



# The DeNeuville Message

The Newsletter of DeNeuville Learning Center, a Program of the House of the Good Shepherd of Memphis Vol. 11, No. 1 Winter 2008

## GED Certificates Awarded to 8 Students at Graduation Ceremonies Held in October & December



Oct. Graduates Maria Saenz, Erica Forman & Zury DeLeon  
(not pictured: Vicki Walker )



Dec. Graduates Shima Caffey, Tara Hilton, Aarial Jones & Cynthia Wilkerson

In graduation ceremonies held on Oct. 7 and Dec. 20, eight students from the DeNeuville Learning Center received their GED certificates, while more than 30 additional DeNeuville students were honored for their academic achievements.

At the Oct. exercise, Dr. Loretta G. Griffin, director of Christian Education at Walker Memorial Christian Church, delivered the charge to the graduates. Debi Berry, Business Manager for Formus Architects and a very active DeNeuville volunteer, addressed the graduates at the Dec. ceremony.

## Christmas Celebration Provides Holiday Happiness to DeNeuville Students & Their Families

Following the December 7th graduation exercise, the celebration continued with a wonderful Christmas party for the students of DeNeuville Learning Center and their families. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Boggs of Huey's Restaurant once again provided the delicious meal for the nearly 200 people in attendance. Thanks to the generosity of several individuals and the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program, each of the families received huge bags filled with toys and other goodies which, much to the delight of the children, were delivered to them by that jolly old man in the big red suit.

During the celebration Sr. Lakshmie expressed her gratitude and sadness to several volunteers who are leaving DeNeuville: Patti Mahautmr, a GED instructor who is



going to medical school overseas; Frances Harley, a 10-year volunteer at the Center who is retiring; Laurie Coles, a computer technical support volunteer who is pursuing out-of-state employment; and Sister Therese, who will be moving to St. Louis to work at the Good Shepherd Sisters' retirement home. Best wishes and God's blessings to each of them.

## A Message from the Director

Among the number of Christmas gifts I received this past year, I felt especially attached to one gift. It was the Angel of Hope, who gently held on the top of her right hand a dove carrying an olive branch. The angel seemed to be holding her hand in a way that suggested the dove was free to fly away whenever it was ready to do so.

Hope is defined as a wish accompanied by confident expectation. It is more than a wish. We hope that every person will have an opportunity to know their purpose in life. However, those who lack a support system, basic needs, a sense of belonging, inner freedom, etc., will not have an opportunity to discover their purpose in life.

Our mission is to give hope to those who carry a heavy burden in their hearts. This past year seventeen women found inner freedom when they received their GED diplomas. This was a major accomplishment for them as well as for their instructors. Now these women have new hope — to go to college, to find employment, to support their families, and to be able to give back to their community.

I think this was the reason that I was so attached to the Angel of Hope I received. The women who now hold GED diplomas and Certificates of Completion in their hands have gained the freedom to move on with their lives, just as the dove is free to fly away with the olive branch in its beak.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each person who helped us during the year 2007. Without your support, and encouragement, it would have been impossible for us to plant a seed of hope in those who have no other means to lay down their emotional burdens and move on with their lives. Our heartfelt thanks to all the donors, sponsors, and supporters, especially to the anonymous donor who enclosed a generous donation in an Easter card and to the donor who left an anonymous cashier's check in the mailbox. We are so blessed to have such wonderful and generous persons to support our ministry at DeNeuville.

With gratitude,  
Sr. Lakshmie, Director

## Miracles Ring Again at 2007 DeNeuville Gala and Auction!



**Chairperson Marjorie Kagoo, Ron Childers and Sister Lakshmie**

“Wine, Mingle, Dine & Bid!” That was the theme of the Sixth Annual Charity Auction for DeNeuville which was held in November at the Clunan Center of St. Louis Church.

And that is exactly what took place at the fundraiser, which set new records in sponsorships, attendees, and net proceeds. \$32,000 was raised from the event, and these funds will be used for the educational needs of the women and children served at DeNeuville.

Ron Childers served as the master of ceremonies and guest auctioneer, along with professional auctioneer Terri Walker. Musical entertainment was provided by Earl Randle, and students from Central High School and the STARS organization (Singles Together Achieving Results) provided additional volunteer assistance.

Many thanks to the various committee members and all those who worked so hard to make “Miracles Ring at DeNeuville” a wonderful evening and a tremendous success.

## Student Nurses from the University of Memphis Provide Health Classes

Twelve student nurses from the Loewenberg School of Nursing at The University of Memphis conducted free health seminars for DeNeuville students last year.

At the first of two sessions, the student nurses provided information on health careers, breast cancer, personal hygiene, dental hygiene, and the importance of hand-washing. The students also completed blood pressure screenings.

The second session included instruction on diet, exercise, weight management, stress management, and eating disorders, and the impact of each of these on physical health. The nursing students also measured the height, weight and Body Mass Index of the DeNeuville students.

Our thanks to the staff and students at the School of Nursing for making this invaluable health information available to our students.

### HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REV. RICHARD COY

SR. BERNADETTE FAULHABER

MS. CHRISTINA FOCKLER

MS. MEMINA HERRIAS DE FRANKLIN

MS. LINDA HEITZMAN

SR. MONICA NOWAK

DR. BRAD PENDLEY

MR. DAN ROBINSON

MR. MAURY WADE

MS. LOIS WILBER

**DONORS & SUPPORTERS - JUNE 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2007****DONORS**

Anonymous—Cashier's Check  
 Catherine Arnoult  
 Eric Baertels  
 Elaine & Warren Barnes  
 Joseph Barnett  
 Edwin & Camille Bennett  
 Paul Black  
 R.G. Bool  
 Margaret Brown  
 Cecilia & Paul Bryant  
 Regina Burchfield  
 Suzanne Burnett  
 David & Diane Cambron  
 Chapter AA PEO Sisterhood  
 Mary & Frances Chiozza  
 Joan Clayborne  
 Rev. Richard Coy  
 Teresa Dalle, Ph.D.  
 Dorothy Day House of Hospitality  
 James Elliott, D.D.S.  
 Christina Fockler  
 Cary Ann Fuller  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gadowski  
 Amy Gatti  
 Katherine Gavin  
 Good Shepherd Associates  
 Grace Presbyterian Church  
 Carolyn Hague  
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael Harty  
 Thomas Henze  
 Anastasia Herin  
 Mary Claire & Antonino Incardona  
 Ladies of Charity  
 John Leary  
 Rita Linder  
 John & Linda Mann  
 Brian & Ann Marie  
 Randy Marshall  
 Paul Massa – Surgical Technologies  
 Lee Grace Mathews  
 John McNary  
 Howard Montgomery  
 Nineteenth Century Club  
 Brad Pendley  
 Diane Montesi Pettit  
 Carolyn Powers  
 John Purcell  
 Cynthia Rahme  
 St. Peter Church  
 David & Mimi Schmitz  
 Lisa Shaffer  
 Mary Singer – Cresa Partners  
 Sr. Joan Spiering  
 Anthony Spiering  
 Barbra Southwell  
 Kathleen Sullivan – Huisking Foundation  
 Claire Tiffany  
 Richard Towne, D.D.S.  
 Maury Wade  
 Nancy Walker  
 Rosalina Weed  
 Dr. & Mrs. Gordon Wills  
 Thomas & Teresa Wilson  
 Greta Wright  
 Minnie Young

**HONORARIA & MEMORIALS***In Honor of:*

Shelley Baur (by BOMA Memphis)  
 Shelley Baur (by Cert. Public Accountants)  
 Linda & Zach Heitzman (by Melody Cardell)  
 Tom Combs (by Hilton Hotels)  
 Dr. Michael Harty (by Girl Scout Troop )

*In Memory of:*

Bob Haley (by Frances Stewart)  
 Mike & Kevin Lazarini (by Yolanda Lazarini)  
 Lois V. McKinney (by Jim & Lydia McKinney)

**BUILDING SPONSORS & DONORS**

Eric Baertels  
 Rev. Richard Coy  
 Ursula Hannaford  
 Mr. & Mrs. John McNary  
 Andrew Menezes

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY SPONSORS**

Anonymous Donor  
 Debi & Ransom Berry  
 Andrew Menezes  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Robinson  
 Salvation Army—Angel Tree Program

**IN-KIND DONATIONS**

The Assisi Foundation of Memphis  
 Auction Item Donors  
 Clothing Donors  
 Golf Tournament Donors  
 Hilton Hotels Corporation  
 Auction Fundraiser Donors  
 Pettit Catering  
 St. Louis Church  
 Yard Sale Item Donors

**SPONSORS-GOLF & AUCTION****FUNDRAISERS**

ACH Food Companies  
 Brady Bunch  
 Cadence Bank  
 Christian Brothers of Lambert Hall  
 Church of the Holy Spirit  
 Thomas E. Cooper Agency  
 Cornerstone Systems, Inc.  
 David's Frames & Art  
 Joseph Decosimo & Company, PLLC  
 DSC Datacomm, Inc.  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Dykes (motorcycle donor)  
 FedEx Freight  
 FedEx Solutions  
 Tina Fockler  
 Dan & Marlene Garner  
 Germantown Knights of Columbus  
 Harrah's  
 Holy Rosary Church  
 Hord Architects  
 Independent Bank – Union Ave.  
 International Specialties, Inc.  
 Kelman-Lazarov, Inc.  
 Landmark Community Bank  
 Yolanda Lazarini

Little Caesar's Pizza & Marty Matthews  
 Luttrell Belting & Supply Co., Inc.  
 McLean CPA Firm, PLLC  
 Memphis Door & Hardware  
 Pettit's Landscaping  
 Renasant Bank  
 Service Master - Terminix  
 Surgical Technologies  
 Janice Tanner  
 Triumph Bank  
 Women of the Cathedral  
 David Zanca

**FUND-A-NEED DONORS**

Brian & Andrea McNiell (\$1160)  
 Dan Robinson (\$1160)  
 Michael Provow (\$550)  
 Mike Heitzman (\$500)  
 Scott Borgert (\$300)  
 Bill & Natasha Sublette (\$150)  
 Joan Averwater (\$100)  
 Sheryl Barton (\$100)  
 Joe & Carl Garbuzinski (\$100)  
 Margaret & Jim Henze (\$100)  
 Scott Jenkins (\$100)  
 Beve & Connie Johns (\$100)  
 Julie Knudson (\$100)  
 Yolanda Lazarini (\$100)  
 Dennis Plafcan (\$100)  
 John & Stephanie Sheahan (\$100)  
 Mary B. Wallace (\$100)  
 John Wolf (\$100)  
 Ron Childers (\$75)  
 Terri Daniels (\$75)  
 Teresa Blanco (\$50)  
 David & Connie Chance (\$50)  
 Mary Chiozza (\$50)  
 Marilyn Conner (\$50)  
 Erin Courtney (\$50)  
 Ciscily Dirmeyer (\$50)  
 Don & Lucy Duhois (\$50)  
 Douglas Duncan (\$50)  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Dykes (\$50)  
 Edna & Wayne Gaia (\$50)  
 Erin Garner (\$50)  
 Brent Gatti (\$50)  
 Mike Harris (\$50)  
 Martin Lindberg (\$50)  
 Martha Marin (\$50)  
 Mary McBee (\$50)  
 Theresa Mills (\$50)  
 Shannon Rhodes (\$50)  
 Virginia & Daniel Robinson (\$50)  
 Lida Kruchten (\$30)  
 Deena Abeysekera (\$25)  
 Dolores Albonetti (\$25)  
 Mary Ann Bailey (\$25)  
 Melody Cardell (\$25)  
 Bob Crone (\$25)  
 Joyce Firenza (\$25)  
 Tom Francis (\$25)  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hudock (\$25)  
 Georgia Murphy (\$25)  
 Janice Pope (\$25)  
 Avelino Reges (\$25)

## DeNeuville News and Notes

**"Joy of Journal Writing":** Last semester DeNeuville students participated in a class on "The Joy of Journal Writing." The class was taught by Stephanie Wilson, a Rhodes College student who completed an internship at DeNeuville.

**Yoga Class:** Every Wed. afternoon a yoga class is now being presented at the Learning Center for DeNeuville staff and students. The class is taught by Kirsti Schermerhorn, a yoga instructor at the Midtown Yoga Center.

**Number Change:** The Combined Federal Campaign Number (CFC) for the Learning Center (officially "House of the Good Shepherd dba DeNeuville Learning Center") has been changed to **25338**.

**10-Year Anniversary:** DeNeuville will be celebrating its 10-Year Anniversary in 2008. The Learning Center was established on April 13, 1998, and plans are in the process to salute this milestone achievement with a special event to be held in April.

**Tee Time:** Start planning now for the 6th annual DeNeuville Golf Tournament, scheduled for Friday, Sept. 5.

**Miracles Will Ring:** The 2008 DeNeuville Auction and Gala is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15.

### DENEUVILLE WISH LIST

#### SPONSORS TO HELP PURCHASE

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TEXTBOOKS  
(50 TEXTBOOKS & WORKBOOKS @ \$26 PER SET)

#### SPONSORS TO HELP PURCHASE

QUICKEN 2007 SOFTWARE @ \$90 FOR 12 COMPUTERS

#### VOLUNTEERS TO TEACH

FLOWER ARRANGING AND/OR CAKE DECORATING CLASSES

41-CENT AND 24-CENT POSTAGE STAMPS

#### SNACK ITEMS

COPY PAPER (8.5 X 11)

NEW SOFA FOR BABYSITTING AREA

PLASTIC FORKS & KNIVES, PAPER PLATES & CUPS &  
OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



**Sister Lakshmie, Candy Wolfe and her two helpers Van and Emma Wolfe help make it a brighter day at the DeNeuville Golf Tournament.**

## Wet Weather Can't Dampen Spirit & Success Of 5th Annual DeNeuville Golf Tournament

After weeks of drought, early last September Memphis finally got the rain it needed so very badly. Unfortunately, that was also the day of the 5th Annual DeNeuville Benefit Golf Tournament. But the rainy weather wasn't enough to dampen the spirits of the golfers and volunteers who participated in the most successful fundraising golf event ever.

"We couldn't be happier with the outcome," said Mike Heitzman, tournament director. "This year we raised over \$25,000, our best year ever!"

The event ended with delicious hamburgers and hot-dogs grilled outside by Huey's. The winning team included Ron Lazarov, Donald Ellis, Clayton Ellis, and Marty Kelman. Second place was awarded to Andy Garner, Brady Farmer, Caleb Walker and Dr. Walker.

The DeNeuville Golf Tournament was a great success due to the generosity and efforts of our wonderful sponsors, our gift and prize donors, our golfers, and our volunteers. The Sisters, staff, volunteers, students, and the golf committee members thank each of you for your continued support. Our special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. James Dykes who donated a Harley Motorcycle to the event. It was a generous donation.

## DeNeuville Learning Center

House of the Good Shepherd of Memphis  
190 S. Cooper Street / Memphis, TN 38104  
901-726-5902 / [www.deneuvillecenter.org](http://www.deneuvillecenter.org)