

Guardian Angel Gazette

From the Founder/President's Desk



Anita Gilford, RN, MSN

The 2011 Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy Laity and Philoptochos Conference, hosted by the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, was held at the **Sheraton Hotel** on Canal Street in New Orleans last month. Representatives from Greek Orthodox Communities throughout the Metropolis of Atlanta attended. I

was a guest speaker at the event and I can truly say, I have never met so many wonderful and caring people. They presented Angels' Place with generous donations from their community and an absolutely beautiful



handmade quilt that I dearly love, made during the conference by the clergy wives and **Mrs. Eleni Stratis.**

The Very Reverend Fr. George Tsahakis and the Greek Orthodox community has always been very supportive of Angels' Place and the services we provide our sick



children and their families. We are so very grateful to them for their commitment to us, our children and their families. God bless you for all you do for us.

Chef Wanda McKinney of *Café Gambino* has invited us to have our 2012 *Art for Angels'* Fundraiser at the Veterans Memorial Blvd. location in Metairie again this year. Local artists, **Joyce Laporte** and **Sherry Alaniz Francalancia,** will teach art classes to our Angels' Place children and their siblings. The matted and framed artwork will be on display for purchase at the event. A date has not been chosen as yet, but we will let you know the time and date of the event as soon as everything is finalized. We are very excited that we will be having the fundraiser again this year. The event was a tremendous success last year and we completely sold out of the fabulous art work painted by our children in a couple of hours!

The **Kenner Professional Business Association, KPBA,** held their fundraiser, *Cooking 101* on July 9, 2011 in **Kenner's Rivertown Exhibition Hall.** Cooking 101 included a six course cooking demonstration by acclaimed chefs and served with wines, selected by wine experts, for each course. The proceeds from Cooking 101 went to **The Kenner Food Bank, the MetroCenter for Women and Children** and **Angels' Place.** It was a complete sell out!

I want to thank everyone who bought a ticket and/or a sponsorship. Your participation helped put the event over the top! I also want to thank **Judy LaBella,** KPBA Ways & Means Director, and KPBA for including Angels' Place in the wonderfully successful fundraiser.

In closing, God bless you, our children and God bless America!



Mary Kantlehner, Childrens Program Director

Congratulations to **Jessica Pujol** and **Ashley Smith** on their recent High School graduations! Good job, girls! It is a great achievement for the girls and we wish them the best in their future studies and careers.

We are still collecting school supplies at the office. Our families are always very appreciative of your generosity as it really helps them a lot at a very expensive time of year. Our families will come to the office the first week of August to collect their supplies.



Ashley

Many of our children are home schooled because their immune systems are not yet strong enough to allow them to attend school and others will be returning to regular school after home schooling. Some of the children will experience some difficulty in thinking clearly, focusing and concentrating after chemotherapy.

This is often referred to as "chemo brain" and is one more hurdle our children often have to overcome as they return to school.

I continue to see families twice a week at the hospital. There are so many new diagnoses and it still shocks me. We have had 11 new referrals in the past six months. I visit with parents who have just been given the news that their child is seriously ill and I see their fear, but I also see the great strength parents show their children. I also visit children in the midst of grueling treatments and happily, those that are seeing the "light at the end of the tunnel" at the end of treatment and those who celebrate their 5 year remission mark. All our children and their families are an inspiration to me.

Our respite volunteers continue to visit and support our families both at home and in the hospital. We are so grateful for our kind and compassionate volunteers who are committed to our families and the welfare of our children. The few hours invested can bring a lifetime of fulfillment and comfort and relief for our children and their families. If you think you can offer the "gift of your time", consider becoming a respite volunteer with Angels Place. Just give me a call at the office 504-455-2620.



Jessica



Congratulations to Shavon for being 5 years cancer free! Three cheers for Shavon!

Wing Claps!

Rey Bienvenu for a kind donation
Brenda Brophy for a kind donation for school supplies
Daughters of the Confederacy for a kind donation
Lynn Dowdy for a kind donation
Josephine Dubose for a kind donation
Early Ford V-8 Club of America for a kind donation
East Jefferson Republican Womens Club for a kind donation
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta for a kind donation
Janet Keller for a kind donation
Tom and Mary Kennedy for a kind donation
Constance & Tom Kitchen for a kind donation for school supplies
Ellen S. King for a kind donation
Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Metry Post 6640 for a kind donation
Ladies Philoptochos Society for a kind donation
Wendy Luna for volunteering for a fundraiser mailing!
Lea Martin for a kind donation
Neurology Monitoring, LLC for a kind donation
Sandra Oubre for a kind donation for School Supplies
Richard Palisi for a kind donation
Frances E. Phillips for a kind donation for school supplies
Ethel Ploger for a kind donation for membership
Susan Richards for volunteering for a fundraiser mailing!
Mrs. E.T. Robinson for a donation for a favor received
Felicia Usner for a kind donation
St. Nicholas Philoptochos for a kind donation
Mrs. E. T. Robinson, III for a kind donation
Shirley Trahant for a kind donation
Rev. George Tsahakis for a kind donation
Slidell Antique Car Club for a kind donation
Wal Marts 553 and 5832 for a kind donation
Wal Marts 541,989,1342 and 2665 for a kind donation
Robert Zetzmann Family Foundation for a kind donation

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.

In Loving Memory

Tom and Mary Kennedy in memory of Mrs. Hilda Babin
Rey Bienvenu in memory of Keith David Bienvenu
Rey Bienvenu in memory of Maryann Bienvenu
Emmilou and Edward Tabor in memory of Olive Dudenhefer
Mr. & Mrs. H.V. Nagendra in memory of their son Vijay

In Honor of

Nick and Elaine Chetta in honor of Hilton Daigle's 80th birthday
Michael and Jennifer Bordes in honor of Joe Solomon

Happy Birthday Wishes!

Blaine M, 11years old July 12.
Baron P, 10 years old July 11
Kendall S, 6 years old July 12.
Makel P, 8 years old July 15
Claire G , 11 years July 17
Cameron B & his twin sister Naomi, 7 years old July 19
Daniel M, 12 years old July 29
Christopher B, 3 years old August 7.
Dylan T, 11 years old August 9
Christopher R, 6 years old August 12
Taylor J, 4 years old August 12
Quanterius N, 20 years old August 18
Angel W, 11 years old August 20.
Blake M, 11 years old on August 22.
Musab A, 5 years old on August 25



Happy! Happy!
Happy Birthday

Any corporations or individuals interested in adopting a financially fragile Angels' Place family for a month or a year, whose child is facing ongoing intensive healthcare treatment, please contact us. The financial burden on these families is growing all the time and it would surely be a blessing if we can bring some relief and support to them. Contact Mary at (504)455-2620.

Please remember your contributions are tax deductible

Dancing the Night Away



Archbishop Rummel's Operation HeadStart recently sponsored a dance called the *Rockin' Raiders SOS Dance* to raise funds for **Animal Rescue New Orleans** and **Angels' Place**. Students from Archbishop Rummel High School and students from all the local girls Catholic schools were in attendance to dance the night away to the music from DJ **Morreale (John Morreale)**. The fun and festivities, included special appearances made by the **Saintsations**, puppies from ARNO, Angels' Place child **Dylan Tujague**, and **Operation HeadStart's Buzz Lightyear (Brandon Petkovich)** and **Woody (Christopher Costanza)**. Pictured at the top is Dylan surrounded by the **Saintsations** and gorgeous Catholic High School girls—just like Dylan likes it!



Angels' Place was delighted to accept a generous check from the proceeds of the event. Archbishop Rummel Operation HeadStart students, under the direction of teacher **Mark Firmin**, have been huge supporters of Angels' Place and assist us in every way they can throughout the year. They host our annual Christmas party and Raider Booville, their Halloween party and costume event held for our kids.



We can never say enough about the kindness they have shown our kids and their families. Thank you guys, for another job well done.

If you would like to make a donation to Angels' Place, please make check payable to Angels' Place, Inc. and mail to: 4323 Division Street; Suite 206, Metairie, LA 70002

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Our Volunteers are Works of Art!



We had a great turn out for our Angels' Place Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held at **Don's Seafood Restaurant** in Metairie, on Saturday, May 21, 2011. We were especially pleased to see **Integrity Carpet** and the **New Orleans Registrar of Voters Office** volunteers there. These two new groups volunteered at our recent Annual Spring Picnic and brought a lot of fun with them to the event including a huge space walk/slide that was a very big hit with the kids and, among other things, face-painting which the kids love.

Our theme was "*You Are a Work of Art*". Each volunteer received a little gift of personal notes designed from the pictures our Angels' Place children painted for the **Art for Angels Fundraiser**. The tables were decorated with three gorgeous spring flower sprays from **Adrians Florist** and ten framed artworks, again from the children's' art classes. All the decorations were also given away as door prizes were won by lucky volunteers. Everyone had such a good time visiting with one another—some with old friends others making new ones. The lunch at Dons Seafood is always delicious and this time was no exception—first rate with everyone—sort of put your belt on the next notch good!



We thank all our volunteers for attending the luncheon and those who couldn't, thank you for the dedication and support you give our families and children in so many ways. You know we couldn't do it without you.



School Supplies Needed for AP Kids

As our Angels' Place children and their siblings prepare for their summer break, we are beginning our annual school supply drive. The children will need:

protractors, hand-calculators, spiral notebooks, wide rule loose leaf paper, sturdy rulers, assignments pads, washable markers, scissors, report covers, planners, see-through backpacks (no backpacks on rollers please), crayons, index cards, pencils (large & small), erasers, water colors, pens with erasers & red pens, primary writing tablets, glue sticks, colored construction paper, Black marble composition books, white glue and glue sticks, pencils, pencil sharpeners, baby wipes, qt. & gal. zip locks, baby wipes, paper towels, liquid soap w/pump. and anything else you can think of that kids normally need for school.

This time of year is always hard on our caregivers because of the extra expense of getting their children prepared for school so we appreciate anything you can do to lessen their burden.

Thank you so much for all you do for our kids!!!

The drive started May 24, 2011

Distribution of school supplies will be the last week in July.

Many thanks to....

St. Matthew The Apostle School cheerleaders for designating Angels' Place for their charity contribution from their recent competition. The cheerleaders participated in the *Kickin It For Kids Spirit Championship* competition.

Thank you so much for your kind donation.

Calendar—2011

School Supply Drive	May—July 2011
Raider's Booville	Saturday, October 9, 2011
AP Christmas Party	Sunday, December 11, 2011



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Permit Number 784

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