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What's Happening?

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TODAY	TOMORROW	THURSDAY
5:00 The Community Table Cooking Classes: Holiday Baking	9:00 The Pottery Show	12:10 Bergren Forum - ♦??
7:00 Men's Basketball vs. Keuka College	12:10 Faculty & Staff Bible Study (Students also welcome)	Hands on Materials Science ♦??

New York State Paid Family Leave Changes for 2019

The PFL benefit rate will increase from 50% to 55% of an employee's average weekly wage, up to the weekly maximum of \$746.41, for a maximum of 10 weeks (subject to the 52-week lookback). The weekly maximum benefit rate is based on 55% of the state's average weekly wage of \$1,357.11 for 2019.

The contribution rate for employees will also increase in 2019 from .00126% to .00153% of gross wages. The maximum annual employee PFL contribution for 2019 will be \$107.97, up from \$85.56 in 2018.

For example, in 2019, an employee who makes \$1,000 a week would receive a benefit of \$550 a week (55% of \$1,000). Another employee who makes \$2,000 a week would receive a benefit of \$746.41, because this employee is capped at one-half of New York State's Average Weekly Wage (NYS AWW) of \$1,357.11.

Questions regarding this leave and how you can qualify for this leave, please contact Kayleigh Misner, HR Generalist.

Link: [FAQ's of PFL](#)

Attachment: [PFL Changes in Chart 2018 vs. 2019](#)

Submitted by: Kayleigh Misner

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ALL Fleece, Outwear, & Cold Weather Gear 25% OFF @ AU Bookstore

All Fleece, Cold Weather Gear, and Outerwear is 25% OFF at the AU Bookstore. Stop in to see and shop our selection! Sale runs thru 12/14/18.

Link: <http://alfred.bncollege.com>

Submitted by: Marcy Bradley

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Free meal at Ade with donation of a pair of shoes!

You can receive a free meal at Ade Hall if you bring a pair of shoes to donate to the Navajo Water Project! We are trying to collect 2500 pairs of new or used shoes (must be wearable) by the end of the semester to meet a challenge by Funds2Orgs. They will donate \$1000 to the Navajo Water Project if we collect 2500 pairs by the end of the semester. Dining Servies has graciously offered to provide a free meal at Ade if you bring a pair of shoes with you to donate! Go enjoy a great meal and help a great cause!

Submitted by: Michele Hluchy

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Massage, Acupuncture and Therapy Dog Night at Herrick Library!!

Final Exams can be stressful. Herrick Library tries to relieve some of that stress. Massage, Acupuncture and Therapy Dog Night will be held from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm Tuesday, December 11 in the Bookend Lounge at Herrick Library. Sign-up begins at 7:45 pm at the front desk. Free specialty coffee and cookies will also be available. Best of luck on Final Exams!

Attachment: [Massage and Dog Therapy Night](#)

Submitted by: David Snyder

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International Folk Dancing

Tuesday nights, 8:30 pm - 10:30 pm, in the Knight Club, PCC. We learn and enjoy dances from around the world. No experience necessary, we welcome beginners!

Link: [Alfred University International Folk Dancing](#)

Submitted by: Otto Muller

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Alfred Art Walk

Date: Thursday, December 20

Time: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Alfred, NY

Cost: Free

Sponsored by: Alfred Ceramic Art Museum

Alfred Art Walk is a collaborative monthly venture created by the galleries in the Village of Alfred and on the campuses of Alfred University and Alfred State College in an effort to foster dialogue within the local arts communities. Our goal is to support local artists and galleries and to highlight Alfred as the arts destination it truly is.

Alfred Art Walk is open to anyone in the Alfred area who would like to participate. Have an event for Art Walk? Contact us! Submit.alfredartwalk@gmail.com alfredartwalk.org

Link: <http://www.alfredartwalk.org/>

Submitted by: SOAD Events

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Artist In Residence Nancy Blum

Dates: November 26 - December 7, 2018

Location: Alfred University

Sponsored by: NYSCA and The Institute for Electronic Arts

Brooklyn-based artist Nancy Blum is well known for her public art commissions. For the new San Francisco General Hospital, she recently completed an installation of monumental glass windows that feature her robust botanical imagery. Previous projects include 50 hatch covers designed for the streets of Seattle and a sculptural installation for the city's airport; a 40-foot freestanding sculpture in Philadelphia; large-scale mosaics for New York City's MTA Arts in Transit program; and artwork and architectural components for three light-rail stations in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Blum's drawings and sculptures have been represented in numerous exhibitions at galleries and other venues across the US such as the Weatherspoon Art Museum, UNC Greensboro; the International Print Center, New York; and the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens. Her most recent solo show, *Wonderland*, appeared at the Ricco Maresca Gallery in New York last year. Blum's work is held in two dozen private and public collections, including the World Ceramic Exposition Foundation in Icheon, South Korea; the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art; and the Boise Art Museum. Also among these project is a permanent installation at the residence of the American Ambassador to Belgium.

Submitted by: SOAD Events

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AU's Spanish Culture & Conversation Club, El cafecito

Please join AU's Spanish Culture & Conversation Club, El cafecito, Tuesdays this Fall.

Practice your Spanish speaking skills in a fun, relaxed environment while enjoying a variety of cultural activities.

Where: AU Language House 12 Park Street (across from the Saxon Inn)

When: Tuesdays 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Who: Beginner to Advanced Spanish speakers: Everyone is welcome!

Submitted by: Janet McClain

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Approving Timesheets Training

This is the fourth training in a 9 month series targeted at any AU employee who has supervisory roles in their department. This training can also be especially helpful for any staff who support the supervisors in their department.

This training will encompass: approving exempt and nonexempt timesheets in Banner

Supervisors who may be new in their rolls or need a refresher are encouraged to come. This is also open to anyone in the department who may be a proxy timesheet approver.

This training will be held on December 4, 2018 from 11:15 am - 12:00 pm and on December 12, 2018 from 11:15 am - 12:00 pm both located in the Kenyon/Allen Room in the PCC. This is the same training both days.

Link: [HR Website](#)

Attachment: [Flyer for Supervisor Training](#)

Submitted by: Kayleigh Misner

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AU Chorus with a Common Ground Theme

The AU Chorus is open to all students regardless of musical background. If you can sing, we want you and we will teach you! In the spring semester, the choir will focus on music that celebrates diversity, acceptance and hope. We will be working on "Glory" from the movie "Selma" and alumni Chaz Bruce will come from Rochester to help us sing Gospel and R & B music. We will perform 2-3 selections from a new work "Considering Matthew Shepard" a piece about the tragic death of a young gay man but also focusses on hope for our future. We'll celebrate our Latino community in a Caribbean based "Kyrie" with steel drums and multiple percussion.

Concerned about issues of diversity, inclusion and community? Let's sing about it and through our songs truly become community.

University Chorus is a 2 credit course MUSC 271 and satisfies part of the Arts credit in General Education. The choir meets on Monday from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm and Wednesday 5:20 pm - 6:50 pm.

The group is also open to faculty and community members.

Singing in a choir has been shown to relieve stress and help people to find a community.

Submitted by: Luanne Crosby

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Monthly Safety Tip

Cold weather, ice and snow can increase the chances of slips and falls, so the Alfred University safety committee would like to remind all Saxons to stay safe throughout this winter season. We remind you to dress warmly and wear suitable attire, and, when appropriate, walk like a penguin. It may sound silly, but short, shuffled steps can decrease your chances of slipping and falling. Be sure to download a copy of our Walk Like A Penguin poster to post in your area.

Attachment: [Walk Like A Penguin Poster](#)

Submitted by: Dean Perry

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It's Hunting Season! Be Careful!

For your safety, we would like to notify you that big game hunting season has begun in Western New York. The season began on Saturday, November 17 and is over on Sunday, December 9.

Please be very careful if you decide to walk in any wooded area during this time. If you do, wear blaze orange or some other very bright color. If you see a POSTED sign, get the landowner's permission to enter or you could be fined for trespassing.

Hunting is not allowed on Alfred University property which includes the woods behind the campus and around Forster's Lake.

Submitted by: Norm Pollard

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It's that time of year!

Just a reminder: As the semester comes to a close we often see a rise in larceny, usually from unlocked rooms and vehicles. Please remember to secure all of your valuables! If you do become the victim of a theft, call the Office of Public Safety. xxx-2108 right away.

Submitted by: Robert Billings

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THROWBACK THURSDAY DE-STRESS EVENT

December 6th
4:00-7:00 PM

Knight Club (3rd floor of Powell)

Join us for candy, games, & crafts from your childhood to feel like a kid again!

Attachment: [Throwback Thursday De-stress Event](#)

Submitted by: Sara Nostrant

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~~Ecology of the Bahamas~~

There are still spots available in the Ecology of the Bahamas course! It's a B-Block, spring semester course with a travel component to be completed May 20-30, 2019. The field portion of the course is done out of the Gerace Research Center on San Salvador Island - look it up, it's an amazing location. Once there we will complete labs on coral reefs, inland lakes, and tidal lagoons. We will explore the island's history and geology. We will boat over to bird colonies on offshore keys, visit caves, and spy on rock iguanas. Prerequisites are ENVS101 or BIOL150. Exceptions are possible, contact me if you're interested.

We are still working towards reducing the travel component fee, and currently our best estimate is around \$1,500. Juniors and seniors can apply for APEX funding to reduce the cost further. The course is available on Bannerweb - you can register today, or you can let me know (beaudry@alfred.edu) if you would like to be kept current on the latest developments.

Link: <http://geraceresearchcentre.com/index.html>

Submitted by: Frederic Beaudry

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Jeans for Books

JEANS FOR BOOKS! Please support the Gail Walker Book Fund! Alfred University awards the Gail Walker book funding to worthy students whose lives reflect the values Gail Walker lived by.

If you purchase a pin for \$3 showing your support, you may wear blue jeans on Wednesday, December 5! 100% of the proceeds will go directly into the fund, which helps several students every year who may not otherwise be able to purchase a much needed textbook. We realize you may already wear jeans and hope you'll still consider supporting this fund.

You may purchase your pins in the Student Affairs Office in Powell or from Terri Drake in Binns-Merrill 143. Please contact MT Sick in the Student Affairs Office if you have questions.

Submitted by: MT Sick

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Nominations needed for Spirit of Service Awards!

It's time once again to nominate deserving Alfred students, faculty and staff, and community members for Spirit of Service Awards! These annual awards celebrate service to the greater Alfred community and honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who embodied the principles of equality, social justice, community, and service. Nominations will be accepted through January 22.

Nominators can submit their recommendations using this form: <https://docs.google.com/f...>

The 2019 Celebration of Service ceremony, where Alfred University and Alfred State College honor all

nominees and present winners with their awards, is scheduled for 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 29 at the Union University Church event space. Refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend.

Link: [2019 Spirit of Service Award Nomination Form](#)

Submitted by: Corey Fecteau

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December Years of Service Recognition

The Employee Recognition Committee would like to announce Years of Service dates for the month of December 2018. The Committee will be observing years 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50.

At Alfred University, we realize that our employees are our greatest asset, and we are delighted to honor your dedicated service and commitment to this organization. It is our employees who uphold our principles, demonstrate our vision of working for a better future for our University, deliver on our customer promise and make us the passionate organization we are today.

The success of our organization is a direct result of your efforts and dedication. Your commitment to quality and personal and professional integrity is the differentiating factor that sets us apart from our competition.

On behalf of Alfred University, it is with great pride and admiration that we congratulate you on this service anniversary milestone.

Celebrating 1 Year of Service:

December 5- Shaun Fields- Public Safety Officer- Public Safety

December 6- John Lewis- Director, Student Activities- Center for Student Involvement

Celebrating 20 Years of Service:

December 14- Terri Drake- Research Admin Specialist- Sponsored Research

Link: [Employee Recognition Website](#)

Submitted by: Kayleigh Misner

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So you've always wanted to star in a Musical?

Now is your chance! Steve and Luanne Crosby are teaming up for a Double Threat (singing and acting) Class in Musical Theater. You'll learn the basics of singing and acting for musicals and the class culminates in a production of scenes. You choose the musicals. Everyone gets a lead role. What better way to earn 4 credits in Music and/or Theater. Class meets M & W 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm and Thurs. 2:20 pm - 3:10 pm.

MUSC 200 (topics) or THEA 242. Openings still available!!!!

Submitted by: Luanne Crosby

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Doctoral Public Defense by Brad Ervin

Brad Ervin, Doctoral Candidate in School Psychology, will conduct a public defense of his dissertation,

"Social-Emotional Learning Interventions: Familiarity and Use Among Elementary Principals", at 8:30 am on Thursday, December 6, at the Powell Institute Classroom (downstairs), 6 Sayles Street.

For more information, call 607-871-2212.

Submitted by: Patti Potter

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Wrestling Club?

Do you have any interest in being involved in a new Wrestling Club here at AU? We are having our first meeting Tuesday, December 4 at 4:30 PM in the CSI Office on the ground floor of the campus center.

Attachment: [Wrestling Club](#)

Submitted by: John Lewis

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Inamori School of Engineering Poster Session

The annual poster session is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm in McMahon Commons Area. We currently have 7 students presenting their poster. All are welcome to attend.

Light refreshments will be served.

Submitted by: Emilie Carney

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2019 Benefits Update

For this benefits update, included is a PDF regarding information as it relates to the changes to the Non-Statutory and Retiree benefits for 2019.

Please review the attached PDF for helpful tips for a smooth transition from BCBS to Univera and OptumRx.

If you still have questions regarding the new insurance, be sure to reach out to Kayleigh Misner, Kim Wyant, or Mark Guinan.

Link: [Benefits Page](#)

Attachment: [Benefits Update](#)

Submitted by: Kayleigh Misner

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