



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**

**CASA OF PEORIA COUNTY**

December 2014

Vol. VI , No. 4

# CASA Voice

The Official Newsletter of **CASA of Peoria County**

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Dominique Alexandre

Terry Pyatt

Michael Zerneck

## Bookkeeper

Irene Nafziger

## CASAblanca 2014



*“Here’s looking at you, kid!”*

Generous donations at CASA of Peoria County’s annual  
*Dancing with the Local Stars*  
will allow us to serve 63 more children in 2015!

As Karoline Seitz-Goddard’s 6-year-old son Mitchell says, “We can’t stop dancing because we need to keep raising money to help the kids!”

## CASA Welcomes August 2014 Volunteer Class



Pictured from left: Stephanie Marshall, Summer Sletten, Mark Wiltz, Tika Sardin, Cyd-Ella Edmonds, Russell Fahlberg, Latorria Brock, Kim Kliethermes, Rakita Netters, and Geri Winkler. Not pictured: Donna Stout

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**WINNERS of the 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL****“CASABLANCA - DANCING WITH THE LOCAL STARS”**

*Par-A-Dice Hotel* – CASAblanca 2014 was a fun-filled evening of entertainment to raise awareness of our organization, as well as being our primary fundraiser for the year. The evening, attended by almost 500 people, featured local "Celebrities" dancing with Dance Specialists from Central Illinois. Local "Celebrity" judges rated each couple's performance and, along with votes by the live audience, selected *The Critic's Choice* Award winners. Pre-event online voters chose *The People's Choice* Award winners.

A big thank you to those who sponsored the cost to serve 63 additional children in 2015!

**Winners of the “2014 Critics Choice Award”**

JR Runkel, Fortner Insurance Agency, Inc., with Dance Instructor Ellen Cook,  
Ms. Laura's School of Dance LTD.

**Winners of the “2014 People's Choice Award” (pre-event voting)**

Elizabeth Khazzam of Elizabeth Khazzam Design, with Dance Instructor  
Ed Caballero, Independent Dance Instructor

**Runners-up of the Local Stars and Dancing Pros included:**

Jennifer Behnke with Jon Young  
Kevin Cassulo with Kathryn Hollandsworth  
Matt George with Beverly Caballero  
Karoline Seitz-Goddard with Apollo Shaw  
Zack Weaver with Dominique Alexandre

**We extend special appreciation to our Judges**

Lesley Matuszak, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria  
Michael Piraino, CEO, National CASA Association  
Ian Poulis, Artistic Director, Peoria Ballet (Mystery Judge)  
Michele Sullivan, President, Caterpillar Foundation, Caterpillar, Inc.

**Special thanks to our co-chairs Teri Cook and Aneta Youngblood!**

**Emcees: Sandy Gallant & Greg Batton Auctioneer: Dusty Polhemus**

**Sponsors of CASAblanca included:** PricewaterhouseCoopers, Par-A-Dice Hotel and Casino, Essential Wellness Pharmacy, G&D Integrated, Heart Technologies, CMFI, Memories By Aida Photography, and Lisa Murphy Web Design.

**Many thanks to all of our event sponsors, table sponsors, child sponsors, and guests who shared in this exciting event!**



*CASAblanca 2014 Local Stars & Dance Instructors, from left:*  
**Matt George & Beverly Caballero, Jon Young & Jennifer Behnke, Beth Khazzam & Ed Caballero, Kathryn Hollandsworth & Kevin Cassulo, Zachary Weaver & Dominique Alexandre, JR Runkel & Ellen Cook, Karoline Seitz-Goddard & Apollo Shaw**



*Pictured clockwise from top left:* **Judges Ian Poulis, Lesley Matuszak, Michael Piraino, and Michele Sullivan (standing, Emcee Greg Batton); Matt George and Beverly Caballero; Kathryn Hollandsworth and Kevin Cassulo; Karoline Seitz-Goddard and Apollo Shaw; Ed Caballero and Beth Khazzam; Jon Young and Jennifer Behnke; Ellen Cook and JR Runkel; Zach Weaver and Dominique Alexandre.**



*At CASAblanca 2014 , Everyone was a Star!*



L to R: Annie Bell, Mark Bell, Gary Henricks, and Laurie Weaver



Debbie and Dr. Jim Olsson



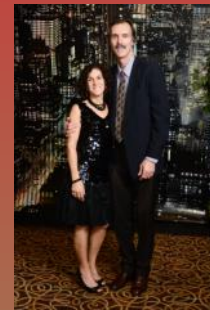
Michael Zerneck and Greg Birkland



L to R: Alexis Khazzam, Dr. Sarah Zallek and Beth Khazzam



L to R: Mimi Volmar, Dominique Alexandre, Yvonne Greer and Roberta Simpson



Janice and Dr. Michael Zagardo



Nick and Steve Schauble



Diane Hand and Kathleen Monge



Brittney Morales and Jennie Perrilles



L to R: Michael Zerneck, Dominique Alexandre, Executive Director Pamela Perilles, Irene Nafziger, and Terry Pyatt

# Welcome to Our November 2014 Class!



*Pictured front row, from left: Karla Williams, Katherine Wilkerson, Maryland Gess, Lisa Brinker, Diane Powers, Patsy Hurst, Doug Eccles, Connie Campbell, Vanessa Harris, Deb Golden; Back row, from left: John McAlpin, Scott Williams, Nick Schauble, Emma Bailey, and Karlene Jones. Standing, Judge David Dubicki.*



## Court Calendar

December 15, 2014 to March 30, 2015

12-15	9:00 a.m.	Rakietta	1-13	1:30 p.m.	Aloysia	2-19	1:15 p.m.	Dominique
12-15	9:00 a.m.	Justin	1-14	1:15 p.m.	Phil	2-19	3:00 p.m.	Verneaka
12-17	1:15 p.m.	Laura	1-20	1:45 p.m.	Chuck	2-23	9:00 a.m.	Steven B.
12-19	1:00 p.m.	Patty M.	1-20	2:30 p.m.	Judy J.	2-23	9:00 a.m.	Terry P.
12-22	9:30 a.m.	Linda	1-22	9:30 a.m.	Nick S.	2-24	1:15 p.m.	Pat T.
12-22	11:30 a.m.	Rakietta	1-23	1:15 p.m.	Clair	2-26	1:15 p.m.	Tom
12-23	1:30 p.m.	Mark & Michael	1-29	1:30 p.m.	Michael M.	2-26	2:45 p.m.	Jody
1-5-15	3:00 p.m.	Kay W.	2-5	2:00 p.m.	Judy S.	3-1	1:30 p.m.	Terry T. & Tika
1-7	9:00 a.m.	Sharon & Geri	2-6	1:00 p.m.	Marti	3-12	1:30 p.m.	Gwen
1-7	9:00 a.m.	Debbie O.	2-6	1:15 p.m.	Joe H.	3-17	1:30 p.m.	Mike C.
1-7	1:15 p.m.	Susan M.	2-6	1:30 p.m.	Theresa	3-18	1:15 p.m.	Kay J.
1-7	2:45 p.m.	Scott	2-10	1:15 p.m.	Paul	3-19	1:30 p.m.	Ed
1-8	1:15 p.m.	Emma	2-10	1:30 p.m.	Russ	3-26	1:15 p.m.	Randy
1-8	1:15 p.m.	Kim K.	2-11	1:45 p.m.	Summer	3-26	1:30 p.m.	Stephanie
1-8	1:30 p.m.	Tammy	2-13	1:00 p.m.	John D.	3-30	1:15 p.m.	Dominique
1-8	2:15 p.m.	Sue M.	2-18	1:45 p.m.	Kim G.			

Thanks to our Volunteer Training  
Meal Sponsors ...



Adams Street Cafe & Catering  
107 SW Adams St.

... and to our Training Facility  
at Advanced Medical Transport!  
1718 N Sterling  
Peoria, IL 61604



**Advanced  
Medical Transport**  
of Central Illinois

*Save Lives. It's what we do.*

# Leave a Loving Legacy

Planned Giving through your will: 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

We're on the Web!  
[www.casapeoria.org](http://www.casapeoria.org)  
[www.casaforchildren.org](http://www.casaforchildren.org)

### CASA of Peoria County gratefully acknowledges



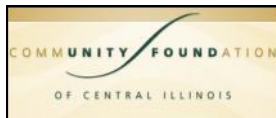
IL Attorney General  
Violent Crime  
Victim  
Assistance  
Grant



City of Peoria  
Community  
Development  
Block Grant



Member of the  
National CASA  
Association



### Bring A Voice to a Child

Yes, I would like to support a CASA Child for one year @ \$100 per month.  
 I would like to make a one-time gift:  
 \$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in learning more about CASA.  
 I would like to give of my time. Please contact me about being involved:  
 Board Member  
 CASA volunteer  
 Other volunteer  
 Help with Special Events  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_, IL  
Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The best time to reach me is during \_\_\_\_ day or \_\_\_\_ evening.

Method of Payment:: Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Sec. code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:** CASA of Peoria County  
**Return to:** 324 Main Street, Room 215, Peoria, Illinois 61602

THANK YOU.  
**Make A Difference!**

### 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.

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



**Donor Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contribution form:** \_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_ Credit Card \_\_\_ Stock \_\_\_ Other  
 Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make our gift in:** \_\_\_ Honor Of \_\_\_ Memory Of  
 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](http://www.casapeoria.org) to make gifts on-line

From the 241 children,  
 served by 105 CASA  
 volunteers in 2014 ...  
 ... We thank you from  
 the bottom of our  
 hearts!