
ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



As author T. S. Eliot once wrote, “every moment is a fresh beginning.” We were able to ease back in to the school routine with a short, 2-day week this week before gearing up for the end of the quarter and semester in mid-January. However, even though we have had a well-deserved break from the academic rigors at Amity, the learning continues through student activities, opportunities and experiences. While we tend to set intentions and resolutions at this time of year, as Eliot identifies in the quotation there are ample opportunities to begin anew. Learning does not take place solely in the classroom and we encourage all Amity students to become engaged with the school community through their academics and through various activities, including athletics, school programs like Cocoa and Cram for 9th graders and artistic experiences such as auditioning for the spring musical (January 6th and 8th, 2020). Regardless of a student’s interest, there are so many opportunities to explore and learn both inside and outside of the classroom at Amity. Welcome to another new year and to continuous opportunities to learn and grow!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This week’s college is **Stony Brook University** and the career of the week is **Respiratory Therapist**. [Stony Brook University](#) is located in Stony Brook, NY, on the north shore of Long Island and approximately 60 miles east of New York City. Stony Brook is a flagship university in the State University system of New York (SUNY) and is ranked as a [“Top 40 Public University”](#) by US News & World Report. Founded in 1957, SBU currently enrolls nearly 18,000 undergraduate students and many popular majors are offered, including biology, psychology and business management among many others. [Annual costs](#) are approximately \$53,000 per academic year (tuition, fees, room and board) for out of state students. [“Respiratory therapists](#) care for patients who have trouble breathing—for example, from a chronic respiratory disease, such as asthma or emphysema” (US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019). Respiratory therapists work in medical facilities such as hospitals and nursing homes. An associate’s degree is required and most states have licensing requirements. The

average annual salary is \$60,280 (BLS, 2019). The profession expects faster than average growth at 21% through 2028 due to our country's aging population.

Happenings and Information

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.

End of 2nd Marking Period/Midterm Exam Period: As a reminder, 2nd marking period will conclude on Friday, January 17th. The midterm exams will run from Tuesday, January 21st through Friday, January 24th. Buses will run on an early dismissal schedule throughout the midterm exam week. The semester will close at the end of the midterm exam period.

Midterm Exam schedule and information: The midterm exam schedule can be found [here](#). Please note-exams are only approved for rescheduling for emergency absences which must be discussed with the student's designated administrator. If a student needs to reschedule an exam (due to sudden illness, emergency, etc), the student must receive **written** permission from his/her associate principal before rescheduling with the teacher or for a makeup session. Please call the main office, 203-397-4830, if you have any questions.

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.

Link Crew Cocoa and Cram: Wednesday, January 15th from 6-7:30 is our annual Link Crew Cocoa and Cram event for ninth graders. This is a great opportunity for freshmen to work with link leaders and each other to prepare for midterm exams. The event is free, and refreshments will be served. Students should bring their review sheets and study materials. They will leave feeling confident and prepared for their first midterm exams!

Reminder - Buy Your Yearbook: The 2020 edition of *Embers* is currently on sale for \$80. Visit amityembers.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 31st. 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 to see examples of past grad ads. Questions? Contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse, at embers@amityschools.org.

Senior Happenings

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 7th, 2020. Workshops will be held during mid-term exams and the week after, January 21st through 31st. Many different dates and times will be offered to accommodate everyone’s schedule.

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](#).

Notes from Counseling Department

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

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](#).

Community Happenings

TURKEY HILL SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB ANNOUNCES TENTH ANNIVERSARY REUNION CONCERT!: The Turkey Hill School Drama Club is celebrating it’s 10th Anniversary with a reunion concert featuring performers from the last ten years. Tickets go on sale December 1st for this one-night show, Friday, January 10th at 7 p.m. at Turkey Hill School, 441 Turkey Hill Road, Orange, CT. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for seniors/students and can be purchased

at www.dramaclub-ct.com. Tickets will be available at the door if seats are still available. A snow date of Saturday, January 11th at 7 p.m. is scheduled. All proceeds go to THS Drama Club.