SOPHOMORES – APRIL NEWSLETTER

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Hello from the Counseling Center at Moon Area High School. My name is Julie Sitko and I am the College and Career Counselor. This is the time start thinking about life after high school. My role is to advise and support students and families in the college search and to help identify "best fit" colleges and universities, and to assist students in realizing their post-secondary goals. This monthly newsletter will keep you on track for post-secondary planning. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Emails from Post-Secondary Schools:

If you have not yet, you will be getting inundated with emails from colleges. I have a few suggestions on how you can manage the emails.

1. Create an email address just for post-secondary planning. That way, all of the emails you get from colleges won't flood your regular inbox.
2. Create a folder in your email and filter emails from the colleges you think you want to look at later. You can also create a folder of schools that you are interested in, so you don't miss any important messages from them.
3. Check this email account once a week or every few days. Delete messages you're not interested in. You're going to be overwhelmed with information from colleges and managing the emails is necessary, so you don't miss anything important.

If you are looking for good college resources, here are two of my favorites:

Georgia Tech Admission Blog has a lot of great information not specific about Georgia Tech, but about the college search and selection process in general. The blog is insightful, educational, and humorous.

The College Essay Guy – another great website for assistance in writing college essays, along with general information about the college search/selection process. He is witty and has awesome advice on essays. He charges a fee to review essays, but he also has a lot of free information on his website.

Summer Programs:

CCAC Early College programs: Students can take certain credit and non-credit courses offered virtually for free – they also receive a stipend. This is a part of CCAC's Early College Program- a program funded by a generous gift from Bank of New York Mellon. The goal of this program is to help expand access to college and career readiness for those who may or may not have the resources to do so on their own. For more information, call 724-325-6675 or email earlycollegeprogram@ccac.edu.

Southwest Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center (AHEC) 2025 Summer Health Career Academy

This program is open to students who are interested in learning more about various careers in healthcare. Over the course of 5 days this July, students will have the opportunity to hear from leaders in various health care professions and participate in hands-on simulations. The Academy is hosted at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.
A confirmation email will be sent once the application is received. **Applications are due by May 3rd, 2025.** If you have any questions, please reach out to HCA@SouthwestAHEC.org.

The Wildlife Leadership Academy enriches Pennsylvania teens and empowers them to become certified conservation ambassadors through a five-day residential summer field school program. Program costs $500, andscholarships are available.

The Ice-T Project is an initiative of The Citizen Science Lab, Black/African-American High School Youth will learn the computational and experimental techniques required to examine the physiology, biochemistry, and voltage potential of microbial fuel cells (MFC), a living battery made powered by bacteria. Once participants learn the basics they will then

build and create their own device powered by these living batteries. More information will be share on the website as it becomes available.

The West Point Summer Leader Experience (SLE) provides rising high school seniors with a week-long immersion into the academic, military and social life of a cadet. AT SLE you'll explore West Point from all angles, including the high-tech facilities, team building athletic activities, and realistic military training. You will get a taste of Cadet life throughout the program, which is led by current West Point cadets.

Bucknell Academy Summer Experience (BASE) is a collaborative residential experience where students are invited to explore the value of a liberal arts perspective in making challenging decisions to improve today's world. At BASE, students will experience interdisciplinary study from top tier professors while challenging their thought processes. This year's theme is To Share or Not to Share: How has social media impacted society and what can we learn from it? When: June 22-27, 2025. Who: Rising juniors and seniors in high school are welcome to apply.

Duquesne University Summer STEM Camp will take place June 17-21, 2025 on the campus of Duquesne University and is designed for rising sophomores, juniors, and senior high school students from the local Pittsburgh area schools that have demonstrated a strong interest in science. We would like to expose high school students from populations underrepresented in science, via an immersive, diverse, hands-on learning experience.

Pitt, in partnership with Pitt Information Technology will host the Air Force Association CyberCamp June 23-27, 2025. This week-long program is free and open to high school students and teaches cybersecurity principles, skills, and future career opportunities.

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW) is a one-of-a-kind summer program that offers in-coming high school juniors and seniors a unique and challenging opportunity to see what it is like to run their own business. Participants will make up an "imaginary" management team where they will learn first-hand about the Free Enterprise System. Their task - turn their failing company into a financial success. They will develop their own marketing strategies, design a website and, make all the decisions that are demanded of real-life company executives. This weeklong program is at Lycoming College, in Williamsport and students have the option to choose between four different weeks. PFEW is FREE, although there is a $295 non-refundable registration fee.

Carnegie Mellon is offering several in-person Summer Pre-College Programs in architecture, art, computational biology, design, drama, music, gaming, and game design, and writing and culture. The also offer the following programs at no-cost; computer science, summer academy for math and science, and an artificial intelligence program called AI4ALL.

Duke University offers summer academic opportunities for students. Rising seniors are invited to take classes with Duke Professors, where you can earn college credit. Students also have an option to take personal enrichment courses, with a global perspective, through the Summer Academy.

Youth Garden Internship
Overview: NHCO is seeking two youth Garden Interns to help grow produce for low-income families and learn more about vegetable gardening. Duties include:

- Working under the Garden Coordinator to help maintain the garden through field preparations, planting, cultivation, harvesting and packing crops to be distributed at NHCO's three food pantries
- Assist volunteers as needed
- Record amount of food grown and distributed to food pantries
- Participate in the Youth Garden Summit at the end of the season

Site Location: 119 Davis Ave, Bellevue, PA 15202
Hours and Timeline:

- Position will begin June 2025 and go through August 2025 during summer break
- 8-10 hours/week average, flexible schedule, Monday-Friday between the hours of 8am and 5pm

Compensation: $10.30/hour
To Apply: Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to Kate Robson at kerobson@NHCO.org.
Applications must be submitted no later than May 1, 2025.

Summer Inspirit **AI program** at OLSH: Students will learn the fundamental concepts of AI and gain a deeper understanding of how AI is used to build ChatGPT and generative AI, predict stock market trends, power self-driving cars, recognize and create art, help first responders, and more. Students will learn to program AI using Python, discuss ethics and bias within AI, and complete a group project applying AI to a discipline like healthcare, astronomy, and finance, among others. No prior computer science experience is required to participate, and advanced cohorts are available. Program runs Monday - Friday from June 16-June 27 from 9-12:30. Cost Is $1400.

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https://pwp.gatech.edu/admission-blog/

The College Essay Guy – another great website for assistance in writing college essays, along with general information about the college search/selection process. He is witty and has awesome advice on essays. He charges a fee to review essays, but he also has a lot of free information on his website.

Education and Support Series:
The Moon Area High School Transition team is offering the following programs for our students and families. All meetings start at 6:00 PM and to join them,

CLICK: Join the meeting now
or SCAN:

Tuesday April 15 at 6pm - CCAC West Hills Center
Jennifer Cowans- Executive Director of West Hills Center
- Overview of what CCAC has to offer, College terminology, Cost of college, how do you pay for college, and highlight skilled trades/apprenticeship program options.

Wednesday May 7 at 6pm - PA CareerLink Pittsburgh
Alexis McCartney- Site Administrator
- PA CareerLink Pittsburgh will provide a general overview of the online and in person career services, resources, and skill building courses available for jobseekers.

UPMC Sports Medicine Student Aide Workshop:
Saturday, May 17 from 8:00-4:00
Lemieux Sports Complex
This is for high school students interested in a career in athletic training. Students will be exposed to elements of our key topics through lecture, demonstration, and presentations. The main topics will cover the role of an athletic trainer in multiple settings, anatomy and evaluation, concussion, therapeutic exercise, and career opportunities.
Topics include:
- Career exploration
- Therapeutic exercise
- Modalities

- Anatomy and evaluation
- Concussions
- Spine boarding & equipment removal
- Medical terminology
- Taping and bracing

Students must register here: Student Athletic Trainers' Workshop | Southwest Pa. (upmc.com)
There are only 40 sports for this program and there is a cost of $40.00/student.