

## ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



As we begin the 4<sup>th</sup> and final quarter of the year, it is a good time to reflect on the completed so far this school year to get a perspective of the growth—academically, socially and emotionally—that have taken place. We have worked hard, throughout this year, to address concerns with school culture, including addressing biased and intolerant behavior. We have also worked hard, as a school community, to create an academic institution that is predicated on learning expectations and lives up to the core values of **fairness, respect and passion**. Throughout this year, the Amity Regional High School Faculty has spent a large amount of time reflecting on our school organization through a formal self-study process in preparation for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Decennial Accreditation visit, which will take place in September. The school newspaper, [The Trident](#), has completed a series of article on the work of the faculty and the upcoming visit (see the February edition [here](#)). There was also a presentation to the PTSO and there will be another presentation made to the Board of Education at the April meeting. The self-reflection process is a wonderful model to set as educators and is also a practical approach to helping us set goals for where we want to grow as a school organization in the future. Have a good weekend!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College and Career of the Week:** This week's college is **Paul Smith's College**, and the career of the week is **Conservation Scientist**. [Paul Smith's College](#) is located in Paul Smiths, New York within the Adirondack Mountains. This rural campus sits approximately 160 miles north of Albany OR 65 miles south of the Canadian border. Interesting majors include Forestry, Ecological Restoration, Sustainable Communities and Human Health & the Environment – just to name a few. Outdoor activity loving students appreciate this college for being green and having an incredible backyard. [Conservation Scientists](#) manage and monitor overall land quality of forests, parks, rangelands and other natural resources (US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2017). They work for

governments, privately owned lands or in social advocacy organizations. 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**

**Registrar of Voters:** Throughout next week, the registrar of voters will visit senior English classes at ARHS to help any students who are 18 or older register to vote.

**Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation:** Connecticut author and storyteller Matthew Dicks will visit Amity Regional High School next week to present two master classes in the art of storytelling. Matthew Dicks is the author of several novels, including *Something Missing*, *Unexpectedly Milo*, and his new release *Storyworthy: Engage, Teach, Persuade, and Change Your Life through the Power of Storytelling*. He has performed as a storyteller around the country and has won the Moth StorySLAM more than twenty times. Matthew will speak to students from Amity's English Language Arts classes involved in creative writing and literary analysis and will discuss the process for creating written and oral narratives. After school, a Storytelling Slam, open to the entire student body, will be held. The event will be hosted by Amity librarians Robert Musco and Victoria Hulse, and made possible by the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation and is not open to the public.

## **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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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.
- **Jeanne B. McKeon Memorial Scholarship**-Awarded to senior with financial need. The **Rotary Club of Orange** awarded to 3 seniors who are residents of Orange. In addition, the **RCO** is awarding one scholarship, **Joseph Cuzzocreo Memorial Scholarship**, to a senior pursuing a degree in Human Services or related field, i.e. Special Education. All applications are available in the Career Center.

**Local College Open House Events:** Want to learn more about our local community colleges? The **Gateway Community College in New Haven** is hosting their annual campus wide Open House on **Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 10:00am to 2:00pm**. No RSVP necessary. The **Naugatuck Valley Community College** at the Waterbury Campus will be hosting their open house on **Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 9:00am to**

**1:00pm.** Click [here](#) to RSVP. Discover all the possibilities your local community colleges have to offer! Bring a friend too!

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**Summer Opportunity:** Summer YMCA [Leadership Program](#) is available for all grades. Visit the [website link](#) for more information about the program.

**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.

**Are you interest in Chemistry? The Sacred Heart University Chemistry Department** is offering a [two-week summer program](#) called Computational Drug Discovery Summer Science Experience. This program is offered to students entering grades 10-12. The classes will run from **August 5<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, Mon.-Fri., 9:00am-4:00pm.** and will provide a high level pre-college introduction to the scientific, ethical and legal aspects of drug discovery and gain knowledge and skills using computer-aided drug design and modeling software. Students are admitted to the program on a competitive basis. For more information please see attachment.

**Journalism Summer Camp:** The Connecticut Health Investigative Team(C-HIT) is offering a one-week summer camp for students 16 or older. The C-HIT Summer Multimedia Workshops provide select high school students with the opportunity to develop investigative reporting, video and digital journalism skills in a unique learning environment led by distinguished local and national journalists. For more details and an application please click [here](#) .

**2019 UConn Pre-College Summer Program:** Find out what it's like to be a UCONN student for 4 weeks! The Pre-College

Summer Program at UConn offers rising high school juniors and seniors (class 2020 or 2021) the chance to study and live on their university campus. Please see their [website](#) for detailed information.

**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, 2019. 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**

**Volunteers Needed:**

- The **Peck Place Elementary School** in Orange is celebrating their **50th Anniversary** and would like at least 10 volunteers to help with this event on **Friday, May 31, from 5-8 pm** with a rain date set for June 1 from 2-5 pm. Help will be needed with the many of the outdoor events on that evening. Past students of Peck Place are encouraged to help. If interested, students are asked to sign up in the Career Center.
- The **Bethany Community Garden, Inc.** is looking for students to help with handicap beds going in in about two weeks that need to be filled with soil. They also would love to have a student that wants to volunteer on a regular basis to care for the food pantry garden. Students can choose their hours and no gardening experience is necessary. Please stop in the Career Center for more details.

## **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](#).

For a copy of next week's schedule, please click [here](#).

For a copy of this past week's results, please click [here](#).

## **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!

**Babysitting Basics:** This course is designed to equip youth with skills needed to be ready and to handle an emergency before and when it happens. We cover learning about being prepared, taking preventative safety measures to keep children safe, giving basic childcare, stopping the spread of infection, recognizing emergencies and what to do. In addition we explore leadership styles used when babysitting, first aid, CPR and AED. At the completion of the course each student will receive a certificate of completion. If interested and successfully pass the skills testing, each student will receive a certification card for CPR and First Aid. There is an additional \$25 fee, payable to the instructor, for CPR and first aid

certification. Register online [here](#). Courses are offered on April 25th or June 18th.

**Community Prevention Program:** Stephen Hill, Speaker/Author, will be presenting on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 7-8:30pm at High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT. Doors open at 6:30pm for refreshments. The presentation is the story of a young man's battle with drug addiction and journey to recovery. This event will be sponsored by Orange Youth Services, Woodbridge & Bethany Youth Services, and the Milford Prevention Council. Subject matter appropriate for middle school and high school students, as well as all parents/guardians. If you would like to attend this FREE event, register [online](#) or call Jessica Simone (203)891-4785.

**Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation Support:** If you were not able to secure tickets for the opening night of the ARHS Spring Musical *Catch Me If You Can* tonight, consider going to the Square Foot Theater rendition of *Ghost: The Musical*. [The preview night](#) supports the Hulley Art Foundation and information can be found here.

