



The High School View

The High School View is staffed and prepared entirely by students from the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, and published on their behalf by The Martha's Vineyard Times, with the generous assistance of the sponsors whose names appear below.

New principal brings new principles

BY OLIVIA JACOBS

There's a new principal in town--and his name is Gilbert Traverso. He is already having a positive effect on the students and faculty at the regional high school.

Mr. Gilbert Traverso accepted the position this fall after four years as principal of Putnam Academy in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Mr. Traverso plans to connect with the students on a personal level. "I always try to be at student functions. I like to interact with all the students in hallways, classrooms, and at sporting events. I like to know names and I have been to as many home games as possible so far. I really like to see students in their comfort zone because I appreciate their other talents. Every faculty meeting I have will start off with a student performance. This morning, Addison Geiger performed a song he wrote and played it on the guitar. It was great. Even though I have lots of meet-



PHOTO BY WILLOW WUNSCH

The new principal, Mr. Gilbert Traverso, speaks to a student outside the school on Tuesday morning.

ings and paperwork, I'm not going to put that before a student who is in need."

Senior Zana Van Rooyen spoke highly of the new principal. She said, "Mr. Traverso is the most positive addition to the school that I have experienced in my three years here. I have only heard him say encouraging words. Every time I see him, he gives me a high five and

that's wonderful. Mr. Traverso is approachable and is willing to talk about anything students have to say."

Mr. Traverso said of the Island and regional high school, "When I drive to work, I purposefully drive the longer way because its beautiful and relaxing. I like the sense of community here, and that we are very open to diversity. Everyone is truly

invested in making sure this is a high performing school."

Assistant principal Elliott Bennett, who works closely with Mr. Traverso, said, "The new principal is like a breath of fresh air. He has a very student-oriented philosophy and is a skilled leader. Some of the projects Mr. Traverso and I are working on are the climate of the school, the teacher evaluation system, and improvements to the building itself. A big project is improving the alternate education rooms."

Mr. Traverso has many plans to improve the Career Technical Education (CTE) program at the high school. The program aims to provide students with an opportunity to pursue a career in the community that exists, and to enhance their understanding of academics. Putnam Academy, Mr. Traverso's previous school, was purely CTE based. The principal said, "I am taking two of our CTE teachers to my old school for the entire day on Friday, October 10. This is

so they see some high performing programs and have an understanding of what career technical education is all about. There are so many ways we could use the algebraic equations in carpentry, so we want to expand these and integrate our CTE with academics here."

CTE program director Ty Hobbs said, "Mr. Traverso is very supportive of continuously improving our CTE programs. He's invested in teacher professional development and getting the shop refurbished."

Mr. Traverso reflected on his shift from Putnam Academy. "What I miss most about my previous school is that I built the entire program there, so I knew every aspect of the building. I knew so many families, kids, and community members. I'm sure that will eventually take place here too. I miss those connections because I'm a people person."

Senior Josie Iadicicco said, "Not only does Mr. Traverso

have a great sense of humor and is incredibly kind, but he really wants what is best for our school. I already see changes in the school's overall environment--happier staff, students, and parents. I have a good feeling about his influence on our school and the improvements that will come with his new position."

Mr. Traverso's top three priorities for the school and its students are "to de-stress everyone, to make sure we are a safe school where students can achieve, and to enhance and continue in our established academic successes."

Josie continued, "Last year, I gave tours to the two principal candidates. During Mr. Traverso's tour, he told me that whenever he was having a bad day, he would step outside his office and interact with the students--just being around them made his day better. I believe he is truly concerned with the student body and our needs as much as he is with the rules and regulations of the school." **ISV**

Blood drive collects lifesaving pints

BY CHRISTOPHER ARING

Dozens of students and staff donated a record-setting number of pints of blood last Thursday in a staging area set up in the regional high school's Performing Arts Center lobby.

The school's Student Council, its advisor, history teacher Olsen Houghton, and the American Red Cross collaborated to organize the drive, which was held during the school day. Thirty-four students and teachers donated a total of 37 pints of blood, topping last fall's total amount.

Junior Marlla Lemos said, "I donated because it is an easy way to help many people, in a big way." Marlla chose the Double Red Cell blood donation type where

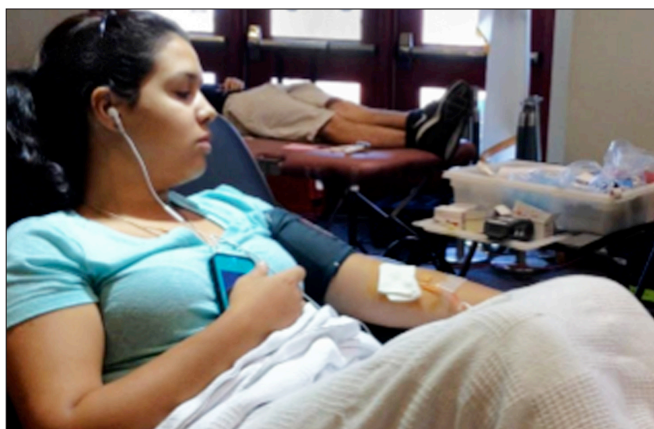


PHOTO BY MADDY MOORE

Junior Marlla Lemos donates two pints of blood to the American Red Cross on October 9 in the PAC lobby.

an apheresis machine collects the red cells and returns most of the plasma and platelets to the donor. By choosing this method, Marlla donated two pints of blood instead of the usual one pint which

took an extra 30 minutes to complete. "If they were going to stick me with a needle anyway, I might as well give double the blood in one donation, she said."

Senior and student council

president Josie Iadicicco was in charge of the blood drive and helped gather volunteers and create an organized and successful event. Josie said, "I was happy to help because I knew that organizing a strong team of volunteers and donors meant more people would receive the help they needed."

Junior Kyra Whalen volunteered for the blood drive but was unable to donate blood because of a field hockey game. She said, "I was a little upset that I could not donate blood, but I am going to try to donate blood in the spring."

Marlla said, "I think it brings the community together because everyone is helping people they don't know. It makes me feel that if I were to need help, the community would be there for me." **ISV**

Student engineers present talk

BY AUGUST WELLES

For the first time in the regional high school's history, students and teachers recently attended the New York Maker Faire at the New York Hall of Science in Queens.

The Maker Faire, which is most widely known by its slogan--The Greatest Show and Tell on Earth-- is an event held by Make Media, a company responsible for an abundance of innovation-driven projects. The Maker Faire gives students and adults a chance to showcase their designs, learn about mechanics, and meet creative minds from all around the world.

Last year, a group of students created an electric kart for the Cape Cod Mini Maker Faire and after the positive response, the students signed up for a talk at the Maker Faire in New York. Their talk was accepted, and at the end of the

Maker Faire, they received an Editors Choice Award.

The students involved were seniors Calhoun Howard, Willow Wunsch, Kevin Montambault, junior Christopher Aring, and sophomores Brahmin Thurber-Carbone and Kate Sudarsky. The faculty advisors were emerging technologies teacher Chris Connors, and mathematics teacher Marylee Carlomagno.

A new kart design is also in the works by the students. Brahmin said, "The new kart is really funny looking. The Innovation Club is planning on making a new car from scratch, even the brushless DC motor and frame."

Faculty advisor Mr. Connors said, "I think it's an important thing for students to talk about their projects to people they don't know. It helps them to clarify what they have done and what other people think about what they have accomplished." **ISV**

EDITORS IN CHIEF: Christopher Aring, Olivia Jacobs, August Welles • ASSISTANT EDITOR IN CHIEF: Russell Shapiro • ART EDITOR: Katherine Reid
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS: Kristine Hopkins, Willow Wunsch, Jessica Sonia • MASTHEAD ART: Olivia Jardin • FACULTY ADVISER: Dan Sharkovitz

Edu Comp
Computer Sales & Service
Office & Art Supplies
& More
4 State Rd., VH • 508 693 0803
educmpmv.com

GEORGE B. BRUSH
Attorney at Law
459 State Road,
West Tisbury
508-693-7733

George A. Santos, Jr. O.D.
Adult & Children
Vision Care,
Vision Therapy
Contact Lenses
638 Main St., Vineyard Haven
508-693-7222

H.N. Hinckley & Sons, Inc
ACE Hardware
Beach Rd., Vineyard Haven
508-693-0075

PRIVATE!
It's between you and us -- we promise!
Family Planning of MV
517 State Road, VH • 508-693-1208
friendsoffamilyplanning.org

mv
martha's vineyard
insurance
508-693-2800
mvinsurance.com
Vineyard Haven • Edgartown • Oak Bluffs

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
MUSEUM
Exploring
Island
History
59 School St., Edgartown
508-627-4441 www.mvmuseum.org

VINEYARD AUTO SCHOOL
508-696-3748

JOHN KEENE EXCAVATION

Monday-Friday, 7:30 am-5 pm Saturday, 8 am-12 Noon
Old Stage Road, across from Takemmy Farm in West Tisbury
508-693-5975 or 508-693-0025