



The High School View

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Benefit concert tonight



PHOTOS BY WILLOW WUNSCH

Principal Stephen Nixon will give a concert tonight, Thursday, May 16, joined by special guest math teacher Kenny DeBettencourt. Donations will benefit the David Brand Scholarship Fund. The recommended donation is \$10 for adults and \$7 for students. The concert will begin at 7 PM at the Katharine Cornell Theater. (Left to right) Steve Nixon, teachers Ken DeBettencourt and Michael Tinus, and senior Rayne Bick rehearse Monday in the Performing Arts Center.

Technology revolution comes to the high school

BY KRISTINE HOPKINS

History teacher Joel Graves was chosen recently by Google to be one of the first teachers worldwide to receive Google Glass. Glass is a new beta technology made by Google that enables users to record what they're doing from their own perspectives. Only 8,000 people in the

world will have the opportunity to buy the first pairs.

Mr. Graves said, "As a history teacher, I find interesting whether or not Glass will be popular in the future."

Mr. Graves plans to use Glass to take pictures and let his students and team members make videos about themselves from their perspectives. "I would want to put a pair

on a track player while they're high jumping or doing hurdles," said Mr. Graves. "Not many people know what it's like to jump a hurdle or run in a track meet."

An online physics professor, Andrew Vanden Heuvel, another Glass Explorer, had the opportunity to take Glass to the European Organization for Nuclear Research,

CERN, an international laboratory in Europe that operates the world's largest particle physics laboratory. Heuvel used Glass to bring his online students to CERN as he was exploring it on his bike. The students in the class were able to see what he was doing and were able to ask questions while he was in the laboratory. **ISV**

Young writer works on novel

BY SARAH ORTLIP-SOMMERS

While many teenagers watch television, listen to music, or sleep in their free time, one regional high

school student tells stories.

Junior Galen Mayhew is an avid writer, and he is currently working on his first novel, Nightrunner.

Galen began writing when

he was about eight or nine years old. "I had been raised on stories. My parents and older siblings would read them to me when I was younger, and my father would even make some up on the spot to entertain my siblings and me," he said. Hearing these stories inspired him to create his own.

Outside of his family, Galen cites his past and present English teachers as well as his favorite authors as his influences. "Especially inspirational is Robert Jordan. He is the author of my favorite series, The Wheel of Time," said Galen.

Galen enjoys writing fantasy or science fiction. "Good vs. evil tends to be prevalent in most of my stories, although I do write the odd short story or piece of poetry now and then," he said. In the future, he would like to write historical fiction novels.

"My novel, Nightrunner, follows a young man named

Aston val'Ordin who lives in a world filled with danger and deceit. This world, Kalroth, is inhabited by man-eating beasts which stalk the night, and the Messengers are the only ones who dare to travel at night, carrying vital information between cities and armies so that mankind can resist the Shadow," said Galen.

He said, "It takes a lot of work to produce a piece of presentable work. Some people say to go for quality over quantity, but in my opinion, the only way to improve your writing is to keep writing."

Galen hopes to have his writing published someday. "I love reading stories and using my imagination, and I simply want to share it with the world," he said.

Said Galen, "I have never questioned my desire to write. I love books. I love words. And no matter how difficult, I am going to work to become the best writer that I can possibly be." **ISV**

School takes its test

BY THORPE KARABEES

Two weeks ago, students found several strangers sitting in their classrooms.

Representatives from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visited the high school to collect information about whether the school would meet the standards necessary to continue with its accreditation. The evaluators were teachers, principals, and other educators from various parts of New England.

Everything from academics to art to infrastructure was included in the evaluation process. Self-evaluation was a major part of the process as well and the source of much stress.

"I don't think any of us worried about being accredited," said Elliott Bennett, biology teacher and former accreditation steering co-chair. "MVRHS is a great school, but being a caring, professional staff we all were worried that we wouldn't have enough information for the committee to make an accurate evaluation."

The extensive self-reports

handed in to NEASC are the culmination of more than two years of preparation. The accreditation then requires the creation of two- and five-year plans. "There's no real start or end to it," said Special Education teacher and accreditation steering committee chair Kim Garrison. After a brief reception with a performance by sections of the Minnesingers and the orchestra, the NEASC visiting committee members sat in classes, interviewed students selected by department heads, and took student-led tours in the following days.

"Everything that comes from this report, whether a good or a bad find, will benefit the community," said Mrs. Garrison.

"We always have to ask ourselves what we can do better and how we can do that," said Mrs. Bennett. "MVRHS as a community does that and continually works to improve."

Assistant principal Andrew Berry said, "Every committee member I spoke to couldn't believe how fantastic the students were." **ISV**

Student raises money for Boston



PHOTO BY DYLAN BROCKMEYER

Senior Charlotte Hall organized a fundraiser, MVRHS for Boston, to benefit the Richard Family Fund. The Richard family was greatly affected by the Boston Marathon tragedies in April. The fundraiser earned close to \$2,700. T-shirts were donated by Broadway Screen Printing. Above, Charlotte (left) receives donations from freshmen Molly Houghton and Lindsay Dario.

Plant sale this week



PHOTO BY WILLOW WUNSCH

The school's Horticulture program is having its annual Plant Sale to raise money to benefit the program's students. The sale will run from May 15 to May 17 from 8 AM to 1 PM at the regional high school greenhouses. Annuals, herbs, vegetables, and perennials that have been grown by students over the year will be for sale.

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