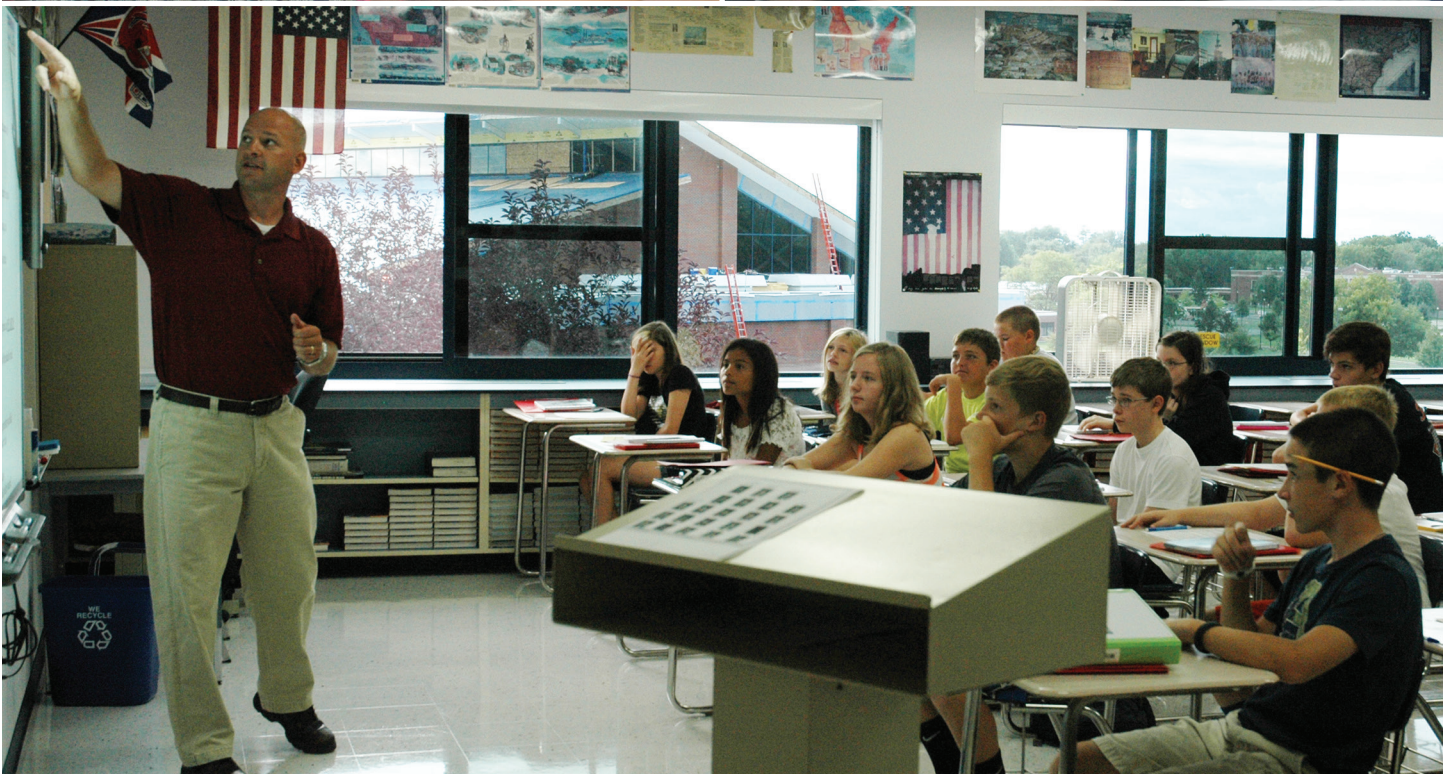
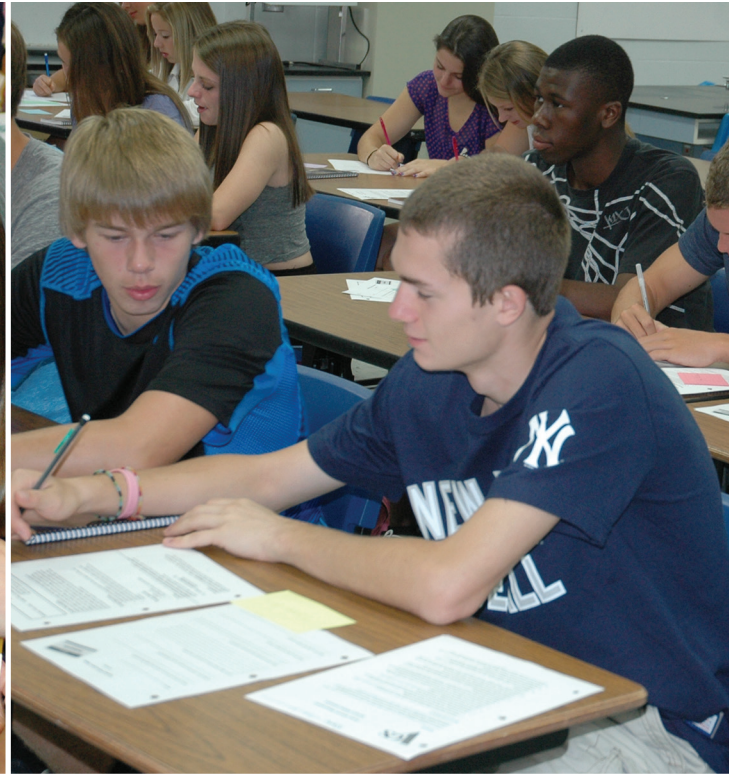


# Excellence *on display*

fall 2013

VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS MAGAZINE





# contents

3 A Message from  
Our Superintendent

4 Getting Down to the Core

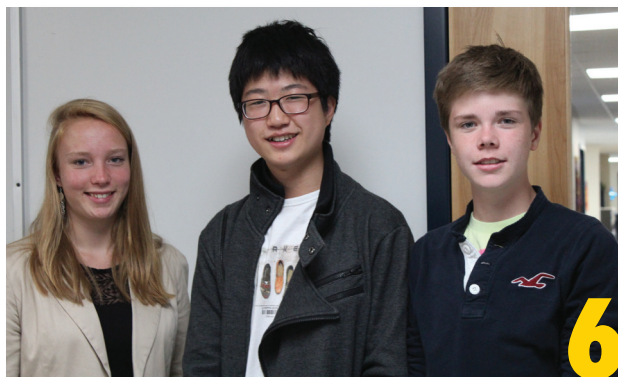
6 VCS Engages the World

7 DECA Prepares Students  
for the Workplace,  
Community, and World

8 Heart of Excellence

10 First Ever Graduate  
of Distinction Day

11 News Notes



## VCS Board of Education

Patrick Bolger  
Timothy DeLucia  
Gary Gilbert  
Kathryn Hart  
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 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



## ***Dear Parents and Community Members,***

It is hard to believe that we have already completed nearly two months of the new school year. We have so much to celebrate already.

Just before we opened our doors in September, our Junior and Senior High Schools were formally designated by the New York State Education Department as Reward Schools for High Performance. This prestigious accolade is given to schools based on high academic achievement, particularly as they relate to student performance on state assessments, graduation rates and overall academic growth.

According to the New York State Education Department, 249 schools in 163 districts were named Reward Schools for the 2012-2013 school year. Those designated were categorized as schools that have made the most progress or that have

the highest achievement in the state and do not have significant gaps in student achievement.

While the Junior and Senior High Schools' recognition is an amazing tribute to two incredible buildings, their success would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of each and every student and staff member at VCS, not to mention, an incredibly supportive community. Together, we shape success each and every day.

In this publication, you can read about many of our recent accomplishments. On page 7, you can learn about our Senior High business club, DECA. On page 6 you can meet this year's foreign exchange students and on pages 11-15 in News Notes you can catch up on a variety of other great happenings.

On behalf of the VCS Board of Education, welcome back to another award winning year at VCS!

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn'.

Dawn

# Getting Down to the Core

## *The Common Core State Standards*

*By Pamela Sullivan, VCS Assistant Superintendent*



**VCS Assistant  
Superintendent  
for Instruction,  
Pamela Sullivan**

The Common Core State Standards adopted by forty five states, specify the English Language Arts and Mathematics skills that students should know and be able to do from kindergarten through the end of high school. These standards communicate what is expected of students at each grade level to prepare them to be college and career ready when they graduate from high school.

The standards are meant to be rigorous so that American students are well prepared to compete for jobs with students from around the world.

Teachers in the Victor Central School District have been working to review and revise our curriculum and instructional materials to support all of our students in meeting these new standards.

### **Getting Ready**

Over this past summer, groups of elementary teachers worked to revise the materials used during writing instruction so that they align with the expectations for writing in the English Language Arts Common Core Standards in grades K through 6. Teams of teachers at the Intermediate School created new pacing guides and prepared supplemental materials to complement the math Investigations program implemented in grades K through 5. At the secondary level, teachers worked to revise the Integrated Algebra curriculum to align with the Common Core standards and in preparation for the first year of the Common Core aligned Integrated Algebra assessment that will be given in June of 2014.

### **Subject Area Changes**

Parents should be seeing changes in the work their children are doing in English Language Arts. There is more attention on writing where students will be required to synthesize information they read and develop critical essays. There is greater emphasis on several aspects of reading such as:

- Reading informational text in addition to narratives and stories,
- A focus on close reading where students are required to re-read the text in order to understand the meaning,
- A greater focus on the use of evidence in understanding the text or an author's perspective.

In the area of mathematics, parents will be seeing higher level word problems. Multi-step problems will also be a focus along with an emphasis on fluency. Knowing their number facts is important in solving mathematical problems. While we still value the correct answer, there is also a focus on having students explain their thinking and use of strategies.





### **Homework Changes**

As our District moves forward in implementing the Common Core Standards, parents should notice a difference in the work their children bring home. They should see their students reading and



writing about informational texts or articles more often. The students should be bringing home work that reflects a greater emphasis on writing short or extended pieces. Parents of students at the Intermediate and Junior High School may hear their children talking about the “module.” These are materials created for students in New York State at the request of the Department of Education. These modules are based on a book or books and model important learning strategies all students need to know in order to meet the demands of the Common Core.

At the elementary level, K through 5 students will bring home math work that is more aligned with the Common Core. Successful completion of this work

requires students to read, analyze and implement strategies to solve multi-step mathematical problems. Some materials are presented in a game like format. These “games” are very important to support student learning because they reinforce conceptual understanding. Secondary students in grades 7 through 9 are experiencing new curriculum based on the Common Core in preparation for the newly designed Integrated Algebra assessment that will be given for the first time in June 2014.

### **Moving Forward**

The work of aligning our curriculum and instruction to the Common Core will continue throughout this year and beyond. During our 2013-2014 Superintendent Conference Days, our faculty will continue to be trained in making the transition from teaching the 2005 New York State Standards to the new Common Core Standards.

### **College and Career Readiness**

“Students who are career and college ready may become independent learners who have a strong basis of knowledge across a wide range of subject matter. They may be able to adapt their rich communication skills to meet different audiences, tasks, and purposes. If we are successful, our students will increasingly value evidence when offering oral or written interpretations and use technology and digital media more strategically and capably. Lastly, our students will come to be ever more sensitive to other people’s perspectives and the diverse experiences and cultural opportunities they bring. In short, they will become well prepared to participate in the global society of the future.”  
{Reading Teacher, September 2013}

## VSH Engages German, French and South Korean Students.

This year, Victor Senior High School is hosting two young men and one young woman from three countries, France, Germany and South Korea. While each brings a different culture to their new friends and families in America, they also bring an incredible sense of wonder, excitement and curiosity to our campus. Despite their different backgrounds, all of our international students agree on one thing, VCS is big, beautiful and full of many amazing opportunities!

### *Constance Bostoien, age 17*

**Year** Senior

**Hometown** Beauvais, France, 40 miles north of Paris

**Program** Constance comes to Victor through the Rotary Club.

**Host Family** The Maybeck family through January, 2014/

The Zimmerman family from January until end of school year

**Likes** Constance enjoys the student-teacher relationships which are much more open and interactive than they are in her school back home.

**Hopes** Constance hopes to play on the girls' basketball team this winter and try her hand at lacrosse this spring.

### *Michael Ban, age 15*

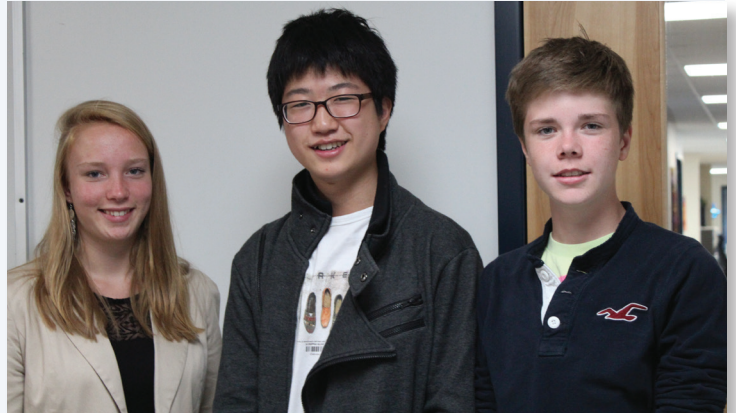
**Year** Freshman

**Hometown** South Korea

**Program** Michael comes to Victor through the Youth for Understanding program.

**Host Family** The Ritz family

**Likes** Michael is amazed by all of the clubs and activities VCS offers. There are no clubs or school sports at his school in



*Constance Bostoien, Michael Ban, and Aaron Braun*

South Korea. He also likes the unique freedoms kids have to wear what they want.

**Hopes** Michael hopes to play basketball this winter. He is also looking forward to being a member of the SEAS environmental club.

### *Aaron Braun, age 16*

**Year** Junior

**Hometown** Bad Oldesloe, Germany, near Hamburg

**Program** Aaron comes to Victor through the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange program.

**Host Family** The Deshommes family

**Likes** Aaron loves being able to play his favorite sport, soccer, at school! In Germany, he must play for a private, outside club, after school. Aaron, along with his fellow exchange students also enjoys moving to various classrooms during the school day. Back home, they must stay in one room while teachers move from class to class.

**Hopes** Aaron looks forward to being a Victor Blue Devil Soccer player and joining the Medical Explorers Club. He hopes to be a surgeon one day.





# DECA Prepares Students for the Workplace, Community, and World

VCS is proud to offer the business-based DECA club to students for the second year. DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

Susan Utz, Victor Senior High Business teacher and DECA Club Advisor says the “DECA Diamond” (4 main points) represents our focus to help VSH students become:

- academically prepared for college and careers in marketing, finance, hospitality or management
- community oriented by gaining an appreciation for the benefits of service and their potential impact on the community and world
- professionally responsible with ethics, integrity and high standards
- experienced leaders by practicing key leadership skills such as goal setting, consensus building and project management.

DECA activities center on three major competitions - regionals, states and national. All DECA students participate in the regional competition, to be held at Monroe Community College on January 10, 2014. Students who qualify at the regional event will move on to the State competition to be held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center in March. State winners will move on to the National Competition in Atlanta, Georgia in May.

At competitions, students take a test in their category and do a role play situation in front of judges. Each stage of the competition (regional to states to nationals) gets more and more challenging. The



judges are business men and women from the area.

VSH began offering DECA to students last year and had 27 active members. This year the club has attracted more than 60 students. Utz says the word appears to be out that DECA is a meaningful and fun club to participate in!

## DECA Needs You!

*DECA would love to have community members help our students grow into great leaders by helping with role play situations, mentoring within their field of expertise, judging at the local competitions and possibly supporting a student financially to move from one competition to the next. If you are active in the field of accounting, marketing, hospitality, entrepreneurship or finance . . . we need you! Please contact DECA Club Advisors, Sue Utz or Erica Thompson at the High School at 924-3252 or email them at:*

**UtzS@victorschools.org or  
ThompsonE@victorschools.org**

# Heart of Excellence

*This past August at our annual Opening Day ceremony for VCS staff, Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo recognized this year's VCS Unsung Heroes and Heroines. VCS Unsung Heroes and Heroines are VCS staff members who are nominated by their peers as living and working examples of excellence. Whether they are serving food, cleaning classrooms, working with students, driving buses or supporting our buildings, these men and women define excellence. They are the Heart of Excellence at VCS!*

**Lori Alfred**  
***Food Services***

*Employed at VCS since 2000*

Lori Alfred started out as a lunch monitor in the Primary School Dining Room in 2000 and quickly moved into the kitchen working as a food server. For the past five years, she has been working at the Senior High making the salads that are on the menu each day, in addition to serving, cashing out and assisting the cooks. According to her nominators, she is a kind, thoughtful, hard worker who is willing to help everyone in a team environment in order to provide excellent customer service. "She is well liked by students and staff."

**Frank Hendershot**  
***Facilities and Grounds Department***  
*Employed at VCS since 2006*

Frank Hendershot makes a huge difference each and every day as a building custodian. According to his nominators Frank is a great asset to not only the building he works in, but his department, too. "His dependability and willingness to exceed the expectation of his customers is one of his best assets. I can't tell you how many

compliments he has received from the teachers in the building. He goes the extra mile each and every night."

**Steve Ramsey**  
***Transportation Department***  
*Employed at VCS since 2006*

According to his nominators Steve Ramsey is an excellent and vital member of the VCS Transportation Department. "He goes above and beyond the requirements as a mechanic. He's always on time and ready to work. He puts forth extensive effort into keeping our buses running smoothly. Not only is he a kind and respectful coworker but he also helps repair our buses efficiently and properly. We are very fortunate to have such an all-around great individual working amongst us."



# Heart of Excellence



*From left to right: Lori Alfred, Steve Ramsey, Frank Hendershot, Pam Pickering, and Verna Nepa*

**Verna Nepa**  
**Clerical Staff**

*Employed at VCS since 2000*

Verna Nepa is known for her great kindness and caring, attributes that are critical in her role as a secretary in the Early Childhood School. According to her nominators, Verna's kind and nurturing demeanor permeates every interaction she has with parents, staff and students each day. She truly realizes that with our youngest learners, little things mean a lot both to students and parents. Whether it's getting those forgotten lunches or sneakers for PE to the right little person or calming an anxious first time parent, Verna does it with a warmth that communicates to everyone just how much she cares. Her strong work ethic and attention to detail keep the Early Childhood School running smoothly.

**Pam Pickering**  
**Teacher Aide**

*Employed at VCS since 1999*

Pam Pickering redefines the title, "teacher aide," because according to her nominators, she is willing to help everyone. One nominator said, "She is one of the most dedicated workers that I ever met. She is always looking for somebody to assist, support and encourage. She absolutely loves working with students during the school day and she builds an amazing rapport with them."

Another way she contributes to her school community is to handle parent traffic during morning drop off time. She can be found rain or shine, at the drop off loop waving up cars and smiling as parents drop off their students for school."



# 2013 Graduate of Distinction Inspires Students at First Ever Graduates of Distinction Day

*World Renowned Trumpet Player, Alan Hood, Tells Students to "Work Hard and Persevere."*

On Thursday, September 12th, Alan Hood, a 1982 VCS graduate and 2013 Graduate of Distinction accepted the prestigious Graduate of Distinction award at the Board of Education meeting. Both Hood and Colonel Sharon Duffy (Class of 1975) were chosen to receive the award but Duffy was unable to attend this year's festivities. According to the Graduate of Distinction by-laws, candidates have three years to accept their award.

On Friday, September 13th, Hood, a world-renowned trumpet player and Associate Professor of Trumpet at the University of Denver's Lamont School, participated in the first ever "Graduates of Distinction Day" at the Senior High School. This new event was created to give students the opportunity to interact directly with their esteemed alumni. (Previously, Graduates of Distinction were honored at graduation.) After a tour of the school, Hood spent four different lunch periods meeting with student leaders and musicians and answering their questions on everything from what it was like to tour with pop icon, Phil Collins, to what it takes to be a professional musician. Through it all, Hood's resounding message to students was "work hard and persevere."

On Friday afternoon, Alan Hood spent the fourth block working with select VSH music students before an audience of more than 300 stu-

dents and staff in the JH/SH Arts Center. In addition to leading an improvisation jam of Gershwin's *Summertime*, Hood gave students of taste of his own rare trumpet talent with serenading sounds and blasting notes that shook the house.

The Graduates of Distinction Selection program was formed in 2002 as a way to recognize Victor Central School District alumni who have achieved distinction through outstanding accomplishment or significant contribution within their school, family, career, community or personal life.





## THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 27 - 29

## WINTER BREAK

December 23 - January 3

### Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year will begin on Monday, March 3, 2014 from 8 am to 4 pm in the Board Room at the Victor Early Childhood School. The lottery for Pre-K will be Tuesday, April 1, 2014 and letters will go home notifying parents if their child has secured a spot in the program by Monday, April 7, 2014.

### Victor Senior High Play:

MACBETH

Friday, November 22 at 7 pm

Saturday, November 23 – at 1pm and 7pm

JH/SH Arts Center

*Ticket: \$7 Adults, \$5 Students/Children  
Seniors Free at the Door\**

*\*Seniors are able to receive free tickets at the door only. Free tickets are not available through the online ticketing system. If seniors would like to reserve a specific seat in advance they will need to purchase an adult ticket online.*

### Upcoming Music Events:

**December 9, 2013**

4th, 5th and 6th Grade Chorus Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 10, 2013**

VIS Orchestras Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 11, 2013**

Victor Community Band and Chorus  
Concert, 7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

**December 11, 2013**

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

**December 16, 2013**

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

**December 17, 2013**

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

**December 18, 2013**

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

**December 19, 2013**

5th and 6th Grade Band Concert,  
7:00 pm, JH/SH Arts Center

## Thirteenth 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  
for Their Support*

**Saturday, May 10, 2014**  
7 – 9 p.m.  
@ Victor Intermediate School  
Gymnasium

*Entertainment by*  
**"Western New York Big Band"**

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

Scenes from our 2013 Ball

## Board of Education Honored

Earlier this year, Governor Andrew Cuomo declared the week of October 28th through November 1st as School Board Recognition Week.

VCS took the time to celebrate its Board members at the regular October Board meeting. In addition to special cards, letters and school memorabilia, the Board was honored with a special music performance by VCS students. If you see a Board member, be sure to say, thank you!

### 2013 VCS Board of Education:

*Timothy DeLucia, President*

*Kathryn Hart, Vice President*

*Pat Bolger*

*Gary Gilbert*

*Debbie Palumbo-Sanders*

*Trisha Turner*

*Mike Young* ■

## Delivering "Snow Day" News

Once the District has determined to close schools due to inclement weather, parents, students and community members are notified through a variety of channels. The first line of communication to parents and students comes in the form of a phone call directly to your home or cell phone, via a Blackboard Connect message from Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo. Other forms of notification include Facebook, Twitter, the local media, including sources such as Y-NN, WHEC-TV, WROC-TV, WOKR-TV, WHAM, Democrat and Chronicle, etc. An updated school status is also recorded on the school district's main telephone switchboard.

This process applies not only to full day school closings, but also to early dismissals and evening cancellations. ■

## 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 request to:*

Victor Transportation Department

Attention: Darren Everhart

953 High Street

Victor, New York 14564 ■

## 2013 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Four former VCS athletes were inducted into the prestigious Victor Athletic Hall of Fame at a special ceremony on Saturday, October 12th at the Burgundy Basin Inn in Bushnell's Basin. ■

*This year's Athletic Hall of Fame recipients are:*



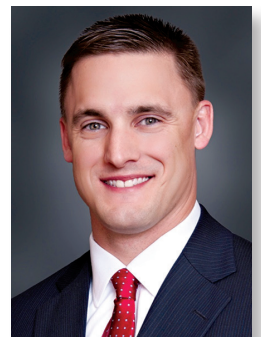
**James Sampson**  
*Class of 1965*



**Shanon Jordan**  
*Class of 1995*



**David Ulmer**  
*Class of 2001*



**Matt Bowerman**  
*Class of 2002*



## Leadership Classes to Resume Snackpack Program For Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard

This year's Senior High Leadership classes will continue to support the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard through their Snackpack program. Leadership class teacher, Beth Thomas said a series of collections will take place one week before the following scheduled breaks and holidays:

November 11: Veteran's Day  
(Packing on November 6th)  
November 27 - December 1: Thanksgiving Recess  
(Packing on November 19th)  
December 23- January 5: Holiday Recess  
(Packing on December 17th)

More than 600 local families are fed through the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. Thomas said donations (juice boxes, soup, crackers, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, etc.) can be dropped off in the main office of the high school.

**DRIVERS ALWAYS NEEDED! CONTACT BETH THOMAS AT 585-924-3252, ext. 5212 ■**

## New Graduation Day, Time and Place

The VCS Class of 2014 will hold its graduation ceremony on Friday, June 27 at 7:00 pm at the Blue Cross Arena in downtown Rochester. ■

## American Heart Association Names VIS Top Fundraising School

The American Heart Association recently named the Victor Intermediate School one of its top fundraising schools for its Skate for Heart program. Last year, the Intermediate school raised an amazing \$24,368.75 through their annual skating event.

Overall, the Victor Intermediate school took 1st place in the NY State Division 1 category and was ranked 5th nationally! ■

## Victor School Renamed

The Victor Early Childhood Education Center will now be named the Victor Early Childhood School. This name change, approved by the New York State Education Department, was the result of not only the new building addition, but a shift in student population.

This year, first grades are being taught in the Early Childhood School along with Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes. The Primary School now houses all K-3 multi-age classes as well as 2nd and 3rd grade classes. ■

## 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.

## 75th Anniversary of Ladd Farm Purchase To Be Recognized

On Thursday, November 14th at its regular Board meeting, the Victor Board of Education will recognize the vital decisions made by the 1938 Victor Board of Education to purchase the Ladd Farm Site.

The five person Board of Education approved the purchase of the 176 acre Ladd Farm by Victor Schools for \$5,000. A subsequent proposition designating the construction of a new \$275,000 central school building (currently the Early Childhood School) was also approved by the Board.

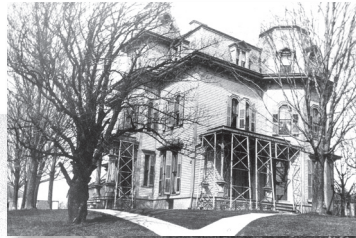
The 1938 Victor Board of Education was comprised of the following forward-thinking residents:

*Fred C. Sale, President*  
*William H. McMahon*  
*J. Leo Guinan*  
*Russell O. Adams*  
*Leslie G. Loomis, Jr.* ■

## VCS Music Department Encourages You to "Spring for Music!"

This year, at every music concert, you will find something new outside of the auditorium doors, an empty music instrument case waiting to be filled with your donations! VSH Orchestra Teacher, Tim Nowak said the case will be put out during each concert for people to donate, if they wish, to the Rochester Education Foundation's "Spring for Music" program.

The Rochester Education Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising resources and offering programs to support the success



*Ladd Farm  
 photos courtesy  
 of Babette  
 Huber, Victor  
 Historian*



## VSH Looking for Music Instruments

In addition to monetary donations, the VSH music department will be collecting used music instruments throughout the year. Anyone with an instrument to donate can bring it to the High School at any time and leave it for VSH music teacher, Tim Nowak.

"Last year we donated 14 instruments to the program which are being made available to Rochester City School District students this year. This year, we're aiming to beat that goal and contribute financially as well," Nowak said.

of Rochester's city school children. All financial donations are used by the Foundation to refurbish old or damaged instruments to make them operational. More information on the "Spring for Music" program can be found at their website- [http://www.rochestereducation.org/programs/spring\\_for\\_music.shtml](http://www.rochestereducation.org/programs/spring_for_music.shtml) ■



## Victor's New Pool is Open

The new pool opened for Physical Education classes on October 7th, and for early morning swimmers on October 8th. The first swim meet was Thursday, October 10th. A formal dedication will be held on Saturday, January 18th, 2014. *More information will be announced at a later date.*

### Open and Family Swim Nights

Wednesdays: 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Fridays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

#### Swim Rates:

Drop-in Rates:

- \$2 Victor School District residents  
\$3 non-VCS residents
- 20 Visit Punch Pass:  
\$35 Victor School District residents  
\$55 non-VCS residents

Purchasing:

- Cash or check is accepted on-site  
(VCS Pool, 953 High Street)

### Morning Swim:

Monday-Friday, 5:30-7:30 a.m.

#### Swim Rates:

Drop-in Rates:

- \$2 Victor School District residents  
\$3 non-VCS residents
- 20 Visit Punch Pass:  
\$35 Victor School District residents  
\$55 non-VCS residents

Purchasing:

- Punch Passes available for purchase.
- Cash or check is accepted on-site  
(VCS Pool, 953 High Street)
- Cash, check or credit cards accepted  
at the Park and Recreation Office,  
1290 Blossom Drive, Victor, NY

***All participants must sign in.***

If you have any other questions please contact **Gina M. Potenza** Physical Education Teacher/Aquatics Director, Victor Central School District  
PotenzaG@victorschools.org ■



### TEN WAYS TO MAKE IT A

## Blue Devil Day!

- 1 Be a Cheerleader!** Attend any one of our hundreds of yearly sporting events.
- 2 Support the Arts!** Take the family to a school musical, play or art show.
- 3 Get in Tune With One of Our Music Programs.** Go to a band, orchestra or choral presentation.
- 4 Play!** Take some time with your children after school or on the weekend and play on one of our great playgrounds.
- 5 Get Involved.** Volunteer in your child's classroom or for a special event or organization.
- 6 Jump In!** Take a dip in our swimming pool during open or family swim times.
- 7 Make a Difference.** Take part in one of our District's food drives or community service efforts.
- 8 Take a Walk.** Our new campus fitness trail makes for great exercise.
- 9 Show Your School Pride.** If you are a VCS alumni, get involved in the VCS Alumni Association or attend your class reunion.
- 10 Stay Connected.** Check out our website on a regular basis for the latest news and information at [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

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.*



**Register for**

**School Property Tax Relief**

If you receive the STAR property tax exemption, then you **must** register with the Tax Department to continue receiving the exemption. Watch your mail for important information from the Tax Department.

**Fast, Easy Registration**  
Register today at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov) or call (518) 457-2036.

**Act Now!**  
The deadline to register is **December 31, 2013**. Do not risk losing your Basic STAR exemption by failing to register.

**Senior Citizens**  
Seniors receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption **do not** need to register with the Tax Department, but must continue applying annually with their local assessor or sign up for the Tax Department's Income Verification Program.

NY-455-013 (1/11)

## 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 6, 2013 to:*

**Graduates of Distinction Committee c/o The Office of School and Community Relations Victor Central Schools 953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564**

## 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)