



ANGEL NEWS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
WWW.LOVEANANGELFOUNDATION.ORG



The Love an Angel Foundation (LAAF) October 2013 Volume II, Issue III

A Word from our President, Matthew Weber

Angel Families and Friends,

What a blessed year so far. With your help and support we started the year with another successful "For the Love of an Angel" Reverse Raffle and had our first ever "This is not your everyday Garage Sale" Garage Sale. The garage sales were a hit. Without your donated items, your time and your prayers, this would have just been a "Garage Sale". The two garage sales certainly gained financial support and we are pleased with the opportunity they provided for us to share with others the importance of our mission.

With the summer in the rear view mirror and fall in our midst, it can only mean one thing..."Biking for Angels" Spin-a-thon. The

event last year was as successful as we could have hoped for, being that it was our first attempt at this type of event and with the excitement that was generated we can already sense this year will be even more successful. Please join us and bring your friends.

Right around the corner will be our annual "For the Love of an Angel" Reverse Raffle. 2014 should prove to be a very special year and a very exciting time for the Love an Angel Foundation. All of your support is paying off. Plan on joining us for a special celebration!

Thank you all for your love an support.

Matthew

Keep in Motion for a Good Cause

2ND ANNUAL "BIKING FOR ANGELS" SPIN-A-THON

What is a spin-a-thon? It is a fundraising event just like a walk-a-thon, however instead of walking, you are spinning (indoor cycle bike) to raise money for charity.

Akron General Lifestyles, West and Love an Angel Foundation are thrilled to sponsor our 2nd annual Biking for Angels spin-a-thon on November 3, 9AM-1PM. Spinning sessions will be 30 minutes.

Spinners NEEDED!!! Join us and bring a friend. Or consider becoming a Sponsor!!

The money raised at last year's spin-a-thon was applied to the mortgage payoff of our 20 acres of land purchased for the future site of the Halo Farm Complex, a recreational, residential, and respite facility (Phase I). The money raised from this year's event will kick off the "building fund" for the groundbreaking and development of the recreation center of the complex (Phase II).

Learn more and reserve your spin time...

Go to www.loveanangel.org click on Events and then click on Registration.

Or call the office for a brochure. 234-678-7466

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Dates to Keep in mind:

- Biking for Angels
Nov 3, 2013
- December
Newsletter
- Reverse Raffle
February 8, 2014

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

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Director

Burt Keiper

Director

Janice Pajk

Business Advisor

Jamie Schisler

Legal Advisor

Ray Weber

Garage Sale Wrap-up

Once again we wish to thank those of you who donated items and your time for our "Not Your Everyday Garage Sale" Garage Sales. We concluded our summer with a final sale on August 24.

Through the garage sales, as we added earnings to our foundations budget, we also provided many people the opportunity to shop and benefit from the "bargains" to be found at the sale. We are so pleased that the garage sales allowed us the opportunity to talk and share our mission with so many people. Several of the wonderful people have offered themselves to serve with us and have shared they appreciate our mission. Hoping to continue in heightening public awareness of Angelman Syndrome and Love an Angel Foundation we provided an information sheet to those that attended and shopped at our sale.

The two garage sales allowed us to bank just shy of \$6000. We were pleased to donate the items that did not sell to various local nonprofit organizations.



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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.

CASH BACK OPPORTUNITY ACME FRESH MARKET COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Every year the Acme Fresh Markets offer to schools and nonprofit organizations the opportunity to raise money for their cause through their **cash back community program**.

Love an Angel Foundation would like you, our supporters, who shop at Acme Fresh Markets to participate in this cash back program. It is a simple way to contribute and help to increase LAAF's budget.

WHAT TO DO: Shop your local Acme store and **SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS**

EVENT BEGINS: Saturday, September 21, 2013

EVENT ENDS: Friday, February 8, 2014

Organizations have one week after the closing date to total the receipts and submit them for evaluation and payment. Please consider this simple way to help our Foundation. We would ask that you consider sending your receipts to the office every few weeks, however, if you so choose, we can accept them any time up through the evening of the Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction—which is Friday, February 8, 2014.

Help us out—Do your shopping, and then send your receipts off to us—we will do the rest!

Angel Corner



Ayleah, Kayaking with Mom

Ayleah and I had a great summer. We spent the days swimming, kayaking, and made it to the zoo a couple of times. Like most children with Angelman Syndrome, Ayleah loves the water and swimming. She also loves to kayak. We had the opportunity to get a tandem kayak this year, so she sits in her own seat. I was a little nervous that she may try to jump into the water, but thankfully she doesn't. When we go to the zoo, I believe Ayleah enjoys the people more than the animals, but we have a good time wherever we go.

Ayleah has also made great gains over the summer. She has been on the Low Glycemic Index Diet (LGIT) since February and I believe it has made all the difference in the world. She has gone from 20-30 seizures a day to 0-5!! We have just recently started to reduce some of her meds, so hopefully her seizures will remain "controlled". Besides the seizure control, she remains more focused and has better physical control of her body since changing her diet.

The highlight of our summer was the opportunity to attend the Angelman Syndrome conference in Orlando. My nephew came along to help with Ayleah's care while I attended classes. He and Ayleah

got to spend time with other families at Lego-land and saw dolphins and manatees. The three of us spent an afternoon at Disney's Animal Kingdom. Ayleah enjoyed the live entertainment at the park and also the dinosaur ride.



I enjoyed the opportunity to meet and spend time with other families. The "Angels" present ranged from infants to adults. Everyone was supportive and it was nice to be able to tell the parents of younger children that it does get easier. Ayleah is only five, but she has come a long way. Ironically it took going to Florida to meet a couple of families who live less than an hour from us! We have talked a few times since we've been home, and it is nice knowing someone who understands and is close by.

Prior to attending the conference, I was excited to learn more about LGIT and ways I could expand Ayleah's food choices. I have come home armed with more ideas and

resources regarding the diet as well as enlightening information regarding Ayleah's potential. I had been thinking about potty training, and now know how and what to do about it. It is a slow process, but Ayleah has successfully used the potty several times. Most importantly, though, I now have the confidence that Ayleah will learn to communicate. Before the conference, I felt that I was the only person to see and know that Ayleah has something to say, but needs a way to say it. I came back from the conference with a wealth of information and more resources to at least start trying to get her to express herself. We have started using some simple symbols at home. I have mentioned some of the ideas of potty training and communication to professionals in Ayleah's life and I feel they are still non-believers. But I am not concerned or worried because I know Ayleah will succeed and they will get on board. It is a little sad that she has to prove herself first, but she will.

Attending the Angelman Syndrome conference was life-changing for me. I loved the opportunity to meet other families, gather information, and spend time with Ayleah having fun—which is what we do best!

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