## PURPOSE & Party PHOTOGRAPHY BY LINDA M. BARRETT



The 2020 Dancing with the Barrington Stars Dancers

## Barrington Area Council on Aging

DANCING WITH THE BARRINGTON STARS SHINE!

ORE THAN 350 PEOPLE came out to Stonegate Conference & Banquet Centre on February 8, 2020 to see six Barrington stars show off the steps they had been rehearsing for weeks.

The third Dancing with the Barrington Stars event raised nearly \$200,000 to support the programs and services of the Barrington Area Council on Aging. But it also gave six members of the Barrington community—Josie Croll, Rev. Zina Jacque, Tiffany Marshall, Steve McWilliams, George Peirce, and Matt Warman—a chance to shine as they performed jitterbugs, hip hop, and other show-stopping dance numbers.

The evening also included demonstration dances by two talented teenage dancers, a hip hop performance by Bataille Academie of the Danse students, a heartfelt original vocal performance by BHS student Ella Beaubien, and a preview of a new BACOA video, now playing on the organization's website at bacoa.org.

Attendees also had a chance to hear about the real focus for the evening: the older adults, caregivers, and families who depend on BACOA's services. Bataille owner Dee Dee Johnson described her mother's 10-year struggle with Alzheimer's. "BACOA was there for my dad," she said. "They were there giving him advice and helping him read those chapters of what was going to happen next."

The evening's winners included George Peirce, who won the People's Choice Award, for most pledges raised before the event; Champion award winner Steve McWilliams, who raised the most money the evening of the event; and—in a tie— Tiffany Marshall and Josie Croll, who wowed the crowd and won the Judges' Choice trophy.

BACOA Executive Director Terri Channer said the event was the most successful one yet. "It's a great chance for all walks of the community to have some fun and learn more about how BACOA can help them," she says. "We're grateful for all of the hard work that went into this year's event."

BACOA has continued to serve older adults in the community through Illinois' stay-at-home order in March and April and beyond. Volunteers continued to deliver Meals with Wheels, along with 10-day shelf stable emergency boxes of food, while staff members followed up with weekly well-being check-ins, and volunteers wrote and delivered encouraging notes to residents of senior communities in the area. Staff members have continued to provide information and resources through phone calls, social media, and on a resource page of the BACOA website. ()









The judges are (from left) Mark Hoffmann, Julie Senft, and Dr. Jim Baird.

BACOA Exec. Dir. Terri Channer

Ballroom pros Amelia Kreczman and Lukas Makogon.



Barrington's emcee Bob Roig (Bob the DJ)





Elle Beaubien sang "Fall on Me".



Bataille Academie dancers wowed the crowd.



George Peirce & Dee Dee Johnson



Steve McWilliams & Kelly Crain



Matt Warman & Lauren Menzer



Josie Croll & Marcus Hardy





Zina Jacque & Mitchell Haley