

## Need a speaker?

CASA can provide a compelling speaker for your organization.

Call us today at 926-3642.

We're anxious to tell our story!



## A child in foster care just wants a family of her own.

Being placed in foster care is a frightening experience for any child and many are moved from one home to another before permanent placement is found or they return to their families. Children want families of their own and though it isn't guaranteed, CASA works hard to achieve just that. In the interim, CASA provides children with the comfort and peace of mind that someone is there for them—advocating for what is in their best interests. Your tax deductible donation will help make it possible for hundreds of abused and neglected children in foster care to have an advocate—and a voice—during a very difficult and confusing time.



**Yes!** I would like to help abused and neglected children in our community. Enclosed is my contribution for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please accept this donation in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_.

Memorial

Honorarium

Please acknowledge this gift in your next newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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# The Alliance



The newsletter of Newport News Court Appointed Special Advocates

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**Carol H. Berg**  
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Amia Barrows  
 Volunteer Training Coordinator

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## CASA supports Newport News "Stand for Children"

Although the rains came, so did the children and their families as the Newport News Office of Human Affairs sponsored the 9th Annual Stand for Children Parade and Festival on June 3rd in downtown Newport News. The theme for this event was

"Stand for Children: Stand for Safe Communities." Newport News CASA used the opportunity to educate visitors about the history and mission of the Newport News CASA Program and the need for more volunteers to be the powerful voice for the many powerless children in our community.



L-R: CASA staff and volunteers Kathleen McConnell, Joyelle Saunders, and Kofi Amanin

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4 Helping Our Cause



Above: Amia Barrows, Volunteer Training Coordinator

## CASA welcomes new Volunteer Training Coordinator

*The Director's Chair*  
 Carol Berg, Executive Director

Newport News CASA is pleased to announce the addition of Amia Barrows as Volunteer Training Coordinator.

Amia is not new to CASA. Sworn as a CASA volunteer in March 2004, Amia has advocated on the part of Newport News children in six different cases. Her professional experience as a Healthy Start family support worker with Healthy Families Partnership in Hampton and as a family services worker with the York County Children's Services Head Start program have provided her with the skills she will need to continue her professional career here at Newport News CASA. In addition to her work with Healthy Families and Head Start, Amia has served as a relief counselor with the York County division of Crossroad's Youth Home.

When asked what she brings to CASA Amia replied, "I'm passionate and CASA has empowered me. I'm excited when I can share information and ideas and I believe I can steer volunteers toward success."

Want to know more? Visit our website at [www.nncasa.org](http://www.nncasa.org)

## Old Point National Bank becomes first CASA Beach Ball Sponsor

Old Point National Bank “kicked off” the major sponsor list for CASA’s Second Annual Beach Ball special event, scheduled for September 29, 2006 at the James River Country Club with a \$2,500 gift. Steve Hussell of Old Point National Bank recently presented the check to CASA Board members Sharon Van Luyn-Prater and Mary Katherine Hogg.

For more information on how you or your company may participate as event sponsors, please contact Mary Katherine Hogg, Board President at 873-4696. The future of any community depends on its children and the children depend on you. After all—shouldn’t childhood be like a day at the beach?



Pictured left to right: Sharon Van Luyn-Prater, Steve Hussell, Mary Katherine Hogg.

## VOLUNTEER *Spotlight*



Kathleen McDonnell

### Kathleen McDonnell

Kathleen McDonnell was sworn in as a CASA volunteer in February of this year and is currently assigned to two cases serving three children.

Kathleen currently works as an intern at Newport News CASA as she pursues her degree in Human Services at Old Dominion University. Kathleen wanted to become a volunteer a couple of years ago because she wanted to help children in a direct capacity instead of “behind the scenes.” Married for two years to Captain Dan McDonnell, USAF, Kathleen comes from a large family of five brothers and two sisters—all residing

on the West Coast. Kathleen is originally from Arizona and admits to being “completely homesick” but she loves living in Virginia and especially enjoys hanging out at the River Walk in Yorktown. Kathleen says that she and her husband are trying to take advantage of the historical sights and recreational activities such as kayaking. Newport News CASA is proud to have Kathleen McDonnell as a volunteer advocate.

### Kim Humphrey

Kim Humphrey was sworn July 7, 2004 as a new volunteer and since then has advocated for three children, volunteering over 220 hours of her time. Kim has also helped Newport News CASA raise money and collect School Tools for CASA children through her affiliation with Leadership Virginia Peninsula.

Kim is one of five siblings and moved frequently as a child due to her father’s service in the Army. She graduated with a degree in Business Administration from Nazareth College in Rochester, New York and currently owns and operates her own business, Signed, Sealed & Delivered at City Center in Oyster Point. Kim has received her fourth appointment as an Examiner by the Board of Directors for the U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Award, which evaluates and recognizes Virginia organizations for effective productivity practices. Kim is also a certified General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Mediator and is currently doing volunteer mediations in Virginia Beach General District Courts. Newport News CASA is proud to have her as a volunteer advocate.



Kim Humphrey

## Current Beach Ball Sponsors

### Starfish Sponsor \$2,500

- Old Point National Bank
- Mary Katherine Hogg
- Wachovia Securities

### Flip Flop \$500

- Michael and Danielle Remy
- Long and Foster

### Advocate \$250

- Link, Jacobs and Link, DDS
- Abbitt Management
- Towne Bank

### Friend \$100

- Susan Levy, Mary Kay Cosmetics
- Dr. Beth Skorupa, Back in Action Chiropractic
- Nat “King” Colter, Hall Ford and Automotive
- The Belgian Chocolatier and Beanery
- George Gori-Fit Bodies Unlimited
- Diane Carter
- Barbara Chaffin, NAI Harvey Lindsay
- David Wright, Capital Financial Mortgage
- Det. And Mrs. Jesse L. Thrower
- Dave Walenlus, Dynamic Sound & Video
- Lori Jones, At Home Appraisals
- Wendy Laster, Miller, Walsh and Kutz
- Bruce Breeger, Coastal Data Forms

### Auction Item Sponsors

- Capt. Hogg’s Charters, Medik’s Market, Aromas,
- The Lunch Bell, Coldwater Creek, Hauser’s
- Jewelers, The Perfect Setting, Cities Grille,
- Al Fresco’s, Ohm’s Spa Sanctuary, Chaffin
- Interiors, Wild Wings., Chaffin Interiors, Jimmie
- Laster Jr., Mole Hole, Jos. A. Banks, Freedom
- Boat Club, Distinguished Flags

## Annual CASA Volunteer Recognition Event Held

Deer Park in Newport News served as the location of the annual Newport News CASA Volunteer Recognition on April 29, 2006. It couldn’t have been a nicer day or a more fitting occasion to honor the tireless efforts of our program volunteers. In 2005, CASA volunteers donated 5,826 hours which was equivalent to \$103,632.00 in paid professional time. The support they provided to 219 children affected by abuse and neglect

truly made a difference in our community. Also part of our annual recognition activities is the awarding of the Charles M. Pope Advocacy Award. This award is given to one volunteer, one Guardian ad Litem and one Department of Social Services worker for diligence and commitment to children assigned to the CASA program. This year’s recipients received the award from Stuart Pope, son of Charles M. Pope.

Volunteer honors went to Rosemary “Posy”



Above: CASA Executive Director Carol Berg presents one of the Charles M. Pope Advocacy Awards to Guardian ad Litem Darrell Miller.

Walton, Guardian ad Litem honors to Darryll Miller, and DSS Worker honors to Corrie Dalton.



Above: CASA Executive Director Carol Berg thanks volunteer Mary Lou Henry at the annual Volunteer Recognition Event.

## Congratulations are in order

CASA congratulates Rick Kerns, Guardian ad Litem for the 7th Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, who has been selected to receive a judgeship in the 7th General District Court in August 2006.

## CASA/DSS Brown Bag Lunch

Due to the summer months and schedule of volunteers and DSS staff, we will be scheduling our next Brown Bag Chat for August 2006. Please contact Joyelle for more information at 926-3644.



## Food Lion Shop-and-Share

Members of the community who shop at Food Lion and use the MVP Card can purchase their groceries and have monies donated to Newport News CASA. For instance, if Food Lion customers spend \$25 in groceries, behind the scenes Food Lion makes a donation to the charity identified by the customer. This year Food Lion requires 25 cards linked to a charity to have donations made. We need your help! Please go to this link: <http://www.foodlion.com/IntheCommunity/ShopAndShare/default.asp> and link your MVP card to Virginia, Newport News, Court Appointed Special Advocate Inc. Once the program has 25 cards linked, we will be activated to receive funds! For more information, contact Carol Berg at 926-3643.

## BIRTHDAYS

### March

- Mackenzie Abridello 3/27
- John Borden 3/18
- Sylvia Brickhouse 3/28
- James Brown, III 3/23
- Dana Dority 3/15
- Valerie Duling 3/19
- Sylvia Jackson 3/07
- Tameka Washington 3/26

### April

- Nina Simone Lee 4/04
- Linda Waller 4/11
- Suzane Moton 4/12
- Carol Berg 4/16
- Aliscia Thibodeaux 4/16
- Genay Rancorn 4/20
- Patricia Taylor 4/20

### May

- Posy Walton 5/01
- Deborah Gray 5/02
- Ellen Thompson 5/15
- Vanessa Starkey 5/18
- Andrea Robertson 5/22

### June

- Jenni Horner 6/09
- Lisa Hines-Sutton 6/10
- Cynthia Owens 6/25
- Marilou Henry 6/29