

## ARHS COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER



Spring is springing at ARHS with the spring athletic season getting into full swing this weekend, the spring musical debuting in a few weeks' time, state SAT Day coming up next week, and April break right around the corner. While students were afforded the day off today, faculty and staff from across the district congregated at the high school to engage in professional learning sessions focused around the currently piloted BOWA Portrait of the Graduate, wellness, and improving skills to directly impact students' experiences in the classroom. The Portrait of the Graduate identifies 5 major characteristics that are pivotal to students becoming self-aware citizens, including being collaborators, communicators, empathizers, problem-solvers, and planners. Our faculty and staff are committed to modeling these characteristics for our students as part of the scholastic experience. It is through professional learning such as today that we are able to spend dedicated time reflecting on the academic and social culture we are helping to create at ARHS and continuing to make it better. Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

*Anna N. Mahon*

Principal

**College/Career of the Week:** The [University of Connecticut at Avery Point](#) is a regional branch campus, located on 72 acres along the southeastern coast in Groton, Connecticut. Approximately 600 undergraduates are enrolled and most plan to transfer to the UCONN/Storrs campus once they have earned at least 54 credits. However, students also have the option to attend UCONN/Avery Point for [complete bachelor's programs in 5 majors](#) such as marine sciences, maritime studies and American studies. While UCONN/Avery Point does not have dormitories, [off campus housing](#) is available in the area. Students are offered [many recreational activities](#) via the Avery Point Athletic Center that includes a 6-lane pool, gym and fitness center. Both recreational and [intercollegiate sports](#) are also available (compete in the NJCAA) and includes men's baseball & basketball, women's basketball and a sailing team. [Annual tuition](#) for in-state residents is \$15,878 (2021-2022). To learn more, check out the UCONN/Avery Point [admissions website](#), [check out this video](#) or read about UCONN's [branch campuses here](#). "[Marine biologists](#) study life in the oceans, and sometimes the oceans themselves. They may investigate the behavior and physiological processes of marine species, or the diseases and environmental conditions that affect them. They may also assess the

impacts of human activities on marine life” (environmentalscience.org, 2022). Entry-level positions for [marine biologists](#), also known as wildlife biologists, usually require a bachelor’s degree. The national median salary is \$66,350 and the profession is expected to have **slower than average job growth at 5% through 2030** (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020). For more information, please visit the [Marine Conservation Institute](#), the [American Fisheries Society](#) or the [Marine Biological Laboratory](#) (in Woods Hole, Mass).

*Some colleges that have marine biology programs include:*

UCONN/Avery Point	Mitchell College	University of New Haven
SUNY/Stony Brook	Roger Williams University	Eckerd College (FLA)
Suffolk University	Sacred Heart University	Boston University
Hofstra University	University of Rhode Island	Salem State University
University of Miami	UMASS/Dartmouth	SUNY/Maritime
Florida Gulf Coast Univ	Long Island University	University of Tampa

*Or search in Naviance for more choices!*

### **Happenings and Information**

**REMINDER-March 23<sup>rd</sup> Modified Day at ARHS:** Please note that Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> is the day that 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Amity will take the online CT State SAT. On that same day, 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the Practice ACT (PACT) and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in programing throughout the day. Seniors who are participating in SSLP will finalize their work sites while students who are planning on SIP or not participating in either program will be in the school building that day. It will be an early dismissal day for all students (12:12).

**Upcoming College Fair:** Amity High School Spring College Fair is coming soon! The Amity High School College Fair will be held on **Thursday, March 31, 2022 from 6:30-8:00pm** in the AHS Gymnasium. This is a great way for students and parents to meet one-on-one with college admission representatives from around the country. The college fair event is free and open to the public. A list of colleges attending will be posted soon! Mark your calendars for an important night!

**Peer Tutoring Help:** We will begin offering "Working Wednesdays Drop-In Peer Tutoring" on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and continue through June 1st. *This is in addition to our other services - we still offer drop-in peer tutoring after school (on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Career Center) as well as 1 to 1 tutoring by completing the form [HERE](#).*

**PTSO News:**

- **Donations for Amity High School College Fair 2022:** Representatives from over 125 colleges will visit Amity High School on March 31<sup>st</sup> to meet with students and parents, provide information and answer questions. The guidance department provides dinner for the reps and the PTSO provides desserts and drinks. Please help us make this event a success by volunteering to help and/or donating a dessert or drink. For more information and to sign up, please visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0549a4ad22a0fdo-ahscollege2>
- **Volunteers needed:** We are looking for volunteers to help in different ways throughout the school year. If you would like to volunteer, please send an email to [arhsptso@gmail.com](mailto:arhsptso@gmail.com). Your help is very much appreciated!
- **Support the PTSO when shopping on Amazon Smile:** When you designate the PTSO as your preferred charity on Amazon Smile, Amazon donates a percentage to the PTSO. Please support us every time you shop by visiting <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-4101755> and selecting Amity High School PTSO Inc. as the charity of your choice!
- **Join our monthly meetings:** PTSO meetings take place on the third Thursday of every month in the school's library media center. We hope to see you on April 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 7:00pm!

## **Senior Happenings**

**Attention Seniors-Community Service Information:** Seniors who have completed 80 hours of volunteer service during their high school career at Amity will be recognized at graduation. Each Senior will receive a certificate along with a special honor cord to be worn at graduation. All completed community service forms **must be handed no later than Monday, April 1st, 2022**. Seniors can find their accumulated hours in PowerSchool under Forms. If you have any questions regarding community service, please stop by the Career Center.

**Attention SSLP Interns:** As a reminder, Seniors who are participating in the 2022 SSLP need your **contracts handed in by Thursday, March 24, 2022**.

**Attention Seniors! Scholarship Season has begun!** Please find the most recent and local scholarships on our school website [here](#). For questions or help with applying, please see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

**SENIORS/FAMILY MEMBERS - LEARN MORE ABOUT FINANCIAL AID OFFERS!** Attend a free workshop on **Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm** to understand more about financial aid awards/offers from colleges. Click [HERE to register](#) for the workshop, sponsored by Sallie Mae.

## **Notes from Counseling Department**

**Volunteers Needed:** The **Orange Bicentennial Family Dinner** will be held on Saturday June 25, 2022 (rain date Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>) at the High Plains Community Center grounds. Students are needed for help with organizing and running the games and activities planned for that day. Mary L. Tracy School's Children Fair is looking for students to help with their fair on Saturday, April 2, 2022 (rain date is Sunday April 3, 2022). Most events will be outdoors. Please click on the [following link](#) to sign up for this event. If you have any questions, please stop by the Career Center.

**Upcoming Summer Programs & Camps at Quinnipiac University:** Quinnipiac University is offering a growing list of courses, workshops and camps all designed to give high school students a chance to grow academically and personally while getting an early taste of the college experience. Faculty, staff and students will support these programs across all 8 schools and the College of Arts and Sciences. For a list of courses and more information, please click [here](#).

**Are you a student thinking of pursuing a career in law enforcement?** The **New Haven FBI Field Office** in partnership with the **Yale University Police Department** will be offering a summer youth program called **Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy (FLEYA)** from **July 17-July 23, 2022**. Students who are graduating in the spring of 2022 are not eligible. Students 16-18 yrs. of age are eligible. This is an overnight camp at Yale University. FLEYA will give 30 Connecticut high school students between the ages of 16 and 18, an inside look at today's FBI, while simultaneously exposing them to various local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and practices. Classroom training will be provided on various subjects including: cyber technology, investigative forensics, domestic and international terrorism, civil rights (hate crimes) and more. The FBI New Haven is currently accepting **applications, which are due April 1, 2022**. A completed application must be emailed in PDF format to [FLEYAprogram@fbi.gov](mailto:FLEYAprogram@fbi.gov). Please use this link for an application: <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/fbi-new-haven-fleya-2022-application-012622.pdf/view>. Feel free to find more information at this link: <https://youtu.be/wcYziCEcJHA>, and email [FLEYAprogram@fbi.gov](mailto:FLEYAprogram@fbi.gov) with any further questions.

**The American Legion Department of Connecticut and the Connecticut State Police**, announce their joint sponsorship of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual State Police Youth Week. This program is a law enforcement practicum for high school students completing their **JUNIOR YEAR** in 2022. The program will be held at the State Police Academy in Meriden, CT from **Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, August 13, 2022**. Students considering a law enforcement career are encouraged to attend. **Applications must be completed by May 2, 2022**. Due to strict limitations on the number of participants (24 students), late or incomplete applications will not be considered. For more information and applications, please see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.

**Join College Board for Real Talk, College Ready Edition: Wednesday, March 30, at 7 p.m.** Real Talk is a College Board virtual college exploration initiative designed

to connect Black students, parents, and educators with admissions representatives from colleges and universities across the country. Real Talk will help you learn how the courses you take in high school impact your college journey and your professional career. You will hear directly from students and college planning experts about the importance of challenging coursework, advocating for your ideal schedule and more. This event is for first-year students, sophomores, and juniors, as well as their parents/guardians. Real Talk is a safe space for Black students and their families to get their college planning questions answered. This event is for first-year students, sophomores, and juniors, as well as their parents. Please [RSVP here](#).

The **2022 Lieutenant Governor's Coding Challenge** is a statewide coding competition for Connecticut students in grades 3 through 12. Students are challenged to create applications designed to inspire health and wellness for all. This includes three options for submission: concept challenged prototype challenge and development challenge. For more information, please click [here](#). **Submissions will be accepted until April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

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## **Important Reminders**

**ARHS Supports AMSO's "Ray's Box of Sox":** This weekend marks the one-year anniversary of the death of our beloved Amity school student Ray Heenie. Last year, we chose to honor him with beginning an annual fundraiser called, "Ray's Box of Sox." Ray was very interested in doing good to help others. Donating new socks to local homeless shelters is something that Ray would certainly support. He was known for literally giving the shirt off his back to those in need. Last year, we were able to raise 1000 pairs of socks that were distributed to four local shelters who were extremely grateful. This month, we will continue the work we started last year in Ray's honor. "Box of Sox" collection boxes will be located in all three schools starting this Monday. The fundraiser will run from Monday, March 7 through Friday, March 25. Please consider honoring Ray's memory by doing well for someone else. This small gesture can have a big impact. Thank you in advance for your support and please spread the word!

**Upcoming USA Gap Fair coming to Fairfield!** Students & parents are welcome to attend an in-person gap year fair at **Fairfield Ludlow High (gymnasium), 785 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, CT on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00pm**. Get the most up to date information about gap year basics, how the gap year field has adapted to COVID, tips for researching & planning your gap year, navigating the college deferral process, and which programs are accepting applications. For more information and to register for this event, please click [here](#).

**End of Marking Period Date Change:** The end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period has been changed from Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Fourth marking period will begin on March 30<sup>th</sup> and report cards will be released prior to April break. At this time, the last day of school/exams for the 2021-2022 year is scheduled for Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> based on the snow disruptions from this year.

## **Athletics**

**Amity HS Athletic Booster Club:** The Booster Club is an all sport booster club that promotes school spirit and community pride. A parent run organization prides itself with supporting all of our athletes and coaches. The support we give through volunteering and fundraising help contribute to equipment needs, various projects for Amity Athletics and annual scholarships.

**SAVE THE DATE!** [June 5th](#) is Amity Family Fun Day! Join us for games and raffles! We will be having a planning meeting, this coming Tuesday (3/22) at 7pm. Please check out our [Athletic Booster Club](#) link through the [Amity Athletics website](#) for more information and to join today!

**Spring Sports Sign-Up:** Student-athlete sign up for spring sports is now open through PowerSchool forms. If you have questions about signing up, forms, or returning to play, please visit the athletic department website [here](#).

## **Community Happenings**

**Keep the Arts Blooming-Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation Fundraiser: To purchase tickets:** use the **QR code on the flyer** or go to the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation's website: [www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org](http://www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org). Winners will be announced on **March 20, 2022** at 7 pm at Foundation Headquarters in Orange, CT and broadcast live on the Jamie Hulley Arts Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/jamieahulleyartsfoundation> Winners will be notified by email and by phone.

**Amity Creative Theater presents *Mamma Mia!*** Buy your tickets now for this year's spring musical presented by A.C.T. There will be 5 shows; click [this link](#) for tickets.

**Attention Local Employers:** If you are interested in hiring a high school student or would like to post a part-time position, please contact the College & Career Center (203-397-4836) or email Paula Vallie at [paula.vallie@amityregion5.org](mailto:paula.vallie@amityregion5.org). Jobs must conform to the State of Connecticut regulations regarding the employment of minors.

**Nominations for Bethany First Selectman's Youth Award Sought:** If you know a Bethany youth (up to 18 years old) who has volunteered their time working to improve the Town of Bethany or its residents, consider nominating that deserving resident. Principals, teachers, fellow students, neighbors, group, and religious leaders, etc., are encouraged to make nominations. Parents or family members may not nominate a relative. Nominations are due to the First Selectman's Office by April 11. The winner will receive an award and a gift at a date to be determined later this spring. The nomination form can be found on the Town Website at <https://bethany-ct.com> or call the office at 203-393-2100 x 1100.

**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. Like us on Facebook [Woodbridge, CT Youth Services](#)

- **Nominations for First Selectman's Youth Award Sought:** If you know a Woodbridge youth (up to 18 years old) who has volunteered their time working to improve the Town of Woodbridge or its residents, consider nominating that deserving resident. Principals, teachers, fellow students, neighbors, group, and religious leaders, etc. are encouraged to make nominations. Parents or family members may not nominate a relative. Nominations are due to Youth Services by April 4. The winner will receive an award and a gift at a date to be determined later this spring. The nomination form can be found on the Town Website at [www.woodbridgect.org/472/Programs](http://www.woodbridgect.org/472/Programs) or call the office at 203-389-3429.
- **Job Bank:** Spring arrives with the need for yard cleanup and garden prep. Residents may call to hire teens to do odd jobs. Teens who want paid work should contact Youth Services to schedule an interview. The Job Bank is a referral service for residents who offer odd jobs to resident teens ages 13 – 18.
- **JOB POSTING- Town of Woodbridge Per Diem Program Assistants Wanted:** Assist with occasional evening or after-school youth programs under the direction of the coordinator. \$15.07/hr. See Town of Woodbridge website for more information. <https://www.woodbridgect.org/357/Employment>

[unsubscribe](#)

