

Charities spread cheer across BHS

Toys for Tots

Shannon Walsh
News Editor

BHS DECA has teamed up the Marine Corps to make it possible for students to donate to the Toys For Tots foundation.

"[DECA has been in charge of Toys For Tots] at least 16 years. I did my student teaching here in 1997 and they were doing it then," DECA Advisor Tanya Clark said.

The rules are simple: all toys must be new in factory packaging, not gift wrapped, and no stuffed animals are allowed.

Fourth hour classes compete with each other to raise the most toys. The fourth hour with the most toys raised is rewarded with a pizza party provided by DECA.

Toys for Tots representatives pick up the donated toys and distribute them to families in Livingston County with low incomes.

Even if one doesn't have time to

run out to the nearest Toys "R" Us to pick up a holiday gift, help can still be given. Money is accepted also. Each \$5.00 donated equals one toy.

All toys that fit the requirements are accepted and appreciated. Sometimes even the most simple presents can be the most memorable.

"Charities like Toys For Tots make everyone in the community feel more like a family. Not everyone in Livingston County can afford to provide their kids Christmas presents, especially on top of everyday expenses," senior DECA Vice President Josh Reuter said.

Reuter went on to say that he hopes each class can bring in 15 to 20 toys instead of a few classes bringing in enough for two classes. DECA hopes to raise at least 2,500 toys to donate.

"I'm going to donate a Nerf Gun because I would've killed for a toy like that as a kid, and I know that I will feel so fulfilled once I donate one," senior Hannah Loiselle said.

Pet Food Drive

Averi Montagano
Information Editor

The 2013 BHS dance company hosts this year's pet food charity. There is a box set out front of Officer Meldrum's office for those who



would be willing to donate. This box will be open to all donations of cat and dog food for the remainder of the month.

The pet food charity is a part of "Meals on Wheels." This organization is one of the oldest and largest nutritional programs across the US. They are able to feed up to one million people per day, and now they are reaching out to the beloved pets of people who may need their services.

The pet food charity hosted at BHS is not the only way one can help out those in need with animals. By

simply going to petco.com people can donate money to go toward a food bank that will be present at the Petco stores nationwide. In doing this anyone with Internet access can help families nationwide from the comfort of their home.

In order to help anyone in need of pet food, the Michigan Humane Society has a pet food bank program, which assists qualifying low-income families by providing them with dog or cat food for no charge.

There are several ways to keep pets from going hungry, especially at this time of the year. By simply going online or reading signs around the community you can discover several different ways to help those around you. The holiday season, remember all of the families who are in need of food for their furry friends.



Sawyer

Letters for Soldiers

Jeremiah Johnson
Illustration Artist

On Tuesday, December 3rd, a vast number of Brighton students gathered together in Kim Christiansen's classroom to write Christmas cards to U.S. soldiers in an act of good will and selfless behavior.

The students involved ranged from each grade and with no prior experience or telling, simply met up directly after school for an hour to take part in this wonderful display of holiday spirit. Music was playing, pens were writing, and spirits were high, as they tend to be this time of year.

It's so easy to be selfish in modern society, especially when this holiday is so often looked at as the poster-child of a gift-grabbing time of year. The purpose of sending Christmas cards to the men and women who put their lives on the line every

day for such basic freedoms is to show that students at BHS do care, and are selfless, and that this holiday is more importantly about gift giving.

It is for this reason that Senior Sarah Wood brought it to Brighton High School and it is for this reason that students and staff have agreed to try their hardest at making it an annual event, hopefully growing it as the years go on and more people become aware of it, and less of themselves.

"We just wanted to let our soldiers know that we're thinking of them, especially with Christmas coming up, that's important." Junior Sako Kendirdjian said.

Some letters had drawings, some only words, but all came from the hearts of students who care about those that risk their lives to protect freedoms, making it even more clear that BHS kids understand the true meaning of Christmas.

Mott's DVD Drive

Tanner Hoard
Staff Reporter

Year after year during the holiday season, Mott Children's Hospital asks for DVD donations from the public for the sick hospital children to watch. Brighton High School has been hosting this event for quite a few years and collects an immense amount of DVDs annually and they don't seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Gifts the hospital ask for are child appropriate DVD's, nature and relaxation CD's, lullabies, teen music and Disney movie soundtracks. The hospital is active with engaging the community and fantastic with stirring up positivity within Ann

Arbor. All year round they are creating events to help out the children or raise money by doing anything from collecting books to making crafts to setting up foot races.

Mott Children's hospital has always done a great job with taking care of their patients and keeping up with the public so they help out as much as possible and that's earned them a nationally ranked children's hospital. The DVD drive is an easy way to help patients, and make yourself feel good during the holidays.

Events like this to help people out and make life more enjoyable for these ill children has benefited the city and everyone in it so much and I hope the hospital continues with the great events to help the kids.



Sawyer Joseph Day reminds everybody to do a good deed this holiday season!

Taurus Canis continues to highlight student art, photography and writing

Julie Urbaniak
Staff Reporter

The *Taurus Canis* literary magazine is a way for students to publish poetry, short stories, art work, photographs, or any type of literary work. The literary magazine is a great opportunity for students and even teachers to show off their creative side and get noticed. The magazine has been around for three years and is fairly unknown.

Teachers Kimberly Christiansen and Todd Day help facilitate the magazine. This year they are hosting a 55- word story contest to any student. It must be exactly 55 words, all submissions must be in by January 17 to bhstauruscanis@gmail.com.

"I want to encourage students to submit things, I think a lot of times kids are scared that their stuff will be rejected. It's really non-threatening and I think it's good to see your work published," Christiansen said.

Adrianna Ross
Argus Editor

Adopt a family is a charitable organization that promotes awareness throughout the most 'vulnerable' age groups; including the youth in danger, elderly, and older aged citizens coping with forms of addiction, or simply struggling parents unable to afford a gift-giving Christmas for their family. With Brighton High School teaming up alongside this charity, students and staff were able to help rebuild these peoples lives one step at a time.

As informed by the chairperson of Brighton's partnership with the organization Valerie Kowalski, the BHS' Hockey team, SADD club, and NHS club have all chosen to adopt an anonymous family in need. With three medium sized (4 persons) families adopted, Brighton made sure that more families would be surrounded with the warm holiday spirit. Not only were clubs allowed to take part in such an honorable deed, but students were able to get involved themselves by signing up to buy gifts for the families the clubs/team had signed up to buy for.

NHS not only created a basic structure for how this organization would be run, but they also went out of their way as they provided 30 teens with Christmas gifts, and 5 fully filled stockings for children who wouldn't have had the opportunity to receive gifts before.

The holiday spirit spreads even larger than Brighton High School due to the fact that the B.E.A has had an annual tradition themselves with this organization, B.E.A has been known to adopt several Brighton Area families every year who wouldn't have been able to provide their children with Christmas gifts otherwise. This year's proceeds from the holiday pictures with santa held Saturday, December 14th at Maltby Intermediate School will benefit the funds for these Brighton Area families. Through the Salvation Army, all of our proceeds will be hand delivered to the blessed families Brighton has luckily granted this holiday

**COLLEGE
PLANNING
IS SERIOUS
BUSINESS**

ATTEND A
CAMPUS VISIT DAY
December 7, 2013 or
February 1, 2014

Visit CLEARY.EDU/ADMISSIONS
to register or call 800.686.1883



INTERESTED IN PLAYING FOR THE CLEARY COUGARS.
visit CLEARY.EDU/BECOMEACLEARYCOUGAR. The university fields varsity teams in men's and women's golf, cross country and soccer. Coming Fall 2014, baseball, softball and lacrosse. Coaches are recruiting now!

