

## **ARHS Community Happenings Newsletter, April 5, 2024**

The big news at Amity Regional High School this week is tonight's opening of the spring musical, *Mean Girls*. Over the course of the next two weekends, the talented students in Amity Creative Theater will be entertaining hundreds of audience members each night, and thousands by the time they finish their final performance. If you are going to the show, you will see the actors on stage and hear the musicians in our pit band, but what you might not notice right away is all the work that went into making this production possible. And how much work is that? Throughout the winter, we have had more than 160 students, 12 staff members, and more than 50 parent volunteers assist with building and painting sets, designing, and sewing costumes, getting the sound and light just right, orchestrating scene changes, managing the ticket sales, and preparing to welcome our guests to each performance in addition all of the memorizing lines, choreography, and music that you will see on stage. The show can't go on without all these people making the stars on stage shine a bit brighter, so thank you to everyone off-stage who had a part in what we get to see on stage!

The Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends with the celebration of Eid al-Fitr on Tuesday, April 9, so to all those who celebrate this holiday, we wish you *Eid Kareem!*

***Go Spartans!***

**Andre Hauser**

**Principal**

### **Amity Happenings and Information**

- **Last call for yearbooks!** There are a limited number of yearbooks still available for sale on a first come first serve basis. If you wish to have a copy, please order now before they sell out. We will keep selling online for only a limited time longer, or until we run out. If you would like a yearbook, please do not wait because there is a possibility that there will not be a book available come distribution day! Reserve yours now!
- **Student Parking Spaces – the lot is full:** The student parking lot at Amity Regional High School is full, and we do not have any more parking spots available for students at this point. If your child has recently started driving and does not have a parking spot already assigned by the school, please do not let them drive to school, as we do not have spaces available for them and students are not authorized to park at the library or in other organizations' parking lots near the Woodbridge green during school. Thank you for your understanding!

## College and Career of the Week

The [State University of New York at Oswego](#) (OSW) is located on Lake Ontario (near Syracuse) approximately 300 miles from the BOWA area. [Founded in 1861](#), OSW was originally established as a teacher's college. Today there are more than 6,000 undergraduate students enrolled and choose from over [70 majors and 70 minors](#). [Campus life](#) is very active with over 150 clubs, recreational and cultural activities. There are [22 NCAA-D3 athletic teams](#) sponsored by the "Lakers" who compete in the [SUNY Athletic Conference](#). Estimated [annual tuition, room and board for out-of-state students](#) is \$35,119.00 (2023-2024). For more information, check out OSW's [admissions website](#), view their [fast facts](#), or take a [virtual tour here](#).

"[Film and video editors](#) and camera operators manipulate moving images that entertain or inform an audience", (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022). Many [film and video editors](#) work in the film industry, while others work in broadcasting or are self-employed. Entry level positions in film usually require a bachelor's degree and being able to keep up with changing technologies is a must. The average annual salary is \$62,420 with *faster than average job growth* expected (7%) through 2032 (BLS, 2022). To learn more, please visit the following websites: the [American Society of Cinematographers](#), the [American Film Institute](#), and the [Academy of Television Arts & Sciences](#).

*Some colleges that offer programs in film and video editing include:*

SUNY/Oswego	Quinnipiac University	Boston University
Hofstra University	Rutgers University	VT State University
Emerson College	Temple University	University of Hartford
University of Rhode Island	NY Film Academy	St John's University
Rochester Inst of Tech	Bridgewater State Univ	San Diego State Univ
Chapman University (CA)	Five Towns College	Los Angeles Film School

*or visit NAVIANCE to search for more choices!*

## Notes from the Counseling Department

- **Summer High School Intern Program: General Dynamics Electric Boat is offering local high school juniors an 8-week PAID summer internship between June 26-August 18. Each intern must be 16 years of age and have completed their junior year of high school. Students must be a U.S. Citizen and meet Electric Boat employment requirements. Interns will work side-by-side with trained mentors who have years of shipbuilding experience.** Interns will become employees of Electric Boat and union members for the duration of their summer internship. **The following organizations will be accepting SHIP students: Groton Design, Groton Operations and Quonset Point Operations. For more details on this opportunity, please pick up application information from Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.**

- **Attention Seniors-Community Service Deadline:** Seniors who have completed 100 hours of volunteer service during their 4 years at Amity will be recognized with a letter of distinction along with an honor cord to be worn at graduation. All signed community service forms, as well as hours posted on PowerSchool, **must be handed in and completed no later than Monday, April 8, 2024.** If you have any questions regarding community service, please stop by the Career Center.
- **Scholarships for Seniors:** There is still an opportunity to apply for some local scholarships. Please see a list [here](#) or see Mrs. Vallie in the Career Center.
- **Attention Juniors:** The Amity High School **Spring College Fair** will be held on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 8:00pm in our main gymnasium. Approximately 120 college representatives will be in attendance. This is a great way for students to meet many of the college admission decision-makers in an intimate and convenient way. The college fair is **FREE** for students and parents and this event is open to the public. A list of college/universities will be posted next week.
- **Understanding Your Financial Aid Package-** To learn more about understanding your financial aid offers, please find some valuable information [here](#).
- **Summer Camp:** 2024 LAW Camp is a One Week Only camp from July 8, 2024 – July 12, 2024, in New Haven, CT from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. LAW Camp is FREE for accepted applicants! LAW Camp is a one-week, in-person summer camp sponsored by the Connecticut Bar Association’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. LAW Camp offers high school students a unique opportunity to learn about the legal profession and develop critical and analytical thinking skills. During the week-long day camp, attendees will hear from practicing lawyers or judges, observe court proceedings, receive advocacy training, and participate in a mock trial competition. There is no cost to attend LAW Camp. Applications and more information can be found [here](#).
- **Rotary/Youth Services Family Game Night-**The Rotary of Woodbridge is hosting a Family Game Night on Wednesday evening April 10, 2024, from 5:30-7:30pm. Come enjoy fun games, pizza, and sweets for \$10 per family at the Woodbridge Center Building, Lower level 4, on Meetinghouse Lane. Please RSVP to Human Services at 203-389-3429 or email [humanservices@woodbridgect.org](mailto:humanservices@woodbridgect.org).
- **Local College Fair coming to Bridgeport:** On Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> The Southern Connecticut College Fair will be held at the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre in Bridgeport from 4:30-7:30pm. There will be over 200 colleges, universities and businesses attending. This event is free and open to the public. Students can find a list of colleges attending and pre-register by going to their [website](#).
- **Green Sustainability Technical Education Program (Green STEP)-** Juniors and seniors are invited to participate in a virtual, paid training course offered by the Green Sustainability Technical Education Program. This Summer Energy Program sponsored by Eversource & United Illuminating and the CT Natural Gas & Southern CT Gas Company will run during the Spring break on Thursday, April 18, 2024, from 10AM – 3:30PM. Green STEP is open to all high schoolers. This program is paid-to-train, and students will earn \$16 per hour with a \$25 bonus upon successful completion of a certification exam. To sign up, please go [here](#). Please contact CT

Green STEP Program Manager, Kiana Soloman, at [kiana@earthforwardgroup.com](mailto:kiana@earthforwardgroup.com) with any questions.

- **Interdisciplinary Generative AI Summer Program by Stanford Alumni:** [Inspirit AI](#) is a 25-hour project-based AI program taught by Stanford graduates that introduces middle and high school students to fundamental AI concepts to build interdisciplinary AI projects across disciplines. In 2024, the team is excited to announce new projects such as Generating Language Safely with ChatGPT. No CS experience is necessary to apply and priority [applications](#) are due soon.

### **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. We are dedicated to promoting positive team spirit and recognizing all athletes in their endeavors. Visit our website and join here: <https://sites.google.com/amityschools.org/amityathleticsboosterclub/home>
- Join now and receive a FREE Amity Spartans “PROUD” yard sign! Delivered to you, while supplies last.
- Visit our NEW Athletics Booster Club Sports Gear store! Click the link below to purchase your customized items today: [blanchettesportinggoods.chipply.com](http://blanchettesportinggoods.chipply.com)
- Send us pictures of your athletes in action! In our efforts to promote and recognize our student athletes, we would like to share your photos on our FB page. Please email your photos to [goamityspartans@gmail.com](mailto:goamityspartans@gmail.com) with a brief description. With your permission, we will post your images to our FB page. Let’s recognize our student athletes for their outstanding dedication and drive!
- Amity A decal stickers are back! Email [goamityspartans@gmail.com](mailto:goamityspartans@gmail.com) to order yours. 2 sizes available: large for \$5 each (4 inches wide by 2.5 inches high) and small (3 inches wide by 2 inches high) for \$3 each.

### **Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Information**

- **Please Support Us!** Joining the PTSO does not require you to volunteer, it enables us to continue to support and fund events and special celebrations for our students, teachers, and school. To join the PTSO, please visit our website [amityptso.org](http://amityptso.org) and under membership click on Click here to join!
- Amity's College and Career Center is looking for help with their **College Fair on Monday, April 29th**. They are asking for donations of time, desserts & drinks. Please see the sign up genius, thank you in advance. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0549A4AD22A0FD0-48268043-amity>
- The PTSO needs volunteers to help with some fun & exciting upcoming events - **Teacher Appreciation Week (5/6, 5/8 & 5/10), Senior Breakfast on June 4th and Graduation Balloons**. We are having a **meeting via zoom next Wednesday, April 10th at 7pm**. Please join us as we need as many volunteers as possible. If you

would like to help with these events but are unable to attend the meeting, please email us at [arhsptso@gmail.com](mailto:arhsptso@gmail.com). Here is the zoom link: Click <https://yale.zoom.us/j/4967871015?pwd=UG9MY3pqS0hoUjcrdkExdUp4RHV1QT09> to start or join a scheduled Zoom meeting and password: Amity Meeting ID: 496 787 1015

- We have some great news about **Graduation Balloons**, and we are super excited to share that helium is back and we are able to blow up balloons this year for our graduating seniors!! With graduation on Wednesday, June 5th balloons need to be done the weekend prior. We all know weekends are precious family time, but we **can't do it without volunteers**. Please be on the lookout for more details.
- **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 News**

- **Woodbridge Youth Services News:** Call 203-389-3429 or email [npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:npfund@woodbridgect.org) for information or to sign up for programs.
  - *Sign up for Youth Services*  
Notifications: <https://www.woodbridgect.org/list.aspx>
  - *See Youth Services' Website:* <https://www.woodbridgect.org/160/Youth-Services>
  - *Follow us on Facebook:*  
<https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeYouthServices.CT>
- **First Selectman's Youth Award: Nominations Sought- First Selectman's Youth Award Nominations Requested-** 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. Parents or family members may not nominate a relative. **Nominations are due to Youth Services by April 8, 2024.** The winner will receive their award at a Volunteer Celebration 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.
- **Red Cross Babysitter Training during Spring Recess-** 2 morning sessions Tuesday, 4/16/24 & Thursday, 4/18/24 in the Woodbridge Library Meeting Room. Must attend both days to receive certificate. Learn valuable information to start childcare or improve your skills. \$60 fee includes instruction, materials, and snack. Call 203-389-3429 or email: [Npfund@woodbridgect.org](mailto:Npfund@woodbridgect.org). Payment and permission forms due by 4/12/24. Space is limited.
- **Student Community Service Opportunities:**
  - Woodbridge Conservation Trust Second Sundays: Need assistance clearing trails for few hours on Sundays. Spend time outside with friends doing a service to your community.
  - Community Family Game Night-Wed., 4/10-Set up and help with games, pizza, clean-up. 5:00 – 7:45 pm.

- Earth Day- April 27<sup>th</sup>- Students needed to set up and help with family games. 9:00 – 3:30.
- **Job Bank Seeks Woodbridge and Bethany Teens Who Want Paid Work:** The Job Bank guides teens ages 13-18 as they apply, interview, and earn money doing odd jobs for Woodbridge residents. Teens are needed now. Contact the Job Bank to schedule your interview. Jobs include snow shoveling, yard work, babysitting, housework, animal care, tutoring and tech assistance. Residents may call 203-389-3429 to hire a student.
- **Community Game Night - Fun for the whole family!** Join us for the **Community Game Night**, an all-age event for toddlers to grandparents including everyone in between! This fun family event will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup> in The Woodbridge Center on the lower level of the Center Building at 4 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge. The event will run from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The \$10 per family admission includes games, pizza, drinks, and cookies. The event is sponsored by the Woodbridge Rotary Club and hosted by Woodbridge Youth Services. RSVP to Woodbridge Human Services at 203-389-3429 or by email at [humanservices@woodbridgect.org](mailto:humanservices@woodbridgect.org). Please let us know how many family members will attend and the ages of the children. We'll have age-appropriate games for all! Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Earth Day/Drug Take Back Day-April 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on the Woodbridge Green**-Youth Services will have games to play outdoors while families enjoy the many activities. The Woodbridge Police Department will accept unused or expired drugs and vape products. Please remove batteries from vape devices before drop-off. Earth Day also includes live music, clothing freecycle, textile recycling, Friends of the Library book sale, food trucks, electronic recycling, mattress recycling, compost & rain barrels, paper shredding, a seed exchange, Drug Take Back Day, and more. You can read about the event here: <https://woodbridgetownlibrary.org/earth-day-2024/>
- **Suicide Prevention Virtual Trainings- QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer)** – Sponsored by Alliance for Prevention and Wellness- April 10, and May 8, 2024- 11 am to 12:30 pm-Learn to detect warning signs and offer hope to help save a life. Registration link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)
- **Parent Trainings by South Central Child Advocacy Center re: Internet Safety and Internet Risks and Signs of Child Trafficking**- See website to register: <https://southcentralcacct.org/>

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