



ART BY NYOKA WALTERS

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.

'Anything Goes' sets sail tonight

BY ALICE SMITH AND CHARLOTTE CRAMER

The award-winning musical "Anything Goes" opens tonight at 7 pm at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Performing Arts Center. This Golden Age story takes place on the S.S. American, an ocean liner carrying travelers on an action-packed journey from New York to London. The story follows main character and stowaway Billy Crocker as he falls in love with heiress Hope Harcourt. There's only one problem: Hope is already engaged to the stuffy English nobleman Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. With the help of nightclub singer Reno Sweeney and gangster "Moonface" Martin, is it possible Billy could steal Hope's heart away?

Student actors, alongside the tech crew and members of the orchestra, have been working diligently on this production nearly every day



DANIELLE MEYER

Juniors Josephine Powers, left, and Zylar Flanders rehearse a scene where Zylar's character confesses a big secret.

for the past five months. Sets have been built, lines have been rehearsed, and songs have been memorized. The work has deeply impacted those who are a part of this show.

Junior Zylar Flanders plays Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, and

has been inspired to step out of his comfort zone. "Playing him has helped me let loose a little more by being comedic and out there," Zylar said.

Director Brooke Ditchfield said of the show, "A lot of elements came together to tell a very big story."

Ditchfield hopes that the show's run will test students' abilities as performers, and she believes it has already challenged both experienced actors and those who are new to the program. "We knew that this show would stretch them. It's challenging

stuff, and it's not easy music. And the tap dancing is certainly not easy," she said.

The original version of "Anything Goes" was first produced in 1934, in the midst of the Great Depression. Its grand, comedic, farcical story was initially

intended to offer theatergoers an escape from reality. The show's popularity has persisted through the decades. MVRHS is performing a 2022 rewrite that removes inappropriate racist humor.

Senior Aiden Weiland plays Billy Crocker. Hope is played by senior Jennifer Silva and junior Georgia DeRoche. Seniors Lulu White and Josephine Powers play nightclub singer Reno Sweeney, and Luiz Lacerda plays gangster "Moonface" Martin.

Bring your friends and family Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 7 pm, and/or on Sunday at pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. This play is filled with fun, action-packed scenes and suspenseful plot twists that will leave you on the edge of your seat. **HV**

Shaelyn Smith moves on to Poetry Out Loud regionals

Students across a number of ELA classes participated in Poetry Out Loud over the past several weeks, memorizing poems of their choice and delivering informed performances in front of their peers. Winners from classroom competitions went on to compete in the schoolwide recitation contest on Feb. 4. Senior Shaelyn Smyth won this year's contest



ANINA GARVIN

Senior Rodeo Purves-Langer recites "Grief" by Elizabeth Barrett Browning at the Poetry Out Loud schoolwide contest.

with her recitation of "I Was Once a Child," by Victoria Chang. Second place went to Senique Wilson, who recited "Say This," by Lucia Perillo, and third place was a tie between Holden Brew and Broden Vincent. Guest judges were M.V. poet laureate Claudia Taylor along with local poets Clark Myers and Donald Nitchie. Shaelyn will move on to represent the regional high school at the regional competition, to be held at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod in South Yarmouth, on March 9. **HV**

Nine staff couples navigate love and lesson plans

BY ANINA GARVIN AND NORA MOTAHARI

As Valentine's Day approaches, love is in the air at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. At MVRHS, there are nine staff couples who find small moments to connect during the day, but who also find themselves working to separate school life from home life.

Of the nine couples, four have positions in the same department as their partners, including science teachers Louis and Amandine Hall.

Biology teacher Louis Hall had been teaching at MVRHS for 10 years when he convinced his wife to apply for a chemistry teaching job. The Halls find that working together allows them to support each other when helping students.

"If I have a doubt about how something is going with a kid, or I have a conflict, I feel like I can really go and talk to [Mr. Hall]," said Mrs. Hall. "I feel like I'm looking up to him in that dynamic of teaching."

Though Mr. Hall has more years of teaching experience, he admires Mrs. Hall's ability to connect with and support her students. "It's amazing to see my partner be such an

awesome instrument of change. To see kids have success — especially the kids who have a lot of complications in their life — and [for her] to be instrumental in supporting them and cheering them on," said Mr. Hall.

Chemistry teacher Dr. Natalie Munn and physics teacher Dana Munn are married, and have both worked at MVRHS since 1999.

Mr. Munn appreciates the small moments where he and Dr. Munn can uplift each other throughout the work day. "I might check in on her to see if she needs something, or she may check in on me. Sometimes I bring her coffee. It's been nice to continue to be supportive of each other," he said.

Whereas many couples bid farewell to their partners in the morning and don't see them until the end of the day, staff couples at MVRHS can find quick moments to say hello throughout the work day. "We have lunch. But other than that we see each other, you know, 10 times a day — our classes are right across the hall



ANINA GARVIN

Dr. and Mr. Munn eat lunch together every day.

from each other," said Mr. Munn.

In the guidance department, Erika and Sean Mulvey are two guidance counselors who also happen to be married. Mr. and Mrs. Mulvey's work days involve providing academic counseling, helping with course scheduling, and assisting with college and career planning. They often find themselves discussing work outside of school hours.

"We're almost half of the guidance department, so we can catch up on things on the car ride home — I can't do that with our other co-workers. I think we're probably more efficient at our jobs [because of it]," Mr. Mulvey said.

Though having a partner in the workplace is highly

beneficial, it can be difficult to transition between the two environments. "It is a little bit harder to say, 'Now we're at home, and we need to switch to home life,'" said Mr. Mulvey.

For the most part, the couples interviewed spoke positively about the ability to work with one's spouse. Dr. Munn emphasized Mr. Munn's dedication to both his job and their marriage. "He's an exceptional spouse, he's a wonderful husband, and he's really patient and really thoughtful ... so he's great to work with," she said.

The Mulveys were asked whether they had any plans for Valentine's Day on Friday, Feb. 14th. Mr. Mulvey said, "I do; they're top secret, though." **HV**