



SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

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From the Executive Director, Felisa Durr

I am excited about the positive reception for the new activities being offered at the Center! I would like to thank Gayle Workman, Patti Woodworth, Becky Williams, and Priscilla Whipp for helping me pioneer our new Family Feud game on August 21st. When Family Feud is offered again, attendees will be allowed to select whether they want to play Bingo or Family Feud when they call in to register for Open House. Next in the works is a Spanish Class and Line Dancing. Stay tuned for updates over the next few months.

We would like to thank Mike Waldron for donating the wood squares and lots of pennies for our introductory craft project making penny art coasters. Twelve people participated in the craft at our Open House on August 28th.

Barilla Collaboration Continues

The product marketing manager and product development engineer from the Barilla Pasta Company in Chicago visited our Center on August 7th. Thirty-five people at the Center were included as part of the collaboration program to develop new pasta shapes and packaging that can be better utilized by the blind and visually impaired. Barilla will be visiting our Center again in a few months to further develop additional products.

India Fest 2019 Donation

The Peoria Park District and the Indo-American Society of Peoria (IASP) hosted the 20th annual India Festival on August 17th on the Peoria riverfront. The festival offered anyone interested a chance to taste traditional Indian cuisine. In addition, twenty-four dance and music groups were showcased. Felisa Durr, Cora Quinn, and Donna Hughes attended on behalf of the Center. One dollar from all ticket sales from the festival will be donated to the Central Illinois Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and we thank you!

Cricket Association of Peoria Women's Premier League Fundraiser

The Cricket Association of Peoria Women's Premier League sponsored a fundraiser for the Central Illinois Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The fundraiser was held at the Mossville Cricket Grounds on August 25th. Everyone enjoyed the match, food, balloons and kids games. Felisa Durr, Cora Quinn, and Prasad Parupalli attended to represent the Center. Cora showcased her "expert" abilities by hitting two balls. We thank the Cricket Association for this grand effort on our behalf.

Tim Hawkins Christian Comedian

Sixteen people attended Christian Comedian Tim Hawkins' show held at Riverside Community Church on August 25th. We appreciate the efforts the church made in accommodating our patrons.

Catch Me If You Can at Cornstock Theater

On August 29th, eight people attended the Cornstock production of "Catch Me If You Can" and they all had a great time.

Volunteer Training

As we increase our activities for the Center, we want to be proactive in recruiting volunteers to ensure that our patrons have a fun and safe experience. Volunteers will assist at Center events and as guides for patrons during outings. All volunteers must complete the two hour volunteer training to be added to the official volunteer list. The three options for September volunteer training will be Tuesday, September 10th at 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., or Saturday, September 21st at 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Center. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by Monday September 9th.**

Matthiessen State Park

On Tuesday September 24th, come enjoy the beautiful rock formations, canyons, streams and waterfalls of Matthiessen State Park. We will walk throughout the park with a break for a picnic lunch. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by Tuesday September 17th.**

Dinner in the Dark Fundraiser

The 2nd Annual Dinner in the Dark fundraiser will be held on October 13th at the Warehouse on State at 5:30 p.m. We will enjoy dinner options of pork, salmon, or vegan. Cost is \$100/person. Registration is available online at CICBVI.org or call the Center at (309) 637-3693.

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 Thursday October 19th**.

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 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.

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Fundraisers, and Holidays

Monday, September 2nd – Labor Day – Center Closed

Wednesday, September 4th – Open House – Noon

Tuesday, September 10th – Volunteer Training – 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 10th – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

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

Friday, September 13th – Mamma Mia – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 17th – Volunteer Training – 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 18th – Open House - Noon

Saturday, September 21st – Volunteer Training – 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, September 21st – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 24th – Matthiessen State Park – 8:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, October 13th – Dinner in the Dark – 5:30 p.m.

Meal Menus for September

September 4th – Open House – Noon – Chicken salad on croissant, five bean salad, chips, dessert

September 11th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Roast pork loin, sweet potatoes, cooked apples, rolls, cake and ice cream

September 18th – Open House – Noon – Beef stroganoff, salad, rolls, banana pudding

September 21st – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m. – Pulled pork BBQ sandwich, baked beans, potato salad, brownies

September 25th – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Roasted breaded boneless chicken breast with golden mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, sautéed squash, pie

Bingo and other activities will be offered at all Open Houses.

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.

September Birthdays

September 3rd – Joyce Feix

September 13th – Evan Davis

September 18th – Cyndi Gill, Leia Stewart

September 21st – Tricia Lacey

Donations – Monetary and Other

We would also like to thank the following for their donations:

Monetary Donations: Community Foundation – Patrick and Clarissa Rhode Fund \$2000

Memorial Donations: Niki D. Bevins Memorial: Real Travel LLC/Carla Collins \$100

In Kind Donations: Leia Stewart, Priscilla Whipp, Gayle Workman – bingo prizes; Alice Bledsoe – food items; Mike Waldron – craft supplies; Felisa Durr – office and craft supplies.

We send our condolences to the family of Niki D. Bevins, who passed away July 28, 2019.



Free Matter for the Blind & Visually Impaired

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September 2019 Newsletter

Quote for the Month – “With every experience, you alone are painting your own canvas, thought by thought, choice by choice.”
– Oprah Winfrey