



The High School View

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New teachers welcomed by students and staff

By Nathaniel Horwitz

Science and technology teacher Chris Connors and English teacher Adrienne Forgette are two of the 21 new faculty members who joined the regional high school staff this year.

Mr. Connors grew up in Duxbury, MA, and earned two Bachelors of Fine Arts degrees at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, in Art Education and Photography, before pursuing a Masters degree in Hands-on-Learning at Lesley University. Mr. Connors has used his education to introduce Simplest Materials projects to stu-

dents. The idea is to create cool projects with everyday office supplies, such as paperclips and binders. Before coming to teach at MVRHS, Mr. Connors published

magic," said Mr. Connors. "It's like a robot making a sandcastle with a hot-melt glue gun or having a fish tank, except you're making the fish," said Mr. Connors, describing the process. Three-dimensional printing basically allows almost anyone to make almost anything with a computer program, before "printing" it into existence with a small machine. When Mr. Connors became involved in the field,

the news, along with discussions about enforcing gun control in a world in which people can print their own guns and medical researchers can print new organs for patients.

3D printers provided the perfect medium for Mr. Connors's work in Hands-on-Learning. Mr. Connors is a friend of the founders of Google Sketchup, a company that focused on 3D printing. "It was a new sphere of projects and creativity. It was coming, and I wanted to be part of it," said Mr. Connors. He shared ideas and built off other people's contributions with the early 3D printing community, getting a head start on the rest of the world. Now, two printers adorn his classroom in the art wing, one purchased, the other built by hand by Mr. Connors with help from students.

When Mr. Connors saw the job description for a position as a science and

technology/art teacher at MVRHS, he said, "It was like it was written for me. Good projects, fun courses, and it was interesting that it was a teaching job in the art field that involved engineering. This is taught in art, not computer science, so it has a different focus on problem solving and creativity."

Adrienne Forgette grew up outside of Buffalo, NY, earning a Bachelor of Arts in English from Colgate University and a Masters in English and Education from the University of Maryland. She worked for the Teach for America program in southern Louisiana, taught at the College of Southern Maryland, and then moved to Owing, MA, to teach at Northern High School. While there, she turned the yearbook into a 45-student operation, winning a Columbia Crown, the highest achievement for a yearbook publication.

During her time at Northern High School, Ms. Forgette and her students made a video promoting her selection for CNN's Fit Nation

triathlon, which would star seven people. She received a call from a CNN producer within ten minutes of the video being uploaded, and she began training with former Iron Man champions for a triathlon that took place in Malibu last September. "I always thought exercise was a luxury. I would fit it in if I had time. Now it's a necessity. It's a way of life," said Ms. Forgette in an article on the Fit Nation Lucky Seven.

Ms. Forgette joined the MVRHS faculty this fall. "I moved to the Island because I wanted to challenge myself as a teacher and thought it was the best place to raise my children," said Ms. Forgette, who has twin girls. "MVRHS was the perfect fit for those two needs."

Ms. Forgette is currently teaching a mixture of junior and senior English classes.

She is thinking ahead about her intentions at MVRHS. Said Ms. Forgette, "I'm looking forward to working with the yearbook staff." **HSV**



Chris Connors.

PHOTO BY AQUINNAH HILL



Adrienne Forgette.

PHOTO BY KRISTEN HOPKINS

an article in the magazine Make, to which he is a regular contributor, on funding "places in a community where people can come to create things," he said.

"Now lots of people are talking about [3D printing], but four years ago? That was

3D printers were the size of refrigerators, and few people had any interest in them. Today, the MakerBot Cupcake Model is all over

Young actor prepares for stardom

By Sarah Ortlip-Sommers

For six weeks last summer senior Sam Permar studied his destiny.

He attended the Carnegie Mellon University Pre-College program in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he studied musical theater. An aspiring actor and singer, Sam said the intensive program helped to prepare him for college.

During the six-week-long program, Sam took classes in acting, audition, singing, ballet, jazz, directing, and dramatic literature. He also attended master classes or workshops every week that were taught by a Carnegie Mellon School of Drama professor or students. Among the most memorable were ones about Shakespeare and acting a song. Other work-

shops offered included film acting and choreography. Despite the heavy schedule, the program was a lot of fun for the students. "It was a rigorous program, but it was the most fun I have ever experienced," said Sam.

In their free time, students got to venture into downtown Pittsburgh. Said Sam, "It was really exciting to be in the city. My friends and I would get Starbucks on our way to class or walk downtown to get Chinese takeout and fro-yo."

Sam intends to pursue musical theater in college and beyond, and participating in the program helped him visualize what studying at a conservatory would be like. "I am drawn to this career because it offers endless possibilities," said Sam. "I love to act and sing and dance, and

musical theater contains so many stories and relationships and characters that can be explored. It's the most interesting job on the planet."

Besides gaining valuable knowledge in the theater field and practice for future endeavors, Sam learned a lot about himself during the summer. "I learned that it is okay to fail. That is what my teachers emphasized," said Sam. "I realized that failing is necessary for success because it allows you to fix your mistakes, avoid making them again, and therefore grow."

At the regional high school, Sam is known for his talent in acting and singing. He has been a member of the Minnesingers for three years and has participated in the annual Performing Arts Department musicals and the Massachusetts Educational

Theater Guild Festival. He has just received a major role in this year's musical production of CATS, which will premiere this February.

Sam already has a growing fan base on the Island. Senior Lily Lubin, an aspiring film director, said, "Sam's the kind of guy who you know is gonna make it big. I know that I'd want him in any movie."

For other students interested in exploring musical theater, Sam has some advice. "I would suggest experimenting and exploring. Try auditioning for a musical or a play. Sing to someone; it doesn't matter who," he said. "If you want to be seen or heard as an artist, seek out as many opportunities as you can so that you can grow and absorb."

Said Sam, "As an actor, I learned that drama is literally recreating life—and that's what is so fun about it." **HSV**

School overrun by gang of escaped prisoners



PHOTO BY WILLOE MAYNARD

(From left) Seniors Lilly Neville, Avery Lazes, and Charlotte Benjamin show off their Halloween costumes. MVRHS students and faculty members dressed up in costumes last Thursday, October 31, to celebrate the holiday. The variety of costumes made for a fun day filled with laughter and smiles.

The High School View will not publish next Thursday, November 14, due to Veterans Day. See you in two weeks!

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