



## OCTOBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

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### From the Executive Director, Felisa Durr

Christmas is just around the corner and our friends at Uftring Auto Group are sponsoring our Christmas meal on December 11th at 5:30 p.m. at the Center. They have tasked me with making a list of the patrons who plan to attend. There's only one problem... I have not met all of you yet. There is still time. Please make plans to come see me at one of our Open Houses or Jam Sessions in October or November. I will add you to the list for you to attend and ensure you receive a Christmas gift sponsored by the Uftring Auto Group. **Deadline is November 16th to be added to the list.**

### Dinner in the Dark Fundraiser

In recognition of Blindness Awareness Month, the 2nd Annual Dinner in the Dark fundraiser will be held on Sunday, October 13th at the Warehouse on State, located at 736 SW Washington St. in Peoria, from 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The talented standup comedian and Center patron, Blind Stein will be performing. We will also be running a 50/50 raffle. The event proceeds will benefit the Center and our vision of a future where people who are blind or visually impaired can participate independently in our community. We will enjoy dinner options of beef short ribs, salmon, or vegetarian. Cost is \$100/person. Registration is available online at [CICBVI.org](http://CICBVI.org) or call the Center at (309) 637-3693. **Please RSVP by October 8th.**

## **Volunteer Training**

Ten volunteers were trained in September as primary volunteers to assist with Open House meal service and as guides for upcoming events. If you missed the training, you may contact the Center at (309) 637-3693 to be added to our list for a future training session.

## **Mamma Mia**

Thirteen people attended the September 13th showing of “Mamma Mia” at Eastlight Theatre. They enjoyed singing along with ABBA’s hits and following the hilarious story of a young woman about to get married who discovers any one of three men from her mother’s past could be her father.

## **Matthiessen State Park**

On Tuesday September 24th, ten patrons and volunteers enjoyed the beautiful rock formations, canyons, streams and waterfalls of Matthiessen State Park. They walked throughout the park and had a picnic lunch.

## **Habla Espanol?**

We are really stepping out of our comfort zone this month as we take a tour of Spain and the Spanish language. Ms. Nyrobi Wheeler, a nationally known, published author will be teaching us Spanish on Saturday, October 5th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Center. Ms. Wheeler’s book Conversational Spanish for Travelers is available on amazon.com. Center patrons can attend for free. The general public is welcome to attend for \$10 per person. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Thursday October 3rd.**

## **Younger Than Yesterday: A Byrds Tribute**

Our Center patrons and volunteers will be attending the Younger Than Yesterday: A Byrds Tribute at the Illinois Central College Performing Arts Center on Friday October 11th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets have been purchased in advance.

## **Time to Get Moving!**

Are you ready to jam! We will be learning line dancing on October 19th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. during our Saturday Jam Session. You can get up and dance or wiggle in your seat, but we promise it will be a lot of fun. Come enjoy the meal at 1:00 p.m., then dance it off. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Thursday October 17th.**

## **Tanner's Orchard**

On Monday October 21st, enjoy the fun at Tanner's Orchard. The orchard sports over 11,000 trees and 17 varieties of apples. You will find an assortment of gifts and food offerings at the Farm Market and Apple Bin Bakery. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by Tuesday October 15th.**

## **Technology Help Center**

Jenn Reeder will provide a free technology assistance session for products and technology that patrons personally have or ones they are interested in, on Saturday October 26th from 10:00 a.m. – Noon at the Center. She will answer patrons and their families' questions and also research any new equipment. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Thursday October 17th.**

## **Basic White Cane Clinic**

The Center will be providing a free Basic White Cane Clinic on Saturday, November 2nd from 9:00 a.m. – Noon by a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist. There is no minimum age requirement, however, you must not be receiving Orientation and Mobility services through the State of Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services. During this time, we will cover basic and advanced human guide, how to manipulate the long white cane in a variety of situations, and basic cane technique to navigate your environment (e.g. up and down stairs, around the block, etc). Family members are encouraged to attend. We ask that if you are bringing a family member, that they transport you to and from the clinic. Those who are attending alone may request the Center to provide transportation, if they reside within a 15 mile radius of the Center. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 or email [info@cicbvi.org](mailto:info@cicbvi.org) to **RSVP by Thursday October 10th** to reserve your space and schedule a time to be fitted for your cane, which will be provided.

## **Beginner Braille Training**

Anyone interested in Beginner Braille Training may contact the Center at (309) 637-3693 to be added to our waiting list for fall classes. We must have at least 3 people interested before we schedule a class.

## **Paid Drivers Wanted**

The Center is looking for reliable and experienced drivers with great driving records who will drive our Center's minibus or minivan to safely transport our blind and visually impaired patrons to and from

programs and events. This is a paid position. If you are qualified and interested, please call our office at (309) 637-3693 to apply.

## **Upcoming Events, Meetings, Fundraisers, and Holidays**

Wednesday, October 2nd – Open House – Noon  
Saturday, October 5th – Habla Espanol Spanish Class – 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday, October 8th – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 9th – Open House – 5:30 p.m.  
Friday, October 11th – Younger Than Yesterday - 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 13th – Dinner in the Dark – 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 16th – Open House - Noon  
Saturday, October 19th – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Monday, October 21st - Tanners Orchard – 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, October 23rd - Open House – 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, October 26th – Technology Center – 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, October 30th – Open House – Noon  
Thursday, October 31 – Center Open - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

## **Meal Menus for October**

October 2nd – Open House – Noon – Grilled cheese, potato soup, apple sauce, ice cream sandwich

October 9th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Pasta carbonara (alfredo sauce with bacon, green onion, and peas), salad, garlic bread, cake and ice cream

October 16th – Open House – Noon – Hamburger tater tot casserole, fruit salad, biscuits, brownies

October 19th – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m. – Five Way Chili to order, hot dogs, chips, coleslaw, pudding and cookies

October 23th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Chicken Rice Casserole, green bean casserole, salad, carrot cake

October 30th – Open House – Noon – Bean Soup with ham, potato salad, corn bread, Halloween dessert

Reservations for patrons, volunteers, and guests need to be called in no later than noon on the Tuesday before the Open House and no later than noon on Thursday before the Jam Session.

Bingo and other games will be played at all Open Houses.

## **October Birthdays**

October 6 – Terry Masters

October 17 – C.J. Blackwell

October 29 – Laura Drew

## **Donations – Monetary and Other**

We would like to thank the following for their donations:

Monetary Donations: Santhana Nagaraj \$200, Mary Turner \$25

Memorial Donations: Mark Sheppard Memorial – Leslie Littell \$25;  
Niki Bevins Memorial – Ceremony Donation \$380

In Kind Donations: Bingo prizes – Tom Vogel, Cora Quinn, Priscilla Whipp; Jam Session prizes – Dave and Michele Williams;  
Mathiessen Park picnic meal – Earl and Linda Kalb

We send our condolences to the family of Mark Sheppard who passed on September 16, 2019.



## Free Matter for the Blind & Visually Impaired

2905 W Garden St., Peoria, IL 61605  
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**Quote for the Month** – “Make no judgements where you have no compassion.” By Anne McCaffrey