

David Hildebrand Pursuing Brain Research In Rome

David GC Hildebrand, the youngest son of AE/MS second grade teacher Gretchen Hildebrand and a graduate of AE/MS, is spending an exciting semester working in Rome, Italy for the European Brain Research Institute (EBRI). The specific brain research he is doing focuses on particular pathways in the brain associated with memory formation. Special sidelights of his time at the EBRI and living in Italy are that he has seen the sights of Venice, Barcellona, Florence, Paris, and other European cities and has managed to learn some Italian – his third language...math being his first!

David is an honors senior at Northeastern University in Boston. His proposed major is an independent in Mathematical Biochemistry. His future



interest is definitely neuroscience, but he can't specify beyond that at this time " 'cause the brain's simply got too much to offer!"

DEAN'S LIST Amanda Sanborn

Amanda Sanborn was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, where she is a junior majoring in English.

DEAN'S LIST NHTI

Brandon Adams and Nathan Clasby of Andover were named to the dean's list for the spring semester at New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord.

HONORED Abigail Smith

Abigail Smith was inducted into the Cum Laude Society at Tilton School, where she is a senior.

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The *Beacon* relies on voluntary donations for a substantial part of its budget.

Proctor Childcare / Preschool

By Liz Currier
Proctor Childcare Infant Teacher

Proctor Childcare/Preschool at Proctor Academy is a busy place all year long. The day begins at 7:30 each morning and ends at 4:30. The last day of the school year session is June 15. The summer session begins the following Monday, June 18.

Braeden, Elliot, and Charlie are the three youngest infants in the program. They started late last summer and have sure come a long way. In fact, this month they have all reached the milestone of becoming toddlers. It was not long ago that they were being carried in their car seats by their loving parents as they came to school, and now they are walking into school with their parents close behind, bearing smiles all the way.

Our first activity of the day is simply arriving. Each child arrives in the morning with a parent. At least one or two of my charges usually greets me by reaching out to me for our first of many hugs of that day. Their parents spend time filling out paperwork pertinent to the child's schedule, and then make their way toward the door, leaving behind many hugs, kisses, and waves until they return later on.

Now it is time to eat. Braeden and Elliot make sure I'm aware that they are ready to sit in their high chairs, usually by taking me by the hand and leading me to them or perhaps by either saying or signing "more." Charlie has complete faith he will be joining them, and he always does.

Braeden loves eating yogurt with a spoon all by herself. Charlie still en-

joys being fed, though he likes to hold a spoon and experiment with it. Elliot prefers finger foods at the moment, but he, too, is happy to hold his own spoon.

Charlie is the youngest of the group and very easy going and smiley. He likes playing with the toys and will spend a long time on one activity without becoming bored. He likes to stand and cruise around the room as well. By the time this goes to print he may well be running around the room! Charlie also loves to be outside.

Elliot started walking just before his first birthday in April, and it has become his favorite past time. Before walking he loved to dance! He loves playing with his friends and engaging them in games of peek-a-boo as well. He is very busy chatting about many things, some of which we can understand at this point but most of which we only can imagine!

Braeden loves books and loves to talk. She and I have a ritual when it comes to reading time. She chooses a book and hands it to me, then goes back and gets another, and another, and another, and another. When she feels we have enough, she will sit down on my lap, which tells me she is ready. Braeden also loves to read books out loud all by herself. She is an excellent reader (for a one-year-old).

As this school year comes to an end, I find myself during a quiet moment just standing back and staring at these children who came to me so small and helpless just a few short months ago. I'm amazed at how the human mind and body miraculously grow and change right in front of us each day.



ENGAGED Jennifer Haley

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Haley are please to announce that their oldest daughter, Jennifer A Haley, will be getting married to Earl F. Richards III.

Jennifer graduated from Merrimack Valley High School in 2006 and has completed a semester at New Hampshire Technical Institute.

Earl is in the United States Air Force, currently serving his second deployment. He'll return home in July, with just enough time before their September wedding. It will be held on the 29th in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

OBITUARIES

KENDALL K. BENNETT, 77, of New London died peacefully of a brain tumor surrounded by his family on Sunday, May 20. He grew up in Melrose, Massachusetts, and retired to New London in 1990.

Among the family he leaves are his daughter, Kathy Bennett, and her son, Joshua, both of Andover.

MAXINE A. BOYD, 96, of Poplar Street, died May 26 at Woodlawn Nursing Home in Newport where she had been a resident for the past four years.

She was born in Glendale, California, the daughter of Max A. and Hazel C. (Williams) Heasley. She was a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles. Mrs. Boyd worked as an inker and painter for Walt Disney for several years beginning in 1936. She also taught English as a second language. She married Albert T. Boyd in 1943. He predeceased her in 1965.

They moved to Andover in 1957 where they operated Boyd Handprints, designing and producing silkscreened items, specializing in liturgical textiles. She was a communicant of and had

been very active at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London.

She was a member of the Andover Service Club and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. She was a talented weaver and will be remembered for her church linens and vestments.

Mrs. Boyd loved to travel. Upon graduating from Occidental, she ventured to Machu Picchu, Peru. Later in life, she visited Nepal, Spain, and China.

Members of her surviving family include a daughter with whom she resided, Judith Dionne of Andover; a son, Max H. Boyd and his wife Connie Boyd of Harrisville; three grandchildren, Megan Evans of Woolwich, Maine, Amanda Hughes of Portland, Maine, and Catherine Boyd of Troy; three step-grandchildren, Michael, Kristi, and Vicki Moser, all of California; four great-grandchildren, Hazel, Rye, Dae, and Noah; and a niece, Anne Aulenbach of California.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Habitat for Humanity, PO Box 1513, or St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, PO Box 294, both in New London 03257.

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