

# Gladiator Times

June 2023

Issue 5

**E.C. GOODWIN HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SPIRIT WEEK**  
**MAY 1-5**

MONDAY 5/1 PJ Day  
TUESDAY 5/2 Decades Day  
WEDNESDAY 5/3 Jersey Day  
THURSDAY 5/4 Twinnin Thursday  
FRIDAY 5/5 Senior Citizens Day

Show your school spirit

Ask your shop teachers if you can participate

All clothes worn during the week must be appropriate for school. DON'T RUIN THE FUN!!

Make sure to check out Goodwin Tech's Spirit Week participation made by both students and staff!

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## ~:~ Newspaper Club ~:~

*Claudia gives Newspaper Club.*



*2 Thumbs Up!*

## Special Thanks

On behalf of the Newspaper Club, I would like to thank all of the staff, students, and parents who continuously checked in on our issues. That truly helped the Newspaper Club continue to strive to be better. And a special thanks to Mr. Houlberg for even making the Newspaper possible. Without him, there would be no issues. So a big thanks to all of you, especially you, Mr. Houlberg.

-Alison Navarro-Delgado

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# **Behind the Scenes**

**Claudia Hernaiz Lopez**

**Trooper Victor Meijas is a very familiar face to me, to other students, and even to staff members of E.C. Goodwin. Although, I personally don't think I**



**had ever actually talked to him up until recently. This was brought to my attention after multiple times of seeing him around the school and not even knowing his name. I only knew him as a new Trooper, something that I was sure I wasn't alone on. Luckily for me, the trooper was open to sitting down with me for a short interview and it was my pleasure to learn more about this kind and friendly man.**

**As a school resource officer, Trooper Meijas main job is to watch out for the safety of the students and staff of E.C. Goodwin. He has been working at our school since November of last year, so he's pretty new, all things considered.**

**When asked what his favorite part of his job was he replied, "Interacting with the students?" and proceeded to explain that he likes how this job brings upon different opportunities to build strong and meaningful relationships with those around him.**

**Trooper keeps himself busy outside of school by working out, playing sports and video games, and even traveling. In addition to that, he enjoys anything art related and also goes on hikes and takes photos. Once we had gone over his hobbies, Trooper stated that something he would like people to know about him is that he graduated from E.C. in 2011.**

**“I played basketball here and was very big into art. I am also a resident of New Britain; I grew up local around here, so I grew up around here like most of you did.” So, as an alumni Trooper**

**Once again, it was gratifying to sit down and interview someone I knew close to nothing about and learn more about him. Trooper’s caring smile and thoughtful responses simply served to remind me that it is crucial that we take the time to appreciate and get to know the people that work at our school; that makes it such a smooth-running place. Especially someone like Trooper Meijas, who is there to protect us and make sure we’re as safe as possible.**



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# Spirit Week 2023

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Spirit Week!



**Goodwin Tech's Students and Staff:**

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Pajama Day



# Decade Day



# Jersey Day



# Twinning Day





# Senior Citizen Day



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# **Do You Know? E.C. Goodwin's Teacher of the Year?**

**Aaliyah Lopez**

This year electrical teacher and softball coach Mr. Murray was nominated for, and won teacher of the year! And based on what I've heard from other students I think this award was very deserved. According to others Mr. Murray is a respectful, fun and caring Teacher. He takes the time not only to teach his students the ways of electrical but also basic life lessons and skills they'll need upon graduating and becoming full time adults. Murray can be tough at times but in a good way. He is seen as a father-like figure to all his students, and tries to support them in any way they need. He is both a great coach and teacher so here are some things you may have not known about him.



**Name** - Ronald Murray

**Birthday** - May 2

**Why did you come to E.C.?** - Used to teach at Lincoln Tech for 15 years and wanted to come into a different school system to teach younger kids

**Favorite part about job** - Watching kids mature

**Least Favorite part about job** - Doing administrative paperwork

**Biggest pet peeve** - Laziness and lack of motivation

**Proudest accomplishment** - The amount of electricians he has helped train

**If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life -what would it be?** - Any type of pasta

**Favorite childhood memory** - Playing in the streets and playing sports, just being a kid

**How did you feel when you got nominated for teacher of the year** - Felt proud and humbled that a lot of colleges believes in what he does

**Biggest fear** - Drowning

**Hobbies** - Watching and coaching sports, collecting Red Sox memorabilia (has a basement filled with stuff)

**Why do you like the trade** - Watching something start as nothing and end up turning into something that people will use like a house or a building, and knowing that you were a part of the process.

**If you had to teach one other trade what would it be?** - Carpentry

**If you had the whole school to yourself what would you do?** - Pull a bunch of pranks on all the other shops like teepeeing them

**If you had a million dollars but only one day to spend it what would you buy** - Spend the money on throwing a big party for the whole school

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# **Get to Know**

## **Aaliyah Lopez**

**This year at E.C. Goodwin Tech we got a brand new principal, Mr Telseca and so far everyone seems to really like him including myself. People have told me that he is extremely optimistic, cheerful, friendly and easygoing. He can joke around with students and just wants the best for our school, which is why we now have a school newspaper. Just based on that it sounds like all of the students enjoy having him as our principal so here are few things about Mr Telesca that you probably didn't know**



**Name - David Telesca**

**Birthday - June 17**

**Why did you come to E.C.?** - Has been to several other schools and heard good things about Goodwin from this area. Also wanted to work with kids from own town and get to see the kids outside of school

**Favorite part about job** - Walking around school and trying to get into every class everyday as well as talking to different students and teachers.

**Least favorite part about job** - Doing paperwork and getting up early every morning, like at 4:30

**Biggest pet peeve** - People who lack empathy and aren't kind to each other

**Proudest accomplishment** - Father of two children, one 30 and the other 28

**Biggest Fear** - Being lost, having no sense direction

**Hobbies** - Anything technology related, reading Marvel and DC comic books

**Favorite childhood memory** - Grew up on a horse farm and would ride horses with his brothers

**If you had to have one other job what would it be?** - Selling phones at T-Mobile

**Favorite food** - Pizza

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# Sports: Girls Softball

Damion Gonzalez

## Meet the Seniors:

**Captain Kayla Vargas**, is a strong hitter for her team and has helped lead them to great success this year. She is a three sport athlete and starting first baseman for the Lady Gladiators. This season she has a .443 batting average with 27 runs batted in. She proves to be a major



contributor to her team's performance and a valuable asset when it comes to team strength.

**Captain Megan Lukaszewski**, is a

valuable asset to the Lady Gladiators as the left fielder and a three sport athlete. She has a .320 batting average and has scored 19 runs this season. She proves to be a strong force on defense and offense for her team. Her contribution to her team has been amazing this season.

**Captain Mariah Santiago**, a two sport athlete is another great player for the Lady Gladiators. Her speech is on par with a cheetah during games as she has been successful in stealing 15 or more bases

throughout the season. A player like her that is a great athlete with a lot of skill and speed, is an important asset to any team's success and she has definitely been a valuable piece for her team this season.

**Right Fielder Dezarya Trusty**, a three-sport athlete, is a strong asset to her team. While not holding the title of captain, her determination is close to if not on par to a captain. She is an excellent athlete and is known for her skill and dedication both on and off the field.

**Manager Sadie Clark**, a strong contributor to the Lady Gladiators acting as their manager for the last three years.



## About this season:

The Lady Gladiators finished off their regular season with an overall record of 8-12. During this season they have had some exciting games. With multiple close games and heartbreaking losses, overall, the girls played well. Some of those games were a 34-22 win over prince tech in a CTC conference game and a 28-16 win against Vinal Tech. One of the more heart-breaking losses was a 20-18 loss to Abbott Tech. The Lady Gladiators had multiple chances to win both in regular and extra innings, but the game was well played nonetheless and a great experience going forward. The girls celebrated their senior night on May 18th and had a very special celebration as they said goodbye to their seniors. As of this writing, the girls qualified for the CTC Conference Playoffs and the Class M State Tournament.

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# **Cafe Chive**

## **Chaitaly Gonzalez**

**As a reward for our good work in the Newspaper Club, we were invited to eat lunch at Cafe Chives. We all had a great time and enjoyed the experience of eating lunch at Cafe Chive,**

**I decided to write a review on the experience and spoke to other Newspaper Club members to see how they felt. The dish I ordered and had was the Pork Torta Milanese which is a pork cutlet on a Mexican telera roll with guacamole, pickled jalapeno, black beans, chipotle lime crema, lettuce, tomato, and mozzarella cheese. It was absolutely delicious. I had a great time sitting next to my friend, Aaliyah.**

**The food and the drinks were delicious and the service was on point. Being able to be appreciated for our hard work felt nice. Having fellow Newspaper Club member and Culinary student Tamia Timothy with us was great because she ensured we got the full Cafe Chive experience.**

**The bread that comes with all their meals was amazing, it was super fluffy and soft and just overall amazing. “I loved it. Service was good. Food was good,” Jeremiah Barker, 9th grader in MDET said. To sum up the experience, it was fantastic. Thank you to Cafe Chives and the students for the amazing food and service, and thank you to Mr. Houlberg for making this happen.**

**I highly recommend to any parents, faculty, or students who get the opportunity to experience lunch at Cafe Chive to do so because you won't regret it. Unfortunately students are not allowed to eat at Cafe Chive unless they are accompanied by a teacher but a reward for winning Student of the Month is the opportunity to get this amazing experience. The menu can be found on the E.C. Goodwin website which is where you would order from. Sometimes the menu gets changed up and they are receptive to some modifications to the dish if asked. They can also make food or cakes for events you are attending, why spend your precious time cooking when you can have the Culinary Students make it for you? Cafe Chive is open Tuesday thru Friday from 10:45 am - 12:30 pm, with pre-orders due by 10:00 am. They accept cash and checks.**



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# **Say Goodbye to Mr Granja**

**Jeremiah Barker**

**Mr. Joe Granja, MDET teacher, Department Head, and Athletics Director is sadly retiring after teaching for 26 years.**

**He was a mechanical designer before coming to E.C. Goodwin Tech. Over his 26 years as a teacher he has made meaningful connections with several students. Those relationships and connections are the things he likes most about the job; while the thing he dislikes most is all the paperwork.**

**He said that his greatest fear was having to lose a family member which is something we'd all fear. His favorite color is blue, his favorite food is seafood which is some very interesting stuff. Of all of his accomplishments he is most proud of two great kids (one of which is Ms. Granja, a substitute here at E.C. Goodwin Tech). Thanksgiving is his favorite holiday showing again his love**

**for family because if he were to ever have a million dollars he would immediately share it with friends and family. He's a family man!**

**During his retirement he plans to move down to South Carolina. While I may not have spent the most time with Mr. Granja, the time I did spend with him was great. He has a great sense of humor and is always there to help out his students when we need it. Here are some things some of his MDET Seniors had to say to him:**

**Isaac R. said "I wouldn't trade you for anything Mr. Granja (except Ms. Piscioti)"**

**Williany C. said "Thank you for teach us"**

**And as an inside joke Hilary M. is telling him "I'll get your coffee one day".**

**Before**



**After**



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# **Say Goodbye to Mrs Norris**

**Alison Navarro-Delgado**

**Mrs. Norris, the hairdressing and barbering teacher is getting ready to take her leave outside of Goodwin Tech. Before working at Goodwin however, she was a business partner of a salon. After several years of working in such a location and massive success in the area of North Hartford, she decided to come to Goodwin in late 2001. The end of this year marks her 22nd year of teaching!**



**Mrs. Norris' favorite part about working at Goodwin was creating a safe space for students. She also loved creating an outlet for creativity purposes and helping her students for their licensure/career in working at a salon. Not to mention, overall enjoyed working with her colleagues who she had a great time at Goodwin with. However, it obviously isn't easy teaching so many students over the years. She found that the most difficult challenge about working at Goodwin Tech was entering a new location. From working professionally at a salon to teaching the material to students was a very difficult transition. It is definitely difficult to teach a subject that one is so knowledgeable at to others, and Mrs. Norris did a salient job at that.**

**After Mrs. Norris leaves Goodwin, she will continue her career in the hairdressing industry. She will be working at Adult Ed, which is an Adult Education program that helps further an individual's career. She says she will miss Goodwin's environment however, "EC Goodwin is an awesome environment to teach. I have amazing colleagues and what not--All through the years it's been amazing. The culture, I'm gonna miss that. And you know, those types of things." Not only is she going to further in Adult Ed, she plans to travel and further her own personal businesses that she has on the side.**

**To Mrs. Norris' students who will miss her deeply, she has this to say to you all:**

**"Never tell anyone what you can't do, and always believe in yourself"**

**Mrs. Norris, on behalf of all of Goodwin Tech, thank you for all you have done for your students and the environment you have provided in the hairdressing trade. Your efforts and knowledge will be kept here at Goodwin and passed on to future students on your own. You will be missed but like you said in your own words:**



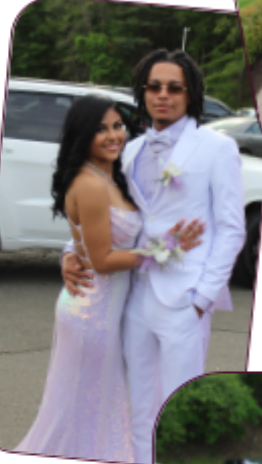
**"Just enjoy life."**

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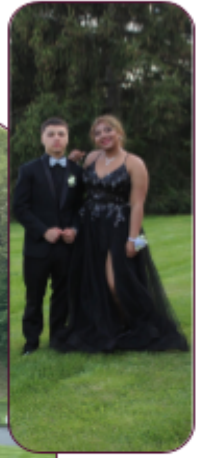
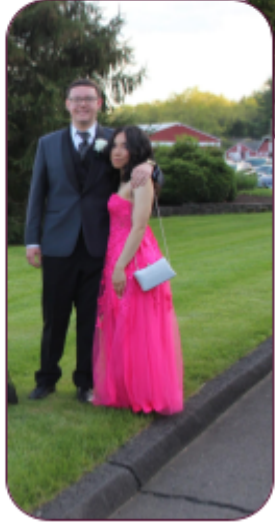
**Senior Prom**

*Prom 2k23*

*Queen & King*











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# **Night of The Arts and Freshmen Welcome Night**

**Claudia Hernaiz Lopez**

**E.C. Goodwin is a school full of talented and creative students. Although they are all original in their own ways, many are artistic, some are musical, and all are unique. On May 23rd, EC hosted its 6th annual Night of the Arts, which was conjoined with the Freshman Welcome Night. Although both events are usually held separately, both were incredibly successful, bringing forth recognition for the different talents at our school as well as introducing new students to the energetic atmosphere of our school.**

**The afternoon was filled with live music in the cafeteria, thanks to the Music Club, as well as snacks brought to us by Culinary. What's more,**



**there was a display of different art pieces created by art students located in the Multi-Purpose Room. The pieces ranged from drawings and paintings to wooden robots and clay figurines. It was a truly diverse experience in which the skilled accomplishments of our students were exhibited. In addition to this, all shops were open, ready to welcome any and all interested freshmen. Although there did seem to be a consensus among the freshmen that were interviewed since most said that they held a special interest in E.C.'s Electrical shop. Of course, there were also different tables towards the front of the school where teachers and staff gave out information to our incoming freshmen ranging from details about the different courses they might be taking to the different sports that are offered at our school.**



**All in all, it was a fun and eventful night and I hope everyone who attended enjoyed it. It was a joy to see so many fascinated freshmen ready to begin their high school experience, and even members of our community**

**wanting to support the arts at our school. Of course, these two entertaining functions couldn't have been possible without the staff at E.C. Goodwin, and of course, the very special students who go here.**

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# **Mothers Day Fundraiser: Rose Sale**

**Alison Navarro-Delgado**

Goodwin Tech's very own Music Club held its very first Mothers Day Rose Sale fundraiser. The Club priced the said roses at \$5 each and sold many throughout the various lunch waves. Though primarily aimed and orchestrated for Mothers Day, Music Club encouraged students to purchase them for friends, teachers, or even, as a secret admirer. Though the selling window for the beautiful flowers consisted of a single school week, the amount of purchases made was more than expected.

The flowers were originally aimed to be distributed the day Seniors were leaving for their prom.

However, even with thorough preparation, the roses that were left in water filled containers wilted and absorbed all of the water they were left in. In the panic, Ms. Atkins, one of our very wonderful staff members and Goodwin Tech, sought out to find every solution in the book. Though it wasn't entirely a success.

Even though the flowers were not distributed the day that was planned, Music Club made efforts to get fresh new roses and give them out to those who purchased them the following monday. Even in the chaos and madness, Music Club was able to pull through and have a successful Mothers Day Fundraiser.



Music Club Rose Sale  
May 5 - May 10

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# **Team Rescue ft. Automotive & HVAC**

**Alison Navarro-Delgado**

**Goodwin Tech's very own trades, Automotive and HVAC, teamed up on May 16th after HVAC discovered a fragile and ill bird hiding within its materials. The curious and frightened little creature must have buried itself away after finding no way out of the cold and hard working shop. Since it was such a peculiar sight, HVAC made its way to the adjacent garage door where Automotive was working on numerous customer vehicles. Only then, did Auto spring into action by taking care of its weak outdoor pet later named, Tweet Tweet.**



**Automotive students stopped to make sure the bird was not only safe but hydrated and fed on the hot day.**

**Students rushed inside the shop to gather water and some seeds that coincidentally, a student had brought in. They crushed up the seeds and fed Tweet Tweet. The water bottle used to hydrate the scared bird was used to wet its head a little, while Tweet Tweet**

**fought for the rest of the dripping water from the opening. The poor bird was not only frightened, but thankful that it was receiving such care.**

**Tweet Tweet was the talk of the day in Auto, as well as the main focus alongside the numerous vehicles that were awaiting their departure. After care and nutrition, it was time to say goodbye. Tweet Tweet will forever be remembered in Auto.**



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# **Editor's Comments**

**As we know, Goodwin Tech had been granted the opportunity to restart a new club. That is the Newspaper Club, thanks to our very own Mr. Houlberg. I've mentioned it in the past and how none of this would be possible without him. However, I failed to acknowledge the fact that none of the issues would have been published without the efforts of our own Goodwin students. This club is not one where you are obliged to submit something for every issue. It is one where you can write or submit whenever you feel you are comfortable and ready to join. I thank all of our wonderful students for their hard work and efforts in helping myself and Mr. Houlberg publish these issues. Though not many in person meetings occurred, our club truly feels as if we are one. There has been no issue, besides late submissions,**

**(come on guys lets get better at that; all jokes!!!)**

**within our very small club. And to be truthfully honest that's quite rare for a highschool community. Point is, I am so grateful for everyone and their dedication towards the issues and I look forward to many more next year. Given that it will be my last year attending Goodwin next year, I hope to help future Editor Aliyah Lopez, learn the ropes and tricks I've learned, to make submissions a lot smoother in the near future; If she will take the position, which I am positive she may.**

**And to anyone who is interested in joining next year, please do not hesitate to! There is no pressure or stress to write every month. Pace yourself, and do what you can. We will appreciate you no matter what. And as**

**always,  
thank you  
for the support.**

**We couldn't have done it without you viewers.**

**-Alison Navarro-Delgado**

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