



JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

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Center's Seventh Annual Recognition Dinner

Mark this special date on your calendar – the Center's Seventh Annual Recognition Dinner on Friday, March 31, 2017. There will be more details about the event in the February newsletter.

Fifth Annual Christmas Party With Uftring Ambassadors

Another year has come to an end, but it went out with a BANG! The Fifth Annual Christmas Party sponsored by the Uftring Ambassadors was held on Wednesday, December 14th. Kirk Johnson made his famous mashed potatoes to go along with a delicious meal of ham and all of the trimmings! After the meal, was when the competitive spirit came out in many. Prizes were given away to the person who answered the most trivia questions correctly or was able to name the most tunes (accompanied by Bob Coney on saxophone) in a round. The evening also saw a heated round of Family Feud. It was Cubs fans (Elaine Ahten, Alice Bledsoe, Ann Creech, and Gayle Workman) versus Cardinal fans (Gyla Grigsby, Cora Quinn, Bill Smith, and Leia Stewart). This time, the Cubs were unable to bring home the win. The win went to the Cardinal fans and each walked away with a prize. Even if a patron did not win, they did not go home empty handed. All patrons received a gift card and a Christmas tin full of cookies. We would love to send out a great big THANK YOU to the Uftring Ambassadors and their families for donating prizes, cookies, and their time, making this

a very special night for everyone that attended. You will never know how much you are truly appreciated.

CATPAC Program

If you or anyone you may know works at Caterpillar, please consider enrolling in the CATPAC Program. Through Caterpillar Employees Political Action Committee's PACMATCH program, employees are allowed to direct contributions to a charity or charities of their choosing. This is a charity match program. Depending on how many participate, this could possibly bring in thousands of dollars for the Center.

Open House Changes And Other Events Reminder

Starting in January, each Open House meal will cost \$6, Bingo \$1, and if you are using the Center's transportation, \$3 round trip or \$1.50 one way. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause, but we would like to keep the Center operational. Also, when coming to an Open House, Jam Session or other event at the Center, please remember not to arrive earlier than one hour prior to the start of the event. For example, if the Open House starts at noon, please do not arrive earlier than 11:00 am. While we try to help everyone with items they may need assistance with, there is still business going on. Phone calls often come in or need to be made. People may also drop in requesting help from the Center. If there is some extenuating circumstance that requires you to be here earlier than the one hour leeway, please call the office first and discuss it. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hill Top Stables Eggs

By Michelle Shute, Center Executive Director and Owner of Hill Top Stables

At Hill Top Stables, we refrigerate our eggs even though we do not need to. Why? Because that is the way my mom did it. We do not wash our eggs because this will take away nutrients and reduce the life of the egg. We will wipe off eggs, but not everything may be removed. Remember, you do not eat the outside of the egg. Due to the fact that we refrigerate and not wash our fresh eggs, you gain the benefit of having eggs that will last up to six months or longer. Store bought eggs average between three weeks to three months. That is quite a difference!

Now, if you are worried about the freshness of your egg, you can test it. Fill your sink with water and place your egg in it. If the egg drops to the bottom, it is fresh. If it floats, throw it away because it has gone bad. If it is hanging out in the middle, eat it quickly. It is still good, but won't be for too long. Also, when you purchase a dozen eggs from Hill Top Stables, you may notice that one or more eggs may look bluish/green. Don't fear! These eggs are not bad. They come from a couple of our chickens that have been crossed with Easter Egger chickens that lay beautifully colored eggs.

Also, you may notice that some of the eggs are bigger than others. The egg may have a double yolk, or just, in general, be larger. You may also be lucky enough to be the recipient of a turkey egg which is VERY LARGE. (This will probably mainly occur in the spring.) They may have a slightly different taste, but I have never noticed a difference. The only thing that we do not use turkey eggs for are recipes (i.e.

Cakes). Due to its size, it might throw off the recipe and not make it taste correctly (not due to it being a turkey versus a chicken egg).

When you purchase eggs from Hill Top Stables, be happy to know that we spoil our chickens and turkeys. They have a well-insulated and heated coop that they get to sleep and hang out in as much as they like! They not only get their regular feed, but are spoiled regularly with scratch and food items from our own kitchen. They even have a chicken swing in their coop. What chicken or turkey doesn't want to reside at Hill Top Stables?

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Fundraisers, And Holidays

Wednesday, January 4th – Open House – Noon

Tuesday, January 10th – Board Meeting – 4 p.m.

Wednesday, January 11th – Open House – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18th – Open House – Noon

Saturday, January 21st – Jam Session – 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25th – Open House – 5:30 p.m.

January Birthdays

January 5 – Joseph Fehr and Berrenice Wessel

January 6 – Anne Masters

January 8 – Michelle Shute

January 9 – Zoe Buchanan, Tom Vogel, and Becky Williams

January 11 – Dennis Jurewicz

January 16 – Nadine Palmer

January 18 – Alice Bledsoe

January 19 – Gary Williams and Verda Mullineaux

January 20 – Edith Endress

January 28 – Chuck Palmer

January 29 – Carol Klokkenga

January 31 – Mrs. Jian Luo

Meal Menus For January

January 4th – Noon – Chili, fruit salad, corn bread and dessert.

January 11th – 5:30pm – Beef stroganoff, vegetables, salad, rolls and cake with ice cream.

January 18th – Noon – Barbecue sandwiches, potato salad, slaw and dessert.

January 21st – Jam Session – 1 p.m. – Menu to be announced.

January 25th – 5:30 p.m. – Chicken strips with mashed potatoes and creamed gravy, vegetables, salad, biscuits and dessert.

Bingo will be played at all Open House meals unless otherwise noted. Reservations need to be called in no later than noon on the day before the Open House. In the event of bad weather, an Open House or Jam Session may be cancelled for the safety of Center patrons, staff, volunteers, and guests.

Thoughts And Prayers

The Center offers our deepest condolences to Center patron Terry Lopez, upon the loss of his wife Teresa. Also, former Center patron Kate Hall passed away. Please keep Terry and The Hall Family in your thoughts and prayers.

Donations – Monetary And In-Kind Donations

Thanks to the following for their monetary donations: Nancy Hall in honor of Ben & Jackie Taylor, Rick & Terrell Slarkweather, Mike & Lynn Hammer, Linda and Earl Kalb, Steven and Nancy Sicher with the Illinois Eye Center and Bob Coney.

Thanks to the following for their in-kind donations: Kirk Johnson – Water and Soda; Becky and Gary Williams – Bingo prizes; Bob Coney – Cups; and Gyla Grisgby – Soda.

Interesting Dates Throughout The Month Of January

January 1 – New Year’s Day. The most celebrated holiday around the world.

January 1, 1892 – Ellis Island in New York Harbor opened. Over 20 million new arrivals to America were processed until its closing in 1954.

January 4 – National Spaghetti Day. The long, thin cylindrical pasta of Italian and Sicilian origin which is made of semolina or flour and water, known as spaghetti and loved by millions has it’s own special day. January 4th is National Spaghetti Day and is observed annually across the country.

January 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Celebrated. Born on January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King Jr. grew to become one of the greatest social activists the world has ever known. At 35, he became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, while making a speech from the balcony of his hotel room in Memphis, Tennessee. His birthday,

celebrated the third Monday of January, became a National Holiday by an act of Congress in 1983.

January 26 – National Spouses Day. This day is dedicated to recognizing spouses everywhere and reminds us to take time for our spouse. This day is also a time to show your spouse that you care and appreciate all of the things that he/she does for you and for the home. Pay a heartfelt thank you or compliment to the love of your life. National Spouses Day is a non-gift giving day, so spend time together and reconnect. Don't forget to say, "I love you."



Free Matter for the Blind & Visually Impaired

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Quote For The month – “You’ll never change your life until you change something you do daily. The secret of your success is found in your daily routine.” By John C. Maxwell.