

PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ANNOUNCES 13TH ANNUAL “CASAblanca – DANCING WITH THE LOCAL STARS”**

Peoria, IL – **Who will be voted the best celebrity dancer in the Peoria area? Find out on Saturday, November 3, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. at the Par-a-Dice Hotel Casino Ballroom**, when CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit presents its largest fundraiser, the 13th Annual “CASAblanca – Dancing with the Local Stars.” The dance competition features nine Peoria-area dignitaries, business leaders, and celebrities, each paired with a talented instructor.

The 2018 Dancers helping to make a difference for abused and neglected children include:

- **Dr. Mike Cruz, OSF HealthCare**, with Janessa Birkland, dance instructor
- **Ryan Hite, Eagle Rock Insurance Services**, with Tamra Challacombe, dance instructor
- **Arron McCall, CrossFit North Peoria**, with Emily West, dance instructor
- **Valerie Moehle, Attorney at Moehle, Swearingen & Lobacz, Ltd.** with Richard Smith, dance instructor
- **Rachael Parker, Peoria County Board, Sweet Cakes by Rachael**, with Mike Hinchman, dance instructor
- **Hania Sohail, Strong Law Offices**, with Kwesi Osafo, dance instructor
- **Dr. Randy Sutter, OSF HealthCare**, with Elena Paine dance instructor
- **Dave Templin, Caterpillar**, with Lexi Zellmer, dance instructor
- **Kristy Valerin, Valerin Dental**, with Tyler W. Smith, dance instructor

Do you have a favorite dancer? The general public can vote for dancers (in the form of dollars donated) to determine the “2018 People’s Choice Award.” Each dollar donated equates to one vote. So, donate \$25 and your favorite dancer receives 25 votes. Visit our website at <http://www.casapeoria.org/CASAblanca/CASAblanca-vote.html> to vote!

The Critics’ Choice Award will be awarded at the event based on judges’ scores and donations received that night. We’re pleased to have the following judges participating:

- **David Desmond, Peoria Toyota**
- **Wayne Menold, Morton Community Bank**
- **Zan Ransburg, Community Volunteer**
- **Dr. Elizabeth Rose, OSF HealthCare**
- **Mystery Judge:** Winner of Bid to “Be-A-Judge,” a special opportunity for an audience member to be a judge on the night of the event.

The Honorary Chair is **Adam Hawks** of Hilltop Wealth Management of Raymond James & Associates with co-chairs **Teri Cook** of Cook Travel and Cruise and **Karoline Seitz-Goddard** of Central Illinois Bank. The evening's Emcees are **Ashley Bradshaw** of Green Ford, and **Matt George**, CEO, The Children's Home Association of Illinois. CASAblanca features food, cocktails, and the competitive dance contest. Sponsors of this year's CASAblanca include: Par-A-Dice Hotel and Casino, OSF HealthCare, Central Illinois Bank, CORE Construction, Hilltop Wealth Management of Raymond James, CMFI, DRAKEphoto, Natural Concepts Salon Spa and Lisa Murphy Web Design. Call the CASA office at 309-669-2939 to learn how to become a sponsor of "CASAblanca-Dancing with the Local Stars."

Tickets may be purchased for \$200/person or \$1,800/table of ten by calling the CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit's office at 309-669-2939.

For more info see:

www.CASAPeoria.org

www.facebook.com/CASAPeoria

About CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit FKA CASA of Peoria County (www.casapeoria.org)

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the Tenth Judicial Circuit is a 501(c)3 non-profit, volunteer organization that advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the Juvenile Court system. Its existence is based on the belief that every child has the right to a safe and permanent home allowing them the chance to reach their full potential in life. The organization has been serving abused and neglected children since 2005. CASA is supported by Heart of Illinois United Way, Caterpillar Foundation, VCVA IL Attorney General, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority with VOCA funds, and generous donors.

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