



ANGELS' PLACE INC.
A PLACE TO GROW

Crib Notes

Winter 2008

FORMERLY MOM'S HOUSE OF PITTSBURGH

Issue Number 96

Dear Friends,

Christmas and Hanukkah are right around the corner, and everyone here at Angels' Place feels the excitement of anticipation building for our holiday traditions. We look forward to having the opportunity to count our many blessings, delight in our families and experience the joy of giving and receiving. Whatever your plans for the season, we hope happiness surrounds you at every turn!

With the end of the year upon us, I ask that as you make out your shopping list for gifts, please kindly consider a donation to Angels' Place, too. Remember that our services wouldn't be possible without the generosity of individuals like you who support the work we do in the community. The moms and dads enrolled in our program are winding up their fall semesters right now, thinking heavily about final exams and term papers. Through your support, you have played an invaluable role in helping them get to this point in their education. You've helped provide the comfort of knowing their children are well cared for as they continue their studies. It's quite an honor to watch these strong and talented people work so hard toward fulfilling their dreams. It's also an honor to sincerely thank you - our donors and friends - for the love and graciousness you share with Angels' Place.

While we certainly welcome tax-deductible year-end contributions, I would ask you to also consider a monthly gift in 2009 which would provide us with a steady source of income. We dedicate ourselves to the wise stewardship of your funds, and your gift to Angels' Place goes a long way in sustaining our three NAEYC accredited centers. Activities here are life-changing...an expensive undertaking...so please be as generous as your loving heart will allow. In return, I promise that your donation will be put to effective use on very practical needs such as food, diapers, educational and art supplies, appropriate toys, utility bills and repairs.

All of us here wish you and your family all the blessings of this season and a New Year filled with much happiness.

Gratefully,

Michelle Smith Tipton

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE ANGELS' PLACE PARENTS AND CHILDREN

- Here is my year-end gift to Angels' Place of \$ _____
- I'm pledging \$ _____ a month in 2009 to support Angels' Place

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

For credit card holders:

Please charge my donation: MasterCard Visa AMEX

Account Number: _____ Expiration ____/____/____

SIGNATURE _____

Make check payable to ANGELS' PLACE, INC. 2515 Norwood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214

THANK YOU!

ANGELS' PLACE INC.
A PLACE TO GROW

Formerly Mom's House of Pgh.

NORTH SIDE

2615 Norwood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15214
412.321.4447

info@angelsplacepgh.org
www.angelsplacepgh.org

BROOKLINE

600 Fordham Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412.531.6667

SWISSVALE

2538 Woodstock Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA. 15218
412.271.2229

Highlighting Our North Side Site

North Side – Jennifer Leck



Naomi and Max enjoy watching the butterflies take flight.

Every new season brings wonder and excitement for our children and fall is a great season to learn about change. In September, we had the pleasure of watching caterpillars turn into butterflies thanks to **Kathy Yost**, who brought in a number of caterpillars for the children to observe. Everyone was thrilled the day our first few butterflies hatched and the children had the opportunity to hold them and then release them into our yard. Over the course of two weeks, we watched all our beautiful butterflies hatch and leave us. Thank you to Kathy for providing us with such a wonderful opportunity.

During the nice weather of the fall months, the children played outside and experienced nature. Collecting pinecones, acorns, tree bark and leaves, children had the chance to touch and explore these items and even use them to create some of the beautiful art that is hanging in our center. They were also able to see nature in all its beauty as the leaves on our trees changed to shades of yellow, orange and vibrant red. Soon they will be running and playing in the snow making angels and building snowmen.

In September and October, we were visited by two wonderful groups of volunteers from **PNC Grow**

Up Great Initiative. Both groups were very hard working and dedicated as they painted many areas of our center. They worked diligently, making our building more beautiful than ever. In December, Scout **Jake Weidman** will be working with Boy Scout Troop #335 to transform our clothing donation room into a space that is easily accessible and user-friendly for our staff and families. We truly appreciate PNC and the Boy Scouts for their commitment to our organization. Special thanks to **Ann Adams** and Jake Weidman for coordinating these wonderful volunteer opportunities for the North Side center. As always, we would like to thank everyone who supports Angels' Place and helps us provide the services we do all through the year. We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and best wishes for a happy new year!

North Side Special Events

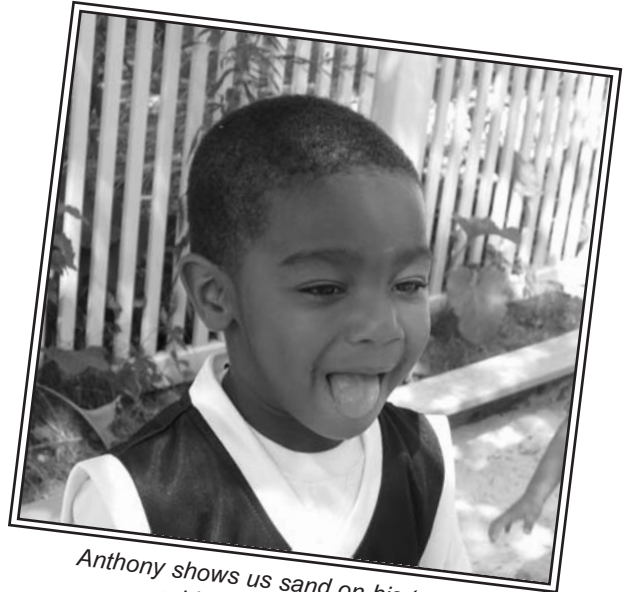
In October, we went to Reilly's Summer Seat Farm for our annual pumpkin farm field trip with friends from our Brookline Center. Later in the month, the children celebrated Halloween with a trick-or-treat parade, pumpkin decorating and carving and special games, such as candy corn bowling, "Melt the Witch," and M&M Matching.

We are steeped in tradition at Angels' Place and November is a month full of traditions and celebrations. We honored our grandparents and other loved ones with a special luncheon. Our grandparents and relatives enjoyed a photo and art gallery which included "masterpieces" created by our children. The staff, children and families gathered a couple weeks later to have Thanksgiving dinner together. Everyone contributed a special dish or recipe which helped to make it feel like a true family gathering.

December is always a magical time of year for everyone and it is no different for us as we look forward to celebrating Hanukkah and Christmas. The children enjoy the holiday decorations we have throughout the center. We also do lots of activities with them to get them into the "holiday spirit." Our favorite activity is helping the children create gifts for their parents and loved ones. They are so proud to give their moms the special present they made. These traditions are important to us and we enjoy sharing them with our families.

North Side Celebrates Birthdays

Mya turned 2 on October 13
Kierra turned 4 on October 13
Emma turned 4 on November 3
Naomi turned 3 on November 4
Nelson turned 3 on November 18
Megan turns 3 on December 10
Max turns 3 on December 15
Cameryn turns 4 on December 20
Briona turns 3 on January 4
Malijah turns 4 on January 5
MiKayla turns 2 on January 25
Steven turns 5 on January 27



Anthony shows us sand on his tongue while playing outside.

Parent Birthdays: Danielle celebrated in October, Chrissy in November, Cristyn will have her birthday in December and Cathy, Regina and Stacey will celebrate in January.

Teachers & Staff: Andrea and Michelle celebrated their birthdays in October. Meliza will celebrate her special day in January.

North Side Staff Updates

Diana - 1 year of service on October 1
Meliza - 2 years of service on October 9

teachers learned new and exciting ways to incorporate science and nature into the classroom.

All teaching staff attended the PAEYC conference in October. The theme for the conference was "Children, Nature and Wellness: Open the Door to Learning." The

The North Side teachers and staff were happy to learn that we received Star 4 designation from Keystone STARS in September.

A Parent's Voice

Completing my nursing degree seemed so out of reach when I found out I lost my childcare assistance. There was no way I could make ends meet and pay for childcare unless I took a second job. The same day I had an interview for a job and was ready to drop my classes, I decided to call Angels' Place. I was so relieved they had space for us. Instead of dropping my classes, I was buying my books!

Everyone at Angels' Place welcomed us with open arms. Knowing my daughter **Kierra** was in the care of such extraordinary teachers and staff at such a safe and beautiful facility allowed me to focus fully on my studies. On days that I am so tired when we get home, I don't feel as bad making hot dogs for dinner, because I know she had a well balanced meal for lunch and a healthy afternoon snack while at Angels' Place.

Kierra is learning so much and enjoys her days at school. The best part of my day is picking her up and listening to her tell me about everything she did that day.

Angels' Place has helped me and my family to reach our goal and realize that if you help yourself, there really are people out there that will help you in return. Thank you! We couldn't have done it without Angels' Place.

Stacey and Kierra



Getting one final hug before Mom goes to school.

Program Director Reports From Swissvale & Brookline

Swissvale – Beth E. Banas

I can hardly believe that the fall semester is already coming to a close and our parents are preparing for finals.

Our children have been very involved in adding to their foundation of knowledge. In addition to our regularly planned curriculum the children were fortunate to have additional opportunities. They attended the **Tiny Tots Concert** and went on a field trip to Carnegie Museum sponsored by **PNC**. We



Ava Jo and Zoe enjoying their costumes on Halloween.

celebrated the "Week Without Violence" and the children commemorated this event by creating a beautiful display entitled "Gentle Hands." We also celebrated our grandparents with a luncheon as well as Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Continuing education is always a priority for our teachers. All of our teachers attended the annual **PAEYC** conference. **Darla** and **Tracy** are quite successfully navigating their coursework for their new educational programs and several of our teachers will be attending the **Project Echo Conference** hosted by Point Park.

We had two wonderful volunteer groups in October PNC volunteers worked very hard to weed out the overgrowth in our parking lot as well as sorting donations. PNC and Alcoa volunteers were also instrumental in helping to apply a fresh coat of paint to our stairwells. Alcoa volunteers generously replaced all of the cabinet hardware in our parents' room.

The original wallpaper has been replaced in the Young Toddler, Older Toddler and Preschool playrooms. Everyone was so excited to see the transformation. Our computer lab is up and running. We now have two computers available to our parents and staff.

As we move into the holidays I would like to let everyone know that the Swissvale site is extremely grateful for all of the friends that we have made and continue to make. Everyone has been so generous with their time and resources. Thanks to all of you who have helped us to continue the good work of our organization.

Brookline – Annette Aguiar

As we approach the end of the first semester, we sometimes wonder: where has the time gone?

In October we had the **Halo Award Dinner** - which some of you may have attended. It was a beautiful and enjoyable night with dinner, music, a personal account from a former client, silent auction and good times with old and new friends!



Steven welcomes mom back after a day of class.

Another event was the annual field trip to the pumpkin farm. Again we went to **Reilly's Summer Seat Farm** along with our friends from the North Side center. It was a great day, despite the looming rain. The children enjoyed the hay ride, pumpkin picking, story book walk, petting zoo and the very long slide!

On Halloween we dressed up and went trick-or-treating at the **Devonshire of Mount Lebanon**. It was so nice of **Lois Murphy** and her assistants to organize this event for our little ones. We got scrumptious cookies with milk and the children got bags and bags full of treats to take home!

For Thanksgiving the **Ladies of Charity** of the **Saint Anne Parish** once again organized our holiday feast. **Beatrice Finke** and her fellow Ladies provided the turkey (donated by Beatrice's son), the potatoes and all the trimmings. All we had to do is bring some side dishes and treats and add the fun! It was so nice of them to think of us at this busy time of the year and really "spoil" us. We felt so appreciated and enjoyed the evening with our dear friends and supporters, our client families and our staff. What a blessing!

Christmas and Hanukkah will be next and all the gears are already spinning toward having a nice party here for our children and families, as well as being able to pass on donated gifts for our families to put under their own trees at home.

Thanks to all who have requested wish lists for our parents and children.

We would also like to share our appreciation of **Three Rivers Quilters** for continuing to provide our children with lovely hand-made quilts; **Ann Adams** for organizing **PNC volunteers** who came in two groups; and **Kelly Close** with her three year old daughter **Ashley** who donated her birthday gifts to our children. Our continued thanks go out to **Dolores Casali** who regularly volunteers with us and to all of our stakeholders who support our efforts!

Have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!

The Angels' Place Halo Award Dinner

October 22nd was a perfect fall day. The weather was cool, clear and the leaves were changing all around the Pittsburgh area. It was also the day of the Annual Halo Award Dinner. **Dr. John E. Murray, Jr.**, Duquesne University Chancellor and Angels' Place Advisory Board Member was the recipient of this year's Halo Award. The event took place in the evening at the elegant Circuit Center in the South Side. Two hundred and forty guests attended the sit-down dinner of stuffed chicken, seasonal vegetables, potatoes and a yummy rich chocolate dessert. Guests participated in a fabulous silent auction, where they bid on spa packages, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, certificates to many of Pittsburgh's finest restaurants and entertainment venues and even a vacation to Hawaii. One lucky raffle winner took home two roundtrip tickets on Southwest Airlines.

Our co-emcees, **The Honorable Dwayne Woodruff** and **Joy Maxberry Woodruff**, provided a heartfelt and spirited commentary during the program. A parent enrolled in our program gave a touching speech regarding her experience at Angels' Place and we got to officially dedicate the North Side building to our founder, **Mary Winter**, with a plaque that will be at the entrance of the building. She was pleasantly surprised. Many new friends were able to experience the message of Angels' Place through an excellent video that captured a year's worth of memories at Angels' Place.

Patrons were pleased to take home their pumpkin favors and beautiful fall centerpieces made by our committee. The proceeds from the Halo Award Dinner will go to the provision of our services.

We are grateful to all the contributors who made our event such a success.



Dr. John Murray, Jr. and his wife Liz holding the Angels' Place Halo Award.

In Memoriam

Angels' Place and the Pittsburgh community lost a special friend in November. Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll was a generous supporter of our services and shared her heart in advocating for the moms and dads enrolled in our program. Through her participation as a member of our Advisory Board, Ms. Baker Knoll knew and understood the mission of Angels' Place. She responded to the needs of our program in such a thoughtful way and used her influence to advocate for the needs of young student parents, ensuring that they had the resources needed to be successful.



Lt. Gov. Catherine Baker Knoll and Angels' Place Executive Board President, John Arch, Esq.

Her giving heart helped Angels' Place grow and provide services to many. Even in her passing, she remembered us by asking that donations be made to Angels' Place in her memory.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the family of Catherine Baker Knoll. All of us here at Angels' Place hope comfort is found in knowing that her life, love and compassion has positively impacted numerous parents and children who have been served by our program through the years. She will be missed.

CHARITABLE GIFTING OF YOUR STOCKS AND BONDS

Would you like to make a gift to Angels' Place of appreciated securities? If you've owned stocks or bonds for more than a year this offers two potential tax savings. (1) You receive a **federal income tax deduction** for the securities' market value at the time of the gift. (2) **Capital gains tax is usually avoided** on increased value of the securities

ROLLING OVER YOUR IRA MANDATORY WITHDRAWAL INTO A CHARITABLE GIFT

Do you own a traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA)? Are you at least age 70 1/2? The President has signed legislation enabling you to **make a tax-free IRA rollover to a public charity such as Angels' Place**. It's not difficult to set up a charitable IRA distribution, but you need to do it during December to have it count toward your required minimum distribution for the 2008 tax year.

A distribution like this goes to Angels' Place tax-free! The **distributed IRA funds, any amount up to \$100,000, are never included in your adjusted gross income**.

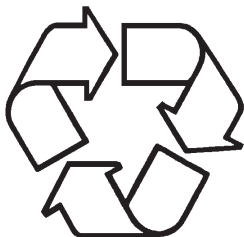
Let our Development Office know if you would like Angels' Place to send you a sample IRA Rollover Direction Letter for you to complete and send to your IRA custodian, who must roll over the funds directly. Of course, consult your financial or legal advisor about whether this type of gift is right for you, but we understand that some people do this who believe that an increased adjusted gross income will cause more of their social security income to be taxed; who don't want to itemize their deductions; or who have an income level that causes exemption phase-outs or deduction limitations.

A CHARITABLE GIFT FROM YOUR BUSINESS THAT ERASES STATE TAX OWED

If your business owes \$500 (or \$10,000) in Pennsylvania taxes it can contribute that \$500 (or \$10,000) to Angels' Place in lieu of paying the tax money to the state, as long as the supply of tax credits has not been exhausted. Access www.newpa.com/eitc and read about the Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Tax Credit Program or call our Development Office at your earliest convenience. There is a minimum of paperwork! **At no cost to your business, it can provide scholarships for Angels' Place children.**

We Need Your Help!

The Swissvale site is excited to announce our new Paper Retriever Recycling Project. We need your help for our efforts to be



successful. Please collect your paper products and put them in the green and yellow dumpster in our parking lot. We accept newspaper, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, paper back books, school paper, office paper, notebooks, colored paper and folders. Please no cardboard, cereal boxes or phone books. Not only will we save trees, but we will also divert waste and save landfill space. The best part is we will earn money for our efforts which will help us in attaining our goal of making Swissvale sustainable. Don't forget to tell your friends and families. Thanks in advance for your support and participation. If you have any questions, please call Beth or Joan at (412) 271.2229.



Mother and daughter capture a smile at our Thanksgiving dinner.

Calling all Angels' Place Alumni

If you were served at Angels' Place (even when it was called Mom's House) and have since moved on, we would love to hear from you and learn about the activities you're currently involved in. Please call Leslie at our North Side Center at (412) 321.4447 who has a brief list of questions she'd like to ask about what you and your family has done since graduating from our program. Thank you!!

All of us here at Angels' Place are extremely grateful to the many individuals, couples and families who made recent monetary and non-monetary donations, and to the houses of worship, foundations, businesses and organizations for their generosity in support of our parents and children. Any donation received after November 28th will be acknowledged in our next Crib Notes.

Monetary	Non-Monetary
<p>St. Thomas More Church, <i>Upper St. Clair</i> St. Thomas More Church, Bible School, <i>Upper St. Clair</i> Sri Venkateswara Temple, <i>Penn Hills</i> Peters Township Referrals Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, <i>Coraopolis</i></p>	<p>South Hills Food Pantry, <i>Mt. Lebanon</i> St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Christian Mothers/Ladies Guild, <i>Finleyville</i> Brownie Troop 78, Daisy Troop 8, <i>Baldwin-Whitehall</i> St. Philip School, <i>Crafton</i> Word of God School, <i>Swissvale</i> St. Bernadette Parish, Ladies of Charity, <i>Monroeville</i> North American Martyrs Parish, <i>Monroeville</i> St. Mary Parish, CCD Program, <i>Glenshaw</i></p>
Donated By:	In Honor Of:
<p>Anita L. Heidenreich Elizabeth B. DiSalle</p> <p>Mariangela Peters Jim & Jean Hartman Herb & Margaret Jones</p>	<p>Grace Devos' 83rd Birthday Joan DiSalle, Eleanor Tiramacco, Francis, John, Robert, Joseph & Michael DiSalle, Madeline Dunham Douglas Marvin Aniceta Heidenreich's 88th Birthday Bridget Ellsworth's Birthday</p>
Donated By:	In Memory Of:
<p>Eileen Gelet Florence Socash Dr. & Mrs. Michael Shaughnessy Lt. Gov. Catherine Baker Knoll</p>	<p>Kay Coyne & Rose Rossi Fr. Jovian Weigel & Paul Gibson Rose C. Rossi, Dr. Rajindar Wadhwa Captain Sean T. Whiten, Martin G. Gradel, Paul R. Beatty, Ellen Haushalter, Chris Gunter Garlow, Brenda Lee Marzzarella, Joseph Zymroz Sr., Helen Bernett, James C. Snyder, Raymond Eusden, George Schneider III, Thomas Miller, Richard Boni, Chrisanthos D. Patrinos, The Most Reverend Walter Paska, Mary Theresa Dougherty, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Specialist Jason M. Woodruff, Specialist Jonathon L. Luscher, John E. Haas, Lawrence DeLuca, Brian S. Price Sr., Eugene Tartaglione, Robert L. Schulte, Rudolph J. Younger, Jean M. Kershner, Jack Manning, Ralph J. Morelli, Michael Garvin, Senator James J. Rhoades, Alexander J. Jaffurs</p>
Foundations & Grants	Businesses
<p>Pittsburgh Children's Foundation, Inc. Chuck Foley Memorial Foundation William V. and Catherine A. McKinney Charitable Foundation Robert & Mary Weisbrod Foundation Thomas J. & Sandra L. Usher Charitable Foundation Estelle S. Campbell Charitable Foundation The Anne L. & George H. Clapp Charitable & Educational Trust Ayers Foundation Bozzone Family Foundation The Hadley Family Foundation The PNC Foundation</p>	<p>Starbucks Coffee Company, Dormont Allegheny Technologies PNC Bank - Advisorport, Inc. Thermoflo Equipment Company, Inc. Family Links UPMC Health Plan MSA North America Godleski-Townsend Agency</p>

Catherine Baker Knoll Memorials

<p>Pennsylvania Capitol Preservation Committee Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Peters Mary Ellen Harkins David M. Hoernle, Sr. Eleanor Dubus Joe Bonus The Book Club of Washington, DC Family of Thomas H. Miller, Sr. Shannon Finley Cynthia Lynch & Family Brooke E. Warren Greg Baker Richard D. Wilson Parven Pomper Strategies Stacie Arpey</p>	<p>Mary Pat Bonner Marie Bonner Gov. Edward G. Rendell National State Teachers of the Year, Pennsylvania Chapter Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth L. Klothen Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh Caroselli, Beachler, McTiernan & Conboy, Attorneys at Law William Peter Chapas, Esq. International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental & Reinforcing Iron Worker's Local 404 The Traupman Family: Sister Mary Traupman CDP, Janet Traupman, Heidi Traupman, Eric & Kim Traupman,</p>	<p>Lisa & Daren DeArmit, Ellen & Christian Berge Nicholas J. Maiale, Esq. Mr. & Mrs. J. Barry Stout Lycoming County Democratic Committee Headquarters Pennsylvania National Guard Officers' Mess Linda A. Hamilton, CPA LLC Mr. & Mrs. James C. May Sophy Curson, Inc. Mr. & Mrs. Max Maxfield Westwood School K-8 Dr. & Mrs. Walter J. Baker</p>
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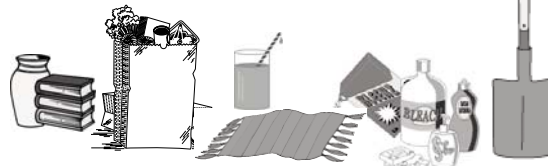
Swissvale

all purpose cleaner
Clorox Bleach
paper towels
size 4 and 5 diapers
banquet size table cloths (102")
39 gal. lawn and leaf bags
dishwasher soap
mops
brooms
potting soil
push broom
Jet Dry
paper cutter
diaper wipes
bike helmets
glass serving bowls
healthy snacks for children
snow shovels
hand tools (screwdrivers,
hammers, wrench, etc)
tall kitchen garbage bags
gallon freezer bags
calcium chloride for ice melting
Brillo pads
plastic cutting boards
oven mitts
batteries (C,D, AA, 9 volt)
reusable 8 1/2 x11 paper
(with only one side used)

Wish Lists

North Side

energy saver light bulbs (60 watts)
aluminum foil
Saran Wrap
food storage bags
(sandwich, quart, gallon size)
13-gallon kitchen trash bags
household cleaners
cereal
dish soap
dishwasher soap
brooms/dust pans
dryer sheets
paper towels
healthy snacks for children
(crackers, raisins, dried fruit,
applesauce, granola bars)



Brookline

working laptop computer w/ Windows
Bounty paper towels ("select-a-size")
cereal: Cheerios, Kix, Chex, Mini Wheat,
Oatmeal, etc.
2T - 4T girls and boys underwear
CD player and CD's
cooking pots and pans
cleaning products
crackers, healthy snacks
arts and crafts supplies
fresh and dried fruit (raisins, cranberries,
apples, apricots, bananas, etc.)
100% juice
diapers, large sizes 4, 5 and 6
garbage and kitchen bags
freezer bags
dish and laundry soap
tooth brushes and paste for children
lawn and leaf bags
salt for melting snow and ice
Winter and Spring-themed games,
toys and decorations

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT # 417

Winter 2008-2009

ANGELS' PLACE INC.
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600 Forcham Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
Return Service Requested

