



## Local Cello Teacher, Performer, and Luthier Named 2022 Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame Inductee

Cellist John Michael Delmonico (Class of 2004) is making music, quite literally, as a luthier, but his life as a highly respected performer, instructor, craftsman, and business owner took more than practice, practice, practice. It took courage, curiosity, hard work and a passion for excellence.

*continued on next page*

### Visual & Performing Arts Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

**Monday, April 25th**

VECS Boardroom

6:45pm – Reception

7:15pm – Induction Ceremony

*Come meet a Victor  
Graduate who has made  
a difference in the Arts.*

## Visual & Performing Arts HALL OF FAME



*John Delmonico  
~ 2004 Senior Photo*



## Performer John Delmonico/ Theater

Delmonico began his musical journey in the first grade when he started cello lessons with the string teachers in the Primary School where he was an enthusiastic student who always made sure his instrument was in tune. Delmonico's performance journey continued all throughout his VCS career. When he arrived at the Intermediate School, he discovered the joys of performing in the orchestra under the direction of Mrs. Susan Bechler. His love for the orchestra did not stop there. He continued being a part of VCS orchestras from the fourth grade through his senior playing under Mrs. Pamela McGary and studying with Sandra Halleran (VCS alumna '95). Delmonico was awarded the Outstanding Orchestra Student Award two times during his VCS music career, in the 8th and 12th grades. During this time, he also participated in the NYSSMA Solo Fest each year with Mr. David Labman as his accompanist.

Delmonico not only excelled as a performer, but as an instructor, too. He began teaching students when he was 16 years old and has adjudicated Solo Fest for years.

Although John was said to be a natural 'ham' on stage, he supported many school musicals by playing in the pit orchestra under the direction of Laura Brewer.

After he graduated from VCS in 2004, Delmonico attended Nazareth College from 2004-2008, earning a degree in Music Education. In addition to his studies, he played in the Nazareth College Orchestra and other instrumental ensembles. While there, he also co-founded the *Delmonico String Quartet*. This quartet continues to perform in the Greater Rochester area at a variety of social events.

In 2008, when teaching jobs were scarce, Delmonico embarked on another career adventure, repairing and building instruments! Over the next decade, Delmonico attended numerous intensive workshops that addressed the many fine points of instrument building and repair. As a result of this rigorous training, he was able to put his own label on many rebuilt instruments. There are Delmonico instruments being played today! Recently, Delmonico, and his partner, James Dugdale, struck out on their own to form Delmonico and Dugdale Strings located in Rochester, New York.

Despite his new business venture, John continues to perform in numerous local ensembles, including the *Cordancia Chamber Orchestra*, the *Hochstein School Alumni Orchestra*, and *Passive Aggressives Anonymous*, a jazz ensemble with a dry witted twist. He is also principal cellist in the *Rochester Center Stage Pops Orchestra* and a faculty member at the Hochstein School where he teaches young, up and coming students with energy and enthusiasm and encourages older, more vintage

students with positivity, patience, and a sense of humor.

According to his nominator, Mary Jaehn Zuege, Delmonico is the perfect candidate for the VCS Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame because he demonstrates many of the characteristics that we instill in VCS students. "He is a flexible thinker. When one door swings shut, he finds another. He maintains a positive attitude and encourages those around him. John is a hard worker who is using his gifts well. He has succeeded and thrived because he has remained open to new opportunities and challenges.

When John took the road less taken and became a luthier, he probably never dreamed that he would be maintaining, repairing, and building exquisite stringed instruments. He probably never dreamed that he would hold priceless instruments in his hands to repair or adjust them. He probably never dreamed that he would give the gift of music to so many people through his own talents, enthusiasm, and encouragement. However, here he is, doing all these wonderful things!" Zuege said.







*The Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) Hall of Fame was created to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of outstanding alumni, staff and community members who have excelled in the arts. It was also established to inspire current students to make contributions to the arts by reconnecting those selected for the Hall of Fame with our students, staff, and community.*

*Candidates for the Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame can be nominated in one of four categories: Creators, Performers, Practitioners and Contributors.*

## Support for Our Beloved Alan Hood '82

*Submitted by Leslie Hood Childs '84*



The morning of January 27th started out much the same as many had for Alan Hood, esteemed professor, and

world-renowned trumpet player. He was on his way to the university to meet his students for class, but what happened in the next few seconds had life-altering consequences. While walking to school, Al slipped on the ice causing a severe injury to his spinal cord. The impact of the fall immediately paralyzed Al from the chest down. After two spinal fusion surgeries and a month in the ICU, Al was accepted to Craig Hospital in Denver, a nationally known center for spinal cord injury. It is there, that Al is beginning an intensive rehab program and his long road to recovery.

For those of you who remember Al from high school, you can probably still picture him with his horn in hand, always eagerly awaiting to help anyone in need. Al's humility, kindness, and his remarkable trumpet playing have been an unwavering commitment over the years, and he has touched the lives of thousands of friends, colleagues, and students. The outpouring of love and support that Al and his family have received since the accident has been immeasurable and they are very grateful. His daughter Kyrie set up a Go Fund Me account shortly after Al's first surgery and in less

than 24 hours it had already yielded hundreds of donations! Al's band members and colleagues recently got together to show their support for Al with a benefit concert at a local Denver jazz club with all proceeds going towards his recovery. Al watched via live stream as his students gathered onstage to end the show by playing a tribute to their favorite teacher.

There is no doubt that Al is loved by many, and we wish our friend and classmate all the best as he continues to recover. Al has only been at rehab for a few short weeks but is already showing steady signs of progress.



For the latest updates, or if you'd like to send Al positive thoughts or well wishes, you can follow him on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/alanhoodsupportgroup>

For those who would like to donate to Al's recovery, you can visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-al-hood-in-his-recovery>.

Hood, is a professor of trumpet at University of Denver Lamont School. He hails from Pumpkin Hook, NY and has been performing music for more than 40 years. He toured the world with the Phil Collins Big Band appearing at the Montreux and North Sea Jazz Festivals and New York City's prestigious Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Hood is among featured soloists on the band's live compact disc recording "A Hot Night in Paris," and appears on well over fifty other jazz, commercial and classical recordings. Appearing with the orchestras of Woody Herman, Glenn Miller, Harry James and performing on stage with Ray Charles, Doc Severinsen, Natalie Cole, Manhattan Transfer, Arturo Sandoval, the Richie Cole Alto Madness Orchestra, the Summit Brass, Jon Faddis, Conte Candoli, Clark Terry, Curtis Fuller and Wynton Marsalis, to name just a few, has rewarded Alan with an array of irreplaceable memories and a well spring of professional experience. In 2013 he was named a VCS Graduate of Distinction for his incredible music accomplishments. In 2018 he was one of the first alumni to be inducted into the VCS Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame.



## A Big Cozy Contribution



**Connor Williams '21**

There is an old saying that one man's fame is another man's

fortune. This couldn't be truer in the case of Victor alumnus Connor Williams (Class of 2021). This past December, the 7' 360 lb. basketball player for the St. John Fisher College Cardinals went viral after performing what some sports reporters have called "the greatest basketball sequence ever!"

It happened during a preseason game against University of Buffalo when Williams, a freshman cybersecurity major and forward for the Cardinals, rolled his ankle while running down the court.



Instead of staying down on the ground, Connor got right back up and passed a "dime" to teammate Daniel Cook who proceeded to dunk the ball and draw a foul. The crowd went crazy. And so did the media. The play led to nationwide attention and numerous media moments, one of which was a radio interview where the announcer asked Connor what his nicknames were. When Connor told him one was "Big Cozy" the announcer thought that was hysterical, but to Connor this funny moment in time was the ultimate game changer. It gave him the idea to create Big Cozy merchandise. It wasn't long before Connor turned his nick name into his brand name, "Big Cozy" and launched a website complete with shirts and sweatshirts. The best part of Connor's Big Cozy business venture is that he is donating \$5 of every purchase to Primetime585, a not-for-profit organization in Rochester, New York.

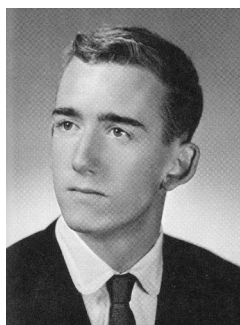
Connor said it best in this statement on his website:

"As a kid, I grew up playing basketball on AAU teams with kids from the city of Rochester. The players I had the opportunity to play with and the coaches that mentored me made me both a better basketball player and a better person. I didn't take these opportunities for granted and know that not every player in the Rochester NY area has the same opportunities that I did. Therefore, I have decided to donate \$5.00 of every "BIG COZY" t-shirt and sweatshirt sold on this site to Rochester nonprofit Primetime 585. Primetime 585 is a 501c3 that runs free summer basketball camps for kids in the City of Rochester, supports families in need in our area with food and holiday gifts, and uses athletics to bridge the gaps in our community. I am happy to give back to the community that gave so much to me."

To order your Big Cozy merchandise go to: [https://stores.inksoft.com/big\\_cozy\\_store/shop/home](https://stores.inksoft.com/big_cozy_store/shop/home)



## Painting a Beautiful Life



**Laurence  
E. Keefe  
'64**

Poet Oscar Wilde said that "Life imitates Art far

more than Art imitates Life," but it seems alumnus Laurence E. Keefe has found the perfect balance between life and art, bringing together the best of both to create a masterpiece of a life well lived.

### *What did you do post VCS?*

After VCS, I attended Catholic University of America in Washington DC and received a BA cum laude in history in 1968.; then I had a teaching assistantship in European History at Ohio University and earned an MA in 1971.

I started my work career as a news photographer for a small paper and got into marketing for a fine arts photo book publisher. I wrote 'Life of a Photograph' with Dennis Inch, a pioneering book on conservation of photographic materials used by museums and galleries around the world.

Later, I moved into a career doing technical documentation and then global marketing for a series of companies in the field of industrial process automation. For ten years I had my own consulting company, Technology2Market LLC, and finished my career as a marketing manager with a leading automation company, OSIsoft. This work gave me a chance to see the world

and meet smart and fascinating people in all sorts of exotic places, from Paris and Amsterdam to the Australian outback.

### *Tell me about your work now as a painter and teacher?*

I am a watercolor painter in the realist tradition. It's the medium that I loved since I was in high school, but the need to make a living kept me away from it for 45 years. I have a studio in my home, and exhibit at the Pittsford Fine Art gallery, where I am one of the founding members. My position as an adjunct painting instructor at the Creative Workshop of the Memorial Art Gallery (which makes me nominally a faculty member of the University of Rochester!) gives me regular contact with new and aspiring artists. My paintings are on regular display at the PFA gallery, and I exhibit at several shows such as the Finger Lakes regional show. My passion is teaching both beginning and intermediate level adult students.

### *What is the inspiration for your art?*

What especially inspires me is looking closely at a subject for a long time, until I have seen deeply into it. The dramatic light forms and shadows of the sunlight in this region have special meaning for me; I love teaching my students to look into the scene or subject in front of them until they can see it with blinding clarity.

I photograph constantly and have at last count 75,000+ plus images that I can use as reference material. My favorite subjects are the sailboats

I raced on Canandaigua Lake and especially the rugged, crusty architecture of upstate New York.

### *What classes/activities and/or teachers at VCS most inspired you?*

Sandra Romeis and Kelly Fallon allowed me to work in the art room after school, and gave me what materials they could spare, which were—to be frank—minimal.

### *How did your VCS education prepare you for your life as an artist?*

My education in Victor's grade school and high school was academically excellent and rigorous in the fields of the liberal arts. I didn't realize how good it was until I went to college and grad school and found how much ahead I was of my peers from other schools. It was the equivalent of a high-end private school. This education gave me an ability to write and think clearly, which enabled me to adapt to multiple careers over the years.

### *What advice would you give to VCS graduates interested in art as a job?*

Fine art is not a particularly lucrative or stable career; in my experience being flexible and looking for opportunities in other fields has now given me the freedom to work independently on projects and to deepen my skills. There are opportunities in various visual arts such as web design, videography, gaming, etc. but conventional 'fine art' rarely affords the income to live well—and more importantly, to do the work that you want to do.



## What do you like to do when you're not painting or/teaching?

Over the years I've engaged in all sorts of activities such as ski camping, wilderness canoeing, scuba diving and sailboat racing. My current passion is archery, and last night I completed building my second bow.



## Laurence E. Keefe Bio:

Laurence E. Keefe has worked in and around the graphic arts his entire life, starting with classes at the Catholic University of America, a stint as a photojournalist after grad school at Ohio University, and marketing for the photo book publisher and archival framing and conservation pioneer Light Impressions. He turned knowledge gained there into the authoritative *Life of a Photograph*, still a standard reference for conservation matting and framing.

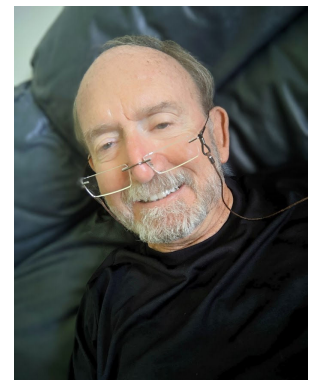
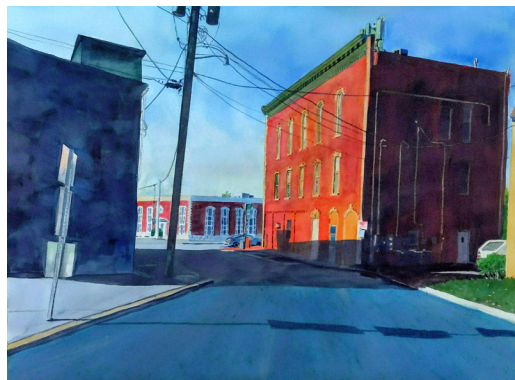


His enthusiasm for watercolor painting goes back to the days when he first saw the work of Rochester master Ralph Avery on the covers of *Readers Digest* and realized you could make great art anywhere, even here in his home city. As he was wrapping up a career marketing industrial automation for international corporations, Keefe decided to return to his first love of watercolor painting. Since then, he has studied under noted Rochester artists Jeanne Lindsay, Dick Kane and Paul Allen Taylor in the Creative Workshop and attended numerous workshops.

He has exhibited in faculty shows at the Creative Workshop and won awards at juried shows at locales such as the Bridge Gallery and the Rochester Art Club. Larry has been accepted as a signature member of the Rochester Art Club and was juried into both the 64th and 65th Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibitions at the Memorial Art Gallery.

His work is primarily in landscapes; his other passion is racing a J22 sailboat on Canandaigua Lake, so much of his work depicts the natural beauty of the Finger Lakes. "It's a moment of delight," he says, "when a loaded brush touches the paper and something of beauty appears." He is eager to share that magic with his students.

Keefe recently had a solo show of 40 paintings in *Water and Color* at the Cad Red Gallery in Pittsford (detail above). He is a founding member and has a rotating exhibit at the Pittsford Fine Art gallery, where his work is on display.



## Changing Lives Through Communication, Care and Counseling



*Maria Tolbert '09*

### *What did you do post VCS?*

During my senior year at

VCS, I was involved in a program where I was able to attend college classes at Finger Lakes Community College allowing me to graduate from FLCC in 2010. From there, I enlisted in the United States Air Force serving 4 years as a Public Affairs Specialist where I provided information to the public to increase positive community relations. My job was broad-based. I prepared, edited, and distributed articles and photographs to the base and community populations; Reviewed material for local and Air Force policy and security; Advised commanders and staff on internal and community relations implications of plans, policies, and programs; Documented base emergencies; and the list just goes on. Also, while in the USAF, I acted as a Unit Deployment Manager for more than 130 personnel where I planned, organized, and coordinated deployments, ensured individuals were up to date on trainings, and provided guidance to leadership enabling them to maintain the highest level of readiness. The military was a great stepping stone to realizing I loved



working with people and hearing their stories.

After the military, I went to East Carolina University in North Carolina where I would further find my passion for working with people and would obtain my bachelor's in social work in 2018. Next, I moved to South Carolina where I worked as a Department of Social Services Child Protective Services Investigator. In this position I learned about community supports and connected families with those resources in hopes of promoting a successful outcome and keeping families united. In addition to families, I worked directly with medical services, law enforcement and mental health professionals to assist in obtaining goals when there were concerns for child abuse and/or neglect.

Ultimately, I stayed in that position for a year until I decided I wanted to do more, applied to a graduate program, and got accepted into Simmons University Master's in Social Work Advanced Standing Program where I graduated with my degree and passed my licensure test in January 2021. This licensure allows me to practice as a mental health professional and am currently working on the next

level of licensure to eventually be able to practice in a clinical setting independent from supervision. During my time in the graduate program, I acted as a clinical intern for a year at the local military brigade. In this internship I was a therapist for military inmates that were experiencing mental health concerns and developed an educational program that offered these individuals further assistance with enhancing their mental health services.

Immediately after graduation I accepted my current position at Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center as a Therapist and Forensic Interviewer.

### *Tell me about your current job at Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center as a therapist/forensic interviewer?*

My career at Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center has two distinctive roles (with many little roles in between).

As a Forensic Interviewer, I conduct interviews for DSS and law enforcement when there is a concern that a child has been a victim of abuse or neglect. It is a structured, audio and video recorded, conversation with a child, which is intended to provide additional information about a possible event(s) that they may have experienced or witnessed. This interview allows me to ask neutral, child-friendly questions in order to gather information in a non-leading and non-suggestive format.

As a Child and Family Therapist, I use evidence-based, trauma-focused mental health services which are



designed to meet the unique needs of children and their caregivers. A lot of the time I work with children or adolescents to help them cope with the impacts of their traumas to help them move forward in life with a good “tool-box” to manage triggers and situations. During this we also work with caregivers to provide education of what their child has gone through and discuss healthy parenting practices. I enjoy having both roles because the forensic interview may be challenging, once they get through therapy I often see them smiling and excited for their next chapter in life.



I am also a co-leader of a support group titled “Girls Circle.” This group is a peer support group designed to increase self-esteem, maintain connections with peers and adult women, and enable adolescent girls to embrace their uniqueness.

These services are offered at no cost to the families involved with our agency.

### *How has the pandemic impacted the social/emotional/physical well-being of children?*

This pandemic has made an impact on a lot of individuals, children and adults, even more so on individuals who were already vulnerable. From what I’ve seen, the pandemic has impacted many children educationally, socially and emotionally, but also placed an immense amount of stressors on families such as financial, emotional and their physical well-being.

Unfortunately when caregivers are stressed or overwhelmed, that can sometimes roll downhill and we may see the effects on the children. I know we have seen more families in need of resources and support; an increase

in concerns for the commercial sexual exploitation of children; and children struggling with their own supports since there was some isolation at the beginning of the pandemic. I am glad to be back to doing most sessions in person because it gives the children a safe place as well as the family tangible support and resources.

### *What classes/activities and/or teachers at VCS most inspired you?*

Mr. Zahn was the first teacher I had at VCS after I moved to the area after my father’s death. Even though I only had him for about four months, the amount of compassion he had was out of this world, and I continue to contribute learning how to shake a hand to him. Mr. Olsen and his enthusiasm for teaching and the debate club. Mr. Rychlik with his passion for teaching and how he had was seemingly always there for his students. Mr. Strauss for making classes fun and light hearted but also pushing us to do better. These four are the main ones that stick out in my head because you could see their passion, dedication and lightheartedness, whether they wanted you to see it or not.

### *How did your VCS education prepare you for what you’re doing today?*

My VCS education prepared me for what I’m doing today because it provided me with opportunities to go to college while in high school, and see individuals who actually love what they do and realize that’s something you should always try to obtain. Happiness, hard work, and a passion.

*What advice would you give to VCS graduates interested in joining the military or pursuing a career as a therapist/forensic interviewer?*

For the military, talk to more than one recruiter, don't believe everything you hear, and prepare for an experience that will test your determination but also your character. Learn how to communicate assertively, and that it's not always the easiest being away from your family and friends but stepping outside of your comfort zone can be one of the most enlightening experiences.

If you're looking to pursue a career as a therapist or forensic interviewer, make sure you have a good support system at home and at work. If you have poor supervision or leadership at work, or don't have positive supports in your personal life, you likely will find yourself drained and not having a passion for this anymore. Healthy self-care needs to be a priority in this position, so you can continue to be what each and every client needs without feeling burnt out.



*What do you like to do in your spare time?*

In my spare time, with the 11 months of nicer weather in South Carolina, I enjoy riding the motorcycle with friends and family here. We try to go to the beach and relax or fish when we have free time, and have two amazing dogs that keep us busy. Also, where we live there is a six mile hiking and biking trail which we plan on exploring more.



## Kristina Ingerowski '20



Congratulations to VCS alumna Kristina Ingerowski. This past winter this current FIT sophomore won a design contest for creating a mascot (“Adirondack Mac”) for the Lake Placid 2023 FISU World University Games! The FISU World University Games are staged every two years in

a different city. This celebration of international university sports and culture draws many thousands of student-athletes together to compete, making it among the world’s largest and most prestigious multi-sport events. For the full story on Kristina’s big win go to: <https://www.adirondackdailyenterprise.com/news/local-news/2021/11/meet-mac-new-york-unveils-new-mascot-for-the-adirondacks/>



*Adirondack Mac meets with children Saturday at Mt. Van Hovenberg after his debut as the Lake Placid 2023 FISU World University Games mascot. (Lake Placid 2023 FISU World University Games)*

## Jenna Strickland '17



Congratulations to Jenna Strickland, VCS Class of 2017

This member of the SUNY Geneseo Track and Field Team has been making and breaking records!

In May 2021, her 4x4 relay team placed first in the Nation at the NCAA Track and Field Championship in North Carolina!

Jenna qualified for the Indoor Division III NCAA Championship for Track and Field, 2022. She qualified and competed in the 200m dash and the 4x400 relay. In this championship, the women in the relay ran a new school and SUNYAC conference record of 3:47.63 and were second in the nation! Jenna also currently holds the 200m record of 25.01 and co-holds the record of the 60m of 7.77.

Jenna, who graduated from SUNY Geneseo in 2021 with a degree in Biology, is doing a fifth year there, using her eligibility for the track team and taking prerequisites for Graduate School. She is applying for graduate programs in Nutrition.

Division III athletics have given Jenna the opportunity to pursue rigorous academics while achieving athletic success at the highest level with hardworking student-athletes just like her. Congratulations Jenna!



## Kathleen (Goodberlet) Habecker '09 Scores Touchdown for Teachers Honor



Congratulations to our very own Kathleen (Goodberlet) Habecker. This 2009 alumna and current VCS Intermediate School 6th grade English Language Arts and Science teacher was the recipient of the M&T Bank-Buffalo Bills Touchdown for Teacher's Award! Habecker was selected from

hundreds of nominations across Western New York for her inspiration and commitment to students. As the grand prize winner Habecker won a \$5,000 grant for her school, a virtual visit from Dion Dawkins, and a tech talk taught by the M&T Technology team. To learn more about Habecker's inspiring story, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/MyBillsCard/videos/650797149320937>

# Class of 2012

## SAVE THE DATE

**Thirsty Turtle**  
7422 Pittsford Victor Road, Victor

**Saturday August 13, 2022**



## WANTED! Your Reunion Information

*Click on the link below to look for fellow alumni and to view any reunions.*

*If you have reunion information please send it to:*

*[laskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:laskysh@victorschools.org) and/or [welche@victorschools.org](mailto:welche@victorschools.org)*

**Victor Central Schools Alumni**



# ***Victor High School Class of 2000 Reunion***

***Join us for a 20 (ish) year reunion celebration  
Saturday, July 30th & Sunday July 31st  
Tickets Available now!***

## **Saturday Evening**

TBD (Adults Only)

## **Sunday**

9am: Tour of new high school

9:30-10am: Memorial dedication

- ❖ <https://gofund.me/caf40a80>
- ❖ This will fund a memorial tree for Randy, Jason and Lindsay

11am-2pm: Victor Municipal Park ([Park website](#))

★ Food Truck ([Truck Menu](#))

Tickets for Sunday: \$20 adults, \$15 kids (under 3 free) covers Food, drink and all day fun. Venmo: @Meghan-Graham-22

FB group for updates too:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/126245629764/?ref=share>

## **Planning Committee Contact Info**

Meghan Graham (Gallahan): [meghangraham22@gmail.com](mailto:meghangraham22@gmail.com)

# A Message from the VCS Alumni Association!

## SAVE THE DATE!

I am so happy to post that the Victor Central School Alumni Association will be holding the Banquet this year! Due to COVID, the Banquet had been cancelled the past 2 years.

The Alumni Banquet will be held on Sunday, June 12th at the Ravenwood Golf Club, 929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY. Cash Bar will open at 6:00 p.m. Buffet dinner at 7:00 p.m. Ticket price is \$25 per person payable on arrival. Reservations are required. The Cash Bar will remain open after dinner so that we may continue to socialize.

We had a great turnout at the Banquet in 2019 and hope to see many of you at this year's Banquet. We gather to socialize, share a meal, and have fun! We will also be giving some door prizes for the following:

- Graduate who traveled the farthest
- Graduate who has attended the most Alumni Banquets
- Total number of graduates from the same family in attendance for the June 12, 2022 Banquet. (This includes grandparents, parents, children, cousins, aunts, and uncles)
- The youngest graduate attending the Banquet on June 12, 2022
- The oldest graduate attending the Banquet on June 12, 2022

Sue Whitney Masseth, Class of 1966, will be taking reservations.

Please indicate your name (spelling . . . and your birth name), your Class year, your phone number, and the name you would like on your name tag. The Staff of VCS has offered to print name tags for us, so please let us know this information on or before June 7th.

If it is an Anniversary year, please encourage your classmates to attend so we may honor you. We have already received reservations from the 50th Anniversary Class! We will have reserved tables for the Anniversary classes. All other seating will be "open" seating. If you have family or friends with whom you wish to sit, please arrive early to save your table. We have tried to accommodate your requests and are grateful for your patience.

### For Reservations

Sue Whitney Masseth, Class of 1966  
Phone: 585-727-2359  
Email: [susanjmasseth@gmail.com](mailto:susanjmasseth@gmail.com)

In addition to the socializing, this is the only fundraiser we have to support the two Scholarships we have awarded to graduating Seniors. We place a basket for donations on each table and request your voluntary donations in the basket. With your generosity, we have been able to increase the scholarship amount to two \$500 awards. It is ONLY with your generosity we will be able to continue these important scholarships. Since we have not had a Banquet in two years, our Treasury funds have remained stagnant. If you are unable to attend the Banquet and wish to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, please send your donation to:

Jim Exton, Chairman for Dollars for Scholars, Victor Central School, 953 High Street, Victor, NY. 14564. Please be sure to indicate the donation is for the VCS Alumni Scholarship.

Special thanks go to Bud Militello (Treasurer), Jim Exton (Vice President), and Sue Whitney Masseth (Secretary) for all your efforts for helping to make this Banquet a success.

Since we are unable to celebrate the 5-year Anniversary classes in 2020 and 2021, we will also be recognizing these special classes. We would love to have recent graduates and those graduating in 2022 attend in addition to all our loyal attendees. It's a wonderful tradition. Please join us!!

Please consider joining us for fun and connection with friends!

– Kay Cotton, Class of 1964  
*Alumni Association President*

## Staying Connected to Alumni Online

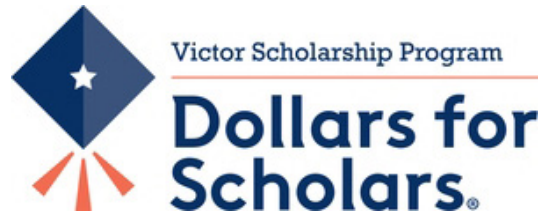
- **The VCS Alumni Association** is on Facebook. Check it out. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/812853279306280>
- **The Victor Educational Foundation** has a Facebook page. Check it out. <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation>  
They also have a LinkedIn page for Victor Alumni and Staff: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8828159/>



## VCS Dollars for Scholars Receives Generous Donation

We are grateful and happy to share the news that Sue-ning Chu Barry bequeathed 20% of her estate to the VCS Dollars for Scholars Program. The amounts given for the Tom and Irene Barry Memorial Scholarship and the Connie and Sue-ning Chu Barry Memorial Scholarship doubled to \$3,000 each. Due to the generosity of this bequest, we anticipate both scholarships will be funded in perpetuity.

Tom Barry owned his own barber shop on Main Street in Victor and was a VCS school board member. His wife, Irene Donohue Barry, was an elementary teacher at VCS. Their son, Connie (Cornelius) Barry, was a 1952 VCS graduate and president of his class. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in Entomology and worked for 15 years as a researcher in the field of tropical medicine. After retiring from the pursuit of medical research he earned his MBA degree and worked as a financial advisor. Connie's wife, Sue-ning Chu Barry, was born in China; she and her family fled communist forces to settle in Taiwan where she completed high school, and she came to America to further her studies. She met Connie when they were both teaching assistants at the University of Maryland, where she earned her Ph.D. in Zoology. Dr. Sue-ning Chu Barry was a full professor at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry where she taught anatomy; her research focused on cellular physiology.



*The VCS Dollars for Scholars Program has received numerous bequests over the years to establish many memorial scholarships to support VCS graduates. This past year the program gave over \$125,000. in scholarships to the class of 2021 graduates. Over 2.2 million dollars in awards have been given to VCS graduates since the VCS Dollars for Scholars Program began in 1988.*

*If you have any questions in regards to bequests of your own estate, contact your lawyer and/or our Dollars for Scholars Program treasurer, Jim Exton. For more information on our program, visit our website: [www.victor.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.victor.dollarsforscholars.org) or email us: [victorscholarshipdfs@gmail.com](mailto:victorscholarshipdfs@gmail.com)*

# Academic, Artistic and Athletic Distinctions

- ~ Last fall, Victor Junior High School was recognized by the US News and World Report in that publication's first-ever ranking of public middle schools. VJH was ranked in the top 16% of middle schools in New York State.
- ~ This spring, the Junior High was re-designated as a NYS high performing middle school and Essential Elements: School to Watch. The Junior High has maintained this extraordinary status for the past 16 years since first being designated in 2006.
- ~ In June, 2021, 98% of our students graduated with a Regents diploma, 69% earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.
- ~ Last June, Victor Junior and Senior High Schools received national recognition from the national Project Lead the Way (PLTW) organization. This is the first year the VJH was recognized as a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished Gateway School and the third year in a row that the VSH was recognized.
- ~ The VSH DECA club was awarded the Thrive Level recognition in the 2021-2022 DECA Chapter Campaign. Thrive honors chapters that have strong programs focused on serving an exceptional number of members, advisors, alumni and business partners.
- ~ This spring, at the DECA NYS Career Conference, forty-five DECA members received recognition and 16 (of the 45) earned the opportunity to compete at the International Career Development Conference (ICDC).
- ~ The Intermediate School Music classes received a grant from the Victor Education Foundation to purchase a class set of ukuleles. The 4th-6th graders have been learning to play the ukulele in music class.
- ~ 52 music students from the Intermediate School were selected to participate in the FLMEA All-County West Music Festival this past February.
- ~ 47 students from the Jr. and Sr High Schools were selected to participate in the FLMEA Jr./Sr. High All-County Music Festival this past January in Penn Yan.
- ~ Abigail Black (senior, piccolo and alternate on flute) and Enzo D'Jesus (junior, voice) were selected to participate in the NYSSMA All-State Conference in December 2021. Senior, Audrey Chung, was selected as an alternate on violin.
- ~ Enzo D'Jesus (junior, voice) was selected to participate in the 2022 All National Choir.
- ~ The 2021-22 Field Band took first place in 6 out of the 7 competitions this year.

- ~ This past January six VCS students' artwork was chosen to be part of the Invitational Art Show at RIT: Seniors: Scarlett Ulatowski, Marley Crane, Emily Cromheecke and Kennedy Schottland and Freshmen, Solia Griffin and Lia Avila.
- ~ This April, the Varsity Winter Guard won Gold at the New York State Championships.

## Fall 2021

All 11 of the Fall Varsity Teams earned the NYS Public High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Distinction!

### Teams

- ~ *Girls Volleyball* – Class AA Sectional Champions, 1st in Division, Class AA Regional Champions, Class AA NYS Champions, 1st in the East Coast

### Individuals

#### ~ Section V Champions – Girls Swimming:

- ~ *Erin DeHollander* – 200 Individual Medley, 100 Breaststroke, 200 Freestyle Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ~ *Madi Sargent* – 200 Freestyle Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ~ *Meredith Hogan* – 200 Freestyle Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ~ *Eileen Kopp* – 200 Freestyle Relay and 400 Freestyle Relay

## Winter 2021-2022

All 12 of our Winter Varsity Teams earned the NYS Public High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Distinction!

### Teams

- ~ *Ice Hockey* – Monroe County Public School Division 1 Champion, Section V Class A Champion and NYSPHSAA Regional Champion.
- ~ *Varsity Cheerleading* – Monroe County Division 1 Champion and the Section V Division 1 Large Team Champion.

### Individuals

- ~ *Dominic Attardi* – Section V Wrestling Champion – 110 pound weight class
- ~ *Alex Crossing* – Section V Swimming Champion – 500 Freestyle, 200 Freestyle; New York State Champion – 500 Freestyle
- ~ *Andrew Kovaleski* – Section V Track Champion - Shot Put
- ~ *Melody Harloff* – Section V Track Champion - 55m dash, 4 x 400 and New York State 4 x 400 Champion
- ~ *Grace Woodworth* – Section V Track Champion - 4 x 400 and New York State 4 x 400 Champion
- ~ *Julia Sodoma* – Section V Track Champion - 4 x 400 and New York State 4 x 400 Champion
- ~ *Maddie Pitts* – Section V Track Champion - Triple Jump, 600m run, 4 x 400 and New York State 4 x 400



# Victor Central School 2021-2022 Retirees

## Primary School

*Christine Chilson, 1990-2022, Elementary Teacher*

## Victor Intermediate School

*Christine Berardino, 2005- 2022, School Nurse*

*Mark Foeder, 1995- 2022, Physical Education Teacher*

*David Rodrick, 2004-2021, School Counselor*

*Michele Maloney, 2004 – 2021, Assistant Principal*

*Elizabeth McKee, 1998 – 2022, Elementary Teacher*

## Senior High School

*Linda Dillman, 1979-2021, Athletics Department Secretary*

*Marysue Hartz-Holtz, 1999-2022, Art Teacher*

*Jennifer Wideman, 2002 - 2022, Math Teacher*

## Transportation

*Deborah Hill, 1986-2021, School Bus Driver*

*Lisa Hinman, 1996-2021, Lead Bus Driver*

*Mark Rugaber, 2009-2022, School Bus Driver*

*Tracy Wilkins, 2005- 2022, School Bus Driver*

## Food Services

*Katherine Jason, 2014-2021, Food Service Helper*

## Facilities

*Kevin Woolever, 2020-2021, Cleaner*

*Beverly Johnson, 1987-2022, Cleaner*

## District

*John Grassi, 2006-2022, Information Technology Analyst*

*Veronica Puglisi, 1995-2022, Director of Education  
and Support Services*

*Charles Callari, 1999- 2021 School Records Clerk*

*Retirees as of April 4th*

## VCS REMEMBERS

Do you know of a VCS Alum that recently passed away? If so, and you would like to share their story and/or obituary in our next publication, please contact Sherri Lasky and Liz Welch at [laskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:laskysh@victorschools.org) and [welche@victorschools.org](mailto:welche@victorschools.org)

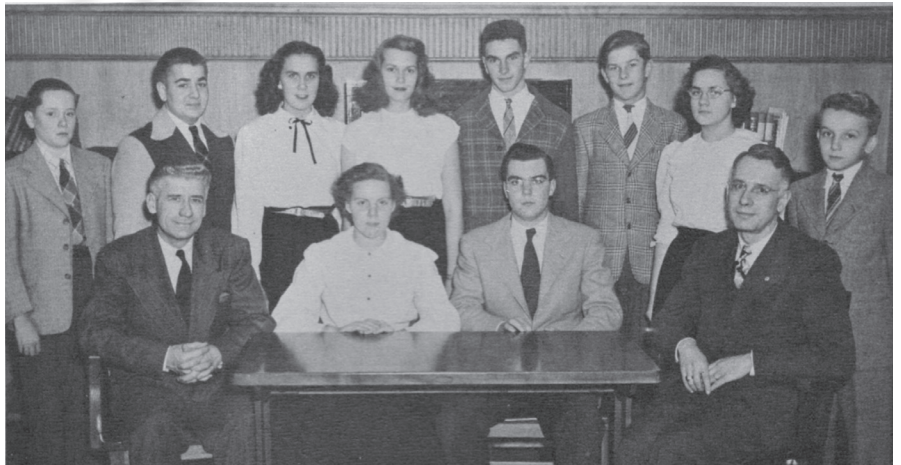
## VCS Mourns Loss of Long Time Records Clerk

This winter, VCS mourned the loss of Charles A. Callari Jr. “Chuck,” as he was affectionately known on campus, was hired by Victor Central Schools in 1999, before a Records Center existed at VCS. In 2000, he established the District Records Center and began to tackle the task of organizing inactive student records, personnel records, and business records, along with historic records and artifacts. Through the years, Chuck had many of the District’s records digitized to be persevered for posterity. Throughout his twenty-year career at VCS, he cared for the records of more than 30,000 students. He also took care of 964 boxes of other carefully organized records. During his tenure, Chuck sent thousands of transcripts to colleges for students, answered countless historic questions and provided valuable research to the school and community. He was also proactive in acquiring historic items through donations and loans to add to the history of Victor Schools.

Charles A. Callari Jr. retired from Victor Central Schools in August 2021.

# Then and Now

## 1949 Student Council



*photo and copy from  
1949 yearbook*

The '48-'49 Student Council under the guiding hands of Mr. Weaver and Mr. Corbit accomplished a great deal this year. Among other things, they sponsored a square dance which netted money to be used in sponsoring student assemblies. Also the Student Council, in collaboration with the Sportsmanship Committee, set up the new stairway system which did away with much of the confusion between classes.

In order to help establish a football fund, several activities to raise money were undertaken. Ten movies were held at various times throughout the year, and these combined with the scrap drive, which took place in the spring, furnished enough money to make a sizeable contribution to this fund.

One of the biggest undertaking was the appointment of a Letter Awards Committee to establish a sound system of awarding school letters and achievement awards.

Student Council provides students with the opportunity to voice their opinion on issues that affect their experience at VCS and abroad.

It provides students with enjoyable activities in order to balance their educational opportunities and to improve the community through community service. This year the Student Council organized Homecoming and the Pep Rally in the fall, the Holiday Food Drive in the winter, and Spring Spirit Week.

## 2022 Student Council





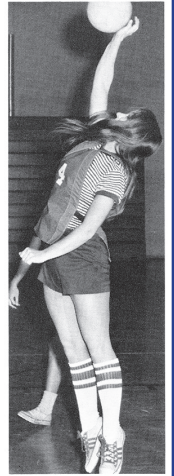
# Then and Now

In our Spring E-Alumni issue we mentioned Title IX and how it affected girls sports at VCS. June 23, 2022 commemorates the 50th anniversary of Title IX being enacted. How did Title IX impact your athletic journey? Please send us your story and photo to share in the Fall E-Alumni issue. Stories can be emailed to [Laskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:Laskysh@victorschools.org) and/or [Welche@victorschools.org](mailto:Welche@victorschools.org)

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM



ROW 1: S. Fisher, P. West, C. Gavens, K. Smith. ROW 2: C. Morley, D. Palumbo, D. Guinan, T. Mennett, P. Benson. ROW 3: N. Weissend, D. Sawyer, S. Duffy, S. Caulkins, C. Wright, D. Lehman-Coach.



*Girls Volleyball - 1973 yearbook*

To learn more about the history of Title IX go to:

<https://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/advocacy/history-of-title-ix/>

## Free Yearbooks

VCS has a variety of old yearbooks from various years available at no cost.

For more information contact, Sherryl Knoebel at 924-3252, ext 3130. (updated 3/31/2022)

SENIOR HIGH	1948	2	1950	1	1960	2	1979	2	1981	1	1992	7	2000	6
			1951	4	1962	2			1982	2	1993	3	2001	4
			1952	1	1963	1			1985	6	1994	4	2002	5
			1953	2					1987	7	1995	8	2003	1
			1954	2					1988	1	1996	6	2004	1
			1955	2					1989	1	1997	3	2008	1
			1956	3							1999	3	2009	1
			1957	2										
			1958	1										
			1959	2										
JUNIOR HIGH			1976	1										
			1981	1	1982	2	1983	1	1986	2				

# Visual & Performing Arts

## HALL OF FAME



**Performer**

John Delmonico ~ '04

**Music**

**Visual & Performing  
Arts Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony**

**Monday, April 25th**

VECS Boardroom

6:45pm – Reception

7:15pm – Induction Ceremony

*Come meet a  
Victor Graduate  
who has made  
a difference  
in the Arts.*





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

# 125TH ALUMNI BANQUET

**Sunday, June 12, 2022**

**Ravenwood Golf Club**

929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY 14564

6:00 p.m. Cocktails (Cash Bar)

7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner

*The cash bar will remain open for one hour after the completion of the banquet.*

***Reservations Required***

*\$25 per person, payable on arrival*

*Open to ALL VCS Graduates!*

*For reservations please contact:*

**Susan Whitney Masseth '66**

[Susanjmasseth@gmail.com](mailto:Susanjmasseth@gmail.com)

585-727-2359

**Let's attend the banquet and reconnect with classmates and friends!**

**We will again have Door Prizes!**

# 19th Annual Senior Citizens Ball



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



Scenes from our 2019 Ball

Presented by  
VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
The Senior High Key Club and  
Office of School & Community Relations  
and

*Special Thank You to the Kiwanis Club*

ENJOY

*Dinner & Dancing*

AND ENTERTAINMENT BY

*Western New York Big Band*

Saturday, May 14 2022

5 – 7 p.m.

Victor Early Childhood School Gymnasium

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

# VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates



Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus or alumna who has made a significant contribution to society? The Graduates of Distinction program honors such individuals. Applications are currently available in the Office of School and Community Relations or on-line at [www.victorschools.org](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 23, 2023 to:

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

## Visual & Performing Arts HALL OF FAME

***Do you know a Victor Central School  
alumnus or alumna who has made a significant contribution to the arts?***

The Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame honors such individuals.

Nominees shall be selected based upon the following criteria:

- A. Graduated from Victor Senior High School at least (10) years ago. Nominee may have or may not have been affiliated with a VCS arts program.
- B. Staff member, parent or community member who made significant contributions to the VCS arts program a minimum of (5) years.

Suggested "types" of artists that could qualify would be  
***Creators ~ Performers ~ Practitioners ~ Contributors***

*Go to [www.victorschools.org/community/alumni](http://www.victorschools.org/community/alumni) for more information.*

**Nominations must be submitted by Tuesday, January 24, 2023 to:**

Visual & Performing Arts Hall of Fame committee c/o The Office of School and Community Relations  
Victor Central Schools, 953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564  
or by emailing [laskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:laskysh@victorschools.org)



# Send Us Your News

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

Tell us about accomplishments or events  
in your life such as a wedding, birth  
of a child or grandchild.

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## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Timothy DeLucia, *President*  
Christopher Parks, *Vice President*

Karen Ballard  
Chris Eckhardt  
Kristin Elliott  
Elizabeth Mitchell  
Trisha Turner

Maureen Goodberlet,  
*District Clerk*

Timothy Terranova, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Liz Welch & Sherri Lasky  
*Office of School and Community Relations*

[www.victorschools.org/community/alumni](http://www.victorschools.org/community/alumni)

# VCS

## Substitutes Needed

Apply at [victorschools.org](http://victorschools.org)  
Full-Time, Part-Time, with Flexible Schedule

## TEN WAYS TO MAKE IT A

# Blue Devil Day!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**10 Stay Connected.** Check out our website on a regular basis for the latest news and information at [www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)



# Victor Central Schools Seeks Archives

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Student handbooks*

*Student newspapers*

*Photographs*

*School lunch menus*

*Course catalogs*

*Student term papers about the school or Community*

*Artifacts (trophies, flags, uniforms, memorabilia)*

*Older Newspaper articles from the local newspapers*

*Special awards received*

*Records of special school programs*

*Audiotaped or videotaped oral histories*

*Scrapbooks*

*Videotapes of school performances and athletic events.*

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

*\*Contact Sherryl at [knoebels@victorschools.org](mailto:knoebels@victorschools.org) or 585-924-3252, ext. 3130*