

## ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Throughout this week, many student groups and school clubs have organized programs and raised awareness to highlight the inclusive community we strive to achieve at Amity Regional High School. As mentioned in the email sent earlier in the week, we have mindfully focused on being an inclusive community since adopting our mission statement over 4 years ago and intentionally been addressing issues that counteract that mission for the past 12 months. We have done so through curricular approaches with new courses and units which highlight inclusion, programming such as our OneBook/OneAmity (OBOA) all-community read, our whole-school workshop days and yearly theme of “Be the Change,” and activities through student-led club activities, play performances, art installations and, most recently, through [PRIDE week](#), which included the [student demonstration](#) on Thursday. The collaboration and student voice that has been in evidence this week makes me very proud to be a member of this school community. Our students have come together to create the inclusive community of which they want to be a part. Amity stands for friendship and our school community is committed to reminding all of its members that, as our senior Diego Rodriguez stated during his announcement to the entire school, “you are not alone.”

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

### Happenings and Information

**2019-2020 Budget Referendum:** A budget referendum vote will be held in each of the District’s member towns of Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at their usual polling locations for

the following question: “SHALL THE AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOLS’ BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 IN THE GROSS AMOUNT OF \$49,548,307 AND THE NET AMOUNT OF \$48,627,967 BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5?” The Regional Board Secretary’s [explanatory text](#) with respect to the referendum question, as authorized pursuant to State statute, will be mailed to all residents of the District during the week of May 1st. **Please remember to vote Wednesday, May 8th!**

**Holocaust Speaker Visit:** On Tuesday May 14 all ninth grade students will hear a presentation given by Endre (Andy) Sarkany. He will share his personal experiences in the Budapest ghetto during the Holocaust, living in Hungary under Soviet influence after World War II, and coming to the United States. This presentation directly supports student learning in World History and English I classes.

**Monday Earth Day Events at Amity:** This past Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, was Earth Day and Amity students and teachers worked to “be the change” and do their part. Students from the marine biology classes shared information during lunch about plastics in the ocean and revealed their “[turtle sculpture](#)” made out of reused plastic items while students in [Biology](#) and [AP Environmental Earth Science Classes](#) did a campus clean up.

**Tenth Grade Career Fair:** Today was the annual ARHS Career Fair for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. All sophomores attended 3 sessions with career speakers throughout the building, for which they had pre-registered through E-Collect in early April. Thank you so much to all of the adults who took time out of their busy schedules to present to our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. The list of presenters can be found [here](#) and pictures are also shared of a [classroom presentation](#), [lecture hall presentation](#) and [culinary presentation](#).

**Next PTSO Meeting:** The next PTSO meeting will take place on Thursday, May 2nd at 7:00pm in the library classroom. Please join us!

## **Senior Happenings**

**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.
- **Orange Youth Services** has received funding through the State Department of Education that allows Orange Youth Services to facilitate programming for Orange youth. One of this year's components is college scholarships of \$500 each to be awarded to three (3) graduating Amity High School seniors ***who live in Orange***. Students need to submit a transcript of their grades, a resume, as well as an essay. Interested students or parents may pick up an application at Orange Community Services office between 8:30 am-4:30 pm or in the Career Center at Amity High School. Applications can be dropped off at Community Services, mailed or emailed to Orange Youth Services, attn Jessica Simone, High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange CT 06477/ [jsimone@orange-ct.gov](mailto:jsimone@orange-ct.gov) . All applications must be received by the deadline of **Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Thank you for your interest.

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**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](#) .

### **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.

## **Athletics**

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

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