



Monomoy Regional Middle School

The Monomoy Citizen

INDEX

Peter Pan	Page 2
What Is Art?	Page 2
Reduce The Use	Page 3
Sgt. Massey	Page 3
Vernal Pools	Page 4

April 4, 2019

www.monomoy.edu

Vol. 6

MRMS Podcast Club Enters NPR Podcast Challenge

By Tessa Gingras

For the first time, MRMS had a podcast club. Its goal was to compete in the NPR student podcast challenge.

The first ever NPR Student Podcast challenge is for 5th to 12th grade students. Podcasts are supposed to be 3 to 12 minutes long and must not include music. It is being judged by NPR staff Jasmine Garsd Garcia, Sarah Gonzalez, Lee Hale, Linda Lutton, Rebecca Martin, Shereen Marisol Meraji, Doug Mitchell, Cory Turner, Sam Sanders, and Ki Sung. Winners will receive visits from the media organization's journalists before the end of the school year. The judging criteria will consider information and structure as well as personality, creativity and production quality.

What is a podcast?

Podcasts are radio shows that are produced for the internet (not usually on radio) and stories based on sound (sometimes series).

What is the Podcast Challenge?

The NPR (National Public Radio) Student Podcast challenge is a challenge for students to create a podcast up to 12 minutes long on any topic of their choosing. They will be judged by NPR staff. The winner gets a trophy and their podcast will be broadcast on NPR.

What are examples of podcasts?

Serious: Hidden Brain

Funny: Sparks Nevada Marshal on Mars

Activities: Iain Abernethy's Practical Karate

What is the due date for the podcasts?

The submission deadline was March 31 and judging has started.

How do you create a podcast?

By recording sounds and people you assemble it into a story. You can record it with something as simple as a phone or as fancy as a microphone and a mixing board.

Where can you listen to podcast?

Anywhere you have a device that can play a podcast such as a phone, computer, iPad, iPod, smart speakers and you can download them so you can listen even if you are offline.

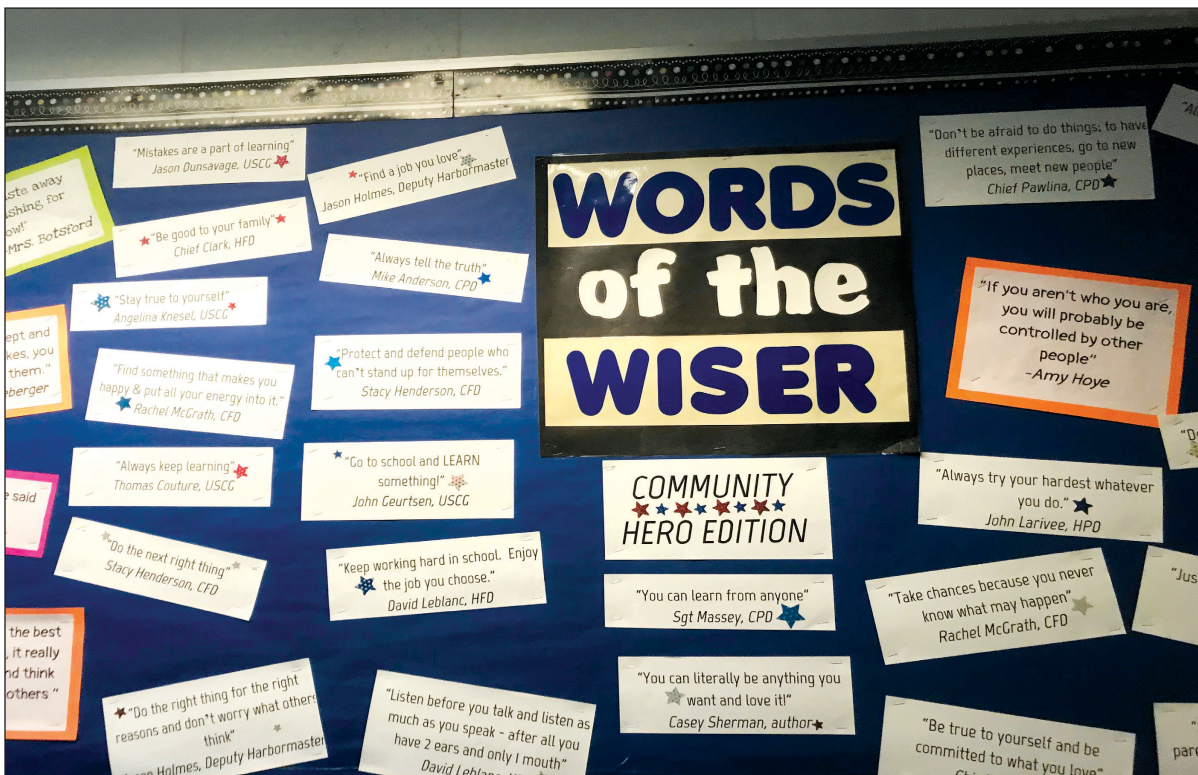
How many people are in the club?

There are five people in the club. We brainstorm what we want to choose as options for our podcast. We have to be sure we have a "who, what, where, when, why" in our podcast. NPR also provided a list of questions about the podcast in order to help us format. Two people were working on an improv podcast together and two others are working on separate podcasts, one about spirit guides while the other about history.



Monomoy Regional Middle School podcasters Ella Adamsons, Tessa Gingras, and Megan Gogol as well as Mr. Barnes.

The Quote Wall Shows Both Inspiration And Kindness



by Savannah Chadwick

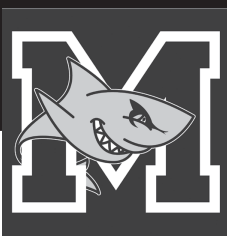
Mrs. Botsford and Ms. Borget's Quote Wall was originally based on quotes about what students said, until the year 2015 rolled around. The quote wall expanded into not only being about students but also about community heroes, such as Sargent Massey and Jason Holmes the deputy harbor master.

The Quote Wall is not the only thing that shows inspiration and words of truth, Quote or kind words are written on sticky notes or lockers of the sixth graders wing. Some of the Quotes on the wall of kindness are :

"If you cannot accept and learn from mistakes you will keep making them." Another really inspirational quote was "If you aren't who you are you will probably be controlled by other people".

Another quote from Mrs Botsford says: "Don't waste away today wishing for tomorrow."

These quotes are only a small amount of the great quotes on the wall. As passing kids go to lunch The Quote Wall shows inspiration and gives confidence to others, right along with them the sticky notes on the sixth grade lockers.



Monomoy Citizen
Monomoy Regional Middle School
Chatham, MA

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Got an idea for a cartoon?

Send it to us and we
might publish it in the next edition
of the Monomoy Citizen!
Send scanned artwork to
monomoy.citizen@monomoy.edu
or drop off at the office.

MRMS Drama Club Presents ‘Peter Pan, Jr.’



Bob Wilder directs Charlie Hamilton and Alexis Arruda.

By Jacoby Scott

As you may or may not know, the Monomoy Regional Middle School play will be “Peter Pan” and it will be at 6:30 p.m. on April 10, 11 and 12. I interviewed Bob Wilder, the director, and Suzette Hutchinson, the choreographer. Also I interviewed Charlie Hamilton, who plays Peter Pan, Alexis Arruda who plays Captain Hook, Hannah Kurtz who plays Wendy, and Chloe Jones who plays Michael.

When directing the play, Bob and Suzette didn’t change the plot of the story at all but they did shorten some songs. The only real problem they faced while trying to recreate the play was they couldn’t have Peter Pan flying, they said.

Bob has been directing since fifth grade but wouldn’t tell me more than that. Suzette has been choreographing since 1998. Their favorite play to direct/choreograph was “The Pirates of Penzance.” When choosing who gets each part, they choose the person who has the best personality for the part, they said.

All of the leads have been in plays at school before. For Alexis, it is her third year in a play. Alexis is also the only lead who has been in a play outside of school. On stage, Alexis, Hannah and Chloe are sometimes nervous, while Charlie is always nervous on stage. Charlie joined the play because, he said, his homeroom last year forced him to, while the other three wanted to express themselves in a fun way.

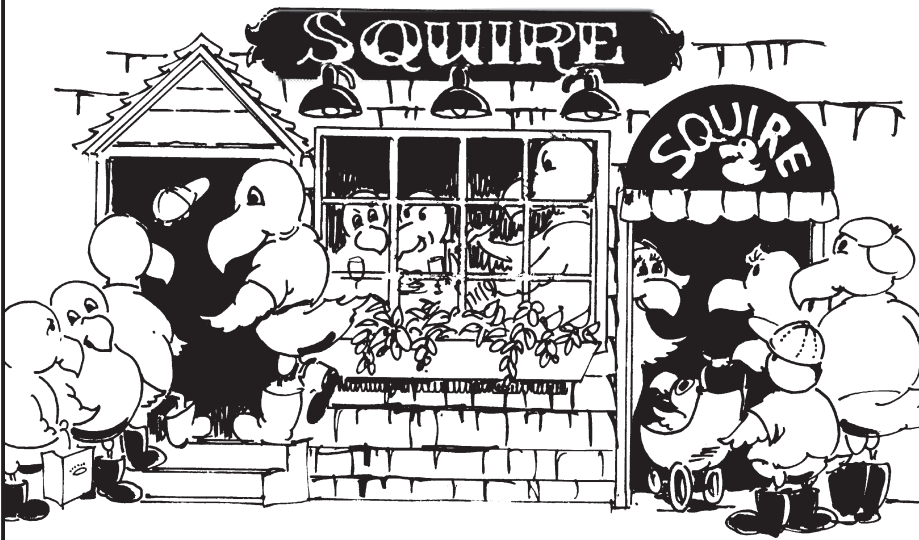


In rehearsals for Peter Pan, Jr.



Rehearsing a sword fight scene.

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What is Art?

by Savannah Chadwick

“Art is great because it gives other people a voice, and opportunities, besides other classes,” says Mr. Nickerson, one of the two art teachers here at the Monomoy Middle School. He continues, “Art is a way to expand out of other subjects.”

Mr. Turnbull, the other art teacher here at the middle school says, “Art is a fun way of learning history.”

Both of these art teachers teach us not only art, but what else it has to offer. They help us understand how fun art can be and what it is all about. Art comes from imagination and the more you put into things like art, the better you can express yourself and the more confident you become. Mr. Nickerson teaches “everything.” What he means by this is he teaches all aspects of art such as sculpture, drawing, and painting. Though there are many more aspects of art, these are a few of the aspects that Mr. Nickerson has used so far this year.

Mr. Turnbull teaches similar techniques. Both of these teachers teach more than art. They teach their students to have self-confidence and help them find ways to express themselves that they may not be able to do in other classes.

Coming up soon there will be an art show with at least one piece of art from each student. We cannot wait to attend and see just what students have been working on in art, and what it will inspire other people to accomplish and create in the future!



Reduce The Use!

by Arlo Danielson

Have you ever seen someone just throwing away recyclable plastic or aluminum? Well, that is 1.) harming the environment and 2.) a waste. After school one Wednesday, we found Pete the janitor and we asked him to find a RECYCLE bin and place it in the cafeteria, because there was no recycling bin.

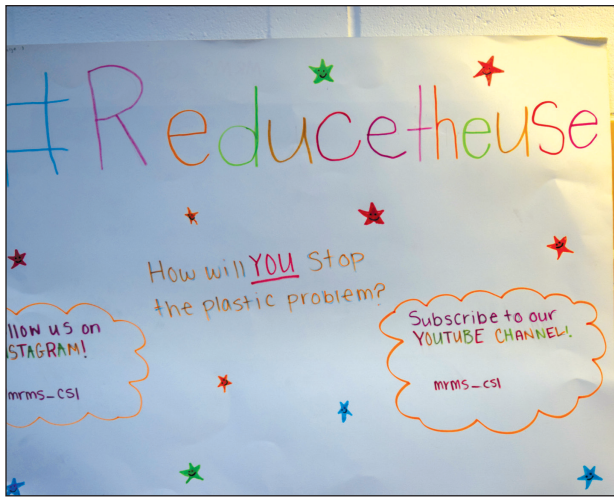
We asked Mr. Wilson what he was doing to help that cause, “We installed a water bottle refilling station outside of the cafeteria so students and staff have access to filtered and chilled water to reduce the number of throw-away plastic water bottles used in our school,” he said. “To date, the water filling station has reduced the need for over 100,000 water bottles. We are also seeking to replace plastic straws and eating utensils with recyclable materials. Both initiatives seek to reduce or eliminate plastic waste, which harms the environment during production and decomposition.”

He said, “Recycling requires a dedicated effort from all students and staff, and part of that effort includes separating recyclables from non-recyclables. Unfortunately, when food or beverage gets mixed in with the recyclables, problems arise with regard to safety.” Mr. Wilson also said, “Taking pride in protecting our environment helps to make sure we follow the posted rules. water to reduce the number of throw-away plastic water bottles used in our school. To date, the water filling station has

reduced the need for over 100,000 water bottles. We are also seeking to replace plastic straws and eating utensils with recyclable materials.”

We look forward to seeing what the school does to help combat this problem.

This is a very serious problem, as you know, because with all of this plastic, we are slowly killing the earth. Nobody wants that.



A sign to remind everyone the importance of reducing plastic use.



Pete the janitor installing the new recycling bin.

Sergeant Massey: Keeping Our School Safe

By Jacoby Scott

Sergeant William Massey is the Monomoy Regional Middle School school resource officer. He has been a police officer for 21 years.

He grew up in Northampton, Mass. He learned to be a police officer in Agawam, Mass. He decided to be a resource officer because he wanted to make sure that the school community had an opportunity to have positive contact with the police department. His first school district as a resource officer was Hampshire Regional School District. The schools he goes to now are the ones in Chatham, Chatham Elementary School and Monomoy Middle School.

He has many jobs as a resource officer. Some examples are mentoring, safety and security, helping students, helping teachers, and being available to everyone at school.

He only has been doing seminars for one year. The seminars he does are junior justice academy and mock trial. In mock trial, you create a make believe trial where students act as lawyers, witnesses and criminals. In junior justice academy, you learn about the different laws, levels of evidence, and what police officers do.

Outside of school Sergeant Massey likes to watch and play hockey and go boating.



Sergeant William Massey greeting a student at Chatham Elementary School.

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Why Does MRMS Have A Vernal Pool?

by Ethan Seufert

Have you ever wondered anything about the vernal pools at our school? Where did they come from and what is their purpose?

We have two vernal pools at the Monomoy Regional Middle school. Mrs. Gifford said the science department wanted to build the vernal pools to create an important habitat for endangered species, to create an outdoor classroom, and to work with organizations in the community. They are educational for the students because students get to do hands-on field experiments like water testing, identification of organisms, and tracking changes to the habitat over time.

The vernal pools were created by the Chatham Conservation Foundation on its land right next to the school. First they brought in an excavator and cleared the trees and made two holes. Then the kids put liners in the vernal pool and the excavator covered them with dirt and rain filled them with water. The vernal pools will last for a really really long time. Mrs. Gifford said.

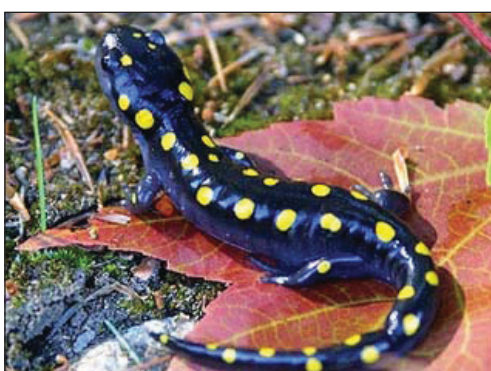
There are many creatures in and around the vernal pools. Mrs. Gifford likes the frogs and Mrs. Forist likes the coyotes. The most unusual thing Mrs. Gifford and Mrs. Forist ever found was a spring peeper because they are very hard to spot.



Setting up the vernal pool.



A spadefoot toad.



A spotted salamander.

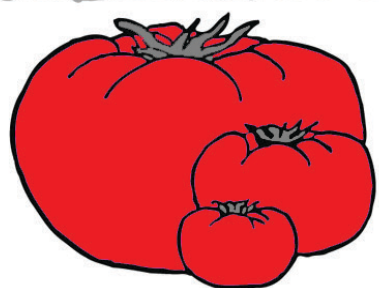


Hanging at the vernal pool. PHOTOS COURTESY OF MRS. GIFFORD.



Kids help install a liner at the vernal pool.

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