



Mission:

To assist women of all backgrounds and cultures in learning the skills needed to make positive choices for themselves and their families.

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HGS Board

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Dr. Lisa Clark
Rev. Richard Coy
Dr. Ellen Faith
Ms. Linda Heitzman
Sr. Madeline Munday
Mrs. Katy Burke Nair
Dr. Brad Pendley
Ms. Elois Smarrelli
Dr. Annette Smith
Dr. John Tosi
Ms. Meera Vasu
Ms. Lois Wilber

Congratulations Graduates!



Left to right: Barbara Roberts, Arica Phillips, Tiffany Lowe, Blanca Doherty, Agatha Nwokeji, and Veronica Toro. Not shown: Liana Gonzalez, Arun Patton, Jennifer Scruggs

The importance of education, community, and continued achievement were the themes of the December 2010 graduation ceremony. **Ms. Katy Nair's**, Assistant Head of Hutchison Upper School, Charge to Graduates lauded the accomplishments of the nine graduates saying, "We are here tonight to celebrate the achievements of these individuals and how they have affected us. Education is the only way to change a life... Your success is our success, but I challenge you to build upon your achievement. Don't stop here." Ms. Nair put forth the idea that not only should our graduates challenge themselves, but for everyone present to continue to seek out new ways to learn and challenge themselves to achieve even in the face of obstacles.

All the graduates were quite concise with their speeches further echoing the words of wisdom Ms. Nair imparted to all present at the ceremony. **Blanca Doherty**, thanked everyone at DeNeuille. **Tiffany Lowe** shared with the graduation assembly that she will begin studying to become a registered nurse in January, 2011. **Agatha Nwokeji** said that she will be going to school next year for pharmaceutical technician certification. **Arun Patton** thanked her teacher, Patti for pushing her to succeed in class. **Barbara Roberts** thanked God for directing her to DeNeuille. **Jennifer Scruggs** thanked Ms. Elaine for her prayers and never judging her. She also said that plans on going to school in January to study criminal justice. **Veronica Toro**, recipient of the Hutchison Book Award, exclaimed to her fellow graduates, "We can do it!"

Mike Heitzman, of Mike Heitzman Wood Imports Inc, served as Master of Ceremonies. Hutchison student **Amber Kiner** gave an inspiring solo performance of the song "Hero." A number of students received certificates of completion for their work in GED Practice Tests, Computer Studies, and English as a Second Language classes. After all certificates were presented DeNeuille Instructors gave a beautiful "Teachers' Blessing" to the graduates and other students present. The graduation ceremony was held at St. Anne's Church on December 16, 2010 with a reception following in Sebastian Hall. Graduates and their guests mingled and enjoyed a buffet prepared by the **Good Shepherd Associates**.

If you wish to make a difference in the lives of women we serve, do not hesitate to give us a call at 901-726-5902. Dedicated volunteers and staff are the key to our success.

Miracles Ring at DeNeuville 9th Annual Charity Auction

The “stars” were aligned on Saturday, November 20, as the DeNeuville Learning Center’s (DLC) “Miracles Ring at DeNeuville” 9th annual fundraiser, aptly themed this year as *Starry Nights*, took place on the campus of the Hutchison School for Girls. With Emily Keplinger, of *The Commercial Appeal*, serving as Mistress of Ceremonies and Gayle S. Rose serving as Honorary Chairperson, the evening included both live and silent auctions with items donated from local artists, businesses and restaurants alike. The students of the Hutchison School for Girls and the staff played a major role in all aspects of the event. DLC graduate and current Southwest Community College student Elizabeth Manoah spoke to the audience about immigrating from Sudan to the United States and finding a safe, supportive learning environment at DLC. The night also featured a unique and exciting entertainment event: WMC TV’s Kym Clark, Rev. Martha B Wagley, Susan Aguillard, M. D., Pediatrician, and Lee Grace Matthews of FedEx were all joined with dance partners from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in a competition to dance for **our stars**, the students of DLC. It was a truly magical event which raised over \$30,000 for the Center. The DLC is grateful for the success of the evening and gives thanks to all the individuals, businesses, and volunteers who made this event possible. **If you wish to serve on the committee, to donate items to the event, to volunteer or wish to receive more information, please call DeNeuville Learning Center at 901-726-5902.**



Above: WMC TV’s Kym Clark danced the tango with her partner from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio



From left: Cathy Armstrong, Co-chair of the event and Marjorie Kagoo, volunteer committee member



From right: DLC instructors Malcolm Pratt and Patti Mahautm



Right: Student Volunteers from Central High School



8th Annual DeNeuville Golf Tournament

The DeNeuville Charity Golf classic tournament has traditionally been held on the Friday after Labor Day, however this year’s event departed from that tradition. The fall tournament, not only changed dates twice, but also changed location twice as well due to dying green over the hot summer. Thanks to Mike and Linda Heitzman’s and the committee’s perseverance, the tournament was finally held on October 9th at the Links at Galloway golf course and was a huge success. It raised over \$20,000 for DeNeuville Learning Center. Over 120 golfers played in the tournament and it was considered by the golfers and the committee members as “the best golf tournament ever.”

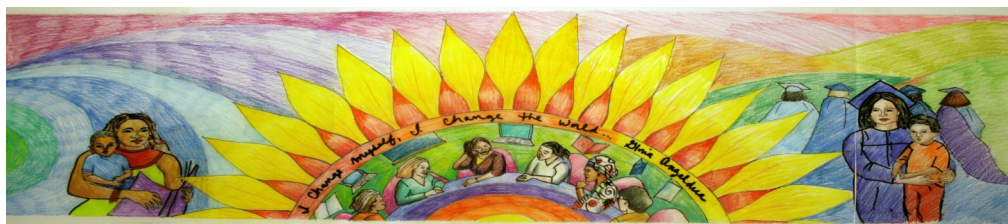
We extend our thanks to everyone who made this event possible. **If you wish to join the committee, become a sponsor, play golf, or contribute door prizes, please call Mike Heitzman at (901) 652-0425.**



Mr. and Mrs. Rob Hendry’s team with Sr. Lakshmie

DeNeuville Mural Project

Thanks to The University of Memphis Art Department, especially Mr. Richard Lou, Chair of the department, Valerie Aranda, an Art professor from Georgia College and State University, and generous donors and volunteers who supported and assisted with the project, DeNeuville Learning Center is enjoying a mural which shares its mission to the surrounding neighborhood as well as serves as a source of inspiration for all who enter the center. Ms. Aranda met with the DeNeuville students to generate ideas for the mural. The mural was painted on the South side of the building in a 400 square feet area. Special thanks to the Mural Project funders - Linda and George Bond, Mr. William Crawford, Mr. & Mrs. Lance Forsdick, Mr. Carl Powers, Ms. Teresa Sloyan, Mr. Maury Wade, Mr. James McWillie, Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Pera III, and Mr. & Mrs. John Zoccola. We extend our thanks to DeNeuville staff, volunteers, students, and community volunteers who helped to paint the mural and to Mr. Lou and Ms. Aranda, including her three students for sharing their resources, talents and gifts. **Come and See!**



Star Graduate



Veronica Toro

Veronica Toro is the fall term's "Star Graduate" and recipient of the Hutchison Book Award. When Veronica first came to DeNeuville, she was determined to get her GED which meant she needed to study all subjects, including math. As the time came to attend her first math class at DeNeuville she figured that because math is the same in all languages she would understand the concepts presented in class very easily. Despite her initial confidence with the class, Veronica recalls now, as she laughs to herself, "I came home and cried after the first class because my English was not good enough yet to understand the language used in the class." Veronica never gave up. She kept going to classes and studying at home. Veronica says that the best thing about DLC is that all her teachers were as dedicated as she was to see her graduate. She says that she is grateful for all the time and effort her instructors gave her to help her succeed. Veronica is planning to attend Southwest Community College and study Special Education. Her life dream is to work with children and help students with learning disabilities overcome their obstacles as she has overcome her obstacles in life. She was awarded the book-*Extraordinary, Ordinary People* as part of the Hutchinson Book Award. After reading this book, Veronica comments "Condoleezza Rice had a hard time studying in school too, so nothing in life is impossible!"

Thank you!



After completing a volunteer project at DeNeuville -

John Hater, Ph.D. (left) with Georgina Cachola and Jack Lewelling

John Hater, Ph.D. has been with DeNeuville Learning Center (DLC) in one capacity or another for over six years. Before his retirement Dr. Hater was an Industrial/Organizational Psychologist and worked at FedEx for 22 years where he was responsible for pre-employment and job proficiency test development and validation, employee morale and attitude surveys, performance reviews, human resource research including transformational leadership, and training evaluation. After joining DLC, Dr. Hater wrote grant proposals and reports, compiled statistics and presentations for agency site visits, implemented the Tests of Adult Basic Education software and testing of incoming students, taught social studies and writing classes, and assisted with the student Christmas parties. Dr. Hater has done so much to help DLC over the years that at his good bye gathering Sr. Lakshmi remarked, "we will not just need one volunteer to replace Dr. Hater, we will need four or five people."

When asked what resonates with him most about the DLC mission he wrote, "I recently finished Father Dean Brackley's book "The Call to Discernment in Troubled Times." He writes that by engaging abused women, oppressed minorities, homeless people, and immigrants we are put in touch with the world, with ourselves, and with divine mercy. Fr. Brackley also states that the victims show us that the world is a much crueler place than we supposed, but also that there is something going on that is far more wonderful than we dared to imagine. I believe these things are happening at DeNeuville." Dr. Hater also remarked: he hopes that DeNeuville students will achieve their goals for the benefit of themselves and their families. Thank you, Dr. Hater, for your years of service to DeNeuville!

Board Leadership



Linda Heitzman accepted a huge challenge when she said "yes" to become the first lay Chair of the House of the Good Shepherd of Memphis Board. No doubt! It was a challenge. Linda led the Board with a heart of a shepherdess and contributed her leadership gifts and talents to the mission. Linda completed her term in December, 2010. Thank you Linda!



Dr. Ellen Faith is the new Chair of the Board. Dr. Faith is a Professor of Education at the Christian Brother's University. As an educator, she is very committed to the mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in Memphis. Linda shared, "Ellen is committed, passionate, and dedicated. She will do a wonderful job." We are confident. Thank you Ellen for saying "yes" to this leadership role. You have our support and prayers.

Catherine G. Arnoult
 Dr. John Z. Autian
 Charles and Nancy Bailey
 Eric Baertels
 George Bond
 Linda Bond
 Henry and Glenda Brock Ph. D.
 Customers of Brother Juniper's
 Margaret Brown
 Regina Burchfield
 Steve and Nectar Cantu
 William and Susan Carpenter
 Mildred and Christopher Carruthers
 Kirk and Katherine Cervetti
 David Chance
 Edward Charbonnet
 Francis and Mary Chiozza
 Chris Conner
 Reginald Dalle and Dr. Teresa Dalle
 Andrea Doherty
 Helena Dood
 Donor Choice of United Way
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 Wendy Ferguson
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 Keith and Elaine Hansom
 Barbara Harris
 Dr. Jane Hayden
 John Healy
 Mike and Linda Heitzman
 M. Anastasia Herin
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 The Huisiking Foundation Inc.
 Antonio and Mary Clare Incardona
 Robert & Mary Jo Kennedy Foundation
 Kipp Memphis Inc.
 Judith Ruiz and Robert Lachica
 Ladies of Charity Memphis
 Dr. John Leite & Dr. Lisa Clark
 John and Susan Lewallen
 Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Mangiante
 Mary Mastellone
 Lee Grace Matthews
 Mr. and Mrs. David McManus
 John & Gertrude McNary
 Andrew Menezes
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Miller
 Jeff Morris
 Kay Nesbitt
 Rush OKeefe
 William and Jean Oldham
 OLPH Women's Guild
 Pam Patterson
 Bradford and Cara Pendley
 Fr. W. Peil (thanks to Sr. Lourdes)
 Mr. and Mrs. Martin Petrusek
 Members of PEO Chapter A
 Phoenix Neurosurgery, PLLC
 Timothy Roberts
 Robert and Julie Romanoli
 Dr. and Mrs. Julio Ruiz

John Pickens and Suzanne Satterfield
 Sisters of Good Shepherd PMNA
 Larry Shutzberg
 C. M. Simmons
 Judy Siracusa
 Annette C. Smith Ph. D.
 Delaine Smith
 Anthony and Mary Spiering
 Susan Springfield
 Arthur and Carol Straughn
 Michael Tavary
 Surgical Technologies (Paul Massa)
 Pravin and Brenda Thakkar
 Carole Thompson
 Richard Towne D. D. S.
 Clare L. Tiffany
 David and Teresa Trotter
 Uncle Donalds Restaurants, LLC
 Dr. and Mrs. Vasu
 C. Wilson and Helen Viar
 Nancy S. Walker
 Mary Curran Wallace
 Katherine and Christopher Werner
 Margherita C. Westervelt
 Jim Witkosky
 Minnie C. Young

Thank you to everyone who used their **Schnucks cards** to donate to DLC!

Thank you for the **Members of Germantown Civitan Club** for the donation of 50 tickets to "Sweet Treats with Santa

In Memory of

Melanie Campbell
 by Betty Pechak
 Richelle Malone
 by Sr. Mary Stephen
 Gertrude Fergen
 by Sr. Mary Stephen
 Philip and Ana Jahn
 by Sr. Mary Stephen
 WM. P. Fergen
 by Sr. Mary Stephen
 Opal Blasingame
 by Linda and George Bond
 Chuck Maley
 by Doris Binkley's aerobic class

In Honor of

Thomas Henze
 by Frank Benson, Rachel Best,
 Priscilla McLaughlin, Priscilla Pearman,
 Laura D. Wallace
 Mr. and Mrs. William McWillie
 by Nancy McWillie
 Kathy Werner
 by Michael and Angela Disalvo

Mother's Day Memorials
Our apologies for omitting the last names of these two mothers in the previous newsletter

Elena Signaigo Deming
 Kitty West Bond
 by George and Linda Bond

Golf Sponsors (according to levels)

Surgical Technologies
 Stephen Tavary
 Higher Visibility
 FedEx
 National Cities Corporation
 PMMR
 Mike Heitzman Wood Imports, Inc.
 Luttrell Belting & Supply Co
 Jon Tosi DDS
 Germantown Knights of Columbus
 Cornerstone Systems
 Grace Construction
 Daniel Stewart, CLU
 Dobbs Honda—Mendenhall
 Watkins Uiberall
 Sisters of the Good Shepherd MNAP
 Cathy Anderson—Crye-Leike Commercial
 Tina Fockler
 Dr. Ellen Faith
 Paul Davis R & R
 McLean CPA Firm, PLLC
 Yolanda Lazarini
 Dr. and Mrs. Smarrelli
 Magna Bank
 Bradford and Cara Pendley
 Hord Architects
 Wolfchase Honda
 Uncle Donalds Restaurants, LLC

Miracles Ring at DeNeuille Sponsors (according to levels)

McVean Trading and Investment, LLC
 ACH Food
 Dr. Ellen Faith
 Carol Prentiss—Prentiss Foundation
 Rev. Richard Coy
 Church of the Holy Spirit
 Independent Bank
 Memphis Door and Hardware, LLC
 Uncle Donalds Restaurants, LLC
 Brent and Katy Nair
 Phelps Security
 Dr. and Mrs. R. Vasu
 Janice Tanner

Grants

Assisi Foundation of Memphis, Inc.
 (Bridges Out of Poverty Project)
 Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis
 Kemmons Wilson Family Foundation

Christmas at DeNeuville

What a wonderful way to end the year!

Our staff and volunteers had a treat thanks to **Michael Robilio of Lucchesi's Ravioli and Pasta Company, Inc.** Mr. Robilio donated a delicious Italian meal for over seventy-five *Good Shepherd People*, who attended the staff and volunteer Christmas party. It was great meal that no one wanted to miss. Mr. Robilio said, "I would like to do this next year too." Thank you, Mr. Robilio, for helping us to show our appreciation to our staff and volunteers. The party was held at the Clunan Center of the St. Louis Catholic Church, thanks to Rev. John McArthur and staff.

Thanks to numerous donors, especially **The Salvation Army Angel Gift Program, the parishioners of St. Paul Catholic Church, Women's Identity Purpose, St. Ann Catholic Church's Women's Bowling Group, Some of the 4.0 and 4.5 Ladies USTA tennis players (thanks to Sherrie Nischwitz) and friends of DeNeuville Learning Center**, we were able to assist over 110 families with more than 220 children. As families came to pick-up their gifts, they also enjoyed a great meal donated by **Huey's**. It was a delicious meal. We thank Lauren Mchugh, Ashley Williams, Samantha Dean and Huey's staff for continuing this annual donation that Mr. Thomas Boggs started.



Ashley Williams, Michael Robilio, Samantha Dean, Steve Mchugh and Lauren McHugh

One of the DeNeuville teachers said, "The women were in tears and they were so thankful for what they received." Thank you everyone who made the 2010 Christmas a joyful one for DeNeuville. **If you wish to sponsor a family, donate Christmas gifts, sponsor a Christmas party, or help with gifts, please call 726-5902.**

Business Contributions

Adam Heitzman, CEO of HigherVisibility, updated DeNeuville's web site.

HigherVisibility says, "*When looking for an Internet Marketing Agency in today's setting it is increasingly difficult to find a full-service interactive agency that offers the experience and creativity that delivers an impactful solution. With HigherVisibility, you are getting this and much more.*"

Check out the DVD created by **Alan Davis and John Markham of archer>malmo**. It is on our **website** —www.deneuvillecenter.org. The DVD can be found in the News or Event pages and the password is dlc.

Archer>malmo says, "*We're a privately owned, mid-sized agency (around 100 people) with almost all national clients in a wide variety of categories. We're a house of specialists in advertising, public relations, interactive, direct, experiential, plus anything else we think will work. ...We put a lot of effort into building a great culture and have been named a "best place to work" nationally.*"

Delaine Smith of Ford and Harrison, LLP and her company reviewed our Employee and volunteer handbooks and applications and assisted with the new HR policies that were put into effect in 2010. Ms. Smith did not count her minutes and she was very generous.

Ford and Harrison, LLP says, "We concentrate our practice on all areas related to labor and employment law - including employment litigation and class actions, business immigration and employee benefits - so our clients gain from in-depth legal experience in all facets of these issues."



