

**M**any parents make the soul-searching decision to place their children with special needs in a program that separates their child from the family. Pamela and John Domos faced that decision two years ago when the local school system could not appropriately meet the needs of their 11-year-old daughter, Heidi. With that in mind, the Domos family chose to enroll Heidi in the residential program at Hanover. Pam recounts the first time they drove onto the Hanover Campus, "Wow, this place feels good."

The Domos' were impressed with the academic programs but were equally struck by the opportunities for Heidi to build friendships and participate in a myriad of daily recreational activities. Pamela remembers that they didn't want Heidi to spend time commuting from the Cape everyday realizing that Heidi would miss some of the best that the school had to offer from its after school programs.

Since her arrival in September of 2000, her mom has seen a transformation in Heidi from exercising greater independence to constantly improving language skills. The most evident factor seems to be the many students that Heidi counts among her friends. Pamela says that although she and her family miss Heidi during the week, they are comforted knowing that she is safe, involved and most importantly, happy. When asked what her hopes are for

Heidi's future, Pamela asserted "Heidi is a strong kid and there is so much she can do."

Pamela tells of how Heidi's love of horses helped her to speak. The therapists who worked with Heidi as a toddler insisted that she command the horse if she wanted to ride. After much time and standing motionless astride the horse, came Heidi's very first words, "Walk on."

## Winter of Warmth

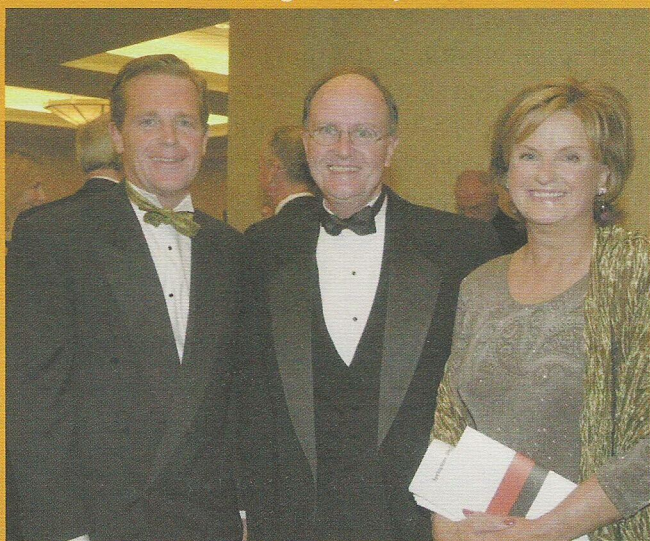


Santa greets the students and heads the State Police led caravan to Foxboro Stadium for a Holiday party with the Patriot's.

## Soaring in Spring

Thank you to all who selflessly volunteer their time.

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Paul Hudson (center), St.Coletta and Cardinal Cushing President and CEO, with Springtime 2002 emcees Brian G. Leary, Partner, Gadsby Hannah LLP's Emerging Business/Technology and Public Strategy Groups, and Mary Richardson, Co-Host of WCBV-TV's Chronicle.