

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Shepherd Films™ & OakTara Publishers
Partner in Novelization of this
Heart-warming, Family-Friendly Film

COMING JUNE 1, 2012

footprints

Angels are real. Some even have fur.

“Forgiveness, loyalty, second chances, love. Catch this one!”—The Dove Foundation

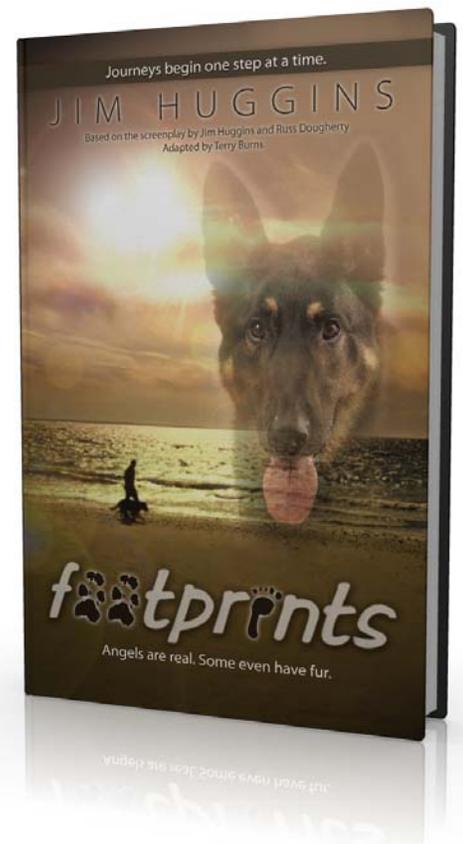
“Entertaining. Encouraging. The wonderful kind of story our troubled times need more of.”—Bob Kemp, *Renew America*

“Well worth watching!”—Ted Baehr, Publisher, *Movieguide*

Journeys begin one step at a time...and *Footprints* is the stunning story of a man and dog's shared journey through despair and abuse, to hope, forgiveness, love, and unimaginable outcomes that will forever transform their own lives—and the lives of all they touch. **Based on the critically acclaimed screenplay by Jim Huggins and Russ Dougherty** (New Shepherd Films™), and **adapted by veteran writer Terry Burns**, *Footprints* is a can't-afford-to-miss emotional read that will nestle in your heart long after you've turned the last page. It's guaranteed to leave you misty-eyed...and wanting more.

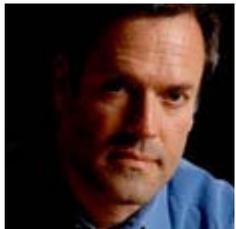
“Footprints is based on the true story of a man who finds the healing power of love only after he lost everything he'd valued and given up,” Jim Huggins, Co-Founder/CEO and Producer of New Shepherd Films™ says. “It's also the true story of a dog who learned to trust and serve only after she'd been abused and then discarded as worthless. As they experience the transformation of being unwanted to becoming cherished, they impact lives around them in ways only God could have imagined.”

“OakTara has always relentlessly pursued mind-stretching, heart-transforming, life-inspiring books, and we are delighted to publish this compelling tale of the redemptive power of love that will appeal both to a faith-based audience and to those who are simply looking for a good story...but will walk away with so much more,” says Ramona Tucker, Cofounder and Editorial Director of OakTara. *“Footprints* is for all those who ever felt unwanted, unloved, worthless, and lonely. It will touch your heart and open your eyes to God's surprises.”



Also available as a movie on DVD.
www.newshepherdfilms.com
www.footprintsmovie.com

About Jim Huggins:



Jim Huggins, a decorated Air Force officer, was Executive Officer for the largest directorate in Space Command, has worked in the Pentagon, was selected for HQ US Central Command in support of Operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch in Iraq and Restore Hope in Somalia, and shared his experiences with the next generation of Air Force leaders training in ROTC. He is known for his leadership, vision, dedication, and ability. A graduate of Squadron Officer School and Air Command and Staff College, Jim earned the Master Space Operations badge. His numerous personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Joint Service Commendation Medals, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. As an award-winning stage actor, experienced director, and professionally trained TV/Film actor, Jim recognized the keen need for family-oriented films in today's world and is passionate about focusing his talents on the world of entertainment. He and his wife, Leslee, and three children—Emma, David, and Samuel—live with their two rescued German Shepherds in Massachusetts.

About New Shepherd Films™:

New Shepherd Films™ is devoted to producing high-quality, family entertainment with Christian-oriented themes based on real-life events. Their desire is to entertain audiences with world-class creative talent and technological capabilities while at the same time tell true stories about God at work in everyday lives. Everyday. Psalm 8:6 is a guiding principle to the company as it focuses clearly on our stewardship and responsibility to all of God's creatures. Founded in 2009, New Shepherd Films, LLC, has quickly become a recognized leader in Christian entertainment. With more stories awaiting development, New Shepherd Films is here to stay! ▪ www.newshepherdfilms.com ▪ www.footprintsmovie.com ▪

About Terry Burns:



Terry Burns, a native Texan and the adapter of *Footprints*, has over 40 books in print, including his young-adult novel, *Beyond the Smoke* (JourneyForth), which won the Will Roger's Medallion, his collection of short works, *On the Road Home* (Port Yonder Press), and his *A Writer's Survival Guide to Publication*, formulated from a month-long course on the subject presented online to the American Christian Fiction Writers of America. He is included in a special collection of Christmas stories by some of America's top western writers today entitled *The Christmas Campfire Companion*. Terry, an agent with Hartline Literary Agency, is consistently listed near the top on the Publisher's Marketplace list of agents helping debut authors to publish. ▪ www.terryburns.net ▪

<http://hartlineliteraryagency.blogspot.com/> ▪

About OakTara and its cofounders:

OakTara was founded in 2007 by two veterans of the publishing world, **Jeff Nesbit** and **Ramona Cramer Tucker**, to step into the marketplace gap to provide dozens of writers with new opportunities—from first-time publication to widening the readership for already-established authors. "Our goal is to provide readers with something different, vibrant, and new—not 'just the same old thing' that they've seen, time and again, from other inspirational publishers." Since then, OakTara has produced over 250 titles, including fiction in all genres with both new and veteran writers such as Jack Cavanaugh, Doris Elaine Fell, Mark Littleton, as well as kicking off their nonfiction line in 2011 with two top releases: founder of EMI/Forefront Records Darlene Brock's *Help Wanted: Moms Raising Daughters* and the *NY Times* best-selling author of *90 Minutes in Heaven* and 120 other titles, Cecil Murphey's *Unleash the Writer Within: The Essential Writers' Companion*. ▪ www.oaktara.com ▪



Jeff Nesbit has written 19 inspirational, commercially-successful novels, including his latest blockbuster, PEACE, and the soon-to-be-released OIL (June 2012) for publishing houses such as Tyndale, Zondervan, Thomas Nelson, Harold Shaw (now WaterBrook/Random House), Victor Books (now part of David C. Cook), Hodder & Stoughton, and Summerside/Guideposts. He was a national journalist with Knight-Ridder and others, communications director to a Vice President of the United States, and a senior public affairs official at two federal science agencies. His public affairs consulting firm represented more than 100 national clients such as the Discovery Channel networks, Yale University, the American Heart Association, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the American Red Cross. He is cofounder and Managing Director of OakTara.



Ramona Cramer Tucker has been on the cutting-edge of publishing for over 29 years, in a wide variety of positions, including: Senior Editor, Tyndale House Publishers; Editor, *Today's Christian Woman* magazine and Executive Editor, *Virtue* magazine (Christianity Today, Int'l); Editorial Director, Harold Shaw Publishers (now WaterBrook/Random House); as a freelance writer, editor, editorial strategist for Simon & Schuster, Random House, Viking-Penguin, Zondervan, Nelson, Baker/Revell, InterVarsity, Howard, David C. Cook, HarperCollins, Barbour, Summerside/Guideposts, and other publishers. She is cofounder and Editorial Director of OakTara.