

OBITUARIES

Pauline Marie Borden

Pauline Marie (Yvon) Borden, born in Southbridge Ma and longtime resident of Charlton Ma, passed away peacefully in her son's home in the afternoon of May 25, 2021. She is survived by her son Michael, daughter-in-law Elizabeth, grandchildren Rowan (and husband Thomas) and Jenna, son-in-law Luke, brothers Danny and Norman as well as many nieces, cousins, and dear friends.



She is pre-deceased by her daughter Rebecca and husband Lee. She will be universally remembered as one of the nicest people you could ever meet (unless you were playing cards with her). There will be a memorial Mass offered for Pauline at St. Anne Church in Fiskdale Ma on Saturday, June 19 at 10 AM. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, donations made be made in her name to Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge Ma 01566 or St. Anne-St Patrick Parish, 16 Church St., Fiskdale, MA 01518

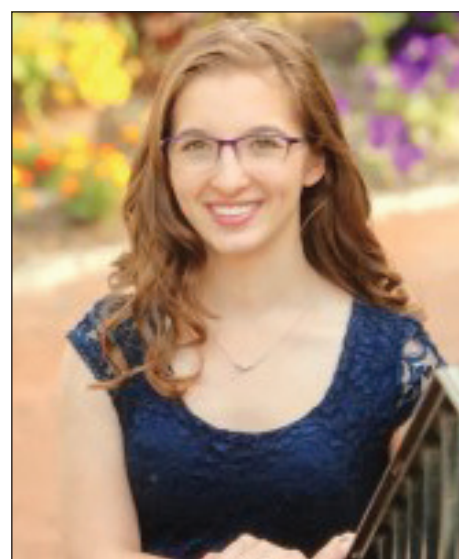
WPI's Julia Antocci awarded SMART Scholarship

WORCESTER — Julia Antocci of Charlton, a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and alumni of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School in Charlton, was awarded the Department of Defense Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation Scholarship.

This award provides students with full tuition for up to five years, summer internships, a stipend and full-time employment with the Department of Defense after graduation. This unique opportunity offers students hands-on experience at one of more than 200 of the nation's most innovative laboratories across the Army, Navy, Air Force and larger Department of Defense. During summer internships, SMART Scholars work directly with an experienced mentor, gaining valuable technical skills. After graduation, she will work at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.

Antocci is currently studying Electrical and Computer Engineering with an additional focus in Robotics.

Antocci said, "I am very excited and grateful for this amazing opportunity, and also the chance to serve my country in such an important way as a civil-



Julia Antocci

ian Engineer" about the award.

The Department of Defense is the largest employer of scientists and engineers in the nation with nearly 300,000 STEM professionals. For over a decade, SMART has trained a highly skilled STEM workforce that competes with the evolving trends of industry to support the next generation of science and technology for our nation.

FIFTH GRADER CREATES WINNING EARTH DAY TOTE BAG DESIGN



Photo Courtesy

Congratulations to Isabella Houatchanthara, who is in fifth grade at West Street Elementary School. Isabella created the winning design for the Town of Southbridge Earth Day tote bag design contest. The tote bag with the winning design was featured at the Beautify Southbridge event Saturday, May 22. Isabella is pictured here with her mother Maxine, along with Andy Pelletier and Anna Smith from the Town of Southbridge. Isabella will also be honored at an upcoming Town Council meeting.

QCC offers free Administrative Medical Professional Training program

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's Workforce Development and Continuing Education Center (WCCC) is offering a free, grant-funded Administrative Medical Professional Training program that will prepare students for a career as a medical administrative assistant. An in-person summer class is being offered June 28 - Aug. 3, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., with a maximum of 10 students accepted. Students must apply by the application deadline of June 14. Accepted students are also required to attend an orientation session.

This training program prepares students to work as medical administrative assistants in healthcare facilities such as hospitals and health systems, physicians' offices, clinics, long-term care facilities, surgery centers, ambulatory surgery centers, rehabilitation centers, and other types of healthcare areas.

Students will learn roles and responsibilities of a healthcare team, interpersonal communication, medical records management, compliance with HIPAA, and diagnostic and procedural coding.

Students accepted into the program will not only receive free tuitions, books

and supplies; but also will attend a computer class, and earn contract tracing and infectious control certifications. After successfully completing the program students are eligible to sit for the National Health Career Association's Certified Medical Administrative Assistant Certification Exam (fee is paid for by the program). Students who complete the program will receive career placement assistance and those who work in the field for at least two months will receive a \$500 stipend.

"Everyone is eligible to take part in this program, but space is limited. We encourage those who are interested to reach out and register as soon as possible as classes fill up quickly," said Grant/SNAP Coordinator Jo Sundin, of QCC's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

Prospective students should email Ms. Sundin, at jsundin@qcc.mass.edu to learn more.

For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

Bay Path nursing students bring Mental Health Awareness Month to a close



Photo Courtesy

The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2021 wore green scrubs and green ribbons to close Mental Health Awareness Month on Friday, May 28.

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2021 wore green scrubs and green ribbons to close Mental Health Awareness Month on Friday, May 28.

Along with the practical nursing class of 2021, the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty and staff participated in activities promoting mental health awareness.

Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN said every May, Bay Path holds mental health awareness activities.

"Our practical nursing students are mental health first aid certified. We believe in breaking the stigma and it is more than just using the hashtag. We need to increase awareness on reducing the stigma of mental health issues," she explained.

Bolandrina said this year, the #breakthestigma drive was embraced by the practical nursing class of 2021. All practical nursing students are fully aware of the importance of mental health awareness. Additionally, raising awareness about the available mental health services is also important. Many individuals experience mental illness more so with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The situation is compounded with being isolated, illness, financial challenges, or the loss of a loved one. The practical nursing class of 2021 showed support and raised awareness of those living with a behavioral or mental health issues and help reduce the stigma of mental illness.

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from varying backgrounds and experiences, but that diversity alone does not lead to inclusion," read a statement released by library director Becky Plimpton. "We are committed to taking active steps to create an environment in which the identities and cultural backgrounds of our patrons and employees are valued and respected."

The library has pledged to continue making decisions regarding its collection, programs, and policies that promote a sense of belonging.

Additionally, several education events and activities have been scheduled. These include a Juneteenth painting program set for Tuesday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m. The Zoom-based virtual program will feature the North Shore Juneteenth Association, whose members will provide information about the Juneteenth holiday. Participants will then be able to paint the Juneteenth flag and learn about Black American artists.

If you are interested in this program, please register by visiting www.SturbridgeLibrary.org. The event is intended for individuals ages 8 and up.

Once you are registered for the event, paint kits can be picked up at the library (306 Main St.). The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library.

The library will also host a Sandwich

Swap Story Time on Wednesday, June 23, at 11 a.m. The event will take place on the Sturbridge Town Common. A special story-time will feature "The Sandwich Swap" and other favorite stories that focus on kindness and inclusion.

The event will feature a snack time, craft activity, and other fun ways for kids and families to spend a morning. The event is intended for kids ages 3-plus; caregivers must be in attendance. Please register for the event by visiting the library's website.

For library officials, it's exciting to be hosting events that celebrate inclusion for all community members.

"At Joshua Hyde Public Library, we understand that diversity, equity, and inclusion are essential to offering our community an intentionally robust and enriching experience," read the statement released by Director Plimpton. "Joshua Hyde Public Library is committed to creating a community in which all patrons can participate in - and contribute to - the life of the library, regardless of race, gender, gender identity, class, religion, sexual orientation, or any other aspect of their identity. We are actively working to gain a deeper understanding of our differences, how we honor them in our library, and promote them in our community."

To learn more about upcoming library events, visit www.SturbridgeLibrary.org.

OBITUARY FOR: Elaine M. (Caron) McClain



The family of Elaine M. (Caron) McClain will be holding a celebration of her life at The Publick House, 277 Main St in Sturbridge, on June 12 from noon until 4 PM.

Her family extends an invitation to all her friends in the community to join them in sharing remembrances of her life through the many family photos, paintings and needle-

work she left for all of us to remember her by.

Guests are encouraged to share their "special remembrance" by writing their favorite remembrance of her in the family's remembrance book.