

AUGUST 2008

# Excellence

ON DISPLAY

VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS MAGAZINE



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#### **VCS Board of Education**

Stephen Martin, *President*  
Scott Sprague, *First VP*  
Timothy DeLucia, *Second VP*  
Jenner Davis  
Mark Hamilton  
Kathryn Hart  
Robert Rose

The Board of Education meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Victor Education Center at 7:15 p.m. Residents are welcome to attend.

#### **Board Clerk**

Maureen Goodberlet,  
(585) 924-3252 ext. 1402

#### **Superintendent of Schools**

Timothy J. McElheran

*Excellence on Display* is the official publication of Victor Central School District.

(585) 924-3252 ext. 1407  
[www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

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# Dorothy DiAngelo Named ECEC Principal

On Tuesday, July 29, during a special Board of Education meeting, Board members formally approved the appointment of Mrs. Dorothy DiAngelo as the new Principal of the Early Childhood Education Center.

For the past two years, Mrs. DiAngelo has been an administrative intern at the ECEC. Previously Mrs. DiAngelo taught Kindergarten, first and second grade in the Keshequa School district for twenty years.

"I am ecstatic about continuing the work that we've started in ECEC over the course of the past two years and am equally thrilled

to be able to continue to work with such an outstanding faculty and staff."

Mrs. DiAngelo earned her B.A. in Elementary Education from Davis & Elkins College, her M.S. in Early Childhood Education from SUNY Geneseo and her Certificate of Advanced Study in Education Administration from SUNY Oswego.



## Important New Transportation and School Schedule Changes!

On Tuesday, July 29, the Victor Board of Education approved a proposal by district staff and parent representatives to consolidate two bus runs – K-3 and 4-6 – into one bus run – K-6.

This recommendation was the result of an earlier request by the Board of Education to look at ways the district could reduce energy consumption and related costs. After a thorough analysis of current transportation practices (VCS buses travel 1,000,000 miles per year and average about seven miles per gallon.) VCS Transportation Director, Darren Everhart concluded that a single bus run would save the District approximately \$200,000 per year.

One consolidated bus run will mean several things for students —new transportation pick-up and drop-off times and new school schedules for the Primary School and Intermediate School students. (The ECEC schedule will not change.) *The 2008-2009 school schedules are as follows:*

Earlier this month, two informational meetings were held at the VEC Auditorium to answer parent questions on the changes. Additional questions can be answered by contacting your child's school's main office or the Office of School and Community Relations at 924-3252, ext. 1407.

### **2008 - 2009 SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

#### **Early Childhood Education Center**

*8:50 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.*

#### **Victor Primary School**

*9:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.*

#### **Victor Intermediate School**

*9:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.*



## “Dear Pen Pal . . .”

*VIS Students exchange letters with middle school students in China*

This past April, Alice Chen, our former visiting teacher from Chongqing, China, contacted VIS teacher, Amy Smith-Faczan to ask her if she could round up some students to write letters to her middle school students in China so they could practice

the school day wasn't all our students were surprised to learn. They were also amazed to discover that most Chinese students do not have pets like we do. Despite their cultural differences, Smith-Faczan said the children found that they still had many things in

common, like music, favorite/least favorite subjects in school and similar hobbies.

Smith-Faczan said the letters were such a hit that almost everyone wanted to write back and they quickly got another box of letters together and mailed it in early June.

“This time, our students included

their home address so the Chinese students could



writing in English.

“The response was overwhelming...I had more than 100 letters from fourth, fifth and sixth graders and we mailed them in one big package. About five weeks later, we received

a package of response letters and our Intermediate students were THRILLED!” Smith-Faczan said.

Smith-Faczan said the letters, which were written in beautiful penmanship, were full of questions, like how long they studied at night and what their favorite music was. Some of the Chinese students even included coins and other small trinkets. Smith-Faczan said our students were surprised to learn how long a school day was at Verakin. Their day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m. Verakin students also attend study hall every evening from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. The length of



mail letters directly to their home. Some also included email addresses,” Smith-Faczan said.

Smith-Faczan's students were not the only ones who engaged in this international letter writing exchange. Alison Sheridan's fifth grade class also corresponded with a group of Chinese students from Verakin in Chongqing, China this past year.

### VCS Engages The

**World** is an on-going feature dedicated to sharing with the community how VCS students, teachers and staff are interacting with the world. If you have a school-based story with international connections, please contact the Office of School and Community Relations at 924-3252, ext. 1407.



# Heart of Excellence



*Alison Sheridan*



*Joanne Lowe*

## VCS Teachers Earn National Board Certification

Victor Central Schools recently honored two teachers, Alison Sheridan and Joanne Lowe, for receiving their National Board Certification. National Board Certification is the highest symbol of professional teaching in excellence. Teachers who receive this distinction must engage in a rigorous reflective

process that includes everything from producing videotaped research to completing spontaneous timed on-line assignments and in-depth written portfolio activities.

Mrs. Sheridan, a fifth grade teacher at the Intermediate School says she was inspired to become nationally certified by an already certified colleague in the district whom she greatly respects. "I continually make professional goals for myself and this is one I wanted to reach. It was a multi-year process for me but I simply set incremental goals along the way to achieve it," Sheridan said.

Mary Szlosek, Victor Intermediate School Principal says Sheridan's recent National Board Certification simply supports what she is already doing in the classroom. "During her ten years at VIS, Alison has challenged her students to always do their best, reaching their potential. Her utilization of inquiry-based activities and differentiated instruction has been the impetus for her success with children," Szlosek said.

Joanne, Lowe, Victor Primary School (VPS) Suzuki Strings and general music teacher, *and* the only music teacher in New York State to become certified in 2007, said she never heard of National Board Certification until several teachers at the Primary School became certified a few years ago. "I talked to them about the process and what they had to say about the benefits to their teaching and to the profession intrigued me. They felt it was the best thing they had ever done for their teaching and since I am always looking for ways to improve, it seemed like a wonderful way to do that. I also love a challenge!" Mrs. Lowe said.

Michelle Cramer, VPS Assistant Principal says Mrs. Lowe's desire to elevate her professional skills has a positive personal effect on many. "Joanne consistently discovers ways to refine her professional practice and add to her repertoire of skills for working with varied cognitive and social/emotional differences. In addition, Joanne serves on building level as well as district level committees and collaborates with colleagues to find ways to integrate music education throughout the students' day. It is evident that Joanne sees the special gift that each child has and finds ways to foster their own unique special gifts through music."

Alison Sheridan and Joanne Lowe join an elite group of nine Victor Central School Teachers who are Nationally Board Certified.

As Mrs. Lowe puts it... "the work is grueling but the rewards are great and the students are the winners."

### VICTOR'S NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

**Lisa Bennett**

**Joe Carey**

**Maggie Elliott**

**Michelle Linse**

**Joanne Lowe**

**Beth McKee**

**Julie O'Neill**

**Joyce Prockton**

**Linda Sachs  
(retired 7/1/08)**

**Alison Sheridan**

**Jan Soucier**

# Victor Central School

Cassandra Lynn Acoff ♠❖  
 Ulana Anne-Marie Ainsworth □❖  
 Samantha Lynn Aleo ○♠❖  
 Omran H. Alsalahi ▽  
 Zachary MacKinnon Angus  
 ○♠△❖  
 Taryn Doreen Elizabeth  
 Applewhite-Wade  
 Joseph A. Avery ▽  
 Michael S. Backus ▽  
 Courtney Lynn Baldwin ▽  
 Jordan Leigh Barber ♠•  
 Amie Lyn Jean Barclay ▽  
 Edmund Campion Barrington•  
 Kevin E. Baxter ▽  
 Ryan Elizabeth Blawski  
 □○♦♠❖  
 Kerry Joyce Bode  
 Cameron Bodine ▽  
 Lauren M. Bolger ○♠  
 C. Nicole Bopp ▽  
 Jason Bowerman ▽•  
 Kreg Ronald Bradley ○♠❖  
 Patrick Brayer•  
 Jesse Mae Brown ▽  
 Peter Brownell ▽•  
 John K. Buchanan•  
 Zackery Paul Bulman ○♦♠❖  
 Andrea Elizabeth Burgess•  
 Barbara I. Burke ○♦♠▶❖  
 Nicholas John Burke ▽  
 Tyler Byrne  
 Brayton R. Bzdick•  
 Lacey N. Callon  
 Angela C. Cappi ▽  
 James B. Carney ▽○♠❖  
 Megan M. Casey•  
 Ryan Sigl Casey ○♠❖  
 Nicholas Brian Chan □❖  
 Braedy Lee Chapman ○♠•  
 Brian Chapman•  
 Casey J. Chase ▽•  
 David N. Chau ▽  
 Allison Taylor Childs ○♠❖  
 Kyle Christie ▽•  
 Erik Lee Church•  
 Lisa Marie Chute ○♠❖  
 Frank Joseph Louis Ciecierski ▽•  
 Jamie Lynn Clement ▽  
 Kaylee Susan Clements•

Leland P. Cody ▽  
 Erin Collins•  
 Katelyn Elizabeth Collins•  
 Hannah Coney•  
 Ryan Christopher Cotroneo•  
 Christopher Joseph Crane ▽•  
 Danielle Crean ○♦♠❖  
 Joline Curtiss ▽  
 Christopher Brandon Cymbal•  
 Megan Elizabeth D'Angelo ♦•  
 Alicia Camille Darcangelis•  
 Ioannis Minas Dedes ▽  
 Elizabeth Anne DeVecchio ▽  
 Adrian Michael DeRosa ▽•  
 Jessica Marie DeSanctis  
 □○♦♠❖  
 Alyssa Joeline Devaney•  
 Robert Charles Dluzak  
 Michael Anthony Domizio•  
 Katelin Double ○♠❖  
 Gregory Alexander Doyle•  
 Ryan Adam Drake ▽  
 Daniel L. Drew•  
 Aisling Brigid Driscoll ○♠❖  
 Aaron J. Drooby  
 Nichole Elaine Dunst♦•  
 James M. Eddy ▽  
 Taylor Marie Edwards ♠❖  
 Mark Ellison•  
 Julie Kathryn Engebrecht  
 □○♦♠❖  
 Kevin James English ▽  
 Colleen D. Ewing•  
 Shannon Sally Fagan•  
 Nathan Charles Fanton•  
 Katrina Elizabeth Farnsworth ▽  
 Kelly Fenton•  
 Tyler R. Finley ▽  
 Matthew M. Fischer ○♠❖  
 Peter Fisher❖  
 Christopher William Flad•  
 Katlyn L. Flaherty•  
 Michelle Lee Font ■  
 Floyd Zachary Frey ▽  
 Curtiss James Fry•  
 Jeremy G. Garvey•  
 Bryan Michael Gazda ▽  
 Lauren Simone Geniviva ○♦♠❖  
 Victoria Lee Gerstner ▽  
 Marilyn Ruth Glamack ○♠•

Jordan Lee Gottschalk•  
 Matthew J. Grabowski❖  
 Anne Ricarda Grewe ♥♠  
 Christian P. Gunn•  
 Matthew Sean Haeefele ○♠❖  
 Benjamin Tyler Hall ▽  
 Brian Michael Hall•  
 Kelsey Grace Haney □○♠❖  
 Kevin Thomas Hart ○♦♠❖  
 Steven W. Hearn•  
 Benjamin Allen Heath ○♦♠❖  
 Keri Anne Heath ○♠•  
 Kaylie Marie Heaven•  
 Christine Marie Heib □○♦♠❖  
 Michael Heller ♠❖  
 Eleanor Henderson ▽  
 Shaun Hixon•  
 Max D. Iannicello•  
 Alyssa R. Jacobs  
 Asim Javed ○♦♠❖  
 Imran Javed ○♠❖  
 Erik Johnson•  
 Joel A. Johnson ▽  
 Kristin Angela Johnson•  
 Cassandra Lyn June ▽  
 Kyle Kalish•  
 Adam Preston Kasper ○♠❖  
 Joshua Richard Kay  
 Dylan Taylor Kean ▽  
 Sean Kearney ○♠❖  
 Rebecca Marie Kiley•  
 Elizabeth Marie Kinsman  
 □○♦♠❖  
 Kathryn Anne Kinsman □○♠❖  
 Ryan Kirk ▽  
 Kelly M. Kocher•  
 Kevin Koval ▽•  
 Andrew J. Kuhn•  
 Michael C. Kurvach ○♠❖  
 David Lagoyda ▽  
 Jennifer T. Landry ○♠❖  
 Julie M. Lanning ○♠  
 Brittany L. Lariviere ○♦♠❖  
 Mary Lawless ○♠❖  
 Gregory James Lawson❖  
 Allyse Mary Lemen ■  
 Patrick Alexander Leonard❖  
 Michael A. Leshley ♠❖  
 Benjamin Lew ▽  
 Kevin C. Lewis ▽





# District's Class of 2008

*Listed with their honors*



Julie Marie Limbeck ○♠❖  
 Jennifer Marie Lipps•  
 Randall J. Lis II ▽  
 Gina René Lozano ◇▽  
 Allen Christopher Lynn, Jr. ▽  
 John Lyons ▽  
 Andrew S. MacGregor ▽  
 James Mallows  
 Eric S. Malone•  
 Todd A. Malone ○♠•  
 Chelsea Mandrino ○♦♠•  
 Rachel Lynn Marozzi•  
 Christine A. Martz•  
 Patrick Maynard ▽  
 Jasmine Chantal McDaniels•  
 Philip McGrath ▽▽○♠❖  
 Hayli Brianna McMahon•  
 Chelsea K. McMinn ○♠•  
 Jamie Rae Miller ○◇♠❖  
 Laura Miller ▽  
 Kaitlyn E. Minnis•  
 Andrew T. Moore ▽  
 Zackery Morley ▽  
 Devon Murphy•  
 Nicholas Murphy ▽♠❖  
 Nicole Murphy ♠❖  
 Erin Alexandra Nargi•  
 Alexandra Natarelli ○♠❖  
 Zachary R. Nelson ▽❖  
 Viet Q. Nguyen ▽  
 Michael Noll ▽  
 Paul V. O'Brien ▽○♠❖  
 Corynn L. O'Connor ○◇♠❖  
 Robert John O'Leary ▽  
 Devin J. Olek ○♦♠❖  
 John Patrick Oliphant❖  
 Benjamin F. Osterling ▽•  
 Joshua Duane Pancoast ▽  
 Stephanie A. Papen ▽  
 Evan Andrew Paris•  
 Thaís Viacava Passanesi ○♦♠  
 Kelly Rajesh Patel ○◇♠❖  
 Emily Grace Patridge❖  
 Ethan Ryan Payne•  
 Allison Piper ○◇♠❖  
 Michael Holden Piper ▽  
 Thomas A. Poitras•  
 Eric A. Povero ♠❖  
 Christine Marie Power ○♠❖  
 Nathan L. Prasad ■

Christine E. Prentice•  
 Monika Prokešová ♥  
 Yu Qian ♥  
 Paul R. Rachow, Jr. •  
 Alyssa Marie Raduns ○♠❖  
 Bruce A. Raggi, Jr. ▽  
 Salvatore Rapasadi ▽  
 Ashley Lucille Rath ○♠❖  
 Dawnn E. Reed ▽  
 Bradley T. Reese ▽○♠❖  
 Lauren Grace Reinhardt•  
 Kyle Rhone  
 Jason W. Richardson•  
 Kelsey K. Richardson ▽  
 Arianne Richter ○◇♠❖  
 Zachary Rivers •  
 Sean W. Roberts ▽•  
 Alex Michael Rogemoser ♠❖  
 Thomas D. Rogemoser ♠❖  
 Kaitlyn L. Roland•  
 Teresa Marie Roy ▽  
 Aleshia M. Royal ▽  
 Taylor Salsburg ○♠❖  
 Rachel Saunders ▽  
 Richard James Scott ▽♠❖  
 Janine Joyce Seber ○◇♠❖  
 Lauren Sebring ▽  
 Shana Segbers ○•  
 Kaylee Shephard•  
 Erica Marie Siciliano•  
 Troy M. Slack ♠❖  
 Alexandra Esther Smith ○♠❖  
 Matthew J. Sonnefeld•  
 Kayla Victoria Sosnowski ▽  
 Katherine Anne Spawton ○◇♠❖  
 Eric Russell St. Clair ▽  
 Shelby Elizabeth Stanton ▽  
 Kevin M. Steffenhagen ▽

Meighan Anne Stephan ▽  
 Caleb Stewart ♠❖  
 Gianna Angelina Stewart  
 □○◇♠❖  
 Amy Joy Stubits ▽  
 Kurt L. Sullivan ▽  
 Alexandria K. Swan ▽  
 Courtney Elizabeth Sweltz ▽  
 Daniel Szabatara ▽  
 Puttipath Tasnavites ♥♠  
 Alejandra Hart Taylor ▽  
 Santino Michael Tedesco  
 Michael Paul Then❖  
 Dale Thomas ◇♠•  
 Nathan Scott Tooley ▽  
 Courtney J. Toomey•  
 Sean W. Toomey ○◇♠❖  
 Liesel C. Toth ♠•  
 Stephanie Sharron Trimaldi ▽  
 Adam Thomas Urbanic ○♦♠❖  
 Costenze John Valenti ▽  
 Frank C. Valenti ○♦♠❖  
 James Matthew Visser  
 Kara A. Voci ○♦♠❖  
 Ann Elizabeth vom Lehn ○♠❖  
 Christopher Voss ▽  
 Tyler Edward Vuichard ▽  
 Eric David Wachob ▽  
 Robert Allen Walker, Jr. ▽  
 Zifan Wang ♥  
 Jennifer Cathryne Weld•  
 Kelly Diane Wilson ▽  
 Brandon Years•  
 Sabrina Yellamaty•  
 Mark James Young ▽  
 Jaime K. Zimmerman•  
 Sara Jo Zuhlsdorf ○♠•

## KEY TO HONORS EARNED AT GRADUATION

- Valedictorian
- Salutatorian
- ♥ Foreign Exchange Student
- ▽ Project Lead the Way Graduate
- Candidate for International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma
- National Honor Society
- ♦ French National Honor Society
- ◇ Spanish National Honor Society
- ♠ Gold Honor Cords-90 or above overall grade point average for seven semesters
- ▽ Regents Diploma
- Regents Diploma with Honors
- Regents - Advanced Designation
- ❖ Regents - Advanced Designation with Honors
- △ Walter B. Hennehan Outstanding Senior Boy Award Recipient
- ◆ Norma Olney Outstanding Senior Girl Award Recipient



## 2008 Victor Senior High School Awards Night & Dollars For Scholars Award Recipients

Cassandra Acoff	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Ioannis Dedes	American Legion Oratorical Award
Ulana Ainsworth	John M. Saxby Memorial Scholarship	Elizabeth DelVecchio	Florence Tuttle Webster Memorial Scholarship
Samantha Aleo	Matthew Gramlich Memorial Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award	Adrian DeRosa	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , 2008 Wegmans Scholarship Award
Omran Alsalahi	Rose C. Militello Scholarship	Jessica DeSanctis	Principal's Leadership Award, Finger Lakes Racing Association Scholarship
Zachary Angus	English Subject Prize, Victor Scholarship Program Award, Industrial Indexing Systems Scholarship	Katelin Double	VOICE Award, Mary Weigert Carlson Memorial Scholarship
Jordan Barber	Positive Attitude Award	Daniel Drew	Captain Donald Roberts USAF Memorial Scholarship
Ryan Blawski	Choral Director's Award, Social Studies Subject Prize, Salutatorian Medal, International Baccalaureate Scholarship, Peta Franklin Memorial Scholarship, Victor Farmington Rotary Scholarship	Aisling Driscoll	Salvation Army Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Cameron Bodine	Basketball Boosters Scholarship	Nichole Dunst	Canandaigua National Bank Scholarship
Lauren Bolger	Fine Arts Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award	Julie Engebrecht	Victor Scholarship Program Award, Frances Chan Memorial Scholarship
Jason Bowerman	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Matthew Fischer	Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Key Club Scholarship
Kreag Bradley	Principal's Leadership Award, Victor Football Booster Club Scholarship, Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Leadership Scholarship	Peter Fisher	Victor Scholarship Program Award
Peter Brownell	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Katlyn Flaherty	Farmington Volunteer Fire Association Ryan Bowser Memorial Award
Zackery Bulman	Farmington Historical Society Award, Griswold Telephone Scholarship, Donald H. Graham Memorial Scholarship	Lauren Geniviva	Cynthia Blazey Memorial Scholarship, Thomas Hawkes Memorial Scholarship
Andrea Burgess	David Robert Jacobus, Jr. Memorial Scholarship	Marilyn Glamack	Carl A. Palumbo Memorial Scholarship
Barbara Burke	2008 Dramatic Achievement Award, Valedictorian Medal, Madeline Hulbert Memorial Scholarship, Nellie S. Ranney Memorial Valedictorian Award, New York State Field Band Conference Scholarship	Jordan Gottschalk	Victor Scholarship Program Award
James Carney	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Shane Michael Anderson Memorial Scholarship, Wrestling Boosters Scholarship	Matthew Grabowski	Adam Falcon Memorial Scholarship
Megan Casey	Girls Physical Education Leader of the Year	Ricarda Grewe	Presentation of the American Flag to Foreign Exchange Students
Ryan Casey	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Christian Gunn	Boys Physical Education Leader of the Year, Leon D. Robinson Memorial Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Braedy Chapman	Key Club Citizenship Award, President's Award, VCS Class of 1999 Scholarship	Matthew Haefele	Victor Scholarship Program Award
Brian Chapman	VCS Class of 2000 Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award	Brian Hall	Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, Gary V. Frontuto Award, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Casey Chase	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Kelsey Haney	Rhea Charles Memorial Scholarship
David Chau	Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Scholarship	Kevin Hart	Mathematics Subject Prize, Info Directions, Inc. Scholarship
Allison Childs	National School Choral Award, Butch Geise Memorial Music Scholarship	Benjamin Heath	AP Chemistry Top 20%, French Subject Prize, Masonic Science Milnor Lodge Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Kyle Christie	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Keri Heath	Annie Schmidt Memorial Scholarship
Lisa Chute	Reno Associates Community Service Award, VCS Class of 2006 Spirit Scholarship	Kaylie Heaven	Senator Michael F. Nozzolio Citizenship Award
Frank Ciecierski	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Raytec FLCC Scholarship	Christine Heib	Northeast Conference French Award, Dr. Spoon's Shared Vision Scholarship
Hannah Coney	Summer Financial Services Scholarship	Asim Javed	AP Chemistry Top 20%, Director's Award for Band, Spanish Subject Prize, Victor Scholarship Program Award, Paul McManus Jr. Memorial Scholarship
Christopher Crane	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Imran Javed	AP Chemistry Top 20%, VTA Community Connection Award, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Danielle Crean	Victor Scholarship Program Award, Salvation Army Scholarship	Joel Johnson	VCS District Administrators Award, Kenny Dan Reasoner Memorial Scholarship
Megan D'Angelo	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Adam Kasper	Victor-Farmington Post #7649 Scholarship
Alicia Darcangelis	Canandaigua Elks Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award	Sean Kearney	AP Chemistry Top 20%
		Rebecca Kiley	Friends of the Victor Free Library - Katie Cody Memorial Scholarship



## 2008 Victor Senior High School Awards Night & Dollars For Scholars Award Recipients

Elizabeth Kinsman	Victor Scholarship Program Award, VCS Class of 2005 Scholarship	Lauren Reinhardt	National School Orchestra Award, 2008 Pittsford Musicals Award, Music Subject Prize, Michael Commisso Memorial Scholarship (VFD), Tim Jaenecke Memorial Scholarship, VCS Music Department Scholarship
Kathryn Kinsman	Sheila Dennis Memorial Scholarship		
Kelly Kocher	Victor Scholarship Program Award		
Kevin Koval	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>		
Andrew Kuhn	Forever Green Garden Club Award	Arianne Richter	Estelle Guinan Lynaugh Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Michael Kurvach	RIT ROTC Scholarship Award	Sean Roberts	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>
Julie Lanning	Female PE Student of the Year, President's Award, Victor Alumni Scholarship	Taylor Salsburg	AXA Dollars for Scholars Award, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Jennifer Landry	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Richard Scott	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Top Achievement in Project Lead the Way
Julie Limbeck	Victor Scholarship Program Award		
Jennifer Lipps	Lions Club Scholarship		
Chelsea Mandrino	Adam Falcon Memorial Scholarship	Janine Seber	Science Subject Prize, Cherie and Olney Exton Honorary Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award, Vera Brown Memorial Scholarship
Christine Martz	Get It Straight Orthodontics College Scholarship Award		
Patrick Maynard	Paychex Scholarship	Kaylee Shephard	Northeast Conference Spanish Award
Philip McGrath V	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Koch Container Scholarship	Erica Siciliano	Trisha Ann Siciliano Memorial Scholarship
Chelsea McMinn	Raytec FLCC Scholarship	Alexandra Smith	Mary Culhane Clark Memorial Scholarship
Jamie Miller	NASSP Principal's Leadership Award, Building Council Outstanding Student Achievement Award, Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Key Club Scholarship, Madeline Hulbert Memorial Scholarship, Sally Sale Toomey Memorial Scholarship, AXA Scholarship	Matthew Sonnenfeld	Victor Chamber of Commerce Service Award
	Clayton F. Shufelt Music Scholarship	Katherine Spawton	Ladies Auxiliary of the Victor Fire Department Award, Victor Scholarship Program Award, Paul Kelly Memorial Scholarship
Laura Miller	Strength in Community Service Award, Gary R. Caron Memorial Scholarship, Donald H. Graham Memorial Scholarship	Caleb Stewart	Jerry Toomey Memorial Scholarship, Carl A. Palumbo Memorial Scholarship
Kaitlyn Minnis	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Gianna Stewart	Art Subject Prize, Lucille Mahoney Sargent Memorial Scholarship, Art Club Award
Nicholas Murphy	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Puttipath Tasnavites	Presentation of the American Flag to Foreign Exchange Students
Erin Nargi	VCS Class of 2003 Scholarship	Santino Tedesco	2008 Elizabeth J. Amidon Award
Alexandra Natarelli	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Sean Toomey	Ed Ahonen Memorial Scholarship, George F. Miller Memorial Scholarship
Zachary Nelson	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Victor Scholarship Program Award, Brian Wood Memorial Scholarship	Liesel Toth	Victor Scholarship Program Award
Paul O'Brien	Victor Scholarship Program Award, Art Club Award	Adam Urbanic	Edward Wood Memorial Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award
Corynn O'Connor	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>	Costenze Valenti	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i>
Devin Olek	VCS District Administrators Award, Timothy Bauer Memorial Scholarship	Frank Valenti	Dale Bardun Blue Devil Spirit Award; Male PE Student of the Year
Benjamin Osterling		Kara Voci	Air Force Academy Scholarship, George F. Miller Memorial Scholarship
Joshua Pancoast		Ann vom Lehn	English Subject Prize, Lucille Mahoney Sargent Memorial Scholarship
Kelly Patel	Morgan Green Memorial Scholarship, Victor Scholarship Program Award	Christopher Voss	Matthew Gramlich Positive Attitude Memorial Scholarship
Ethan Payne	Olin W. Boughton Memorial Scholarship	Zifan Wang	Presentation of the American Flag to Foreign Exchange Students
Allison Piper	Medical Arts & Sciences Incentive Award	Qian Yu	Presentation of the American Flag to Foreign Exchange Students
Eric Povero	Victor Scholarship Program Award	Jaime Zimmerman	Frances V. Boughton Memorial Scholarship
Christine Power	Top 10% of Regents Chemistry Students, VCS Music Department Scholarship	Sara Zuhlsdorf	Victor Band Boosters Award, VCS Music Department Scholarship
Monika Prokešová	Presentation of the American Flag to Foreign Exchange Students		
Alyssa Raduns	Director's Award for Orchestra, Victor Teachers Association Scholarship, VCS Music Department Scholarship		
Bradley Reese	<i>Project Lead the Way Graduate</i> , Technical Education Subject Prize		

# Profiles on Excellence



## Valedictorian

### Barbara Burke

The honor of Valedictorian for the Class of 2008 goes to Barbara Burke who finished with a 98.021 grade point average. Barbara is the daughter of Amelia and David Burke. She will attend Syracuse University in the fall to study architecture. In addition to balancing a rigorous academic schedule

filled with AP Physics, AP Calculus, AP Literature, AP Language, AP English, AP Government, AP Macroeconomics, AP World and AP U.S. History, Ms. Burke managed to enjoy a variety of other activities while at Victor Central Schools, including dance, drama, field band, year book, Key Club, SEAS club, varsity choir, wind ensemble, musicals, fall plays and art. She was also the captain of the field band, an editor for the yearbook and co-president and treasurer of the drama club.



## Salutatorian

### Ryan Blawski

The honor of Salutatorian for the Class of 2008 goes to Ryan Blawski who finished with a 97.564 grade point average. Ryan is the daughter of Christine and Steven Blawski. She will attend Cornell University in the fall to study biology. Ms. Blawski's credentials span a wide range of

interests. In addition to being the President of the Key Club, she was a member of the Drama Club and in every choir Victor offers, including the All-State Choir and Women's Select Choir. Blawski's other accomplishments include being an AP Scholar and member of the Spanish Club. For the past two years, she immersed herself in the International Baccalaureate Program, for which she received a diploma.

# Project Lead the Way

*Victor Senior High School proudly announces eighteen 2008*

*Project Lead the Way graduates.*

Project Lead The Way® (PLTW) is a not-for-profit organization that promotes pre-engineering courses for middle and high school students. PLTW forms partnerships with public schools, higher education institutions and the private sector to increase the quantity and quality of engineers and engineering technologists graduating from our educational system. Victor offers six PLTW courses at the high school:

*Design and Drawing for Production*

*Principles of Engineering*

*Civil Engineering and Architecture*

*Digital Electronics*

*Computer Integrated Manufacturing*

*Engineering Design and Development*

Some of these courses can be taken for college credit in conjunction with RIT.

The VSHS students listed have taken at least five of the six PLTW courses Victor offers, making them PLTW graduates. Each of these students has been awarded a medal which was worn at graduation. ***Congratulations!***



Jason Bowerman

Peter Brownell

James Carney

Casey Chase

Kyle Christie

Frank Ciecierski, Jr.

Christopher Crane

Adrian DeRosa

Kevin Koval

Philip McGrath

Nicholas Murphy

Zachary Nelson

Paul O'Brien

Benjamin Osterling

Bradley Reese

Sean Roberts

Richard Scott

Costenze Valenti



# Congratulations

## Senior IB Diploma Graduates

Ulana Ainsworth	Kelsey Haney
Ryan Blawski	Christine Heib
Nick Chan	Beth Kinsman
Jessica DeSanctis	Katie Kinsman
Julie Engebrecht	Gianna Stewart



The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and International organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## GED Graduates Shine

On Wednesday, June 11, nine Victor Central School District students received their General Education Diploma (GED) at a special recognition ceremony in the Victor Education Center Board Room.

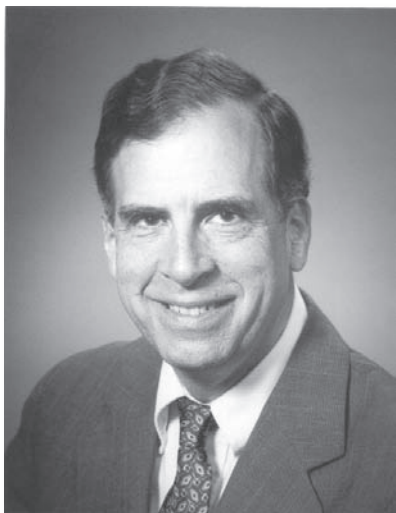
### *Congratulations to following graduates*

Allicia R. Crowther	Amber M. Meadows
Shaina N. Hartley	Jacob E. Mott
Nicholas M. Hibbard	Sarah E. Perrin
Blaine T. Hoke	Joseph R. Tracy
Sean R. Maney	

*A special recognition was also given to Victor student, Michelle D. Peters who received her GED test results in July.*







## 1959 Grad Is Named Victor Central Schools' 2008 Graduate of Distinction

*Author and Newspaper Publisher  
**Lewis Fisher** Was Honored*

When Lewis F. Fisher graduated from Victor Central High School in 1959 the quote beside his photo read: "Who costs to write a line, must sweat." It seems that Mr. Fisher has lived these words well.

After graduating from Victor Schools, Mr. Fisher received a bachelor's degree from Allegheny College and a master's from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. He was a captain in the U.S. Air Force, serving in Izmir, Turkey and Wiesbaden, Germany.

After working as a reporter for the San Antonio Express-News, he left in 1971 to establish *The North San Antonio Times*, which grew into a group of ten suburban weekly newspapers that he published for 21 years. He

was elected president of Suburban Newspapers of America for 1988–89. His Maverick Publishing Company has published more than 30 general interest books on San Antonio and Texas, ranging from San Antonio place names and great motorcycle rides to a guide to Texas wines. He has received numerous local, regional, state and national citations for newspaper editorials and column writing plus the Texas Society of Architects John G. Flowers Award and the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Arts and Letters Award.

Fisher is the author of nine books about San Antonio, Texas.

He is also the author of *Victor: The History of a Town*, written in 1996 and

reviewed in New York History Magazine as "an eminently readable and authoritative history of the town, a balanced study."

Mr. Fisher was formally recognized at a special Graduates of Distinction breakfast ceremony on Sunday, June 29 at DiPacif-ics restaurant in Farmington, N.Y. Following the reception, he then joined the class of 2008 as they processed to their graduation ceremony at the Constellation Brands-Marvin Sands Performing Arts Center at Finger Lakes Community College.

The Graduate of Distinction program was initiated in 2002 as a way to recognize VCS alumnus who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and made significant contributions to society.

# Primary School Seeks Book Buddies

Last year more than twenty-five community members —from parents of current Victor students to retirees with no children in the district — participated in Victor Primary School's Book Buddies reading program.

Victor Primary School Principal, Danielle Dehm says the volunteer program which teams adult readers with children who can benefit from being read to continues to grow each year. "Book Buddies has become a very natural fabric of our literacy efforts," Ms. Dehm says.



This will be the fourth year for Book Buddies, which focuses on first and second grade children. The program runs from the beginning of November to the beginning of June. Volunteers are asked to devote as little as 30 to 60 minutes per week, at their convenience, to come to the school to read to children.

Ms. Dehm says that interested volunteers must participate in a screening process that involves an interview with her, as well as some training. "There is no better way to support a child's love of learning than by reading to them," Dehm says.

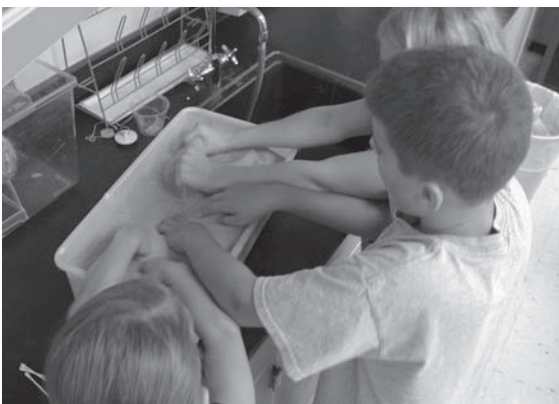
For more information on how you can become a Book Buddy, contact Teresa Williams at VPS at 924-3252, ext. 2410.

## ***Get A Read on Reading...***

- The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.
- Books and stories boost brain development.
- Books and stories promote language skills.
- When we read to children, we teach them how books work.
- Reading to and sharing stories with children develops nurturing relationships and provides the foundation for success in school and life.

***\*Source: United Way***

# Summer . . . Anything but Quiet at VCS



Ahhh...Summer. Long lazy days filled with lemonade stands, swimming, biking, golfing, camping, fishing, reading and just plain old lounging. While summer is all of this and more, at Victor School's summer is not what you might imagine. This summer our campus was bustling—inside and out—with a variety of activities—from teachers writing new curriculums for the upcoming school year to sports camps, construction, Summer Academy and the Summer Enrichment Institute. This summer was also filled with a variety of professional development opportunities for teachers and

staff. At the First Annual Literacy Symposium, hundreds of teachers and administrators from schools all over the Greater Rochester area came to learn from several nationally renowned reading specialists. Our campus was also the site of the Fifty-Second Annual Genesee Valley Facilities Personnel Training Conference. During this three day event, five hundred employees from sixty school districts attended classes for various groups including custodians, directors and service employees. Long, lazy summer days? Think again! These photos tell a different story of summer... summer at VCS!



## Victor Schools Go Paper-Less

In an effort to reduce paper use and protect the precious earth, we are inviting families to sign up to receive their Principal's monthly newsletter via email. Families can sign up for their school's "e-news" in three easy steps:

**Step 1:** Log on to [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

**Step 2:** Click the link for your school,  
e.g. ECEC, Primary, Intermediate,  
etc.

**Step 3:** Click the "Principal's Newsletter" link

*Or go to:*

[www.victorschools.org/email\\_news.cfm](http://www.victorschools.org/email_news.cfm)

While we strongly encourage you to sign up for this email option, we do understand that some of you may not have direct internet access. For those who are unable to go paperless at this time, hard copies of all monthly newsletters will be available at the main offices of schools.

## New Schedule for Victor Central Schools News Magazines

In an effort to reduce the use of paper while continuing to communicate important news and information to our community, especially to those who do not have internet access, VCS will reduce news magazine mailings from six issues to four issues per year.

In addition to this August news magazine, community members can expect to receive issues in November, February and May.

## Rededication of Corbit Field

A rededication of Corbit Field will be held on Friday, September 12 from 5-7pm. Our first Varsity home football game vs. Greece Arcadia will immediately follow at 7pm.

## Are You Connected? Connect-Ed Up and Running.

This past year, VCS' new **Connect-Ed** automated phone messaging system successfully relayed several school closings and cancellations.

In an effort to keep our new lines of communication running smoothly we ask that parents who have NOT received a **Connect-Ed** school closing message to please contact their child's school so that we may add their name and phone number to the list.

## Upcoming School Events

### SEPTEMBER

First Day of School for Students 1-12

*September 4*

First Day of School for Pre-K and Kindergarten

*September 5*

PTSA Meeting, 7 pm, IS Aud

Board of Education, 7:15 pm, VEC Board Room

*September 11*

Rededication of Corbit Field, 5-7 pm

First Home Football Game vs.

Greece Arcadia, 7 pm

*September 19*

### OCTOBER

Board of Education, 7:15 pm, VEC Board Room

*October 9*

Field Band / Home Show, "Music in Motion"

*October 11*

PIE Meeting, 7 pm IS Aud

*October 14*

Homecoming Week

*October 14-18*

Homecoming Football Game,

7 pm - Greece Arcadia

*October 17*

PTSA Drug Awareness Forum

*October 20*

VOICE Quarterly Meeting,

7pm VEC Conference Room A

*October 21*

# Farewell to Our Retirees . . .

## You will be missed.

### **Bonnie A. Lew**

*Teacher Aide/Teacher Assistant, 1985-2007*  
*Early Childhood Education Center*



She will miss the Kindergarten Halloween parades and Good Start Teddy Bear picnics but Bonnie Lew, a Teacher Aide/Assistant at the Early Childhood Education Center for twenty two years will not have trouble filling her new found time. In fact, since she officially retired in September, 2007, Bonnie has been spotted all over campus substituting at various schools. In addition, she is enjoying spending more time with

her family and having the freedom and flexibility to travel. Recently, she decided to travel to Virginia for a weekend to baby-sit her grandchild for a night so that her son and daughter-in-law could go out. A Farmington resident of thirty years, Bonnie Lew was more than a Victor Schools' employee for two decades, through the years she and her husband of 38 years, Morris, were also parents of three sons, all Victor graduates.

What advice would Bonnie give new teachers? "Always remember that you can make a difference in some student's life, even if it doesn't appear so now."

### **Rebecca Wrenn Jones**

*Elementary Teacher, 1974-2008*  
*Early Childhood Education Center*



She spent thirty four years teaching hundreds of our youngest students at the Early Childhood Education Center. Best wishes and many thanks to Rebecca Wrenn Jones for her commitment to education and our children.

### **Kathleen M. Holahan**

*Substitute Caller, 1994-2007*  
*District Office*



Kathleen Holahan had one of the more difficult jobs on campus, but you would never know it because she worked long and hard well before anyone arrived on campus. As a substitute caller for the district Kathleen was responsible for ensuring that absent or ill teachers and staff had someone to back them up while they were out for the day. This was no small feat, especially on those cold, dark winter mornings when

substitutes were scarce! Since Kathleen retired last December she no longer has to endure early morning work hours or those cold, dark winter mornings. Now, she and her husband Tom spend three winter months in Florida! The rest of Kathleen's time is spent working for her daughter at her business. And, she also continues to remain on Victor Schools' substitute list. "I will stay on the sub list as long as I can. I enjoy the people I have gotten to know over the years and it is great having something to do." As for her advice to new teachers and employees, Kathleen doesn't have any for them specifically but she does have some for the community. "Get involved with the school any way you can. It helps to get to know your children's teachers and to meet others in the community. It's a great ride!"

### **Kathy L. Wright**

*Library Clerk, 1983-2008*  
*Victor Senior High School*



She moved the entire High School library collection twice during her career—once in 1998 with the building of the new high school and again in 2007 when the library was expanded—but despite all of this work, Kathy Wright still contends she has "the best job on campus!" It is a job that she says she will miss in her retirement but plans to fill with time spent with her already retired husband, her three children (all

Victor graduates) and her two granddaughters. One thing Kathy knows for sure is that she won't be getting up at 5:30 a.m. every day! The Victor Senior High School Library has

certainly turned several chapters during Mrs. Wright's past twenty five years as the Library Clerk, the biggest being the disappearance of the card catalog and the introduction of the computer for research and on-line databases. Wright says students' reading trends have also evolved. "Students are more in tune with the best seller list and look forward to sequels of popular books. They even share them with parents. Students still like to read, which is nice because I like to share my favorites with them."

Sharing her favorites will not be the only thing Kathy will miss. She says she will also miss her friends and school lunch. "The cafeteria staff do a wonderful job and are very nice people. My favorite... paninis!" From favorite friends and lunches to favorite books —Wright says the most popular books through the years have been the Harry Potter series —Kathy Wright leaves the Victor Senior High School library with many fond memories and some good advice for new teachers: "Try to get out of your room during lunch and socialize with your colleagues. Eating alone at your desk can be very isolating."

## Ellen Lester

*Guidance Counselor, 1983-2008*

*Victor Junior High School*



"I am moving on to the next chapter." That is what Victor Junior High School Guidance Counselor Ellen Lester says about her retirement. "Retirement sounds like such an end. I'm not ending. I'm just starting something different," she said. Starting something different is what Ellen Lester has done everyday over her past 26 years as a Guidance Counselor. And, she has loved every minute of it. This one-time Elementary

Teacher who thrives on change — "I'm not one who sticks her feet in the ground"—Mrs. Lester has witnessed a lot through the years, from the introduction of computer technology to the general changes in education. "Technology has definitely impacted students today. Their writing skills and ideas are so much better these days," she says. Working to become better is what Mrs. Lester is all about and she says Victor Schools has a lot to do with that. "Victor Schools not only gives our students opportunities to grow and develop but I have been allowed to develop my professional talents, too," she boasts. There is no doubt that Ellen Lester's talents have impacted thousands of children's lives through the years, including the lives of her own six children who are now all grown. How will she spend her retirement time? Working with children, of course, baby-sitting three

days a week for her three grandchildren! Ellen says she will also read more, finish some crafts and join her husband in doing volunteer work. Much like her personal demeanor, Ellen Lester's advice to future teacher is warm and hopeful — "Be gentle with yourself; you are going to make mistakes along the way. Reflect on each day. Remind yourself what you did well today and do better tomorrow."

## Linda Sachs

*Elementary Teacher, 1975-2008*

*Victor Intermediate School*



Travel during off-peak times, go out to lunch with friends, redecorate her house, pursue her hobby of artful rubber stamping and focus more on family and friends. These are just some of the things that Linda Sachs plans to do during her retirement. And, after thirty one and a half years, she deserves it! Besides taking off one year with the birth of each of her two sons, Linda has pretty much worked non-stop these past three

decades. Her resume proves it. In addition to teaching third, fifth and sixth grades (which she has taught the last ten years), Linda became certified in Early Adolescent Science. This prestigious certification is held by less than thirty people in New York State. For someone who always knew that she wanted to be a teacher, Linda Sachs says it is difficult to pinpoint one memorable moment of her teaching career. "There are too many moments to pick from such a long career. I have enjoyed each class I worked with. I especially loved the years when I got to be the science teacher on a team of three teachers. I will take away many fond memories, mostly working with colleagues."

For now, Linda Sachs is busy making new memories, celebrating her 34th wedding anniversary and planning for her eldest son's wedding in November. What advice does Linda have for future teachers? "First —find something to love about each of your students. They will sense that you care and will cooperate and work hard to live up to the image you have of them. Second—Pace yourself. Showcase lessons take time to create and build upon. Pick one major topic per unit and strive to develop a special activity around that. Each year you will expand your repertoire. Third —Take care of yourself. Don't put all of your time and energy into your job. Once in a while do something to pamper yourself and spend time on things you feel are important. Be sure to keep your private life private and attend to your family and outside interests. You'll be a happier, more interesting person and THAT will make you a better teacher."



## Brian P. Wolf

*Technology Teacher, 1974-2008*  
*Victor Junior High School*



Brian Wolf is not sure how he will feel when retirement finally settles in but this thirty-four year veteran knows enough about change to get him through the transition. After all, he was part of an entire academic overhaul when traditional project-based Industrial Arts classes evolved into problem-solving Technology Education in the early 1980s. In 1999, Wolf said the academic direction of technology changed yet again

when it progressed from Traditional Technology to Modular Technology. But that didn't stop this 25 year veteran at the time from retooling, if you will. Wolf simply went for training in New Jersey. "That was one of my most memorable moments," he said.

Brian Wolf leaves behind many memorable moments—"They are all memorable," he says—but in retirement he plans to make many new ones as he spends his time gardening, restoring farm equipment and building on his collection of toy tractors. This one-time farm boy, who grew up on a grape farm in Ripley, New York, even hopes to travel to Iowa in November to attend the National Toy Tractor Show. Between his two children, Sarah, Nate (also a Technology Teacher) and his wife Jean, a Reading Recovery teacher in Geneva, Brian Wolf plans to stay busy. He is even exploring the idea of getting a part time job selling parts for farm equipment restoration. Whatever Brian Wolf decides to do, he will do it thoughtfully and honorably, just as he did as a Technology Teacher at Victor Junior High School. Most of all, he will maintain his sense of humor along the way. "If I had any advice to give new teachers I would tell them to keep their sense of humor. What you perceive as your worst day can be followed by your best day."

## Vincent P. Yacobellis

*Special Education Teacher, 1979-2008*  
*Victor Junior High School*



Vincent Yacobellis plans to spend his retirement adjusting to not being in school on a daily basis, traveling, reading, volunteering and maybe even working in some capacity again. He would also like to get back into swimming regularly. No doubt, he will have a lot more time to spend playing with his two Labradoodle dogs, Bentley and Lincoln! Whatever Mr. Yacobellis does, he will do it all with many fond memo-

ries of Victor Schools. With 29 years of experience as a Special Education Teacher for Victor Schools, he certainly has many to choose from— from some terrific student moments to his great co-teaching experiences. Personal experiences are not the only the only things Vince Yacobellis will remember. Through his years at Victor he also recalls many major campus changes – from the increase in numbers of students to the tremendous structural and technology renovations. "I remember when there was one phone in a closet for all of the teachers to share," he recalls with a smile. Whether he was sharing a telephone or a classroom with another teacher or sharing friendships with his many colleagues, Vince Yacobellis did it all with balance and perspective, something he would encourage future teachers to do.

"See the lighter side of things. Don't take things too seriously. Realize that this is another family for you and build on this family and friends. And remember, time flies by quickly."

## Linda Sheehan

*Elementary Teacher*  
*Victor Primary School*



When Linda Sheehan retires she plans to stop and smell the roses, slow down the pace of her life and simply enjoy what it has to offer, including her 32 year old son, Colin. After twenty-five years of teaching (15 years of them at Victor) Linda Sheehan certainly deserves all of this, and more. But Mrs. Sheehan has no regrets about the great deal of time she has devoted to teaching.

"The children taught me so much. Look what I got back, how much better a person I am for having known them. They taught me much more than I ever taught them." Teaching, learning and growing were on-going themes in

Linda Sheehan's career. This innovative spirit was responsible for many positive, productive changes at VPS both in the classroom in on the campus. One of her biggest contributions was the creation of an inter-school Post Office and zip-code. "I am very proud of that," she reflects fondly.

From teaching children to read to leading progression classes for eight years with her trusted co-teacher and friend, Beth Herendeen, Mrs. Sheehan says she was ever-conscious of the responsibility and trust that parents placed in her. "I was driven by devotion and a responsibility to kids to be here day after day," she said. When asked what she will most remember of her years at Victor schools, Linda Sheehan gives only the answer you would expect from a poetic sort -- "...those quietly spectacular moments," she said. And, she had many of them. How can a future teacher get the most out of his/her career. Says Linda Sheehan,

"Find balance in your life and remember, success is saying the right thing to the right person at the right time in the right tone of voice."

## **Marianne S. Naylor**

*Elementary Teacher*

*Victor Intermediate School*



She may be retiring after thirty years of teaching (28 years at the Victor Intermediate School) but Marianne Naylor will never stop learning. "No matter what I do, I will always be a learner, a teacher and a caregiver," she says.

Mrs. Naylor's foray into Victor schools began on a part time basis for the first two years but soon extended to a full time status where she taught fifth grade for the rest of her career.

Mrs. Naylor says it was a career filled with many special students and even many more special moments. Among them, the relationships she developed with her colleagues. "I will miss my colleagues immensely," she said. From planning and learning with her peers to teaching students Mrs. Naylor leaves Victor schools with a unique perspective on the world. "There is just something about being around kids that makes you keep in touch with our world," she said. In the coming months, Mrs. Naylor will focus on her own world, recovering from knee surgery and dedicating some time to herself. As for her plans post retirement... "I'm wide open to exploring this new phase in life," she said. As a volunteer coordinator for the Alleghany Office for the Aging, Naylor says she could see herself working with seniors. "It is so much fun working with the aged."

Young or old, it seems Mrs. Naylor will continue to touch others with her teaching knowledge and wisdom. How can future teachers experience her success? Naylor's advice is simple: "Try to look at the positive moments of every day."

## **Beth Herendeen**

*Elementary Teacher*

*Victor Intermediate School*



She has already enjoyed nearly a year of retirement but Beth Herendeen looks back on her 21-year career at Victor Central Schools as though it was just yesterday. "There are so many memorable experiences I have had at Victor! Working corroboratively with many colleagues is one of the best," she said.

Among Mrs. Herendeen's most memorable moments as a Victor

Primary School teacher where she

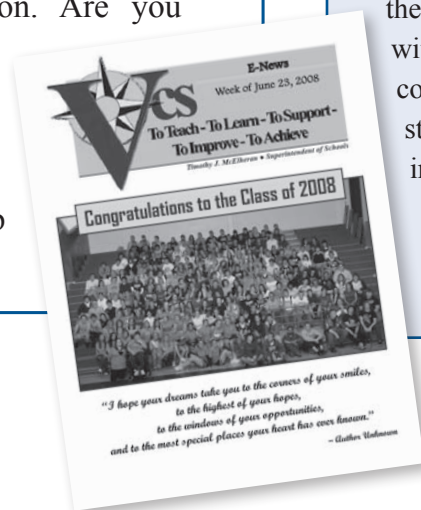
taught second and third graders were having her second graders experience science with Dave Cowles' high school biology students, partnering with Barb Bruins' fourth and fifth graders to read during BOOK IT!, sharing learning center ideas at the New York State Reading conference with Margie Kaller, working as one of the VPS computer coordinators and teaming up with a professor at St. John Fisher College to engage her students on the JASON Project. "That was an awesome experience," she said.

While these were all great career highlights it seems nothing tops her eight year experience as a second and third grade progression team teacher with Linda Sheehan. "Having Linda Sheehan as a partner for eight years was definitely the most valuable collaboration. We seemed to compliment one another well, which helped us be better teachers and benefitted our students. The daily support we gave each other and the value of our friendship is immeasurable." Mrs. Herendeen says her new retirement perspective is also immeasurable. "Retirement has given me time to realize the many blessings I enjoy. I appreciate the many people I have known at Victor Central Schools who have helped shape my life." Mrs. Herendeen's advice to new teachers reflects this gratitude. "First, take time to develop relationships with colleagues and students. Try not to isolate yourself with paperwork and planning but reach out to colleagues and families with and for support. Second, incorporate character education into daily experiences at school and extend the practice to home situations. We need to use influence with students and their families to develop a community of caring adults."

# ARE YOU RECEIVING THE SUPERINTENDENT'S E-NEWS?

## SPECIAL EVENTS · IMPORTANT UPDATES!

Every other week during the school year, our Superintendent sends out an electronic newsletter highlighting special school events, unique accomplishments, important updates and other timely information. Are you receiving this vital source of school information? If not, we strongly urge you to sign up for the Superintendent's E-News by going to our web site: **[www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)**



## 21ST CENTURY CHINA COURSE

Dates: Thursdays, Sept. 11 - Nov. 20, 2008

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Location: VCSD Campus

*Presented by Keuka College in collaboration with Victor Central School District Community Education.*

Remember our book study in 2006 on Thomas Friedman's *The World is Flat*? Several important initiatives have come from our discussions over the last few years. Once again we will partner with Keuka College to offer an Asian Studies course here on our campus. High school students as well as community members are invited to register.

For registration and tuition information, please visit [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

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To: Victor Central School District Residents

*The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services maintains a list of registered sex offenders and offers many resources through its web site, <http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us>. People may search the Sex Offender Registry using the criteria of name, county or zip code. Parents and guardians may want to talk with children about interacting with adults and people they do not know.*