



JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CICBVI wishes a Happy New Year to our patrons, staff, and supporters. 2019 was a big year for us as we hired a new Executive Director, Felisa Durr and a new cook, Bob Allen. We also upgraded our facility with fresh exterior paint. We started a business consulting relationship with Barilla Pasta Company. New activities were added such as family feud, crafting, and Spanish class. We were honored with various financial donations that ensure our operations going into the new year. Our Golf Outing and Dinner in the Dark were successful fundraisers and we gained new supporters from both events. We are looking forward to a blessed and prosperous 2020 as we celebrate 65 years serving the community.

Thank You Uftring Ambassadors

We can not express our appreciation enough for the Uftring Ambassadors sponsoring our Christmas party in December. We were spoiled with the savory ham dinner, music, gift cards, cookie tins, trivia games and prizes. Our patrons had a wonderful time. For those who received a cookie tin, we are asking that you return them to the Center so that we can give them back to Uftring. This will allow them to repeat this treat giving tradition next year.

White Cane on Display at Peoria Riverfront Museum

On Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., the Peoria Riverfront Museum will dedicate a display case focused on new museum acquisitions. The most important of their new acquisitions, from our perspective, is the historic white cane, which has been in the care of the Central Illinois Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the past 65 years. In 1932, Peoria became the first American city to establish an ordinance giving blind and visually impaired pedestrians special right-of-way with possession of a white cane. The white cane will be on permanent loan to the museum so that more people living in and visiting our community will have the opportunity to understand its important history and enjoy it as much as we have. The display will also help raise awareness about "Peoria's Best Kept Secret," the Central Illinois Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. When entering and exiting the museum, the cane's story is prominent and directly engages with museum patrons.

10th Annual Community Banquet and Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 13, 2020, 6:00-8:30 p.m. as the Central Illinois Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired celebrates our 65th Anniversary during our 10th Annual Community Banquet and Fundraiser. We are delighted Mike Dimmick will make an encore appearance to emcee and every guest will receive a gift from Two Blind Brothers. 65 years is a huge milestone for our organization. We are planning activities throughout the year to celebrate. Stay tuned to our newsletters to find out how you can participate.

Gil's Supper Club

Thursday, January 16th, patrons will eat at their own expense at Gils Supper Club in Hanna City. We have to give Gil's a final number of reservations, so no additions after the January 9th cut off. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Thursday January 9th.**

Kinky Boots

Peoria Players presents Kinky Boots Friday, January 31st. This musical is a joyous sensation that struts its stuff with sparkle, stilettos, and heart. It is a dazzling, sassy and uplifting smash. This musical is based on true events. This huge-hearted hit tells the story of two people with nothing in common or so they think! In the end, their most sensational achievement is their friendship. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Tuesday January 14th.**

Wyoming Pancake Breakfast

The patrons will enjoy a free pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 2nd. Family and friends who participate or provide transportation, must pay for their pancake platter. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Tuesday January 21st.**

Romeo and Juliet (A Classic Drama)

On Friday, February 7th, at Cornstock Theater, the patrons will enjoy Shakespeare's love story of Romeo and Juliet who are to be sworn enemies, but fall in love. One of the most romantic and

devastating love stories ever told. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Tuesday January 14th.**

Technology Help Center

The Center will provide a free technology assistance session for products and technology that patrons personally have or ones they are interested in, on Saturday January 25th from 10:00 a.m. – Noon. We will answer patrons and their families' questions and also research any new equipment. This event may be held at the Center or another partner location. Transportation will be provided. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Thursday January 16th.**

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. Two options are available for February. Volunteer training will be held on Tuesday February 18th at 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. and Saturday February 22nd at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, at the Center. Please call the Center (309) 637-3693 to **RSVP by noon Tuesday February 11th.**

Basic White Cane Clinic

The Center will be providing a free Basic White Cane Clinic on Saturday, February 29th, 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 noon Tuesday February 4th** to reserve your space and schedule a time to be fitted for your cane, which will be provided.

Participation has its Perks

You may remember in the October newsletter our Director stated that Uftring Ambassadors asked her to keep a list of those patrons who actively participated in Center programs and services. These patrons were the recipients of a \$25 Walmart gift card. This list of active patrons was also used to determine who would receive \$100 Kroger cards and \$100 cards for guide dogs from the Center in December. We will continue to encourage participation in our activities and welcome all of our patrons to get engaged. The list begins again in January 2020 and you have a whole twelve months to enjoy all of our programs and services developed just for you. If there are any activities you would like to see us add, then just let us know. Participate and enjoy the perks in 2020!

Jam Session January 18th

Dennis Close will be back to provide live entertainment for our January Jam Session. His music extends from the 60's through the present. If you have a special song you would like to hear, then let

us know and we will pass it on to him so he can prepare. Let's get ready to JAM in January!

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Fundraisers, and Holidays

Wednesday, January 1st - New Years Day - Center Closed

Wednesday, January 8th - Open House - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 14th - Board Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 15th - Open House - Noon

Thursday, January 16th - Gil's Supper Club

Saturday, January 18th - Jam Session - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 21st - Riverfront Museum - 2:00p.m.

Wednesday, January 22nd - Open House - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 25th - Tech Help - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, January 29th - Open House - Noon

Friday, January 31st - Kinky Boots - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 2nd – Pancake Breakfast - 8:00 a.m.

Friday, February 7th - Romeo & Juliet - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 18th - Volunteer Training - 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 22nd - Volunteer Training - 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 29th - Basic White Cane – 9:00 a.m.

Friday, March 13th - Annual Banquet - 6:00 p.m.

Meal Menus for January

January 8th - Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, tossed salad, cake and ice cream.

January 15th – Open House – Noon – Vegetable beef soup, tuna salad on Texas toast, brownies.

January 18th – Jam Session – 1:00 p.m. – Hamburgers with cheese, lettuce, tomato, fries, baked beans.

January 22nd – Open House – 5:30 p.m. – Meat loaf, Au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, pie.

January 29th – Open House – Noon – Chili Mac, fruit salad, cheesecake.

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.

January Birthdays

January 5 – Paul White

January 9 – Zoe Buchanan, Tom Vogel, Becky Williams

January 18 – Alice Bledsoe

January 19 – Verda Millineaux, Gary Williams

January 29 – Carol Klokkenga

Donations – Monetary and Other

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

Monetary Donations: Roanoke Concrete Products \$250, Jerome Caldwell \$15, Larry & Patty Waldron \$4.

In Kind Donations: Bingo prizes: Lance & Grace Barke, Gayle Workman, Priscilla Whipp, Patti Woodworth, Felisa Durr. Office supplies: Felisa Durr

Dinner in the Dark Appeal: Adam Wilken \$500, Dr. Stephen and Patti Bash \$150, Earl & Linda Kalb \$100, Cindy & John Morris

\$100, Kim Farlin & Denise Durrell \$50, LaRae Ganch \$50, Jay & Chris Edmonds \$50.

End of Year Appeal: Darlene Violet \$500, Alice Dooley \$100, Phil McAlearney \$25, Bob Coney \$25, Margaret Weygand \$10.



Free Matter for the Blind & Visually Impaired

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Quote for the Month – “No one is useless in this world, who lightens the burden of it for anyone else.” – Charles Dickens