

ARHS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

This past Wednesday, December 5th was the funeral for the 41st President of the United States, George H. W. Bush. His son, George W. Bush, stated in his eulogy, “He accepted that failure is a part of living a full life, but taught us never to be defined by failure. He showed us how setbacks can strengthen.” The 2019 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Ceremony was held the same day, where all Teachers of the Year from the state of Connecticut were honored for their dedication to their students and the profession of education. Our very own Rob Kennedy was recognized at this ceremony. I have been reflecting, throughout the week, on the incredible impact teachers and parents have on children as they develop. The quotation from President George W. Bush about the lesson his father taught is true for all of us. We are not defined by failure, but rather can learn from setbacks and become stronger people and a stronger community because of them. Amity Regional High School is predicated on the core values of **fairness, respect and passion** and we support these through our academic, social and civic expectations. By working together, our BOW community will become stronger for our children and our future.

Sincerely,

Anna N. Mahon

Principal

College and Career of the Week: This week’s college is **Gateway Community College**, and the career of the week is **Psychologist**. [Gateway Community College](#) is located in New Haven, Connecticut and has a satellite campus in North Haven, where its automotive program is housed. Gateway offers degree and certificate programs as well as many transfer options for those planning to move on to 4-year institutions. [Psychologists](#) are professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat and study behavior and mental processes. They work in hospitals, clinics, schools, and corporations.

Happenings and Information

Physical Education Update: Speakers from Yale University, School of Medicine, Tobacco Research in Youth Group visited physical education classes this past Tuesday, December 4th, to educate our students on e-cigarettes, discuss the potential health concerns, answer questions, and talk about the state and federal laws that apply to teens. We hope that by giving our students as much [information](#) as possible, they will have all of the necessary facts about vaping. All 9th-11th grade students will hear from the speakers before the December break. The next visits are scheduled for December 12th, 17th, 19th and 20th.

Mid-Marking Period for 2nd Marking Period: The mid-marking period for second quarter will be on Monday, December 10th. Please check PowerSchool for updates on student progress.

2018 Winter Concert: We will continue the display of excellence from the Fine and Performing Arts Department next Thursday with the Amity Music Department Winter Concert on Thursday December 13, 2018 at 7:00pm in the John J. Brady Center. This is a FREE concert open to the public! Come and listen to great music performed by the talented students of the Amity High School Music Department. The Amity Choirs, Band and Orchestras will be featured. We hope to see you there!

National Art Honor Society Empty Bowls Fundraiser: On December 13th from 5-7pm the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation in conjunction with the ARHS National Art Honor Society and the Culinary Department are hosting our annual Empty Bowls event. Check out the [news story](#), which aired this past Tuesday and was anchored by Amity Alum Margaux Farrell. For a minimum donation of \$10 patrons can receive a handcrafted bowl and a soup dinner. All proceeds will benefit the downtown evening soup kitchen in New Haven. Immediately following dinner is the annual winter concert in the Brady Center.

PTSO Holiday Basket Donations Needed: Every holiday season the Amity High School PTSO supports a family in need from Bethany, Woodbridge and Orange. If you would like to donate please contact your local town coordinators listed below. Monetary donations or gift cards to Walmart, Stop & shop, Target and Kohls are the most helpful so we can shop and meet the family's needs in the best way possible. All donations can be sent into AHS main office by December 14th so we have time to shop and prepare the gifts. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Senior Happenings

Seniors: Scholarship applications are starting to come in. Please check the scholarship list in Naviance for the most up to date information or stop by the Career Center. Also, please be aware that December 10th is the transcript request deadline for any students who would like transcripts sent out for a 1/1/2019 application deadline.

Attention Seniors – By now, most of you have filled out the FAFSA form to apply for financial aid. In addition, **some colleges require** the [CSS Profile](#) form to be submitted as well. Check here for a list of those colleges and universities.

College/Career Center News: Please notice the Career Center's new "College of the Week" bulletin board, located across from the cafeteria! This year we will highlight the top 50 schools applied to by Amity students.

Gateway CC: A representative from Gateway Community College will be visiting Amity on Thursday, December 13th at 10am to discuss transfer options as well as general information about the college. Gateway's annual full-time, in-state

tuition is less than \$9,000.00. Any junior or senior who would like to attend may obtain a pass from the Career Center.

Notes from Counseling Department

Post-Secondary Planning Night for juniors: A planning night for current juniors will be held on January 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Brady Center. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to attend. Ann Fleming-Brown, Director of Admissions at Union College will be presenting on the college and university search and application process.

Gap Year Fair: Conard High School in West Hartford will host a Gap Year Fair on January 10, 2019 from 6-8:30 pm. USA Gap Year Fairs is organizing the event which provides students with a broad exposure to Gap Year Programs and the opportunity for face-to-face conversations with professionals in the field. Many of these programs also offer summer opportunities for students. For more information and to register, please visit this [site](#).

Hamden Adult Education: The next registration for Semester 2 for the Hamden Adult High School Credit Diploma Program will be held Monday, Dec. 17 through Wednesday Dec. 19, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Hamden High School, in Rm. D-107. Eligible students must be at least seventeen years of age and be officially withdrawn from high school. Please *call their office at (203) 407-2028 to make an appointment.*

Yale Summer Program: The Yale Young Global Scholars Program is offering a summer academic enrichment and leadership program for outstanding high school students from around the world. The YYGS offers nine sessions at Yale's Campus in New Haven and one session in Beijing, China. Admission to the program is very selective and is offered to sophomores and juniors only. **The application deadline is February 6, 2019 at 11:59 PM.** For additional information, please **visit the [website](#).**

Fall 2018 PSAT Results: On Tuesday, December 11th, online score reports for the PSAT will be available for all 11th grade students who took the test in October. Students will need to access their College Board accounts for their scores.

Community Service Postings: To be updated on community service opportunities sign up for the Remind notifications by texting @amityserve to 81010 to register. Community service opportunities are also posted on a bulletin board in the Career Center. We have blank forms to be signed at your service sites and all hours are to be logged into PowerSchool/Unified Classroom before submitting to our office. See Mrs. Vallie or Mrs. Cocco with questions.

Important Reminders

Speak-Up Reminder: Parents and students can help stop intolerant and inappropriate behavior by using our anonymous “Speak Up” system to report any bullying, drug possession, crime, and other school or community safety concerns by calling or texting 203-404-6740. There is also a link on the District 5 website.

Athletics

Athletic Department Website: For all information regarding practice and athletic schedules for winter sports, please refer to the athletic department’s website [here](#).

For a copy of next week’s schedule, please click [here](#).

Community Happenings

Amity Enterprises and FBLA Club: In a collaboration between the Amity Future Business Leaders of America Club and the Amity Manufacturing class, a wide range of products will be sold through Amity Enterprises. Amity Enterprises offers a variety of products that will lighten up any home with all sorts of customizations available with custom lettering and fonts. These products will be great for any home or they can also be a gift for the holidays. You can view the products and find information on how order by navigating to this [link](#).

Preview Night and Fall Play: Please see this [flyer](#) for a preview night announcement to support the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation. Go out to support this awesome organization tonight and come to the [Amity Creative Theater](#) Fall Play, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, tomorrow night.

Support School Newspaper, *The Trident*: The Trident is Amity High School's independently run student newspaper that is published once a month and consists of articles written by students about events in the Amity community. The cost of publishing is covered by advertisements that are printed in the paper, so if you are a business owner or know a business owner who would be interested in taking out an advertisement, please contact the editorial staff (amitytridentnewspaper@gmail.com). Ads come in a variety of sizes and prices, and to check out past editions, please visit [this website](#)!

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