



CREC Academy of Science and Innovation

April 1st, 2021

Monthly Announcements

- ❖ Late Work is due April 1st!
- ❖ No School on April 2nd - Good Friday
- ❖ April 4th - Happy Easter!
- ❖ Quarter 3 ends April 9th
- ❖ Enjoy Spring Break! Week of April 12th - April 16th
- ❖ Quarter 4th Starts April 19th

A Guide to COVID-19 Vaccines

In case you have been living under a rock for the past year or so, I would just like to issue a friendly reminder that we are in a global pandemic. As of March 30, 2021, there have been over 30,000,000 COVID-19 cases in the United States and over 500,000 deaths. Starting April 1st, 16-year olds will be eligible to receive the vaccine for COVID-19. The CDC recommends getting the vaccine as soon as possible and all of the vaccines (Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson) are efficient and safe. Around 146 million people have gotten vaccinated so far. Even if you do get vaccinated, it is important that you still follow the safety guidelines, such as wearing a mask and socially distancing. If you do get vaccinated, you will be able to have indoor gatherings with family and friends who have also been vaccinated. In Connecticut, vaccines are being administered in physician offices, pharmacies, hospitals, and community health centers. There is also a possibility for a clinic to be set up at ASI for students to get vaccinated as well. One of the main worries people have is the long-term effects of the vaccine since most vaccines do not have effects after the first eight weeks of having it. So far, no vaccine has reportedly had any long-term effects at all, much less after the initial eight weeks. To answer one of the biggest questions people seem to have: The vaccine does not give you COVID! The vaccines have been known to have short-term side effects. The sight of injection may swell, people may get a fever, or get tired. These side effects only last one to two days. Some people report not having any side-effects at all. If you are worried that you may be allergic to the vaccine and have a history of allergic reactions, contact your healthcare provider and see if they approve you for the vaccine.

Article Written and Edited By Macyn Rosay and Ashely Palombizio (cdc.gov and harvard.edu)

Have the scoop? Let us know at asi.times@gmail.com!

ASI's Sports Scoop



Both girls and boys basketball seasons here at Innovation have come to a close, concluding the ASI's winter sports season. Despite the many COVID regulations that had to be followed, both teams did a tremendous job with attending practices and games and sustaining a solid record throughout the season. Not only that, but the boys basketball team raised over \$400 in its annual Hoops for Hope game that helped raise breast cancer awareness and donate to the cause.

Throughout their season, the boys varsity basketball team reached the CRAL Championship Game against Capital Prep and maintained a record of 11-3, with seniors having their best season yet. Senior Mikey Blackman made the first team for 2021 CRAL Boys Basketball All-League with Senior Gabe Matias making the second team. Blackman also broke the school record in a game with 10 assists and senior Khalil Largent had a career high 20 rebounds which is the 3rd highest for the school record. Seniors Mikey Blackman, Gabe Matias, Timmy Fralon II, Khalil Largent, Jonathan Oquendo, Christian Hernandez, and Dashawn Hill all had a solid final senior season and deserve a special thank you for contributing to the Innovation Boys Basketball Team for four years. As far as the girls basketball season, they faced many tough opponents, however built up a brand new team with Macyn Rosay, Daniah Sawyer, Tamara Lopez, Eni Castaner, Serelia Poole, and Akaila Tucker. Returning player Te'ijah Roberts, joined with sophomore Patrice Broughton led many of the points throughout their games, and Roberts also broke the school record by dropping 28 points, the most in a game. Overall, the ravens came through with solid seasons and got to play an unexpected winter season that many doubted. With the winter season ending, spring sports have been starting with practices since March 29th. Outdoor track will be able to have outdoor meets and both baseball and softball teams have their schedules to start playing soon. Let's keep going strong this spring season!

Pop Culture and Global News

Disney's Summer Reopening!

Just in time for summer! The Disneyland Resort in California is reopening on April 30th. There is limited capacity available, in order to follow the guidelines set in place by California Officials. Chapek, the CEO of Disney, stated, "We've been able to prove that we can do this and welcome our guests back in a responsible way". Chapek was praising the guests' cooperation with wearing masks. More than 10,000 cast members will be returning to the resort to provide visitors with the full disney experience.

- BlackWelder C. (2021). Disneyland sets to reopen with limited capacity. Retrieved March 22nd, 2021 from <https://www.goodmorningamerica.com>.



Image Source: Disney Parks

The "Scammys?"

The 63rd Annual Grammy Awards ceremony took place on March 14, 2021. Although many artists like Beyonce, Megan Thee Stallion, Billie Eilish, Ariana Grande, and more received grammy awards, many fans were upset. For example, the grammy award for Best Pop Duo/Performance was given to Lady Gaga and Ariana Grande's "Rain On Me". Many kpop fans believed BTS deserved this award with "Dynamite" for breaking countless records. In response, outraged fans came up with the hashtag #Scammys after artists like BTS, Chloe and Halle, Doja Cat, and The Weekend were snubbed.



Image Source: World Today News

Breaking News

Asian American hate crimes have become more prevalent since the start of the deadly virus, Covid-19. Many Asian Americans have spoken out about the hate and harassment they've experienced and are determined to not endure it in silence anymore. About a week ago, 8 people, who were mostly Asian women, were killed in Atlanta, Georgia, and 3 salons were attacked by a white man named Robert Aaron Long, one of the biggest displays of Asian hate in recent years. After these attacks, the victims are now asking for justice and the Asian community is fighting back against these racist crimes.

- Lozano, A. (2021, March 21). People across U.S. protest ANTI-ASIAN hate following deadly SPA SHOOTING. from <https://nbcnews.com/news/>



Image Source: ABC News

A Message From Our Global News Team

We enjoyed writing about global and pop culture news for our school's new newspaper! We're glad we're a part of it and will continue to try and bring you the most relevant news!

Members of the Global News Team

Writers

Ariana Vicens

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Local News

UCONN HuskyTHON: How Connecticut college students did their part to help those in need!

During the weekend of March 20, 2021, UCONN college students participated in a school wide event called the annual HuskyTHON in efforts to attempt to raise funds and awareness for the Connecticut Children's Miracle Hospital, a network hospital located in Hartford, Connecticut. The event is a light spirited dance marathon, which caps off at a total amount of 18 hours with the event split into two 9 hour days that ran over the course of the weekend. The event was run and coordinated by the Husky's very own, with it's entirely student run committee and a management team of 30 UCONN undergraduate students who were passionate and determined to make sure that this year's heartfelt event would be one unlike any other.

The event was officiated both virtually and in person, with groups of more than 100 students all following COVID protocol gathered around for this special cause on the main campus and a generous amount of online viewers all following along on the schools officiated livestream. The UCONN students were determined and demonstrated continuous persistence in their efforts with the hopes that they might be able to raise more funds than they did in the previous year, an astounding amount of more than \$1.5 million dollars. UCONN student, Allyson Cosman added that the pandemic would not dim their light in saying, "Never take anything for granted. Just with having a brother that has autism spectrum disorder, there are so many things in life that he won't be able to experience like I am able to and it has taught me to seize every opportunity and do everything I do, like give back, especially for those people who aren't able to." The Hartford location is 1 out of the 170 total nonprofit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals across the United States and Canada, treating 62 children on average every minute. And now with a total of \$1,052,534.21 raised, it is because of the hard work and determination of many kind hearted UCONN Husky students they are able to get the attention and specialized support that they deserve.



Image Source: UCONN.edu

Connecticut's Special Visit from the Vice President of the United States Kamala Harris

The state of Connecticut received a special visit from a very well known White House official last Friday, March 26, 2021, the Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris. She was here on the behalf of President Joe Biden's, "Help is Here Tour" which aims to promote the recently passed \$1.9 trillion dollar American Rescue plan. When she arrived at Tweed New Haven Airport, located in New Haven, Connecticut around 2:30 PM she was greeted by many well known Connecticut officials including Governor Ned Lamont, U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, U.S. Representative Jahana Hayes, as well as U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro.

The Vice President was very pleased and had high praise for Connecticut and it's work in terms of education and the pandemic, describing the state as a great prospective role model for the rest of the country as a whole. During her visit, the Vice President spent the day at the Boys and Girls club of New Haven and also at the West Haven Child Development center, with Connecticut citizens waving and trying to catch a glimpse at her as she traveled throughout the state. She explained that her hopes for the plan are to solidify the child care system and pull millions of children and their families out of the situation of poverty. Stating that the pandemic has exposed the, "fault lines" in our system and that "it is about our children and all that a society should do - understanding that the children of the community are the children of the community and in that way we have a collective responsibility."

Her visit came not too long after First Lady of the United States, Jill Biden had stopped here in Meriden, Connecticut not more than just a couple weeks ago, similarly accompanying U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to speak to Connecticut teachers. The Vice President took a similar approach in her visit as she was also able to do some outreach of her own with the teachers and students of Connecticut schools, telling her young audience at the West Haven Child Development Center that she loved meeting with young leaders. Seated on the floor with the young children, the Vice President had told them that they could be anything that they wanted to be. "I want to be everything!", one little girl announced. Vice President Harris stated that she was very delighted and impressed by the preschoolers. Her final words, "I am positive one of them will be President of the United States."

Members of the Local News Team

Jasmine Carby

Macyn Rosay

Ashely Palombizio

A Word on Women's History Month

WOMEN'S History Month



Although they've been marginalized for many years, women are an extremely important part of our society. Historically, women were only given the job of taking care of children and working inside the home. Although this sounds easy, women had to clean for hours on end, make sure food was ready, and wait on their husband's hand and foot. For several years, women were unable to have jobs in places of power because they were considered to be too emotional to make decisions, but the many strong women throughout history have proved those conceptions wrong. Women such as Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a Supreme Court Justice who fought for women's rights, Amelia Earhart, the first female pilot, and most recently Kamala Harris, the first female vice president, have and will continue to pave the way for women.

These women serve as an example to all young girls and women coming up in society today, encouraging them not to listen to what others have to say, but rather to focus on their own goals and aspirations. Women are becoming more and more prominent in society and are taking more seats in places of power around the world; as Ruth Bader Ginsburg once rightfully said, "women belong in all places where decisions are being made."

Quote - Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are the exception.



- Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Quote - What I want young women and young girls to know is: you are powerful and your voice matters.

- Vice President Kamala Harris

Month: APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 APRIL FOOLS DAY LATE WORK FOR Q3 IS DUE	2 GOOD FRIDAY	3
4 EASTER SUNDAY 	5	6	7	8	9 QUARTER 3 ENDS	10 START OF APRIL BREAK
11	12	13 BEGINNING OF RAMADAN	14	15	16	17
18 END OF APRIL BREAK	19 QUARTER 4 STARTS	20	21	22 EARTH DAY 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	