

## ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



The proposed BOWA Portrait of the Graduate reflects the characteristics our community expects of young adults as they matriculate through their schooling and prepare to become contributing citizens of society. Among the characteristics are “collaborator” and “problem solver.” These are ideals that are also reflected in the branches of the U.S. military and can be observed in many of our alumni, faculty, and staff who have served our country through the military. On Thursday this week, our students viewed [this video](#) in social studies classes that highlights the significance of Veterans Day and honors the service of our very own who have answered the call to serve (the video was also shared through Google Classroom for those students who did not meet with social studies classes on Veterans Day). We also drew attention to a display in the cafeteria of the “[table of the missing person](#),” prepared by Amity social studies teacher and U.S. Navy veteran Mr. Peter Downhour. Through these various activities, we were able to honor our Amity veterans while also raising awareness for our students of various ways to be a collaborator, problem solver, and contributing member of society during life after ARHS. Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College and Career of the Week:** [Washington University in St Louis](#) is a private, research university located in St. Louis, Missouri. Affectionately referred to as “Wash U in Saint Lou”, the university currently enrolls about 7,000 students who choose from over 250 [programs/majors](#) within 7 schools/colleges. WashU has earned an excellent reputation for exceptional academics, great [undergraduate research](#) opportunities and a vibrant campus community. Students are able to choose from many [clubs and organizations](#), 15 Division 3 [athletic teams](#) ([University Athletic Association College Conference](#)), [fitness activities](#), as well as many [club sport](#) teams. [Annual tuition, room and board](#) for 2021-2022 is approximately \$75,850. [Wash U is need blind](#) and meets 100% of financial need. For more information, go to Wash U’s [admissions website](#), view the [Class of 2025’s profile](#) or take a [virtual tour](#). “[Computer and information systems managers](#) plan, coordinate, and direct computer-related activities in an organization (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020). While a bachelor's degree is required for entry level positions, most [CIS managers](#) have gained additional experience and education before

accepting a managerial role in the field. The median salary is \$151,150 and **faster than average job growth is expected (11%) through 2030** (BLS, 2020). For more information, please visit the following websites: the [Association for Information Systems](#) and the [Information Technology Industry Council](#).

*Some colleges that have computer information systems management programs include:*

Washington Univ is St Louis	University of Connecticut	Fairfield University
Quinnipiac University	Rutgers University	SUNY/Polytechnic
UMASS/Dartmouth	Boston University	Univ of Central Florida
Western CT State	Hofstra University	Salem State University
University of Rhode Island	SUNY/Empire State	FLA Polytechnic University
SUNY/Binghamton	Nichols College	Central CT State

*or search in Naviance for more choices!*

## **Happenings and Information**

**Ice Cream Social:** Link Crew will be sponsoring the annual **Ninth Grade Ice Cream Social** on Tuesday, November 16th directly after school in the cafeteria. All ninth graders will get free ice cream sundaes and an opportunity to chat with your Link Leaders and other friends. This fun event will be held from 2:30-3:30 and is FREE for all ninth graders.

**Concern with School-Issued Devices:** We have found that some student devices have been “erased” or restored to factory settings, violating our AUP and creating concern in a variety of ways. It opens the door for downloading of potentially malicious software. Additionally, students who have modified their device will not be able to access any state or local standardized testing or use the device for the intended instructional purposes. The process of restoring (fixing) devices that have been modified necessitates the purchase of more licenses for software that is erased. Please note: any student who has erased, modified, or otherwise changed the operating system of school owned devices should report to administration or a teacher on Monday morning. We will repair those devices free of charge and students will not face administrative consequences. **After the Thanksgiving break, any student who has modified a school device, will be charged for the repair and will face additional administrative action, including but not limited to possible disciplinary consequences.** Please take some time this weekend to speak with your child to ask if their device has been modified and, if a non-authorized modification has been made, have them speak with a member of the technology staff on Monday morning.

**A.C.T. Fall Play Is Back:** The Amity Creative Theater presents "PUFFS," the hilarious "Potter" parody. Tickets for the December 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> production are on sale now through this [link](#).

**ARHS Spirit Week:** Next week the Amity Student Government will be sponsoring exciting school-wide spirit days and events. Please encourage your child/children to check Sunday's Student Happenings email for more details.

**National School Psychology Week:** As part of National School Psychology Week this year, we wanted to share [some information](#) about what school psychologists do here at Amity! This year's theme is all about helping students get into GEAR (Grow, Engage, Advocate, and Rise)! We hope to connect students and staff to show that if they Get in GEAR together, it can lead to substantial positive change for all involved. Central to this theme is the importance of the relationships between all students, staff, faculty, and parents within a school building.

## **Senior Happenings**

**CHANGE TO FIRST QUARTER GRADE PROCESS:** Naviance has made changes regarding sending first quarter grades electronically through their system. Beginning this year, students cannot select specific schools so if a student wants their transcript sent electronically, it must go to all schools listed in "Colleges I'm Applying to." The college/university will only download that transcript if the student has already submitted their application to them. Due to this, we are going to adjust the way we send first quarter grades. For students who want first quarter grades to go to a limited amount of schools, we will send them via snail mail to those schools. Please indicate below how you would like your transcripts sent. We will begin to send out grades on 11/17. Please complete this [NEW Google form](#) if you are requesting first quarter grades. Because of the change in Naviance, **YOU WILL NEED TO DO THIS AGAIN IF YOU HAVE ALREADY FILLED THE FORM OUT BEFORE.**

**Paying for Post-Secondary Education:** You've submitted your FAFSA. GREAT! Now what? [Click here for follow up FAFSA information](#).

**Save the Dates! On-Site Admission Days at Amity High School!** Local colleges will soon be visiting with interested seniors for an on-site admission day. *In order to participate, seniors will need to submit their application to the college at least two weeks before your scheduled appointment.* Please know that financial aid information will NOT be available at these meetings, but will be sent to you later. **Please click here to reserve your appointment and to view the list of participating colleges.**

**Scholarship Season is here!** The Career Center posts both local and national scholarships throughout the months of November through April. Students can navigate through these scholarships in Naviance under the scholarship tab. There are many additional merit based and need based scholarships available through websites like

[fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com), [scholarships.com](http://scholarships.com) or learn more about scholarships [here](#). If you need help searching scholarships, please feel free to see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

**Attention Seniors!** Apply to CT Public Universities for **Free** on **NOV. 15<sup>th</sup>!!** Take advantage of this free application day! For more information click [here!](#)

**Senior Yearbook Pose Selection:** Seniors who had their portraits taken with Robert Taylor must choose a yearbook pose by Monday, November 1st. Students who do not select a pose by this date will have one chosen for them. Complete instructions for pose selection can be found on the senior FAQ page on the yearbook website, [amityembers.com](http://amityembers.com).

**Senior Baby Photos for Yearbook:** The yearbook staff is now collecting baby pictures for inclusion in *Embers 2022*. Scan your photos and upload them directly to us! Visit [amityembers.com](http://amityembers.com) and click "Submit Photos" beneath either the "For Seniors" or the "For Parents" tabs. Please send only high-resolution photos. All hard copies should be clearly labeled so that they can be returned to their owners. Please keep submissions to just one per student. If you submit more than one, the yearbook staff will select a single photo for inclusion in the yearbook. All photo submissions are due Wednesday, December 22nd.

**Yearbook Grad Ads:** Calling all senior parents! Are you looking to honor and encourage your graduating senior with a grad ad in the yearbook? The *Embers 2022* yearbook staff offers you a chance to remember, honor, and encourage your graduate with a grad ad! Visit [amityembers.com](http://amityembers.com) for details!

**Seventh Annual Yearbook Grad Ad Design Night:** Interested in purchasing a grad ad? Not sure where to begin? Our seventh annual *Embers* Grad Ad Design Night will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, November 16th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Take advantage of the opportunity to work one-on-one with a yearbook staff member to craft the perfect dedication for your graduating senior, and approve it right on the spot! To sign up, please provide us with your information via [this Google Form](#), and we will get back to you with an appointment time and Zoom link.

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**JUNIORS and SENIORS! Are you looking for an alternative to 4-year colleges?** A representative from the [Universal Technical Institute](#) will visit the **Amity Auto Shop** on **Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am** to discuss careers in Auto & Marine Mechanics and NASCAR Training. Stop by the Career Center to pick up a pass to these visits!

**ROTC Program Info Session** - Are you interested in learning more about **college ROTC programs**? Please join us on **Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** in the **Career Center** for TWO virtual information sessions (**11:15am and 11:45am** - **during**

**SSP/lunch**). Mike Robertson, Recruiting Operations Officer for UCONN's ROTC Program will meet with us to explain the details of ROTC programs.

**The Bethany Volunteer Fire Department** will be visiting Amity on **Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** during all lunch waves, from **10:30am-12:30pm**, to discuss their upcoming EMT Training Program. This is a great opportunity for students who are interested in the healthcare field and/or becoming a PA or Paramedic. Students are welcome to stop by during their lunch to learn more. Please click [here](#) for information.

**Career Opportunities:** Are you interested in Architecture, Engineering or Construction careers? If so, check out a FREE mentoring program called "ACE" where students can explore these career areas, work with professionals in the field and possibly win scholarships. Go to [acementor.org](http://acementor.org) to learn more.

**All STUDENTS** - need help with academics? Work with a peer tutor for extra help. Either stop into the Career Center after school on Tuesdays or Thursdays OR fill out the [form HERE](#) for one-to-one tutoring assistance at other times. See Mrs. Staak or Mrs. Cocco in the Counseling Office if you have any questions.

## **Athletics**

**Winter Sports Registration:** Any students interested in trying out for a winter sport must have the registration completed through "forms" in PowerSchool prior to the start of tryouts.

**Amity Sports Broadcasting:** The athletic department is looking for students to join our sports broadcasting team this winter. We need help with directing, camera operators, and play-by-play announcers. Please email Mr. Goodwin if you are interested: [egoodwin@amityregion5.org](mailto:egoodwin@amityregion5.org)

**Congratulations Fall Teams:** Many of our athletic teams wrapped up their seasons this week. Congratulations on a successful season! Swimming and Football will continue their seasons through the next few weeks. Go get 'em, Spartans!

## **Community Happenings**

**From Woodbridge Youth Services:** Call 203-389-3429 or email [npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:npfund@woodbridgect.org) for information or to sign up for programs.

- **Job Bank:** Raking season is upon us. Teens who want paid, outdoor work should contact Youth Services to schedule an interview. The Job Bank is a referral service for residents who offer odd jobs to members.

- **Toys 4 Kids:** This program supports Woodbridge and Bethany families and surrounding towns to provide holiday toys to those in need through TEAM, Inc. Due to COVID restrictions, online giving is encouraged. Financial support is desperately needed to purchase toys for children and gift cards for those 8 – 12. To donate, please visit TEAM’s website at <https://teaminc.org/toys-4-kids-2021/>. Collection boxes for new, boxed toys for ages 0 - 8 will be available in the town library and in Youth Services until November 30. To apply for toys, see TEAM’s website for online application and requirements to be posted on 11/16/21.

