a 10% discount on premium seats for seniors, veterans, and Binghamton University faculty/staff and alumni. Student and child tickets cost just \$10 for any seat in the house. On sale now through the Anderson Center Box Office, online at anderson.binghamton.edu or by calling 607-777-ARTS



Regular Firearms Season for Deer and Bear Hunting in the Southern Zone Began on November 18

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced today that the state's most popular big game season begins on Saturday, Nov. 18. DEC encourages hunters to review safety regulations to enhance their hunting experience.

"I wish all hunters a safe and successful hunting season and encourage these outdoor adventurers and those visitors sharing the woods to put safety first and wear blaze orange or pink to see and be seen" said Commissioner Seggos.

The 2023-24 regular deer and bear hunting seasons in New York's Southern Zone began on Saturday, Nov. 18 and continue through Sunday, Dec. 10. The Southern Zone regular season is New York's most popular hunting season, with participation from about 85 percent of New York's 550,000 licensed hunters. Harvest during this season accounts for nearly 60 percent of the total statewide deer harvest and 30 to 60 percent of the statewide bear harvest.

Following the regular deer and bear hunting seasons in the Southern Zone, late bowhunting and muzzleloading seasons will run from Dec. 11 through Dec. 19, and again from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1. Hunters taking part in these late seasons must possess a hunting license and either bowhunting or muzzleloading privileges.

In the Northern Zone, the regular deer and bear hunting season opened Oct. 21 and closes Dec. 3. A late bowhunting and muzzleloading season for deer will be open in portions of the Northern Zone from Dec. 4 to 10.

Daily hunting hours for deer and bear include the full daylight period, beginning 30 minutes before sunrise and continuing until 30 minutes after sunset. Hunters should check the sunrise and sunset times before hunting each day.

Continuing New York's Record of Safe Hunting

The 2021 and 2022 hunting seasons were the safest on record and DEC is encouraging all hunters to continue to take steps to remain safe while afield. Most hunting-related injuries occur when hunters are climbing in and out of a tree stand. Hunters should read the manufacturer's instructions and warnings before using a tree stand, check all stands (including straps and chains) before every season, and replace any worn or missing parts. Hunters should also wear a fall-arrest harness with a lifeline to stay connected from the time they leave the ground to the time they get back down and never climb in or out of a tree stand with a loaded firearm.

Hunters must wear fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink clothing (either a hat, vest, or jacket which are visible in all directions) when pursuing deer or bear with a firearm, and should always follow the basic rules of firearm safety:

- Point your gun in a safe direction.
- Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
- Be sure of your target and beyond.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

Take It - Tag It - Report It

With DEC's HuntFishNY mobile app, reporting a deer, bear, or turkey harvest is easier than ever. Through the mobile app, hunters, anglers and trappers can access an electronic version of their licenses and report their harvests immediately while afield on their mobile device. Hunters can also report their harvest by calling (1-866-GAME-RPT) or through DEC's website. Reporting your harvest is required by law, so please remember to Take It, Tag It, Report It!

Other Reminders for the 2023-24 Southern Zone Regular Hunting Season

- Choose non-lead ammunition for reduced risk of lead exposure to you and non-target wildlife.
- Hunters can donate venison to help those less fortunate while contributing to deer management.
- For the first time this season, big game hunters can use rifles in Onondaga County.

Local Sales Tax Collections Up 2.5% In October Compared To Last Year

Local sales tax collections in New York state increased by 2.5% in October compared to the same month in 2022, according to an analysis released today by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. Overall, local collections totaled nearly \$1.8 billion, up \$43.5 million compared to the same time last year.

"Local sales tax collections in October experienced moderate growth," DiNapoli said. "October's increase marked the fourth straight month of overall growth between 2% and 4%. A return to relatively consistent year-over-year growth in sales tax collections, as was seen in the years before the pandemic, is a positive sign of stability and could help local officials better estimate this source of revenue."

For October 2023, compared with October 2022:

New York City's collections totaled \$809 million, an increase of 2.6%, or \$20.7 million.

County and city collections in the rest of the state totaled \$880 million, an increase of 2.2%.

A majority (45 out of 57) of counties experienced some year-over-year increase.

These monthly sales tax collections are from the cash distributions made to counties and tax-imposing cities by the state Department of Taxation and Finance, and the amounts are based on estimates of what each municipality is due. In the third month of each calendar year quarter, these distributions are adjusted upward or downward, so that the quarter as a whole reflects reported sales by vendors. The next quarterly numbers (for October to December) will be available in January.

BROOME COUNTY LEGISLATORS

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CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW & BAKE SALE



SATURDAY, DEC 9, 2023
10AM - 2PM
VESTAL CENTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
478 WEST HILL ROAD

All things Christmas!!!

Lunch available

Call SANTA PHONE 607-625-HOHO

Although he is very busy this time of year the Apalachin Lions has persuaded Santa Clause to take phone calls for three Nights in early December. Santa has been happy to do this for the children in the area for many years. He is looking forward to talking to his many young friends, again, so he will know what they want for Christmas. To talk to Santa call 607-625-HOHO (607-625-4646) between 6 PM and 8 PM on December 4,5,6th.



Winter Fun Facts!

1. The Tallest Snowman Stood Over 122 Feet Tall
2. The Lowest Temperature Recorded on Earth was -128.6 degrees Fahrenheit (-53.6 Celsius)
3. Reindeers Can See in the Dark
4. Snowflakes Come in all Sizes! While the average snowflake is smaller than the size of a penny, there have been records of snowflakes as large as 15 inches!
5. Christmas roses, winter pansies, snowdrops, winter aconite, and Christmas cacti all bloom during winter



GRAND OPENING
GINGERBREAD VILLAGE
 2023

4-7PM FRIDAY
DECEMBER 1

FREE ADMISSION

SPONSORED BY:



HOLIDAY CONCERT

with the Vestal Community Band

12/7 Valleyview Alliance Church 7pm
 Please bring a donation for CHOW
 11 Foster Road Vestal

12/14 Oakdale Commons 7pm
 In front of JC Penney

Pictures With Santa

Hosted by A Thousand Words Photography
 Supporting Every Cat's Dream & Danimal's Help

December 9th & 10th
12:00-3:00PM
Vestal Tractor Supply

Bring your family, furry friend, or both!
 + \$20 cash donation | Proceeds to benefit ECD & Danimals

WINTER WORD SEARCH

Winter Word Search

S	K	I	I	N	G	S	N	O	W	B	O	O	H	T
S	F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	I	N	G	E	O
L	I	E	A	R	M	U	F	F	S	C	N	Y	T	S
E	W	S	B	C	O	L	T	R	A	E	S	T	A	C
D	I	M	L	R	O	W	S	N	O	U	G	H	E	A
D	N	U	I	A	U	L	O	W	P	S	H	T	O	R
I	T	F	Z	E	S	A	D	E	H	A	T	A	O	F
N	R	B	Z	B	A	E	R	O	W	P	L	Y	I	I
G	C	O	A	T	O	T	L	Y	D	M	W	L	C	R
I	T	O	R	H	A	F	R	O	T	A	S	U	I	E
P	O	T	D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R	I	L	C	L
L	A	S	N	C	R	O	V	I	N	C	L	O	L	R
O	A	D	H	J	K	T	C	E	S	H	O	V	E	L
W	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y	O	E	S	A	H	S	T
M	I	T	T	E	N	S	W	E	A	T	E	R	E	L

BLIZZARD	FIREPLACE	PLOW
BOOTS	FROSTY	SCARF
COAT	HAT	SHOVEL
COCOA	ICE	SKIING
COLD	ICICLES	SLEDDING
DECEMBER	JANUARY	SNOW
EARMUFFS	MARCH	SWEATER
FEBRUARY	MITTENS	WINTER