



AROUND THE CENTER

CICBVI NEWS September, 2022

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Paula Balistreri, Editor

MEET JILL !

We are so pleased to announce an addition to our staff, Jill Owen. By way of introduction, Jill wrote this for you:

“My name is Jill Owen and I joined the CICBVI in August. While I am new to the Center, I am not new to the type of services the Center provides. In the early 2000’s, I was the Assistive Technology Coordinator for the TCRC Sight Center. I traveled all over Illinois doing assessments, providing services and assisting with technology to help low and no vision individuals be successful. In 2006 I was awarded the “Sighted Teacher of the Year” award by the American Foundation for the Blind. I was born and raised about 6 blocks from the Center, moving to rural Peoria in the late 70’s. We visited the Center a lot when I was young as it was a very active Community Center. I now live near Peoria Heights with my husband, youngest son and 4 dogs. My oldest son and his wife have blessed me with two adorable grandkids. On days I am not at the Center, I teach group and private dog training classes and enjoy activities with my own dogs. I am looking forward to seeing some of my friends from the Center from years ago and introducing myself in person to those of you I have not already met. I will be updating records, so you may be receiving a call from me soon!” Jill will be at the Center on a regular basis every Monday morning and often on Friday mornings, too.

AN AMAZING AUGUST

The Center was awash in activity this month. We enjoyed a special visit from PFS shelter pets, a yummy meal prepared by Kathy S., a trip to the zoo followed by a pizza lunch and Bodacious Bingo and dinner. We also held a volunteer training class, received a check from Helping Hands as proceeds from our sale week there AND Paula B and Board President, Kurt Norris were featured on the WEEK-TV mid-morning television show sharing information about our golf outing and White Cane Day. Be sure to check our Facebook page for pictures and more stories of these events. And, please remember you are all invited to join us in any activity – just call in your reservation (309-637-3693).

WHITE CANE TRAINING DAY

We are pleased to once again offer a White Cane Training Session. Led by Vision Rehabilitation Specialist, Sean Johnson, the class is scheduled for September 6th at 11:00 AM at the Center (2905 W. Garden St., Peoria). Participants will receive a measured to fit white cane and will learn how to navigate in various, common, situations. It is not too late to sign up – just call the center. The class generally lasts about 90 minutes and both the class and cane are free. Care-givers and family members are welcome to come observe as well.

DID YOU KNOW The word September is derived from the Latin for seven – because it used to be the 7th month of the year. Now it is the 9th, which is fitting since there are 9 letters in its name. Also, more babies have been born on September 9th than any other date!

COMING UP IN THE COMMUNITY

The CICBVI Golf Outing is September 19th and we are happy to announce that our team spots are FULL! There may be room for an individual to join a team, however, so if you would like to golf, please contact the Center. There also is still room to be a sponsor. This year the outing is being held at Arrowhead Golf Club and plans are in full swing to provide lots of fun (along with the golf, of course)!

Paula B will be speaking to a group of students, teachers and parents at the Peoria Academy September 16th. She will be sharing information about CICBVI services, volunteer opportunities and more. If you have a group or organization that would like to have a presentation, just call the center and we can set something up just for you!

WORK DAY at the Center – in partnership with the Peoria Dream Center, we will have a group of volunteers at the Center on September 24th to do some much needed yard work. The plan is to dig up a major portion of the tiger/day lilies plus remove weeds and brush from the lot lines. If anyone has a spare shovel or two that we could borrow for the day, please call the center. Also, if you would like to rehome any lilies, please let us know and you can come get some!

FIELD TRIP TO TANNER'S September 21st we will be going to Tanner's Orchard to sample their wares, visit the animals and, hopefully, enjoy some nice fall weather. We will arrive at Tanner's around 10:30 AM, then off for lunch at Pizza Ranch. Be sure to call in your reservations no later than Friday, September 16th.

“Funny Hat Day” LUNCH at the Center: September 28th Come for lunch and wear your best, funniest, or favorite hat!!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

September 1	Happy Birthday John Hairston
September 3	Happy Birthday Joyce Fiex
September 5	Labor Day
September 6	White Cane Training Session 11:00 AM at the Center
September 8	Happy Birthday George Menendez-Olivera
September 11	Grandparents' Day 9/11 Remembrance Day
September 12	Happy Birthday Paula B
September 13	Golf Outing Swag Bag Stuffing Day (tentative)
September 14	MW Food Bank pick-up
September 16-17	Food Basket Delivery
September 16	CICBVI presentation at Peoria Academy
September 19	CICBVI Golf Outing – Arrowhead Country Club
September 21	Field Trip to Tanner's Orchard, lunch at Pizza Ranch – reservations need to be called in by Friday September 16 th
September 24	Work Day at CICBVI
September 27	Celebrating Generations Expo at Embassy Suites
September 28	"Funny Hat Day" lunch at Center (and celebrating Strawberry Pie Day) – reservations need to be called in by Friday September 23 rd)

Be sure to check out the flyer for our White Cane Day celebration and fund raiser. Peoria is the home of the White Cane and we have partnered with the Peoria Riverfront Museum (where the original is on display) to bring you this event. You will not want to miss it!



Free Matter for the Blind & Visually Impaired

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Quote for the Month

If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito.

-Dalai Lama