



A Big Heart for Casa

Casa Youth Shelter didn't even exist when its number one fan, Kenny Brandyberry, first started helping kids. Just 18 years old and an assistant manager at a Smart & Final in Los Angeles, Kenny recalls the day a man came in looking for a sponsor for one of his Little League baseball teams. Kenny recalls, "He had five teams and a deadline and I said, 'Give me all five!' I knew I had a winner, right? I had the first-, second-, third-, fourth- and fifth-place teams!" The sponsorship came out of his own pocket, because Kenny knew first-



This year, Kenny grew \$56,000 for Casa in his backyard.

hand what sports could mean for kids who had little money.

As a boy living in Bell, a modest community about 20 miles north of Los Alamitos, Kenny

cut lawns and collected bottles to raise his own funds to buy a bat and glove to play ball. His playing continued from Little League through his Air Force days. Not surprising to those who know him, he was a pitcher then and he never tires of pitching today. Even in his Smart & Final days,

Kenny was gregarious and engaging, and customers would line up and wait for him to serve them, saying, "We'll wait for the kid." He came to the Los Alamitos/ Cypress area, and leveraged his outgoing personality by tending bar at a place called Gopher City. Later, as owner of the Red Rooster in Cypress, where he sold beer for 25-cents a glass, he sponsored the Continental Little League. Because the name of a bar on the players' shirts wasn't appropriate, his teams were simply called "Ken's."

A modest beginning

Kenny eventually opened the Starting Gate in Los Alamitos, and was a local business success for 27 of his 43 years in the bar business. One of the Starting Gate's first promotions was a chili cook-off, and with its modest proceeds, he looked for a nearby charity to contribute to.

"Casa Youth Shelter was close by," Kenny says, "so I walked over there and met Luciann and gave

her the \$300. You'd have thought I gave her three-million! She was so appreciative, it was absolutely unreal. They showed me through the house – and meeting sweet Myldred was the icing on the cake. I knew right there what charity I'll always be involved in."

Sixteen summers

Always helping the kids, Kenny just finished his 16th Annual Party-of-the-Year fund raiser. With some 200 of his closest friends, his backyard miniature golf tournament raised \$56,000! The one-day event, always the Sunday after Father's Day, takes an entire year of preparation, and he spares no expense with abundant food and an open bar. The proceeds come from the admission tickets, raffle items and silent auction treasures. And the event expenses? Kenny covers them himself. Every penny collected for the party goes to Casa's kids. With this year's results, his total donation over the 16 years now exceeds a half-million dollars! Having good friends who sponsor high ticket opportunity drawings helps, too. His passion for the cause has captivated Danny Rayburn, Dapper Charlie Slaymaker and Alex Varonos who have taken up the

banner and contributed \$1,000 in gasoline, \$1,000 of groceries, and an all-expenses-included Hawaiian vacation.

The pizzas delivered

This year, good friends Alex and Lee of Valentino's Pizza in Los Alamitos did something extraordinary. As a kick-off to

Kenny's big party, Valentino's offered an extra-large, two-topping pizza for just \$10.00 every Monday in

A Big Heart for Casa continues on page 7



Alex Varonos and Kenny at Valentino's Mondays in May



Lee Alanouf made many of the 430 pizzas for Casa.

Save the Dates

Casa Connection Poker Party
August 15, 2009

Youth Development Teen Summit
August 20, 2009

American Legion Steak Dinner
August 28, 2009

Commander's Centennial Ball
October 3, 2009

Holidays on the Boulevard
November 8, 2009

Memories of Myldred



Lt. Myldred E. Jones,
1945

A treasure found in Myldred's home after she passed away was a collection of remembrances written to her in 1945. Lt. Myldred E.

Jones was being detached from the War Correspondence Unit on June 18, 1945 and was feted with some touching farewell prose and poetry.

To: Lieutenant Myldred E. Jones

1. Your departure is deeply regretted by those whom you leave behind. But, we'll carry on in the Navy's true spirit with your shining example in mind.

2. Enclosed herewith are our wishes for all of life's very best, and hope that you'll not forget us when you return to your home in the West.

3. Medals are given for valor to our men when their battles they've won. To you for your unceasing devotion, we extend the Navy's hearty, "Well Done."

4. By direction of all of us present, we solemnly promise to do the job as you'd wish us to do it, till the Navy tells us we're through.

Suzanne K. Stumpf, Y2c

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Youth Development Program

Board Profile

On Board with Scott Rifkin



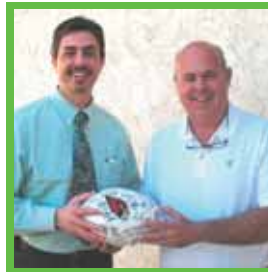
One of the newest members of the Casa Youth Shelter Board of Directors is Scott Rifkin, Chief Operating Officer of the Los Alamitos Medical Center and a Tenet Healthcare professional of many years. Scott brings youthful enthusiasm and a can-do attitude to Casa's board.

Originally from Queens, New York, Scott's guiding principle is to work hard to be the best he can be and always treat others kindly. With his enthusiasm in helping achieve Casa's mission, it's clear he lives up to this philosophy.

Scott's family members are also involved in healthcare: His wife, Theresa, is a critical care R.N, and one of his two sons graduated from California State University, Long

Beach, and is now a nurse recruiter. Most likely, he says, his 10th grade son will also follow in the family's footsteps.

Scott says that being a part of the Casa family is not only one of the most rewarding things he's ever done, he also regards it "an honor to be part of a team that so selflessly works to help meet the needs of runaway, throwaway and abused youngsters." With his own executive



Scott Rifkin and Gary Howard at the auction committee kick-off of preparations for Casa's Commander's Ball, set for October 3.

and operational talents shared in a variety of ways, Scott is a highly valued and much appreciated board member.

Employee Spotlight

Hardworking Hollis Hettig

It seems as if everyone in the Casa family knows and admires Hollis – especially the Casa Kids. Her living-and-loving-it cheery attitude lightens up some of the tough histories that come through Casa's doors. No matter the situation, Hollis is ready to listen and work with the kids to be an agent of change. She says, "I'm not only passionate about my work with the kids, I cherish the warmth of the Casa culture that is totally genuine and rewarding: I feel like I belong here."

A graduate of California State University, Fullerton, Hollis received



both a B.S. in Psychology and a M.S. in Counseling. Recently, she completed the A.A.M.F.T. certificated course work necessary for assuming responsibilities as Clinical Supervisor at the shelter. She also maintains a Los Alamitos based marriage

and family counseling private practice.

Hollis enjoys every minute of her busy schedule. She believes "if one can successfully live in the moment, then one can really experience life." There couldn't be a better example of "living in the moment" than Casa's exuberant Hollis!

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Bequests & Honorariums

- In Honor of Casa Staff
Rich and Harriet Ottaviano
Gary and Gerry Eldred
- In Honor of Filomena Esposito on the occasion of her 90th birthday!
Clarke and Andrea Fairbrother
Tom and Jan Timmons
Laurine DiRocco
Deborah Tavlin
Lucy DiRocco
Rose DeLuca
Mary Thomas
Luciann and Tom Maulhardt
- In Honor of Gena Evans on the occasion of Mother's Day
Jennifer Sheridan
- In Honor of Kirsten Viers
Halbert, Hargrove/Russell LLC, Russell Hill
- In Honor of Luciann Maulhardt
Gary and Bertha Held
- In Honor of Luciann Maulhardt Cypress College Americana Citizen of the Year
Murl Fast
Judy Klabouch
Georgena Evans
Dick and Sue Kichline
Anita Spinell
Filomena Esposito
- In Honor Kenny Brandyberry Chamber of Commerce "Man of the Year"
Georgena Evans
- In Honor of Johanna Zinter Chamber of Commerce "Lifetime Achievement" Award
Georgena Evans
- In Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Zoerlein
Barbara Ridgeway
- In Honor of Gerry Eldred
Ike and Janis Isenberger
- In Honor of Olga Brown on the occasion of her 90th birthday!
Catherine Halloran
Jane Halloran
Andrew and Vanessa Hubert
Georgena Evans
Finola Manvelian
Luciann and Thomas Maulhardt
Judy and Karen Klabouch
- In Honor of Pat Alexander
Jann Zinderman
Howard and Sharon Littman
Kathryn Willis
- In Memory of Ed Spoo
Christine Libeu
- In Memory of Bob Lange on the occasion of his birthday
Tricia, Robert and Peter Lange
- In Honor of Peggy Reep on the occasion of her 90th birthday!
Robert and Marguerite Lyon
Patricia Ramsburg
Luciann and Thomas Maulhardt
Judy and Karen Klabouch
- In Honor of Scoff Rifkin
Ed and Ernestine Perkins
- In Honor of Shirley Bailey on Surviving Breast Cancer
Frieda Caplan
- In Honor of Jennifer Sheridan
Georgena Evans
- In Honor of Vance Caesar
Richard W. Flatow
- In Honor of Vicki Siembieda
Christian and Lori Siembieda
- In Memory of Bob Evans
Georgena Evans
- In Memory of Bob Lange
John and Betty Lowdermilk
- In Memory of John Spinell
Anita Spinell
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- In Memory of Marty Beyer
Jennifer Sheridan
Georgena Evans
- In Memory of Bob Rodgers
Nancy Young
Tom and Jan Timmons
Luciann and Tom Maulhardt
- In Memory of Butch and Ruthanne Waletzko
Jerry and Kathy Waletzko
- In Memory of Christina Jones
Nancy Young
- In Memory of Cindy Stevens
Lorraine Caldwell
- In Memory of Diane Webster
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- In Memory of Dr. Leslie Esposito
Filomena Esposito
Mary Thomas
Jan Maulhardt and Fernando Agudelo
Luciann and Tom Maulhardt
- In Memory of Michael B. Young
Frank Young
Nancy Young
- In Memory of Mrs. Stuart Woods
Patricia Lange
- In Memory of General Dan Hernandez
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Fred and Anita Delucchi
Roger and Elizabeth Hendrickson
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- In Memory of Herman and Jeane Maulhardt
John and Fredene Maulhardt
- In Memory of Jean De Paszthory
Frieda Koester
- In Memory of Judi McEachen
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Georgena Evans
- In Memory of Kirk Anderson
Dolores and Jack Anderson
- In Memory of Mary Ann Bezich
State Fish Company, Janet Esposito
- In Memory of Matt McEvoy
Luciann and Thomas Maulhardt
- In Memory of Garrett Mc Nerney
Luciann and Tom Maulhardt
- In Memory of Myldred Jones
Matthew Sloan, M.D.
- In Memory of Nick Cokas
Bill and Soula Thomas
- In Memory of Patricia Marie Voso
Luciann and Tom Maulhardt
Tom and Jan Timmons
- In Memory of R.C. Pinion
Tom and Jan Timmons
- In Memory of Richard Beaver
Tom and Jan Timmons
Tom and Luciann Maulhardt
- In Memory of Chief Bill Stearns
Tom and Luciann Maulhardt
Judy Klabouch
- In Memory of Tom Paulos
Bill and Soula Thomas
- In Memory of Sharon Berg
Judy Klabouch

Summer 2009

Executive Summary



Luciann Maulhardt
Executive Director

I wish you had the chance to do my job! Not because I don't love it, but because you'd get the chance to work with so many wonderful and talented board members, staff, volunteers and kids. I'm inspired every day!

How do you...recognize 270 years of brilliance, love and devotion? Peggy Reep, Olga Brown and my mom, Filomena Esposito, each reached a milestone 90th birthday in the past few months. These three ladies have provided thousands and thousands of volunteer hours and generous gifts of time, talent and treasure since Casa opened its doors in 1978. God Bless them all.

How do you...recognize the selfless efforts of outgoing President of the Board of Directors, Judy Klabouch? Judy took the helm as leader for a second time in 2006 and has led us through a most challenging and exciting time. The completion of the Mydred E. Jones Recreation Center with her support and direction during the investigation has been nothing short of inspiring. Thank you, Judy.



Judy Klabouch

How do you...thank and acknowledge the support of the Peter Ueberroth Family Foundation? They have believed in Casa's mission and the kids and families we serve, and their dedication and continued support is truly gratifying.



Lauren Rosenthal

How do you...show your pride for a former Los Alamitos High student, Lauren Rosenthal, a former president of Casa's Youth Development Program who graduated in May from San Francisco State University and has returned to Casa to complete an internship in technical

and professional writing? Her skills are deeply appreciated as she develops and implements a plan for identifying potential new funding.

How do you...not marvel over the miracles of medicine? Community Outreach counselor Maribel Contreras gave birth to twin girls on March 12. These precious little ones came into the world 14 weeks early and each weighed just over one pound. They are both home and thriving with their mommy,

daddy Fabian and sister Miranda. Many prayers were certainly answered for them.

How do you...honor the memory of a great soldier, gentleman, mentor and board member, Maj. General Daniel J. Hernandez? Dan passed away April 20. His commitment to Casa's kids, his willingness to always be available to meet with a child who needed an ear, his mentoring of the staff, and his ready smile and encouragement will be missed tremendously. We all salute this "Soldier's Soldier."

How do you...thank in absentia, the loving generosity of volunteer Meryl Alderson who passed away in 2008? Meryl honored Casa and its kids and families by naming us in her charitable trust. A generous gift of nearly \$40,000 bestowed on Casa from her trust will help us fulfill our mission of providing food, shelter and counseling to the kids at risk who come through our doors. We will always remember Meryl.

How do you...adequately recognize and memorialize a former board president? Chief Bill Stearns lead the Casa board from 1995-97. His passing from cancer on June 7 has left us all with a deep sense of loss. Bill will be remembered for his gentleness, caring, leadership and incredible talents. Whether leading his police department, racing cars, riding horses, playing saxophone at our auction or just BEING there for our families in need, he was a strong and loving presence. May he rest in peace.



Chief Bill Stearns

Investigation Update

On another front, the embezzlement investigation is in the courts as this newsletter goes to press. August 4 will be the next court appearance by the accused and it is everyone's hope that there will be a resolution at that time. Please know all the support, generosity, continued concern for the Casa family and the kids and the families we serve, are felt and appreciated more than you can know.

Were our founder Myldred still with us I believe she would be reminding me constantly of one of her favorite sayings... "You haven't lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." More than 10,000 kids have been served because of Myldred's dream of helping.

As you raise a helping hand this summer, may your days be filled with family, friends, warm summer breezes and much enjoyment.

Luciann

Case Study

Timmy and his "Family"

by Gary Michael Zager, Clinical Director

Timmy, a made-up name to protect his and his family's confidentiality, is a 12 year-old who was born and raised in Mexico until age 6. His mother and father were drug addicts, and both suffered from mental illnesses. His father committed suicide and his mother just wasn't there for him or his brother, ever. From about age two, he alternated between his aunt's home and his mother's. Then at about age six, he came to live with his great-aunt who had recently married and moved to California. He calls his great-aunt "mom" and his new step-father "dad."

He was brought to Casa Youth Shelter due to his acting out at home, throwing temper tantrums, not following direction, performing poorly in school and excessive arguing with mom. The parents desperately needed a cooling off break.

At Intake Timmy presented younger than his years, possible as young as age 8. His counselors speculate that possibly he was born as a drug-baby or that he may be mildly developmentally delayed. Timmy appears to have the words to describe his behavior but does not appear to understand what the words truly mean.

In Good Hands

In the week that Timmy was with us his counselors met with him for individual counseling four times and for family counseling sessions three times. He also attended group counseling and educational classes for a total of 21 hours.

Our goals for Timmy and his family include continued family counseling sessions to help in the role-development of the step-father in Timmy's life, to help in the blending of the two families and their values. The family has started T.O.P.S. Parenting Classes to help them in learning how to develop clear and concise rules and how to consistently enforce them. Timmy is also being referred to a psychologist and psychiatrist to fully assess any physical disabilities that he may have.

Our prognosis for this family is good. They appear to be highly motivated to want to make a difference in their lives, especially for Timmy and his brother. We feel privileged to be able to help this family in crises.

Please feel free to write to me with any questions that you may have at garyzager@casayouthshelter.org. Thank you.

President's Corner



Judy Klabouch and Emil Jorge

A Lasting Legacy

Looking back over the years as we approach what would be the 100th birthday of our founder Myldred Jones, I think fondly of the dedication of so many whose efforts

have sustained Casa over the years. In mentioning the hard work of our current team of supporters, let us not forget those who have passed: Garland Stevens, Marge Murphy, Helene Fromlath, Richard Beaver, and most recently General Dan Hernandez and Police Chief Bill Stearns – all of whom were very dedicated to Myldred's dream.

I have truly enjoyed serving Casa for the past 30 years. As I wrap up my second term as Board President, I look forward to the leadership of Emil Jorge. I am confident that he will do an outstanding job.

Judy Klabouch

Welcome, Emil Jorge!

Hello Casa Family!

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Emil Jorge. I have served Casa for approximately 7 years. Some of my duties at Casa have included 25th Anniversary Chair, 2006 & 2007 Auction Chair, Board Development Chair, Secretary, and now, President.

I came to Casa through a recommendation from Judy Klabouch, whom I've known since I was five years old. There is no better example to follow than Judy's. She has been and will always be an inspiration to anyone who knows her. Thank you, Judy, for seeing something in me that Casa could benefit from and for giving me the opportunity to serve the greatest non-profit organization in Orange County.

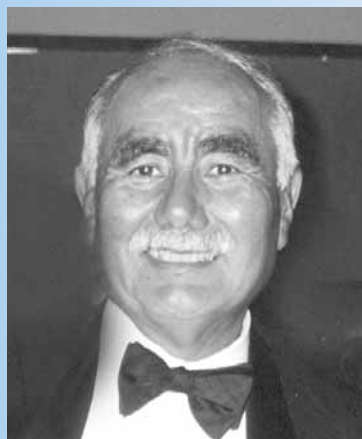
And, thank you Casa Family, for your continued support. We need it now more than ever! I am honored and look forward to serving as Casa Youth Shelter's President in the coming year. Bye for now.

Emil Jorge

In Memory of General Dan: A Soldier's Soldier

Much is known about General Hernandez's long and distinguished military career – his private volunteer contributions as an active member of the CA Military Academy Alumni Association and the Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross Board of Directors – but maybe less is known about his personal devotion to Casa Youth Shelter. As an honored and long-standing member of Casa's Board of Directors, General Dan was not only an effective and supportive director; he was a cherished friend and caring mentor for the Casa Kids.

There were always a few older boys who would benefit from an introduction to General Dan. These boys lacked positive, successful male role models in their lives, and many had had



General Dan

minor run-ins with the law: Struggling to fit in, they didn't know how. General Dan uniquely understood. He had a way of positively influencing these boys whose lives were in desperate need of an honorable man's influence, and he made the time to do so.

General Dan was always available. Whether in his "boots on the ground" army fatigues or full-dress uniform

complete with stars and campaign ribbons, he was an imposing sight. He would meet with the boys, encourage them to put their pasts behind them and persevere in building better lives as he provided helpful guidelines. He often recommended the military as a great starting point for turning their lives around. And he didn't forget them after they left Casa: He reminded them they had a friend.

General Dan was a man whose life made a difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable. His dedication to helping Casa Kids build better futures for themselves will never be forgotten by them, nor by any of us in the Casa family. His memory will forever be lovingly held in our hearts.

Requiem in Pace dear friend.

Volunteer Spotlight Lynne Davidson Has a Ball at Casa



New Casa volunteer Lynne Davidson is having fun on the volley ball court with the kids. Just as much fun, she says, is "just being at Casa and interacting with the Casa Kids." This enthusiastic helper, who

also volunteers with the Second Harvest Food Bank, really likes teen-agers. She says they're some of the most interesting people she knows.

Recently retired after 17 years as a finance

manager for a regional Mercedes Benz agency, Lynne previously found time to coach a Girls' volleyball team at a South County middle school. To her, one of the "funnest" things she does is take Casa Kids bowling at the Valley View Lanes in Cypress. She adds, "It's a blast! Ann, the bowling alley manager, loves having the Casa Kids come for a good time. She makes sure an alley is available any time for them." Lynne plans the outings as often as she can, and tops off the fun with ice cream treats!

At Casa for about a year, Lynn has demonstrated she's a part of the Casa family and lives by the philosophy: "Always remember the other guy."

A Big Heart for Casa continued from page 1

May. One hundred percent of the sales was donated to Casa. Over the four Mondays, 430 pizzas were sold, earning \$4,300 for the Shelter. And Kenny was

there from morning until closing every Monday, collecting the money and telling customers about his favorite charity.

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Myldred E. Jones
1909-2006

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Casa Program Services

Casa Youth Shelter's primary service is offering emergency shelter to youth at risk or who have become runaways or homeless. Our goal is to reunify them with their families safely.

Generally a youth does not attend school while with us. If their lives are in such crisis that they need to be out of their homes, they will not do well in an educational environment. Instead, we have their parents bring us study packets from school, which they work on daily.

Since we have the youth with us 24/7, we fill up their time with productive activities, including:

Individual Counseling – 2 to 3 times per week to help the child work on their feelings associated with being forced from their home and to develop exit goals.

Family Counseling – 2 times per week to develop a dialog between the youth and their parents during their cooling off period while the child is at the shelter.

Group Counseling and Psycho-Educational Classes – 2 to 3 times per day for survival skills. Topics addressed include: Anger Management/Assertion Training, Art Therapy, Decision Making, Self-Esteem, Substance Abuse and Pet Therapy.

Recreation – every day at our new Sports Court as well as our large recreation room and offsite outings.

We are very proud of the number and depth of services we have developed for our residents. To learn more about them or to become a volunteer and service provider, write to me at: garyzager@casayouthshelter.org.

I hope that you that the rest of your summer goes well!
Gary Zager, Clinical Director

Casa Auxiliary on a Mission

On a beautiful spring first Saturday in May, Casa's Auxiliary welcomed close to 100 Casa supporters at Judy and Karen Klabouch's home to sip and shop at their annual Tea and Spring Boutique.

The enthusiastic guests browsed and bought custom-made jewelry, watches; knits, jeans, kitchen items; designer flip-flops, table-top fairies; and Arbonne skincare products. They enjoyed delicious finger sandwiches and desserts served in designer crafted box lunches and custom-blended iced tea.

The Casa Auxiliary was organized in September 1978 to help maintain the shelter by fundraising and paying utilities costs. The Auxiliary sponsors the Tea and Boutique in the spring, and "Holidays on the Boulevard" in November, featuring local merchants who donate percentages of sales to support the Auxiliary's mission. According to Auxiliary President Sandy Howe, this year's Tea and Boutique raised a net \$4,500 for Casa.

The Auxiliary meets the third Tuesday of each month and has an active membership of about twenty-five. In addition to fundraising, members serve in many volunteer capacities at the shelter and graciously assist with many other ancillary activities. To learn more, please contact Jan Timmons at Casa Youth Shelter, 562-594-6825.



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