

## ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



This week we powered through the second major winter storm of the season without missing a step. At our faculty meeting on Monday we broke up in to smaller groups to share reflections on small wins each of us could identify. During these share-outs, many teachers remarked on the strong attendance and participation of their students during the fully-remote day on Monday. If we have learned anything from the past year, it is that we can prepare as best as possible for what we know might happen while maintaining the flexibility in our approach and mindsets to work through unanticipated scenarios. We have also been working throughout the past few weeks to begin to plan for the 2021-2022 school year. This week we hosted a virtual 8th Grade Transition Webinar for parents and students of the Amity Class of 2025. In the coming weeks, students in the middle schools and high school will begin to choose courses for next year. However, before we launch fully in to next school year we are also focusing on the second semester, particularly for the members of the Class of 2021. While activities may look differently this year, we are working hard to be creative with our ideas and show our seniors how proud we are of them. Have a good weekend!

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College & Career of the Week:** [Spelman College](#) is an HBCU (historically black college or university) college for women located in Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 1881 as the “Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary”, Spelman is recently ranked by [US News & World Report](#) as the #1 HBCU in the country. Just over 2,000 students are enrolled at Spelman where the most popular [majors](#) are biology and biomedical sciences, English, physical sciences, psychology and social sciences. Students are encouraged to participate in special programs such as “[The Spelman MILE](#)”, an interdisciplinary curriculum or “[G-STEM](#)”, promoting global research in STEM. [Annual tuition, room and board](#) is approximately \$35,000. Learn more by checking out Spelman’s upcoming [admissions events](#), viewing some [fast facts](#) or visiting their [admissions website](#). [Optometrists](#) diagnose and treat visual problems and manage diseases, injuries, and other disorders of the eyes”, (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019). [Optometrists](#) are employed in doctors’ offices, in specialized retail outlets or in their own practices. To work as an optometrist, one must complete a four-year doctoral program, pass a

national board examination and obtain [a state license](#). The average annual salary is \$115,250 with average job growth expected (4%) through 2029 (BLS, 2019). To learn more, please visit the following websites: the [American Optometric Association](#), the [American Academy of Optometry](#), and the [National Optometric Association](#).

*Some colleges that offer programs in pre-optometric/optometric studies include:*

Spelman College	University of Connecticut	UMaine/Farmington
Mass Coll of Pharmacy	University of Rhode Island	Western CT State Univ
Assumption University	SUNY/Binghamton	Utica College
Saint Anselm College	Pace University	SUNY/Oswego
Regis College	Emory University	SUNY/State College of Opto.
Caldwell University	University of Scranton	Rhode Island College

*Or visit NAVIANCE to search for more choices!*

## **Happenings and Information**

**Next week's cohort schedule:** We will continue with the hybrid model for the week of 2/8, with the A-K cohort attending on Wednesday. We will start the week with a "C" day.

**ARHS 2nd Marking Period Report Cards:** Report cards were sent out via email on Tuesday, February 2nd.

**12:12 Dismissal-Friday, February 12th:** Due to scheduled professional development for the Amity Regional School District #5, students will be dismissed at 12:12 next Friday.

**Independent Study Information:** Any junior or senior that is interested in a second semester Independent Study must contact Mrs. Campbell at [Courtney.campbell@amityregion5.org](mailto:Courtney.campbell@amityregion5.org) all proposals are due to Mrs. Campbell by Friday 2/5 by 3:00.

**Amity's Annual Shakespeare Speaking Competition:** This year's English Speaking Union's school-wide Shakespeare Speaking Competition will be held virtual on February 9th at 3pm. Students can sign up and learn more about the program by clicking on this [link](#).

## **Senior Happenings**

**Attention Seniors-SSLP Info:** For those students/family members who missed the SSLP Presentation Night on January 27th, the recorded presentation can be viewed [here](#).

### **Local Scholarship Opportunities:**

- **Silver Pen Essay Contest**—Sponsored by Evergreen Woods Retirement Community in North Branford, is offering high school seniors, within a 25-mile radius of any Senior Living retirement communities, an opportunity to apply for 3 scholarship award. Students can apply by writing an essay in response to a specific topic. Community members on the Resident Advisory committee will choose who will receive cash prizes. This Advisory Council consists of successful retired business professionals, educators and community leaders. Please visit their website to apply online [here](#) by **February 12, 2021**.
- **The CT Bar Foundation** is running their **21<sup>ST</sup> Annual Quinton Johnstone Statewide High School Essay Contest**. Prizes will include one \$2,000 winner and two runners-up for \$1,000 each. Essay submissions are judged on content/originality, organization, use of resource materials and writing. For more information and application, please click [here](#). Deadline to apply is **February 22, 2021**.
- The **Amity Charitable Trust Fund**, established by the Amity Club of New Haven, is awarding scholarships to Orange and Woodbridge seniors attending college in the fall. Criteria includes, students who have scored a combined 1000 or more on SAT's or 20 or more on ACT. Applications must be submitted by **March 31, 2021**. All applications are available in the Career Center.
- **Yale New Haven Hospital Auxiliary** is offering ten \$2,000 scholarships to area students planning to pursue a career in a healthcare-related profession. The application deadline is **Monday, March 19, 2021**. Please stop in the Career Center for an application.
- **Justin Wisniewski Firefighters Scholarship Fund:** To honor Justin's memory, his family, along with the Southington Fire Department, is offering a scholarship to those who are a child, grandchild or sibling of a Connecticut Firefighter. Please go to [www.ride4justin.com](http://www.ride4justin.com) to get more information or to download an application. Applications are due **Monday, March 15, 2021**.
- **Connecticut General Assembly's African American and Latino and Puerto Rican Sub-Commissions of the CWCSEO** will be offering 6 scholarships totaling \$6,000 to African American and Latino high school seniors. Interested students are asked to fill out the application and return it via email to [cwcseo@cga.ct.gov](mailto:cwcseo@cga.ct.gov) by 5:00pm on **Friday, January 29, 2021**. Applications are available in the Career Center.
- **Live Out Loud Young Trailblazers Scholarship** is awarding scholarships of \$5,000 to LGBTQ+ identifying youth in financial need.

- Applications are available [here](#). Applications are due **Monday, March 15, 2021**.
- **New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** is awarding scholarships to an African American senior who has excelled academically. Applications must be submitted electronically by **Friday, January 29, 2021**. Details can be found [here](#).
  - **Bethany Lions Club Scholarship** has established four scholarships for \$2,000 each and one scholarship for \$3,000. Applications are available at the Clark Memorial Library, the Bethany Town Hall and the Career Center. Applications must be returned to the Amity Guidance Office or Bethany Town Hall on or before **May 1, 2021**.
  - **Glenn Moon Scholarship** is offering financial help to qualified Seniors who are planning a career in education. Apply online at [www.artct.org](http://www.artct.org). Deadline to apply is March 31, 2021.
  - **Carl Moller Scholarship Program**-The CT Police Foundation will award a \$1,000 scholarships to five deserving seniors, one student from each region, who will pursue a career in law enforcement. Applications can be downloaded at [www.cpcanet.org](http://www.cpcanet.org). Application deadline is **April 1, 2021**.
  - **Orange Scholarship Fund Association** is offering their annual scholarships to all Orange students entering college in the fall of 2021. Criteria includes financial need, community service and leadership roles you have displayed within an activity or organization. Please note that parents must submit a copy of their Federal Tax For (pages 1 & 2 of Form 1040) as required to substantiate income data. The deadline to apply is **May 1, 2021**. Applications are available in the Career Center or email at [info@orangescholarshipfund.com](mailto:info@orangescholarshipfund.com).
  - **Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven Scholarships** are available to Jewish high school seniors. An academic average of "B" or better plus verified financial need qualifies a student to be considered. Applications are available in the or online at [jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships](http://jewishnewhaven.org/scholarships) or within the Career Center. Application deadline is **May 14, 2021**.
  - **Waterbury Campus of The University of Connecticut** is offering 2 scholarships to incoming freshman. The scholarship application for Incoming 2021-2022 Waterbury Campus students is now online. Please check the Waterbury Campus Admissions page at: <https://waterbury.uconn.edu/admissions/tuition-and-aid/> (scroll to the bottom of the page). The application deadline for **Incoming Freshman is March 19, 2021**. To directly link to the scholarship application, [click here](#).
  - **Lockheed Martin Vocational Scholarship** is awarding over 100 scholarships of \$6,600 each for students pursuing associate degrees and vocational-technical certifications in specified fields of study. To learn more, visit <https://lockheedmartin.com/vocational>. **The Application opened January 14, 2021. The deadline to apply is March 11, 2021.**

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**Military Programs** Students who are interested in Military Programs can come to the Career Center to obtain information regarding the Armed Forces. Representatives from all divisions visit Amity High School virtually by request. Students who are considering applying to Military Academies should schedule an appointment with their school counselor to discuss requirements. To learn more about a career in the military click [here](#) and to explore individual branches of service please visit these individual sites: [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com) [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil) [www.uscg.mil](http://www.uscg.mil) [www.usmc.mil](http://www.usmc.mil) [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil)

**ASVAB test** will be given at Amity High School on **Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 8:00am**. Any student in grades 10, 11 or 12 is welcome to take the test. The ASVAB or “Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery” is an online, multiple-choice test that helps students identify career strengths. **Students may register to take the test by signing up [here](#)**. While the US military branches all use the ASVAB as an admissions exam, *students do NOT have to be interested in military careers to take the test*. **Taking the ASVAB does not obligate students to enlist!** Please [visit this link](#) for more information.

**Interested in an upcoming NACAC Virtual College Fair on Sunday, February 28, 2021 from 1-7pm?** Drop in on Zoom sessions offered by hundreds of colleges. Hear about student life, majors and programs, financial aid, scholarships, and more. To start exploring, sign up now at [virtualcollegefairs.org](http://virtualcollegefairs.org). Families are invited too!

**Working Papers:** Due to restrictions governed by the Connecticut Department of Labor, some jobs may require WORKING PAPERS. In order to obtain WORKING PAPERS, a student must present a promise of employment letter from the hiring employer as well as a copy of **one** of the following: student's birth certificate, passport, driver's license or a learners permit. WORKING PAPERS are needed for formal employment by students under the age of 17. You may obtain working papers in the College & Career Center.

## **Important Reminders**

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

## Athletics

**Covid-19 Screening:** Please be sure to complete your student-athlete's daily screening **prior** to 1pm through the Google form.

**Winter Sports Schedules:** Competitions start next week! Please see this [link](#) for a copy of next week's ARHS winter sports schedule.

**Current Spectator Policy:** We will be updating our spectator policy this coming week. As a league decision, there will be NO spectators allowed at our athletic contests the week of February 8 – 13. Starting the following week, we will be allowing 2 family members per student-athlete (same as fall). The plan will be posted on our athletics website next week and will be in next week's happenings as well. Please plan to review this document prior to attending an event.

GO SPARTANS!

## Community Happenings

### **Woodbridge Youth Services Updates:**

- **Team Gratitude Baskets Community Service Event:** Youth Services invites students to form a team of 2-6 friends to put together a thoughtful basket for our hard-working and dedicated teachers or health care providers. Make a team captain to collect all items, while social distancing, and drop off to Youth Services. Each basket must weigh 20 lbs., or less and can include the following: \$5 gift cards, water, protein bars, trail mix, coffee packs, wipes, masks, hand cream, hand sanitizers, etc. Be creative and have some fun! Community service hours will be given to each team participant at the time of drop off. Please bring completed community service forms for each team member. Please call us at 203-389-3449 or email [youthone@woodbridgett.org](mailto:youthone@woodbridgett.org) to schedule a drop-off. Collection will end on Friday, February 26, 2021. This event is sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2021.
- **Snow Art Competition:** Bethany and Woodbridge families who find themselves in a heap of snow can express their talents this winter. Each family is encouraged to get out on a snowy day and build the best snowperson or animal they can. Get creative and start sculpting. Then email a photo of your family with your creation to [youthone@woodbridgett.org](mailto:youthone@woodbridgett.org). Prizes will be awarded based on creativity and skill. Check the Town of Woodbridge website at <https://www.woodbridgett.org/160/Youth-Services> for updates and prizewinners. Due date for photos is February 26, 2021. Sponsored by Woodbridge Youth Services and the Town of Bethany.
- **Woodbridge Job Bank Seeks Teens Who Want Work:** The Job Bank in Woodbridge offers occasional jobs to teen residents (ages 13 – 18) who would like

to work to earn some extra cash. The application process provides an opportunity to learn about the interview process, safety on the job, and how to negotiate pay. Due to COVID-19, most jobs are currently outdoors with masks and social distancing as required. Teens can do yard work, dog walking, shoveling, etc. Responsible teens who wish to join the Job Bank should call for an interview at 203-389-3464 or e-mail [npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:npfund@woodbridgect.org) .

- **Need Snow Shoveling or Yard Work? Woodbridge Job Bank Can Help:** Woodbridge Job Bank teens will work for Woodbridge residents who wish to hire someone to assist for odd jobs like yard cleanup, weeding, moving boxes, and snow shoveling. Call 203-389-3464 for more information.