



The CASA Voice

CASA: Putting Children First October 2014 Issue

CASA For the Highland Lakes Area: Serving Blanco, Burnet,
Lampasas, Llano and San Saba Counties
1719 Ridgeview
Kingsland, TX 78639

CALL THE CASA
OFFICE TODAY FOR
YOUR TICKETS TO
OUR BOOTS AND BBQ
FUNDRAISER! THIS
FUNDRAISER IS
SCHEDULED FOR
NOVEMBER 8TH!
SEE PAGE 2 FOR
MORE DETAILS.
RAFFLE TICKETS ARE
ALSO AVAILABLE
AND YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO BE
PRESENT TO WIN!!!!

In This Issue

Boots and BBQ Information	2
CASA Happenings	3
Volunteer Spotlight	3
Applause to Advocates	4
Special Announcements	4
Thank you, Donors	5
CASA Mission/Vision	5
Our mailing list	5

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 23rd–25th: Texas
CASA Conference in
Galveston. Contact the
office if you are
interested in attending!
- Nov. 8th: Boots and
BBQ: CASA Fundraiser
at Cadillac Dance Hall in
Marble Falls. Contact
the office for tickets to
the event and for raffle
tickets as well.
- Nov. 15th: Adoption Day
in Burnet! This is a
great event for the kids
being adopted. You will
not want to miss the
opportunity to see such
happy outcomes for our
CASA kids, so contact
our office if you want to
help with this exciting
event!
- December 6th:
Christmas Party for our
CASA kids. Contact our
office if you are
interested in helping by
donating items for this
event.

Headline News:

Gearing Up for Boots And BBQ!!!



We are gearing up and getting ready for our Boots and BBQ dinner, dance and raffle scheduled for November 8th! Pictured above: Kathryn Stephenson, Office Manager, and Glenda Hartman, Advocate Supervisor, show off one of our raffle items. This nice YETI cooler was donated to us with YETI paraphernalia accompanying it! If you purchase raffle tickets for our Boots and BBQ event, you may soon be the proud owner of the YETI cooler, 2 YETI cold cups, 2 YETI caps, YETI stickers and YETI koozies! These items are just one of the many great raffle prizes that have been donated to CASA for our fundraising event. Don't miss out on the fun, contact our office today to purchase event tickets and raffle tickets!

Boots and BBQ Raffle Items Include:

YETI Cooler Package (described above); Custom made His and Hers Boots; Side of Grass-fed Texas Beef; Guns; Dove Hunt; Weekend Getaway to New Braunfels; Catered dinner for 12 in your home; Spirit Wagon - toy wagon filled with various liquors; Western Jewelry and a Consuela Bag! Need not be present to win! \$5/ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BOOTS & BBQ

benefiting CASA for the Highland Lakes



NOVEMBER 8, 2014

CADILLAC DANCE HALL

1375 FM 1855

MARBLE FALLS, TEXAS

6:30 TO 11:30PM

- *BBQ DINNER 6:30 TO 8PM
- *BEER & WINE SALES
- *BOOT SCOOTIN' & TWO STEPPIN'
TO THE MUSIC OF LES HARTMAN



Reservations \$30/person or \$50/couple

Raffle \$5/ticket or \$20 for 5

**RAFFLE ITEMS TO INCLUDE: CUSTOM "HIS & HER" BOOTS
YETI COOLER, RIFLES, WEEKEND GETAWAY AND MUCH MORE!**

FOR TICKETS CALL 325*388*3440



It might seem early, but the Holiday Season is just around the corner and at CASA we are already planning Christmas for our kids! If you wish to donate items for our kids for Christmas please contact us today!!!!

CASA Happenings!



Pictured Left: CASA Staff at the Dabbs Hotel in Llano on Sept. 23rd for "Cheers for CASA". From left to right are: Kathryn Stephenson, Office Manager; Kristen Harris, Executive Director; Karon Justice, Program Director; and Galyn Woerner, Advocate Coordinator.

Pictured Right: CASA Staff - an "Incredible Team"! Top Left to Right: Kathryn Stephenson; Karon Justice; Michele Boshears; Amy Masuda and Beverly Bowmaster. Bottom Left to Right: Glenda Hartman, Kristen Harris and Galyn Woerner.



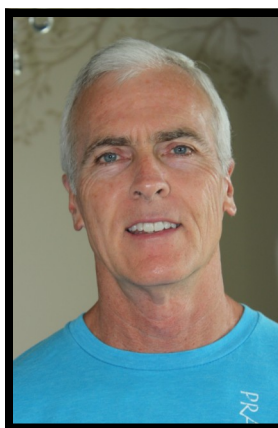
Volunteer Spotlight:

Meet Dave Johnson, one of our Burnet County Volunteers

Dave Johnson has served a total of 6 children on 3 different cases through CASA since he took his first assignment in July of 2013. Dave completed his volunteer training in June of 2013 and jumped right in!!!!

Dave does a great job working with his CASA kids. He has worked with all boys so far through CASA, ranging in age from 3 years old to teenagers, so if you have a question about how to help young boys, Dave might just have an answer!!!

Something you might not know about Dave, he's not originally from Texas. He grew up in New York and Pennsylvania and graduated from Purdue in Indiana! Before retiring from ExxonMobil he lived in Houston with his family, but Burnet is where he and his wife chose to retire! We are lucky to have him in the Highland Lakes Area!



Thank you, Dave, and to all of our advocates, for the difference that you make each day in the lives of our CASA kids!!

Sincerely, Your CASA Staff

When asked what made him decide to be a CASA advocate, Dave stated that his wife, Debbie, and he are blessed with 6 children and 9 grandchildren. Because of his family, he's had a lot of experience working with kids. He stated that he feels that our CASA kids are in tough situations through no fault of their own and should have the same kinds of opportunities that his own kids and grandkids have had. Dave feels that volunteering with CASA is one way to help children get to a better place in life and that, he says, is worth his time and effort. He adds that he had a lot of encouragement from a coworker of his in Houston, who was already volunteering as a CASA advocate.

When asked what the most surprising thing has been for him since volunteering with CASA, Dave states that he has been impressed by the extraordinary passion by all involved in the child welfare system - Judges, CPS workers, attorneys, counselors and CASA staff and volunteers!

Applause to Advocates!!!!!!!



Our Advocates do amazing things each and every day. Here are just a few things that we at the CASA office have been amazed about over the past month!!!!!! Let's give each of these volunteers a great BIG round of APPLAUSE!!!!!!

Happy Birthday to Our Advocates and Staff!

Sandra Chapman
October 6th

Mayrean McDonough
October 6th

Galyn Woerner
October 6th

Jacy Lewis
October 10th

Vicki Strevey
October 15th

Cynthia Turner
October 16th

Cindy Lomicka
October 19th

Debbie Kane
October 21st

Michele Boshears
October 29th

Jolly Schram
October 30th

- Let's give a big round of applause to **Debbie Kane**, who is currently assigned to 2 CASA cases! One of her CASA kids is an infant with multiple medical issues and **Debbie** has accompanied the caregiver to numerous doctors appointments to help support the caregiver and ensure that the child's medical needs are met! Thank you, **Debbie Kane**, for your hard work and dedication to this child!
- Another applause is in order for **Keva Weir**, who has been working with a developmentally-delayed 3-year-old. **Keva** noticed early on in this case that the child might be delayed in speech and she advocated for an evaluation, despite others stating that the evaluation was not necessary. Because of **Keva Weir's** advocacy in this area, a hearing problem was diagnosed and this child is now getting necessary treatment in order to address the issue! Thanks, **Keva**! You have truly helped this child to have his hearing restored and his speech improved!!!!
- Theresa Sivells** is another volunteer particularly deserving of applause! **Theresa** is a graduate of our most recent volunteer training class and she has jumped right into her case! **Theresa** did an amazing job recently in advocating for therapy for her CASA kid. She went above and beyond by seeking out therapists in her child's area and helping to get this service set up. She made countless phone calls to help and her persistence is much appreciated!!!!
- One more round of applause this month to **Paula McGregor** who went with a CASA staff member on a Tour of Texas. This trip totaled more than 700 miles and while out on this tour **Paula** and our staff made 6 stops to visit with CASA kids and ensure that they are doing well. Thank you, **Paula**, for taking a trip to make sure our kids have what they need!

Special Announcements

- We are still accepting Sponsorships for our Boots and BBQ fundraiser, so contact our office if you want to support CASA while advertising your sponsorship!
- Boots and BBQ Fundraiser for CASA will be held on November 8, 2014, so mark your calendars and contact our office today for tickets. Raffle tickets are also available and you do not have to be present to win! See the list of raffle items on page 1 of this newsletter!!!!
- Adoption Day in Burnet County was a big hit last year and is a lot of fun! Adoption Day this year is scheduled for November 15th, so mark your calendars and let us know if you want to help out in some way!
- CASA for the Highland Lakes Area, in conjunction with the area Child Welfare Boards, will be holding the annual Christmas Party for all children in foster care from our 5 county area. We are seeking any gift donations for our CASA kids. We need new toys, new clothing and gift cards! If you are interested in donating any of these items please contact our office quickly, as we need to have all donations in hand by mid-November at the latest because the Christmas Party is scheduled for December 6th.

CASA WISH LIST

Gift Cards for Teens in Care

Paper Products for the Office, including plates, plastic cutlery, and paper towels

Snack Items for our Training Classes - next class starts October 21st



CASA For the Highland Lakes Area

Thank You to All of Our Donors!!!! With Special Thanks to the Following:

Wayne Anderson
Central Christian Church
The Church at Horseshoe Bay
Hal and Sue Harton
Christ Redeemer Fellowship

*Thank you to the following for sponsoring our upcoming "Boots and BBQ Fundraising Event:

The Picayune and KBEY FM Radio
Corner Drug Store - Llano, TX
Kathy King Kasperek
Bartz Office Solutions, Inc.

*More Sponsorship Opportunities are still available, so please contact our office if you are interested.

Our Mission:

The mission of CASA For the Highland Lakes Area is to recruit, train and supervise court appointed volunteers to advocate for children who come into the court system as a result of abuse and neglect. Those volunteers, who serve as

Guardians *ad Litem*, will make recommendations to the court, based on fact finding and investigation, in the best interest of the child.

Our Goal:

That every child that enters into foster care in our 5-County Area continue to be able to be served by our CASA Program. No child should go without a CASA to advocate for their needs!!

Become a CASA today!!!!

Be In The Know: Get the CASA Voice Newsletter!!!!

We are pleased to provide this CASA newsletter each month to all of our CASA Volunteers, Board Members, CASA Friends and supporters!

If at any time you decide that you want to be removed from our email list, please send an email to the following email address and you will be removed from our list:

kristen@highlandlakescasa.com

If you or someone you know would like to be added to our email list, please send a request to the same email address.

We have every respect for your privacy, and we will not share your information with any person on business.