



Bethany Hill School Newsletter

89 Bethany Road Framingham, Massachusetts 01702

www.bethanyhillschool.org

508.875.4663

"Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world; indeed, that is all that ever has!"
Margaret Meade

The Mission of Bethany Hill School, a living and learning community of neighbors, is to provide affordable, independent housing with educational opportunities within a climate of respect, inclusion and acceptance. Residents are empowered to progress toward their goals and to be their best selves in a safe, supportive environment.

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January 2008

A Surprise Visit Ends the Year at Bethany Hill School

Bethany Hill School residents had their annual Christmas Party on December 18, 2007 to the delight of children and adults alike. All were treated to a wonderful surprise visit by Mrs. Claus who told stories and engaged everyone in singing carols and ringing sleigh bells! The residents and friends were treated to a little known fact that in New Orleans, Santa arrives not in a sleigh with reindeer but in a barque pulled by alligators! Larry, a resident at Bethany Hill School, was a Christ-



A surprise visit from Mrs. Claus delights young and old alike!

mas elf for the evening acting as Mrs. Claus's able assistant. The audience was treated to two solo performances, the first by Michael Sweeney singing "O Holy Night," and the second by Zaria Powell on the clarinet playing, "Jingle Bells." BHS's youngest group of dedicated singers, Puppy Love, also performed to the delight of everyone. After a surprise call from Santa as he was passing over Rt. 128, the evening ended with Santa's delightful appearance. He gave out gifts to all the children. Not to be left out of the celebration all of the adults as well were given generously donated gift certificates and holiday gifts. The evening ended with refreshments, holiday cheer & good wishes!

Looking Back over 2007

When I began pondering this initial issue of the Bethany Hill School newsletter, I was reminded of the quote found above from Margaret Meade. It could have been said with you, our faithful donors, in mind. You are indeed a "small group of

people," but in fact, one person at a time, **you are changing the world!**

Some of the many accomplishments of our residents can be found on the back page.

Again, ...THANK YOU!

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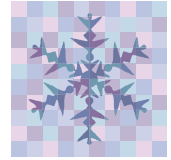
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Bethany Hill School

Pay It Forward

The residents of Bethany Hill School, mindful of their own good fortune, share generously their time, talent and treasures. Some of this year's projects have included:

- Pennies for Peru The residents, over the past few years, have donated more than \$1000. This is sent to Fr. Joseph Martin in Lima, Peru where he uses the money to pay for school supplies for the children.
- Puppy Love held a pre-holiday fund raiser and sent \$75 to the victims of the Peru earthquake.
- An annual Oxfam Fast is organized by the students from Regis College at BHS and this past year \$100 was sent in to Oxfam .
- One of our residents is a volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

Feel Good While Doing Good!

Did you realize that *coffee* is the second largest import in the US after oil? For a limited time, BHS has teamed up with Dean's Beans, a Fair-Trade, organic coffee company right here in MA, to offer our readers an opportunity to purchase Bethany Hill School "Hillside Brew" coffee, chocolate-covered coffee beans, and hot cocoa and have a percent of the profit benefit Bethany Hill School!

Dark Coffee Whole or Ground	\$8.50	_____
Medium Coffee Whole or Ground	\$8.50	_____
Decaf Dark Whole or Ground	\$9.50	_____
Decaf Medium Whole or Ground	\$9.50	_____
Java Drops Milk Chocolate	\$8.50	_____
Java Drops Dark Chocolate	\$8.50	_____
Hot Cocoa 12 oz. bag	\$4.50	_____

(All coffee & Java drops are 1 lb. packages)

Please add 5% shipping

Bethany Hill School in Action

This past year has been a good one for our residents as they continue to work on goals to develop both occupational and life skills. Just a few of this year's successes would have to include:

- Two of our residents studying at Blaine Beauty Academy
- Two residents at Mass Bay Community College
- One resident has passed the GED
- Three more are studying and will be taking the GED test sometime soon.
- One resident is diligently taking ESL classes
- Residents have also participated in the LEAP (Life Enrichment and Advancement Program)
- Many residents continue to take the ongoing Parenting classes
- Tom Driscoll continues to be a faithful Town Meeting Member.
- Four residents are employed at Bethany Health Care (also a CSJ sponsored Ministry).

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Order Total: _____

Checks payable to: BETHANY HILL SCHOOL

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Denise Sheppard, Director of Advancement

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Visit us on the web www.bethanyhillschool.org