

# *News from the Angels*

*Autumn, 2012*



## *Angels for Natural Disaster Areas*

As the summer of 2012 comes to a close, we can see how busy the Angels have been responding to the need created by so many natural disasters around the country. From June through August, 22 Angels of Hope have been sent in response to tornadoes, flooding, wildfires, and most recently, Hurricane Isaac. In a matter of hours or days, lives are forever changed. How important it is that those who are living these experiences hear the message of the Angels, "Do not be afraid. You are not alone."

Wildfires have destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres across the western U.S. sending Angels to Colorado, Montana, Washington, Nebraska, Idaho, Oklahoma, and California.

In June, hundreds of homes and thousands of acres of land were destroyed in the Waldo Canyon fire near Colorado Springs. The Activity Director at a nursing home there said that she lives 18 mi from Colorado Springs, and it took her a 143 mi drive to get to work a couple days earlier when the main roads were closed and she had to go north to Denver, then come down the interstate to get to work. She has moved in with the office business manager, Kathy, and when her home area was evacuated the day before, her husband, dogs and cat all moved in with Kathy too. They had 24 new residents who were evacuated from other facilities. There are many stories like hers among the staff and residents' families. She was so touched that we found them and offered an Angel. "We really need her right now."

Hurricane Isaac is fresh in our minds, and all the flooding and destruction left in his path. The Activity Director at a nursing home in Biloxi, MS said that they had been on lock-down for 3 days, and had just been released from that. She was looking forward to not sleeping on an air mattress. Her home was not damaged but many of the staff did suffer damage to homes and property. No serious injuries. She thought that us sending was "so sweet of y'all. It's been hard down here," but they could see it starting to get better. She kept thanking us for thinking of them and offering an Angel for them. From a nursing home in New Orleans we were told that they have no power and are operating on a generator, but at least they didn't have to evacuate the residents. She was really touched that we called all the way from MI and care about what is happening to them. Everyone has been impacted, residents and staff alike, but she said they are doing pretty well in spite of it. She is sure an Angel will help everyone at this time.

The Animal Rescue New Orleans was sent a brown Happy Dog Angel offering the same message of love and hope to all of the animals who have been lost and abandoned through the flooding, and to those who care for them.

Such a simple gift has brought so much peace and hope to so many. That is priceless.



## *Friends of Angels of Hope*



We have a brand new area for Angels of Hope FUNdraising called Friends of Angels of Hope. A Friend of Angels of Hope is any corporation, business, group, family or individual that makes a commitment to support Angels of Hope.

Corporations/businesses are invited to offer a program through which their clientele/customers have an opportunity to support Angels of Hope when they do business with the company. It can be a special promotion or a long-term program. They make it possible for their customers pay for items they already need and intend to purchase, and with each payment, also to support Angels of Hope. Customers feel better about themselves and the company gets more customers and greater loyalty from them.

Individuals, families, friends, or other groups can become Friends of Angels of Hope when they commit to sponsoring at least one Angel a month (\$40) for at least a year. They will be notified of where their Angel was sent, and the facility can be informed who sponsored it.

### *International Angels*



**Olga & the Angel at Obskoy Orphanage**



**An Angel with a smiling child at Miriam Center**

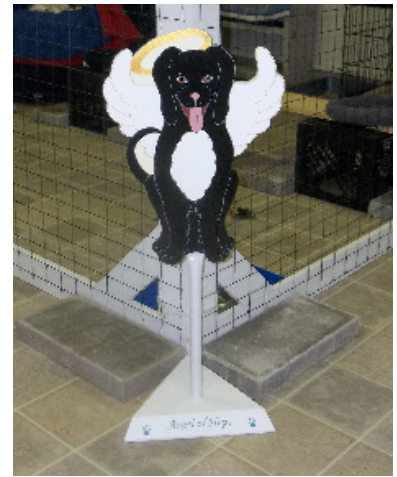
In the last quarter, seven more International Angels have flown across the seas to brighten the lives of children in orphanages in Haiti, Columbia, Ecuador and Russia.

Members of the Kalamazoo Russian Cultural Association took an Angel to the Obskoy Orphanage in Novosibirsk, Russia. It is an orphanage for mentally challenged children. Their Russian friend, Olga went with them to deliver it. This picture is in their entrance area.

The little girl on the right lives at the Miriam Center in Saint-Louis du Nord, Haiti, which houses, educates and cares for Haitian children with cerebral palsy, severe autism, and other major life challenges. The director sent a note, "The angels are SUCH a blessing and The Miriam Center wanted to thank you guys with ALL our hearts!!!!!"

### *Angels for the Animals*

Since June 1, 6 Angels for the Animals have gone out to Animal Shelters caring for the needs of pets who are ill or have been abandoned and/or abused. Here you see a Happy Dog at The Ark in Cherryfield, Maine which is dedicated to the care of homeless, unwanted or displaced animals, and providing shelter and caring for them until the best placement can be made.



**Happy Dog in Cherryfield, ME**

The last 3 pet Angels went to shelters in areas devastated by natural disasters. Two went to California to towns affected by the recent wildfires. The last one went to Animal Rescue New Orleans, a no-kill shelter that is an outgrowth of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, when so many pets were separated from their owners, and individuals took it upon themselves to try to rescue the stranded and injured animals. Now a permanent shelter offers these same loving services, reuniting pets to their owners whenever possible, and finding new homes when it is not.

### *Angel Activity Connection*

In Michigan, Angels of Hope volunteers go monthly to nursing homes in the area to do Angel Activities with the residents. In the Summer months we made wonderful pop-up cards with Angels and flowers, with the message, "Celebrate Summer with the Angels." In June we went to Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange, IN, just across the state line. In July we were at Thurston Woods Village in Sturgis, MI. It has been wonderful for all! With the fundraiser in August, we didn't go to a nursing home, but have plans already for September!

