

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOC. 1

Dear AA1 Members,

March, 2026

Spring is Here! Even though we have a fluctuation in our weather from 20's at night to 30's to 70s during the day, most of the snow has melted, trees are budding and the blue birds, robins, and yellow finches are gracing our lawns and feeders! Hope everyone is well and enjoying this change of seasons!

Our 2026 Annual April dinner meeting, Tuesday, April 14, 6 to 9pm, will be at the Marketplace Kitchen Restaurant, 811 Bridgeport Ave, Shelton. The dinner menu includes, appetizers- calamari, hummus, and crispy brussel sprouts, salad, and choices of 1)Roasted Chicken, 2)Skillet Roasted Salmon, or 3)NY Strip Steak, with dessert, coffee or tea. There is a cash bar, ample parking and allow one level. The Alumnae is able to cover the price of our members dinner for this meeting. Please let Cathy Nucera, VP, 203-449-6944, call or text, know your choice by Friday, April 10th

Our speaker will be Jennifer Hubbard, a dynamic, inspirational speaker, author and Executive director of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary in Newtown, Ct, in which she founded to honor her daughter after her tragic loss. Jennifer has been recognized with honors from the Girl Scouts of Ct, highlighting her impact on the community. Jennifer is a National Catholic speaker and retreat leader sharing her story, and is a source of comfort and hope for others navigating the challenges of grief, loss and healing. Jennifer is also an advocate for animal welfare and has community programs at the Sanctuary.

AA1 members will need to vote in current or new Board Officers at our April dinner meeting. Our current board officers wish to continue for 2 more years, but if anyone is interested in any position, please let one of our board members know. AA1 board is also looking for a member who is interested to join the board as our ninth member. Please let any of the board members know if you are interested. There is a small stipend to attend each of our 4 to 5 board meetings per year which we have been holding on Zoom.

New AA1 Life Members for 2026- Susan Mizak Beardsworth, class of 1975 and Janet Parnoff Segen, class of 1975 for paying their dues for 50 consecutive years! Congratulations to you both and hope you enjoy many more years as AA1 Life Members!

Continuing Nursing Education Scholarship application and guidelines information- is on the AA1 website, www.BHSNAA1.org. For any AA1 member who would like to apply for a scholarship, being in good standing and continuing with their nursing career, applications will be accepted during an *extended time period- between January 15, 2026 through March 31, 2026*. You can contact Caren Silhavey for any further information @ 203-375-4553 or email at silhavy@att.net. Scholarships will be awarded after all information required has been reviewed and a Board decision is made.

AA1 Certification scholarship program for AA1 members -to assist in covering expenses for their specialty certification or recertifications that are necessary to continue in their career fields. You can find the certification form and guidelines on our website, www.BHSNAA1.org . If anyone is interested, please contact Edi Poidomani at edisr@sbcglobal.net. We have had several members apply and have been awarded certification and recertification scholarships in 2026.

On the AA1 website- The AA1 Bylaws along with past newsletters, our membership pamphlet, the AA1 Mission Statement, scholarship and certification applications and guidelines and AA2 organization information are on our website- www.BHSNAA1.org (all has been updated recently)

Deceased Members-None reported

Funeral Delegations- AA1 frequently sends a delegation to attend a local funeral of our deceased members. If we are unable to send a delegation because of distance or other circumstances, the AA1 will donate, in their memory, to our Continuing Education Fund or at the family's request. We are in need of volunteers for our funeral delegation; there is a stipend for your service. AA1 has extra, cleaned, gray wool BHSN nursing capes to loan to AA1 members who would like to join our funeral delegations. Also, if anyone has any BHSN

nursing caps or pins that they would like to donate to AA1 for our delegation to wear on the capes for our member's funeral and if anyone is available to attend funerals, if only occasionally, please contact Cathy Nucera,VPres. at 203-449-6944 or cathy.nucera@gmail.com for more information.

If anyone knows of any AA1 members who are in nursing homes, in the hospital, or who has passed away, please contact Dottie Connolly, AA1 secretary- 203-922-8022 or Dotconn0119@gmail.com

Officers of AAI: President: Mary Toohey-Repko- 203-378-9783

Secretary: Dottie Connolly- 203-922-8022

AAI Webpage: www.BHSNAA1.org

V.President: Cathy Nucera- 203-449-6944

Treasurer: Debi Petrushonis- 203-231-3306

***** NEW Email: debp320@gmail.com**

Old email - debptreas@juno.com- do not use

**Deb Petrushonis, AAI Treas.
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