



AROUND THE CENTER

CICBVI NEWS June, 2022

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CAN YOU SEE US?

Some have commented that the CICBVI is one of the Peoria area's best kept secrets. The Board and staff have made it a priority to change that and things are progressing well. We have more patrons on our rolls – nearly double from just 18 months ago – and have increased the variety of programs we offer to include not only social events but training and educational events as well. These two improvements have resulted in more “word of mouth” advertising for the center and has increased people's awareness of our organization.

Along with this, we have increased our presence on social media – we have a very informative website, we are active on Facebook, Instagram and even have a You-Tube site where we post technology topics and tips.

Now, we are excited to announce that the weekend of June 4-5 and into Monday, June 6th, we will have a radio presence as well. We will be in front of the Hy-Vee store in Sheridan Village on Monday, June 6th, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM collecting prescription eyewear to donate through the Peoria Suburban Lions Club program. In connection with this we will have a live remote broadcast by Randy Rundle of Mix 106.9 radio station from 11:00AM to 1:00PM AND we will have several 30 second spot advertisements the weekend prior and morning of highlighting the CICBVI and this event. You can be a

part of the fun and join us in a number of ways. In fact, we NEED you to join us and here's how:

1. Sign up to help "man the table" at the event. If you are a patron, we will provide transportation, if needed. We ask that you sign up for at least an hour and please call the center ASAP so the schedule can be made.
2. Ask at least two friends or family members to help man the table, too – especially if you are unable to do so. They will be welcomed and appreciated! (please notify the center for scheduling.)
3. Collect up your unused, prescription eyewear and drop them off.
4. Ask your friends and family to collect, and drop off, too.
5. Listen to Mix 106.9 radio all weekend and all day June 6th. In fact, tell your friends and family to listen, too.

We may be small, but with your help we are becoming mighty. We need your positive energy and appreciate it very much. Every person who volunteers directly contributes to our success. We couldn't do it without them. See you June 6th!

OTHER WAYS TO HELP THE CICBVI

++Volunteer your time – as a guide (we provide training), as a "cleaner-upper," on a committee, as a service delivery person, as a tech trainer, as an activity leader – we appreciate all levels of help and talent.

++Provide supplies: we can always use Braille paper, copy paper, cleaning supplies, Bingo prizes, gift cards, office supplies, etc.

++Sign up your Kroger card to benefit the CICBVI – it is free to you, doesn't cause you to lose any fuel points and the CICBVI gets a cash donation. Visit the Kroger web site to get this done.

++Purchase Terrilynn nuts and candies – www.cicbvi.terri Lynn.com

++Cash or check directly to CICBVI. Be sure to check with your work to see if they have a matching gift program!

YOU ASKED FOR IT:

The next White Cane Training Session is scheduled for June 16th at 1:00 PM here at the CICBVI. The class is filling up quickly but there is still room if you call right now. The class is led by OEM specialist, Sean Johnson of the Rockford Sight Center and long white canes are provided by the CICBVI. Please call the center to reserve your spot!

LOGO WEAR STORE OPEN

The CICBVI logo wear store is open! Now is the time to order your CICBVI logo golf shirts, T-shirts, tank tops, etc. (there is a really cute short sleeve terry hoodie, too) Hurry – the store closes soon. Visit <https://cicbvi-21.itemorder.com> for all items to be delivered directly to your door. All proceeds benefit the CICBVI. If you are a patron and need assistance ordering, please call the center.

IMPORTANT FOOD BASKET NOTES

We are now up to over 2 dozen food baskets being delivered each month. In order to continue to make this happen, please observe the following:

1. Delivery dates are always in the newsletter – please do your best to be available to receive your basket. We also will try to call you ahead of time to confirm the time window, but obviously, this can't be set in stone so please help by being flexible.
2. Please return your empty basket. You don't need to empty it immediately. It is okay to return it at the next delivery, although sooner is much appreciated.
3. We can't do special requests. If you can't use something, please pass it on to a neighbor or friend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOTE: It is extremely important that you call in your reservations for any of our events as soon as possible. The deadline is the FRIDAY before the event unless otherwise noted. Since we are purchasing and preparing food, tickets, or other materials, plus scheduling transportation, we really need to stick to this deadline and, as much as we would like to do so, are unable to make exceptions.

June 8th: 10:30 AM Participate in a drum circle and experience a variety of instruments either by listening or playing them! Led by Natasha, this promises to be a fun event. Not only that, it is followed by lunch! DEADLINE to reserve is Monday, June 6th.

June 16th – 1:00 PM at the CICBVI. Long White Cane training session led by OEM specialist Sean Johnson (info elsewhere in this newsletter)

June 21st – Field trip to Gil's Supper Club in Hanna City – Celebrate the first day of summer and enjoy their famous fried chicken, or any of the other menu choices. Transportation is free, meal is on your own for this event. We will arrive at Gil's at 4:30 PM. Reservations are due by June 17th

June 29th – Elvis is in the building! Yes, we have Elvis – his songs, his moves – even his scarves! This will be a fun-filled evening of entertainment – starts at 5:30 PM with dinner then get ready to put on your blue suede shoes because you can't help falling in love with Elvis! Reservations are due June 24th

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- June 4 In 1937 the first shopping cart was invented
- June 6 National Eye Wear Day – join us at Hy-Vee, Sheridan Village
- June 8 Drum Circle/Music Fun at the Center 10:30 AM, lunch following, reservations due June 6th – call the center
- June 9 Happy Birthday Elaine Butler
- June 12 Happy Birthday Deanna Bruce
- June 12 In 1974, girls were first allowed to play little league baseball
- June 14 CICBVI Board Meeting at the Center
- June 15 Midwest Food Bank food pick-up
- June 16-17 Food Basket deliveries
- June 16 Long White Cane Training Session 1:00 PM at the Center
- June 19 Happy Fathers' Day
- June 21 Supper at Gil's – reservations due June 17th – call the Center
- June 27 Happy Birthday to the song "Happy Birthday." First published in 1924 it is the most popular song in the world.
- June 29 Elvis will be in the building! Dinner at the CICBVI, reservations due June 24th
- June 29 In 1964, the first TV remote control became available. Think of all the miles we have saved since then!
- June 30 Happy Birthday Bob Quinn

The WEEK of JULY 4th, the CICBVI will benefit from items sold at the Peoria Heights Helping Hands resale shop. You can help in two ways: Donate your no-longer-needed items or garage sale leftovers AND shop at the store that week. They especially can use clean, gently used clothes, kitchen items, small appliances, bookcases and accept donations during open hours, Tuesday – Saturday. They are located right on War Memorial Drive.

SYMPATHY EXTENDED: It is with heavy hearts that we share that Felisa Durr's mother, Dorothy Jean Jordan, passed away. Even though she lived in Alabama, Dorothy was a supporter of the CICBVI and the services we provide. She kept up with the Center on social media and frequently "liked" our posts. Our thoughts and prayers are with Felisa and her family at this difficult time.

IN MEMORIUM Last month, patron Jimmy Smith passed away and the CICBVI was named as a memorial recipient. We have since received gifts and wish to thank the donors as well as Jimmy's family for remembering the Center in this way. Jimmy has left an empty place in our hearts and will not be forgotten.

THANK YOU – to The Pilot Club of Peoria for their generous grant awarded to the CICBVI. Members of The Pilot Club work all year to raise money to award to deserving non-profit organizations and this year, the CICBVI was the recipient of \$1000. Members of The Pilot Club were able to visit the Center recently and hear about our programs and services and learn how their grant will help with our ongoing programs and services. A heartfelt thank you to them!

Since it is Fathers' Day this month, I'd like to share a little about my dad. My dad's first name was Clark and he even looked like movie idol, Clark Gable! Dark hair, impish smile, twinkling eyes and a rakish, devil-may-care persona that just drew people to him. All my girlfriends had a crush on him and my boyfriends all wanted to be him.

He liked nothing more than to make people laugh and never met a stranger. He loved to play guitar and sing – even though he couldn't carry a tune in a bucket. We lived on a lake and he loved anything to do with the water – boating, skiing, swimming, skating, fishing – you name it. Every year, there was a July 4th Boat Parade – everyone decorated their boats for the holiday and paraded around the lake showing them off and competing for the 1st place prize. My dad, being the carefree sort of guy he was, generally didn't start working on ours until the day – sometimes night – before. His designs were always fairly simple BUT they were clever – and to this day my dad holds the record for the most first place wins.

My dad was a Safety Engineer as his career and we were the first of anyone I knew to have seat belts in our car – front and back and long before it was the law. When he traveled for work, he frequently was able to combine his trip with a family vacation so we were able to visit places from coast to coast over the years. He was a super volunteer and member of organizations like the Lions, Veterans' groups and church committees. He also (once) made home made beer, which resulted in that activity being banned forever since it smelled up the house so bad. My dad passed away on Fathers' Day in 1986. He hung on just long enough to meet his 3 month old (and only) grandson. But, I know he is smiling down on all of us and loving what we do here at the CICBVI. Happy Fathers' Day! - Peace and Love, Paula B



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 someone else.” - Charles Dickens