

Let's Make a Powerful Noise

CARE ambassador and ABC7 personality Janet Davies gets involved with the fight to end poverty.

WHEN I'M DRIVING through Chicago and my sons spot a CARE billboard, which typically shows a woman from the developing world with the slogan I AM POWERFUL, they excitedly say "Mommy, there's that powerful lady!" As a mother of two boys, I have to admit that I love this. I love that my sons associate not only a woman, but a woman from the developing world, as someone who innately has power. That's the truth behind CARE's slogan. Yes, she does have the power to lift herself and her family out of poverty. She just needs the resources to help her do it. And that's where we can help.

On March 5, in honor of International Women's Day, CARE and NCM Fathom in partnership with ONE and the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women will present a locally produced film in 440 theaters nationwide—23 of which are in the Chicagoland area. The one-night event will feature the

acclaimed and very moving documentary *A Powerful Noise*, a remarkable film produced by Chicago's own Sheila C. Johnson, Black Entertainment Television cofounder and my fellow CARE ambassador.

After the credits roll, audience members will participate (via text and e-mail) in an enlightening discussion about the problems women and girls face in the fight against poverty. We'll be joined by expert and celebrity panelists broadcasting live via satellite from New York to the big screen.

This is not just another movie ticket but a passport into the lives of women and girls who are overcoming insurmountable odds to bring lasting change to their communities. CARE hopes, as do I, that this evening will galvanize

women in Chicago—and across the country—to spark a movement of women's empowerment the world has never seen. So grab your girlfriends, boyfriends, sons, daughters, husbands, and anyone else who cares about ending poverty, and together, Chicago can make a powerful noise, indeed. Visit apowerfulnoise.org for participating theaters and ticket information.



Sheila C. Johnson at the "I Am Powerful" retreat held at Salamander Farms in the Plains, Virginia.



Marty Casey.

TURNING TREES INTO A FOREST

LOVEHAMMERS FRONTMAN MARTY CASEY SHARES THE INSPIRATION BEHIND HIS LINE OF ACCESSORIES.

SOMETIMES IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE to be so closely associated with one image. I wrote the song "Trees" while standing on the Brooklyn Bridge in May 2004, the day I quit my job in New York City as a commercial appraiser. I had decided to move back to Chicago to get back together with the Lovehammers, the band I'd joined when I was nine years old. It was the song I played in my audition for *Rock Star: INXS*, and when the show aired in the summer of 2005, it became huge. A few months later, I remember, I was in Mexico coming back into the US and the border patrol officer said, "Hey, you're the 'Trees' guy." People still say that.

Last summer I introduced the Silver Elements accessories collection, and I decided that I wanted to make dog tags because that's something I always wear. And I thought, We should plant trees with some of the money we raise. We partnered with American Forests, and so far, we've planted more than 1,000 trees. Every time someone buys the dog tags they get a version of "Trees" I recorded with Dave Navarro. This spring we're coming out with more sculptural accessories, and our relationship with American Forests will continue to plant trees around the world. *Marty Casey's Silver Elements Collection dog tags, \$90, at silverelementscollection.com.*

photographs by Cheryl Spells (CASEY); Meredith Davenport (POWERFUL)

Contributors



Marty Casey was born and raised in the Chicagoland area and is the lead singer of rock band the Lovehammers. In 2005 Marty was the first runner-up on the hit reality television show *Rockstar: INXS* and won a record deal for his band with Sony/Epic. The Lovehammers are releasing their fifth full-length album, *Let Me Out*, this summer and are setting out on tour in support of the new record.

Roe Conn is a 20-year veteran of Chicago radio and TV. He hosts *The Roe Conn Show*, heard afternoons on WLS-AM radio along with Bill Leff, Christina Filiaggi, and Jim Johnson, who are legends in their own right.



Steve Dahl is a radio personality who has livened up Chicago airwaves since 1978. A Chicago Emmy winner, Dahl has also created numerous TV projects, including *It's Too Early*, a daily morning show dubbed “the best program on television” by *Chicago Tribune* columnist Bob Greene. Dahl joined the *Tribune* as vice advisor columnist in January 2006. He also writes a blog, Dahl.com, and occasionally performs his songs in live concerts.

Janet Davies joined ABC7 as a feature reporter and program host in August 1984. Her segments air on ABC7 News at 4 P.M. each weekday. She is also the host and executive producer of the Emmy-winning magazine show *190 North*. Nominated for 55 regional Emmys, Davies has captured 12 awards for hosting, producing, writing, and reporting. Davies is now the Chicago ambassador for CARE, a leading humanitarian organization that fights global poverty through women’s empowerment.



Alexi Giannoulias was elected to his first term as Illinois state treasurer in 2006 and, at age 33, is the youngest state treasurer in the nation. Giannoulias has received national attention for improving the state’s Bright Start College Savings Program, returning \$150 million in lost money to Illinois residents, and running the largest state-backed hybrid rebate program in the country. Prior to entering public service, Giannoulias was a community banker in Chicago and a professional basketball player in Greece.

Chicago native **Bonnie Hunt** is a versatile and accomplished writer, director, and producer, as well as an Emmy-, Golden Globe-, and SAG Award-nominated actress. She is also the host and an executive producer of *The Bonnie Hunt Show*. Hunt is dedicated to charitable work, raising funds to sponsor research for treatments and cures for cancer and rheumatoid arthritis, and she also gives her time to support American veterans as well as organizations such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, and the Arthritis Foundation.



photographs by 1996-98 AccuSoft Inc. (EPILOGES); Alexandra Wyman/WireImage.com (HUNT)