



Change a Child's Story™

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit
casa@peoriacounty.org
309-669-2939
www.CASAoftheTenth.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ANNOUNCES WINNERS of CASAblanca – DANCING WITH THE LOCAL STARS

The 14th Annual CASAblanca Dancing with the Local Stars was a fun-filled evening of entertainment to raise awareness of CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit and its mission. It featured local "Celebrities" dancing with Dance Specialists from Central Illinois, with judges rating each performance.

The dancers were vying for two awards. The People's Choice Award was given to the couple that accumulated the most votes based on dollars raised through sponsorships, ticket sales, donations, and online voting. The Critics' Choice award was given to the couple that accumulated the most votes based on the judges' scores and audience votes. For only the 2nd time in CASAblanca history, one couple won both awards!

People's Choice Award & Critics' Choice Award
Mike Unes with Instructor Emily West

Runners-up included:

Kelly Giraudo, Butler, Giraudo & Meister, PC, with instructor Richard Smith
Katie Kim, The Kim Group, with instructor Allen Eskridge
Ryan LaCosse, Cumulus Radio, with instructor Sophie Challacombe
Theresa Murphy, OSF HealthCare Foundation, with instructor Todd Cook
Mark Plunkett, MD, OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois, with instructor Lexi Zellmer
Deborah Roethler, City of Peoria, with instructor Ron Pruse
Wendy Wagner, Washington Chamber of Commerce, with instructor Mike Hinchman

Congratulations to all our dancers for a great performance!

In appreciation of extraordinary service and devotion to CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, the Judy Morris Memorial Kappa Alpha Theta CASA Community Award was presented to Steve and Maggie Jackson, Prairie Home Alliance.

We extend gratitude to our **Judges**: R. Rennie Atterbury III, William Baker, WTVP, Tara Perry, National CASA/GAL Association, Sally Snyder, and "Mystery Judge" James Kemper, Demonica Kemper Architects.

Special thanks for a job well done to Honorary Co-Chairs **Adam Hawks** and **Arron McCall**, Co-Chairs **Teri Cook** and **Karoline Seitz-Goddard**, and Emcees **Ashley Bradshaw** and **David Desmond**. CASAblanca was made possible through the support of: Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino, OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois, CIBM Bank, Hilltop Wealth Management of Raymond James, David Vaughan Investments, John Bearce Family, Philippi-Hagenbuch, WTVP, Peoria's 92.3, DRAKEphoto, and Lisa Murphy Web Design. Many thanks to **all** our table sponsors, child sponsors, guests, and volunteers who shared this exciting night with us!

A big Thank You to those sponsoring the cost to advocate for a child.
We've reached 150 and still counting!

For more info see:

www.CASAoftheTenth.org

www.facebook.com/CASAoftheTenth

About CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit FKA CASA of Peoria County (www.CASAoftheTenth.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, VCVA IL Attorney General, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority with VOCA funds, Illinois Court Appointed Special Advocates, and generous donors. CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit is a Member of the National CASA/GAL Association.