

Left to right: Dancer Amy Schultz & Astaire partner Daniel Skyler, Astaire partner Zhanet Bochukava & Dancer Scott Bicknell, Dancer Abbey Boehm & Astaire partner Dana James, Dancer Mary Beth Emmer & Astaire partner Sergio Sanchez, Dancer Sue Beitsch & Astaire partner Russ Larson, Astaire partner Timeka Shilka & Dancer Christophe Jenkins, Dancer Amy Zimmer & Astaire partner Alex Zarek, Astaire partner Jennifer McKinley & Dancer Austin Luedtke, Dancer Bonnie Heshelman & Astaire partner Juan Garcia, and Astaire partner Ariel Freilich & Emcee, Mystery Dancer Scott Lopas.

# Gala 2017 Sets New Records!

We broke several records at this year's Dancing For A Difference Gala event on May 12, 2017. This year's sell-out attendance was 404. This is the largest audience for the event since we began the Gala in 2010, exceeding our previous attendance record so far of 354 set in 2015. Other records included: Most votes by a single dancer, 1,327, Amy Zimmer, our People's Choice Award winner this year and the first ever encore performance by a dancer, Scott Bicknell, this year's Technical Award winner. Although we didn't break the 2015 record for the most money raised at the event, this was the second most successful Gala event in the eight years we have been doing the event at the Chandelier Ballroom in Hartford. Given the fact that we fielded 10 dancers this year, not the 12 we've had in 2016 and 2015, this year's event was even more impressive. Following are the tallies for the event:

> Votes: \$28,559 Sponsorships: \$22,000 Tickets: \$13,522 Donations: \$200 Auction: \$4,225 **Total:** \$68,506

Since 2010 this event has grown to become the largest sources of funding in our advocacy program. Nearly 65% of our annual funding originates from this one event. Many thanks to the dancers, Fred Astaire Studios, our volunteers, Committee members and staff for making this possible.

Mark Brunner markcbrunner@gmail.com



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Our mission is to create relationships that make a positive difference in the lives of persons with disabilities.

# SUMMER 2017 CITIZEN ADVOCATES OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

VOLUME 13 NO. 3

# Record Setting Gala 2017



**Above left:** Popular Winner, Amy Zimmer, with her Fred Astaire dance partner, Alex Zarek, pose with trophy. **Above right:** Our emcee, Mr. Scott Lopas, turned out to be the 2017 Mystery Dancer to everyone surprise. **Below left:** Technical Award winner, Scott Bicknell, and his Fred Astaire dance partner, Zhanet Bochukava, receive their trophy from Gretchen Wiesse. **Below right:** Open dancing was popular throughout the evening.



## Shooting For A Difference Cancelled

For the past three years we've held a Shooting For A Difference fundraising event at Wild Wings Sportsman's Club in Campbellsport. The 2017 event was scheduled for August 19th at the club but we are, regrettably, canceling the event, as Wild Wings is no longer able to provide a venue for it. We appeal to our 2017 event sponsors to remain the loyal sponsors you've been in the past despite the cancellation of the August shooting event. Since funds from the past three fundraisers have gone into our Youth Connections and Respite Programs, the sponsorships

that we receive this year will also help us maintain these programs. If you were thinking of attending on August 19, please give some thought to attending our Annual Dinner at the Kettlebrook Community Center on October 19 instead. If you have any questions please give me a call at 414-412-1820. We regret these changes and hope that it hasn't inconvenienced you. Thanks! *Mark Brunner* 



# thank you sponsors



Without our business sponsors we wouldn't be able to keep our advocacy program going strong. This summer I had the opportunity to receive two checks on the same day from two different sponsors for two different events: First Bank Financial Centre on the left, Lori Schults, presented me a check for \$500 for the Shooting For A Difference event and Daniel Frey II, Modern Woodmen of America, presented me a \$2,000 check for the 2017 Gala, Dancing For a Difference. Thank you both for your generosity and continued interest in and support of Citizen Advocates of Washington County!

### Relationships

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Creating relationships that make a positive difference in the lives of those with disabilities.





We are currently looking for Advocates. Advocates can be individuals or groups, students or retired, male or female, who enjoy spending time with other people and have a desire to build a relationship with someone new. You can be an advocate!

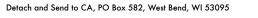
An advocate is matched with an individual of any age with developmental disabilities who need advocates to: prevent isolation from the community, encourage community friendships and enhance meaningful personal relationships, mentor and assist with life decisions.

Interested in learning more about the advocates that we are looking for? Please go to our website to see a list of advocates that we are currently looking for. <u>http://cawash.org/advocates-needed</u>.



I would like to donate to CA!

We are a 501c3 nonprofit organization, so 100% of your investment is fully tax deductible. Please consider donating to Citizen Advocates in 2017. We need your support since 100% of our program funding is derived from private investments. Citizen Advocates receives no funding from federal, state or United Way sources.



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