

### Ansonia High School

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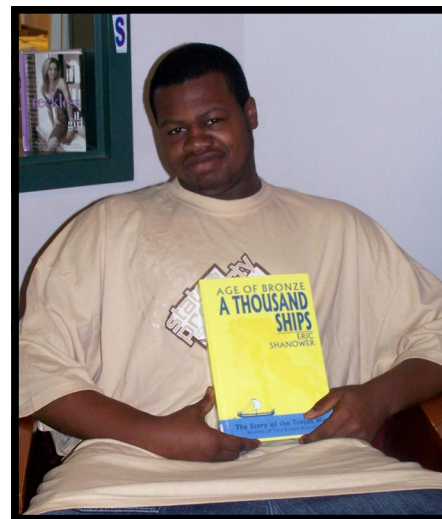
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## "Age of Bronze: A Thousand Ships"

By Eric Shanower

Reviewed by: Matt Pace

*Age of Bronze: A Thousand Ships* is the first book in a series detailing the events of the Trojan War. The book tells of the mythological story of Paris, the bull and the kidnapping of Helen of Sparta and all the obstacles Paris must overcome. It is written in a comic book format which, for me, makes it more interesting, easier to read, and easier to understand. I never thought I would like mythology, but in this book is a story based on history that includes betrayal, jealousy, deceit, mystery, devotion and fantastic action scenes.



## Mrs. Christon, Con't

Mrs. Christon was honored by her colleagues and family at a retirement social on May 31 at the Race Brook Country Club. More than 160 colleagues, friends and family – and many retired educators – attended. Here are some of the words Mrs. Christon would like the Ansonia Public Schools' community to hear:

"Over the years, my rise within the profession has created many indelible impressions. To have been a part of *Ansonia 2001* was laudable, and there is nothing like having been a part of the lives of so many. My hope

is that I have passed something along; I know that I have learned my lessons.

And now that I am ending my career at Ansonia High School, I send a fond farewell. Luckily, I have, and I will always be thankful for all of my experiences here. I shall never forget my interactions with staff, colleagues, students, and families."

## Dates to Remember

June 1	Student Government Elections
June 5	Benefit System Wide Softball Game
June 6	Senior Debts Due
June 7	Pops Concert and Art Show 7 pm AHS Auditorium
June 11	Late Bus Ends
June 12- June 15	FINAL EXAMS
June 13	Top Ten Banquet 6 pm AHS
June 14	Senior Picnic
June 15	Awards Assembly 9:45 AHS Auditorium  Blue & White Football Game 6 pm Nolan Field
June 17	Father's Day
June 18	Graduation 6 pm Nolan Field

June 2007

Ansonia High School



# The Charger Times

## Mrs. Christon Bids "Adieu"

### Mission Statement

To prepare every learner to meet ever-changing personal and global challenges, the primary mission of Ansonia High School is to cultivate the emotional, physical, social, and intellectual growth of each student. The success of our mission requires the active participation of students, faculty, parents, and community in the learning process.

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After more than 40 years of service to the Ansonia Public Schools, Mrs. Wilhemenia Christon will retire from the position of Principal this month.

Mrs. Christon, a native of South Carolina, began her teaching career as a reading tutor in Ansonia. In 1971, she was hired as an English teacher at Ansonia High School. She later became Humanities Department Head, Assistant Principal, and then Principal. During her tenure, Mrs. Christon has been active in the school and in the community. She serves on a number of state education committees, is involved in numerous community organizations, and is the recipient of several awards and recognitions.

Shakespeare, one of

Mrs. Christon's favorite authors, wrote, "Parting is such sweet sorrow." She states, "These words appropriately express [my] retirement from the Ansonia Public School System and the host of affiliations, acquaintances, colleagues, students, and parents with whom I have had the honor to serve and/or work with over the past forty years." Although she has proudly chosen to leave the profession at this time, the past few weeks have led her to reflect on many memorable moments in Ansonia.

She recalls, "As a first year teacher, I 'inherited' classes that we designed to force someone into retirement. To say they were a challenge would be an understatement. I held fast to the belief that I was destined to be in Ansonia and stood in front of my classes with an air of authority. One student (H.W.) must have thought otherwise, because he became my protector. In spite of this and other similar occurrences, I vowed that I would succeed. I remember being in the cafeteria at the old high school during a union meeting. At the time, the union was bickering about how to divide the raise that the board of education had given them. Although I was making less than \$10,000, I said, "It doesn't matter that the union wanted to give the money to those on the top, I know that I would get there."

(Continued on page 4)

## Student of the Month

The votes have been tabulated and Maria Cusano has been voted in as Student of the Month for June.

Her teachers have described Maria as an exemplary, trustworthy student that is actively involved in school activities and is currently a member of the Tennis Team.

Maria is always courte-

ous and kind, setting an excellent example for others to follow.

Please congratulate Maria this month for this most honored achievement!



The June Student of the Month is  
Maria Cusano

## FBLA Trip to "Texas"

On Tuesday, May 15th members of the Ansonia Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America visited Texas—Texas Roadhouse that is, a new restaurant in West Haven, CT! Students were greeted by manager/owner Eric Blanchard and several staff members. Mr. Blanchard discussed the history of Texas Roadhouse, the process of opening a franchise, building a restaurant, and hiring and managing employees. Students were

then taken on a behind the scenes tour of the restaurant. The field trip concluded with a lunch of steak, ribs, salad or sandwiches and a question and answer session. Students won hats, cups, and t-shirts by answering questions. Each student left with a sample of fresh baked rolls, one of Texas Roadhouse's signature menu items. Students were impressed with the

presentation and tour and were surprised that the restaurant had opened and employees came in just for them! The experience was "legendary".



## Guidance News

Summer school registration is possible for those students who receive a FINAL grade of F+. Check with your appropriate teacher to determine your grade status; remember, you may only take ONE course per summer and the grade must fall ONLY in the F+ range (50-59). If you definitely need summer school, you should check in the Guidance Dept. for an application. You have a choice of

towns/schools that offer summer school, several of which are: Derby, Shelton, Masuk, Amity, Trumbull, New Haven, West Haven, Trumbull. You will be responsible for the cost.

Any 07-08 schedule conflict should be addressed by meeting with your counselor right away.

Seniors, please contact your counselor and verify the college that will receive, and requires, your final AHS transcript. This will

insure your smooth transition into your post secondary school career.

The Guidance Dept. encourages ALL students to be diligent in preparing for and taking final exams. It is your last chance to excel and reach your highest potential as well as academic success. GOOD LUCK!

## Music Notes

The 2006-2007 year proved to be yet another memorable and successful year for the Ansonia High School Music Department. They performed literature that was both entertaining and challenging, participated in a championship football season and traveled to various sites to perform. Above all else, friendships were formed and fond memories were made. For the Class of

2007, we wish them all of the happiness that the world has to offer and also an invitation to visit whenever they'd like. Our department has a lot to be proud of because of their dedication, service and leadership; the roles they have played in our success will never be forgotten.

Please help to celebrate and to send off our senior performers by attending our annual Pops

concert on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium at 7:00 pm. The art department is also holding a senior art exhibit that evening in the atrium lobby beginning at 6:30. Advance tickets are \$3 each and tickets at the door will be \$5. There will be several raffle prizes drawn as well. This evening is always bittersweet, but we're sure you will enjoy every moment. Please join us.

**Good Luck and Best Wishes to the Class of 2007 and AHS Retirees:**

**Mrs. Christon  
Mr. Russo  
Dr. Sullivan**

**Congratulations  
Mrs. Baldwin on the birth of your son, Nathan.**

## Virtual Business Challenge

Students enrolled in Mrs. Phipps' Entrepreneurship class competed against each other to become the "Entrepreneur of the Year." Students completed a two-week unit on using the Virtual Retailing Software to create and operate a convenience store. Students

completed daily lessons based on pricing, purchasing, staffing, promotion, market research, financing, target market, merchandising, security, supply and demand, and turn-around. Students used the tools they learned in class to run their own

business. The goal of the competition was to earn the most profit.

First Place	Anna Rego
Second Place	Alex Thomas
Third Place	Amy Howard

## Farewell to the Class of 2007

Dear Seniors,

We wish you the best of luck in your future. We hope you enjoyed all of your time here at AHS and had memorable moments at the Ring Dance, Prom and Banquet.

We look forward to seeing you at the picnic on June 14<sup>th</sup> and graduation on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Love,

Ms. Kelley  
Mrs. Lonardo-Contessa



## Charger Health Clinic Reminder: Summer is Approaching

With Summer approaching, many people start thinking about bathing suit weather and what they can do to lose a few pounds fast, but pills and trendy diets can cause serious health problems. Here are a few tips to help you lose those winter pounds safely:

- Aim to lose no more than two pounds a week
- Stay away from diet pills, especially the ones that offer claims about boosting your energy; they can cause irreversible damage to your heart

- Get moving; increasing your exercise by walking for 20-30 minute even two times a week will make you feel more energetic
- How much you eat is just as important as what you eat; appropriate portion sizes will keep you from putting those pounds back on
- Eliminate sugary drinks like soda and juice; they pack on the calories but don't fill you up
- Never skip meal; small frequent meals keep your body going all day long

### What is a serving size?

Baseball = serving of vegetables or fruit  
Deck of Cards = serving of meat, fish, poultry  
Golf Ball = 1/4 cup of dried fruit or nuts  
Computer Mouse = small baked potato  
Compact Disc = one serving of pancakes  
Six Dice = serving of cheese