

# Guardian Angel Gazette

## From the Founder/President's Desk



Anita Gilford, RN, MSN

The past two weeks have been magical at Angels' Place. One after another, our Angels' Place children, their parents and siblings have come to our office for school supplies. The staff had the pleasure and privilege to sit and play with our kids while their parents collected their school supplies donated by our very generous and compassionate contributors. Children ran through our office, eating cookies and investigating every nook and cranny.

We want to thank all those who donated cash and supplies for our school supply drive. This yearly drive really helps our families with the added expenses of preparing for the new school year and our families are so thankful for the financial help whether it is for school supplies or gift cards for uniforms.

We want to thank **Mrs. Joyce LaPorte** and **Mrs. Doris Cowan**, two local artists, who have organized our **Art for Angels** fundraiser. Classes start September 18, 2010 for our Angels' Place children and their brothers and sisters. Ms. LaPorte and Ms. Cowan, who are also loyal supporters of Angels' Place, have planned an art exhibition **Tuesday, October 26, 2010** at **Cafe Gambino's** inside the Bakery on Veterans Memorial Blvd., where the artwork can be viewed and purchased. Proceeds from the Art for Angels exhibit will benefit Angels' Place. The Angels' Place Board of Directors and staff hope that this will be the first of many watercolor events in the future.

My thoughts and prayers are with all the families affected by our the oil spill. Having relatives myself, who live in Lafitte and depend on the Gulf for a living, I can truly feel the suffering of those who are affected by this tragedy. I pray for all those involved in the oil cleanup and for those whose lives depend on the seafood industry. Blessings to all.

Anita



Anita Gilford, founder of Angels' Place accepting a check from our dear and dedicated Angels' Place respite volunteer, Royann Avegno, donated by the **St. Marys Dominican High School Community** in New Orleans.

Thank you so much for your support and love of our Angels' Place children and their families.



Mary Kantlehner, Childrens Program Director

Once again Angels' Place had a very successful school supply drive. This yearly drive saves our families a lot of money especially during these times. Our families were able to pick up the supplies at the office and those in the hospital had supplies delivered to them.

Thanks to all of you who donated school supplies and gift cards for supplies and school uniforms—without you this drive would not be possible.

Thanks to our volunteers, Alexis Lapre, Nichole Ledet, Ashley Ferro and Alexandria Barbot, who manned the school supply room and helped with the distribution.

We are very excited about the project and know our kids will have a great time.

Many of our children celebrated their birthdays recently. Sooooo, a **Big Happy Birthday** from Angels' Place to:

- Shawn—9 years old
- Darren—11 years old
- Alyssa—6 years old
- Olivia—17 years old
- Claire—10 years old
- Antonio—5 years old
- Daniel—11 years old
- Blain—9 years old
- Peter—18 years old

- Baron—8 years old
- Angelle—7 years old
- Lakeitha—16 years old
- Makel—7 years old
- Jessica—17 years old
- Ashley—18 years old
- Kendall—5 years old
- Angel—10 years old



Many of our children continue to need blood and platelets, if you wish to donate for a child, please call us for more information. **Please** consider our children when you decide to donate blood or platelets.

A lot of our Angels' Place children, along with their siblings, attend **Camp Challenge** during the summer where they have the opportunity to enjoy all the fun of camp while their medical needs are still met. The Camp is open to all children, free of charge, who reside in Louisiana and have a form of cancer and chronic hematological disorders.

## Calendar—2010

**Thanksgiving—dinners & gift cards**

**Art Angels Art Exhibition—Tuesday, October 26, 2010**

**Angels' Place Christmas Party—December 12, 2010**

## Latonyas Message of Hope



This is an excerpt from **Kylen's** mom, **Latonya** on **Kylen's Caring Bridge** Site. The strength, courage and faith of this family can be such encouragement to other Angels' Place families

and to anyone who reads these words.

Kylen was born January 12, 2009 to a loving and supportive family. He was Latonya and **Tyrone's** youngest of three children. He was an adorable ray of sunshine who was diagnosed with AML (leukemia) when he was three months old. He underwent a bone marrow transplant in August 2009. Kylen passed away peacefully in the arms of his mother and father, Friday, September 25, 2009. The words of his mother are inspirational, and faith filled in her darkest time

"Over the past two weeks, Latonya said, while Kylen was in PICU, I would awaken nervous, upset, and afraid whenever the monitor when off. Kylen really prepared me for his passing and even though he was on paralyzing medicine to prevent him from moving, my baby moved his legs and feet and for the last time squeezed my hand. How awesome God is to have given us those final, special, intimate, heartbreaking moments with my baby."

"Kylen being born into our family was not a mistake or an accident, God chose me and Tyrone because He trusted us to take care of Kylen. Kylen had a special illness, but God gave us special gifts. Kylen required extraordinary care, but God knew that we were extraordinary parents. God was not punishing us, or saying that we did something wrong as parents, but that is was another chapter in our lives that God had already equipped and prepared us. Thank you Lord, you have been so good to us and all I really do is thank you. God will never abandon us, or say you should have been stronger, or that you should have more faith, but the God we serve will show up and restore our faith. Hallelujah for His grace and mercy. God knows what we are going through, He can feel our pain because remember He lost His only son, Jesus Christ, so of course He knows and understands our sorrow and grief. To those who have lost a loved one, your job, a marriage has failed, or whatever else your circumstance may be, God is saying, I am right here with you, you are going to make it, you are not only going to come out, but you are going to come out better off than you were before. I hope and pray that this message becomes a message of hope, encouragement and love to those who are hurting just as it was to me. May God be with you, bless you, and keep you. Remember God is always with us."

*Latonya*

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These are pictures from the recent Open House for our children and guests at 400 Coolidge St. across the street from Ochsner Hospital. Even with the heat, we had a nice turnout. We thank the Dawnbusters Kiwanis of Metairie and Kiwanis of New Orleans for their help and providing lunch for everyone.



One of our Angels' Place families who came out to support Angels' Place and see our facility.



Judy Stewart, an AP Board member (back), visits with Nicholas and his mom. Nicholas is doing exceptionally well these days. We are thrilled at his progress.

Go Nicholas!



Kiwanis members braved the heat and gathered around the barbeque grill to prepare hot dogs and hamburgers for our hungry families and guests.

Thanks guys for all your help!

# Wing Claps!

American Association of Retired Persons for a kind donation  
**Ryan & Stephanie Bright** for a kind donation  
**Dr. Daniel Bronfin** for a kind membership donation  
**Carolyn Butler** for a kind membership donation  
**Zeneyda Craighead** for a kind donation  
**Howard and Rita Dearing** for a membership donation  
**Janet DeGrazio** for a kind donation  
**Marie DeSalvo** for a kind membership donation  
**Josie DuBose** for a school supply donation  
**Louis DuTreil** for donation of DVDs and tapes for our kids  
**K.C. & E.J. Ford, Jr.** for a kind membership donation  
**Susan & Amy Frey** for a kind membership donation  
**Gerald Forstater** for a membership donation  
**Rochelle Hanemann** for a kind membership donation  
**Shirley Hennen** for a kind membership donation  
**Goldie Jouandot** for a kind membership donation  
**Dr. Thomas J. and Mary Kennedy** for a kind donation  
**Ellen King** for a kind membership donation  
**Connie Kitchen** for a kind membership donation  
**Landry Tile, Inc.** for a kind membership donation  
**Keating Magee, Inc.** for a membership donation  
**Melinda Macaluso** for a kind donation  
**Beatrice Mestayer** for a kind donation  
**Mrs. Henry Mestayer** for a kind membership donation  
**Judee Morovich** for a kind donation for school supplies  
**Ethel Plager** for a kind membership donation  
**Beverly Randazzo** for a membership donation  
**Anna Rickoll** for a membership donation  
**Ann Rushing** for a kind membership donation  
**Janet & David Sanderson** for a kind donation for school supplies  
**Jodi Schwing** for a membership donation  
**University Park Lions Club** for a donation for school supplies  
**Anne & Iggy Villanueva** for a kind membership donation  
**Sharon Williams** for a kind membership donation  
**Valeris & Jeff Williams** for a kind membership donation



Our special thanks to **Tucker Roussel** (l) and **Brandt Becnel** (r) who volunteered to cut our grass at Coolidge Street. Tucker and Brandt are officers in the Operation HeadStart program at Archbishop Rummel High School in Metairie, Louisiana and are both Juniors in high school. They are truly a blessing to us,

Thank You Boys!

## In Loving Memory

**Artigues Construction Co.** in memory of **Jacob Fruchnicht, Jr.**  
**Jeffery Hand** in memory of **Jake Fruchnicht**  
**Louis and Camille Verges** in memory of **Jacob "Jake" C. Fruchnicht, Jr.**  
**Mr. & Mrs. John VanVrancken, III** in memory of **Jacob Fruchnicht, Jr.**  
**Manuel Licciardi, Arthur Lawson & B.H. Miller** in memory of **Jacob "Jake" Fruchnicht, Jr.**  
**Jean and Leslie Taylor** in memory of **Jacob Metro Gaming & Amusement Co.** in memory of **Jacob Fruchnicht, Jr.**  
**Martha Lynne Junot** in memory of **Alfred Junot**  
**Cathy and Mike Haeffeler** in memory of **Robert Larche**  
**Tom and Mary Kennedy** in memory of **Dr. Elwood LeBlanc**

## In Honor of

**Current Electric, Inc.** in honor of **Jacob "Jake" Fruchnicht, Jr.**



Brother, **Dalton**, pictured with **Dylan** as they get ready to "play ball!" Dylan is a member of the **Miracle League** and his brother Dalton is his "buddy." The Miracle League is a national organization dedicated to promoting the development of baseball fields for disabled youth throughout the country. The league will annually have a spring and fall season that is open to any disabled child between the ages of 6 and 12 years old. We are proud that New Orleans is now in that number. This sport allows children with challenges to participate in, and feel a part of, a sport. Dylan loves baseball, LSU and the Saints! He also loves playing for his team and feeling the team spirit.

Dylan has been one of our Angels' Place children for a while now and we think he is quite a guy.

We are rooting for you, Dylan and your "buddy" Dalton, too!

## Juliett—A Star Is Born!



One of our Angels' Place children, Juliett, is on her way to stardom! Juliett recently had a small "extra" part in the movie "*Revenge of the Bridesmaids*" which I have watched twice and thought it very funny and cute. **Raven Symoné** is the star of the movie—yes, our little Olivia from the **Cosby Show** is all grown up! Juliett's scene takes place in the "Yogurt Y'all"

yogurt shop where she is eating yogurt with her "pretend" mom.

Juliett was given her own "very comfy" VIP trailer, her own personalized "actors" chair and treated like a little queen by the production crew and Raven herself. Producer **Beth Miller**, taught Juliett about movie making! According to Juliett's mom, Jackie, "Juliett had a blast, and, Raven was truly adorable and just wonderful to Juliett."



Congratulations, Juliett. We will be keeping an eye on your budding acting career!

There is buzz around that Juliett and her brother, **Jourdan**, may well be a part of a new picture in the near future.

Maybe we should get our autographs now before Juliett hits the big time.



Catie Cables, along with Maddy Murret, Claire Dinwiddie donated cards for school supplies. Thanks girls!

### Many thanks to....

**Alexandria Barbot, Ashley Ferro, Alexis Lapre and Nichole Ledet** for volunteering your community hours to Angels' Place.

The girls were delightful and represented their families, their schools and themselves with dedication and compassion for the children of Angels' Place.



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*A non-profit organization that provides supportive services to seriously and terminally ill children and their families.*