

Guardian Angel Gazette

From the Founder/President's Desk



Anita Gilford, RN, MSN, Founder

Happy New Year! All of us at Angels' Place wish you and your families a very Happy New Year for 2011. I want to thank all who helped Angels' Place and our sick children and their families last year. Every gift of time, talent, and/or treasure was appreciated by myself, our staff, and our sick children and their families.

Also, without the guidance and commitment of our dedicated Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers, we would not have been able to accomplish all that we did in 2010. We have 108 seriously ill children on our current census. We are privileged to serve a total of 460 people including our sick children, their siblings and their parents this year.

I want to thank all our volunteers who helped us during 2010! Without your help, from our wonderful Board of Directors, volunteers, Kiwanis Clubs, friends, family, and corporations, Angels' Place would not exist.

I want to thank **Wal-Mart** for helping us so much in 2010 including a baseball tournament hosted by some of Kenner **Wal-Mart Market 128** staff. The proceeds went to Angels' Place. Wal-Mart continued their support throughout 2010.



Our only fundraiser of 2010, "**Art for Angels**" was a complete success! The fundraiser was the inspiration of local artists, **Doris Cowan, Joyce Laporte, and Wanda McKinney**, chef at **Café Gambino** located inside **Gambino's Bakery** on Veterans Hwy. Matted and framed watercolor pictures, painted by the children of Angels' Place, were displayed and sold. It was a complete sellout! Thank you, **Sheila Stroup** and **Eva Barkoff** of the **Times Picayune** for your in depth articles on our Art for Angels' Fundraiser. Also, thank you to photographer, **Jerry Forstater** for donating his time and talent for the event.

I want to thank the **Moisant Kiwanis Club** who cooked delicious meals for some of our families at Thanksgiving and brought the meals to their homes. I also thank the **Kiwanis Club of New Orleans** and **Dawnbusters Kiwanis Club** of whom I am a member for all your help. Thank you for your continued support.

Thank You **Archbishop Rummel High School Operation HeadStart Director Mark Firmin, Andrew Dinet, Asst. Director** and your wonderful young men for hosting our Annual Angels' Place Children's Christmas Party in the "Raider Room" December 12th. Thanks to **Archbishop Rummel President Mike Begg, Thomas Moran, Principal, Ralph Boudreau, Laurie and Dari Waltzer, Irv Barousse, Jackie Weiss, Lisa Ross and Denise Otilio** for your kindness and devotion to our kids and their families..

Many of the students interacted with our children dressed up as elves and Disney characters. Our children and their families always have such a fun time having their picture taken on Santa's lap. Thank you to Operation HeadStart Alumni who pick up our presents from the office and delivered them to Rummel HS. A big thank you to the Rummel staff and parents for the delicious food and for their efforts that make our party so great. Thank you, **Anita Turner**, for taking, and donating, the pictures at our party.

2011 is going to be another great year for Angels' Place! I have received great news from **the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philopthos** in New Orleans. They chose Angels' Place as their Charity in 2011. They are having their national convention in New Orleans. This is incredible news!

In closing: From all of us at Angels' Place, we wish you a Happy New Year filled with peace.

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Mary Kantlehner, Childrens Program Director

take

make everything easier.

2011 is here. As another year begins, it is to reflect on the past year, how it was for us, what we want to leave behind and how we can improve coming year. I love New Years. It's full of possibilities and hopes for the future. I have realized, from the I have spent with our families, that the years go by very quickly, so we should enjoy them. I learned, we should appreciate life, don't it for granted, and that positive thoughts

This past Christmas season I have been overwhelmed at the desire of people to help others in any way they can. So many people made our Christmas special and the volume of people who came forward was amazing. Many individuals, families, Lions clubs, Kiwanis clubs, sorority groups, **VFW Auxiliary**, schools, nursery groups, scout troops, Mardi Gras krewes and businesses helped us, either by adopting children or families, wrapping the gifts, bagging gifts, donating toys, money and gift cards. Our neighbors in the building **Al and Earl Hyman of Magnum Medical** donated the use of a large office space to us, ever after known as "The Workshop". The extra space allowed us to have more volunteers to help and made storage and distribution easier and more efficient.



Coca Cola and the Saints teamed up to give 30 Angels' Place children bicycles this Christmas. The children and their families got the opportunity to meet some of the Offensive line and some of the coaches and to throw ball with them. **Eve Werner of Dyna - Play**, another business in our building, who has for the past year supported one of our families, also donated lots of gifts and came to the hospital to help distribute them to those who couldn't make the party. **Mercedes Benz**, once again, adopted several families and had a fantastic giveaway one afternoon at their new showroom on Veterans. Thanks to **Mr. Jamie Moll**, his wife, **Kat** and **Julie Hilburn** for organizing this event and going the extra mile to make sure everyone was well taken care of.

At Thanksgiving, the **Pontchartrain Lions Club** provided gift cards to our families and the **Moisant Kiwanis Club** delivered cooked dinners to several local families. The Saints and Coca-Cola once again teamed up and 15 families attended the **Deuce Giving** at **Winn Dixie**, where **Deuce Mc Allistar** and **Lance Moore** met the families. Our annual Christmas Party hosted by **Archbishop Rummel Operation HeadStart Director Mark Firmin** and his HS students was a big hit with our families. Our thanks to Mark and his students for all they do to make the party special. Santa, his elves and Disney characters delight our children every year and the presents we collected are distributed to excited little faces.

When a child is diagnosed with a life threatening illness it often feels as if life has stopped. A parent's energy revolves around getting their child better, hospital stays, clinic appointments, fevers, transfusions and being away from the family for extended periods of time. However, life does go on and families still have bills to pay, other children to be nurtured and cared for, relationships need attention, the home and yard need tidying, vehicles still need gas and insuring, and food needs to be put on the table. I have seen this past year many of our families struggle with other huge stressors, like unemployment and bankruptcy, as well as having a seriously ill child. Angels' Place, because of your thoughtfulness and generous donations, tries to support our families in any way we can through these very challenging times. It is truly a privilege to be able to help and serve them.

Christmas with the Angels'

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Christmas was great at Mercedes Benz for some of our AP children



Jay-Jay is all smiles as he unwraps his gifts at Mercedes Benz



Zeth poses with the Christmas fairy



Micah would not miss the party



Cole & mom patiently wait for Santa



Josh gets lots of attention



Many thanks to Marie DeSalvo and family for supplying the paper products and delicious cake (L) for our party in memory of her husband, Joe DeSalvo



Wing Claps! - Thank you!

1st Lake Properties for toys for our kids
 3rd District Kiwanis Club for toys for our kids & a team of wrappers
 Tracy Ahlhorn, AP volunteer food for volunteers
 Jennifer Atherson for toys for our children
 Joe & Carol Bandera for a donation of gift items & toiletries
 Joan Breeden, Deep South Chap. Academy of Surgical Nurses for toys for our children
 Linda Chatelain for gifts for our children
 Mt. Olive Preschool, adopted AP children for Christmas
 Marie DeSalvo and family for party paper products, arrangements and delicious cake.
 Anne Dandy for adopting a family
 Mark Darbonne & Helen Roussel, St. Clement of Rome for gloves & caps for our kids
 Kristen Dylitz, Gates of Prayer Nursery for PJs for our children
 Elevations Shoring, Kelly Latour & Keith Bellaci for toys for our kids
 Elmwood Business Association for donating toys to our kids.
 Sandra Falcon, AT&T advertising Solution tickets to "A Christmas Story"
 K.C. Ford, for toys for our children
 Jerry Forestater, photographer, for donating his talents at the Art for Angels' fundraiser.
 Vic Fulham for a kind donation
 Cliff and Linda Giffin for a kind donation of gift cards for Christmas
 Judy Greene for a kind donation
 Marlyn Jaume & family for toys for our children
 Barbara Hart for toys for our kids
 Incarnate Word School for toys for our kids
 Kenner City Attorney's Office, Gail Hunt, for adopting AP children for Christmas
 Linsey Kirk, Magnolia Physical Therapy, for Christmas toys for our kids
 Kiwanis Club of New Orleans for adopting AP children for Christmas
 LA WIC Program for a kind donation for our kids
 Lions Clubs, Nancy Gould for adopting children and donating gifts
 Matts Pool Service, Danercy Colemann for toys for our kids
 Matt Nichols for toys for our kids
 Mercedes-Benz for adopting several families for Christmas
 Maureen Roth for toys for our children
 NOMAR, for donating toys to our children for Christmas
 Pontchartrain Lions Club for a kind donation of gift cards for our families and adopting AP children for Christmas
 St. Martins Episcopal School for Christmas stockings for our kids
 St. Matthew the Apostle School for adopting AP children for Christmas
 Scout Troop 40362, Christine Bertucci for Christmas gifts for our kids
 The Coopers for donating toys for our children
 The McDonalds adopted AP children for Christmas
 Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters Staff for a kind donation
 Captain Don Reider, NOBRA, for adopting a family for Christmas
 Cheri Rodriguez adopted AP children for Christmas
 Marian Schroder for data input and Christmas gifts for kids
 Janet Seuzereau, adopted AP children for Christmas
 Henry & Joy Shane for donating toys for our children
 Sandy Shannon, for donating toys for our children
 VFW 6640 Ladies Auxillary for Christmas gifts for our children
 The Dinner Bells for a kind donation
 David & Lynn Marcel for a kind donation
 Bea Mastayer for gifts cards for our kids
 Epsilon Sigma Alpha (Beta Gamma Chapter) for toys for our children
 Ramsey Jewelers for adopting a family for Christmas
 Eve Warner, Dyna-a-Play for her kind donation and on-going support of one of our families
 Wegmann Dazet, for Christmas toys for our kids

In Loving Memory

Joyce Cooper in memory of David Cooper
 Carolyn Butler in memory of Scuddy Fontenelle, Jr.
 Judy Himel in memory of Tommy Himel, Gloria Pou,
 Kenneth Peltier, Scuddy and Mabel Fontenelle and Rita Boudreaux
 Mariyn Jaume in memory of Allison Jaume
 Janet Kline in memory of Darwin Kline
 Mike and Kathy Haeffeler in memory of Frances Soto
 Susan Shelly in memory of Juliette Faith Molina

Thanks You Christmas wrappers—you were Amazing!

Elsie Adams
 Tracey Ahlhorn
 Mel Ankrum
 Alreora Baker
 Tammy Balsler
 Katherine Barbarito & FR invites
 Carolyn Bazile
 Herb & Nelly Bergeron
 Courtney Bullock
 Julia Collins
 Ann Dandy & FR invites
 Paige Decedue
 Lesa, Katharyne & Travis Dolly
 Ruth Fontenelle
 Carol Frey
 Weezie Gaudet
 Kathy Grant
 Linda Griffin
 Nichole Guidry
 Johanna Harris
 Kathy & Sharon Hirsch

Mary Hodge
 Gail Hunts
 Samantha Keating
 Connor Laughlin
 Robin Liberto
 Anne Loggins
 Wendy Luna & FR invites
 Betty Nelson
 Frances Pohlig
 Susan Richards & FR Invites
 Cheri Rodriguez
 Emma Savoie
 Joy Shane
 Gilda Sharett
 Betty Stewart
 Yvonne Stepter
 Margaret Wagner
 Yvonne Webster
 Sheri Zehner



We have so many volunteers to thank. If we have missed anyone, please let us know.

We thank the present baggers, Eric & Kelly Johnson, Antonio Vanados, Timm Tamm, Larry Reamees, Joe, Doc Chate-lain. Also, thanks to Robin Liberdo, Griffin Hirsch & Samantha Keating for sorting and distributing the toys late into the night!

Thank you to 11 year old Christopher Hyman at St. Martin's Episcopal School for donating \$200 from your savings to the children of Angels' Place. Christopher, you are a fine example of unselfish giving a this very special time—Christmas.

In Loving Memory

Da'Jon Boudreaux
2008-2010



Angels came to usher little Da'Jon to his eternal home in Heaven November, 2010. Da'Jon now smiles, laughs and rests in the arms of his Heavenly Father, free from pain and sadness.

May his family find God's perfect peace and surround them with his precious love during their time of great sadness.

In Loving Memory

Kendra Robertson
April 2010—October 2010

Baby Kendra was on this earth a very short while when the Angels came to bring her to her eternal home in Heaven. She is now happy, healed and free from pain and suffering.

May the peace that passes all understanding be with her family in their time of tremendous loss.

Many of our children continue to need blood and platelets. If you wish to donate for a child, please call us for more information at (504) 455-2620. Please consider our children when you decide to donate blood or platelets.

Calendar—2011

Spring Picnic—Saturday, April 9, 2011
School Supply Drive—July 2011



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