



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.

L3D Cube lights up the future

BY CHRIS ARING

Recently the chief technology officer of the digital-space innovation company Looking Glass, Alex Hornstein, visited the high school to present the L3D Cube. The L3D Cube reacts to sound, creates virtual displays, and is largely interactive. One of its main features is allowing for anyone in the world to upload their code to the website for others to download. He presented the cube in the classroom of Chris Connors, computer technologies teacher, for two periods and an hour-long session after school.

Junior Dustin McCord said, “I thought the cube was really interesting because of all the things it could do. It made me think about technology and what it could be like in the future.”

It took weeks to get the cube transferred into a realistic prototype from a design, Mr. Hornstein said. “We started off with static prints, but people wanted to see them move, so we decided to make a 3D display. We did a lot of the

work on our own because we knew it would be constantly changing. After three weeks, we had a prototype that we thought was marketable.”

Mr. Connors said, “It’s valuable for students to work with innovative projects and for



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTINE HOPKINS

(Left to right) Alex Hornstein, freshman Larner Peak, teacher Chris Connors, freshmen Ned Smiley, and Luiz Oliveira.

them to realize that there are real people behind them. It’s useful for students to realize that they can get involved in interesting projects before the public gets access to them.”

It was the first time that the cube had ever been displayed at a school, and to such a large group for an extended period, Mr. Hornstein said:

“It was interesting because we were able to get feedback that we wouldn’t normally be able to get. There was such a large and diverse group.” Mr. Hornstein saw how people interacted with the cube, which led to some modification: “Af-

ter seeing how the students interacted with the cube, we released a new version of the library.”

Senior Cal Howard said, “I was mesmerized. As an aspiring electrical engineering student, I immediately began deconstructing it in my mind in order to figure out how it works.” **HSV**

Steering young drivers in the right direction

BY PHILIP MOREIS, KENNY HAMMOND, JEFFREY CIMENO, JOSEPH PINTO, AND OLIVIA JACOBS

The high school’s Driver’s Education program is led by two passionate teachers who believe in what they do: Neal Maciel and Mike Delis. Both are retired police officers.

Mr. Delis was an officer for 12 years in the Edgartown Police Department before he retired due to an injury while on duty. Mr. Maciel was a police officer for 35 years before he wanted to run for Dukes County sheriff. He had to retire because it is against the rules to be a politician and an officer. Mr. Maciel and Mr.

Delis were contacted by Martha’s Vineyard Drive for Life (MVDFL), which helped them decide to become instructors.

Mr. Delis has been teaching the Driver’s Ed program for about five years now. He loves to work with teens and watch them learn how to become safer drivers. Eleventh grader Cameron Maciel, one of Mr. Delis’ students, said, “I really enjoy the class, and my favorite thing to do is watch videos about driving.” Mr. Delis went to Cape Cod Community College and Westfield State. When Mr. Delis was a young boy at his father’s restaurant, a few officers would come by and eat. At the time, his parents would allow him to drive in the back seat of a police

car back to return home. He liked the fact that the police officers would let him turn on the police lights.

Mr. Delis said, “That heavily influenced me to become an officer.”

Lena Hanschka, a sophomore who took the driver’s education course at the high school, gave it high marks. She said, “I liked learning something that I know I will use. That made it more interesting. I definitely think the program is an asset to the school. Mike and Neil made the class as interesting as possible.”

Mr. Maciel has been teaching Driver’s Ed since January 2011. His favorite thing to do is work with teens. He went to school at Cape Cod

Blood drive succeeds

BY CASEY MCANDREWS

About 84 lives were saved at the high school on Monday. For each of the 28 students and faculty members that donated blood in the American Red Cross blood drive last Monday, three lives may be saved for each pint donated, according to Red Cross officials.

Student Council President and senior Josie Iadicicco was the power behind the organization of the drive. She said, “The American Red Cross provides a schedule telling us when they can come, and then we allow the students to sign up during lunch hours.” Explaining how such a

simple task can make a large impact, Josie said, “It’s good to show people the need for blood. It’s eye-opening to the students. Many don’t realize the importance that it has.”

Other members of the Student Council donated their time to help with the blood drive, either sitting at tables during lunch to help students sign up or checking them in at the blood drive.

They also made sure to keep the donors hydrated and eating enough food before and after they donated. “It was great to see all of the Student Council, and even the people who are not part of Student Council, show up and take charge organizing, signing kids up, and checking IDs.”

Olsen Houghton, a history teacher and Student Council faculty adviser, also com-

Three lives may be saved for each pint donated, according to Red Cross officials.

mented on the importance of the high school students getting involved in blood drives. “There is a constant need for blood, and the high school supplies a different part of the community to help,” he said. “The goal of having this blood drive is to get the students to donate. Out of the 28 donors, only five were faculty members.” The Student Council tries to do two

Community College, UMass Dartmouth, and UMass Lowell. Mr. Maciel said, “I had a hard time trying to get my degree, due to my working as a police officer and

crash. Mr. Maciel was going to a party with his friends from another party. On the way, one of his friends was drunk, and drove ahead of them around a corner. Mr.



PHOTO BY KRISTINE HOPKINS

(Left) Junior Nick Vukota and driving instructor Neal Maciel stand in the high school parking lot preparing for a driving hour.

going to college.” After that, he decided to attend the police academy because one of his friends got into a fatal car

Maciel and his friends went around the corner and didn’t see their friend’s car. So they went back to check for him,

blood drives every year. Last fall, the record for the most donors at a high school blood drive was broken, approaching nearly 35 pints of blood. “Our goal for this blood drive was to reach 40 pints of blood,” Mr. Houghton said. “We didn’t come close to that this year, but the main reason for that is because students who are currently playing a spring sport aren’t able to donate.”

One of the Mobile Unit Assistants from the American Red Cross, Tom Flanagan, commented on how a school drive impacts the community. “More blood is donated from school drives than drives anywhere in the state.”

Junior Kyra Whalen spent her entire school day helping out at the blood drive. She signed people in and made sure that they were hydrated and had eaten breakfast. She said, “Participating in the blood drive allows the Student Council to actively support the Red Cross and do something that benefits the community.”

Senior Megan Bischoff is a veteran blood donor. She said, “If I’m able to help, why shouldn’t I? I’m also a universal donor, so I plan on donating again.” **HSV**

and found his car torn in half in the middle of a field. They eventually found their friend’s body next to a house, with his neck broken. Mr. Maciel said, “That was a big motivator for me to become an officer.”

Erin Hill, also a sophomore who has completed the driver’s education program, said, “From Driver’s Ed, I got everything I needed to know to be ready to get out on the roads and be a safe, defensive, and successful driver. Mike and Neil are great teachers and are vital to the program. They always guide us on the path of success and end up making us better drivers in the long run.”

Both Mr. Maciel and Mr. Delis say they are proud to see the students they taught driving on the Island roads safely. **HSV**

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