

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Next week is the final week of the first semester, with grades closing next Friday, January 17th. This week's homeroom featured a [video](#) of images from throughout the first semester of this year that demonstrate some of the activities and programs from the first half of the 2019-2020 school year. As we head in to the final week of the semester, it is a chance for students to take stock of what they have accomplished throughout the first half of the year, what they want the second half of the year to look like and create a plan to accomplish those goals. Parents can assist with this by asking about school, activities and midterm exam preparation as well as helping students strategize for the second half of the year. One of the core beliefs of ARHS is persistence. It is this characteristic that will help students, teachers, parents and other members of our high school community work hard to accomplish our goals. As Benjamin Franklin once stated, "Doing your best means never stop trying." Through persistence, each of us will realize our goals. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This week's college is the **University of Michigan** and the career of the week is **Pharmacist**. The [University of Michigan](#) is located in Ann Arbor, Michigan, approximately 690 miles from the BOW area. Founded in 1817, it was the [first public university in the Northwest Territories](#). Today the university enrolls just over 30,000 undergraduate students and offers 275 degree programs. Also, UMich [retains 97%](#) of their freshman class. [Annual costs](#) are approximately \$67,000 per academic year (tuition, fees, room and board) for out of state students. "[Pharmacists](#) dispense prescription medications to patients and offer expertise in the safe use of prescriptions." (US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019). Additional duties include consulting with patients regarding health issues, filing insurance claims and managing pharmacy staff. In order to become a pharmacist, one must obtain a Pharm.D. degree and must pass TWO licensing exams. The median salary is \$126,120 per year (BLS, 2019) and projected employment shows little or no change in the profession through 2028. For more information, please visit the [American Pharmacists Association](#) or the [National Pharmacists Association](#).

Happenings and Information

Issue with vandalism in boys' bathrooms: An announcement was made during this week's homeroom that, due to recent vandalism in the boy's lavatories, many of the boys' bathrooms have been locked during the day. There are also regular security checks of the bathroom throughout the day. Students are encouraged to report any vandalism through our Speak Up tip line (203)-936-6784.

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. More information to come in future newsletters!

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 about breakfast at school: Please see this informational [flyer](#) about breakfast options at ARHS served by Chartwells.

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 amityembers.com to see examples of past grad ads. Questions? Contact the yearbook advisors, Ken Clark and Vicki Hulse, at embers@amityschools.org.

Delayed Opening: We will have a delayed school opening on Monday, January 27, and school will start at 9:30am that day due to staff development for staff. Busses will pick-up two hours later than usual on January 27. This is the first day of 2nd semester.

Senior Happenings

Attention seniors (and parents of seniors): We will soon begin the Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP), also known informally as the “internship program”. *If you are interested in participating in this year’s SSLP, please read on.* **SSLP 2020 will run from May 18th until June 5th.** During this time, participating seniors will become interns at predetermined job sites. **If you are a senior in good standing (no attendance or discipline issues) and have at least a 2.0 unweighted GPA, you may qualify to participate in SSLP. The first step is to register for the mandatory, one-hour SSLP workshop. Please go to the [Google form here](#) and register for the date and time that works best for you. If you have any registration issues, please contact me immediately.** Once you have attended the workshop, you can make the decision to participate in SSLP. Seniors will also have the opportunity to do a “Senior Interest Project (SIP)” as an alternative to the SSLP. Information about SIP will be shared during the SSLP Workshop as well. Please feel free to stop by, email or call Ms. Cocco if you have any questions or concerns.

Scholarship Opportunities for Seniors: Throughout the academic school year, local, state and federal organizations or agencies provide the opportunity for graduating seniors planning on pursuing post-high school education to apply for scholarships. This year, there are many scholarships with application deadlines in February, March, April, May and June. Although many have financial need as part of their criteria, there are scholarships that seek to reward students for personal or academic achievements, community service and/or by degree to be pursued in college. A list of active scholarships and applications are listed on Naviance. Please note, students are responsible for mailing their scholarship applications materials and transcripts, if requested. Do your research, make your scholarship lists and apply to as many awards that you are eligible for. All seniors are welcome to stop by the Career Center for any help or questions regarding scholarship applications.

Notes from Counseling Department

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](#).

Community Service Opportunities:

- **Math Maniacs** event at the Woodbridge Library on **Tuesday, February 18, 2020 from 2:00-3:30pm**. 10-12 students are needed to help with this fun event! Please sign up in the Career Center.
- **Mini Golf** event sponsored by The Friends of the Library at the Clark Memorial Library on **Saturday, February 1, 2020 from 11am-4:00pm**. Help is needed! Please contact Kathy Zollo at kbridgetzollo@gmail.com.

Important Reminders

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 winter 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](#).