

# CLAY COUNTY CASA OPEN HOUSE



On April 21, 2009 the Friends of Clay County CASA held an after hours Open House at the Clay County Juvenile Office to honor volunteers for their years of service to the children of Clay County. April is CASA Appreciation month and we know how important volunteers are for children who come

into care due to abuse and/or neglect. We appreciate you taking time to have a relationship with a child or children who have come to the attention of the Juvenile Office and need help in navigating through the system. This Open House was our way of saying thank you for all you do for the children of Clay County, Missouri.

If you haven't already picked up your Clay County CASA pocket calendar, you may stop by the Juvenile Office Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and pick one up. If you want to pick one up between 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M., please call Carole Shost at (816) 736-8434 to make arrangements.

Newsletter for the Clay County Court-Appointed Special Advocates

## THE CASA CONNECTION

### L'OREAL VOLUNTEER WOMEN OF WORTH NOMINATIONS DUE JULY 13

No doubt there are more women than we could count among our CASA/GAL volunteers who should be nominated for the 2009 L'Oreal Paris Women of Worth award.

Every day, women of worth inspire us. We hope to inspire you to nominate them. Tell L'Oreal Paris about a woman whose volunteer work is making a beautiful difference in her community. The company may award a

donation of up to \$25,000 in her name to support the charitable cause of her choice because "we're all worth it!" Nominations may be submitted until July 13. Visit [womenofworth.com](http://womenofworth.com).

### MAY WAS FOSTER CARE MONTH

According to the National CASA website ([NationalCASA.org](http://NationalCASA.org)), Foster Care Month originated in 1988 through the efforts of the National Foster Parent Association.

The main focus of the early efforts was appreciation and

recognition of the tremendous contributions of foster parents nationwide. Today, Foster Care Month is national organizations working to raise awareness and remind us of the hundreds of thousands of children in our

country who need loving families and safe homes. For more information go to the National CASA website.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!!!!!!!

During the first half of 2009 the following CASA's have had birthdays:

**January** - 5th Brandas Murphy, 7th Kris Roberts, 17th Wendy Bridges, 18th Janet Nation, 22nd Serena Eichoff, 25th Shannon Gunter, 29th Lisa McElwee, 31st Richard Valenta.  
**February** - 3rd Joletta Rose, 18th Mike Oiler, 28th Joy Elliott.

**March** - 13th Mary Goldammer, 25th Joe Miller, 27th Keri Brewer. **April** - 15th Leslie Strickland. **May** - 4th Mary Libeer, 10th Nancy Morgan, 13th Jennifer Jeffries, 18th Sharon Fletcher, 19th Laura Schmidt, 23rd Jackie Rapp, 24th Erica Venancio, 30th Dawn Yderstad.

**June** - 2nd Paula Venhoff, 9th Nancy Pierce, 12th Debbie Pickett, 13th Jim Cleaveland, 20th Sandy Gardner, and 25th Kelly Paterson. Happy Birthday to all of you!!!!



## GRADUATION 2009

The 2008-2009 school year has come to a close and the following CASA kids (or kids who have had a CASA in the past) have graduated from high school: Heather Ison, Amanda Martin, and Cristina Conarty. Heather Ison graduated from Winnetonka High School. She plans on attending college at Missouri

Western to study the arts. Amanda Martin graduated from Booneville High School. The day of graduation was one of the best days of her life! She plans on continuing to attend Vocational Rehabilitation and working in the community. Cristina Conarty graduated from

Ruskin High School. She plans attending the University of Missouri at Kansas City. Way to Go!!!!!!!!!! Congratulations to all of them!

***THE FUTURE IS IN SIGHT***



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Neglect Hotline: (800)392-3738



## JUST A REMINDER...

☺ The next AFCC Lunch and Learn topic is Utilizing Mediation to Establish Permanency for Children. It is set for **Wednesday, July 15, 2009** from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the R. Kenneth Elliott Children's Justice Center 351 E. Kansas, Liberty, MO. Bring your own lunch. If you are interested in attending this free program, please call the CASA Office to let us know you will be attending.

☺ Upcoming In-Service training is set for: **Tuesday, July 21, 2009.** The topic will be Effective Team Playing and Advocacy. Please remember the training starts at 5:30 P.M.

Remember you need 12 hours of In-Service training a year.

☺ The Friends of CASA Board meets the third Thursday every other month at 5:00 P.M. at the Juvenile Office. The next meeting is set for **July 16, 2009.** You are welcome to attend these meetings.

☺ The 2009 Missouri CASA Conference is coming up in October 2009. We will let you know the dates as soon as we know the dates!

☺ If you decide to donate money to the United Way, you can designate it to go to Clay County CASA, and the money will come to us.

☺ If you have not already provided a copy of your valid driver's license and valid insurance card, please either drop it off, make a copy and mail it, or email it to us.

☺ Don't forget funds can be requested from the Friends of CASA Board if a child you are working with **needs** something (i.e. cultural activities, swimming fees, sports fees, graduation fees).

# MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH!!! GET INVOLVED!

Go to the website  
[fostercaremonth.org](http://fostercaremonth.org)  
to learn more.

