

ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



This week we have officially kicked off the scheduling process for the 2020-2021 school year. Administrators have been visiting the middle schools to speak with 8th grade students about high school registration and classes, on Tuesday we welcomed over 600 rising 9th grade students to the high school during the 8th grade orientation night and on Thursday we hosted our annual “Program of Studies” fair to help energize 9th-11th grade students to get excited about scheduling process. Students will be able to begin signing up for next year’s classes as of Monday, February 10th. It is through such programs as Narrative 4 and the Program of Studies that we will continue to build a strong community that is diverse and empathic. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: week’s college is **Merrimack College** and the career of the week is **Computer Network Architect**. [Merrimack College](#) located in Andover, MA (approximately 25 miles north of Boston), and 160 miles from the BOW area. Merrimack was founded in 1947 by the Order of St. Augustine. Today the college has an undergraduate population of 3,800 students and boasts of a 14 to 1 student to faculty ratio. Over 100 academic programs are offered and 86% of 2018 grads participated in an internship. [Annual costs](#) are approximately \$60,000 per academic year (tuition, fees, room and board). Merrimack is also an “[Amity Top 50](#)” school. “[Computer network architects](#) (AKA Network Engineers) design and build data communication networks, including local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), and Intranets”, (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018). A bachelor’s degree is required for entry into the profession. The median salary is \$109,020 and the profession is expected to have average job growth at 5% through 2028 (BLS, 2018). For more information, please visit the following professional association websites: the [Network Professional Association](#), the [Association of Information Technology Professionals](#), and the [Association for Women in Computing](#).

Happenings and Information

Welcome to Mr. Miguel Pickering! We are excited to announce that Mr. Miguel Pickering will be taking the post of associate principal at Amity Regional High School beginning on Monday, February 10th. Mr. Pickering has over 14 years as an educator and educational leader, most recently serving as a principal

of Kenneth B. Clark Academy in Dobbs Ferry, NY. Mr. Pickering will work with the same caseload of students (last names A-F) with whom Dr. Tracy worked.

It's National School Counseling Week: National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. School counselors implement comprehensive school counseling programs, a vital part of the educational process for all students as they meet the challenges of the 21st century. Our nine school counselors actively engage in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents, work in a partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world, focus on positive ways to enhance students' academic, postsecondary and social/emotional development, and work with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. School counselors are certified, experienced educators with a master's degree in school counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program. Thank you to our counselors for all they do!

2020-2021 Course Selection Process: Scheduling for next school year will begin on Monday, 2/10. Students will be able to see their course recommendations and input electives. Parents will be receiving an email to verify these course requests. School counselors will meet individually with their students throughout this month to help with academic advising. Our Program of Studies is available on our website.

Valentine's Day Early Dismissal & Winter Recess: We will have an early student dismissal on Friday, February 14 at 12:12 p.m. to provide time for professional development for teachers and staff. There is also no school on February 17 and 18, our Winter Recess. School will resume on Wednesday, February 19.

Important ARHS Dates: Please see [this list](#) of important dates from the counseling department and administration for the spring 2020 semester.

Ninth Grade Parents/Guardians: This March all students in 7th and 9th grade at Amity will receive education about suicide prevention through our partnership with the Sandy Hook Promise. Administrators from Amity High School, Amity Middle School Bethany, and Amity Middle School Orange will hold an **Information Evening for parents of seventh graders on Tuesday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m. at ARHS.** Please click [here](#) for more information about Signs of Suicide (SOS) Education from the Sandy Hook Promise.

Senior Happenings

Attention Seniors: As a reminder, the deadline to complete your LINKEDIN Profile is **Monday, February 10th**. If you have any questions or concerns, please stop by to see Mrs. Cocco or Mrs. Vallie and the Career Center.

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.

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](#).

Current Local Scholarships available! Applications available in the Career Center.

- Bethany Lions Club (Bethany seniors only)
- Orange Scholarship Fund Association (Orange seniors only)
- Glenn Moon Scholarship (Open to all seniors pursuing Education)
- Amity Charitable Trust Fund-(Orange/Woodbridge Seniors only)
- Silver Pen Writing Competition Scholarship-(Open to all seniors)
- New Haven County Tax Collectors Association Scholarship (Open to all Seniors)
- UConn Waterbury Campus Scholarship: Click [here](#)
- Orange Community Women's Scholarship (Orange seniors only)
- Yale New Haven Hospital Auxiliary/Allied Health Scholarship

- Yale New Haven Minority Nursing & Allied Health Scholarship
- West Haven & Orange Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Scholarship

Notes from Counseling Department

Are you a female interested in the Engineering & Medical Field? UConn Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine is excited to announce the next IWEM (Inspiring Women in Engineering & Medicine) workshop. It will take place on **Saturday February 22nd, 2020** at the Musculoskeletal Institute at UConn Health in Farmington Connecticut. Female students (grades 10-12) in Connecticut are encouraged to apply. This will be a FREE, four hour hands on workshop. Participants will get to perform 3 different mock orthopaedic surgeries, hear from prominent women surgeons and interact with other successful women in the medical field, such as engineers, physical therapists and advanced practicing registered nurses. The deadline to apply is **February 6th, 2020**. Apply now at this [link](#) (application available 1/20/2020).

Do you care about the Environment? The Natural Resources Conservation Academy Conservation Ambassador Program at UConn is a summer opportunity for high school students (grades 9-11) who are interested in the environment, science, and community engagement. Through a week-long field experience at UConn and a community conservation project, this program engages students in natural resource science and conservation biology in a fun and exciting way through experiential, place-based learning. The field experience will take place from **July 19-25** at the UConn Storrs Campus. **Applications are due by April 1, 2020**. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Are you thinking of becoming an EMT? The Bethany Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Karen R. White Memorial Training Program will host an EMT-Basic Initial Certification Course starting **Sat. Feb. 22nd through Mon. Jun. 15th**. Classes will take place Monday & Wednesday nights 6:00pm-10:00pm, including four Saturdays Feb. 22nd, Mar. 28th, Apr. 25th and May 23rd. Classes will be held at the Bethany volunteer Fire Dept. Headquarters. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

Community Service Opportunities:

- **Math Maniacs:** event at the Woodbridge Library on **Tuesday, February 18th from 2:00-3:30pm**. 10- 12 students are needed to help make this event successful. Contact Judy Rabin at 203-389-3439 or email at jrabin@woodbridgect.org or sign up at the children's desk.
- **Woodbridge Youth Services and Orange Youth Services** are seeking parent volunteers and high school juniors and seniors to help at a Mardi Gras Party for Bethany-Orange-Woodbridge 8th graders on Friday, February 21 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm in the cafeteria at Amity High School.

Community service hours will be approved. Please register at 203-389-3429 or email npfund@woodbridgect.org.

Important Reminders

2020-2021 Course Selection Process: Over the next few weeks, students will be given information about registering for courses for next school year. Our Program of Studies will be on the school website by next week. On Thursday, February 6th, students will participate in a Program of Studies Fair during the lunch waves. This is an opportunity for students to learn about the courses offered for the 2020-2021 school year.

NEASC Decennial Visit Report: A copy of the recently released report from the New England Associate of Schools and Colleges Decennial Accreditation visit, which was conducted in late September, 2019, may be found [here](#).

Chartwell's Announcement: Please click [here](#) to read an announcement from Chartwell's Food Service about school lunch charging procedures.

Second Semester Independent Study: Any student 11th or 12th grade student interested in doing an Independent Study for second semester must submit their application to Mrs. Campbell no later than Monday February 10 by 2:18.

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.

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](#).

Community Happenings

Amity Adult Education Spring Semester: There are a few winter courses being offered. Check out our online [catalog](#).

Substitutes Needed: Please note that the Amity Regional School District is currently looking for daily substitutes in all three buildings. Please see this [link](#) for more information.

Orange Youth Services Activities: Please see the following flyers for opportunities through Orange Youth Services. This [flyer](#) has information about a town-wide talent show. Please click [here](#) to learn about the upcoming program on the “QPR Signs of Suicide” for both teens and parents.

Upcoming Amity District-Wide Art Show: There will be a district-wide visual art show at the Bethany Clark Memorial Library. The opening reception will be on February 12th from 5:30-7pm. Please come and join students in grades 7-12 as we showcase their creative work from a variety of formats. The show will run through March 6th.

Do You Know An Outstanding Woodbridge Student?: Woodbridge Youth Services, in collaboration with First Selectman Beth Heller, is accepting nominations for the First Selectman’s Youth Award. The annual award, now in its twenty-first year, will be presented to a deserving young Woodbridge resident at the Human Services Volunteer Tea on Thursday, April 23. Call 203-389-3429 for more information or find the nomination form on the Town’s website at <https://www.woodbridgect.org/160/Youth-Services>. Please submit nominations to Woodbridge Youth Services at 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525, by Monday, March 13, 2020.

Job Bank Teens Looking for Work: Woodbridge Youth Services has teens who want to do odd jobs in Woodbridge like snow shoveling, yard work, babysitting, and tutoring. Residents may call 203-389-3429 for assistance.