

CASA sets up carnival fundraiser

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Posted: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 10:30 pm

By Dalondo Moultrie New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung |

While a Ferris wheel and maybe some other rides will be absent, April 4 will be a night filled with thrills when Court Appointed Special Advocates of Central Texas holds its Carnival for a Cause in Kyle.

The carnival-themed event is promised to be a fun-filled fundraiser to benefit CASA as well as enlighten attendees to the work that CASAs do, said Eloise Hudson, community relations coordinator for CASA of Central Texas.

"It's also to raise awareness for CASA and the need for more volunteers," she said. "It's to honor two judges that support the children that we see in the courtroom and CASA as an organization."

The honored guests are district judges Todd Blomerth of the 421st Judicial District and Jack Robison of the 207th Judicial District for their support in the fight against child abuse, Hudson said.

Blomerth's district is in Caldwell County. Robison's district includes parts of Caldwell, Comal and Hays counties.

Hudson said in his dealings with cases involving children, Robison reads the information CASA presents, listens to volunteers and is also fair-minded when making decisions.

"We appreciate the warm and comfortable presence Judge Robison provides in court," CASA of Central Texas Executive Director Norma Blackwell said. "In the midst of addressing very serious issues, he always has a smile and respectful greeting for the people that stand before him on child protection cases, including our CASA volunteers."

Carnival for a Cause is scheduled to begin 6:30 p.m. April 4 at Texas Old Town in Kyle, 1205 Roland Lane in Kyle. The night will include dinner, silent and live auctions, carnival acts and live music by Tin Roof.

The auctions will include jewelry from James Avery and Americus Diamond as well as vacation packages and other items. Sponsorships are still available.

CASA volunteers are appointed to children who are confirmed victims of abuse or neglect. Volunteers independently investigate cases and provide recommendations to family court judges, advising them of what is in the child's best interest.

In 2013, CASA volunteers served more than 420 children in Caldwell, Comal, Guadalupe and Hays Counties, according to information released from the organization.

Tickets are available and may be purchased in advance online at www.casacentex.org or over the phone at (830) 626-2272.

To become a CASA or just get more information, contact the organization at at the number and website above.

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