

ARHS Community Happenings Newsletter, October 13, 2023

This week we took a pause from our regular schedule on Thursday so that our 9th and 10th grade students could take the PSAT test during school, and next week Thursday we will be doing this again for our 11th grade students. We take the time to do this for a few reasons, including to help our students build a comfort level with the assessment before they take the SAT as Juniors, to give them an insight into how they are performing in comparison to students nationwide, and to get valuable performance information about our students that our faculty will be using to tailor our instructional practices for the year to match our students' strengths and areas for improvement. While our younger students were taking the PSAT, the 11th and 12th graders were involved in a variety of activities, including a powerful presentation from the "For Cameron" drug-prevention organization, a grade-wide team-building activity, and information sessions on senior internships and academic integrity. Next week while the Juniors are testing, we will have a schedule of activities tailored to the needs of our younger students, and our 12th graders will have the opportunity to spend the day off-campus working on their post-secondary plans. Since November college application deadlines are fast approaching, we suggest that they use the time to either work on college applications or to schedule a campus visit to a school they might want to attend next year.

Go Spartans!

Andre Hauser

Principal

Amity Happenings and Information

- **Community Forum:** The Amity Board of Education invites you to a Community Forum designed to give all Amity community members an opportunity for a back-and-forth conversation with members of the Board of Education and school and district staff. The focus topic of our first 2023-2024 Community Forum will be "SEL" or Social Emotional Learning. If you're curious about how to support your child if they are experiencing mental health issues, resources available in and out of school, the school counseling curriculum, lesson topics from middle school Advisory or ARHS's Spartan Seminar, the characteristics and attributes of the BOWA Portrait of the Graduate, or any other mental health topic, we sincerely hope you join us to ask questions, share concerns or good news, and hear about what's happening in the Amity school district. The Community Forum will be moderated by the Amity BOE Communications Committee. We are encouraging participants to submit questions prior to the forum to ensure we have the right staff there to answer your questions; questions may also be submitted the night of the event and will be answered as time permits. The Community Forum will be held on Monday, October 23, 2023, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Library Media Center at Amity Regional High School. Questions may be anonymously submitted [HERE](#).

- **Amity Intramurals are back!!** Starting on Thursday, October 26th, in the middle gym from 2:30 -3:30 with Soccer Shot. There will be other sporting events during the year where students and faculty compete to earn points and become the school-wide intramural champion. The events will take only 1 minute to complete, so stop by and show off your skills. See Mr. Cofrancesco or Mr. Poulimas with questions.
- **Schedule Change Deadline Approaching:** The marking period is ending on 11/3. The deadline for students to move to a different level course without it appearing on the transcript as a “W” is also 11/3. If you are concerned about your child’s performance and are considering a move to a different level, please reach out to the teacher and your child’s school counselor before the deadline.
- **Amity High School Music Department Presents:** The Amity High School Music Department is currently in production for its fall production of *Music In Motion "On Air"*. This will be a one night performance only on **October 26th at 7:00pm** in the Brady Center for the Performing Arts! Come join us for a fun night of music and movement with the Amity High School Band, Choir, Jazz Band & Percussion ensemble! Some of your favorite radio hits will be performed and we will bring it all to life for a fun evening for the whole family! Come experience a music theater production unlike anything you have seen before! Tickets are \$10 and all Amity Region 5 Students are **FREE!**
- **Bermuda Trip with the Science Department:** Are you interested in learning more about marine science and going snorkeling in Bermuda next June? What if you could get high school credit for it? Come to the Bermuda Trip information night on October 18 to learn more about it and see the attached flyer for more details.
- **AP registration is officially open!** Use this link to register and pay for AP exams: <https://user.totalregistration.net/AP/070965>. The College Board is strict about deadlines for registration, so please sign up on time!
 - Registration is open from Friday, September 29, 2023 - Friday, November 3, 2023
 - AP Exam Fee: \$105 per exam
 - AP Seminar and Research Exam Fees: \$150 per exam
 - Late Fee: Registration will reopen from November 17, 2023 - March 8, 2024, but will have a \$40 extra late fee (as set by College Board, not ARHS)
 - Cancellation Fee: If you cancel by March 8, 2024, \$40 of your registration fee will go to the College Board and the remaining will be refunded. Any cancellations after this date will not be refunded.

College and Career of the Week

*NOTE - This year, the “College of the Week” column will focus on **one public college or university from each state**. We hope to encourage students to research colleges in other states as well as in Connecticut.*

[The University of Alabama](#) is located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama (1,100 miles from the BOWA area). [Founded in 1831](#), UA is well known for its abundance of school spirit and sense of community. Over 39,000 students currently call [UA home](#), and enroll in numerous [majors/programs](#) within its [12 colleges and schools](#). [Campus life](#) is very active with a multitude of clubs, sporting events, Greek life and cultural activities. There are 15 NCAA-D1 [athletic teams](#) sponsored by the “Big Crimson” who compete in the [Southeastern Conference](#). Estimated annual tuition, room and board for [out-of-state](#)

students is \$48,040 (2023-2024). For more information, check out UA's [admissions website](#), view their [quick facts](#), or take a [virtual tour](#) here.

"[Phlebotomists](#) draw blood for tests, transfusions, research, or blood donations", (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022). [Phlebotomists](#) work in hospitals, medical clinics, doctors' offices, and laboratories. To work as a phlebotomist, one must attend a specialized training program and become certified. In CT, the State does not require phlebotomists to be licensed; however they do require [certification by a national board](#). The median salary is \$38,530 per year and the profession is expected to have *faster than average growth at 8% through 2032* (BLS, 2022). Note that the average [salary in Connecticut for phlebotomists](#) is higher at \$45,060 per year (BLS,2022). For more information, please visit the [American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians](#), [National Center for Competency Training](#) and the [National Phlebotomy Association](#).

Some schools with phlebotomy programs include:

[CT State Community Colleges](#), various locations in CT

[Quik Draw Phlebotomy School](#), Shelton, CT

[Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers](#), Derby, CT

Notes from the Counseling Department

- **Upcoming College visits!** Seniors and Juniors can meet with college representatives by signing into NAVIANCE and clicking on the "COLLEGES" tab, then "COLLEGE VISITS". REGISTER for those colleges you are interested in meeting. Request a pass to the Career Center in "e-hall pass." See a list of [upcoming week's visit listing HERE](#). *This year we will limit each student to no more than 8 visits.* For questions, please email Paula Vallie at paula.vallie@amityregion5.org.
- **Applying to CT Colleges?** UConn, CCSC, ECSU, SCSU and WCSU are waving their application fees on Wednesday, Nov. 1st. In addition, WCSU applications are free for the entire month of November. SCSU will offer free applications using their own app from Nov. 2-15. For questions, stop in the Career Center.
- **Seniors - do you have questions on the UCONN application?** If so, our UCONN representative will be here in person on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26th during ALL the lunch waves to answer your questions. You can make an appointment to see him in the Career Center. Please stop by to register as space is limited for this event. See [more info HERE](#).
- **TUITION SAVINGS** - Check out the [Regional Student Program](#) (sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education) that "*provides significant tuition savings to residents of the six New England states when they enroll at out-of-state public colleges and universities within New England and pursue approved programs*" (nebhe.org). Students pay less for tuition within hundreds of [approved programs](#). Learn more about [eligibility](#) and applying to these programs by visiting the website.
- **Local Scholarship For Seniors:** The [Orange Scholarship Fund Association](#) for **Orange students** entering college in the fall of 2024. Application deadline is April 22, 2024. Applications are available through the Career Center at Amity or on their website at

www.orangescholarshipfund.com. Please email applications to info@orangescholarshipfund.com or through their [website](#).

- **Do you have a vision to transform your community-and the world-for the better?** Now through November 2, 2023, Prudential Emerging Visionaries, sponsored by Prudential in collaboration with Ashok, is looking to recognize students, ages 14-18 , for their inspiring commitment to change. Apply for Prudential Emerging Visionaries to tell about your bold initiative to address a financial or social challenge in your community. If selected, you may qualify to receive up to \$15,000-plus an all-expenses-paid trip with your parent or guardian to Prudential headquarters, along with coaching and skills development to take your solution to the next level. For more information, please visit their [website](#) for details and [application](#).
- **Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest is now live:** This contest is open to middle and high school students (grades 6-12) The theme this year is making connections to Hispanic culture, and prizes will include a \$3,000 cash scholarship and iPads. Details can be found at www.Optimum.com/HHM. Please find flyers in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- **The ASVAB Test** will be given at Amity High School on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 7:30 am in the Lecture Hall (room 138). Any student in grades 10, 11 or 12 is welcome to take the test. All ASVAB Career Exploration Program tests will be offered through an online format. 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 (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test does not obligate students to enlist! Please find more information about the ASVAB [here](#).
- **The Air National Guard** will be visiting Amity on Monday, October 16, 2023, during all lunch waves to share information about their programs.
- **Do you want to volunteer in your community?** There are a ton of community events happening in all 3 towns during the month of October. These events need your help, so please check out these events [here](#).
- **Interested in Computer Science and STEM?** Check out the Congressional App Challenge Competition! The Office of Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro is inviting students to participate in District 03's 2023 Congressional App Challenge. All middle and high school students residing in the Third District may participate. Students have until November 1, 2023, at 12:00pm ET to submit their Student App Application. Registration for the 2023 App Challenge is now [open](#)! To view past winners, information, official rules, guidelines, please visit [here](#). If you have any questions or require clarifications on any aspect of the challenge, please contact Shreyoshi.Ghoshray@mail.house.gov or 203 997 9816.
- **2024 Aspirations in Computing High School Award** sponsored by the National Center for Women and Information Technology (CCWIT) is now open. This award honors high school women for their computing-related achievements and interests and encourages them to pursue their passion. Grades 9 through 12 are selected based on their aptitude and interest in technology and computing, leadership ability, and plans for the future. [Applications](#) are due Nov. 6th.

Amity HS Athletics Booster Club

- **JOIN THE BOOSTER CLUB!** Join us in supporting and celebrating our athletes by becoming a member of the Athletics Booster Club. Membership is now open! Visit our updated website and join here: <https://sites.google.com/amityschools.org/amityathleticsboosterclub/home>

- Membership Drive! JOIN through October 31 to receive a free gift from the Booster Club! Join and you will receive a small (3”w by 2”h) Amity “A” decal sticker. We thank you for joining and your support.
- We’re recruiting! Become a team liaison and help spread the Spartans Spirit with us! Our mission is to promote positive athletics and increase community support. If you’d like to help in this endeavor, please contact Carrie at goamityspartans@gmail.com. Your assistance in helping us stay connected to our teams is invaluable to the Booster Club. You are invited, but not required, to attend our monthly meetings. We will provide all the information needed to share with your team.
- Purchase your Amity A decal sticker and PROUD yard sign today! Decal stickers are \$3 (small, 3”w by 2”h) and \$5 (large, 4”w by 2.5”h). Yard signs are \$15, payment through PayPal or Venmo. Please email goamityspartans@gmail.com to order yours today! Will deliver to you within 2 days.

Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Information

- **Support Us!** Please join the PTSO today to support your student(s) and school. To join the PTSO, please visit our website amityptso.org and under membership click on Click here to join! Please note that PTSO membership must be renewed and paid every year.
- Please join us next Thursday, October 19th for our monthly meeting at 7pm in the media center.
- If you have you would like to **volunteer**, please contact us at arhsptso@gmail.com.
- **Join our Facebook Group by** Be a part of our virtual community by visiting [this page](#) and answering the security questions required to gain access

Community Happenings

- **National Drug Take-Back Day:** Mark your calendars! National Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, October 28th from 10:00am-2:00pm at High Plains Community Center and from 10:30am-1:30pm at the Woodbridge Police Department. All unwanted/expired medications will be taken (including liquids and sharps). Volunteers from the National Pharmacy Association will be on site in Orange to answer any questions. This event is sponsored by BOWDAAC, the Orange Police Department, Orange CERT, and the Woodbridge Police Department. If you have any questions, please contact: info.bowdaac@gmail.com
- **Events at Case Memorial Library:** See the attached flyers or follow these links for more details
 - Teen Murder Mystery Party - <https://casememorial.librarycalendar.com/event/80s-murder-mystery-party-teens>
 - Rainbow Book Chat - <https://casememorial.librarycalendar.com/event/rainbow-book-chat>

Attached Files

[Case Library - Teen Murder Mystery 10-28.pdf](#)

[Case Library - LGBTQ+ Book Club.pdf](#)

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