

THE 4GOATS GAZETTE

"All the Family News that's Fit to Print"

Volume 6

December, 2006

For the past 6 years I have written this newsletter. I think about what I will say, how to express this passage of time with some humor and insight. I've been told I'm a good writer, who knows, maybe these newsletters will become part of that book I dream of writing... Life has bumps and sometimes there are potholes, yet we are all still here! That's CHUTZPAH!! (Yiddish for spirit/spunk/brass tacks)



Happy Chanukah!

Liz is now in 10th grade – already a Sophomore. She is doing very well in school so far this year and has an overall average of 95%. She enjoys tuba, band, takes tuba lessons and is considering teaching music as a career. Active in drama club and exploring the school Wind Ensemble, Liz really loves the social aspects of her life. She is a good writer, loves chatting with her friends and is developing a nice friendship with a Junior named Dan (God forbid she'd say he's her boyfriend! Hee hee!). Liz is truly coming "into her own" as a young woman... it is wonderful to see her changing and developing into such a fine person. Liz has a great sense of herself and we are very proud of her! ☺



Liz and Chris

Chris is in 1st grade this year. He enjoys math, is a good speller and has become an avid reader. He has made new friends and is very social. Chris enjoys art, music, computer lab and library. We are very proud of him!

Chris is 4'3" tall, a super hugger and he has 4 new permanent teeth! He turned 7 last month, loves the Power Rangers and

Avatar: The Last Airbender shows and enjoys playing with his action figures. Chris brings warm sunshine to all of us. ☺

I now regularly enjoy online Scrabble club and occasional meets or tournaments in the tri-state area. I love meeting new people and am also working part-time at Target. I've lost over 30 pounds since last year and am happy to be feeling good. ☺

Earlier this Fall Bob's niece got married. The ceremony was lovely and Liz got to be a bridesmaid, which was a thrill for her. We are very happy for them. ☺



Merry Christmas!

Bob and I are doing well. He is now doing store management and running the entire Deli area; it keeps him very busy but he is happy to be moving up since a transfer to a Super Stop & Shop center in February. Bob spends a lot of time with the kids, too. Over the summer he put up a shed & now he's wishing for an easy winter without too much snow!



Bob's R&R

We went on a "real" vacation this summer to Las Vegas;

our first one since Chris was born! Chris had his first plane flight, we ate like pigs, saw the sights and had fun... Bob and I saw a show together (Folies a Bergere) AND, get this! I won \$500 playing a PENNY slot machine! At least I can say I didn't lose my ass in LV!



Viva Las Vegas!

When we actually take the time to look at the big picture, to reframe it a bit, we can begin to see that there is just as much "good" (if not even more) than "bad" in our lives... Often when we are in "the thick of it all" we lose sight of things that keep us going, put smiles in our hearts, laughter in our air and fire in our spirits. I tell myself that there are many blessings to count ~ love in our lives, moments of peace, knowing we aren't alone even when it feels as if we are. I thank God for many things... for the challenges that keep us "sharp" and the lulls of silence as we sleep at night. We wish all of you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season... May your hearts be full of good feelings and more smiles grace your face than tears.

With love,

Brenda, Bob, Liz and Chris

And also our critters - Buddy (Dachshund), Charlie, and Annie (cats), Princess and Abby (ferrets), and Sunny (parrot)

Best wishes for good things and health as you celebrate

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

2007

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Liz as Bridesmaid



Buddy & Charlie Wrestling



Annie the Cat – 12 years old



Chris with his friends, June '06



Bob & I



Uncle Mike and Liz



Ma and Bob



My friend Sharon and I
at a Scrabble Meet



Bob with Chris



Mom and Me



Bob at Hooters Las Vegas



Diana and Mike



Chris blowing bubbles



Chris and I



Chris



Liz and Chris with Grandma