



# Crib Notes

Fall 2015

Issue Number 120

Dear Friends,

Imagine this: Angels' Place 1989, all children entering Angels' Place receive a symbol (e.g. a snail, dog, sunflower etc.) attached to their name. It becomes a part of their identity and is placed on their artwork, cubbies, and other belongings. It was meant to be utilized as a tool to teach pre-literacy and reading skills and became something much larger. We never could have guessed this simple tradition would hold such significance to the families that we served.

In 1993 a family of three generations (grandmother, daughter and granddaughter) came to Angels' Place. We were honored to have been entrusted with the youngest, most precious member, who at the time was six months old. We will affectionately refer to her as Apple (her symbol).

The family quickly embraced the program and became an important and valued part of the Angels' Place community. Apple loved the idea of symbols and dubbed her Mother as Grape and her Grandmother as Orange, with the latter still carrying the name to this day.

Orange has kept in touch over the past 20 years to share Grape and Apple's accomplishments. Imagine my pleasure when I received a call this past May during which she shared that Apple was graduating from Hampton University with a degree in Political Science. An active undergraduate, Apple served as President of Student Support Services, Vice President of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity and Vice President of the Political Science club.

Currently, Apple works for Teach Across America, a program helping children from low-income communities receive the education they deserve. After which she plans to attend law school. Grape is now successfully employed at Duquesne Light and Orange couldn't be more proud.

A beautiful thank you card came from Apple with the note, "I am the woman I am today because you took me in and showed me the way. Thank you for all of your support over the past 22 years, I don't know what I would do if I hadn't been part of the Angels' Place community. I hope you are all proud of me."

Well Apple, we certainly are proud. Our devoted friends helped make this milestone possible through donations of gifts, time and love. We are grateful that our supporters recognize and believe in the potential of our families. Rest assured that there are more wonderful success stories similar to Apple's.

Many other parents and children rely on Angels' Place to give them an opportunity to complete their education and become strong members of the Pittsburgh community. As we begin our 31st school year we ask you to once again join us in creating a brighter future for our families. Your contribution will be used to provide much needed food, supplies and equipment for our program as well as high quality early education and parent services.

Thank you for your friendship and support. You make a world of difference.

Gratefully,

Beth E. Banas  
Executive Director



### Yes! I plan to attend the Halo Award Dinner - October 29, 2015

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Individual reservations at \$90 per person  
\_\_\_\_\_ Patron reservations at \$135 per person  
\_\_\_\_\_ Table reservation at \$850 for 10 people

Please call Diane at (412) 531-6667 to select entree.

I am unable to attend, but would like to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ in support of Angels' Place.  
(Please make checks payable to Angels' Place)

Visa/Mastercard/AMEX #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach any special seating instructions.

Special dietary needs, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Your response will be appreciated on or before October 22, 2015.



**NORTH SIDE**  
2615 Norwood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15214  
412.321.4447

**BROOKLINE**  
600 Fordham Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15226  
412.531.6667

**SWISSVALE**  
2538 Woodstock Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218  
412.271.2229

info@angelsplacepgh.org  
www.angelsplacepgh.org



Find Angels' Place on Facebook!

The official registration and financial information of Angels' Place, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# FALL 2015 PROGRAM UPDATES

As fall arrives and the beautiful Pennsylvania foliage begins to transform into a cascade of oranges and yellows all of us at Angels' Place are thrilled to welcome the return of our parents and students, old and new, for what is sure to be another wonderful year of growth and development. All three centers kicked off the new school year with an August In-service that focused on yearly goals, trauma informed care, supervision, communication and health and safety. Staff also attended classes on the updated Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale, which will be used to help assess and improve the quality of our child care.

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

A Brookline Center parent made a special Egyptian lunch for the children and staff to enjoy. They celebrated 4th of July with a parade, experimented with color mixing and studied water and buoyancy. The children ate home grown beans from the garden, watched pumpkins grow and tomatoes turn green. They also created their own oceans and made fireworks t-shirts, butter and musical instruments.

Our friends on the North Side made smoothies, cakes and cookies and celebrated 4th of July by creating pictures of fireworks. The children helped tend to the garden by watering and picking vegetables. Bike riding was a very popular activity over the summer as well as making s'mores, water play and celebrating quite a few birthdays. Librarians from the Carnegie Library Woods Run branch visited and read stories to the children.



*New baby Eleanor, sailing the Seven Seas*

The Swissvale Center had a fun summer playing outdoors in the sprinkler and sand box, watering the gardens, splashing in the pools, playing hopscotch, riding bikes and especially loved the new water table donated by the Need Knot Giving Circle. They celebrated International Mud Day, had a 4th of July picnic and continued the special tradition of creating Queen Anne's lace fireworks pictures. One parent provided pizza for their child's first birthday as she remembered celebrating her first birthday at a childcare center and wanted to continue the tradition with her son. They also held their annual Back to School party for the five children graduates who left for kindergarten and those who will be staying at Angels' Place.



*Brynn, Lily and Sam warming up after a day in the sprinkler.*

## VOLUNTEERS

Over the course of the summer both PNC Grow Up Great and Saints John and Paul Parish volunteers performed critical tasks at all three centers to ensure our children have a safe, clean, organized and beautiful space to learn and grow.

Special thanks to weekly volunteers Eileen Gelet, Anne Green, Russ Fry, Natalie Cichoski, Renee Ayers, Dolores Casali, Kathy Beckovich, Megan Grefenstette, Pat Foley, Isabelle Shatlock, Dora Zezulewicz, Patty Kaczmariski and the Special Events Committee for all of their help.

## ADDITIONAL GRATITUDE

The Pittsburgh Pirates donated tickets to our children, parents and staff for two games this summer. Kretschmann Organic Farm continues to provide fresh vegetables that allow our nutritional coordinators to create a variety of healthy meals and raise awareness of the value of farm to table fresh food. Warmth and a special thank you to Christean Dugan who donated two new friends to the Swissvale center: Sunshine the parakeet and Hammy the hamster. All three centers continue to be grateful for drop off donations of clothes, toys and wish list items as well. These contributions are instrumental in Angels' Place having the ability to provide the highest quality of service to our parents and children.

## STAFF NEWS

Angels' Place is wishing a fond farewell to two very special people who have been an integral part of our success this past summer.

Alyssa Southerlin came to the Brookline Center as a student teacher from Carlow University. Her impact on the program was felt immediately and will continue to linger throughout the year. The staff and children will miss the energy and

## FALL 2015 PROGRAM UPDATES

warmth with which she carried each day. Here's to a happy, healthy and successful senior year.

Our dear friend Rebecca Wakeley was working as our Director of Development Assistant and is returning to school in New York. In a short amount of time she had an amazing impact not only on our organization but also in our hearts. The children and teachers enjoyed her bubbly personality along with her kind helping hand. She will be missed and we wish her well in her future endeavors and her upcoming wedding.

We would also like to welcome CJ Strauss, our new Director of Development. He has moved back to Pittsburgh to be close to extended family after having spent several years in Boston. He and his wife Kim are the proud parents of 3 year old Cormac and Eleanor who is 9 months. He graduated from John Carroll University and most recently worked at KidsVoice.



*Esuan blowing bubbles to his sister Eriyah.*

## TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES



Angels' Place will once again be partnering with Ten Thousand Villages – a Fair Trade retailer in Squirrel Hill – this coming fall. Once a date has been solidified an announcement will be made on our Facebook page, Twitter handle and website.

Shop at Ten Thousand Villages on our designated day and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to Angels' Place. Your Holiday gifts can give three times: to the recipient, the artisan, and Angels' Place!

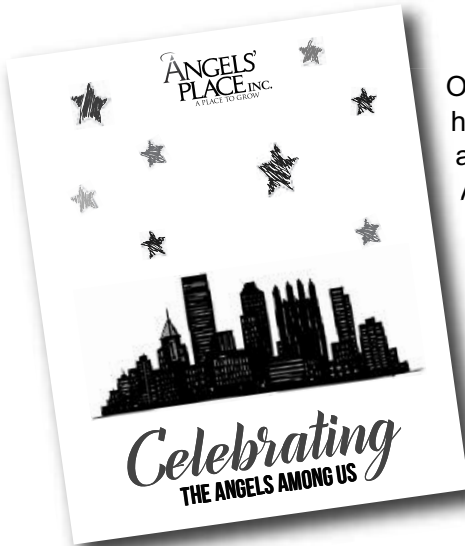
## SWISSVALE RENOVATIONS

We finally finished the last phase of the renovations of our 25 year old kitchen and dining room. The entire project was through the generosity of many. The final phase which was the kitchen and dining room wallpaper project expertly completed by Ron Nagel of Nagel's Paper Hanging thanks to the generosity of a grant from the Howard and Nell E. Miller Foundation. This was initiated by Eileen Gelet in honor of her husband Ted.



*Volunteer and good friend of Angels' Place Eileen Gelet, celebrates her birthday surrounded by her Swissvale friends in the newly redecorated dining room.*

## HALO AWARD DINNER



Our annual Halo Award Dinner celebrating the Angels Among Us will be held at LeMont Restaurant on Thursday, October 29. The 2015 honorees are Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Massaro, Jr., who were instrumental in helping Angels' Place grow and open the North Side center. WPXI reporter Brittny McGraw will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Please join us as we celebrate 31 years of providing a high quality early childhood education program, parenting classes, counseling, tutoring and career assistance – all at no cost to parents who are full time students and financially eligible.

For more information on obtaining tickets to the event, reserving a table or becoming a sponsor please contact Diane Mazza at (412) 531-6667 or [dmazza@angelsplacepgh.org](mailto:dmazza@angelsplacepgh.org)

## AMAZON SMILE

We've partnered with Amazon through their Smile program, which means you can continue to shop for all of your favorite products and holiday gifts and Amazon will send a portion of the purchase price to Angels' Place.



Visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and log in with your existing Amazon account (or create a new one). On your first visit you will be prompted to select a charity that you would like to support. Simply type "Angels' Place" in the *Or pick your own charitable organization box*, click Search and then Select Angels' Place on the next screen...that's it! You will only need to do this once as Amazon will save your selected nonprofit.

It's very important to remember that a portion of your purchase will only support Angels' Place from the Amazon Smile page and NOT the traditional Amazon page, though the very same products are on both. If you don't see the Amazon Smile logo in the top left corner of the screen then your purchase will not support Angels' Place.

## COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

The Kretschmann Family Farm has provided Pittsburgh area customers with local, organically grown produce, fruits, and meats since 1971. The 80 acre family farm is located near Zelienople, about 35 miles north of the city. They raise a wide variety of vegetable and fruit products, with a 3 acre apple orchard. Since 1993, their CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) subscriptions have offered a weekly selection – from June to Thanksgiving – of produce to members in neighborhoods throughout the Pittsburgh area. Each member also receives a newsletter with updates about what is happening on the farm and recipe suggestions.



Kretschmann Family Farm also has an ASC (Agriculture Supported Community) Program, or Food for All, as they call it. Just as the aforementioned CSA involves the community supporting its agriculturalists, they feel there's a corresponding duty for the agriculturalists to support the community. Kretschmann acknowledges that these are difficult economic times but realizes that people still require healthy food and good nutrition. They especially like to ensure that young families have access to good quality fresh produce despite economic hardship. The Kretschmann family believes that lifelong eating habits are acquired at a young age and that food horizons, once expanded and connected to the earth, will always put children in good stead, healthy of body and spirit.

We thank them for their continued support of Angels' Place and our community. You can learn more about the family farm and become a member of their CSA at: [www.kretschmannfarm.com](http://www.kretschmannfarm.com)

**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 foundations, organizations, and houses of worship for their generosity in support of our parents and children.**

## Monetary

St. Bernadette School, Monroeville  
 Brookline Chamber of Commerce  
 Episcopal Church Women Diocese of Pittsburgh, Mt. Lebanon  
 Holy Child Parish, Confraternity of Christian Mothers, Bridgeville  
 Rotary Club of Churchill-Wilkins  
 Rotary Club of Bethel Park  
 St. Gregory Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Zelienople  
 The Women's Club of Overbrook  
 St. Benedict Men's Club, McMurray  
 Presbyterian Women of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Upper St. Clair  
 Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School, Coraopolis

## Non-Monetary

St. Anne Parish, Castle Shannon  
 Church of the Nativity, Crafton  
 Ruthfred Lutheran Church, Bethel Park  
 St. Paul of the Cross Monastery, South Side  
 Brookline Christian Food Pantry  
 St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brookline  
 St. Barbara Church, Bridgeville

## Donated By:

Mariangela Peters  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. DeWitt  
 Carol Shaughnessy  
 Elizabeth B. Di Salle

Anonymous  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Ziegler

## In Honor Of:

Douglas Marvin  
 Mary Ann Bober  
 Michael P. Shaughnessy  
 Richard Di Salle, Gilbert Di Salle, Pasquale Di Salle, Leonard Malinowski,  
 John Malinowski, Conrad Malinsowski, Daniel Malinowski, Padraic  
 Malinowski, Cookie Paolilli  
 Eileen Gelet  
 Matthew Graham

## Donated By:

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moorehead  
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrzej G. Groch  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Cararie

## In Memory Of:

Gino Delullis  
 Helen Palovak Maleski  
 Catherine Rose Cararie

## Foundations & Grants

County of Allegheny, Office of the District Attorney,  
 Drug Asset Forfeiture  
 Massey Charitable Trust  
 Jacob A. and Frieda M. Hunkele Charitable Fund of  
 The Pittsburgh Foundation  
 MLJ Adams Family Charitable Fund  
 PNC Foundation  
 Donahue Family Foundation, Inc.

## Businesses

Amcom Office Solutions  
 Vocelli's Pizza, Swissvale  
 Brian Homes, Inc.  
 Thermoflo Equipment Company, Inc.  
 Altany, Loynd & Lindquist, LLC dba Bevan Walley Shepard  
 Swissvale Economic Development Corp  
 Diamond Wire Spring Company  
 Highmark Health

## WORKPLACE GIVING

**LIVE UNITED**



Support Angels' Place through United Way's Contributor Choice program. Designate your contribution to Angels' Place by using code #1200 North Side, #7193 Brookline or #3977 Swissvale.

Many other businesses encourage giving through America's Charities (EIN #: 25-1450489).

Federal employees can give through the Combined Federal Campaign, for which the Angels' Place code is #44139. The code for the State Employees' Combined Appeal is #5000-0017.



Brookline baby enjoying the great outdoors.



Carlow University student teacher, Alyssa Southerlin, with preschooler Nick preparing for a 4th of July celebration.



100% Tax  
Deductible

## DONATE YOUR CAR

Benefiting  
the babies, moms, and dads of  
**Angels' Place, Inc.**

Call: (855) 500-7433  
angelsplacepgh-cardonations.org



Swissvale's future dancing stars Max and Aeron.

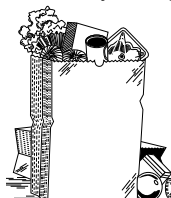


Swissvale friends Eli and Aedren tending to the garden.

# Wish Lists

## Brookline

Size 5 and 6 diapers  
paper towels (regular rolls and w tri-folds for dispensers)  
tall kitchen garbage bags  
Kleenex Tissues  
Clorox Bleach  
latex gloves  
electric fry pan  
100% Juice (single serve boxes or bottles are great)  
dried fruit or fruit cups (raisins, cranberries, apricots)  
healthy snack crackers  
Chex cereals, etc.  
coffee k-cups  
Gerber Graduates Puffs & Yogurt Melts  
fruit/veggie baby food  
rice cereal  
baby oatmeal  
white water-color paper (thick)  
letter-size laminating pouches  
postage stamps  
letter size copy paper  
rubber bands  
professional camera  
electric cordless broom  
baby wipes  
skin tone crayons and/or markers  
children's books with varying ability  
children's books about healthy eating



## North Side

lullaby CDs  
welcome mat  
Play-Doh  
children's books and board books  
healthy cereal  
100% fruit juice  
healthy snacks  
individual applesauce/fruit cups  
Dixie cups  
facial tissues  
napkins  
paper plates  
paper towels  
baby wipes  
Sharpie markers  
colored copier paper  
masking tape  
duct tape  
clear packing tape  
Post-It Notes  
batteries – AA, C, 9-volt  
trash bags – 13 and 30 gallon size  
hand soap  
dishwasher detergent  
laundry detergent  
hands free indoor garbage cans with lids  
playground balls, basketballs, soccer balls (soft for the little ones), kids footballs  
hula hoops  
dish soap  
electric can opener

## Swissvale

all purpose cleaners  
39 gal garbage bags  
automatic liquid dishwasher soap  
gallon freezer storage bags  
Lanyards  
tall kitchen garbage bags  
butcher block/knives  
paper napkins  
large crockpot  
mops and brooms  
blender  
9 volt batteries  
light bulbs/candelabra bulbs  
Scott Toilet tissue  
birthday/get well/congrats etc. cards  
diaper wipes  
Charlie Chinchilla Food  
bleach  
size 4,5,6 diapers  
paper plates  
small plastic storage bins for classrooms  
ink pens/Sharpies  
masking tape  
Scotch Tape  
Timothy hay for small animals  
hand held can opener  
Sticky Tack  
jar spaghetti sauce  
cake frosting  
saltines  
cake mixes  
sprinkle parmesan cheese  
graham crackers  
salad dressing  
goldfish crackers  
Teddy Grahams  
pudding  
pretzels  
vanilla wafers  
hot cereal-Cocoa Wheat or Cream of Wheat  
baby food- bananas and apples  
baby cereal-rice