

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



“Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears...”

~The Tragedy of Julius Caesar (III, ii)

This very famous quotation from one of Shakespeare’s most well-known plays seemed appropriate to begin this week’s message for today, March 15th-The Ides of March. There are a few other days of note this week, including March 14th-Pi Day (a popular day in the math department), and St. Patrick’s Day on March 17th. It is this time of year when it feels that spring is truly right around the corner. While changing of the seasons is perpetual, changing perceptions is not easy, but a necessary part of making change in the world. Our actions demonstrate what we believe in and, at Amity Regional High School, we hold **fairness, respect and passion** as our core values. It is necessary to continuously work on holding these core values central to everything we do. We are actively living the theme “be the change” at the high school in a variety of ways, including a mentorship opportunity between high school and middle school students. This week, five high school students partnered with the 8th grade English teachers at Amity Middle School-Orange for a day of discussion about the personal, cultural and social significance of Harper Lee’s *To Kill A Mockingbird*. These high school students spent the day on Thursday with the 8th graders—including lunch—and, according to the teachers, “exceeded expectations.” By working as a community and emulating the behavior we expect to see, we will continue to create an “inclusive community that affirms the contributions, strengths, and talents of all of its members” as stated in our school’s mission statement. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This week's college is **University of Pittsburgh**, and the career of the week is **Dental Hygienist**. Believing that real world experience is most important in education, the [University of Pittsburgh](#) guarantees an internship for every undergraduate. The school also encourages volunteer opportunities, study abroad programs and offers over 100 majors, minors and certificate programs in various fields. [Dental Hygienists](#) clean teeth, examine patients for signs of oral diseases such as gingivitis, and provide other preventive dental care. They also educate patients on ways to improve and maintain good oral health. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, dental hygienists earn an average salary of \$74,070 per year, have flexible work schedules and can expect rapid job growth through 2026. For more information, students can view the bulletin boards in the main hallway and in the Career Center and/or speak with the Career Center staff.

Happenings and Information

Amity Artists' Exhibition Opening Show: You are invited to an exhibition of photographs and ceramics by Amity's advanced photography and ceramic students at **The Main Street Gallery, 256 Main Street in Ansonia**. These students have worked all year towards showing their work as professional artists and are now members of the Valley Arts Council. All of them would be thrilled if you could spare a few minutes out of your busy evening on **Tuesday, March 19th from 7pm-9pm**. The formal invitation may be found [here](#).

OBOA Vote: This past week, the ARHS community held a vote for next school year's book choice. Students and teachers were asked to watch this prepared [video](#) and then choose between the two titles. The final reveal will be in May, 2019.

Becoming an Ally Training: The Anti-Defamation League will be providing "Becoming an Ally" training to a select group of students on May 22nd. Students in grades 9-11 are encouraged to apply to participate in the training. This interactive training program is participatory, and provides practical opportunities to engage students in exploring the harms of name-calling and bullying and developing and practicing skills to respond to incidents. Please have your child complete this [Google form](#) if interested. The deadline to complete the form is March

22nd. Students will be notified in early April if they have been selected to participate.

2019-2020 New Haven Magnet Program/Open Choice Information: Please find information through the following attachments, in both [Spanish](#) and [English](#), regarding the New Haven Magnet programs. If you would like more information on applying, please see this [link](#).

Congratulations to World Language Honors Society Inductees: The induction ceremony for new members of the Spanish Language, French Language, Chinese Language and Latin Honors Societies was held this past Wednesday.

Interesting article to share: In light of last week's ARHS Happenings Newsletter message regarding combating academic dishonesty and this week's national news about college admissions scandal, this is an interesting [article](#) about the enormous pressures students and parents are feeling regarding the college admissions experience.

Senior Happenings

Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP): The next deadline for participating SSLP students is April 10th, 2019. Students will need to verify that they watched the Safety Training Presentation and hand in a completed Approved Experiential Learning Program Agreement Contract. Site supervisors, parents, and the student will need to complete and sign one copy and return to the Career Center for final signatures and approval. In case of emergency, both the site and parent should have a completed copy of each form. See attachment. **NO EXCEPTIONS FOR MISSED DEADLINE.** Lynn Cocco, our SSLP Coordinator, is available to answer and assist students with all their SSLP questions. Please find a copy of the SSLP Contract [here](#). A sample copy of the contract is [here](#).

Community Service Information for Seniors: Seniors who have completed at least 100 hours of volunteer service during their high school career at Amity will be recognized at graduation for their service to the community. Each Senior will receive a certificate along with a special honor cord to be worn at graduation. All completed community service forms **must be handed no later than April 15th, 2019.** Seniors can find their accumulated hours

in PowerSchool under Ecollect Forms. If you have any questions regarding community service, please stop by the Career Center.

Local Scholarship Opportunities:

- The **Orange Community Women** are offering scholarships to any graduating senior who resides in Orange. The primary criterion for the selection is the recipient must have completed community service in the Town of Orange and show financial need. Scholarship awards range from \$300-\$500. Applications can be found in the Career Center. No applications will be considered after **April 29th, 2019**.
- **Beth-Wood Baseball League** is awarding a \$500 scholarship to a high school senior who resides in Woodbridge or Bethany. Student must have participated as a Player or Umpire, enrolling in a two or four-year accredited College/University and someone who has made a positive contribution to their school and community. Click [here](#) for an application. **Application deadline is May 3, 2019**.
- The **Orange Little League** is offering a \$500 scholarship for a senior that resides in Orange, Woodbridge, or Bethany and previously either played, was Scorekeeper or Umpire for the Orange Little League. **Deadline to apply is April 19, 2019**. Applications are available in the Career Center.

Free Community College Field Trip: Amity High School will be taking a field trip to **Naugatuck Valley Community College on Friday, March 22, 2019**. If interested, please pick up your permission slip in the Career Center.

Notes from Counseling Department

Annual Academy Night: On **Wednesday, April 24, 2019**, the Connecticut Congressional Delegation will be holding our annual Academy Night for students and recent graduates who are interested in attending one of our nation's preeminent military academies – U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the U.S. Naval Academy. This is a great opportunity for students to meet with representatives and cadets/midshipmen from each of the academies. The doors will open at 4:30 PM. The program is scheduled to begin promptly at 5:00 PM at the MG Maurice Rose Armed Forces Reserve Center, 375 Smith Street, Middletown, CT. Please see this [flyer](#) for more information.

2019 Summer Programs: Please find a [list of summer programs](#) as a courtesy to students and their families. The Amity High School has not conducted any review or background checks of these programs. If student and their parents decide to pursue any of these opportunities, they should conduct their own review. Please [click here](#) for a list of available summer programs in and outside of Connecticut.

Save the Date!! College Fair: The annual **Amity High School College Fair** will be held on **Monday, April 1, 2019** from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the AHS Gymnasium. This is a great way for students and parents to meet one-on-one with college admission decision-makers and answer questions about a particular institute. The college fair is free and open to the public. A tentative list of colleges attending can be found here. Mark your calendars for a great night!

Yale University ITS High School Internship: The Yale Information Technology Systems Department has a Summer Internship Program that runs from early July to mid-August. This is a paid internship, and the experience is resume-worthy. Students must complete an application [online](#) by April 19, 2109. Students will be notified in May if they are selected to participate, after an interview in April. The following are the qualifying factors:

1. Orange residents only
2. US Citizen
3. Students must demonstrate strong aptitude
4. Well rounded, enthusiastic learners
5. An interest in Information Technology
6. Must be at least 16 by July 1, 2019

Important Reminders

Amity Efficiency Award: Please click on this [link](#) for the student application for the Jack B. Levine Efficiency Award of Excellence. The deadline for applications this year is April 26, 2019. There will be one recipient from each school. Each awardee will each receive \$300 and recognition at the June Board of Education

meeting. Click on this [link](#) for more details. Completed applications should be sent to me in the main office.

Athletics

Athletic Department Website: For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for spring sports, please refer to the athletic department's website [here](#).

Show Your Spartan Pride: The Amity Athletics Booster Club is selling [Yard Signs](#) through March 22nd. Support our club and proudly display your pride for your Amity student(s); suitable for ANY high school or middle school student. Please see this announcement for more information.

Community Happenings

Amity Adult & Continuing Education - Spring 2019: The Amity Adult & Continuing Education program cordially invites you to check out our Spring 2019 online [catalog](#)! There are lots of courses to choose from! We have new courses in creativity, health and wellness, fitness, finance, specialty interests, spirituality and many more! View a full list of courses [HERE!](#) Log on today to view our catalog and sign up for one (or more) of our fun and informative courses! The Spring Session is starting now!

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