

# ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Throughout this fall we have continued to focus on building a strong sense of community through focusing on our school's core values and beliefs and living the theme of "Be true! Be you!" There is evidence of this throughout many aspects of the school, including engaging and intriguing classroom lessons that challenge students to think critically and creatively. The OBOA and Spartan Seminar activities throughout the fall months have helped students to connect to one another and set expectations for themselves and their peers. The extra-curricular sports, clubs and artistic endeavors continue to afford students with the opportunities to showcase their interests and talents. As we head in to the next calendar year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, parents, faculty and staff for the support shown for Amity Regional High School and for my leadership. I am honored to work with the other members of the Amity community to make ARHS the best place it can be for all students. Have a wonderful, restful December break. Happy Holidays to all who celebrate and a very Happy New Year for 2020 to everyone!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

## Happenings and Information

**End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period/Midterm Exam Period:** As a reminder, 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period will conclude on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. The midterm exams will run from Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> through Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Buses will run on an early dismissal schedule throughout the midterm exam week. More information to come in future newsletters!

**Attention seniors (and parents of seniors):** The **Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP)**, sometimes known as the "internship" program, will begin in early January. SSLP gives seniors the opportunity to work at a job site instead of attending classes during the last month of the school year. Seniors who wish to participate in SSLP **must** take a **one-hour mandatory workshop** in order to fully understand the program and successfully meet the requirements. Seniors must register for ONE

workshop. Registration information will be emailed to seniors on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Workshops will be held during mid-term exams and the week after, January 21<sup>st</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup>. Many different dates and times will be offered to accommodate everyone's schedule.

**Parent Workshop-January:** Please find information in this [flyer](#) regarding information regarding the January 23, 2020 Pupil Services Parent Workshop. We hope to see you there.

**Last Call for Baby Photos:** The yearbook staff has extended the submission deadline for Class of 2020 baby photos to **Friday, January 3rd**. Students and parents may upload a **single** baby photo on the yearbook website, [amitymembers.com](http://amitymembers.com), by clicking "Submit Photos" beneath either the "For Seniors" or "For Parents" tabs. Please send only high-resolution photos. Students can also drop off hard copy photos in the "Baby Pictures" box in the library. All hard copies should be clearly labeled so that they can be returned to their owners. A reminder—please do not submit professional photos as they are copyright protected.

**Reminder - Buy Your Yearbook:** The 2020 edition of *Embers* is currently on sale for \$80. Visit [amitymembers.com](http://amitymembers.com) to reserve your copy today! Please note that those who do not pre-order are not guaranteed a yearbook.

**Yearbook Grad Ads:** The deadline for grad ad purchases has been extended to Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Don't miss out on your chance to honor and encourage your graduating senior in a book that he or she will keep for years to come! We have several size options for your special message and photograph(s)—see our website information and pricing. Need some inspiration? Visit our website at [amitymembers.com](http://amitymembers.com) to see examples of past grad ads. Questions? Contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse, at [amembers@amityschools.org](mailto:amembers@amityschools.org).

## **Senior Happenings**

**May, 2020, Senior Service Learning Program Prep**— if you are planning to participate in the Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP or internship) OR the Senior Interest Project (SIP), **please check your school email OFTEN**. The SSLP is an unpaid, experiential learning program where seniors may leave school to work at job sites. The SIP gives seniors an opportunity to conduct a research or mini-capstone project on a topic of one's own choosing. BOTH programs occur during the last month of the school year **and more information will be emailed to all seniors before the winter vacation**. Participants are expected to meet program deadlines beginning in January, 2020.

**Additional Scholarship Resource Information:** Naviance is only one of the many resources for researching scholarships. The Amity College and Career Center posts local and national scholarships on Naviance throughout the school year. Students can

navigate through these scholarships in Naviance under the scholarship tab. Additional merit based and need based scholarships may be available by checking with the individual college or university or additional websites like [this one](#).

**Important: Financial Aid Form** – By now, most of you have filled out the FAFSA form to apply for financial aid. In addition, some colleges require the CSS Profile form to be submitted as well. Click [here](#) for a list of those colleges and universities that require the CSS Profile Form. Also, please be aware that December 16th is the transcript request deadline for any students who would like transcripts sent out for a 1/1/2019 application deadline.

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**UConn-Waterbury Campus Tours:** Please see this [flyer](#) for information about touring the UConn-Waterbury Branch during the holiday break.

**Local Gap Year Fair:** The USA Gap Fair at Fairfield Ludlowe High School in Fairfield, Ct will be offering a gap year fair for all to join on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 from 6:00-8:30pm. This is an opportunity to learn about a number of life-changing gap year programs from all around the world. Many of these programs also offer summer opportunities for students. For more information or to register for this event, please click [here](#).

**EMT Course:** The Naugatuck Valley Community College is offering an EMT Course to the public. Classes beginning January 22, 2020 to May 17, 2020. You can earn 6 college credits while training to be an Emergency Medical Technician. Classes are conducted by Connecticut State Certified EMS-Instructors. For course information, please call 203-596-8746. For Registration, please call 203-596-2177.

The **Volunteer Service Department at Yale New Haven Hospital** needs and welcomes energetic volunteers for their York Street and Saint Raphael campuses. Interviews are in the process now so please sign up for the upcoming winter/spring session, which runs **January 27, 2020 through April 10, 2020**. Please sign up [here](#). They are also adding a date which will not appear on the website, but will be available for Amity students on **Monday, December 9, from 3:00-5:00pm**. Please sign up for this interview by calling 888-700-6543 ext. 2.

**Summer Opportunity:** The United States Air Force Academy's summer seminar application is now open to all high school juniors from **December 1st 2019 until January 15th 2020**. The link to apply for summer seminar can be found [here](#).

## **Important Reminders**

**SAVE THE DATE-Junior Planning Night:** ARHS Junior Planning Night has been scheduled for 1/7/2020 starting at 6:30 in the Brady Center. Ann Fleming-Brown, Director of Admissions at Union College, will be our presenter.

**Senior Service Learning Program Parent Informational Evening:** The **SSLP Parent Informational Evening** will be held on **Monday, January 6, 2020 at 6:30pm in the Brady Center**/Auditorium. Lynn Cocco, the College and Career Counselor, will be presenting the expectations and guidelines of the 2020 Senior Service Learning Program (generally referred to as the SSLP or internship) and the Senior Interest Project (SIP). Parents are encouraged to attend if your senior is likely to participate in either of these programs.

**Speak-Up Reminder:** Parents and students can help stop intolerant and inappropriate behavior by using our anonymous “Speak Up” system to report any bullying, drug possession, crime, and other school or community safety concerns by calling or texting 203-936-6784. There is also a [link](#) on the District 5 website.

## **Athletics**

**Athletic Department Website:** For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for fall 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 week’s results, please click [here](#).