

Nursing student shines spotlight on vital role of school nurses



Angela Letourneau

CHARLTON — Angela Letourneau of Auburn applauds the work of the school nurses at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School.

In a letter she sent to the Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Letourneau expressed gratitude at the opportunity to observe school nurses Deborah Grenier, RN and Lynn Coleman, RN. Both school nurses have risen to the occasion since the pandemic began last year. In addition to the school nurses' traditional responsibilities, they manage and monitor COVID-19.

Although hesitant at first, Letourneau thought school nursing was probably a field she would not

be interested in. After spending two full days of school nurse observation, her opinion has changed.

Letourneau stated, "I have a completely new outlook, and what a wonderful experience it was to observe the school nurses."

Grenier and Coleman were both "welcoming and amazing!" enthusiastically shared Letourneau. The school nurses "share a unique bond with the students and it melts my heart," said Letourneau.

For Bay Path Regional Vocational High School students, the school nurses' office is "a safe place to come get medical attention or just to have an ear that's open to listening to them," said Letourneau.

Further, Letourneau added that with school nursing, "there is a lot more than giving a student a Band-Aid, or anything else they came in for. It is getting to know each student and their specific needs and problems."

Grenier and Coleman completely impressed Letourneau with the great relationship they had not just with each other but with everyone at the Bay Path community. The school nurses care for physical and mental health including care coordination. Letourneau's school nurse observation experience highlighted the complex and important job of the school nurses and showed their ability to adapt to challenging circumstances to care for students and the Bay Path community.

Letourneau is a 1998 graduate of North High School in Worcester. She obtained her Nursing Assistant Certificate from the American Red Cross in 1999, a Phlebotomy Certificate from Quinsigamond Community College in 2002, EMT-B Certificate from METCA in 2008 and most recently, Care Manager Training Certificate in 2018 from All Care Plus Pharmacy in Northborough. She works as an Anesthesia Technician at Shields Surgery Center in Shrewsbury. She is the Chair of the 2021 Cohort's UNICEF Club.



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Pet of the Week

Sponsored by Cormier Jewelers

Name: Ivy
Breed: Labrador Retriever/Mix
Sex: Female
Size: Medium
Age: 3 years, 6 mos.



Hi there! My name is Ivy and I'm a big ball of sweetness and energy! I love to run, play, and explore. Sometimes I get carried away with the "exploring" part. In my new home I will either need supervision in a tall fenced yard, or long daily walks with a martingale collar. Because of my energy level I would do best with kids over 10 or adults only. Experienced dog owners are a must! I also have a high prey drive, so I would need to be an only pet. I am a work in progress, but for the right person, I have tons of potential! All I need is a little time, patience, and training. I'd love to be your new friend, so please come in and say hello!

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Town of Sturbridge Laborer/Driver

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Applications are available online at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/your-government/pages/job-opportunities> and will be accepted until position is filled.

Applications can be sent to: dpw@sturbridge.gov or mailed to 1 New Boston Road Extension, P.O. Box 182, Sturbridge, MA 01566.
The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE.

Friday's Child

Hi! My name is Jayvon and I want to be a police officer or firefighter.

Jayvon is a boy of Caucasian and Hispanic descent who loves to jump and run. He is an energetic child who enjoys going to the playground and particularly likes to play on jungle gyms. Jayvon is very proud that he recently learned how to ride a bike. Jayvon also likes board games, playing games on his tablet, and Pokémon cards. When he grows up Jayvon would like to be a police officer or a fireman. Jayvon is smart in many ways and enjoys school. He is currently receiving academic supports.

Legally freed for adoption, Jayvon will do well in a family of any constellation where he is the youngest or only child. He will thrive in a family that can provide him with affection, guidance, structure, and calm limit setting. A family for Jayvon must be open to helping him maintain contact with his sisters who reside in Massachusetts.

Who Can Adopt?
Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mare-inc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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