

VCS

FALL 2017

E-Alumni New



www.victorschools.org

2017 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Two individual athletes and one team were inducted into the Victor Athletic Hall of Fame at a special ceremony on Thursday, September 28th at the Burgundy Basin Inn in Bushnell's Basin.

This year's Athletic Hall of Fame recipients were Kelley Northup-Moore (Class of 1998), Kyle Heath (Class of 2004) and the 2003 New York State Championship Girls Volleyball Team.



photo taken at this year's Homecoming Football game, Saturday, September 30th on Corbit Field

KELLEY NORTHUP-MOORE CLASS OF 1998

Kelley Northup-Moore's VCS swimming career spanned five successful years, from 1993 to 1998. During this



time she garnered multiple honors including six individual Class B Sectional Titles: 1994 -100 Breast, 1995 – 500 Free, 1995 – 200 Individual Medley and 500 Free and 1997 – 200 Individual Medley and 100 Breast. In addition to her Sectional wins Northup-Moore was a five time Class B Sectional Relay Champion,

a Finger Lakes League Champion and First Team All League athlete nineteen times with ten Individual and nine Relay titles!

From 1994 to 1997 she qualified for States in two individual events and in 1996 she was a State Champion in the 200 Individual Medley event. In the 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 seasons she was the recipient of the Ross Nelson Outstanding Swimmer Award at the Finger Lakes League Championship. During the 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 seasons she was also honored with the Section V Class B Outstanding Swimmer Award. At the end of the 1997-1998 season she was also awarded the George Miller Senior Award at the Finger Lakes League Championship. That same year she earned the Aquatic Leaders Scholarship Award. After VCS, Northup-Moore took her swimming talents to St. Bonaventure University where she swam from 1998 to 2002. From 1998 to 1999 she participated in the NCAA Youth Education through Sports swimming clinic. During her 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 seasons she was an All-Conference selection. In 2001-2002 she was also named an Atlantic 10 Champion in the 1650 Freestyle event. In 2012 Northup-Moore was inducted into the New York State Section V Athletic Hall of Fame.

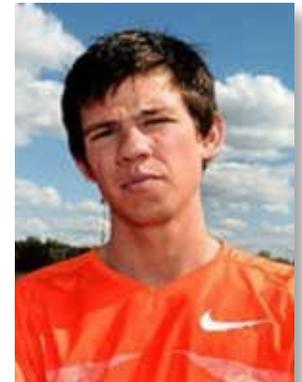


Kelley Northup '98

KYLE HEATH CLASS OF 2004

Kyle Heath made his mark on the running world both at the Victor Senior High School and Syracuse University. While at VCS he was a twelve time Section V Champion, a fourteen time Finger Lakes Region Champion and the 2004 Cross Country State Champion. He also holds the school record for the 3200m, 1600m and 4x800m events. At Syracuse University, Heath's athletic prowess continued to dominate. There, he was

a two time Division 1 All American in the 3000m Steeplechase, the Syracuse University record holder in the 1 mile, 3K, distance medley and 1 mile and 3K Steeplechase. A 2008 Big East Champion, Heath was also the 2009 Northeast Track Male Athlete of the Year for Division 1. After college, Heath went on to become a USA Olympic Trials Finalist in the 3K Steeplechase, a Silver Medalist in the North American Championships, a United States Army World Class Athlete Program Athlete and the 345th American to run sub four minutes in one mile (3:59.83).



Kyle Heath '04

The Victor Hall of Fame was founded in 1999 as a way to:

- Recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches and Blue Devil supporters.
- Reconnect those individuals and their families with Victor Central School.
- Deepen the current student-athlete understanding and appreciation for the history of the Blue Devil athletes by seeking their participation.

2003 VICTOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

The 2003 Victor Girls Volleyball Team was the first team in Victor Central Schools' history to win a New York State Championship title. Under the coaching direction of Shelly Collins, this formidable team was the Finger Lakes East Champion, the Class B Sectional Champion, the Class B Far West Regional Champion and ultimately, the Class B New York State Champion with a record of 21-0. Coach Collins recalled the team's mantra that winning year was "Battle Physically, Conquer Mentally."

Members of the team were:
Bethany Bowe, Jennifer Buttaccio-Ashcroft, Sarah Carney, Hilary Lockwood-Williams, Megan Mead-Steger, Lisa Nazarenko, Kaitlin Piper, Caitlin Richardson, Kelsey Richardson, Lyndsey Sanford-Keil, Hannah Sharp, Carra Vanderstyne, and Jenee Vanderstyne (helper)



Front row left to right: Shelly Collins, Hannah Sharp, Lyndsey Sanford-Keil, Lisa Nazarenko, Jenee Vanderstyne. Back row left to right: Hilary Lockwood-Williams, Kelsey Richardson, Caitlin Richardson, Sarah Carney, Bethany Bowe, Jennifer Buttaccio-Ashcroft, Carra Vanderstyne, and Megan Mead-Steger. Missing from photo is Kaitlin Piper.



2003 Victor Girls Volleyball Team

VCS Class of 1967 Holds Reunion

The VCS Class of 1967 celebrated its 50th anniversary graduation milestone with a series of events during the weekend of August 18 to 20, 2017.

The weekend began with an informal outdoor evening lawn party at the home of Monica Morrissey Murphy in Victor.

On Saturday morning, August 19th, alumni were given a tour of VCS by Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo and were very impressed with the growth that had occurred in the 50 years since they left.

Later that evening a banquet was held at Finn's Banquet Room in Victor. In addition to enjoying a delicious buffet, the room was decorated with photos, a running slide show and a special tribute to those class members who have passed on. There was also an open mic and the graduates shared stories and anecdotes from the school years, which proved to be great fun.

On Sunday, August 20th, Duffy Keefe hosted a cookout at his home in Canandaigua. In all, about 30 members of the original graduating class of 92 attended one or more of the weekend events. Keefe said It was encouraging that many of the attendees mentioned the possibility of meeting in 10 years for the "Big 60".



Class of 1987 Celebrates 30th Reunion

This past July members of the Class of 1987 gathered to celebrate their 30th reunion. The reunion got underway on Friday, July 21st with a happy hour at the Thirsty Turtle in Victor. On Saturday, July 22nd, alumni came together again for a dinner at Champion Hills Country Club. Other weekend highlights included a golf outing and a tour of the VCS campus.



Alumni Banquet Brings Together Past and Present

On Sunday, June 11th, 123 alumni and friends gathered at Ravenwood Golf Club for the 122nd Alumni Banquet.

Organizers, Kay Cotton and Susan Masseth said alumni from many classes were represented. Among the special highlights from the evening were:

Linda Schrader Whittle ('66) came from Georgia with her mom, Helen Rose Schrader ('45), who was also the oldest alumna in attendance!

Jim Winkler ('69) came all the way from Texas to surprise his brother Ken ('57) who was celebrating his 60th birthday!

Former Graduate of Distinction, Father John Gouldrick ('59) came from New York City. He also did the benediction and closing prayer at the banquet.

Sonja Cotton Lightbody ('57) traveled from Maryland for the event. She also hosted a special party for her classmates at her cottage on Canandaigua Lake the night before. The class of 1957 was well represented with 15 alumni, including spouses.

The oldest classes represented were 1945 and 1947 by Helen Rose Schrader ('45) and Lucille Murray Doran ('47).

The Victor Senior High School Jazz Band provided wonderful entertainment during the cocktail hour.

Students from the Senior High school business club, DECA (James Caggiano, Ajla Karabegovic, Jori Pistritto, Anna Schwarzweller), spoke about DECA and their experiences.

Alumnus Jim Exton ('75) emceed the night!

Victor Central Schools' Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo gave attendees an overview of the Capital Project as well as recent student and staff accomplishments.



V I C T O R C E N T R A L S C H O O L S

123RD ALUMNI BANQUET

Ravenwood Golf Club

929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY 14564

Sunday, June 10, 2018

6:30 p.m. Cocktails

7:00 p.m. Dinner

\$19 per person, payable on arrival

For reservations please contact:

Sue Masseth '66

585-727-2359, Susanjmasseth@gmail.com

Kay Cotton '64

585-737-4673, Kaycotton@aol.com

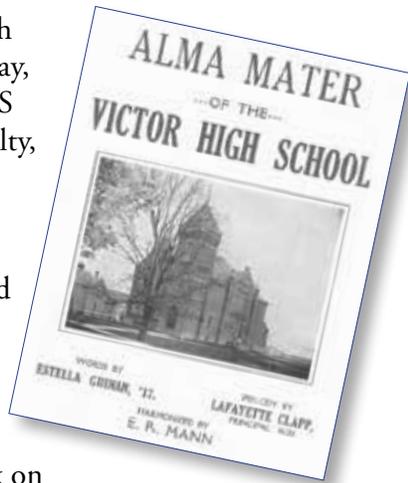
Please give your name and class or class you wish to sit with

Happy Birthday Dear Alma Mater

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Victor's Alma Mater, written by Estella Guinan of the Class of 1917. The Alma Mater was first performed at the 1917 VCS commencement.

In honor of the 100th anniversary, on Thursday, October 12, 2017, VCS music department faculty, friends and students performed the Alma Mater at the music department's recital and Tri-M Honor Society induction ceremony.

To listen to the performance of the VCS Alma Mater, click on the following link:



Coach Collins Named to 2017 Naples Athletic Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Coach Shelly Collins. On Saturday, September 30th at the Naples Homecoming breakfast, Collins, along with the 1999 Naples Boys Soccer Team, was named to the Naples 2017

Athletic Hall of Fame Class for her four years of play on the soccer, volleyball, basketball and softball teams! Collins has been a physical education teacher and coach at VCS since September, 1989.



“Blue and Gold Haze” Appears At Jimi Hendrix Celebration

A unique VCS reunion took place earlier this year when several alumni, who are also musicians, came together at an evening honoring the 50th anniversary of the release of Jimi Hendrix’s “Are You Experienced?” album. Michael Muscarella, Class of ’95 and member of the band Violet Mary, said the event involved more than forty professional musicians from the Greater Rochester region in a four hour showcase of Hendrix’s music. “We made Hendrix proud!” Muscarella said.



*VCS alum from left to right:
Michael Muscarella: Violet Mary - Class of 1995
Paul McCartle: Solo Jazz Artist - Class of 2000
Chris Potter: Oh Manitou - Class of 2004
Timm Cash: Danielle Ponder and The Tomorrow
People - Class of 1997.*

WANTED! Your Reunion Information

Click on the link below to look for fellow alumni or post your reunion.

[ALUMNI RELATIONS](#)

A Bus Ride Down Memory Lane

Former Bus Driver, Don Green Remembers

Ninety three year old Don Brown has a long history with VCS. In 1941 he graduated from Victor Central Schools and from 1947 to 1986 he drove school buses for the District. A lot has changed in the transportation department since Don drove our school buses. For one thing, he and his fellow drivers once wore uniforms. Their training was also significantly different. There were no formal training classes, let alone driving courses. Don recalls on his first day on the job his supervisor, Head Mechanic Herm Weigert simply told him “the kids will tell you where to go!” “That was our bus training,” Green said.

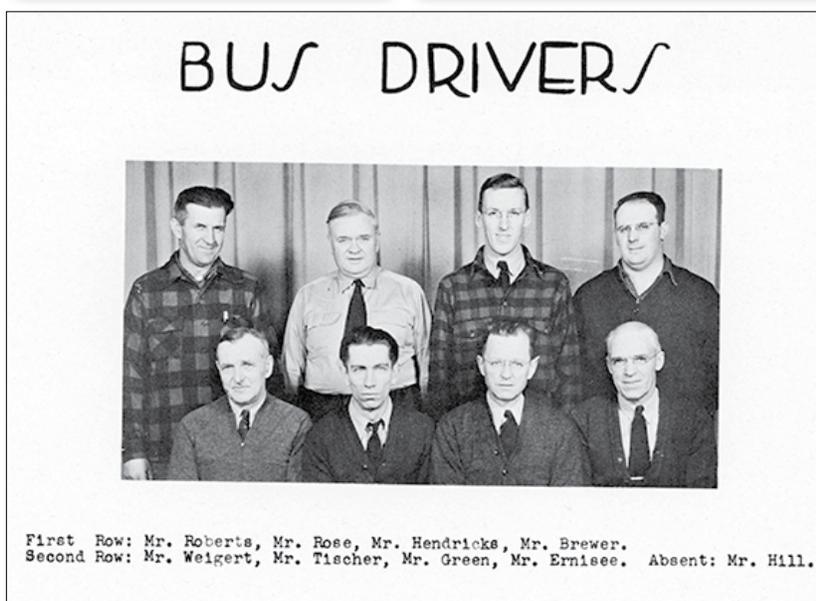
Through his forty years of bus driving and serving as a mechanic, Green saw it all, “We used to come in extra early on winter mornings to put chains on our tires. We never missed a day. We drove through any weather,” Green reminisced.

What advice would Green give to a bus driver today? “Just keep your eyes open all the time!”

On October 22nd, Don and his wife, Esther Green (Class of 1946) celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary. If you see them around town, be sure to wish them a Happy Anniversary!



Don with a photo of the students from his bus route and he and Ester at the Senior Citizen's Ball last spring.



1948 Victor Bus Drivers

Then and Now

See page 10 for 1948 Bus Drivers



Bus Drivers

FRONT TO BACK: F. Underhill, D. Green, V. Tischler, F. Pezzimenti, R. Capron, E. Czadzeck, L. Briggs, E. Tidd, T. Twitchell.



bus drivers

row 1: mr. aldrige, mrs. zahn, mr. wyman. row 2: mrs. schoenthaler, mr. simonds, mrs. moore, mrs. posman. row 3: mr. olney, mrs. lyons, mr. mc carthy, mr. damaske, mrs. pyska.

Today we have 76 Bus Drivers and 13 Bus Monitors. Shown here are a portion of them.



'97 Alumnus Reflects on Key West post Hurricane Irma

Mike Ward, a 1997 alumnus is a quite the story teller. This past September in a column he writes for the Richmond Times-Dispatch called *A Dad's Life*, Ward wrote a "love letter" of sorts to a place he knows and loves dearly, Key West, Florida. Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo, Ward's former Spanish teacher, saw the article on Facebook and thought it would be great to share it in this publication not only because it is timely but because it reflects yet another VCS success story!



Ward and Family

A DAD'S LIFE

A DAD'S LIFE: A Love Letter to Key West

*BY MIKE WARD Special correspondent
Sep 30, 2017*

For many, Key West is love at first sight. We were smitten sight unseen.

When my wife and I made our wedding procession down the same strip of public beach claimed by local day drinkers for naps and deep introspection, we knew we made the right choice.

Strangers' stories and glossy brochures didn't lie about Key West's funky charm, laid-back vibe or postcard-worthy sunsets.

After an efficient ceremony shared by a small group of family and friends, my wife and I rode off toward one of those spectacular sunsets in a rickshaw — truly a fairy tale moment. But unbeknownst to us, until we saw the photos the next morning, our rickety ride bore a giant ad for Bare Assets gentleman's club.

That's Key West, in a conch shell.

We returned to Key West for a delayed honeymoon a year later. Nine months afterward, our son arrived. A year after that, I quit my day job (again) to pursue a new labor of love: writing on my own.

When it came time to christen my one-man agency, I couldn't shake the dream of writing from my own scenic perch in the Keys. I decided on Milepost 0, in honor of sprawling Route 1's beginning stretch of sand-swept asphalt. Key West has served as a boozy muse for

a couple of writers. You might have heard of some of them, whether you're more comfortable curling up on a hammock with your cat and some Hemmingway or letting Jimmy Buffett be the soundtrack of your bender.

When Hurricane Irma tore through town, it toppled trailers and ripped off roofs. We saw sobering aerial footage of Route 1, where displaced dunes and rogue watercraft had taken up refuge. Stories emerged about resourceful locals who stayed behind — a surprising number of friendly, flip-flopped folks labeled as resilient or stubborn, depending on whom you listened to. They were already putting together the pieces of a paradise-turned-shaken-up-jigsaw of Old Town's historic homes and watering holes. These were people who shared and lived my dream.

Key West is the kind of town that even takes tragedy with "a shaker of salt." While it reopened to residents, business owners and disaster workers in mid-September, its famous Duval Street bars were serving up cold refreshments long before that. For every community cleanup effort where neighbors work to make one another's homes more habitable, you'll see an extension cord snaking from a generator to a blender, with pineapple wedges scattered pell-mell.

My 6-year-old son and I talk a lot about Key West. He asked about the green "0" mile marker sticker on my car and Parrot Head license plate. I've asked if he'd be game for leaving school, friends and our increasingly cramped Lakeside bungalow to live where

most people go on vacation. He seems interested. I tell my 3-year-old daughter we'll live where Moana (of Disney fame) lives, which is a lie whiter than SPF 70 suntan lotion.

If nothing else, I want to show my kids the importance of having and chasing down your dreams. We don't need to share each other's dreams, but we sure as heck better support them. That's what family means to me. And that's why I'm prepared to send my son to college to be a Pokémon Trainer, and look for castles on Craigslist so my daughter can be a real princess.

A few months ago, I plotted out the perfect Thanksgiving in Key West, our first trip back in seven years. It was to be a road trip, just like our others, a 1,100-mile odyssey that would include a stop at the Dolphin Research Center, a nonprofit research facility in neighboring Grassy Key we first visited nine years ago. This is a thousand miles from your typical touristy dolphin experience; I had already pictured the kids hitching a ride through the water on a dolphin fin — a thrill that no Disney attraction can compete with. It's closed now, but rebuilding. And our

trip will remain in standby mode while I keep a watchful eye on the progress from afar.

Perspective tells me this lament may not ring true. After all, my ideal Keys retreat sits safely on Cloud 9, an infinite distance from those who, in reality, lost it all. I'm not waiting in line for one of the few working phone lines to call the insurance company or shuffling through ravaged possessions looking for wedding pictures, baby photos, and any tangible signs to connect me to my past. For many, the Keys are still a nightmare they want to awake from. And I totally get it. So consider this my love letter to Key West. It's also a "get well soon" card. And a postcard reminder to a little patch of paradise built by dreamers like me that reinforcements are coming. Hopefully, sooner rather than later.

So put some beers on ice while I talk to my wife and kids . . .

Mike Ward is a writer, brand strategist and sometimes stand-up comic. He shares his Lakeside bungalow with his wife and two kids. Contact him at mward@milepost0creative.com or follow him on Twitter @Mile0Creative.

More on Ward:

What did you do after graduating from VCS in 1997?

I went to University of Richmond to major in journalism. I worked at different companies and publications afterward, including as a movie critic for a bunch of years. I have been on my own the past few years running a small content marketing agency, Milepost 0 Creative, and doing other writing on the side.

What VCS teachers impacted you and your career?

We had a tremendous English faculty, with folks including Ross Amstey and Rob Brunson. Jim Strauss really helped channel that interest toward journalism. And my A.P. History teacher, Dan Olson, helped me get a grasp of how to structure arguments.

What advice would you give to an aspiring writer?

My writing has always veered toward a more informal, conversational style. I'll often see students and interns overcomplicate things because they think they need to. Don't use a big word or a fancy construction unless the context calls for it. It can cloud an otherwise great idea. Oh, and always make sure you're telling a story, no matter what you're writing about.



Former Teacher Helps Make Dream Come True for Dying Alumnus

Retired VCS English teacher Tim Smith (1977-2010) impacted hundreds of students throughout his career, but this past summer, his influence reached a new level when he reconnected with alumnus Scott Reese, Class of 1994.

The following story was written by Tim Smith and his wife, Deb, who write a weekly column for their local newspaper, The Mendon-Honeoye Falls-Lima Sentinel. It is part one of a two part piece that was published in September.

The Funeral of a Friend, Part 1

Not to be overdramatic about this, but one philosophy that we always try to apply to our lives is to say that the reason God has blessed us with so many wonderful things is that He wants us to take advantage of those blessings and use what we have to bring blessings to others.

We'll lay that out, right here, as the theme of this story. Here we go. One Saturday last summer Smitty receives a message out of the blue from a former student named Jenn Stanton. She has been a "friend" on Facebook, but Smitty and Jenn have had no personal contact since she graduated from Victor in 1994. While it is nice to hear from her, the news isn't good.

She shares that a classmate of hers, and another former student of Smitty's, Scott Reese, has stage 4 melanoma and is not going to make it through the summer. To compound the problem this couple has six kids ranging in age from 11



Scott Reese, Class of 1994

to 2 years old. She says that one thing she has noticed about us on our Facebook page is that we seem to have a knack for making special things happen at concerts. She doesn't want to be presumptuous, but if medical arrangements can be worked out, Erin and Scott would like to go see his favorite band, Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, on their 40th anniversary tour at Canandaigua on Sunday night, and she is wondering if we have any connections there to make something special happen.

Well, we really don't, but we've never let that stop us before, so we make it our mission. Upon getting the phone number for CMAC we immediately encounter our first obstacle. That phone number rings up the Canandaigua Chamber of Commerce, which of course is closed on Saturday. The only way to get a communiqué to CMAC is to leave a message on Facebook and hope someone gets back to you.

So we compose the most compelling heartfelt version of the story we can and post it. It is hard to be optimistic at this point. After all it is already Saturday afternoon,

the concert is the next day, and we can't help but wonder how closely anybody from CMAC is going to be monitoring their Facebook page over the weekend. And of course the follow up question would be . . . even if somebody does see it, how likely are they to do anything about it?

But at this point, a feeling of peaceful resignation sinks in. Even though it doesn't look good, we've done everything we can do. We only had one card we could play in this game and we've played it. So we go on with our day occasionally checking Facebook. As the day turns into night hope dwindles for a positive outcome.

After our late workout we decide to check Facebook one last time and lo and behold, we have a message from Emily Robbins at CMAC. She's embraced our story and CMAC will bless Scott and his wife Erin with VIP treatment.

We are so excited and slightly frustrated by the fact that it is too late to share this with anybody, but we go to bed riding a high and looking forward to connecting all the dots in the morning. We are doubly excited because we also had tickets to this sold out concert. So not only have we managed to create a special event for Scott, we are also going to be right there enjoying it with him.

Sunday morning we are up early, we message Jenn, Jenn messages Scott and Erin, and we see a Facebook friend request pop up from Scott on our computer. At that point we are able to contact Scott and start to lay out the logistics for this. Next our phone

pings in the following text message, “Hi, Smitty & Deb, it’s Scott Reese. How have you been? I can’t thank you enough for everything you have done for the concert tonight! We are still working on the logistics of everything, but really hope to see you at the show!” Things are coming together.

The next hurdle to climb is that Scott needs to receive medical clearance from his doctors at Strong in order to be granted a four-hour hiatus to leave the hospital and attend the concert. Note how the dominoes fall in this sequence.



Hiatus will only be granted if he is accompanied by a doctor which Strong does not have the capacity to provide. Scott’s brother, Andy, is a doctor in Seneca Falls. Once again we see God holding his hand over this entire chain of events. As Erin is walking toward the phone to call Andy, the phone rings. It’s Andy asking if she needs his help with mowing the lawn today. Erin replies, “I’ll swap the lawn favor for another one if you can do it.” She explains the concert situation

and Andy is given the option of skipping lawn duty if he is willing to go to the show tonight. That’s how life sometimes is; one minute you’re planning to pour gas into the lawn mower, and the next minute you’re going to see Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers.

Making the best of a bad situation, you won’t believe the ace Smitty seems to have up his sleeve on this one. For a very unique and special reason, Smitty thinks he might still have a piece of writing that Scott did in his class 27 years ago. The year was 1990 and for those of you old enough to remember that was about the time when everybody was replacing their vinyl record collections with compact discs.

Radio station WCMF had a promotion that aired every afternoon at 4 o’clock called, “The CD Exchange”. Janet Mirriam was their afternoon DJ at the time, and listeners were challenged to submit written requests for any specific CD they wanted. Janet would choose one winner per day, read the letter on the air, and award the CD. The general task of the writer was to compose something that would stand out because it was funny, or sad, or intriguing for some reason.

So English teacher Smitty had an idea. He contacted Janet Mirriam and pitched the following proposal to bring his students writing activities to life. He would give all of his classes the assignment of writing a letter to the CD Exchange, which would not only count for a writing grade in class, it might perhaps reap real life benefits.

The radio station embraced the mutually symbiotic concept of this annual collaboration between media and education. It was agreed that Smitty and Janet would meet once a year after the writing assignment, review the letters, pick the five best ones (out of over 100), and for one week the theme of the WCMF afternoon slot would be to honor Victor Central School and five of Smitty’s students.

So as this whole Scott Reese thing is playing out, somewhere deep in the back of Smitty’s brain, something is telling him that Scott wrote a winning letter which we might still have. We search through his files saved upon retirement, and sure enough, we find a folder of the winning letters for the WCMF assignment and Scott’s winner is there, the original handwritten version dated October 9, 1990. We are able to bring that letter to CMAC and present it to Scott, reminding him of his successful effort back in the glory days of high school. Right now can anybody cue up Springsteen doing “Glory Days” in the background?

Here we leave the WCMF letter writing behind and return to the modern day storyline. By noon, with Scott’s brother on board as the medical support team, things seem to have fallen in place. Keep in mind that this whole process began only 24 hours ago. Barring something unforeseen, we are going to be singing Heartbreaker hits with Scott this evening.

We arrive in Canandaigua mid-afternoon and check in at the Inn on the Lake. After that we grab a

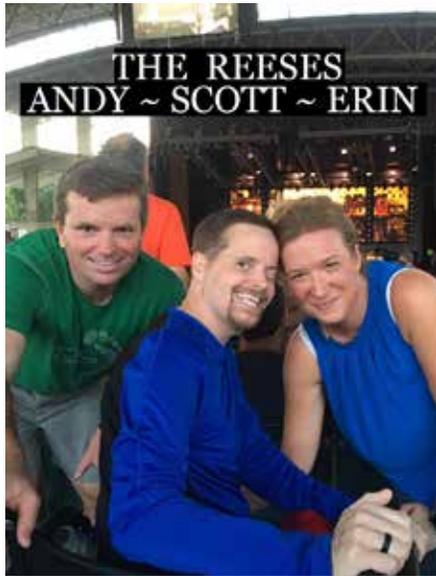
quick bite to eat at Nolan's, which ironically burned to the ground about a week later, as you may recall from this summer's news. While there we get a message from the Reese family, "We're leaving Rochester". We quickly pay the tab and hop on the shuttle to depart for CMAC.

Upon departure for the venue, we feel sure we are leaving early enough but our confidence is compromised by a painstakingly slow traffic flow as we approach. That flow is even further impeded when our traffic line grinds to a complete halt to allow the entourage of Tom Petty limousines to skip ahead of us in line. A shallow consolation is that, from our vantage point in the window seat of our shuttle, we are able to name the band members as their limos pass, one-by-one. For the record, no pun intended, in addition to Tom Petty, there are five Heartbreakers.

Upon arrival, and after undergoing the painstaking new security protocol at CMAC, we head for the VIP tent because we'd like to be there before the Reese party arrives. Who knows exactly what kind of traffic they're encountering as they enter the venue from the Rochester side.

The VIP tent is about 100' by

50' and located down front at CMAC to the right of the stage. In our many visits to CMAC we had noticed the tent but never had the opportunity to visit. And



truth be told, we're wishing fate had not provided us with this opportunity to visit tonight. But going back to the premise we started this piece with, God has put us here for a purpose and we'll be damned if we aren't going to help with His work.

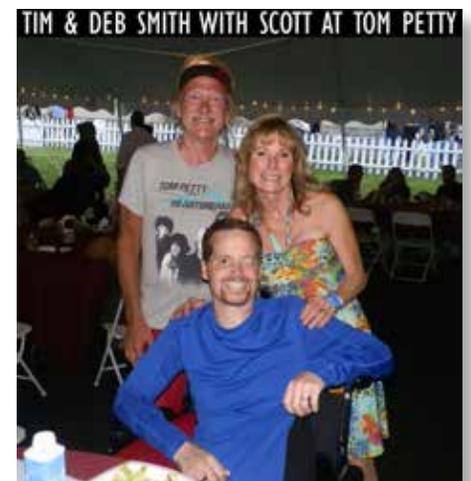
Inside the VIP tent there is a sumptuous buffet set up for all attendees, and the drinks flow for free at the bar. With your VIP pass you can come and go as many times as you please. And there is a large screen monitor streaming the onstage concert footage in real time. Heather Casey is the VIP Hospitality Coordinator for CMAC and once we're inside the tent she and Emily graciously coordinate and facilitate everything that happens. The kindness that these girls exude is palpable.

Once in, we stake out a table for our party to gather at and await the arrival of Scott who is being accompanied by his wife, Erin, and his older brother/doctor Andy. Emily and Heather track us down to inform us that Scott has arrived, and the CMAC staff has initiated the process of transporting him to the VIP tent. We wait for just a few

anxious minutes before we see a wheelchair roll through the gates of the tent.

It's hard to explain the emotions which run through a person in a moment like this. If we had to pick just one word to most accurately describe it, that word would be "paradoxical". Such a twisted combination of exhilarating joy and excruciating agony. Perhaps the most wonderful byproduct of a teaching career is the experience of running into your former students in later years. You just never expect it to be under these circumstances. Therein lies the paradox.

Despite the wheelchair and external ramifications the disease has ravaged upon his body, Smitty would have recognized him immediately. The Scott Reese smile has not been compromised by either cancer or chronology and neither has the wit or the humor.



We get to spend about an hour with Scott and his family that evening. Everyone enjoys drinks, dinner and fellowship. After sharing a sneak preview with his wife and brother, Smitty presents Scott

with the original award winning letter he had written in Smitty's class 27 years ago. It was a moving experience for everyone involved.



Scott leaned over and said to Smitty, "I can't thank you enough. You are absolutely the only teacher I ever had that could somehow bring this event together in a day. God bless you."

As we spend this time in the VIP tent, live video of the opening act, Peter Wolf, is playing on the large flat screen monitor in front of us. Even that, in and of itself, is a unique twist to the whole experience. It is strange to be looking forward at a video and hearing the live audio come in over our shoulders from behind us.

This act is one of the few examples where a music group bore the name of an individual other than the lead singer. Peter Wolf was lead singer of the J. Geils Band which had its greatest success in the early 1980's with "Centerfold" going to #1 in 1981 and "Freeze Frame" going to #4 in 1982.

During dinner our hostess Emily returns to let us know that Scott has

the option of watching the entire Tom Petty show on the big screen in the VIP tent, or manning a spot in a special section of the venue. At no surprise to us, given the choice, cancer-stricken Scott chooses to enter the fray and experience the concert with the rest of the fans. As Tom Petty still proclaims in one of his anthems, "You Don't Have to Live Like a Refugee".

So after the conclusion of the opening act, the CMAC staff arrives to facilitate the next transfer. After what has hopefully been a once in a lifetime experience, we bid a temporary adieu to Scott and his family.

We got to visit the Reese household in Victor on a few more occasions throughout the summer. We interviewed the parents for an article we are writing about the wonderful story behind their relationship. The funniest visit of all was when we decided to schedule an interview with all of the kids. We guess that was God's way of having things end on a high note. That would turn out to be the last time we ever saw Scott.

We've decided to close out this piece with the following message which Erin posted on Facebook on August 29, 2017. "At 8:40 pm tonight the most amazing, strong, brave and loving man I will ever know took his last breath in my arms. He fought harder than anyone I know. He is now free from pain and watching over all of us. Scott . . . I love you with all my heart and always will . . . Fly high, babe."

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2010 Alumna Interns at the United Nations

The Victor-Farmington Rotary is proud of their Rotary Global Scholarship winner, Alina Urbanic, and so is VCS! The 2010 alumna used the \$30,000 scholarship to help fund her studies at the SDA Bocconi School of Management in Milan, Italy and is now preparing to do an internship at the United Nations in Switzerland!

“I have finished all the coursework for my Master of Public Administration, which I was pursuing at Bocconi University’s School of Management in Milan, Italy. The final program requirement is a 3-6 month internship or project to be completed before graduation in December of this year. To fulfill this requirement, I applied and was accepted to an internship position with the United Nations’ Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in their Geneva, Switzerland office. UNOPS is an operational agency within the UN system, and its Geneva office mainly offers support services to various entities with a presence in Geneva. I am part of the team supporting the Stop TB Partnership, which brings together international organizations, national governments, non-government organizations, and donors with the goal of ending tuberculosis by 2030. I have the chance to observe and assist in a lot of different areas in supporting this partnership, from

procurement of TB medicines and diagnostic equipment, to grant and travel management, human resource recruitment, and more.

I am really enjoying the experience so far. Geneva is a lovely city, and UNOPS is a dynamic organization with a working environment that is really welcoming and lively. My internship contract ends in December right before I return to Milan for graduation; after that I am looking for jobs ideally to stay in Geneva for a few years.”





VCS Class of '79, '86, and '15 Land Three-Way Tie for the Victor Central School Education Foundation Devil Dash 5K Alumni Class Challenge

The Devil Dash 5K committee is pleased to announce a three-way tie for the class of '79, '86, and '15 for the new Devil Dash Alumni Challenge. Families, friends, and classmates met on the VCS campus for a morning of healthy exercise for the Third Annual Devil Dash 5K on Saturday, October 7, 2017. This year's event grew to 277 participants and raised over \$10,000 for the VCS Education Foundation. VCS was well represented including staff, 75 students, and 49 alumni participants from the following classes ('65, '74, '78, '79, '80, '81, '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '93, '94, '96, '97, '02, '06, '10, '11, '14.)

Our Virtual 5K program also grew and provided an opportunity for remote alumni to walk or run the Devil Dash from their own local course.

VCS Class of '79 alumni Keith Partington and Brett Tyler met up in Wolfeboro, NH on September 8th for a Devil Dash walk on the Lake Wentworth Cotton Valley Rail Trail including a fun dinner on beautiful Lake Winnepesaukee.

They are planning to grow their New England



Virtual Team next year for a Boston Devil Dash including a Baltimore Orioles game against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park. Anne Keefe Holcombe ('79) and Donna Floyd ('80) planned to complete their Atlanta Devil Dash in October. Watch for other great Devil Dash alumni stories on our Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation> and in our VCS Alumni Newsletter Spring Edition.

The Devil Dash is a great way for alumni to support current VCS students that sit in the desks and classrooms we all fondly remember. All Devil Dash race proceeds support the four main VCS Education Foundation Projects including Field Trips Forever, Technology for Today and Tomorrow, The Art of Teaching, and a general fund. This includes a



recent grant for the Victor Primary School that now serves over 700 students in grades two, three and K/3 multi-age and 8-1-1. The school has over 100 staff members. The grant will enhance the Victor Primary School's science laboratory with new materials including compound microscopes, slide sets, and other magnifying equipment.

Please feel free to contact the VCS Education Foundation Devil Dash Race Team at victordeildash@gmail.com if you have any feedback or are interested in volunteering on the 4th Annual Devil Dash Planning Team.

For more information on the Victor Central Schools' Educational Foundation, go to: Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation/> and Twitter - @VCSEF. You can also find out more about the Foundation by going to Victor Schools website at www.victorschools.org and selecting Educational Foundation on the left side under Quick Links.

Academic, Athletic and Artistic Distinctions

- In June, 2017, 97% of our students graduated with a Regents Diploma, 33% percent earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.
- In 2017 Victor Central Schools' SAT scores were among the highest in the Greater Rochester Area ranking 15th out of 51 school districts.
- Last year, U.S. News and World Report ranked Victor Senior High School the sixth best school in the Rochester area, the 71st best school in New York State and the 689th best school nationally, out of 21,000 public schools nationwide.
- This fall, senior Cole Vandenberg was named a National Merit™ Scholarship semifinalist.
- This fall, 99 juniors and seniors were inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society.
- Victor Central Schools boasted many Sectional and State athletic winners this past year:
Spring 2017 Sectional Winners:
Girls Softball; Boy Golf; Boys Lacrosse (Sectional and State Champions); Track and Field: Cole Vandenberg, Pentathlon; Rebecca Roth, High Jump
- **Fall 2017 Sectional Winners (To Date):** *Girls Tennis: Emily Stanley and Sarah Marro - Doubles Champions*
- The 2017 Girls Lacrosse Team was awarded the Robert Carpenter Sportsmanship Award for Section V.
- Last spring the Victor Indoor Percussion Ensemble took first place at the New York State Championships at Onondaga Community College for their performance of "The Muse." This is the third straight year VIPE was named a NYS gold medalist.
- Last spring the Senior High School musical, *The Little Mermaid* took home every honor in their category at the Rochester Broadway Theater League's Stars of Tomorrow competition.
- This fall, 15 students were inducted into the prestigious Tri-M Music Honor Society.
- This fall the Senior High Drama Club put on a riveting production of the play *The Diary of Anne Frank*.
- This fall at the Faculty Music Recital and Tri-M Music Honor Society Induction ceremony, students and staff celebrated the 100th anniversary of the VCS Alma Mater with a special performance of the song.
- This fall, two students were named to the All New York State Orchestra. Congratulations to Casey Schreck (Clarinet 1) and Lauren Bayles (Double Bass). The two will perform with the All State Orchestra at Kodak Hall in December.

Capital Project Update

Last fall Victor Central School District residents approved a \$25,000,000 capital project that includes a \$4,000,000 Energy Performance Contract and several additions and renovations, including the expansion of the Intermediate School gymnasium as well as a new and improved bus loop and classrooms at the Early Childhood School. Chris Marshall, Victor Central Schools' Director of School Facilities says plans are currently under review at the State Education Department. The District hopes to begin construction next summer.

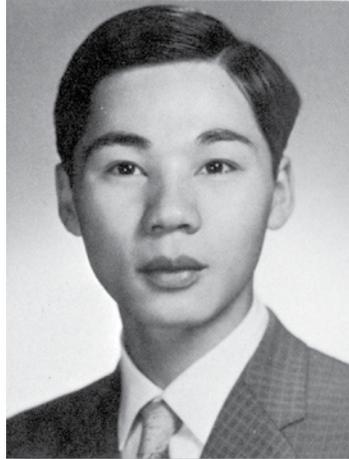
Foreign Exchange Program Marks 56th Year

This year marks the 56th year VCS has been hosting foreign exchange students.

In 1960, the Victor PTA began discussing the idea of hosting a foreign exchange student, and in 1961 that vision became a reality when the Senior High School hosted Masahiro Hirata, a young student from Japan. Hirata was part of the American Field Service program, a private, non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote better understanding among people through international scholarship. The Senior High School continues to host students from every corner of the globe, only now through multiple exchange programs, including the Victor-Farmington Rotary Club.

Senior High School Principal, Yvonne O'Shea says VCS continues to embrace the idea of cultural exchange in the name of acceptance, understanding, and most importantly, friendship.

This year, Senior High students and staff are excited to share our culture and learn more about Brazil, Italy and Germany from our 2017 international students.



Masahiro Hirata

Giselle Araujo

Country Brazil

Hosts Tessa and Jeremy Borba

Program Academic Year In the U.S.A. (AYUSA)

Claudia Deiana

Country Italy

Hosts Lauri-Ann and Damian Hebert

Program Victor-Farmington Rotary

Eileen Weinert

Country Germany

Hosts Tessa and Jeremy Borba

Program Academic Year In the U.S.A. (AYUSA)

17th Annual Senior Citizens Ball



Free and open to ALL
Victor Central School District
Senior Citizens!
(55 and Older)



Presented by
VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS
Office of School & Community Relations
and the Senior High Key Club
Special Thank You to the Kiwanis Club

Scenes from our 2017 Ball

ENJOY
Dinner & Dancing

AND ENTERTAINMENT BY
Western New York Big Band

Saturday, May 12, 2018
5 – 7 p.m.

Victor Intermediate School Gymnasium

Reservations required, call School & Community Relations at 924-3252, ext.1407 or e-mail welche@victorschools.org and laskysh@victorschools.org

Upcoming Music Events:

November 16th
VSH Wind Ensemble,
Music Educator's Wind
Ensemble Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

November 30th
RPO Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 4th
4th and 5th Grade
Chorus Holiday
Concert, 7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 5th
6th Grade Band,
Chorus and
Allegro Orchestra
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 6th
VJH Instrumental
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 11th
VSH Symphonic Band
& Wind Ensemble
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 12th
VIS Presto & Vivace
Orchestras and
Suzuki Group
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 13th
VPS 3rd Grade
Holiday Concerts,
6:30 and 7:30 pm,
VECS Aud.

December 18th
VSH Orchestras
and Choirs
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 19th
VJH Chorus Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 20th
4th & 5th Grade
Band Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

FREE Yearbooks

VCS has a variety of old yearbooks from various years available at no cost. For more information contact, Chuck Callari at 924-3252, ext 2130.

1948	2	1970	1
1949	1	1971	1
1950	2	1978	1
1952	2	1979	4
1956	1	1985	3
1959	1	1986	1
1960	2	1987	1
1962	2	1993	1
1964	1	1994	1
1965	1		



Victor Band Boosters
and Wegmans
present...

The RPO

November 30th at 7:30

Victor Jr./Sr. High Auditorium

Tickets \$25

www.victorbluedevils.org

For help buying tickets:

(585) 200-1118

VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates

Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus or alumna who has made a significant contribution to society? The Graduates of Distinction program honors such individuals. Applications are currently available in the Office of School and Community Relations or on-line at www.victorschools.org. Alumni selected for this honor will be recognized at a special Graduate of Distinction Day next fall.

Nominees to the Victor Central School District Graduates of Distinction program shall be selected based upon the following criteria: A. Nominees must have graduated from Victor Senior High (or have attended Victor Schools BEFORE there was a high school in the case of Honorable Recognition) at least 15 years before they are eligible for selection. The committee may waive the graduation time limit requirements in certain circumstances, as it deems necessary; B. Significant achievement after attending Victor Schools which include: (1) Educational achievements; (2) Professional achievements; (3) Job-related achievements; (4) Honors, awards, professional affiliations, publications; (5) Civic or community involvement; (6) Other appropriate qualifications which the committee believes merit consideration;

Nominations must be submitted by Monday, January 22, 2018 to:

Graduates of Distinction Committee

c/o The Office of School and Community Relations

Victor Central Schools 953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564

Send Us Your News

If you are an alumnus of Victor Central Schools, we encourage you to e-mail us at **alumni@victorschools.org**.

Feel free to tell us about accomplishments or events in your life such as a wedding, birth of a child or grandchild. Whether or not you have visited campus lately, participated in a recent alumni event, or browsed our directory, you are sure to find information instrumental in helping you maintain a connection to your alma matter and other Victor graduates.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Deborah Palumbo-Sanders, *President*

Timothy DeLucia, *Vice President*

Karen Ballard

Kristin Elliott

Gary Gilbert

Christopher Parks

Michael Young

Maureen Goodberlet

District Clerk

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Liz Welch & Sherri Lasky

Office of School and Community Relations

alumni@victorschools.org

TEN WAYS TO MAKE IT A

Blue Devil Day!

1 Be a Cheerleader! Attend any one of our hundreds of yearly sporting events.

2 Support the Arts! Take the family to a school musical, play or art show.

3 Get in Tune With One of Our Music Programs. Go to a band, orchestra or choral presentation.

4 Play! Take some time with your children after school or on the weekend and play on one of our great playgrounds.

5 Get Involved. Volunteer in your child's classroom or for a special event or organization.

6 Jump In! Take a dip in our swimming pool during open or family swim times.

7 Make a Difference. Take part in one of the District's food drives or community service efforts.

8 Take a Walk. Our new campus fitness trail makes for great exercise.

9 Show Your School Pride. If you are a VCS alumni, get involved in the VCS Alumni Association or attend your class reunion.

10 Stay Connected. Check out our website on a regular basis for the latest news and information at

www.victorschools.org



Victor Central Schools Seeks Archives

“Students can benefit in several ways from researching their school’s history... This is history that is near at hand and that has a direct connection to their lives.”

~ Larry J. Hackman, Director, Truman Presidential Museum and Library; former New York State Archivist

Do you have photographs of the victory garden that students in our school planted and tended during World War II?

Does an old box or filing cabinet hold copies of letters that students wrote concerning our country’s involvement in Vietnam?

Did the science curriculum at Victor Central School change during the formative years of the personal computer revolution?

Schools produce rich historical records. Yearbooks, school lunch menus, flyers promoting dances, student elections, musicals, plays, photographs, letters, issues of the school newspaper, and other items document not only the history of the school, but often reflect the history of our community, state, and nation.

We have developed a school archives in our records center, housed in room 130 of the Primary School Building. Hopefully, this archive, or historical collection can serve two primary purposes:

1. Be a repository for the collection and preservation of historically valuable documents relating to the history of our school, which would otherwise be lost.
2. Constitute an important element of programs for teaching research-related skills to students.

As a key element in establishing this archive, we are urging the public to help support our endeavors by donating artifacts to the archives that they may have in and around their homes, which may otherwise be lost to future generations. We are particularly interested in:

Student handbooks

Student newspapers

Photographs

School lunch menus

Course catalogs

Student term papers about the school or Community

Artifacts (trophies, flags, uniforms, memorabilia)

Older Newspaper articles from the local newspapers

Special awards received

Records of special school programs

Audiotaped or videotaped oral histories

Scrapbooks

Videotapes of school performances and athletic events.

Perhaps you don’t wish to part with your piece of history. You can still help our efforts by loaning us the article to copy, scan, or photograph. We look forward to your response. We also plan on having the artifacts exhibited from time to time. By the way, does anyone have a school bell from one of Victor’s many one-room school houses? We’d love to hear from you.....

**Contact Chuck at callaric@victorschools.org or 585-924-3252, ext. 2130*