

CASA OF PEORIA COUNTY

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In this issue

CASAblanca 2015 Coverage <u>2-3</u>

Next Training, Court Calendar, & Welcome to New **Staff Additions**

Leave a Loving Legacy 5

Training Sponsors 6

Holiday Giving 7

CASA Voice

The Official Newsletter of CASA of Peoria County

From the Desk of the Executive Director — THANK YOU!

It has been such a great honor to be a part of CASA of Peoria County for the past ten treasure to grow CASA of Peoria Couty. years, and it has been so amazing to watch CASA's mission grow and be supported by the community. I'd like to pay tribute to all Board and volunteers. of those who helped CASA provide services T_0 – All the past and present committed and to many children in our community:

To – National CASA for giving us great support and resources and to holding us to stan-children in court. dards to deliver the best advocacy.

financial support and the talent to lead our time to often difficult and painful situations small organization.

enabled us to leverage 20-30% growth annually in the number of children served.

too numerous to name here, who year after office when they need help — because they year continue to believe in the CASA mis- know we are there for them, although their sion.

not only collaborate with services for many of the same children but have provided us CASA to speak up for them in court. with great support and mentorship.

To – All past and present Board Members who have dedicated their time, talent and

To - The Advisory Board, lead by John Amdall, who share their expertise with me, our

talented staff members who strive to aid our volunteers in being a consistent voice for

To – The amazing volunteers who take on To - Caterpillar Foundation for ten years of this challenging work, who commit their — and who don't give up on hurting children To - The United Way for accepting CASA and families. They are our Everyday Heroes! as a member agency four years ago that has To - The average foster child, who changes schools nine times by age 18.

To – The two young women who aged out of To – Our many event sponsors and chairs, the system but who still drop by the CASA cases have closed.

To - The wonderful non-profit leaders who And last but not least, To - All the abused and neglected children who depend on their

— Pamela Perrilles

Welcome to the October 2015 Volunteer Class!



Pictured from left to right: Front row — Bertha Mize-Jackson, Mandy Fobar, Patrice Purfield. Back row — Stacy McGava, Tricey Martin, A.J. Langley, Phillip McKenzie, Folanda James, Chris Shaw, Karin Fatheree, James Dalton.

CASA of Peoria County's Biggest Night Ever

CASAblanca 2015-Dancing with The Local Stars Generous Donors Sponsor Advocacy Costs for 95 Children!

Par-a-Dice Hotel Casino, November 7 – CASAblanca 2015, our primary fundraiser for the year, was a funfilled evening of entertainment to raise awareness of our organization. The evening featured local "Celebrities" dancing with dance specialists from Central Illinois. Local "Celebrity" judges rated each performance and along with the audience voted to determine the winner.

(Please click on the links for videos of the awards ceremony and the dance performances.)

Winners of the "2015 Critics' Choice Award"

People's & Critics' Choice Awards Ceremony

Laurie Pearl Cain, Keller-Williams Realty with Instructor Tyler Smith, Miss Laura's School of Dance Laurie Pearl Cain and Tyler Smith

Winners of the "2015 People's Choice Award" (pre-event voting)

Kim Hauer, VP & Chief HR Officer, Caterpillar Inc. with Instructor **Allen Eskridge**, Sinclair Dance Studio Kim Hauer and Allen Eskridge

Runners up of the Local Stars and Dancing Pros:

Greg Gerontes and Erica Franken
Josh Herman and Janessa Birkland
Beth Jensen and Jon Young
Liz LaHood and Ryan Renner
Garth Leggett and Katie Hollandsworth
Mayor Gary Manier and Emily West
Chris Monroe and Jennifer Morris

Congratulations to all our dancers for a great performance!

We extend special appreciation to our Judges:

Dawn Bozeman, Community Leader, President of Dunlap School Board Sally Wilson Erny, Chief Program Officer, National CASA Association Steve Jackson, President, Prairie Home Alliance Mary Ellen van Buskirk, Owner of Brunswick House Ltd.

"Mystery Judge" John Bearce, Owner of John Bearce Companies

Special thanks for a job well done to our Honorary Event Chair, **JR Runkel** of Fortner Insurance, Co-Chairs **Aneta Youngblood** and **Teri Cook**, and to our Co-Emcees **Amy Paul** and **Matt George**, CEO of Children's Home Association, who also served as the event's Auctioneer, Sponsors of CASAblanca included: **The Smith Team at Keller-Williams Premier Realty, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Par-A-Dice Hotel and Casino, Essential Wellness Pharmacy, G&D Integrated, and CGN Global. Many thanks to all of our table sponsors, child sponsors, and guests who shared in this exciting event!**

A big thank you to those who sponsored the cost to serve 95 children this year!



From left: Teri Cook, JR Runkel, Pamela Perrilles, Adrian Olteanu & Aneta Youngblood



Matt George



Bryson Smith (foreground) who sponsored 9 children!



Greg Gerontes & Erica Franken



Critics' Choice Award Winners **Laurie Pearl Cain** & Tyler Smith



Beth Jensen & Jon Young



Janessa Birkland & Josh Herman



People's Choice Award Winners Allen Eskridge & Kim Hauer interviewed by Amy Paul



Liz LaHood & Ryan Renner



Garth Legget & Katie Hollandsworth



Emily West & Mayor Gary Manier



Chris Monroe & Jennifer Morris

Photos courtesy of Chastity Cassidy

Announcing

CASA of Peoria County's January 2016

Training Class

January 23 - February 1

at the classroom facilities of

AMT

(Advanced Medical Transport)

1718 N Sterling

West Peoria

Class Schedule

Saturday Jan 23 9:00 am — 5:00 pm

-		-
Monday	Jan 25	5:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Tuesday	Jan 26	5:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Wed	Jan 27	5:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Thurs	Jan 28	5:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Saturday	Jan 30	9:00 am — 5:00 pm
Monday	Feb 1	5:30 pm — 8:30 pm

(Note: Meals are provided for all classes.)

Swearing-In Ceremony

(Date and time to be determined)

Hon, David Brown

Juvenile Abuse & Neglect Courtroom

Peoria County Courthouse

324 Main St

Room 424

For more information, or to apply to be a volunteer, please contact:

Lisa Brinker

Advocate Supervisor

LBrinker@peoriacounty.org

309-669-2939

Speak up for a child!



Volunteers' Court Calendar

December 15, 2015 to March 30, 2016

DECEMBER 2015		1-7	1:15 p.m. Charlotte	2-18	1:30 p.m. Cathy D.
		1-8	1:00 p.m. Phyllis	2-18	1:45 p.m. Kyleen
12-15	1:15 p.m. Aloysia	1-12	1:15 p.m. Maryland	2-19	1:00 p.m. Bryson
	& AJ	1-13	1:30 p.m. Deb D.	2-22	9:00 a.m. Steven B.
12-15	1:45 p.m. Diane	1-14	1:30 p.m. Lisa	2-23	1:15 p.m. Mary H.
12-16	1:30 p.m. Kathy M	1-15	1:00 p.m. Karlene	2-25	1:30 p.m. Kim K.
12-17	1:15 p.m. Rebecca	1-20	9:30 a.m. Heather		
12-17	1:45 p.m. Barb	1-20	1:45 p.m. Selena	MAR	CH
12-17	2:30 p.m. Latorria	1-21	9:00 a.m. Kay		
12-17	3:00 p.m. Becky	1-26	1:15 p.m. Russell	2.1	0.20 D.1.0
12-21	1:15 p.m. Charlotte	1-26	1:45 p.m. Leslie K	3-1	2:30 p.m. Bob &
12-21	2:00 p.m. Vanessa	1-27	1:00 p.m. Elizabeth		Kate
12-21	2:30 p.m. Lyndsay	1-27	1:30 p.m. Kim G.	3-2	1:45 p.m. Kay J.
	& Patty	1-28	3:00 p.m. Ed S.	3-2	2:15 p.m. Scott
12-22	1:00 p.m. Mark W.	1-29	1:15 p.m. Heather	3-2	2:30 p.m. Scott
12-22	1:00 p.m. Ellen T			3-7 3-7	9:00 a.m. Ruth A.
12-23 1:30 p.m. Britta		FEBR	FEBRUARY		2:15 p.m. Scott
12-29	1:15 p.m. Diane			3-8	1:30 p.m. Ruth
12-30	2:00 p.m. Alberta	2-1	9:00 a.m. Kara	3-8	2:00 p.m. Mike C.
	•	2-3	1:00 p.m. Kathy M.		1:30 p.m. Randy R.
January 2016		2-8	1:15 p.m. Rakeitta	3-10 3-10	1:45 p.m. Elizabeth
		2-9	1:45 p.m. Connie		2:00 p.m. Marti A.
		2-10	9:30 a.m. Nick M.	3-15 3-15	1:30 p.m. Paul
1-4-16	9:00 a.m. Tom	2-11	1:15 p.m. Charlotte	3-15	2:00 p.m. Donna S.
1-4	9:30 a.m. Linda M.	2-16	9:30 a.m. Kathy M.	3-13	3:00 p.m. Mark W.
1-5	9:30 a.m. Mark W.	2-16	1:15 p.m. Stacy M.	3-24	1:15 p.m. Sue M. 1:45 p.m. Ed K.
1-6	1:00 p.m. Heather	2-16	1:30 p.m. Alan &	3-24	3:00 p.m. Summer
1-6	1:30 p.m. Tammy		Jill	3-24	1:30 p.m. Chidu
1-6	1:45 p.m. Tom B.			3-27	1.50 p.m. Cindu



Lisa Brinker



Charlotte Sizer

Please Welcome Our New Advocate Supervisors As many of you know, this past August, field for over 20 years and looks for-CASA of Peoria County hired two new ward to continuing her career to further Advocate Supervisors. Lisa Brinker's the best interests of children in need. experience as a CASA volunteer, along with her mentoring of new employees at position on December 15. We are happy her previous job, makes her a perfect fit that he will remain as a CASA volunteer for her new role at CASA. Charlotte for the children he serves and gratified

Scott Williams is leaving his Sizer has been a social worker in the that he is joining the Advisory Board!

Leave a Loving Legacy

<u>Planned Giving through your will</u>: You can create a legacy of hope for vulnerable children through a planned gift to CASA of Peoria County.

Bequests Through Your Will

A bequest to CASA of Peoria County is one of the most effective and simplest ways to make a lasting impact on the lives of vulnerable children. You may specify a specific amount or a percentage you wish to give. If you would like to make such a gift to CASA of Peoria County, you may include language similar to the following:

"I, [name], of [city, state, ZIP], give, devise and bequeath to CASA of Peoria County a nonprofit public benefit corporation having its principal office at 324 Main Street, Room 215, Peoria, IL 61602, [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] to be used for the furtherance of its charitable purposes in the discretion and at the direction of its Board of Directors for its unrestricted use and purpose."

If you are considering making a gift by bequest, please meet with your attorney to discuss the ramifications and, if appropriate, to update your will. Please let us know if you have included CASA of Peoria County in your estate planning.

CASA of Peoria County 324 Main St. Room 215 Peoria, IL 61602 (309)669-2939

Page 5

We're on the Web! www.casapeoria.org www.casaforchildren.org

CASA of Peoria County gives Special Thanks to:

CATERPILLAR

Caterpillar

PEORIA

Heart of Illinois United Way





Illinois Attorney General Violent Crime Victim Assistance Grant







Spons	sor a Child	! Give	Them a	Voice!
I would	would like to support a like to make a one-tim \$50\$100 \$250	e gift:	•	•
inv	I am interested in le I would like to give olved: Board Member CASA volunteer Other volunteer Help with Special Other:	of my time.	Please contact me	about being
Name:				
Phone # ()			
Address:		City:		, IL
Zip:				
Email Address:				
The best time to	reach me is during	day or _	evening.	
Method of Payn	nent:: VisaMaste	rCard	Check #	
Account Number Expiration Date	er: Sec. code	::		
Name as it appe	ars on card:			
	Make checks payablurn to: 324 Main Stre		5, Peoria, Illinois 6	51602

Our Mission

The mission of CASA of Peoria County is to advocate for abused and neglected children in Peoria County through the services of specially trained community volunteers.

Thanks to our Volunteer Training Meal Sponsors ...



















Adams Street Cafe & Catering 107 SW Adams St.



and to the excellent classroom facility of



Save Lives. It's what we do.

Another way you can support the mission of CASA of Peoria County.



Donor Information: Name:				
Address:				
City:	State: Zip:			
Email:	Phone:			
	n Credit Card Stock Other			
Expiration Date:	Credit Card Type:			
Authorized Signature:				
Please make our gift in: Name: Address:				
City	State: Zip:			
Email:	Phone:			
I (We) wish to have our gift remain anonymous. Please make gifts payable to: CASA of Peoria County				
	324 Main Street, Room 215			
	Peoria, IL 61602			

Or go to www.casapeoria.org to make gifts on-line

From the 282 children, served by
132 CASA volunteers from
12/1/14 to 11/30/15:
"We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"