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JUNE 7TH, 2017

TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 7th
Night of Glory

June 8th
Field Day
@ Oakledge Park

June 9th
20th Graduation Ceremony
of Vermont Commons School

June 10th
ACTs

Host an International Exchange Student

Background photo by Graham Byers '18

by Dexter Mahaffey

AFS-USA, a non-profit that's coordinated international student exchange for 70 years (and through which Vermont Commons students have traveled abroad in the past, as well as this coming summer!) has opened a field office in Vermont. They have a variety of programs (some for a fee and some fully subsidized) allowing students from the U.S. to live abroad in their high school years. But they also place students in U.S. schools from around the world each year.

For the 2017-18 school year, they are trying to place these two students in Vermont and have asked if any Vermont Commons families are interested in hosting either of them. Please look at Goknur and Ali's bios below, and if you are interested or would like more information from AFS USA, please contact Melanie Centeno at mcenteno@afsusa.org or 646-381-3346.

Meet Goknur from Turkey

Gender: Female
Age (at arrival): 15 years
Program length: Year
Religion: Muslim (no pork, prefers fish/vegetarian)

Goknur is outgoing and creative. She loves travelling with her family and meeting new people. Goknur is especially close with her mother, with who she creates "EBRU" or paper marbling, a traditional Turkish art, with. She usually spends her free time editing music videos, doing charcoal paintings and reading. A responsible and respectful student, Goknur's teachers are impressed with her overall character. Hoping to discover a new world, she is looking forward to participating in this exchange program. Goknur is very excited to meet her host family! Arrival to host community: Aug 10

Meet Ali from Germany (Turkish cultural heritage)

Gender: Male
Age (at arrival): 15 years
Program length: Year
Religion: Muslim (no pork)

Ali Nihat is a cheerful and friendly boy known by everyone as Nihat. He is very close to his family but is also quite independent and likes to help out around the house with chores and cooking. He is very sporty, loves basketball, and is great with younger kids: he attends practice three times a week and volunteers at school as a coach for the younger kids. His father is a Turkish folk dancer and his family enjoys folk dancing together at least once a week. Nihat is looking forward to being an AFS student, meeting new people and having friends from all over the world. He would love to try learning baseball and American football! Arrival to host community: Aug 10.

Goods & Gear

Greetings! Quick heads up that Vermont Commons Goods & Gear will be available on **Thursday, June 8th**, during the Field Day festivities at Oakledge Park. Hope to see you there!

Student Journalism

Students in our Climate Change and Journalism R&S have written two articles now posted on 350VT's website!

Check them out by [clicking here](#).

Seeking Hosts for Student Visitors from Peru in October

article & photos by Adriana Comtois

After a very successful visit from the Peruvian students last fall and an amazing experience in Lima, Peru this past week, we are inviting another group from the Colegio Santa Ana to come to Vermont next fall.

Colegio Santa Ana will be bringing 13 students (8 boys and 5 girls) this time and we are looking for families to host them during the time they are here. They will be arriving on **Sunday October 8th, 2017** in the afternoon and will be with us until **Wednesday October 18th, 2017**.

This is a great opportunity to broaden your child's view of the world and make long lasting friendships. If you are interested, please let me know [via e-mail](#) when you have a chance.



Field Day Assistance

by LaTrisha Gibbs

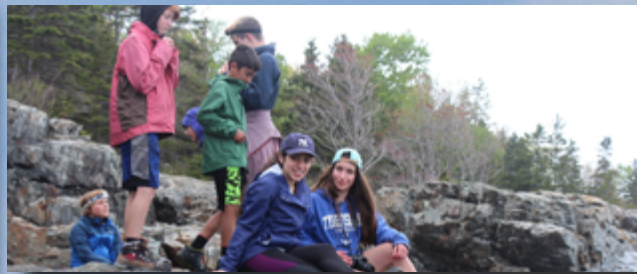
This is a friendly reminder regarding the infamous VCS Field Day that will take place Thursday, June 8th, at Oakledge Park. If you have not had a chance to do so, please sign up to bring in items and/or assist with the serving line. With all of the running, jumping, diving, dodging and strategizing the students will be engulfed in throughout the day, they are ravenous by lunch time! We want to ensure we have plenty of nourishment so they can maintain their stamina to compete.

[Here is the link to the SignUpGenius.](#) If an area that you are interested in is already full, let us know and we will sign you up anyway. We can never have enough food or drinks!

Feel free to hang out and watch as the action unfolds to determine the victor in the year-long Green-Grey competition. The events are very entertaining!

Images From Acadia

photos courtesy of VCS students & faculty



HAVE A FANTASTIC SUMMER!



Photo by Amira Silverman '17

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