



Victor Central Schools Kick Off 50th Anniversary of Suzuki Program

Orchestra Alumni Sought!

This past March, the Victor Central School District not only recognized Music in Our Schools' Month, a nationwide celebration of music in education sponsored by the National Association for Music Education; it also commemorated another major milestone in the District's history, the 50th anniversary of the Suzuki Violin program.

VCS was one of the first public school districts in the nation to implement the Suzuki violin method into its curriculum in 1966 after veteran strings teacher, Betty Kocher attended the National Suzuki Conference at the Eastman School of Music during that summer. After seeing Shinichi Suzuki demonstrate his method, Kocher was so inspired she convinced the Board of Education to allow her to start a Suzuki program for 80 first, second and third graders. In 1967 Dr. Suzuki actually came to the Victor Primary School four times to work with Mrs. Kocher and her students.

Since 1966, the Victor Central Schools' Suzuki program has grown to include as many as 110 beginning second and third graders. Victor Primary School Suzuki teacher, Joanne Lowe says the solid foundation provided by Dr. Suzuki's teaching methods is responsible for the vigor of the District's string/orchestra program today. In fact, nearly 96% of Victor students who begin playing the violin using the Suzuki method continue to play through the 12th grade.

"It is a real privilege to work in a district that is so dedicated to preserving such an important and

historical program. Even during very difficult economic times, our program is valued and supported. I am now teaching the second generation of children whose parents had their first lessons with Dr. Suzuki himself," Lowe said.

Victor Central Schools will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Suzuki program all 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 Beikirch at beikirchl@victorschools.org



A Q &A with Tim Munn, Class of 1978 Teacher, Coach, Author



This spring, Tim Munn, VCS Class of 1978, will retire from Manchester Shortsville where he has been an elementary

physical education teacher for 32 years. But education isn't all that Munn has been doing for the last three decades. This history and sports enthusiast has been writing his legacy through his work as a coach and an author.

What did you do after graduating from Victor Central Schools?

I first attended East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania for three years where I was a physical education major and a member of the college football and track teams at the Division II level. I then transferred to SUNY Brockport where I received my B.S. in Physical Education. Later, I earned a Masters degree from Elmira College. Like many teaching professionals today I had to pay my dues by being a long term substitute teacher. Mr. Miller, God rest his soul, would call me bright and early and I never refused a sub assignment. My first coaching job was in track and field in 1983. Mrs. Swank and I coached the very first modified track team in VCS history. I can remember us putting our money together and buying the kids yellow t-shirts. We had over 150 kids on the team and always

needed two buses to transport them. On the weekend I had to supplement my pay by working local part time jobs for Victor Insulator, Clifton Springs Hospital Security and the Wallman dairy farm in Mendon. In 1984 I received my big break when I was hired by the Manchester-Shortsville Central School even though I remained with the Victor Senior High School Track Program until 1989.

Tell us more about your coaching career.

Coaching has been my lifelong mission. My coaching career has spanned more than 33 years and I have coached 80 teams at the modified, junior varsity and varsity level in track and field, football, basketball and wrestling. Obviously having my father as a role model played an important part in my life but it was the up close and personal perspective of working with student athletes that made every minute worth it. Though I have coached state champions and a 60 foot shot putter I can honestly say it has been rewarding to see a young person who may be short on talent but not on heart reach his/her own personal goal.

What will you remember most about your coaching career?

I have had a blessed career working with many wonderful athletes however the sport that I coached that has received the most recognition at the state and national levels has been shot put

and discus. My throwers have earned 57 sectional titles and 24 state medals including a state discus championship. I also coached a Nike High School All American shot putter (60 feet)!

How did you get involved with shot and discus throwing?

I guess you can say this shot and discus throwing obsession began back in the late 70's when my high school coach allowed me to spray paint a circle under the street light in a school parking lot. I loved throwing morning, noon and night. We had no throwing coach so I was self taught which helped me become the throwing coach I am today. I set the Victor shot and discus records which held up for many years until three of my student throwers - Mike Kelly, Jeff Rader and Jeff Woodring - broke them. Rader and Woodring would hold the record from 1985 until last year when Christian Johnson broke both records. Incidentally I also coached Kathleen Goodberlet (current VIS teacher and VCS throwing coach) and I have been training Christian Johnson the current VCS shot and discus record holder.

How did you become an author?

The author part of my career came later in life and I am not ashamed to tell you that school, especially writing and English, were a struggle

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A Visit With Carol North Dixon, Class of 1956

...From Educator to Artist



What did you do after graduating from VCS?

After graduating from Victor Central Schools in 1956 I received my Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Syracuse University in 1960 and my PhD in Behavioral Sciences from the University of Delaware in 1972. From 1973 until I retired in 2010 I was a faculty member in the Graduate School of Education (GSE) at the University of California, Santa Barbara. There, I was a senior lecturer with Security of Employment in the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education and for the last 16 years of my career I was also Associate Dean for Student Affairs for the school.

When I was hired at UCSB I was one of four women faculty members in the department. One of the four was part-time. By the end of the year there were only three of us. I was never an activist but I think it was the preparation that I got at VCS, along with the message from my parents that always allowed me to believe I could do or be anything I wanted. For approximately the last 20 years of that time I was also Associate Dean/Graduate Advisor for the School. I now have a second

career of sorts as a “struggling artist”. Currently, I have work in private collections in at least 20 states plus the District of Columbia and 10 countries. Just to be clear, I never took an art class at VCS other than the weekly art classes that were part of elementary school. The art part of my life started in 2001 through the Adult Education program in Santa Barbara.

How did VCS prepare you for your life?

VCS provided me with an excellent education. When I went to Syracuse University I quickly found out that I was as well prepared for college as any of the students who had graduated from high powered NYC schools like the Bronx High School of Science. You have to remember that at that time VCS was a little country school, roughly 970 kids K-12. At least as important was the fact that I came away with the belief that girls were just as smart as boys and could do/be anything they wanted to do/be. I was astounded when I went to college to discover that not everyone held that belief.

Did you have any particular teachers that influenced you at VCS?

I could name practically every teacher I had K-12 but three stand out.

The first was Alton Corbit who was principal from the time I was in sixth grade on. During my professional career I did a lot of consulting for schools and school

districts. He was always the role model I had in my mind for an excellent principal. One of the things I remember most happened when I was in 9th grade. We had gotten our report cards and I think my English grade was something like 85 (number grades in those days). Mr. Corbit came to me and asked why my grade was so low and went to my English teacher and asked the same question. As a kid, and to this day, I am astounded to think that he had obviously looked at the report cards for all the kids and cared enough to ask about grades that didn't fit with what he knew. I never really cared about getting top grades – unless I wanted to for some reason, but I don't think I ever again let my English grade go below 90. He was also the one who talked me into participating in the competition put on by the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University where I won a full tuition scholarship to Syracuse that ultimately changed my life.

The second person who influenced me was Carl Palumbo who was Vice-Principal and my math teacher for four years in high school. I remember him as the school disciplinarian and a really good math teacher but most of all I remember the time he told me he thought I should be a civil engineer. At the time I had no idea what a civil engineer was and I certainly had no interest in being one. In retrospect I marvel at the fact that he even made the suggestion. This

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Class Reunions Slated for Summer!

1996 Reunion Slated for August

Get ready to reminisce about the good old days at the class of 1996 Reunion on Saturday, August 13th at The Apple Farm in Victor. Organizer, Jodi O'Dell said classmates will not only be able to take in the beautiful scenery of The Apple Farm, they will also be able to devour the tasty creations of Big Bear Barbeque! Tickets are \$35 per person and \$15 per child (4 years and older). This price includes two slow roasted meats and sides, The Apple Farm's famous cider and doughnuts, wagon rides through the orchard, corn hole fun and live entertainment. In addition O'Dell said the class will be hosting a silent auction for the chance to win some fantastic prizes! Bottled water and cider will be available while all other beverages will be BYOB.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact jodialtman@hotmail.com. Purchase tickets today by following the link below:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/class-of-1996-reunion-tickets-22138861932>

VCS Class of 2016 Graduation Ceremony

Friday, June 24,
7:00 p.m.

at the War Memorial /
Blue Cross Arena, Rochester

Clare Ann Marro Memorial Fund Established

This winter the family of Clare Marro established a memorial fund through the Victor Central Schools Educational Foundation. Marro, a former first grade teacher, was hired by Victor Central Schools in 1977 and retired in 2001. Victor Primary School Principal, Danny Dehm said Marro was a champion for young children. "Clare was someone who knew how to connect with little ones as well as their parents. She was appreciated for her level of calm, consistency and love of learning which she so generously shared with those in her first grade classroom. Clare was an honorable professional who was proud to work at Victor Primary School and she was thrilled that her own granddaughters passed through the school that she held in such high regard."

If you would like to make a donation to honor the memory of Clare Marro, go to <http://www.victorschools.org/people.cfm?subpage=17057> and click on "Memorial Funds".



WANTED! Your Reunion Information

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

[ALUMNI RELATIONS](#)

Victor Says Goodbye to Retirees

This school year, we say goodbye to ten 2015-2016 staff members who supported our students and staff in so many ways. These fine men and women had a huge impact our campus for many, many years.

District

Susan Masseth, 1982-2015, Administrative Assistant, Pupil Personnel Services

Victor Early Childhood School

Christine M. Bonanni, 1985-2016, Speech Pathologist

Christine M. Condidorio, 1995-2015, Elementary Teacher

Victor Primary School

Jean E. Teeple, 1996-2015, Teacher Aide

Victor Senior High School

Dianne M. Blankenship, 1996-2016, Teacher Aide

Carol Nardozi, 2000- 2016, Nurse

Nancee C. Sanders, 1981-2016, Art Teacher

Barbara Williams, 1985-2016, Special Ed Teacher

Food Services

Janet Elman, 1986-2016, Director of Food Services

Facilities

Albert A. List, 1988-2015, Senior Building Maintenance Assistant

Retirees as of April

Alumna Alyssa Torlish Joins 82nd Airborne Division

Alyssa Torlish has come a long way in a short time since graduating from Victor Central Schools in 2011. In May, 2015 she received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Brockport State University. While at Brockport, she also trained in Military Science through Brockport's Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) and commissioned as an Active Duty Second Lieutenant Field Artillery officer in the United States Army, also in May, 2015.

Currently, Torlish is stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina where she is working as an assistant operations officer (AS3) for the 1-319th Airborne Artillery Regiment within the 82nd Airborne Division. She is also training to attend Ranger School this spring.

Torlish said several VCS teachers and coaches had a real impact on the person she has become.

"During my senior year I was fortunate to have an internship with Mr. Thompson and Coach Ahern. I learned a lot about myself as a leader and a person when working with the kids and teachers. Mr. Purdie was always a positive person who shared real life experiences, always asked how you were, and is a sincerely genuine person. I still keep in touch to this day! Mrs. Alley was my Spanish teacher for my entire high school career and

she could make me laugh. I can't remember how many times I would just stay after in her classroom to vent or talk about my life at Brockport where we both attended as

undergrads. She also helped me with my Spanish when I was going on a military trip to Spain in 2013 for the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) program through ROTC. I also got extra help from Mrs. Daly. She was always fun, hysterical, and another person who truly cared about students outside of school."

As for VCS classes and programs, Torish said many experiences shaped her.

"I was able to kick start my career on the school's cross country and track teams, although not a star particularly in the past, I am an exceptional runner now and it all started there. Understanding basics in math helped me with the gunnery end of Field Artillery. Anything and everything to do with PowerPoint presentations and public speaking was the biggest help. I always look forward to opportunities to speak in front



of people because VCS prepared me exceptionally for that. I never realized the impact of public speaking until I had to teach military classes, brief higher ranking officers and small groups of soldiers in the field."

Torlish Tips for anyone interested in being an officer in the military:

- Stay in shape!
- Always look to train hard on your own time, physically and mentally.
- Understand you'll be responsible for people and equipment, be patient and competent.
- Be resilient, every day is different.
- It's a commitment, be prepared for your job to take precedence over holidays and weekends.
- Be all in or all out.

2012 Alum to Graduate from Air Force Academy



This May, Ryan Redhead, VSH Class of 2012, will graduate from the United States Air Force Academy as an officer.

President Barack Obama is scheduled to present diplomas at the prestigious ceremony.

Redhead not only completed all of the Academy requirements necessary to graduate with a degree in Electrical Engineering, but will also complete a Capstone project (a culminating event in the Engineering Program) that will enable the disabled to drive using special eyewear.

Ryan lettered in fencing all four years at the Academy, competing in the NCAA Championships twice in that time, and is currently the team captain. Most recently he was named MVP of his team.

Following graduation, Ryan will go to Florida in September to further his education. He plans on serving his country as an Air Battle Manager.

Alumnus selected in the 2016 Major League Lacrosse (MLL) Collegiate Draft

Congratulations to John Maloney. This 2012 Victor Central Schools graduate and University of Albany senior lacrosse midfielder, was selected 22nd overall by the Chesapeake Bayhawks.

In an interview with the *Albany Times* Maloney credited his coaches and teammates for the selection to the Bayhawks and said he looks forward to being able to play lacrosse after he graduates.

MLL features nine professional field lacrosse teams. The league's draft was held during the Lacrosse Convention in Baltimore earlier this year.

Maloney has been a mainstay in University at Albany's first midfield the last three years, earned America East All-Conference Second Team honors in 2015 as well as a place on the America East All-Academic Team.



Lacrosse Journey Continues for Liz Hogan

2007 Alumna Competes for Spot on World Cup Team

Liz Hogan, Class of 2007, has always been a competitive student athlete. After graduating from Victor Central Schools she attended and graduated from Syracuse University where she played on the varsity lacrosse team all four years. Since then, this former college lacrosse coach has been a member of the US Women's National Team and is currently competing for a spot on the 2017 World Cup team. As of this publication, Hogan is on the 24 Touring Team Roster which is a dry run for the 2017 World Cup. This stint will take place in England over the summer. After that, Hogan will continue to train for the final 18-person roster which will be announced next January.

What VCS teachers, classes, and activities had an impact on you?

My VCS lacrosse coach, Mike Myers, encouraged me to push boundaries of the program that I never thought possible, playing and attending Syracuse University. Mr. Strauss was a fantastic English teacher. He taught me to enjoy reading books which I never had before! Obviously lacrosse had a big



impact on my life, but the athletics and physical education program in general is second to none. It was an amazing experience.

What did VCS do for you?

Victor prepared me for the world ahead. From challenging AP/IB classes to competitive athletics, I left as a well rounded student and a well rounded person.



What advice would you give someone interested in pursuing a higher level of athletic competition?

Set your goals and write them down. Don't let anyone tell you it's impossible. The work you put in now will get you to where you want to go later. And, always remember, failure is a bruise, not a tattoo!

Medical Explorers Learn from Former Student



Earlier this school year, Emily Dennstedt, a 2005 Victor Central Schools' graduate and former officer in

the VSH Medical Explorers' Club came back to campus to speak with current Medical Explorers Club members about her work as a Cancer Researcher at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Carol Nardoizzi, VSH nurse and club advisor said Emily did an awesome job presenting to our students.

What did you do after you graduated from Victor Central Schools?

I attended Fredonia State University for one year studying photography and graphic design, Monroe Community College for one year for health studies, Worcester State University in Massachusetts for three years majoring in biology, minoring in chemistry and psychology and also working two research positions throughout. One of my research positions was at TUFTS Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine studying ticks as vectors of lyme and other disease, the other was done through my university on anti-angiogenic therapies.

I next took a few years off for personal and health reasons. In May 2015, I went back to Worcester State where I graduated with a BS

in Biology and minors of chemistry and psychology. In October, 2015, I started working as lab manager and cancer research technician at the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, in the Matthew Vander Heiden Lab.

How did VCS prepare you?

Mrs. Nardoizzi's nurturing of my explorative spirit was very helpful. I was off on my own shadowing doctors and veterinarians out of curiosity, and she thought other students would like those opportunities as well. Together Mrs. Nardoizzi and I, along with a few other students, started the Medical Explorers Club to organize educational adventures, with a strong focus on community service. Some of our accomplishments, like raising \$3000 for the American Diabetes Association during our walk for diabetes, I was able to use on my resume, especially in having a leadership role in the club and organizing events.

Biology teacher, Mr. Balintfy really made me realize my talent for biology and Mr. Simpson was also helpful in nurturing my budding passion for life sciences, especially during anatomy practicals and dissecting cats.

What advice would you give a student interested in going into the medical field?

Work hard, set your bar high, be passionate, but stay centered. We are ambitious people in a competitive field, and sometimes

you need to know when to take a step back and make sure you are taking care of yourself.

Be your own advocate. Too many of my classmates sat around waiting for opportunity to be offered to them by their school or other expected sources. Go out! Find opportunities, meet people and network, get your name and intentions out there.

Let your enthusiasm shine and carry you. Often times when choosing candidates, if you have one with perfect grades and an impressive resume, vs. one with less experience but great passion and enthusiasm, the enthusiastic one is more attractive.

My love for research and being an exploratory scientist was born upon the excitement of discovery. I was working with a team on anti-angiogenesis (my second research position in undergrad), focusing on a particular pathway, and I still remember the moment when we were able to prove that the end protein was in fact two separate proteins! It felt like discovering a whole new protein! Being among the first and only in the world to know something about how our body works, and having a part in the responsibility of telling the whole world, was exhilarating. I couldn't imagine anything more exciting! From that point on I have been doing research and have had a role in many compelling discoveries and contributions to progress in my field. It is incredibly rewarding work, and I have many mentors to thank who have inspired me and pushed me to keep growing.

1994 Alumna to Deliver 2016 University of Rochester Commencement Address

photo courtesy of Matt DeTurck

VCS Class of 1994 Erica Fee will deliver the commencement address during the University of Rochester's 166th College Commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 15 at 9 a.m. A 1999 UR alumna, Fee is the founding producer of the First Niagara Rochester Fringe Festival, the very successful, annual, multi-disciplinary arts festival in downtown Rochester.

"Erica Fee has done an absolutely remarkable job with Rochester's Fringe Festival by creating a hugely popular and accessible showcase of arts and cultural performances, with many highlighting our own community's diverse talents and creativity," said Joel Seligman, University President, CEO, and G. Robert Witmer, Jr. University Professor. "In just a few short years the festival has become one of Rochester's and the region's most anticipated events. Through her vision and dedication, she is furthering the aspiration of Rochester to be a city of festivals."

Under Fee's stewardship since 2009, the Fringe has blossomed into one of the top three most-attended fringe festivals in the United States. In 2015, the Fringe drew more than 63,000 visitors, included more than 500 performances (120 of which were free of charge) by local and world-renowned performing arts groups, and took place in over 25 Rochester venues. The University of

Rochester is a charter sponsor and has been a continuing and major participant in the arts festival from the initial planning stages in 2008.

"I am incredibly honored to have been chosen by my alma mater to give this year's undergraduate commencement address," says the 39-year-old Rochester native. "The University of Rochester has given so much to me – as a student, alumna, and professional – and I am excited to share



some words of wisdom with the Class of 2016."

While at the University, Fee was a Xerox Scholar, was elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in political science and American history with a minor in theatre. She was a Take Five Scholar, with her Take Five year centered on film, theatre, and anthropology.

Following graduation, Fee received classical acting training from the Arts Educational Schools London, from which she holds her master's degree. She was the first American to receive the prestigious New Producer's Award from StageOne (Society of London Theatres / TMA), and won the award twice – the maximum amount that it can be received. As part of her award, she was mentored by acclaimed Broadway and West

End producer, Paul Elliott.

Fee lived in the United Kingdom for a decade and ran her own London-based theatrical production and general management company, which focused on new work and major revivals. Her credits include the film-based improv show *Totally Looped*, the sell-out hit comedy *The Bicycle Men*, and London's original, multi-disciplinary *Scratch Sundays*. She also produced the U.K. premieres of two of renowned American playwright Christopher Durang's plays, *Durang Durang* (Edinburgh Fringe, Latitude Festival, Brighton Fringe and London) and *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*.

At the Edinburgh (Scotland) Fringe, Fee's production credits include the sell-out hit *How to Play the Ukulele in Under an Hour (How George Formby Saved My Life)*, *Bed & Breakfast*, *The Collector*, and *Clarkson & Crouch: Away with the Fairies*, among many others.

A classically-trained actress, Fee's performance credits include the hit comedy *I Am Star Trek!* (Edinburgh Fringe and London), the major revival of *Unidentified Remains* and the *True Nature of Love* (off-West End), plus many U.K. commercials, ad campaigns, and short films. Her directing credits include *Bed & Breakfast* (The Gate Theatre, London), *Long Story Short* (Hampstead Theatre, London), and Edinburgh Fringe shows.

"It's always gratifying to welcome back an alumna as Commencement speaker, especially someone who has

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Victor Central Schools Honor 2015 Graduate of Distinction

This past fall Rochester Institute of Technology Professor, Dr. Todd Pagano, (Class of 1993), accepted the 2015 Graduate of Distinction award at the regular Board of Education meeting.

On Friday, November 13th Pagano's Graduate of Distinction journey continued with a tour of his old high school alma mater and a special presentation to AP Chemistry students in Mr. Jeffrey Schraver's class.

Dr. Pagano's presentation not only gave students and interesting overview of his research interests but also how they apply to real-world issues. "He also took the time to ask the students what they thought the college experience would be like, stressed the importance of taking responsibility for their own learning, and promoted the value of direct participation in undergraduate research," Schraver said.

More about Dr. Todd Pagano

Following Victor Central Schools, Pagano earned a B.A. from SUNY Oswego and a Ph.D. from Tufts University, both degrees in Chemistry. Dr. Pagano was recently appointed associate dean for teaching and scholarship excellence at Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Pagano is also an associate professor and director of NTID's Laboratory Science Technology.



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



Alumni Run in Boston Marathon

It was a beautiful but challenging day for four Victor Central Schools' alumni when they took to the streets for the 2016 Boston Marathon on Monday, April 18th. Brian Reh, Class of 1991, Stephanie Ripley and Ron Ayers, Class of 1998, and Meredith Martin, Class of 2010 all finished strong. Brian finished with a time of 3:39:06, Stephanie finished with a time of 5:26:18, Ron finished with a time of 3:43:59, and Meredith finished with a time of 4:32:14.

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon and ranks as one of the world's most prestigious road racing events. The Boston Marathon has distinguished itself as the pinnacle event within the sport of road racing by virtue of its traditions, longevity and method of gaining entry into the race (via qualification).

Stephanie Ripley ran for the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary
<https://www.crowdrise.com/teameyeandear2016/fundraiser/stephanieripley1>

Ron Ayers ran for the second time for the Natick Community Organic Farm
<https://crowdrise.com/hooфинit2016bostonma/fundraiser/ronayers>

Brian Reh ran for the David Ortiz Children's Fund
<https://www.crowdrise.com/docfboston2016/fundraiser/brianreh>

Meredith Martin ran to support Boston Children's Hospital and her patient-partner Amy http://fundraise.childrenshospital.org/site/TR/BostonMarathon/BostonMarathon?px=1349485&pg=personal&fr_id=1390

Coincidentally, Ron Ayers '98 finished right behind Brian Reh '91 in the 2016 Boston Marathon. "Amazing how that works out!" Ayers said.

Meredith Martin '10 stopped during the race to visit with her patient-partner Amy.



Ron Ayers and Stephanie Ripley have come a long way since the first grade. Ayers said he and Ripley, who both transplanted to the Boston area, not only saw one another on Commonwealth Avenue during training runs, they also met randomly at the Athlete's Village just before the start of the marathon in Hopkinton.



Academic, Athletic and Artistic Distinctions

- U.S. News and World Report recently ranked Victor Senior High School the 59th best school in New York State and the 515th best school nationally, out of 21,000 public high schools nationwide.
- This past fall, five Victor seniors were named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: Casey Brentnall, Griffin Fitzsimmons, Katherine Hartsough, Kathryn Rohring and Matthew Klein.
- In November 2015, 104 juniors and seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society.
- This winter, Victor students took home 34 medals and 4 trophies at the 2016 New York State DECA business competition in downtown Rochester. Four students also qualified for the national competition in Nashville.
- For the second year in a row, Victor's Math Team secured first place in both the regular season and at the Monroe County Math League competition in March.
- This March, Victor's FIRST Robotics Team 1559 Devil Tech was part of the winning alliance at the Greater Pittsburgh Regional event which qualified them for Worlds in St. Louis, Missouri.
- This spring 20 Junior High students took part in the New York State National History Day competition in Cooperstown, NY. Four students, Justin Graham, Alexander Newton, Akul Gupta and Emmanuel King, also qualified for Nationals in Maryland this June.
- This past fall, Victor Central Schools' athletics placed second for overall performance in the 2015 Kerr Cup standings, the annual competition managed by the NYS Sportswriters Association.
- All of our 2015 spring athletic teams and every 2015-2016 fall and winter athletic team qualified as scholar athlete teams, earning a 90% or higher average.
- Last spring the Boys Lacrosse Team won the New York State Class B Championship. The big win was the culmination of a perfect season with a record of 22-0.
- Victor Central Schools boasted many Sectional athletic winners during the 2015-2016 school year:
 - **Fall Individual Sectional Winners:** *Girls Swimming:* Medley Relay – Abby Fenn, Mia Baggett, Natalie Zaravella and Caroline Wood; 200 IM – Natalie Zaravella; 100 Breaststroke – Natalie Zaravella, and Diving – Erin Norton; *Girls Golf:* Ericka Tillotson; *Girls Tennis Doubles Team:* Sarah Marro and Emily Stanley
 - **Fall Team Sectional Winners:** *Girls Soccer* and *Girls Volleyball*
 - **Winter Individual Sectional Winners:** *Wrestlers:* Michael Venosa, Alex Samson and TD Ierlan; *Indoor Track:* Rebecca Roth, High Jump Championship
 - **Winter Team Sectional Winners:** *Varsity Hockey*
 - **Winter Team State Champions:** *Victor Alpine Skiers*, Ryan Fries, Lucy Haggerty, Katie Carrier and Alli DiGiacomo were on the Section V Girls and Boys Alpine Ski teams that won the 2016 New York State Championship in Lake Placid, NY
- Last spring, the VSH Varsity Choir, Senior High Orchestra and Wind Ensemble were named Grand Champions at the 2015 Darien Lake Music Festival.
- Last fall, fifth grader, Jaycee Birkemeier won the regional PTA Reflections award for her film production submission.
- This winter, five senior high art students' work (Mary Bei Prince, Leslie Rider, Ashley Woodworth, Skye Wyand and Jack Millsbaugh) was recognized at the annual Rochester-Finger Lakes Middle and High School Art Exhibition that took place at Rochester Institute of Technology. Victor art students won five of the 24 awards given at the exhibition!
- This past November, 2015, The Victor Marching Blue Devils were named National Class Champions with a score of 98.40 (the highest score in VCS history) at the NYS Field Band Conference Championships at the Syracuse Dome.
- This past fall twenty five Victor Senior High musicians were inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society, Chapter 5863.
- This past fall, the Senior High School presented the play, *Pillow Talk*. This spring, they presented the musical, *Pippin*.
- This spring, the Varsity Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion Ensemble took home State championships in their respective divisions.

Then and Now



above photo from 1949 yearbook

A Bus Trip through Time

Buses have certainly changed through the years. Today, Victor has 81 school buses ranging in size from 5 passenger vans all the way up to 77 passenger transit style buses (flat nose). VCS transports more than 4400 students to more than 30 different schools in the Rochester/Finger Lakes area. Additionally, since their humble beginnings, New York State school buses have become the safest form of transportation in the world.



July 14, 1939

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Victor Central School was held in the School Building Friday morning July 14, 1939

Members Present- Trustees F.C. Sale L.J. Guinan W. H. McMahon S. O. Adams, L. G. Loomis and Prin. R. W. Martin

Minutes of the last meeting were read by the Clerk and approved as read

Motion was made by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Guinan that the Board lease the West Room in the State Bank Building of the State Bank of Victor for One Year at \$480.00 District The chairman having left the to install one Toilet. Motion carried. Meetings at XthixXpdxixXMX:XX Mr.

Motion was made by Mr. McMahon and seconded by Mr. Adams and carried that the Board of Education accept the bid of the International Harvester Co. submitted by L. A. Rugg, Agent Victor N. Y. for a fleet of five buses as follows

1-55 passenger Rex-Watson Regal all steel
1-55 passenger Penn Yan Champion
1-49 passenger Penn Yan Champion
1-43 passenger Penn Yan Champion
1-37 passenger Penn Yan Champion

Amount of bid being \$22587.00

On motion the meeting adjourned

A. R. Cornford
Clerk

Minutes from the 1939 Board of Education

Thursday Sept. 7, 1939

Regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education was held Thursday Sept. 7, 1939 President of the Board Mr. McMahon in the chair.

Other members present were Trustees Adams, Guinan, Miller, Loomis and Prin. R. W. Martin.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by the Clerk and approved as read

On a motion made by Mr. Loomis and seconded by Mr. Miller and carried the following bills were ordered paid and charged to their respective accounts

Margaret V. V. Smith	50.00	Taking census
Bacon & Vincent Co.	128.93	Supplies
Walton & Brady	35.07	Plumbing
Champion Knitwear Co	24.93	Sweaters
Dennis & Co.	8.11	Clerks Supplies
Genesee Rib. & Car. Corp.	15.00	Office Supplies
Hall & McCrory Co.	23.43	Books
H. R. Hunting Co.	1.70	Library Books
George W. Gardiner	20.06	Carting
W. F. Keating	207.80	Bus Insurance
John O. Levet	47.80	Ex Summer Work
Library Book House	92.85	Library Books
L. T. Norton	49.60	Repairs on Buildings
Reich. Gas & Elect. Corp.	12.30	Service
"	20.40	Rural School SSVI
E. Hampshire Jr.	14.30	Office Supplies
Rochester Tel. Corp.	215.86	Service
Rochester Stationery Co.	68.10	Supplies & File
Royal Uniform Corp.	100.00	Drivers Uniforms
State Bank of Victor	1127	Int. on Note
"	5.10	Window in Bank Bldg
The Gale Garage	18.29	Bulbs
Reed & Co	4.00	Pad Locks
The H. W. Wilson Co.	23.60	Library Subscriptio
R. W. Martin	50.00	Traveling Exp.
Clarence Bowerman	82.25	2 weeks Bus Man
J. J. Strary	12.00	Edw. Supplies
Fred Yeare	15.00	Cleaning School Ho.
Helen Barr y	8.00	"
James Guinan	5.00	Wood & Mowing
Albert Moscow	11.00	Mowing School Yard
Barriest Pearl	7.00	Cleaning School Ho.
Adelaide Rose	10.00	"
Frank Kuzeka		"

Motion was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Guinan that the Board of Education of Victor Central School purchase General Motors One Bus, of twelve passenger capacity, which meets State specification Price to be \$1440.00. Motion was carried.

On a motion made by Mr. Adams and duly seconded and carried Louis Cannon was appointed School Collector for the ensuing year.

Motion made by Mr. Guinan and duly seconded that Mrs. George Wood be offered a half time position as school nurse at a salary of \$600.00 including traveling expenses- Motion carried over

14th 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 2015 Ball

ENJOY

Dinner & Dancing

AND ENTERTAINMENT BY

Western New York Big Band

Saturday, May 14, 2016

NEW TIME

5 – 7 p.m.

NEW TIME

Victor Intermediate School Gymnasium

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

VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS 121ST ALUMNI BANQUET



SAVE THE DATE

Ravenwood Golf Club

929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY 14564

Sunday, June 12, 2016

6:30 p.m. Cocktails ~ 7:00 p.m. Dinner

for reservations call *Ken Weigert* at 924-2944

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. Alumni selected for this honor will be recognized at a special Graduate of Distinction Day held next fall.

Posthumous nominations will be accepted. Upon request, information on individuals making nominations will be kept confidential. Honorees must meet the following criteria to be considered: (1) a Victor Central School graduate of at least 15 years; (2) Post-graduation achievement that includes job-related achievements; professional honors and awards, professional affiliations, publications; (3) Civic or community involvement; (4) Educational achievements; (5) Other appropriate qualifications that merit consideration.

Nominations must be submitted by Monday January 30, 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

Hall of Fame Nominations Sought

JUNE 10TH DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS

Victor Central School District is seeking nominations for the Athletic Hall of Fame Program. Any individual can nominate a potential candidate by completing a Hall of Fame nomination application. Applications are available on the school district website at www.victorschools.org or may be picked up at the office of Victor's Athletic Director Ronald Whitcomb located in the Senior High School.

Through nomination and committee selection, the VCS Athletic Hall of Fame will recognize individuals who fall under any of the following categories:

ATHLETES

Individuals who were athletes in the Victor Senior High School and have been graduated a minimum of ten years.

COACHES

Individuals who have made a significant and extraordinary contribution to the Victor Athletic program.

HONORARY

An honorary candidate must have made a significant impact on Victor athletics and/or on sectional, regional, state, national, professional, administration or international levels of athletes. The honorary category may include but not be limited to counselors, faculty managers, scoreboard/book operators, cheerleading coaches, as well as local community supporters.

Inductees will be chosen by the VCS Hall of Fame Committee which is comprised of eight voting members representing coaching staff, administration, Board of Education, students and/or community residents. The Athletic Director will serve as a non-voting permanent member of the Committee.

The Hall of Fame was established in order to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators and Blue Devil supporters. Through recognition, those individuals and their families will be reconnected with Victor Central School providing current student athletes with a deeper understanding and appreciation for the history of Blue Devil athletes.

Honorees selected for the annual Athletic Hall of Fame will be announced in the Fall of each school year along with an announcement of the planned celebration event.

For more information on the Athletic Hall of Fame program, please contact Ron Whitcomb, VCS Director of Athletics at (585) 924-3252 ext. 1460 or whitcombr@victorschools.org.

The Graduates of Distinction Committee

is looking for VCS alumni to participate with us.

- ~ Committee meets 3-4 times a year.
- ~ Meeting times are flexible.
- ~ Meetings are held at the Victor District Office

It's a great way to give back to the school and the community!

Interested?

Please send a letter of interest by November 14, 2016 to:

Maureen Goodberlet, District Clerk
Victor Central School District
953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564
goodberletm@victorschools.org

To follow us on

Facebook

search

Victor Central Schools Facebook

To follow us on

Twitter

search

@victorschools

FREE Yearbooks

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

1948	2
1949	1
1950	2
1959	1
1960	1
1962	1
1963	1
1966	1
1970	1

1971	3
1978	1
1979	4
1985	4
1986	1
1987	1
1988	1
1989	1
1992	1

1993	2
1994	1
1996	1
1997	1
2000	1
2001	1
2002	1
2003	1
2004	1

Family Fun Festival

May 14, 2016, 3:30 - 9:00 p.m.
VCS Campus

FEATURING

Chicken BBQ
Walk for Diabetes
Victor Cares Carnival
Fine Arts Festival
Musical Performances
and SO MUCH MORE



District Council Seeks Community Member

The District Council is currently seeking a community member to serve on the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 committee. The chosen member would serve a two year term. Some of the roles and responsibilities of the District Council include monitoring the development, implementation and evaluation of Building Council goals, providing support for all Pre-K – 12 instructional program initiatives and district-wide goals and serving as a forum for all issues raised which may have district-wide impact on student achievement. If you are interested in serving on District Council, please sent a letter of interest to:

VCS District Clerk, Maureen Goodberlet at
953 High Street, Victor, N. Y., 14564
or email her at goodberletm@victorschools.org
by June 30, 2016.

Send Us Your News

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

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Timothy DeLucia, *President*
Deborah Palumbo-Sanders, *Vice President*
Karen Ballard
Gary Gilbert
Kathryn Hart
Trisha Turner
Michael Young

Maureen Goodberlet
District Clerk

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Liz Welch & Sherri Lasky
Office of School and Community Relations

alumni@victorschools.org

Munn *continued*

until I met Miss Helen Schantz, my 12th grade English teacher. I would never consider myself a natural student or athlete. Patience and persistence have been the key to my life. My first four books were history publications. Recently I completed two historical fiction books. One will be released soon "The Manville 7", a story that takes place during World War II in a time when a student would one day talk about the senior ball and the next time be sending letters home to his mother describing the hardships of war.

How did Victor Schools prepare you?

Victor is a cutting edge school district and was very progressive and innovative even in the 70's. I was in the Leaders Club when I received permission to work in physical education classes as an 8th grader. You could say that was my first taste of teaching physical education. In the 1970's Victor had electives for seniors across the board, from physical education, to history and English. It was a prelude to college. Other memorable classes were a video class in English (producing short films), Black Literature and Public Speaking.

Were there any VCS teachers that had an impact on you?

ABSOLUTELY!

My father, Harlan Munn, a life-long Educator (36 years) and a Math teacher for Victor for 26 years was also an outstanding

basketball coach. Today, he is 88 years old, still plays tennis, watches his grandson play on my varsity basketball team and continues to love math.

Mr. Don Peglow, Coach Ed Ahonen and good ole Mrs. Poppenhausen- were the physical education teachers who I looked up to and who I credit for my love of being a physical education teacher.

Mrs Lorraine Rogers, my kindergarten teacher, was a lovely and caring person and gave a great first impression of school.

Dr. Preston Pierce was my middle school history teacher and was a great influence on me. Today he is the Ontario County Historian and since I am the Town of Manchester Historian we still collaborate on historical issues. Had I not become a physical education teacher, I would have been a history teacher.

Mrs. Lee is unforgettable. She was the kind cafeteria lady who gave numerous kids dimes for ice cream. She later gave me scholarship money when I graduated from Victor Central Schools and continued on to college. Though she is in heaven I hope I made her proud.

Steve Zumbo was my middle school science teacher and baseball coach. He never yelled at you but talked to you always in a respectful manner. I know he instilled confidence in me.

Miss Helen Schantz, my 12th grade English teacher believed in me and encouraged me to write. She was a special person who helped me through my struggles. I had difficulty in school, especially with writing composition and public speaking. In middle school I failed

English class many times over, however, it was Miss Shantz who reached out to me and told me I had potential. She spent many extra hours working with me to improve my composition and public speaking. Sadly she passed away before I could thank her but I was able to dedicate one of my books to her.

What advice would you give current students?

I believe everyone on this earth has a special purpose, albeit a scholar, an average student (like me) and those with learning disabilities. Remember that failure is the bottom rung to the ladder of success and anyone can overcome obstacles through persistence and passion.

Munn's Library of Books:

Golden Age of Railroad and Baseball – 1999

Transportation – Ontario County History 2001

From Backyards to Big Leagues – 2004

Legends, Landmarks and Locals – 2007

Round House 9 – 2013

The Manville 7 – 2016

For more information on these books and/or to purchase one, contact Tim Munn directly at TDMunn74@gmail.com

Dixon *continued*

was the 1950s after all! Women just didn't have those kinds of careers. In addition I now realize that he was right, it would have been a very good career for me.

Charlie Rose was another big influence. As my high school guidance counselor he told me at one point that I could be anything I wanted to be and it was up to me to figure out what that would be.

What advice would you give to a student or alum seeking either a first or second career?

Well, it's certainly not new or unusual advice but definitely true. I once had a job (briefly) that I came to hate. I hated going to work in the morning and couldn't wait to leave at night. Mercifully they eventually fired me and put me out of my misery. From that day on I promised myself never again. If I didn't like what I was doing at work at least 90% of the time I would find something else to do.

As for the "art part" I can't say I planned it. I just got really lucky. My advice would be to be willing to try new things, you never know where they will lead. A friend talked me into taking an art class and the rest is history as they say. All the way along it has been really important to have good friends that I could work with and talk to about what I was doing.

Carol North Dixon's Website:

<http://carolnorthdixon.fineartstudioonline.com/>

Fee *continued*

achieved so much success in the arts as Erica has," said Richard Feldman, dean of the College. "We are very proud of the way she has created such a positive community impact through Fringe, and are honored to have her share her wisdom and experience with our graduating students this May."

Since returning to Rochester and helping to found and serve as president of the non-profit Rochester Fringe Festival, Fee has studied festival production, festival economic impact, and festival marketing through the University of Minnesota, and speaks frequently on the new arts festival revolution, festival production, and the Rochester Fringe, including at the University of Rochester and its Eastman School of Music.

Rochester Fringe Festival is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation that exists as a means to connect venues, performers, artists, educational institutions and the audience. It was pioneered by several of Rochester's esteemed cultural institutions, including Geva Theatre Center, the George Eastman House and Garth Fagan Dance, as well as up-and-coming groups like PUSH Physical Theatre and Method Machine. The Board of Directors includes representatives from the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, Bond Schoeneck & King PLLC, Boylan Code LLC, the Eastman School of Music, Mengel, Metzger and Barr & Co. LLP, Method Machine, PUSH Physical Theatre, and Writers & Books. The Rochester Fringe Festival is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. This festival is also supported by a grant awarded to the Rochester Fringe Festival by New York State's Empire State Development and I LOVE NY / NYS Division of Tourism under Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Council Initiative.

Do you have photos or memories of the original Kindergarten classroom?

Please send them to Liz Welch and Sherri Lasky at welche@victorschools.org and laskysh@victorschools.org.

MUSIC ALUMNI

“Are you a graduate of VCS that played a string instrument? We are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Victor Suzuki String Program and are hoping to incorporate Orchestra alumni into our celebratory events. If interested, please contact Lauren Beikirchat beikirchl@victorschools.org”

TEN WAYS TO MAKE IT A Blue Devil Day!

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

Victor Central Schools Seeks Archives

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Student handbooks

Student newspapers

Photographs

School lunch menus

Course catalogs

Student term papers about the school or Community

Artifacts (trophies, flags, uniforms, memorabilia)

Older Newspaper articles from the local newspapers

Special awards received

Records of special school programs

Audiotaped or videotaped oral histories

Scrapbooks

Videotapes of school performances and athletic events.

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

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