



Actress and Arkansas native, Mary Steenburgen, and husband, actor Ted Danson, joined First Lady Susan Hutchinson and CACA Executive Director, Elizabeth Pulley, recently to lend their support to CAC fundraising efforts in Little Rock.



# CENTER

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Arkansas Governor's Mansion: The Center of Southern Hospitality

## First Lady Champions Arkansas' Most Vulnerable

With the advent of cooler air and brighter skies, I can't help but think of harvest festivals, county fairs and of course, Halloween. As a mother and grandmother, these fun autumn images immediately remind me of the joy most children in our state will experience over these next few months. Tragically, however, too many innocent children won't enjoy the beauty of the season, but instead will suffer unspeakable abuse at the hands of adults who, in many cases, should be the very ones protecting and providing their care.

In this issue of our bi-annual newsletter, I'm privileged to highlight an organization that is fighting to protect these children, one that is very near and dear to my heart, the Children's Advocacy Centers of Arkansas (CACA), a non-profit organization promoting the development of Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) in Arkansas so that every victim of child abuse has access to CAC services. As First Lady, I am working hard to ensure that more CAC facilities and services are available to the children in Arkansas wherever they live. CAC helps abused children find hope to end their hurt.

Through my work with CACA, I've learned that children in abusive situations need to be heard. CACA provides

trained interview counselors and medical personnel who are always available to listen to children needing to tell their stories of abuse. Through these caring professionals, a child's voice can be heard, and the nightmares, blame, anger and other negative responses can be relieved. Special medical exams used to establish a child's physical wellness are also provided. At CAC, emotional healing of an abused child can be achieved.



All of these wonderful services are provided at no cost to the victim or his/her family. Sadly, however, more CACs are needed in our state, which is why I am committed to diligently helping through fundraising and promotional efforts. Right now, there are 16 centers in Arkansas, with the 17th scheduled to open soon in Batesville. My goal is to see a center located in every county in Arkansas. To achieve that goal, there is obviously much work to do. Arkansans interested in helping this cause or donating to CACA may call its headquarters at 501-615-8633.

Arkansas' most vulnerable and innocent citizens, its children, must be protected. I pledge my continued support to this very worthwhile organization and its tireless efforts to transform young lives marred by tragedy and despair into ones of renewed hope, joy and innocence.

# Beauty, Grace Abound at 2018 First Lady's Tea

## 2019 Tea Scheduled for May 5, 2019



## Governor's Young Artist Contest Continues to Grow

The 2018 Governor's Young Artist Competition was a huge success with over 450 entries received from students across Arkansas. Approximately 95 works were accepted for the 2018 Mansion exhibit, which included 7 "Honorable Mention" recognitions, as well as the awarding of eight cash prizes, courtesy of Entergy Arkansas and its generous grant award. Plans are already underway for the 2019 student art competition. Stay tuned!

# Governor's Circle Celebrates in Royal Style at Annual Dinner



The Circle Dinner held August 18 at the Governor's Mansion celebrated members of the Governor's Circle in "royal" fashion. The annual event, hosted by Governor and Mrs. Hutchinson, served to express appreciation to Circle members for their generous support of the Arkansas Governor's Mansion and its many endeavors throughout the year. The theme of this year's event embraced everything "royal," taking its cues from festivities surrounding the royal nuptials celebrated in May between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

Beautiful music provided by vocalist Mrs. Suzanne Banister, Conway, along with members of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, filled the Janet Huckabee Grand Hall throughout the evening as guests enjoyed a four course dinner fit for any king or queen. In keeping with the royal theme, guests also enjoyed a dessert parade "finale" and were served individual "royal" wedding cakes, each exquisitely designed and decorated by the Mansion chefs, using candied flowers and a scrumptiously "royal" buttercream frosting.

Chris Kane, Little Rock native who currently anchors Daybreak and Good Morning Arkansas at KATV Channel 7, served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.



(Top left) Governor Asa & First Lady Susan Hutchinson (Middle left) Grand Hall during Circle Dinner (Middle right) Governor Hutchinson with Dr. and Mrs. Carl Johnson (Bottom left) John Paul and Nubia Hutchinson (Bottom middle) "Royal wedding cake" served for dessert (Bottom right) Governor and First Lady



Christmas is coming **SOON** to the...

# Arkansas Governor's Mansion

## Annual Holiday Open House

FREE of Charge

Sunday, December 2, 1—4 p.m.

\*Children's Train Rides

\*Santa Claus

\*Performances by *Voices of Central Arkansas Children's Choir*



## First Lady's Christmas Teas

Tuesday, December 11, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12, 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$50

## First Lady's Christmas Tea for Children

Tuesday, December 18, 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$50



**Click here for tickets:**

**[www.friendsofthemansion.org](http://www.friendsofthemansion.org)**

**or call: 501-324-9805**

*Sponsored by the Arkansas Governor's Mansion Association*

