



ANGEL NEWS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
WWW.LOVEANANGELFOUNDATION.ORG



The Love an Angel Foundation (LAAF) March 2014 Volume III, Issue I

A Word from our President, Matthew Weber

What a beautiful way to start the next phase of the journey. Because of you, the “For the Love of an Angel” reverse raffle was a smashing success.

Ironically, it was only six (6) days prior to the raffle that much of America placed their hopes for the beginning to spring in the actions of a furry woodchuck. Punxsutawney Phil let us down! May I suggest that we no longer look to the actions of a cute rodent for signs of the warmth, sunshine, new life and happiness that

spring will bring, but rather wait a week, fill a party center with kind-hearted, loving, compassionate friends willing to give of themselves for the sake of others.....That is the sign that there is hope for a new beginning....the confidence that the sun will shine on a bright tomorrow for Your Angels.

Thank you all for the sign of great things to come.....

Matthew

A Big Thank You

The Acme Fresh Market Community Cash Back Program ended February 8th. We wish to thank all of you who saved your receipts and donated them to LAAF. We raised over \$85. We just received our check and the notice that the program will begin this September 18th. Please mark your calendar and plan on saving those receipts.

An Evening of Celebration



St. George Fellowship Centre was the setting for the 16th annual LAAF “For the Love of an Angel” Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction. During the cocktail hour, guests enjoyed appetizers by TLC

Catering and Sushi on the Roll while purchasing sideboards, viewing and placing their bids for silent auction items of their liking. Just before dinner was served, Board President, Matt Weber shared a few words then turned our 180 guests’ attention to a video presentation. The picture to the left was a part of the presentation and as it is often said “a picture is worth 1000 words”. While the event was about raising money, the evening was about celebrating the “Paid in Full” on the property and presenting Phase II of Halo Farm — “A Gathering Place”.

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Dates to Keep in mind:

- Biking for Angels Date To Be Determined
- Acme Community Cash Back— September 18th
- Reverse Raffle February 7, 2015

Volunteer Opportunities are available. Please call our office at 234-678-7466 if you would like to discuss how you can become more involved.



President
Matthew Weber

Secretary
Michelle Bisconti

Treasurer
Patricia Weber

Director
Doneita Bucey

Director
Burt Keiper

Director
Janice Pajk

Business Advisor
Jamie Schisler

Legal Advisor
Ray Weber

An Evening of Celebration Cont.

"HALO FARMS"
Home of the Angels

<p><i>What's Next</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• POND• PAVILION• PLAY AREA• TRAILS		<p><i>Our Needs</i></p> <p>& </p> <p>& </p> <p>& </p>
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NEXT PHASE
"A GATHERING PLACE"

Another picture worth 1000 words, **Phase II**

Love
an Angel
Foundation

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Check out our website:
www.loveanangel.org
www.loveanangel.com
www.loveanangelfoundation.com

To Provide Comfort, Assistance, Relief, and Encouragement to those touched by Angelman Syndrome.

Upon the conclusion of the video presentation, highlighting the transformation of the Century Home, landscaping, other fundraising activities and Phase II, dinner was served. Shortly after dinner, our Master of Ceremonies, Burt Keiper, announced the first number drawn from the Reverse Raffle and an evening of fun was underway! Every fifth number drawn received either a gift card or certificate to various restaurants and businesses, moving the raffle to the last five numbers who would either share or contend the grand prize of \$2000! At one point the room became infiltrated with pink balloons as guests excitedly participated in the Burst of Fortune Game. Over half of the 90 balloons held lucky numbers and when burst the winners were revealed. Two especially lucky guests received a cash prize of \$50 and \$100 when their balloon was popped!! Bingo cards were also available and the first "full card" received a 50/50 prize.

The one night stay at the Ritz Carlton in Cleveland with a full course dinner at the Muse along with a special gift basket became our "Live Auction" for the evening. There were several enthusiastic husbands bidding on this special package as Valentine's Day was just a week away!!!

As we bring the 2014 Reverse Raffle to a close, we want to again thank all the businesses and individuals that made the event such a success. We wish to express our appreciation to those of you that seated a table, those that invited new friends to join you, and those of you that have extended the hand of kindness in offering your services for some of our specific needs. With your generosity, not only did the event profit over \$21,400.00, but we all enjoyed a lovely evening.

Angel Corner



15 month old Corbin in his first tux.

Meet Corbin Titus - Corbin will be 25 years old in August. Because of his “little-boy” attitude, the time has gone by so quickly. His smile and his laughter brings our family much joy. It really is difficult to process negativity when you are around Corbin. We navigate through his eyes and it always puts things in the proper perspective—in a positive way.

Corbin was almost 6 years old before he was diagnosed with Angelman Syndrome (AS). Between our neurologist, geneticist and a simple blood test, Corbin was diagnosed with AS and classified as “deletion positive”. Although he is non-verbal like all Angels, he has always had a unique way of communicating.

Corbin is developmentally delayed as with most Angels. He did not sit independently until he was 15 months old, commando crawl till 21 months, and did not walk until 5½ years old. Other than being non-verbal and

having the past seizure activity, Corbin is not severely affected by AS but we know he will never live independently. He requires assistance with all life skills.

Corbin loves music with gospel and country being his favorite. He hums along with the radio and we make a big deal out of his “singing!” He has discovered how to operate his TV without the remote and loves to “surf” music channels. He sometimes listens to opera, Spanish and rap which cracks us up. He loves guitars and Cowboy boots.

His other favorite is magazines. Corbin flips through them, and then eventually tears them up. Once we hid a magazine we wanted to save under a sofa cushion. He discovered it! We had to find a different hiding place!! He now frequently “checks” the sofa to see if there are any new issues waiting for him. Sometimes we have to

wade through his room because it is so scattered with paper and toys. When you see Corbin, more than likely he will be holding a magazine, fire truck, or guitar.

One funny thing Corbin does is “click” his toes. He snaps his toes like most people snap their fingers. If we say, “Corbin has stinky feet and clickin’ toes”, he will take his shoes off, hold his foot up and clicks his toes! He loves being the center of attention.

In 2009 Corbin attended his high school Prom. He was invited by one of his classmate aides. No one ever looked so handsome in a tux. (Except possibly him when he was 15 months old.) He danced and had pictures taken and enjoyed “hanging out” with his buddies. Corbin graduated high school in 2011 and currently attends an adult day program which he loves.

To Provide Comfort, Assistance, Relief, and Encouragement to those touched by Angelman Syndrome.

Angel Corner Continued

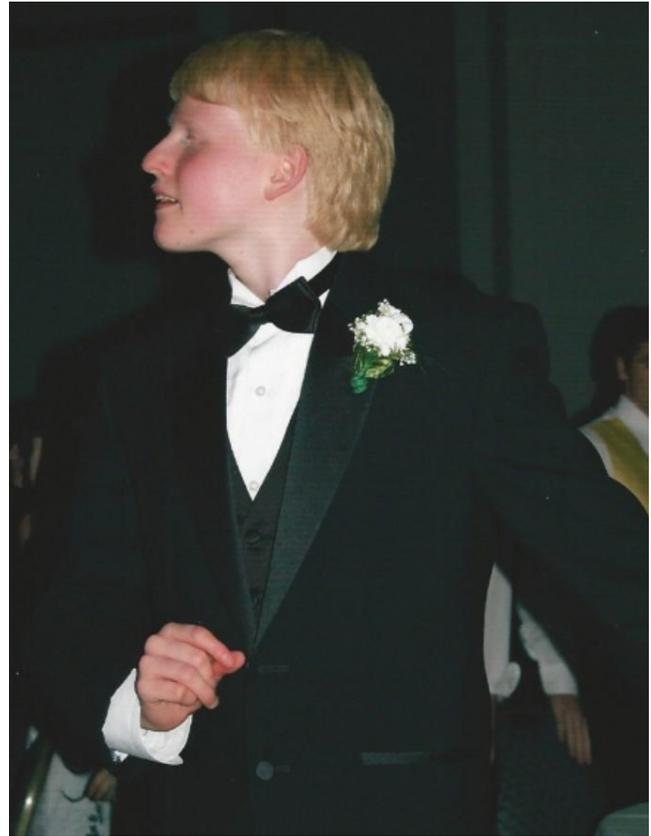
One thing Corbs does not enjoy is cold temperatures. During weather changes, he experiences migraine headaches. If we catch the signs in time, we treat and within a few hours he is okay. If we don't, he gets sick.

One of the most negative experiences of Corbin and my life was the passing away of his biological father. Corbin was 3½ and although family members have supported us through the years, "Daddy Bob" fills those "father shoes" better than anyone else ever could. Bob loves and respects Corbin and Corbin returns the sentiment. They are truly like "father and son!"

Corbin is the perfect example of "when life throws you lemons—make lemonade!" He keeps us laughing, he keeps us grounded, and makes us proud every day.

We cannot imagine life without Corbin. He is simply an Angel!

"No one ever looked as handsome in a tux!" said Mom



Angel Health Update

Gary: On the 16th of December, our 13 year old Angel, underwent surgery for exotropia, to correct the eye muscles that were pulling his eyes outward. Since there was danger of his losing his central vision over time, it was decided to have the correction at the Cleveland Eye Clinic. Gary did wonderfully. In fact mom, Dawn, stated that the doctor said the results were even better than anticipated. Gary is now sporting new glasses, and the family is working with him to keep them on to help his poor vision.

Ayleah: On the 19th of January, our 5 year old angel, was admitted to Children's Hospital after vomiting and aspirating from the flu. She was diagnosed with pneumonia. On the 22nd she was intubated and a chest tube was put in to drain her lungs. She was also having a difficult time keeping her oxygen levels elevated. Ayleah remained in ICU for 16 of her 18 day hospitalization. Mom, Stephanie, states that although she has recovered physically, Ayleah is experiencing separation anxiety on a higher level—a common result of lengthy hospital stays with different schedules and environment.

Both families are thankful for the concern and prayers shown on their "Angel's" behalf.

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