

A CHILD'S VOICE



CASA OF NORTHEAST TENNESSEE

Advocate Spotlight-

David and Cynthia Frazier

CASA volunteers usually are individuals dedicated to serving children but sometimes they come in two's. Among the five couples volunteering with CASA, the Fraziers advocate by combining their strengths to serve children with their warmth and wisdom. Read for yourself David and Cynthia's reasons for serving as CASA volunteers:



PURPOSE

When my earthly Time and Mileage is past,
And my Final Report has been filed at last,
I face my Judge and hear Him say,
"Account for your life along the way.
What have you done to be welcome here?"

I was a CASA volunteer.

-contributed by David and Cynthia Frazier

"David and I have retired from regular jobs but we certainly have not retired from life. We work as a team because it takes two of us to do the same job as one normal CASA volunteer. I tend to be the one who waltzes out into the meadow chasing butterflies, and David is the one who points out the cow pies along the way. David and I were in the same homeroom in high school, met again after forty years, and fell in love. Life had taken a few punches at both of us, but it took the good and the bad to prepare us for the next segment of our lives.

So why work with CASA? As a retired teacher, I know how hard life is for some children, and David has pointed out often how fortunate we were to have been raised in loving families. It sounds trite to say that we wanted to make a difference in this world, one child at a time, but that's pretty much the way we see it. Besides, where else could we meet some of the most caring, quality people we have ever met? Thanks CASA!!"



We are making preparations for our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament at the Johnson City Country Club on Monday August 25, 2008. The day will be fun-filled. It will be a day for you to help us move forward the CASA program and its awareness in our Community. Come out and support this event and make it possible to advocate for our innocent, abused and neglected children.

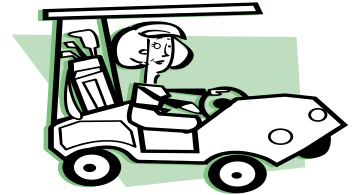
3rd Annual Golf Tournament

Lunch will be provided by the Firehouse Restaurant at 11:30am followed by a shotgun start at 12:30 pm.

The Tournament will be a 4-person scramble format. There will be prizes for the winners, including the longest drive and closest to the pin. All participants will be eligible for a door prize gift at the conclusion of the Tournament. The awards ceremony will follow play. The fee for the day is \$110 per person or \$400 for a team of four.

This year there are many opportunities for **Sponsorships** still available; Gold \$1500; Silver \$1,000; Bronze \$750. All Tournament sponsorships include 4 players and appropriate recognition of the sponsor. Hole sponsorships are available for \$250 and cart sponsorships for \$50.

Please call the office (423-461-3500) or Bob McGough (423-952-4625)



3rd Annual Red Shoe Gala

Food, fun, and great things to buy, what more do you want? What's that? You want to be a little crazy too? Well we have got the ticket for you. Mark **Friday, October 10, 2008**, on your calendar for the 3rd Annual Red Shoe Gala to be held at the Johnson City Country Club. Doors open at 6:30 pm and close up when everyone stops dancing.

For those who have not made it to one of our Gala's; you will have an opportunity to enjoy a great meal, bid on various items from vacations to jewelry to tools during our silent auction, dress up yourselves and your shoes, and even do a little dancing. On top of all of that, you will have the opportunity to win prizes and you might even win a beauty contest . . . well, maybe not a beauty contest, but one of several contests for those with red shoes. We don't discriminate, so bring your pretty, your ugly, or your pretty ugly red shoes along and don't worry about looking a little crazy, as you'll be among good company.

Don't forget-the fun starts Friday, October 10th, so mark your calendar and spread the word among your friends. Additional information and invitations will be sent out in September. Start planning your red shoe design because you don't want to be the only person all dressed up without your red shoes!



A Smokin' Fundraiser

First Annual BBQ Greeneville Picnic

Where there's smoke, there's fire. Thankfully though, the smoke was not coming from someone's fiery house, it was coming from a tasty BBQ. Our first homemade, genuine smoked, pulled pork BBQ fundraiser was completed in June. We sold over 82 pounds of the smoked, pulled pork in pre-orders which does not include the sale of the extra meat cooked and sold after the Greeneville picnic BBQ we had in May. There were only smiles and full stomachs from those who purchased the tasty BBQ. We were so successful this year that we will have to find a larger smoker for next year.

A very special thanks is given to Ingle's for the supplies, John Cantrell for use of his smoker and time, Kristen Gregory and Andrew Kovacs for helping us pull the pork. Many thanks to all those who supported our first annual BBQ and made it a success.

If you missed some of the best tasting BBQ this year, remember to be looking for it again next year with the start of the summer. Trust us, it's going to be smokin'.

CASA Community Awareness Activities

CASA of Northeast Tennessee understands that our efforts only exist with the support and resources of our community. To help increase understanding of our work at CASA of Northeast Tennessee, we participate in various community events. During May and June we participated at the Greeneville Iris Festival, KidPower at the Gray Fairgrounds, and Child Safety Week at Wal-Mart in Johnson City. In July, we participated in the First Annual Non-Profit Expo sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of Johnson City. Thanks to the many volunteers who gave their time to assist us in these events and to Licia Mercurio who has recently joined CASA of Northeast Tennessee as an AmeriCorps VISTA Member focusing on Community Awareness and Resource Development.

A Fond Farewell...

We would like to offer congratulations to Amy Lewis on the birth of her baby boy, Quaid, born on July 9, 2008. This event is also bittersweet for us as Amy has made the decision to spend more time with her family.

Amy was instrumental to CASA of Northeast Tennessee's growth and stability. In addition to recruiting and training over fifty advocates, she guided advocates in case preparation, supported them in court and provided an ear when they were overwhelmed. Amy also worked at promoting CASA Northeast Tennessee at many functions and assisted in many administrative duties.

We have been fortunate to have Amy connected with our organization and wish her all the best.

Stephanie Sanders, Executive Director
Tabitha Ebbert, Volunteer Coordinator

Robert G. McGough's Exit—

"I had the privilege of serving with CASA from the time it became an independent organization in 2003, serving as the first President, Acting Executive Director, Treasurer, Member of the Board and as an Advocate. Facing many challenges and successes provided me many great memories as our focus centered on helping at-risk children in our three county area. CASA has progressed from a small organization to a strong, vibrant community service organization. That journey has been rewarding and enjoyable.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the folks that helped in this transition. A very special thank you goes to my wife, Charlene McGough. Her dedication and success to fundraising was inspiring. Charlene was out on the firing line starting events that have become the backbone of our current fundraising events.

To all my fellow Board Members over the years, thank you for all your support. To the dedicated staff, you have been a shining star in the sky of CASA's success. There will always be a soft spot in my heart for all the Advocates. The Volunteers are where the rubber meets the road and without their caring dedication, CASA could not exist.

Together real progress has been made. The future looks bright for CASA of Northeast Tennessee. I wish you all the very best and ask that you continue your dedication to the children that are so greatly in need of CASA's voice.

Thanks again for all your support and all you do."

From the CASA Staff, Advocates, and Board:

Thank you for the many years of committed service to the mission of CASA. Every fundraiser, solicitation for donations, every night and weekend spent in behalf of the growth of this program will never be forgotten. Thank you Bob.

CASA Welcomes Six New Volunteers

We are very pleased to announce the addition of six new advocates to the CASA of Northeast Tennessee Volunteer Family. We are so proud to welcome Kevin Grindstaff, Cassie Sentelle, Bob & Diane Strimer, and Stephanie Witt. They are all very anxious to serve as Volunteer Advocates for the children of Northeast Tennessee. For information on becoming a CASA Volunteer Advocate please contact the CASA office at 423-461-3500 or 423-638-5028.

Children Served by CASA of Northeast Tennessee

Fiscal Year 2007-2008	<u>229</u>
Greene Co.	111
Unicoi Co.	15
Washington Co.	103



"CASA provides an invaluable service that is the eyes and ears for the judge and the voice for the child in court, because I can't be there to see what is going on in the child's life. Volunteers have helped hundreds of children in Washington Co. find safe and permanent homes in which they can thrive. Making decisions for abused and neglected children is the hardest thing we deal with as Judges in the Juvenile Court System."

Judge Robert Lincoln
Washington County

CASA SAYS THANKS:

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK OUR DONORS:

AT&T Employees
James Brading
Jeff Benedict
John & Cindy Cantrell
Gilbert Carter
Carver Recreation Center
Mike Cohran
Jerry Crowder
Patte Earley
Jeff & Pam Frazier
Mary G.K. Fox Foundation
Eddie & Michele Gass
Nancy Gentry
Kristen Gregory
Greene Co. EMA
Greene County United Way
Greeneville Women's Club
Ingle's—Greeneville
Johnson City Honda
Johnson City Housing Authority
Jonesborough Kiwanis Club
Andrew Kovacs
Martin Kramer

David & Carol Lee Logan
Brian & Rhonda Mann
Tim & Rachel Mann
Bryan & Amy Martin
Steve Miller
Catherine Murray
Rotary Foundation of Johnson City
Michael Russo
Speedway Children's Charities
Target— Johnson City
Tennessee Commission on
Children and Youth
Time & Pay
Wal-Mart— Unicoi County
Wal-Mart #3829 Jonesborough
Mary Woods

Dan & Angela Delprincipe
In Honor of :
Max Amoss

Volunteer Center-Greeneville
In Honor of :
Darlene Tenney

Dr. Les Bryant
Grace Place
Gary Slone
Fern Shelton
Ernie Cullop
Andrew Sanders
Licia Mercurio
Rona Cohen
Christ Fellowship Church

In Memory of :
Katherine McGough

We would like to say thanks to each and everyone of you who gave so generously of your time, money, and efforts, in support of CASA. Because of you, we are able to train more advocates and sustain the operating costs incurred. Because of such generous donations we will be better equipped to advocate and assist the Juvenile Courts to keep at risk children safer.

**CASA OF NORTHEAST TENNESSEE
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Johnson City Office: 423-461-3500

Greene Co. Office: 423-638-5028

CASA deeply appreciates the support of those receiving our newsletter. However, if you do not wish to receive future issues, please either call the CASA office at 423-461-3500, or send an e-mail to admin@casanetn.org.