

# The Vestal Town Crier

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## Vestal Scholars

Tianna Wyskowski of Vestal, NY, was named to Hartwick College's Spring 2024 Dean's List. Wyszowski is pursuing a major in Sociology and Criminal Justice with a minor in Anthropology.

**"Vestal Central School District Board Of Education Regular Meeting" On pages 4,9,10,&11**

Scholarship Winners!

ROWEN SMITH  
LAUREN MITCHELL  
MIA PERFETTI  
SRIRAM GHAKRAVADHANULA  
MICHAEL TURIGA II  
MADELINE HOWLAND  
JESSICA LACLAIR

## Traffic Stop Leads To Weapons & Narcotics Arrests

Just before 2:00am on July 26, 2024, members of the Vestal Police conducted a traffic stop on Vestal Road in the area of Sycamore Road. A Vestal PD K-9 assisted on the stop and probable cause was developed for a search of the vehicle. During the search, officers located the following; 75 Adderall pills 114 Fentanyl pills 68 Oxycodone pills 25 grams of Methamphetamine 41.8 grams of Cocaine 1 scale containing residue 1 Hi-Point JHP .45 caliber handgun The vehicle's operator, Ben Combs (34) of Johnson City and passenger, Kaitlynn Molyneaux (22) of Binghamton were subsequently arrested and charged with the following; PL 265.03 (3) Criminal Possession of a Loaded Weapon 2nd degree - C Felony PL 220.16 (1) Criminal Possession of Narcotics with Intent to Sell - B Felony (4 counts) PL 220.50 (2) Criminally Using Drag Paraphernalia 2nd degree - A

Misdemeanor PL 220.50 (3) Criminally Using Drag Paraphernalia 2nd degree - A Misdemeanor PL 220.09 (2) Criminal Possession of Methamphetamine - C Felony PL 220.16 (7) Criminal Possession Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell- Methamphetamine - B Felony Combs was also charged with 3 Vehicle and Traffic Law violations. Both subjects were transported to the Broome County Correctional Facility Central Arraignment. We commend these proactive officers and the good work they do while on patrol in the town of Vestal.



Sourced via CRIME-WATCH®: <https://crime-watch.net/us/ny/broome/vestal-pd/245804/post/traffic-stop-leads-weapons-narcotics-arrests>

**Attention drivers: Hazel Rd off of Route 26 in Vestal will be closed until August 18th.**

**PET OF THE WEEK:**

**Dynamite**



I'm Dynamite! I am a 2-year-old black lab with all of that lab charm you love so much! I enjoy swimming, playing fetch, and chewing on my favorite toys. I've been told I'm a total smartie-pants! I already knows how to "sit," "come," "lay down," "give paw," "leave it," and many more cues. I have frequent bursts of zoomies and I always try to wrestle with my older brother!

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!

## VESTAL 50+ REUNION

Pages 6-8!



Class of 1967

**VMS 6TH GRADE ORIENTATION**  
**AUGUST 26, 2024**  
9 AM OR 1 PM





# Vestal CALENDAR

**Friday, August 16th**  
VPL Block Party!  
5PM- 8PM, All Ages

**Saturday, August 17th**  
Blood Drive at the Vestal United  
Methodist Church, 9AM

**Tuesday, August 20th**  
Board of Education Meeting, 6PM,  
Admin Board of Education Conference Room

**Wednesday, August 21st**  
Great Escape Adventures Paint Night  
6PM- 8PM, 3130 Vestal Pkwy E, Vestal, NY

**Thursday, August 22nd**  
>VCB Summer Concert  
6:30PM, Arnold Park  
>Free Bowling with the Police Department  
12PM- 5PM, Ages 5-17, Midway Lanes

**Saturday, August 24th**  
>VPL Artisan Market  
9AM - 2PM, Sign Up on VPL's Website  
>Binghamton Psychology Open Research Day  
12PM- 5PM, Binghamton University, Science 4  
Building, Rm 171  
>5th Annual Car Show  
9AM- 2PM, Vestal Elks Lodge

**Sunday, August 25th**  
>Swap N Exchange - Garden Produce  
Vestal United Methodist Church  
>Vestal Elks 50th Anniversary Picnic  
12PM- 4PM, Arnold Park

**Monday, August 26th**  
>Town Board Work Session, 6PM  
>VMS 6TH Grade Orientation  
9AM or 1PM, VMS

**Wednesday, August 28th**  
>Town Board Meeting, 6pm  
>Biker Night at Funky Bees  
>Apalachin Lions Walk-Up Mobile Food Pantry  
St. Margaret Mary's Church, 10AM-11AM

**Thursday, August 29th**  
>Free Bowling with the Police Department  
12PM- 5PM, Ages 5-17, Midway Lanes  
(Last Day for Free Bowling!)  
>Free Ice Cream Social Game Night  
Park Terrace Community United Methodist



## REPORT

Brandi Bell, 34, Johnson City, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Kohl's.

Amy Mondell, 38, Binghamton, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Yuanjun Wang, 21, Vestal, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.

Tom Torres, 34, Johnson City, arrested for Resisting Arrest and Obstructing Governmental Administration 2nd Degree for attempting to prevent an officer from arresting another suspect and pulling away from officers who were arresting him.

Andrew Davidson, 27, homeless, arrested for Criminal Contempt 1st Degree, Harassment 2nd Degree and Unlawful Imprisonment for being in the same residence as a party protected by an order of protection, tackling and restraining the victim, preventing her from leaving the residence.

Gregory Potter, 42, Johnson City, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th degree for possessing Meth during a traffic stop.

Russell Licata, 51, Port Crane, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree, Window Tint violation and Failed to Keep Right for possessing Meth during a traffic stop.

Christopher Rucker, 38, Vestal, arrested for Endangering the Welfare of a Child for engaging in a physical domestic in the presence of a child.

Carissa Hawk, 31, Vestal, arrested for Endangering the Welfare of a Child for engaging in a physical domestic in the presence of a child.

Kaitlynn Molyneaux, 22, Binghamton, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree, four counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 4th Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree for possessing a loaded handgun, Cocaine, Oxycodone, Adderall, Fentanyl, Meth, and digital scales during a traffic stop.

Ben Combs, 34, Johnson City, arrested for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree, four counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 4th Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree, Insufficient Turn signal, Moved from Lane Unsafely and License Plate Covered, for possessing a loaded handgun, Cocaine, Oxycodone, Adderall, Fentanyl, Meth, and digital scales during a traffic stop.

Jason Walsh, 40, Harpursville, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Wal-Mart.



## REPORT

Robert Spoonhower, 38, Vestal, arrested for Petit Larceny for shoplifting from Dick's.

Courtney Douglas, 42, homeless, arrested for Petit Larceny and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree for shoplifting from Big Lots and possessing Meth.

Christopher Sears, 35, Owego, arrested for Grand Larceny 4th Degree for stealing money from a business while an employee.

Jason Stewart, 53, Binghamton, arrested for Bail Jumping 3rd Degree for failing to appear in court on a scheduled court date or within 30 days thereafter.



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## Vestal United Methodist Church Swap N Exchange

On the fourth Sunday of each month VUMC will be having a table setup in the lower Narthex for the Swap n Exchange of items. Each month will be a different type of item. The items need to be in good condition to be offered in a free exchange of items.

We can assist Mother Earth by reusing our sustainable items that others may need and many of us have a first world problem of too much stuff. Let's share with others our bounty of items. Bring the items in a bit early before church service that Sunday. Items left after the service and after most of the congregation has left, which are not desired will be boxed up and donated to a charity of the Outreach Teams choice. **Items are on a first come first serve bases.**

So you can prepare and gather items here are the items collected for the next months.

August 25	Garden Produce
September	Tools and Automotive
October	Christmas Decorations



# Vestal Town Board Work Session Agenda

NEWSPAPER EDITED, Monday, August 12, 2024

6:00: Sarah Campbell to discuss residential project in commercial district

6:30: Jason Duda to discuss Civic Alert Systems  
**UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

• 6:00 p.m., August 14, 2024: The issuance of Vehicle Service Station Permit regarding the premises situate at 993 Vestal Parkway West, Vestal, New York and being designated as Broome County Tax Map No. 172.08-1-2

**SUPERVISOR UPDATES:  
COMMITTEES**

**8. PUBLIC WORKS (DONNELLY/Greene)**

1. Request from Scott Groats, Water & Wastewater Superintendent, for the Town Board to approve hiring Damien Viengkham retroactively as a Laborer with a starting rate of \$21.22 an hour. Background and drug tests have been completed. Start date will be 8/12/24.

2. Request from resident Angela Nunez of 209 Brook Hill Ave. as a one-time courtesy, to have the \$20.00 late charge removed from her water account after accidentally missing the payment.

**9. FINANCE (MESSINA/Donnelly)**

1. Authorization to advertise on August 15, 2024 for a public hearing to be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2024. The public hearing is for proposed Local Law F of 2024: A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c.

2. Request from Jessica Farley, Deputy Comptroller, for approval of a Police Department budget amendment to transfer \$358.82 from the Misc. Police Grants line A3120-4389 to the Operational Equipment line A3120-2100 to transfer the funds from cancelled old ammunition order to cover new ammunition expenses.

3. Request from Jessica Farley, Deputy Comptroller, for approval of a Water Department budget amendment to transfer \$4,000 from the Main Replacement line W8340-3000 to the Fluoridation-Operating Expense line W8330-4313 to cover Fluoridation costs.

4. Request to retroactively approve effective July 30, 2024, the resolution for 2024 CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION (CFA), Office of Planning Development, and Community Infrastructure (OPDCI), Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant, New York State Department of State (DOS) "Comprehensive Plan Update with Smart Growth Principles Project".

5. Request to retroactively approve effective July 30, 2024 the resolution for 2024 CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION (CFA), Water Quality Improvement Pro-

gram, New York State Department of Conservation, "Salt Reduction Plan".

**10. PERSONNEL (DONNELLY/Messina)**

1. Authorization for Patrick Harnan, Recreation Planner, to retroactively hire Ava Schmidt as a Girls Basketball Camp instructor as outlined in his August 8, 2024 memo. The start date and rate of pay are also identified in the memo which is included in the addendum.

**11. PLANNING & ZONING  
(MESSINA/Greene)**

1. Request from Vern Myers, Town Engineer, for the Town Board to review the materials regarding the construction of a diesel fuel storage tank and fueling station for Casella Waste vehicles. If in agreement, please approve a publication date of August 21, 2024 for a public hearing on August 28, 2024.

2. Discuss proposed changes to Town Code, Article VII. PEDDLERS, HAWKERS and SOLICITORS.

3. Discuss initial process for Town Board review of new development within the Town of Vestal.

**12. PUBLIC SAFETY (MESSINA/Greene)**

1. Establishment of Vestal Fire District resolution

**13. ADMINISTRATION (GREENE/Donnelly)**

1. Discuss vendors for summer celebration.

2. Authorization for the Town Supervisor to sign a lease agreement with the new tenant of the Coal House.

3. Discuss lease agreement with the Vestal Public Library

**RECEIVE AND FILE**

• Warrants: 2024: 31G, 31I, 31C, 31M, 31T, 32G, 32C, 32M, 32T

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A MOTION WILL BE MADE TO ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

**ADJOURNMENT**

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

We have been receiving letters and reviews of the changes to the Vestal Town Crier, we will post them here without names listed. The absence of names has a long history in American Reporting, up until the early to mid 1970's. We do so to protect our sources.

WE APPRECIATE ALL STORY TIPS AS WELL  
EMAIL TO: News@TiersNews.com

## Free Ice Cream Social/Game Night

Park Terrace Community  
United Methodist Church

Contact: Pam Bogdan; Email: bogdan8@frontiernet.net

What: It's that time of the summer again. Let's enjoy some Ice Cream together! You are not going to want to miss Park Terrace United Methodist Church's Ice Cream Social of the Summer. Everyone is encouraged to bring family and friends for an evening of fun, fellowship and delicious ice cream and games!

**When: Thursday, August 29th @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Where: Park Terrace Community United  
Methodist Church, 30 Glann Road, Apalachin,  
NY 13732**

## Doug's Fish Fry Fundraiser

Tractor Supply Co. 154 Vestal Parkway West,  
Vestal NY 13850

**Thursday, September 5th, 11AM-6PM**

Do you love Doug's Fish Fry? We do too!! Come join us for this Thursday Sept 5th event and let Doug's do your cooking for lunch and supper that day. Mark your calendars to save this date. UOLSC will have volunteers at a table with hand outs and flyers about our coming Fall classes. So please stop by and say hi, and purchase a ticket for our September Monthly Raffle!! We hope to see you there!

## Foodbank Of the Southern Tier APALACHIN LIONS Walk-Up Mobile Food Pantry

**Wednesday – August 28th  
10-11 AM**

**St. Margaret Mary's Church  
1110 Pennsylvania Ave., Apalachin, NY 13732**

**Pre-registration required  
Tuesday before – August 27th At 8:30 AM until  
full (current limit of 125 registrations)**

**If you register please attend  
Phone: 2-1-1 or Online: www.foodbankst.org/cfd  
Bring a cart or bags to carry food!**



## 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, \$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.

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301 N. Stage Rd., Vestal



# Vestal Central School District Board Of Education Regular Meeting

NEWSPAPER EDITED, Tuesday, July 16, 2024

**PRESENT:**

- Shoba Agneshwar
- Amanda Atkinson
- Mark Browning - arrived at 6:06
- Kay Ellis
- Eric LaClair
- Joshgua Mertens
- Lisa Milkovich

**ALSO PRESENT:**

- Superintendent of Schools Clifford Kasson
- Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Patrick Clarke
- School Attorney Michael Sherwood
- District Clerk Michelle Lewis

**Superintendent Clifford Kasson**

**reported on the following:**

--FBLA National Competition: The Superintendent reported that 11 VHS students qualified to participate in the FBLA National Competition in Orlando, Florida 6/28-7/3. One of our students placed 8th in the nation in the area of Advertising, and two others received top scores in Fundamentals of Ethics. Annette Mezzadonna, advisor, reported that the students were outstanding and represented the Vestal School District well.

--NYSSBA President's Gavel Podcast #43: NYSSBA has released the podcast featuring Superintendent Clifford Kasson and Director of Instruction Andrew Blaine discussing the impact of student cell phones in the classroom. The link to the podcast is posted on the District website and can also be accessed here.

--Reducing Cell Phone Distractions in the Classroom: The Vestal School District values learning and wants to limit distractions in the classroom. Asst. Superintendent for Instruction Patrick Clarke reported that the District will begin a communication campaign with families next week with the rationale and protocol for the changes that will be instituted in the fall. These videos will feature teachers, parents, SROs, school counselors, etc. sharing their viewpoints. A "Town Hall Meeting" is also scheduled to take place in the ARE Auditorium on Wednesday, 8/7 at 6 pm. VMS students will be provided with Yondr pouches to seal their phones while in the school building. VHS Principal Dawn Young stated that the high school plans to stress consistency throughout the building where students will be asked to leave their phones in a numbered pouch when entering the classroom and removing them on their way out.

--Vestal Youth Police Academy: Superintendent Kasson shared that 74 middle school students participated in the Vestal Youth Police Academy from 7/8-7/12 from various school districts, and the high school academy started yesterday with 50 students participating over the next two weeks. Instruction has included presentations involving the Canine Unit, SWAT, DEC, Fire/EMS, District Attorney, Traffic Stops, CPR, Jail, Bomb Squad, and NYS Dive Team. The Life-Net helicopter will be landing on Sammon Field on Wednesday, 7/17 at 11:15 am as part of the program, and the Board has also been invited to witness the Active Shooter Drill taking place on Wednesday, July 24.

**Approval of Schedule P - Personnel REVISED**

Move to approve Schedule P - Personnel as revised

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

The following changes were made under Schedule P:

**SCHEDULE IP3**

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS:

*(NAME, POSITION, TENURE AREA, CERTIFICATE (exp. date), PROB. DATE, TENURE DATE, SALARY)*

- Mann, Jeremy, Science Teacher, Academic Tenure Area: Science, Professional 9/1/24-6/30/28, 9/1/28, \$68,174
- Weyer, Sarah, Dean of Students, Academic Tenure Area: Dean of Students, Professional 9/1/24-6/30/28, 9/1/28, \$80,000

\*To the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law 2509, 2573, 3212, and 3014, in order to be

granted tenure, the classroom teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law 3012-c and/or 3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years. If the classroom teacher or building principal receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time. For purposes of this subdivision, classroom teacher and building principal mean a classroom teacher or building principal as such terms are defined in Sections 30-2.2 and 30-3.2 of this Part.

**SCHEDULE IP4A**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL SUBSTITUTES**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS (SUBSTITUTES):

*(NAME, INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL, CERTIFICATION, DEGREE, EFF. DATE, REMARKS)*

- England, Denise, Elementary, Permanent, MA, 9/1/24, Retired Sub
- McLaughlin, Samantha, English, None, BA, 9/1/24
- Palm, Sheri, Elementary, None, MA, 9/1/24, Reinstatement
- Parker, Jesse, Music, None, BM, 9/1/24, Reinstatement
- Shanila, Fnu, Elementary, None, 9/1/24, Reinstatement

**SCHEDULE IP4B**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: ABOVE CONTRACT**

Attached please find pages 1, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 of a master list of above contract positions for the 2023-24 school year. We are asking for approval for the person, position, and stipend.

*(AREA OF APPOINTMENT, AREA/SEASON/BLDG, STIPEND, POSTED, NAME, APPROVED)*

**INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS:**

- Cheerleading: Volunteer, Fall, Milligan, Linsey, 7/16/24
- Cheerleading: Volunteer, Fall, Bzouka, Ella, 7/16/24
- Football: JV Volunteer, Fall, Dattoria, Christopher, 7/16/24
- Football: Modified Head, Fall, \$5,043.00, 5/3/24, Spalik, Jake, 7/16/24
- Field Hockey: Volunteer, Fall, Greenman, Dan, 7/16/24
- Field Hockey: Volunteer, Fall, Dando, Charles, 7/16/24
- Soccer: Volunteer - Boys, Fall, Russell, Grant, 7/16/24
- Soccer: Volunteer - Girls, Fall, McKnight, Victoria, 7/16/24

**DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSONS LEVEL I:**

- Art, K-12, \$9,877.00, 6/21/24, Restuccia, Melissa, 7/16/24
- Guidance, K-12, \$9,607.00, 6/21/24, Smith, Christi, 7/16/24

**LEVEL II:**

- English, 6-8, \$2,708.00, 6/21/24, Herman, Darren, 7/16/24
- English, 9-12, \$3,607.00, 6/21/24, Dunham, Jeffrey, 7/16/24
- Foreign Language, 6-8, \$2,708.00, 6/21/24, Padavona, Teresa, 7/16/24
- Foreign Language, 9-12, \$3,607.00, 6/21/24, Ewing, Nicole, 7/16/24,

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Board President Eric LaClair in the Board Conference Room of the Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Oath of Office**

School Attorney Michael Sherwood administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Vice President Shoba Agneshwar.

**Executive Session**

Move to adjourn into anticipated Executive Session for approval of CSE and CPSE recommendations, as well as an update on a legal matter

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

Not Present at Vote: Mark Browning

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes from the Reorganization Meeting of July 2, 2024

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Kevin Cutler, 7 Brown Lane, Apalachin - Involved in running Vestal Little League and Vestal Youth Football programs. Concerned about the impact of the newly proposed flat fee in the amended Facility Use Fee Schedule, as all fees were waived for non-profit Vestal youth programs during the 2023-24 school year.

**Reports**

Board President Eric LaClair reported on the following:

--Eric reminded Board members to be very careful about having discussions behind the scenes rather than in open meetings. Questions should be forwarded to the Board President and Superintendent rather than the entire Board so as to avoid sparking conversations via email.

--The Board Retreat has been rescheduled to Wednesday, August 14th beginning at 8:30 am. A survey will be sent to Board members in the near future to gauge areas of concern so these can be addressed by Dr. Reardon in his presentation.



# Southern Tier Challenger League Season Party And Award Banquet







# VESTAL 50+ REUNION

Photos Courtesy Of Maryesther WhiteBrink!



Ranee Watts Kopicik and Mary Murphy Harrison

Susan and Colleen



Linda and Ron



Quilt made by Sandra Opp Mineham



Class of 1973



Class of 1966



Class of 1951



Class of 1958





Class of 1971



Class of 1962

# VESTAL 50+ REUNION



Class of 1965



Class of 1960



Photos Courtesy Of Maryesther WhiteBrink!



Class of 1972



Class of 1964



Class of 1963



Class of 1969



Class of 1969



Class of 1961



Vestal 50 Plus Committee



Class of 1968





# VESTAL 50+ REUNION

Photos Courtesy  
Of Maryesther  
WhiteBrink!



Vestal Ambulance Squad, Joe Schlitz and Diane Crosswell



Class of 1959



Class of 1970



Scholarship winner Jessica LaClair and her mother



Tony, Paul and John



Scholarship winner Michael Juriga with his parents



Class of 1955



Scholarship winner Mia Perfetti



Scholarship winners



# Vestal Central School District Board Of Education Regular Meeting

NEWSPAPER EDITED, Tuesday, July 16, 2024

- Home Teaching Coordinator, 6-8, \$1,740.00, 6/21/24, Aloï, Christine, 7/16/24
- Home Teaching Coordinator, 9-12, \$2,321.00, 6/21/24, Chantry, Denelle, 7/16/24
- Mathematics, 6-8, \$1,354.00, 6/21/24, Tierney, Quinn (co), 7/16/24
- Mathematics, 6-8, \$1,354.00, 6/21/24, Ortloff, Deb (co), 7/16/24
- Mathematics AND Business, 9-12, \$3,607.00, 6/21/24 Schofield, Kimberly, 7/16/24, Science, 6-8, \$1,140.00, 6/21/24, Skinner, Sonya, 7/16/24
- Earth Science, 9-12, \$901.75, 6/21/24, Pointer, Caitlin, 7/16/24
- Social Studies, 6-8, \$2,708.00, 6/21/24, O'Brien, Kelly, 7/16/24
- Social Studies, 9-12, \$3,607.00, 6/21/24, Daino, Stephanie, 7/16/24
- Special Education, 6-8, \$2,708.00, 6/21/24, Trowbridge, Robert, 7/16/24
- Special Education, 9-12, \$3,607.00, 6/21/24, Sienkiewicz, Lisa, 7/16/24

## ADVISORS

- Art Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Bowers, Sean, 7/16/24
- Bear Facts, HS, \$4,840.00, 6/21/24, Benjamin, Mitzy, 7/16/24
- Chess Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Greene, Benjamin, 7/16/24
- Class Advisor - Freshman, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Daino, Stephanie, 7/16/24
- Class Advisor - Sophomore, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Doolittle, Karen, 7/16/24
- Class Advisor - Junior, HS, \$2,550.00, 6/21/24, Pointer, Caitlin, 7/16/24
- Class Advisor - Senior, HS, \$2,420.00, 6/21/24, Gaylord, Barbara (co), 7/16/24
- Class Advisor - Senior, HS, \$2,420.00, 6/21/24, McAllister, Lisa (co), 7/16/24
- Diversity Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Kiley, Austin (co), 7/16/24
- Diversity Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Ait Oumessaoud, Elizabeth (co), 7/16/24
- Drama Club, HS, \$2,550.00, 6/21/24, Kiley, Austin, 7/16/24
- Environmental Awareness Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24 Thayer, Adam, 7/16/24
- French Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Ait Oumessaoud, Elizabeth, 7/16/24
- Gay/Straight Alliance, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Benjamin, Mitzy, 7/16/24
- Honor Society, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Smith, Christi, 7/16/24
- HOSA Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Rockhill, Christopher (co), 7/16/24
- HOSA Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Wasielewski, Agnes (co), 7/16/24
- Interact Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, O'Shea, Ronald, 7/16/24
- Mathletes, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Moyer, Marguerite (co), 7/16/24
- Mathletes, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Weisel, Allison (co), 7/16/24
- Mock Trial, HS, \$1,080.00, 6/21/24, O'Shea, Ronald (co), 7/16/24
- Mock Trial, HS, \$1,080.00, 6/21/24, Gretskey, Zachary (co), 7/16/24
- Robotics Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Law, Arthur (co), 7/16/24
- Robotics Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Williams, Drew

- (co), 7/16/24
- Science Club (1), HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Rizzo, Kyle, 7/16/24
- Science Olympiad (Head), HS, \$3,053.00, 6/21/24, Pointer, Caitlin, 7/16/24
- Science Olympiad (Asst) (1), HS, \$905.00, 6/21/24, Chantry, Denelle, 7/16/24
- Science Olympiad (Asst) (2), HS, \$905.00, 6/21/24, Brembs, Ryan, 7/16/24
- Ski Club (Grades 9-12) (1), HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Bowers, Sean, 7/16/24
- Ski Club (Grades 9-12) (2), HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, Wasielewski, Agnes, 7/16/24
- Spanish Club, HS, \$1,759.00, 6/21/24, VanNess, Carmen, 7/16/24
- STEAM Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Rockhill, Christopher (co), 7/16/24
- STEAM Club, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Cutting, Bethany (co), 7/16/24
- Students Against Destructive Decisions, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Doolittle, Karen (co), 7/16/24
- Students Against Destructive Decisions, HS, \$879.50, 6/21/24, Daino, Stephanie (co), 7/16/24
- Student Bookstore, HS, \$2,550.00, 6/21/24, Thompson, Bernice, 7/16/24
- World Language Exchange Coord. French, HS, \$4,000.00, 6/21/24, Ait Oumessaoud, Elizabeth, 7/16/24
- World Language Exchange Coord. Germ., HS, \$4,000.00, 6/21/24, Mugavero, Julie, 7/16/24
- Yearbook (1), HS, \$4,840.00, 6/21/24, Little, Mallory, 7/16/24
- Yearbook (2), HS, \$4,840.00, 6/21/24, Weisse, Brian, 7/16/24

## OTHER

- Bus Supervision, HS, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Lewis, Chris, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, MS, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Daino, Jeremy, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, MS, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Osinski, David, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, MS, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Covert, Denton, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, MS, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Watson, Darren, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, GL, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Economou, Donna, 7/16/24
- Bus Supervision, TH, \$15.92 per diem, 6/21/24, Hoyt, Scott, 7/16/24
- Pool Scheduling, HS, \$892.00, 6/21/24, Gaylord, Barbara, 7/16/24
- Regents Scoring Coordinator - Jan & June, HS, \$290.00, 6/21/24, Groves, Jessica, 7/16/24
- Regents Scoring Coordinator - Jan & June, HS, \$290.00, 6/21/24, Brown, Marissa, 7/16/24

## MUSIC

- All Season Support Position - Color Guard, HS, \$1,000.00, 6/21/24, Tyler, Kimberly, 7/16/24
- Color Guard Marching, MS, \$1,586.00, 6/21/24, Rieben, Abby, 7/16/24

## SCHEDULE IP4C

### TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL OTHER

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS (OTHER):

(NAME, AREA OF SERVICE, LEVEL,

## EFF. DATE, REMARKS)

- Barton, Paige, Speech Therapist, District-Wide, 7/12/24-8/18/24, Extended School Year Services
- Brown, Barbara, Administrative, District-Wide, 7/17/24-6/30/25, Per Diem Work District-Wide
- Conant, Jane, AIM Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- Donlin, Katherine, AIM Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- Gilebarto, Philip, AIM Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- Groves, Jessica, AIM Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- O'Brien, Amanda, Beginnings 6 Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- O'Brien, Colleen, Beginnings 6 Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- Diedrich, Jennifer, Beginnings 6 Program, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/16/24, Summer Enrichment Program
- Weyer, Sarah, Administrative, District-Wide, 7/15/24-8/31/24, Per Diem Work District-Wide

## SCHEDULE IP8

### CHANGES IN STATUS: INSTRUCTIONAL

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGES IN STATUS:

(NAME, POSITION, TENURE AREA,  
CHANGE, EFF. DATE, REMARKS)

Dorwart, Caleb, School Counselor, Special Subject Tenure Area: School Counselor, Tenure Date From: TBD To: 9/1/24-6/30/28, 9/1/24

## SCHEDULE NIP 1

### RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

(NAME, POSITION, SHIFT/SCHOOL, EFF. DATE)

Frisbie, Dale, School Bus Route Coordinator, Transportation, 7/27/24

## SCHEDULE NIP 2

### RETIREMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RETIREMENTS:

(NAME, POSITION, SHIFT/SCHOOL, EFF. DATE)

Gana, James, Interim Director of Facilities & Operations, Facilities & Operations, 1/1/25

## SCHEDULE NIP 8A

### TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS/SUBSTITUTES: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following TEMPORARY NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS/SUBSTITUTES:

(NAME, POSITION, EFF. DATE)

- Frye, Zachary, Temporary Custodian, 7/15/24-10/12/24
- Marble, Vicky, Temporary Custodian, 7/5/24-10/2/24
- Matt, Alexander, Temporary Custodian, 7/9/24-9/28/24
- Zindle, Wyatt, Temporary Custodian, 7/10/24-10/7/24

Continued On Page 10



# Vestal Central School District Board Of Education Regular Meeting

**NEWSPAPER EDITED, Tuesday, July 16, 2024**

## **SCHEDULE NIP 8C**

### **TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL (OTHER)**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following TEMPORARY NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS (OTHER):

- (NAME, AREA OF SERVICE, LEVEL, EFF. DATE, REMARKS)
- O'Brien, Colleen, Teacher Aide, District-Wide, 7/12/24-8/18/24, Extended School Year Services
- Temple, James Volunteer, District-Wide, 7/17/24-6/30/25, Robotics Club

## **SCHEDULE NIP 11**

### **CHANGES IN STATUS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGES IN STATUS:

- (NAME, POSITION, SHIFT/BLDG, EFF. DATE)
- The following employees have achieved satisfactory completion of district probationary period:
- Culligan, Maureen, Typist, ARE, 8/21/24
- Vargason, Rachel, Typist, GLE, 8/8/24

## **Tax Warrant 2024-25**

WHEREAS, Chapter 73 of the laws of 1977 amended Section 1318 subdivision 1 of the Real Property Tax Law requires the tax warrant to state the amount of unappropriated fund balance, and

WHEREAS, the entire fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year must be applied in determining the amount of the school tax levy except for an amount not to exceed 4% of the 2024-2025 school budget (\$90,856,822) which amount is \$3,634,273 and

### **BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

To the Tax Collector of the Vestal Central School District, Towns of Vestal, Binghamton and Owego, Counties of Broome and Tioga in New York State,

- You are hereby commanded:
- To give notice and start collection on September 3, 2024 (in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law).
  - To give notice that tax collection will end on October 31, 2024.
  - To collect taxes in the total sum of \$51,884,996 (less STAR adjustments required by statute) in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provision of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
  - To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.
  - To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 933 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Section 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
  - To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected

during the second month of the tax collection and to account for such sums as income due to the school district.

7. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.

8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and, if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Section 910, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Section 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately and after it is properly signed by the majority of the Board of Education, the warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2, of the Real Property Tax Law.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## **Library Tax Warrant 2024-25**

WHEREAS, Chapter 73 of the Laws of 1977, amended 1318, subdivision 1 of the Real Property Tax Law;

BE IT RESOLVED, To the Tax Collector of the Vestal Central School District, Towns of Vestal, Binghamton and Owego, Counties of Broome and Tioga in New York State, You are hereby commanded:

- To give notice and start collection on September 3, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
- To give notice that the tax collection will end on October 31, 2024.
- To collect taxes in the total sum of \$850,851.49 (\$858,354 minus PILOT amount of \$7321.53 plus \$180.98 Interest) in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
- To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of 553 and 556 of the Real Property Tax Law.
- To forward by mail to each owner of the real property listed on the tax rolls within 10 days after the start of the collection a statement of taxed due his/her property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the Office of the County Treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
- To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to account for such sums as income due to the school district.
- To issue receipts in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact copies of all receipts issued as required by 986 of the Real Property

Tax Law.  
8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by Town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

This warrant is issued and delivered in accordance with 1306 and 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. This warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with 1318, subdivision 3 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## **Designation of Trustee/Alternate Trustees to Broome-Tioga-Delaware Health Insurance Consortium 2024-25**

RESOLVED, that Kay Ellis is designated Trustee and the remainder of the Board of Education members are designated as Alternate Trustees from the Vestal Central School District to the Broome-Tioga-Delaware Health Insurance Consortium for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## **Building & District Wide School Safety Plans**

WHEREAS in accordance with SAVE Act of 2000 and NYS Law CR155.17 the Board of Education is required to appoint the District Wide School Safety Team along with the Safety Team, Emergency Response Team, and Post Incident Response Team for each District school annually,

THEREFORE, the Board of Education approves the attached safety team listings for the 2024-25 school year; and

WHEREAS in accordance with SAVE Act of 2000 and NYS Law CR155.17, the Board of Education is required to hold a 30-day public comment period for the District Wide School Safety Plan prior to Board approval annually;

THEREFORE, the District Wide School Safety Plan is available for public comment from July 17, 2024 to August 19, 2024 on the District's website: [www.vestal.k12.ny.us](http://www.vestal.k12.ny.us) or by contacting the District Clerk at 757-2265.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## **Approval of 2024-25 School Calendar - UPDATED**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the UPDATED student attendance calendar for the 2024-25 school year, as determined to comply with attendance regulations.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## **Local Transportation Contract Extension with A&D Busing - Summer 2024**



# Vestal Central School District Board Of Education Regular Meeting

NEWSPAPER EDITED, Tuesday, July 16, 2024

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a contract extension with A&D Busing, Inc. for local transport of students with special needs during the period of July 3, 2024 to August 30, 2024 with a 3.9% price increase from 2023.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## Local Transportation Contract Extension with A&D Busing - School Year 2024-25

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a contract extension with A&D Busing, Inc. for local transport of students with special needs for the period of September 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 with a 3.9% price increase from 2023-24.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## Agreement with All Together LBA PLLC

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a Service Agreement with All Together LBA PLLC to provide Applied Behavioral Analytic Services to District staff to assist with the education of a District student at a cost of \$120/hour, as per the terms of the attached agreement.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## Agreement with Tri-City Hearing 2024-25

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign an agreement with Tri-City Hearing to provide educational audiological services at a rate of \$165/hour for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in accordance with terms outlined in the attached agreement.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

## BU Community Schools MOU 2024-25

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Binghamton University to participate in the Community Schools program for the 2024-25 school year.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

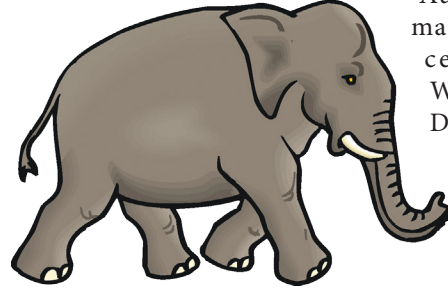
## Personal Services Agreements

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign agreements with the following individuals for the 2024-25 school year in accordance with terms outlined in the attached agreements through June 30, 2025.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eric LaClair, Mark Browning, Shoba Agneshwar, Joshgua Mertens, Kay Ellis, Lisa Milkovich, Amanda Atkinson

# Celebrating World Elephant Day: Protecting Giants of the Wild



August 12, 2024 marks the annual celebration of World Elephant Day, a global event dedicated to the preservation and protection of elephants. This

day serves as a reminder

of the ongoing challenges faced by these majestic creatures and the urgent need for concerted efforts to ensure their survival in the wild.

## The Significance of World Elephant Day

Established in 2012, World Elephant Day was created to bring attention to the plight of both African and Asian elephants. These magnificent animals are revered across cultures, symbolizing strength, wisdom, and loyalty. However, their very existence is under threat due to various human activities, making this day a crucial moment for raising awareness and promoting conservation efforts.

## The Threats Elephants Face

Elephants face numerous threats, with poaching and habitat loss being the most significant. Poaching, driven by the illegal ivory trade, has decimated elephant populations, particularly in Africa. Despite international bans on ivory, the demand persists, fueled by illegal markets that exploit these creatures for their tusks.

Habitat loss is another critical issue, as expanding human populations encroach on elephant territories. Deforestation for agriculture, urbanization, and infrastructure development has fragmented elephant habitats, leading to increased human-elephant conflicts. These conflicts often result in tragic outcomes for both elephants and humans.

Additionally, climate change poses a growing threat to elephant populations. Altered weather patterns, droughts, and shifting ecosystems are affecting the availability of food and water, putting additional stress on these already vulnerable animals.

## Conservation Efforts and Success Stories

Despite the challenges, there have been significant efforts and successes in elephant conservation. Various organizations, governments, and local communities are working tirelessly to protect these animals through anti-poaching initiatives, habitat restoration, and education campaigns.

In Africa, countries like Botswana and Kenya have implemented strong anti-poaching measures, including increased patrolling and the use of technology like drones and satellite tracking to monitor elephant movements and deter poachers. These efforts have led to a stabilization of elephant populations in certain areas, offering a glimmer of hope for the future.

In Asia, conservationists are working to create and maintain wildlife corridors that allow elephants to migrate safely between fragmented habitats. These corridors are crucial for reducing human-elephant conflicts and ensuring that elephants have access to the resources they need to survive.

## How You Can Help

World Elephant Day is not just about raising awareness but also about inspiring action. Here are some ways you can contribute to elephant conservation:

1. Support Ethical Wildlife Tourism: Choose to visit wildlife sanctuaries and reserves that prioritize elephant welfare and conservation.
2. Avoid Ivory Products: Say no to any products made from ivory and educate others about the devastating impact of the ivory trade.
3. Donate to Conservation Organizations: Support organizations that are actively working to protect elephants and their habitats.
4. Raise Awareness: Use social media and other platforms to spread the word about the importance of elephant conservation.
5. Advocate for Policy Changes: Encourage governments to strengthen laws against poaching and habitat destruction.

World Elephant Day is a reminder that the survival of elephants depends on the collective efforts of individuals, communities, and governments worldwide. By taking action today, we can help ensure that future generations will continue to witness the grandeur of these giants in the wild. Let us celebrate their presence and commit to their protection, not just on August 12th, but every day of the year.

## AUGUST FUN FACTS

1. The zodiac signs for August are Leo (July 23 – August 22) and Virgo (August 23 – September 22).
2. The birthstones for August are peridot and sardonyx. Peridot is a green gemstone that brings good luck and protects against nightmares. Sardonyx is a reddish-brown gemstone that brings courage and happiness.
3. August's birth month flowers are the gladiolus and poppy.
4. Famous people born in August include former President Barack Obama, Chris Hemsworth, Neil Armstrong, Jennifer Lopez, Michael Jackson, Beyoncé, Zendaya, Kobé Bryant,
5. August month-long celebrations include Black Business Month, Family Fun Month, American Artist Appreciation Month, National Golf Month, National Language Month, and National Sandwich Month!
6. August holidays include World Lung Cancer Day- 8/1, National Watermelon Day- 8/3, National Lazy Day- 8/10, World Elephant Day- 8/12, International Left-Handers Day- 8/13, National Relaxation Day- 8/15, National Tell A Joke Day- 8/16, Lemonade Day- 8/20, National Dog Day- 8/26, Women's Equality Day- 8/26, and World Daffodil Day- 8/30!
7. August is the busiest month for tourism.
8. August was once considered an unlucky month for weddings. This is because it was the month of the Feriae Augusti, a period of rest and celebration that made it difficult to plan weddings.
9. The word "August" means "inspiring reverence or admiration".
10. August 28th, 1963 was when the speech "I Have a Dream" was made on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC.
11. August is named after Augustus Caesar (grand-nephew of Julius Caesar), the first Roman emperor.
12. The famous painting, the Mona Lisa, was stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris on August 21, 1911.

Minutes to be Continued Next Week...



CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF BROOME COUNTY PRESENTS:

**FARMERS MARKET COUPON DISTRIBUTION**

\$15 per veteran per month will be given out at farmers markets in Broome County. No purchase required.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Proof of veteran status required. Veteran must be in in attendance.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**AUGUST 25TH, 11AM-2PM**

**SEPTEMBER 14TH, 9AM-1PM**

**OCTOBER 12TH, 9AM-2PM**

**NOVEMBER 9TH, 9AM-1PM**

Vestal Farmers Market

Windsor Farmers Market

Binghamton Farmers Market

The Apalachin Lions will be sponsoring a Doug's to Go Fish Fry on Wednesday August 21st. We will be at Comfort Inn on Route 434 Apalachin, NY.

We will also have our broom product for sale.

The Fish Fry will run from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The broom sale will be from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM.

**DOUG'S FISH FRY**



Come join us!  
**VESTAL ELKS #2508**  
**50th Anniversary**  
**Picnic**  
 Sunday August 25th  
 Arnold Park  
 12-4 BYOB

TRACY CREEK MEMORIAL CHURCH'S  
**WET AND WILD**  
**FAMILY FUN DAY**  
 Come spend a day with your family.

- Water Games
- Bounce House
- Dunk Tank
- Games
- BBQ Lunch
- Reading Partnership Bus

Free of charge and open to the community

Free backpacks with school supplies to the first 100 children

**AUGUST 24, 2024**  
**11AM-2PM**  
 4 KNIGHT RD  
 VESTAL, NY 13850

VP VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
**SUMMER BLOCK PARTY**  
 FRIDAY AUGUST 16

**FREE Ice Cream!** from Here's the Twist Ice Cream Truck while supplies last

Face Paint & Glitter Tattoos      Bounce House & Outdoor Games

Every Cat's Dream with Kittens and Merch LOCAL SAFETY VEHICLES

Friday, August 16  
 5 - 8 PM

320 VESTAL PARKWAY EAST, VESTAL NY

**VESTAL ELKS 5TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW**  
 2071 Vestal Parkway West  
**August 24th. 10 - 2**

Participant Judging @ Noon.  
 Awards @ 2:00. To Pre-Register  
 Contact:  
 Debbie Arthur 607 222 5157  
 Kevin Varney 607 744 9144

2023 Best Of Show WINNER!

Burgers, Dogs, Pizza & More Available!

"August is the slow, gentle month that stretches out the longest across the span of a year. It yawns and lingers on with the light in its palms."  
 Victoria Erickson

**BACK TO SCHOOL Sneaker Giveaway**  
 Saturday, August 24th  
 10am-12pm

United Way of Broome County  
 101 S. Jensen Road, Vestal, NY 13850

Child must be present with adult.  
 One pair of sneakers per child.

A very special thank you to Fox 40 for taking the lead on this important community project!

HEEL AND SOUL

United Way of Broome County

**BACK TO SCHOOL Sneaker Giveaway**  
 Saturday, August 24th, 10am - 12pm  
 United Way of Broome County  
 101 S. Jensen Road, Vestal, NY 13850

Child must be present with adult. One pair of sneakers per child.  
 A very special thank you to Fox 40 for taking the lead on this important community project!

India Cultural Centre  
 presents  
**india day 2024**  
 A day full of Cultural performances, Indian Food and much more!!  
 !!Free Admission!!  
**Sunday, September 8 | 12 PM to 5 PM**  
 India Cultural Centre, 1595 NYS Rte. 26 Vestal, NY 13850  
 Contact us: [Indiadaycommittee@gmail.com](mailto:Indiadaycommittee@gmail.com)