



JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

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Welcome our New Executive Director, Felisa Durr!

We are pleased to announce that Felisa Jordan Durr has been selected as the new Executive Director. Felisa has 27 years of experience working at Caterpillar as an electrical engineer, global buyer, and logistics manager. She was also the founder of SWAN National Women's Network non-profit which operated from 2005-2012 of which she was one of the recipients of the 25 Women in Leadership award. Felisa is very active in the community with her family business Educatees (products and programs for children) as well as serving in leadership at St. Paul Baptist Church. She will be completing her Master's degree in Bible and Theology from Lincoln Christian University in August 2019. Her extensive leadership background, education, and serving heart will be an asset as she implements new programs and funding and increases the number of patrons we serve in Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford counties.

Donations Received from Rotary Club Peoria and Catholic Women's League

We want to thank the Rotary Club Peoria for awarding us the Community Service Grant for use toward our Basic White Cane Clinics! Of over 50 applicants, only 13 were chosen to share \$12,600 worth of monies. Thank you for working so hard to share the wealth among many deserving organizations! Additionally, we

would like to thank the Catholic Women's League for their generous donation to the Center to support our social and educational programs. We have benefited from their kindness since 2003 and would not be able to operate without the support of grants and donations from organizations in Peoria. Thank you very much!

C.I.C.B.V.I. 12th Annual Golf Outing

The Golf Outing is almost upon us! The Center's 12th Annual Golf Outing will be held at WeaverRidge Golf Club on Tuesday, June 5th. If you would like to register a team of four to play, the cost is \$400. To register as an individual, the cost is \$100 and you will be added to a team. The cost also includes a hot buffet dinner at the end of the game. Sponsorship of the event is also available. Please contact Ericka Arreola by phone at (309)451-5580 or (309)299-0205, or by email at Ericka_arreola@randstadusa.com to register or for sponsorship information.

Technology Training Opportunity for Patrons

Interested in learning to use technology to make everyday tasks more manageable? We can help! Email Molly Pasley at mollyclesen@gmail.com with your technology need and she will help you figure out the best and most cost effective solution for the task. This may be the PenFriend 1 from RNIB for labeling, NVDA-- Non Visual Desktop Access for those no longer able to access their computers visually, or accessibility features on a smart phone. There is no cost to this training so email Molly to schedule an appointment!

Free Services for Visually Impaired 55 and Older

We are excited to share that Advocates for Access in Peoria Heights is now offering services through the Older Individuals who are Blind (OIB) program! To qualify for the program, you must be 55 years or older, blind or have low vision of 20/70 or worse with correction, and a copy of an up-to-date vision screening or exam. Individuals living in Peoria, Fulton, and Marshall counties may receive in-home training, however, folks living in other counties may receive training at the Advocates for Access office. Services include daily living skills training, orientation and mobility, communication skills, assistive technology devices/aids training, and counseling. Please call (309)682-3500 or email Rachael Cansino at info@advocatesforaccess.com for more information.

Rate Us on Facebook and Google!

Have you had a good experience at the Center or a Center-sponsored event? Please write us a review/recommend us on FB and Google! As a small nonprofit, we rely heavily on word of mouth to connect to people. We appreciate and welcome all positive and constructive feedback!

Peoria Chiefs vs. Great Lake Dodgers Game in Peoria

On Monday, July 15th at 11:00 a.m., watch the Peoria Chiefs take on the Great Lake Dodgers. Attendees will enjoy the game from a luxury suite where they will be connected to Bluetooth speakers for the play-by-play. A lunch buffet of hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, cookies, and lemonade or water will be provided. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis at no cost to patrons so RSVP to (309)637-3693 soon because spots will go fast!

Ragtime Musical

Join us for the Tony Award winning musical, “Ragtime,” on Thursday, July 18th at the Corn Stock Theatre. This musical depicts the American experience at the turn of the 20th century through three different points of view: that of an upper-class white family, an African American family living in Harlem, and from the perspective of Jewish families living in the lower East side. Tickets must be purchased in advance so please call the Center at (309)637-3693 to RSVP by **Thursday, June 20th**.

Christian Comedian, Tim Hawkins, Plays Peoria!

On Sunday, August 25th, Tim Hawkins, Christian Comedian, performs at 7:00 p.m. at Riverside Community Church in Peoria. He has filmed specials at several community churches in Texas, Kentucky, California, and Arkansas. His comedy is “kid-friendly” and lots of fun! Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis at no cost to patrons. RSVP to (309)637-3693 **by June 20th** so we can gauge interest and to ensure you can join us for the show!

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Fundraisers, and Holidays

Tuesday, June 4th – C.I.C.B.V.I. 12th Annual Golf Outing –
WeaverRidge Golf Club

Wednesday, June 5th – Open House – Noon

Thursday, June 6th – St. Louis Cardinals Game – All day

Tuesday, June 11th – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12th – Open House – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 15th – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 16th through 21st – Camp Lions Helen Keller –
Dixon, IL

Wednesday, June 19th – Open House – Noon

Wednesday, June 26th – Open House – 5:30 p.m.

Monday, July 15th – Peoria Chiefs Game – 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 18th – Ragtime Musical – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 25th – Tim Hawkins Comedy Show – 7:00 p.m.

Meal Menus for June

June 5th – Open House – Noon – Potato soup, grilled cheese, cottage cheese with pineapple, and coconut cream pie.

June 12th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Spaghetti and meatballs, twisty garlic sticks, salad, marble cake and ice cream.

June 15th – Jam Session – 1 p.m. – Stuffed pork chops, mashed potatoes with gravy, creamed peas, rolls, banana brownies and ice cream.

June 19th – Open House – Noon – Meatball subs, soft pretzels with cheese dip, potato salad, and banana pudding.

June 26th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Chicken potpie, coleslaw, cinnamon monkey bread and ice cream.

Bingo will be played at all Open Houses unless otherwise noted. Reservations need to be called in no later than noon on the day before the Open House.

Donations – Monetary and Other

We would also like to thank the following for their donations during the Pancake Breakfast: Tom Vogel, Mike Waldron, Gayle Workman, Cora Quinn, Terry Lopez, Chandra, and Phil McAlearney.

Central Illinois Center
for the **Blind**
&
Visually
Impaired



**Free Matter for the Blind &
Visually Impaired**

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Quote for the Month – “The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you’re not going to stay where you are.” By John Pierpont “J.P.” Morgan