



**ANGELS
UNAWARE, INC.**
Residential Care for the Developmentally Disabled.

2012

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The Angels Ledger

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CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

NOW ON SALE



This beautiful, custom made brass ornament is approximately 4" tall, comes in a black gift box and is ready to be hung on your Christmas tree. Thanks to our supporters, Angels Unaware, Inc. ornaments have a wide circulation across the world. They have been used as gifts, attached to presents in place of a bow and have been sent to our troops in every major conflict since 1990. Each ornament is dated and ornaments are available from past years to complete your collection. We use the proceeds from our ornament sales to supplement our transportation costs. With the rising cost of gas and insurance, this fundraiser is an important one for Angels Unaware, Inc. Please order as many ornaments as you can to help us supplement these costs. We believe your friends, neighbors, and co-workers would be happy to receive these Christmas ornaments as gifts or would gladly purchase them from you to help our cause.

[Please click here to order ornaments.](#)

Thank you for your support.

Mission Statement

Angels Unaware, Inc. is a non-profit corporation operating in Hillsborough County, whose express goal is to provide quality professional residential group-home care and supported living services for severe and profound developmentally disabled individuals. We currently own and operate eight homes serving forty nine handicapped residents. Each home is highly specialized to serve the individual needs of its residents. Current training utilizes a behavioral management approach designed to meet the needs of each individual. A board of directors, made up of parents and concerned citizens from the community, governs the corporation.

Contact us

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A Word From Ross

From the Desk of Ross O'Banion, Executive Director

By the time you are reading this, many of you will be stuffed by copious huge amounts of turkey and dressing and pies, never knowing why or how we celebrate a day of Thanksgiving. It all started with the Pilgrims (102 plus sailors) leaving England on 9/6/1620 for the New World seeking both civil and religious liberty. About 2 months later, land was sited, and they arrived in Massachusetts. On December 11 they signed the "Mayflower Compact", and they started building hasty shelters. Nearly 1/2 died the first winter, but those that survived reaped a harvest the following summer. Grateful, they declared a 3 day feast on 12/13/1621.

In 1789, following a proclamation by George Washington, America celebrated the first day of Thanksgiving under their new constitution, but it was only celebrated on an individual state level. For 30 years, Mrs. Sarah Joseph Hale promoted the idea of a National Thanksgiving Day until Abraham Lincoln responded in 1863 setting aside the last Thursday of November as a national day of Thanksgiving. This continued for 75 years with each president annually declaring a national day. Then in 1941 Congress permanently established the day.

As we continue to celebrate Thanksgiving each year, I hope we retain the gratefulness to God displayed by our founders, and we remember the risk that they took. And then take a moment to reflect personally on the things in your life that you are thankful for. It will truly help your digestion at least, and who knows, may prompt you to do something a lasting as Mrs. Sarah Joseph Hale.

From all the consumers and staff of Angels Unaware, Inc. we would like to thank our supporters for their generosity this year. While it has been tough, we are prospering due to your support and prayers. May each of you have a blessed Holiday Season.

Ross H. O'Banion Jr. – Executive Director

**All of us at Angels Unaware, Inc. and The HALO Foundation
want to wish all of our supporters a very joyous and wonderful holiday season.**

**We appreciate your generous support throughout the year.
It is because of you that we are able to continue to provide the quality services
and care to the people that we all care so much about.**

Thank you and God bless you.



A copy of Angels Unaware's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free 1-800-435-7352 (refer to CH8732). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State of Florida.

A STATE AND LOCAL LEGISLATIVE FORUM ON DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Monday, December 3, 2012

Key Training Center

Lecanto, Florida

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For more information and reservations please call 795-5541, Ext. 311

Issues to be addressed will include:

- Seeking solutions to the budget cuts for providers serving developmentally disabled.
- Adequate funding for these clients on the Medicaid Waiver who are currently receiving services, both those receiving residential placement services and those living at home with their families.
- Serving thousands of individuals, current and future, on state waiting lists for core services such as supported living/employment, adult day training, and education.
- Serving young developmentally disabled adults transitioning from Florida's high schools into meaningful daytime activities and residential placement.
- Providing services for developmentally disabled persons who are also behaviorally challenged.

You are invited attend this forum at the Chet Cole Life Enrichment Center on the campus of the Key Training Center in Lecanto, FL. The morning session is from 10 a.m. to noon and will be formatted around questions to a panel of elected officials and representatives from state agencies who have a direct role in the operational strategies and budgeting processes which have such a critical impact on the wellbeing of the developmentally disabled. Lunch will be served from noon to 1 p.m. The afternoon session, from 1-3 p.m., will highlight a panel of local experts and officials discussing and fielding questions concerning how this community is facing the continued threat of diminishing funding and resources, which play a direct role in determining how the lives of those with developmental disabilities, may be at risk in the future. The forum is spearheaded by the Key Center Family Connection, an organization composed of parents and family members of developmentally disabled children and adults, and the Family Care Council for Area 13, an advocacy organization created in 1993 to address the needs of this population. Your prompt response is appreciated and can be made by a phone call to 795-5541, ext. 311 to reserve a seat at both sessions and lunch.

Scholarship Fund

If you have been a reader of our newsletter or a supporter of Angels Unaware, Inc. for any length of time, you are aware that we have a growing number of consumers that no longer have immediate family or relatives alive, or active in their lives due to age or illness. Angels Unaware has established a fund within our organization that helps those consumers without families. Throughout the year we use this fund to help our consumers have and enjoy the same things that others in the group home enjoy. These funds support their birthdays, holidays, vacations, trips to the movies, restaurants, and amusement parks. We occasionally have to use these funds to help repair a wheelchair or help purchase a needed piece of equipment. Sometimes we may have to help with a bill for a consumer.

We do utilize this fund throughout the year but due to the Christmas holidays, our greatest need is towards the end of the year. Perhaps you and your family may consider donating directly to the Scholarship Fund or consider providing Christmas for one of our consumers that no longer has any family alive or active in their life. Please [click here](#) to learn more or donate to this fund. As always, our guarantee to you is that of every dollar you provide to this fund will be spent directly on the needs of the consumers that we serve.



Angels Auxiliary

These organizations and individuals proudly support Angels Unaware.
God Bless our Donors.

The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, Inc./ Mary & Rodney Ingram Amvet Post 550
In Memory of Ragan Gibson - Martha P Estes Joyce Hatfield In Memory of Ragan Gibson - Dorothy Netherland
Karen Goforth Walker First Baptist Church In Memory of Ragan Gibson - Denise & Tommy Stamford
Tampa Bay Pro-Am Foundation Lois Placke In Memory of James Heir - Clifford & Cynthia Heir
Knights of Columbus Council #8612 Knights of Columbus State Council Siemens Caring Hands Foundation
Tampa Breakfast Sertona Club North Tampa Civitan Club In Memory of Jack Jordan - Jean Jordan
William Monfort Robert and Rosella Albano Connie Tatum Clifford and Cynthia May
Jerry and Marie Gibbs Mildred Tatum Brett Wadsworth Karole & Lawana Peace
The Talcott Family Foundation



Many thanks to our participating restaurants and all those who purchased a raffle ticket. This years raffle was a huge success.

The drawing was held at our October 16th board meeting
and all winners were notified by mail.
It is because of these restaurants that we are able to hold this important fundraiser.
Please stop by these restaurants and thank them for their support.

ABC Pizza
Champps Americana
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse
Maggiano's Little Italy
Outback Steakhouse
Pizza Villa Restaurant
Square One Burgers & Bar

Bonefish Grill
The Colonnade
Mimi's Cafe
Panera Bread
Red Lobster

Carrabba's Italian Grill
Cracker Barrel
Kon Tiki Restaurant @ Tahitian Inn
Mitchell's Fish Market
Pannaro Pizzeria Napoletana
Roy's
Tijuana Flats



The Agency For Persons With Disabilities Long Range Program Plan Fiscal Years 2013-2014 through 2017-2018

This document has 49 pages of information that everyone should take the time to go over. As we get ready for the next round of legislative sessions here in Florida it is important that you know where The Agency For Persons With Disabilities stands.

Don't be left in the dark.

APD Goals:

1. Efficiently manage Agency budget within fiscal allocation
2. Increase employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities
3. Increase access to community-based services, treatment, and residential options for persons on the waitlist and not eligible for the waiver
4. Improve management and oversight of Agency and provider services

APD Agency Objectives:

Objective 1.1: Develop Systems and Controls for Cost Containment

Objective 2.1: Increase Competitive Employment

Objective 3.1: Identify and Improve Access to Services and Supports

Objective 4.1: Develop an Integrated Quality Management System

[Click here to see APD's Long Range Program Plan.](#)

Angels Unaware needs your help!

Please check with your Tax Advisor and consider a donation to Angels Unaware, Inc. and the Developmentally Disabled we serve. Donations to Angels Unaware are eligible for tax exemption consideration and benefit subject to current tax laws. Our regular donors are reminded that donations must be post-marked by December 31, 2012 in order to be credited to the 2012 tax year.

Featured Veteran

Bill Monfort

96 years old

Hometown: Buena Vista, Georgia

Branch: U.S. Navy

Rank: Chief Petty Officer

Years of Service: 1935 - 1946

Commendations: Presidential Unit Citation, Letter of Commendation from Admiral Halsey
Philippines Liberation Ribbon, Various campaign ribbons.



Bill Monfort is one of the original board members for Angels Unaware, Inc. and still serves today. Bill remembers that moment aboard the destroyer USS Claxton on November 1st, 1944 like it was yesterday. His ship was causing havoc in the South Pacific battle of Leyte Gulf off the coast of the Philippines, when the crew's attention was drawn to an unmistakable sound. A Japanese kamikaze pilot was locked in on the ship's bridge and coming in fast.

"One of our 40-millimeter guns hit the wing and the plane veered off and missed the bridge," Monfort recalls, "but it did hit the ship and caused a lot of damage, knocking a hole about 30 feet long and 12 feet wide in the side of the ship along the waterline. For a while, we didn't know if we would float or sink."

The USS Claxton was Monfort's favorite duty station, despite the ship's penchant for always being in the middle of things. "I was on the ship when it was commissioned. I was on that ship longer than any other ship and I got to know the whole crew very well," he adds. "We were in some of the heaviest combat in the Solomon Islands, the Philippines, the Mariana Islands, Caroline Islands, Marshall Islands and Okinawa." For Monfort, his most rewarding moment in the service came when the war with Japan ended in September of 1945.

"For a while, it seemed like the war would never end," Monfort says. We had survived the kamikaze attack and the other battles, and we were standing by to invade Japan, but they dropped the atom bombs and that ended the war."

Monfort remembers with pride that in 1993, a new guided missile cruiser, the USS Cape St. George was commissioned by the U.S. Navy. "It was named for a battle that the five destroyers in our squadron fought on Thanksgiving morning in 1943," he says, honored that the Navy had not forgotten their valiant efforts.

- Kenneth Hall-