



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.

Reaching through the decades

BY DANIELLE HOPKINS

Peer Outreach held its tenth year of bringing regional high school staff and students together on Oct. 28 and 29 in hopes of creating a more welcoming school community.

When school adjustment counselor Amy Lilavois was hired by the high school in 2005, Director of Guidance Mike McCarthy introduced her to a program from his previous school. He asked Amy to start the program at the high school. Amy said, "The first retreat was in 2006, and I took the curriculum from Mr. McCarthy's school in Connecticut and altered it to make it more appropriate for our school. In the past 10 years it has changed a little bit every year, but the basic premise is the same."

The program uses the Helping Skill, six steps a person uses to help friends work through their problems without telling them what to do,

or letting the problem get out of hand. It is the core of the Peer Outreach program. Amy said, "All of the activities we do at the two-day retreat lead up to those six steps when we are helping a friend out."

All members of the Peer Outreach program are nominated by their classmates. Senior Kate Hansen was nominated her sophomore year. She said, "My experience with peer outreach has been nothing but positive. Taking 40 strangers and turning them into friends in only two days is a testament of how great the program is."

Junior Josh Tate who has been a part of peer outreach for two years said, "Being in Peer Outreach has been a positive experience because it's nice to know that people can count on me and I can count on others."

Peer Outreach is not just making an impact in the high school. It also helps former members with their lives. Alicia Oliveira was nominated

for Peer Outreach her freshman year, the fall of 2007.

"Peer Outreach undoubtedly had a huge impact on my high school career; it made even bigger impacts in my life after high school. I knew when I graduated from high school and began college I would apply everything I learned in Peer Outreach with my friends in college. When I became a resident assistant in college, I actually referred to my Peer Outreach folder before I talked with any freshman," Alicia Oliveira said. "Now I am a second lieutenant in the Army, and soon I will have 45 soldiers under my command. These soldiers will look to me as their mentor. You better

believe that I will utilize all of the techniques I learned during Peer Outreach."

Haven Huck, a sophomore at East Carolina University, also uses the skills she learned at Peer Outreach in her life after high school. "I feel like Peer Outreach has made a really big impact on my life. Much bigger than I ever ex-

pected. My freshman year of college I changed my major to psychology, and I'm getting my major in psychology and

minor in child development and family relations," Ms. Huck said. In the past 10 years the Peer Outreach program has also touched other schools in the Island community. Ms. Lilavois said, "Mary Ollen, who graduated two years ago, for her senior project did a pilot program called Smooth

Outreach and brought it in the 8th grade, more geared toward surviving high school." This pilot program went so well that Ms. Lilavois and guidance counselor John Fiorito did it with the entire 8th grade at the Chilmark Community Center.

Wayman Harrison, a senior at the high school and a member of Peer Outreach, said, "If I were to change anything, I would increase the involvement between those in Peer Outreach and the students. I feel like Peer Outreach isn't used to its potential by our peers outside of the selected group."

The Peer Outreach program and the 10th anniversary have had positive impacts on the students and teachers at the high school. Senior Kate Hansen said, "Peer Outreach has made the halls of our school feel more close-knit, bringing together kids with the common goal of helping others." This program has achieved and is still achieving its goal of giving students and teachers the tools to deal with issues teenagers face every day. **HSV**



Senior facilitators: Top row, Courtney Howell, Krishna Datta, Aurora Austin, Mason Jeffers, Sara Poggi, Emma Caron, Ben Clark, Kyra Whalen; bottom row, Zachary Bresnick, Kate Hansen, and Olivia Jacobs, pose after the retreat on Oct. 29.

PHOTO COURTESY AMY LILAVOIS

Alumna campaigns for Hillary Clinton

BY ISABEL MOORE

Regional high graduate class of 2014 Mary Ollen is now working part-time in the New England office of the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign. Mary said, "The office is filled with lots of young people, and a lot of really inspirational women." She plans to help Mrs. Clinton become president — then maybe someday when she is older, run for the office herself.

When Mary Ollen was a little girl she knew that she wanted to be a politician. She would hold pretend campaigns and she would ask her friends and parents to vote for her when she ran for president. History teacher Olsen Houghton



Former Secretary of State and 2016 presidential candidate Ms. Hillary Clinton poses with MVRHS alumni Mary Ollen at her internship this fall.

PHOTO COURTESY MARY OLLEN

said with a chuckle, "I'm not surprised at all that Mary plans to be president of the United States."

Mr. Houghton said, "Motivating people gave her energy. She was always the first to get people on-board. She loved student govern-

ment. We went to National History Day and when we walked in the State House, she fell in love. She felt the positive energy and knew that that was what she wanted to do with her life."

Mary isn't just a college student grabbing coffee

for the real campaigners. She said, "I answer a lot of phones. I also plan a lot of events, generally local ones."

She is a current sophomore at Wellesley College, the same college that Hillary Clinton attended a few decades ago. She said, "There is so much around my school advertising for her campaign, so I definitely wanted to be a part of it."

Mary met both Hillary and Bill Clinton a few years before she started her campaign work. "I'm a big fan of Hillary, and I have learned a lot from this. I'll definitely continue campaigning once Hillary's campaign is over."

History teacher Corinne Kurtz said, "It doesn't surprise me at all. I remember writing the quote 'The world is run by people who show up' in Mary's college recommendation, and Mary Ollen is a woman who shows up." **HSV**

Project-based Islamic history

BY SOPHIA MCCARRON

A piece of the Islamic Golden Age has been resurrected by Ena Thulin's 11th grade Global Studies class. The casual observer walking by the classroom would be surprised to see the chairs and backpacks cleared out into the hall, and inside, upon closer inspection, what seems to be a museum filled with student projects.

Two weeks of hard work and research produced a wide array of projects that bring a snippet of another land into school. Junior Lucy Enos said, "We had a lot of freedom, which made the project more fun. When our teacher first assigned the project, we

drew this big web up on the board with different subjects in Islamic culture. Everyone got to pick something that they enjoy. I'm into art, so I picked calligraphy."

Students went in depth with their projects. Junior Alex Figueroa, whose topic was food, prepared a wide selection of Islamic dishes that people could sample as they perused the other exhibits. He said, "I love food. I love cooking, it's my thing."

Junior Emma Bunker said, "I might want to become a pharmacist, and so doing this project with medicine was really interesting. I learned so much about home remedies. I never knew that cumin relieved stomach cramps." **HSV**

EDITORS IN CHIEF: Christopher Aring, Olivia Jacobs, Kaela Vecchia-Zeitz • ASSISTANT EDITOR IN CHIEF: Casey McAndrews, Zachary Bresnick • ART EDITOR: Sophie Bonneau WEB EDITOR Jack Davin
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS: Molly Houghton • ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR: Elizabeth Dourian • MASTHEAD ART: Mylenna DeOliveira • FACULTY ADVISER: Dan Sharkovitz

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

VINEYARD AUTO SCHOOL
508-696-3748

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

LAW OFFICE OF **GEORGE B. BRUSH**
Civil Litigation Real Estate, Land Use Criminal Defense Wills & Trusts, Probate
459 State Road, West Tisbury 508-693-7733 www.georgebrush.net

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

PRIVATE!
It's between you and us — we promise!
Family Planning of MV
517 State Road, VH • 508-693-1208
friendsoffamilyplanning.org
Now open alternate Tuesdays 4:30-6:30 pm

JOHN KEENE EXCAVATION
Mon.-Fri., 7:30am-5pm • Sat., 8am-12noon • Old Stage Road, across from Takemmy Farm in West Tisbury • 508-693-5975 or 508-693-0025