

# Excellence *on display*

fall 2016

VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS MAGAZINE



BADILLO VERA BAKER VENOSA KEMSTHILL MILLER FRANK A. NELSONS HERNANDEZ BILLS  
 McALEES BAGGETT HODGE HAINES CBURNSTRAVERS FINK GARRITY GORDON HELTZ  
 DUNKLEMAN ALLANRE BAILEY VENTURO FEDICK BOSTON STAFFO CHESTER REED STAMATIS  
 B. JOHNSON CHAPIN DELANEY BUI MOIN ESKILDSEN FISHER BROAN STRICKLAND SHEA  
 REVANKAR HANSEN LIEBB MORRIS KRUEGER MCKINLEY REINKE SOBOLEW ANDERSON MEUNIER  
 B. WILLIAMS RAJA ACQUILANO MYER N. JOHNSON BABHA STRAHS ROBBINS WARD  
 GILLES SANDORE KATINSKI KIELLA HOTTO FISHBAUGH LI GONZALEZ LYKE GARDNER SUSA  
 GUECHIE GRANIER LEWIS KVETTER GRAYNO D. LONG PERINE COHEN MILES FRUTTCHEY  
 BALLARD KASINSKY AUSTIN PALMER LINK HALL HOUTENBRINK DONOSO O'SULLIVAN  
 ANDERSEN GLEASON H. MILLER SPERANZA OWEN STEPHENS DONOHUE KBELL  
 MATINSON HINELSON S. O'CONNELL TELLSTONE MYERS MESSIER HARHARA MOWERS REEG  
 SCHWARTZ CARPACA KATZLA KUPFF COLVOCI DECKER WURST PARK HERMAN LEONARD EHLE  
 PORTLAND BRECHER PERKY METTE COLLINS M. DANIEL LANNING GARPIN SPINDLER MOLESWORTH SNAY  
 KANDLER BINSSEE GE BALEIA FOSTRITTO ZORNOW CAULKINS GONNELLA A. WILLIAMS SCHWARZWELLER  
 PARSONS WORTH A. PARRELL BUDMAN RUTTER HEIMS MEHRIMAN NEMELL COMMISSO DAME TILLOTSON FOLEY  
 ADRIAN A. SMITH DEBL DAVISON A. PARKER KUTER DAMICO C. ROBINSON ALSALAH

CUTTER RAFTER TIPTON WOLFE KOFALH SHINJE CACCIANO HARLAN  
 MACWILLIAMS COX TODD LARSON H. SHARNEY QUINNEN-BENNETT GOODRICH  
 SEARIS LIGHTI PECHLER SOSNOWSKI BUDDENDECK SPENCER-BENNETT KIMITE  
 BURGESS-AUSTIN GUTIERREZ GALAVIZ NORTON F. JOHNSON CORDERO PALLINI CLEMENT  
 PACO YOUNG GODWIN MANNING THEDEALD McCAFFEY CHARLETON BISHOP PRESTON  
 CARGES WESTFALL PURDY SLAVNY SIDLAUSKAS CHILSON-CLINE GARRETT LACROIX ANGELO  
 NATARELLI BELLEFEUILLE RITZ EGIDI BUSHIRE COX-BAGLEY BYRNE KINSELLA SMALLS  
 FENN BOCANELLI MORRELL HUFFMAN BOYCE GUTIERREZ COLE ALLEN TOLBERT ALLEN CHAI  
 COLWELL DOYLE REISMAN BONHAG REDMOND PADDOCK RANDOLPH SPITZER J. PARKER G. SANCHEZ  
 KIM GROOMS HAGGETT BOLWMAN BRADBURY FLETCHER DEWANNY SPEARY DSANTO SANDFORD  
 T. RICCI HANSFIELD PISCANI MILLS PAUGH J. ROBINSON MATTHEWS G. SEBOLD BROYLES SCHENCK  
 UHL ANDERS BRENNAN E. REYNOLDS THOMAS L. LARSON  
 SUMARSONO SVETTER NUDD S. O'CONNELL TORLUSH BARRON ARMSTRONG KLENTONER LARSON  
 ROTH A. RICCI RIDER HOYT BELLINGER COLEMAN LUNNINGHAM R. FARRELL PLATZ TRIS SETON BRUCE  
 WEST COOKE CORWIN ADAMS BRAY ESTABROOKS HOLLARES KOPP DELLER VERGES DEBEHAN  
 CISONDI LAUTENSLAGER LAMY TSMITH KILMER CLIFTON L. GREGG SHUFELT LANE RED  
 CANTO-FLAMENCO

**KEEP CALM AND ENJOY SENIOR YEAR**



# contents

- 3 Superintendent
- 4 Heart of Excellence
- 6 Engages the World
- 8 SnackPack Program
- 10 News Notes



## CONNECT-ED Q&A

**WHAT IS BLACKBOARD CONNECT?** Blackboard Connect is a service offered by the Victor Central School District that allows administrators to reach all parents of the district's more than 4,400 students within minutes.

### I HAVE NEVER RECEIVED A BLACKBOARD CONNECT. HOW CAN I SIGN UP?

In an effort to keep parents and students informed with the latest news and information we ask that parents who have NOT received a Blackboard Connect school closing message in the past to please contact their child's school so that we may add their name and phone number to the list.

## ARE YOU RECEIVING THE VCS E-NEWS

**SPECIAL EVENTS • IMPORTANT UPDATES!** Throughout the school year, our VCS Superintendent and building Principals send out electronic newsletters highlighting special school events, unique accomplishments, important updates and other timely information. Are you receiving these vital sources of school information? If not, we strongly urge you to sign up for both the Superintendent's and building Principals' e-news by going to our web site: [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

## FACEBOOK

To follow us on FACEBOOK search Victor Central Schools Facebook.

## TWITTER

To follow us on TWITTER search @victorschools.

### VCS Board of Education

Karen Ballard  
Timothy DeLucia  
Kristin Elliott  
Gary Gilbert  
Deborah Palumbo-Sanders  
Trisha Turner  
Michael Young

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.

### District Clerk

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

### Superintendent of Schools

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.

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

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

# A Message from Our Superintendent Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo



It is hard to believe that we are two months into yet another school year!

2016-2017 is sure to be rewarding in every way, shape and form. Students, staff, parents, and the entire school community have already started strong, digging into new class work, joining clubs and teams, attending open houses, athletic competitions and other campus events, and most of all, establishing critical goals and routines necessary for success.

Speaking of success, on Tuesday, October 18th voters said yes to our \$25,000,000 proposed capital project that includes a \$4,000,00 Energy Performance Contract. As we reported in a special capital project mailing, the campus-wide renovations, upgrades and maintenance included in this plan will enable us to not only meet the needs of our growing school community but also maintain the high quality education we have come to know and value. Best of all, thanks to state aid and reserve monies, there will be no local school property tax rate increase as a result of the work.

VCS students and staff are continually working hard to be their best. In this magazine, I am happy to share a few of the ways VCS is shining. On page 4 you can read about the stars of our annual Opening Day ceremony, our Unsung Heroes and Heroines, and on page 6 you can meet our new foreign exchange students. On page 8 I am proud to share with you our SnackPack program. Pages 10 – 15 are filled with important campus news and notes, including upcoming concert, holiday and conference dates.

I am extremely proud of the hard work (and play) Victor Central Schools put forth each school year. I think you will be, too!

On behalf of the staff, students and the Board of Education, welcome back to another successful school year!

Take care,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dawn' followed by a stylized flourish.

Dawn

# Heart of Excellence

*On Tuesday, August 30th at the annual Opening Day ceremony for VCS staff, Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo paid tribute to this year's Victor Central Schools' Unsung Heroes and Heroines. Unsung Heroes and Heroines are staff members who are nominated by their peers for exceptional on- the-job work performance. Whether they are helping students and staff in the classroom, cafeteria or on the school bus and campus, these men and women shine! They are the Heart of Excellence at Victor Central Schools!*

## **Miles Rugg**

### ***Transportation Department***

*Employed since September 4, 2007*

Bus driver Miles Rugg is admired by not only his co-workers but by the students he transports, too! To top it off, he also has an impeccable safety record. Darren Everhart, Director of Transportation said that ever since Rugg joined Victor Central Schools as a substitute bus driver in 2007 he has shown himself to be an outstanding driver and employee. His nominators couldn't agree more commending him for his focus, flexibility and overall friendly demeanor. "He is a great bus driver who is willing to go the extra mile for Victor – *literally*."

## **Jody Drew**

### ***School Secretary***

*Employed since March 3, 2003*

Secretary Jody Drew makes working in the main office of the busy Intermediate School look like a walk in the park. Nominators said Drew's personality is priceless. "She comes to work with a positive outgoing attitude and willingness to contribute to the school environment in a constructive and meaningful way. She maintains a constant, stable, cheerful presence as she greets students, parents, visitors, teachers and administrators. She helps, directs, supports and resolves their questions, challenges, problems and needs. She

takes initiative and confidently tackles the various tasks that are assigned to her. She follows through with her own very high expectations and works toward establishing necessary goals. She constantly completes her responsibilities with the highest level of quality. She keeps our building safe. She goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that student needs are met."

## **Emma Wade**

### ***Teacher Aide***

*Employed since August 29, 2012*

Teacher Aide, Emma Wade received high praise from a variety of colleagues for the way she works to meet the needs of students and staff –all, on her own personal time! In addition to learning how to read and write Braille, Wade took it upon herself to work with her student's vision teacher and others to learn all she could to help her special student. Nominators said her devotion to students is incomparable. "She spares no detail in ensuring this child's success and ability to participate in the general education curriculum with her diligence, persistence, insight and love. Because of her tireless efforts, she has drawn out this child's personality and abilities to thrive in ways that others never thought possible."



# Heart of Excellence



*From left to right: Darline Bowe, Gary Jones, Emma Wade, Jody Drew, and Miles Rugg*

## **Gary Jones**

### ***Facilities and Grounds***

*Employed since April 27, 2010*

Gary Jones has been nominated every year since he started working here five years ago, but this is the first year he was eligible for the award. As a member of the Building and Grounds crew Jones has a lot to do on a daily basis, but that doesn't stop him from doing and being so much more. Gary's nominators could not say enough about this special man. "He is kind to all students, has a friendly smile, dresses up for special occasions and is well respected and liked by all. He unlocks doors for forgetful students to retrieve homework without raising an eyebrow, instead asking them questions about what they're doing in class. To the adults, he is always willing to lend an ear for stories of success and frustrations. He knows us all so well he can tell when someone has had a rough day and he's there with a can of soda or a treat. He pays this same attention to students leaving them thank you notes for making the extra effort to keep their classroom picked up. He is like a Grandfather to us all."

## **Darline Bowe**

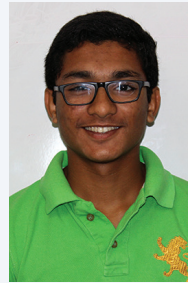
### ***Food Services***

*Employed since January 16, 2007*

Caring, hard working and civic-minded. These are just a few of the ways nominators described Darline Bowe, Victor Central Schools' Unsung Heroine for the Food Services department. Before coming to Victor Central Schools, Bowe worked at the Victor Farmington Library for 25 years. According to her nominators, she really knows how to interact with the public! Although Darline has worked just shy of ten years at Victor Central Schools, she has moved up the ranks quickly. In less than five years, she became the manager of the Primary School Cafeteria. "Bowe's kitchen is well run", said her nominators. That's not all, "She remembers all of the student's allergies and food restrictions. Should any questions or concerns occur, she contacts the Health Office immediately. She enjoys all of the students and is firm and fair. She is a true team player."

# Senior High School Hosts Three International Students

This year Victor Senior High School is proud to host three students from three different continents, North America, Asia and Europe. While each of the students come here with different desires and goals, they all share similar perspectives about their new home. Perhaps the greatest surprise of being a Victor Central Schools student is changing classes. Back home these students must stay in one room all day while teachers come and go. From new found freedom and food to new friends and family, our 2016-2017 international students are sure to learn a lot about America while attending Victor Central Schools. Similarly, it is our hope that we can learn a lot from them, too. Welcome!



**Gaurav Deepak Revankar, age 16**  
**Year . . . Senior**  
**Country . . . India**  
**Host Family . . . The Hebert Family**  
**Program . . . Rotary International**

Gaurav is enjoying his time at the Senior High School both inside and outside of the classroom. Besides taking in all of the academic offerings available to students, Gaurav is participating in several extra-curricular activities including the boy's volleyball team. Among his favorite classes, Gaurav likes physics and wood working. When it comes to American students, Gaurav is impressed. "I like the attitudes that students have here. They are very disciplined and confident!"







**Camilla Guediche,**  
*age 17*

**Year . . . Senior**

**Country . . . Italy**

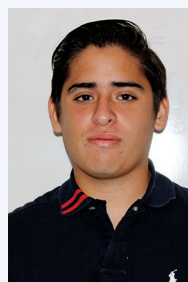
**Host Family . . .**

*The Carrier family*

**Program . . . Council on  
International**

*Educational Exchange (CIEE)*

Camilla may be a little challenged with her English but that hasn't stopped her from diving into her senior year at Victor Senior High School. From taking academically rich classes like anatomy to joining the cross country team and exploring clubs such as the International Club, Camilla is very excited about the energy and enthusiasm at Victor Central Schools. She especially likes the idea that students can eat food in class! This winter, Camilla hopes to continue her American journey by joining the ski team and traveling to Colorado with her host family.



**Eduardo Canto  
Flamenco, age 17**

**Year . . . Senior**

**Country . . . Mexico**

**Host Family . . .**

*The Jacobs family*

**Program . . . Council on  
International Educational**

*Exchange (CIEE)*

Eduardo would like to become more independent and meet as many new friends as possible during his stay at Victor Central Schools this year. He has already made a big impression as a soccer player for the Victor Boy's Soccer Team. From athletics to academics, Eduardo said he is simply amazed by how friendly people here are and how genuinely interested they are to get to know him. Of his many classes, Eduardo enjoys accounting the most. If he could travel anywhere while he is visiting America, Eduardo would like to go to Hawaii!



*Maps from the Oxford Atlas of the World.*



# SnackPack Program Continues to Support Local Families

The Victor Cares Club, in cooperation with Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard and Foodlink, continues to offer the SnackPack program this school year. **This completely CONFIDENTIAL program** is intended for families who need help providing food when school is not in session. Students in Pre-K through grade 12 qualify.

The Victor Cares Club first implemented the SnackPack program eight years ago as part of a High School Leadership class taught by former English teacher, Beth Thomas. After a field trip to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard where students learned about the national backpack program, one student leader, Zac Barry, was so moved he convinced the class to pursue and modify this program into an anonymous food delivery program for Victor Central Schools' residents. In its first year, the SnackPack program made food deliveries to 60 families.

Through the years, the Victor Cares Club, National Honor Society and Key Club have all helped with SnackPack food drives and packing. VCS bus drivers even helped deliver the snackpacks when the program first started. Today, deliveries are made by students, staff members, some community members and, quite often, Andrew Purdie's Drivers Education students, as well!

VCS currently boasts the longest running delivery "SnackPack" program in the Foodlink and Feeding America program!

Last year, a Cares Club president, Hannah Lamarco, expanded the program's delivery by securing weekly donations from Victor's Panera Bread restaurant, as well.

In order to participate in the FREE program, a parent or guardian needs to call 585-924-3252, ext. 5105 to register confidentially and leave an **ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, and NUMBER OF CHILDREN**. The only qualification is a stated need for extra food. Requests to be added to the program OR removed from it if you no longer need it, can be made via email to [birkemeierl@victorschools.org](mailto:birkemeierl@victorschools.org) or [mcmanisd@victorschools.org](mailto:mcmanisd@victorschools.org)

*Students involved in the Cares Club will be packing these snack packs before the following scheduled school breaks. (Deliveries are usually made a few days prior to the day off from school.)*

## PACKING ON . . .

Tuesday November 8th

to be delivered for Veterans day

Wednesday November 16th

to be delivered for Thanksgiving break

Tuesday December 20th

to be delivered for Christmas break

Wednesday January 11th

to be delivered for Martin Luther King day

Wednesday February 15th

to be delivered for February Recess

Wednesday March 22nd

to be delivered for Superintendent's Conference day

April, May, & June TO BE DETERMINED

(updates will be listed in the Superintendent's E-News)



*Items such as peanut butter, soup, crackers, juice boxes, granola bars, macaroni and cheese, and apple sauce will be delivered.*

Donations of these food items are much needed, appreciated, and can be dropped off in the main office of the senior high school. We are also always in need of drivers to help with deliveries. If you have any questions about the program, please contact the Victor Cares Club Advisors, LeeAnne Birkemeier at [birkemeierl@victorschools.org](mailto:birkemeierl@victorschools.org) or Deb McManis at [mcmanisd@victorschools.org](mailto:mcmanisd@victorschools.org) or leave a message at: 585-924-3252, ext. 5105.

---

**"We are very proud to be the longest running organization of its kind in our area! More than 100 senior high school students join together to create and deliver SnackPacks to more than 90 families each month!"**

---

*~ LeeAnne Birkmeier,  
VJH English Teacher and SnackPack Co-Chair*



*Photos shown of students packing at one of last years packing days. Bottom right: Victor Central Schools' staff got into the SnackPack spirit by bringing in food donations on Opening Day*



## Voters Approve \$25,000,000 Capital Project

### *Work Will Keep Campus Current and on the Cutting Edge*

On Tuesday, October 18th Victor Central School District residents voted yes to a \$25,000,000 capital project which includes a \$4,000,000 Energy Performance Contract. Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo said the majority of the work (maintenance-related) is the result of the District's Building Condition Survey, a professional assessment of every building required by the New York State Education Department every five years.

For more information on the Capital Project go to: <http://www.victorschools.org/district.cfm?subpage=21087> ■

## Testing in School Drinking Water Completed

In March, following the Flint, Michigan water lead tainting scandal, Victor Central Schools joined thousands of schools nationwide in voluntarily testing the quality of its water. On September 6, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation that makes water testing in schools mandatory. By the end of October water outlets in all VCS buildings, Pre-K – 12 were tested for lead, and those that exceeded the 15 parts per billion thresholds were shut down for remediation. For the latest on Victor Central Schools' water testing project, including results, go to <http://www.victorschools.org/district.cfm?subpage=21245> ■

## 2016 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

On Thursday, October 6th Victor Central Schools held its 2016 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony at the Burgundy Basin Inn in Bushnell's Basin. This year's inductees were Terry Cotton (1970), Kara Priggon Turner (1990), Michael Corey (1998), Mike Taggart Russ (1999) and the 2004 New York State Championship Baseball Team.



*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. ■



## STAR Program Reminder

As part of the 2016-17 New York State Budget, the STAR school property tax exemption is being transitioned to a new STAR credit program.

If you had a STAR exemption on your property for the 2015-2016 school taxes, you may stay in the STAR program, Basic or Enhanced, as long as you continue to meet the eligibility requirements and stay in your current home.

### Current STAR exemption recipients:

Current Basic and Enhanced STAR exemption recipients will keep their exemption as long as they continue to own their current home

Current Enhanced STAR exemption recipients who are not enrolled in the Income Verification Program must continue to file a renewal application with their local assessor each year.

If you purchased your home after March 2, 2015, you may be eligible for the New York State STAR Tax Credit/Check program, but you are not eligible for the STAR school property tax exemption.

Checks will be in the amount of the STAR savings you would have received on your school tax bill had you been eligible for the STAR exemption program.

Once you are registered with New York State for the STAR Credit/Check program, you will not need to register again, unless your eligibility changes. The state will send your check automatically each year.

The registration process will be through an on-line application OR by telephone. Details will be made available at [www.tax.ny.gov/star](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star) or by calling 518-4572036.

Going forward, no new STAR exemptions will be granted. If you buy a new home, you will have to register with New York State for the STAR Credit/Check program. ■

## First Annual Teddi Bowl Marks A Win In The Fight Against Childhood Cancer

Section V powerhouse football teams, Victor and Aquinas Institute played for more than a “W” when they faced each other in the first annual Teddi Bowl on Thursday, September 1st. They played for a great cause, Camp Good Days and Special Times. Victor Central Schools’ Athletic Director, Ron Whitcomb said that approximately 3,500 fans came out to the game, an event that raised \$10,000 to fight childhood cancer. Victor may have won the game 13-7 but it’s safe to say that everyone committed to fighting childhood cancer also won. Whitcomb said the event was a great way to kick off Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and VCS will definitely participate again, next year. “The Teddi Bowl represents more than some great competition between two successful football programs, it mirrors a community’s commitment to fighting childhood cancer,” he said. ■

## Board of Education Honored

On Thursday, October 13th the Victor Central Schools’ Board of Education was honored before its regular monthly meeting for its commitment and dedication to our schools. Student violinists from the Primary to the Senior High School helped celebrate our representatives with a special music performance.

Thank you to 2016-2017 Board for everything you do for us - *Debbie Palumbo-Sanders, President, Tim DeLucia, Vice President, Karen Ballard, Kristin Elliott, Gary Gilbert, Trisha Turner and Mike Young.*

Earlier this year, Governor Andrew Cuomo declared the last week of October as the official School Board Recognition Week. ■

## **NYSPHSAA Names Senior High School A Scholar-Athlete School**

This summer, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Inc. (NYSPHSAA) named Victor Senior High School a 2015-16 Scholar Athlete School of Distinction. VSH was on the prestigious list of only 32 schools in New York State to earn this honor. Schools earn this Distinction when 100% of their varsity teams earn a 90.00% grade point average or higher.

Ron Whitcomb, Victor Central Schools' Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics said this honor speaks to Victor Central Schools' commitment to academics first, and then athletics. "These student-athletes have demonstrated by their high performance in both, they are the total package. All staff, Pre-K through 12, made this possible," he said. ■

## **Attention Parents of Students Who Attend Private/Parochial Schools** *Important Busing Information*

In order to be eligible for transportation to a private/parochial school, parents must submit a written request no later than April 1st of the previous year. In addition, you must live within 15 miles of the school of your choice.

*Please send written requests to:*

**Darren Everhart,**

*Director of Transportation*

Victor Central Schools

953 High Street

Victor, New York 14564 ■

## **New Food Services Director Comes with Lots of Experience**

Victor Central Schools is proud to welcome new Director of Food Services, Alexandra (Alix) TePoel. TePoel replaces long time Food Services Director, Janet Elman, who retired in September. TePoel comes to our District with a wealth of experience in the food services industry. Most recently she served as the Nutrition Coordinator for Rochester City Schools and before that she spent nearly a decade as a School Nutrition Consultant at the Pittsford School District.

"I feel honored to have been chosen to be a part of the elite team that drives the Victor Central School District. My hope is to support academic achievement by building collaboration with students, staff and food services to develop a food service program that encourages more of our students and staff to join us for delicious, great looking and nutritious meals. A student who eats nourishing foods throughout the day, is a student who is better equipped to learn," TePoel said. ■



## **Victor Central Schools Kick Off 50th Anniversary of Suzuki Program** *Orchestra Alumni Sought for Celebrations!*

Victor Central Schools will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Suzuki program during the 2016-2017 school year. If you are a graduate of Victor Central Schools that played a string instrument and would like to help us celebrate at one of our upcoming events, please contact Lauren Beikirich at [beikirichl@victorschools.org](mailto:beikirichl@victorschools.org) ■



## Victor Central Schools Welcome Full Time School Resource Officer



Victor Central Schools' new full time School Resource Officer (SRO) wore blue and gold long before he took on this new role. Ontario County Sheriff's Deputy Nate Bowerman graduated from Victor Central Schools in 2003. He is a six year veteran of the Sheriff's Department where he has earned numerous certifications. In addition to being a drug recognition expert, Bowerman is also certified in emergency training through his involvement with the Sheriff Department's Emergency Response Team.

Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo said Bowerman's full time appointment was made possible thanks to Senator Rich Funke's support of our district. "Senator Funke's support through aid for Victor Central Schools is what allowed us to go from a half time to a full time SRO," Santiago-Marullo said. In addition to more security coverage on campus, Santiago-Marullo said that Bowerman's presence will enable us to provide many positive, proactive educational programs, as well. ■

## Junior High to Present *Cinderella*

The Junior High School will present Rogers and Hammerstein's award winning musical, *Cinderella*, at 7:00 pm on November 18th and at 1:00 and 7:00 pm on November 19th at the Junior/Senior High Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased on the district website under QuickLinks, "Purchase Tickets". ■

## 2017-2018 Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

Pre-K and Kindergarten registration will begin on Wednesday, March 1, 2017

- 8:00 am – 4:00 pm in the Victor Early Childhood School Boardroom
- Children who are 5 years old on December 1, 2017 are eligible to register for Kindergarten
- Children who are 4 years old on December 1, 2017 are eligible to register for Pre-K
- The lottery for Pre-K will be held on Monday, April 3, 2017
- Notification letters will be mailed by Monday, April 10, 2017

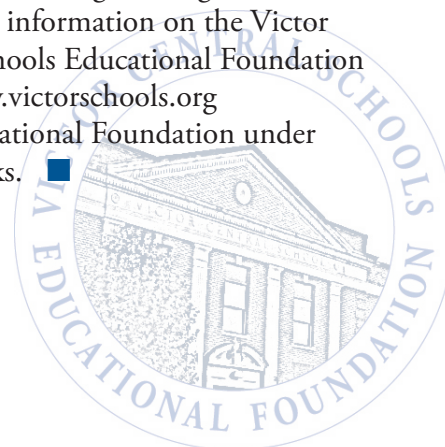
*(Please note that lottery results will not be shared over the phone.)* ■

## VCS Foundation Holds Second Annual Devil Dash 5K

On Saturday, October 8th, Victor Central Schools' Educational Foundation held its second annual Devil Dash 5K and Family Walk. This year the event drew 228 participants (165 5K runners) and raised close to \$8,000.

All Devil Dash race proceeds will support the four main VCS Foundation Projects including Field Trips Forever, Technology for Today and Tomorrow, The Art of Teaching, and a general fund.

For more information on the Victor Central Schools Educational Foundation go to: [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org) select Educational Foundation under Quick Links. ■



## Andrew Purdie Named Outstanding History Teacher

Senior High history teacher, Andrew Purdie was recently named an Outstanding Teacher of American History by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). Purdie was nominated for this recognition by the Canandaigua Chapter of the NSDAR.



After graduating from Victor Central, Mr. Purdie majored in history and secondary education at Hobart College, received state certification, and completed his Masters in Inclusive Education from St. John Fisher College. He currently teaches Advance Placement US History to juniors, freshmen Global Studies, The World Today, (current events and politics), and US History through Multi Media for grades 10 to 12. In addition, he serves as the Academic Teams head coach at Victor that includes Academic Decathlon, MasterMinds, and the National History Bowl teams.

“Education is about the modern American Dream of self-improvement, upward mobility, and each family’s desire for just a little better for their children. As an educator, I hope to be part of a springboard that provides the opportunity for the betterment that is the American Dream, no matter what betterment might look like for each individual,” Purdie said. ■

## Smart Schools Investment Plan Work Underway

This past June work began on the District’s Smart Schools Investment Plan. Under the New York State Smarts Schools Bond Act, Victor Central Schools was the recipient of \$1,613,312 to be used to improve education technology and infrastructure. Victor’s plan, which includes everything from wireless upgrades to projector replacements and science probes, was devised by a committee of students, parents, community members, teachers and administrators. ■

## Senator Funke Honors Victor Teachers

Senator Rich Funke honored Primary School teacher Leah Besaw and Junior High School teacher, Lynn Forsyth at a special ceremony this fall at the New York State United Teachers’ (NYSUT) building in Rochester.

VPS principal, Danny Dehm said second grade teacher, Leah Besaw, is the consummate teacher in every way. “She brings learning to life by enthusiastically embracing the content while understanding how to engage young learners in a focused and delightful way!” Dehm said.

Junior High principal, Brian Gee had similar praise for Forsyth, a 7th grade English Language Arts teacher. “Anytime you walk by her room there are smiling faces, engaged students and interesting things going on. She meets every day with excitement and enthusiasm. Each time she works with students she realizes it is an opportunity to make someone’s life better.” ■



*From left to right: Lynn Forsyth, Senator Rich Funke, and Leah Besaw*



## Upcoming Music Events

### December 5th

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

### December 6th

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

### December 7th

VJH Choral Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

### December 12th

VSH Choral & Symphonic Band  
Holiday Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

### December 13th

Intermediate Beginning & Vivace Orchestras  
and Suzuki Group Holiday Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

### December 14th

VPS 3rd Grade Holiday Concerts,  
6:30 and 7:30 pm, VPS Auditorium

### December 19th

VSH Band and Orchestra Holiday Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

### December 20th

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

## Upcoming School Breaks

### VETERAN'S DAY

November 11

### THANKSGIVING RECESS

November 23 - 25

### HOLIDAY RECESS

December 23 - January 2

## Victor High School presents . . .

### *Sweet and Saur:* *Original Plays by* *Brennan Saur '18*

Victor High School will  
present wholly original short  
plays written by current  
student Brennan Saur '18.



Brennan was selected by the GEVA  
Theater Center to participate in its Young  
Writers' Showcase in May of 2015. He was  
one of six young playwrights to be selected  
to work with GEVA artists and have their  
plays performed on the Fielding Nextstage.

*Sweet and Saur* will be performed in the  
Victor ECS Auditorium on November 4  
at 7pm, and November 5 at 1pm and  
7pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for  
students, seniors free, and will be available  
at the door. ■

## Senior High Named a Top School in Nation

Victor Senior High School was ranked 265  
out of more than 4,700 top high schools  
in the nation in the 2016 Newsweek  
High School Rankings released earlier this  
month. To put this honor in perspective,  
there are 26,407 public secondary schools  
and 10,693 private secondary schools  
across the United States.

*Newsweek*, in conjunction with the inde-  
pendent research firm, Westat, conducted  
the nationwide analysis. Schools were  
ranked by an achievement index based on  
performance indicators such as proficiency  
rates on standardized tests. They were also  
graded on factors such as college accep-  
tance and enrollment rates, SAT and ACT  
participation and performance; AP, IB and  
AICE participation and performance, Dual  
enrollments and number of counselors. ■

Victor Central School District  
953 High Street  
Victor, NY 14564

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Victor, NY  
Permit # 10

## 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.*

# 16th 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 2016 Ball

ENJOY  
*Dinner & Dancing*  
AND ENTERTAINMENT BY  
*Western New York Big Band*

Saturday, May 6, 2017  
5 – 7 p.m.  
Victor Intermediate School Gymnasium

Reservations required, call School & Community Relations at 924-3252, ext. 1407 or e-mail [weiche@victorschools.org](mailto:weiche@victorschools.org) and [loskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:loskysh@victorschools.org)

## VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates

Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus 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](http://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 9, 2017 to:*

**Graduates of Distinction Committee**

**c/o The Office of School and Community Relations**

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

For more information on the Victor Central Schools  
Educational Foundation go to:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation>

**Twitter** @VCSEF

**VCS Website** [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

select Educational Foundation  
under Quick Links.

