



AROUND THE CENTER

CICBVI NEWS October, 2022

2905 W. Garden St., Peoria, IL 61605

Phone: 309-637-3693

Email: info@cicbvi.org Website: www.cicbvi.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cicbvi

Paula Balistreri, Editor

NATIONAL WHITE CANE DAY

By virtue of a proclamation made by President Lyndon Johnson, the first National White Cane Day was declared on October 15, 1964. The CICBVI recognizes the date every year and this year is extra special.

As you all probably know, the first white cane was created right in Peoria, IL. The original belongs to the CICBVI and is on loan to the Peoria Riverfront Museum. Since October 15th is on a Saturday this year, we are holding our annual banquet on the actual White Cane Day date and are fortunate to be able to hold it at the Peoria Riverfront Museum where the original cane is on display. Additionally, the city of Peoria, thanks to a proclamation by Mayor Rita Ali, has made White Cane Day a city day of recognition. The Murray Baker Bridge will be lit up in the cane colors of red and white. At the banquet, cocktail hour will be held where we will be able to see the bridge light up.

There is a flyer included with this print newsletter with information on how to make your reservation and/or be a sponsor of this major event. You can also call the center at 309-637-3693. We only have three fundraisers a year and count on our generous donors and supporters to enable us to provide services all year long. This year we have seen significant growth in the number of patrons we serve and so have made this final fundraiser one you won't want to miss. Time is short – get your reservations in right now! And, as always, thank you for being our partner.

HI! ITS PAULA B reporting on a Super September!

As I write this, it is only 58 degrees out – yet two days ago I was sitting in the shade where it was 102 degrees. A bit of a difference, that’s for sure. But now that I’m back the first thing I want to do is thank the CICBVI team for everything they did while I was gone. Jamie, Mike, Artie, and Kathy handled the trip to Tanner’s like pros and Jill did all the organizing for the Funny Hat Day lunch. Along with the people already mentioned, Mark and Cheryl also helped with the lunch. Thank you!! I also want to thank our board and patrons who sent thoughts, prayers and general good vibes for me and my mother. For those of you who asked, she is doing pretty well – she will be 97 in October and as they say, “Old age ain’t for sissies!” We got a lot done – I needed to be there – and thank you for all the support!

Also in September, we had a very successful Golf Outing thanks to the team of Kirk J., Kurt N., Dave M., Lance B., and Felisa along with several volunteers. Be sure to see the list of our awesome sponsors elsewhere in this newsletter. A special thank you to patrons Jonathan, Cora, Gyla, Patti, Connie and Sharon, as well as volunteer Jamie, who helped stuff the “swag bags” for the golfers.

A new thing we did this month was offer low-cost (thanks to the cost being supplemented by the CICBVI) haircuts to patrons. Lynette Norris connected us with Ashley, from Pure Bliss salon and she came and “did hair” for several patrons. We had a great time and plan to do this again for any patron (male or female) who needs a good haircut at a reduced rate. Check out our Facebook page for some before and after pictures!

--Paula B

WHITE CANE TRAINING

We had a great turn out for our White Cane Training Day in September. We will be having another one right after the first of the year, then, in the Spring, will have the next level of training for anyone who has already attended the first session.

We are also excited to now have a WeWalk “smart cane” in our arsenal. This cane offers the latest and greatest in cane technology, including GPS and other audio features. Patron Lance B is currently giving it a “road test” and becoming an expert in its use. If you have an interest in a WeWalk cane, please call the center and we will work with you on obtaining one and learning to use it.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Jill represented the CICBVI at the Celebrating Generations expo in September and was able to secure an invitation for Paula B to speak to a group of caregivers from the Advocates for Access organization October 18th. We are thankful for the increased awareness of the CICBVI and the services we provide!

Felisa will be representing the CICBVI at an informational session at Pearce Community Center in Chillicothe on October 20th from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. This is another great opportunity to expand our reach and share our service offerings.

Felisa also has been working with the Minority Business Development Center and learned of an opportunity for patrons meeting low income guidelines or receiving any governmental assistance to qualify for a free computer system (computer, monitor, keyboard & mouse). For details, qualifications and distribution dates, or to register (deadline is October 22) e-mail Felisa at execdirector@cicbvi.org.

COMPUTER CLASSES OFFERED

Through the AARP Senior Planet, Felisa is now trained on how to offer basic computer classes that are designed around a slower paced environment. The classes include using Zoom, Google, online shopping and internet security. If you would like a Fall class schedule, email Felisa at execdirector@cicbvi.org and include your name, address, e-mail and phone number to be added to the mailing list for the Fall class schedule.

WINNER! WINNER! - The Celebrating Generations Expo was sponsored by the Agency on Aging and Jill represented the CICBVI well! We also were able to award a door prize of CICBVI logo wear, cup, pen and writing pan designed for use by those with low vision. The winner was Shirley Hackmann of Washington! Congratulations!

A TIP OF THE FUNNY HAT GOES TO all the patrons who came to lunch. Jill sends her thanks for your patience as this was her maiden voyage to a patron event. Mission BBQ provided the sandwiches and even though it was National Strawberry Pie Day, strawberries are out of season so we improvised with strawberry cheesecake. Jill got her feet wet with Bingo and one patron got her feet wet, literally, by Jill while chatting near the water fountain! Ooops!

GOLF OUTING A HUGE SUCCESS!

We had a beautiful day and a great show of support for our annual golf outing. This year it was held at Arrowhead Country Club, which is a premier course and enjoyed by all. Highlights included a “hit your ball into the circle” betting hole, a “get a little closer” hole, which was just like it sounds – an opportunity to move closer to the pin for that great shot, plus Mulligans just in case you “whiffed!” Box lunches and a beverage cart were provided and patron mom Barb Barke won the 50/50 raffle! First and second place prizes were awarded, too! Thank you to the committee for all their hard work: Kurt N., Kirk J., Lance B., Dave M., Felisa D., Elizabeth A., Bianca A., and Erika A.

WINNERS

Hole #13 – Closest to the pin – Josh Edmonds

Hole #6 – Long Drive Men’s – Doug Middendorf

Hole #6 – Long Drive Women’s – Maureen Mall

Hole #9 – Longest Putt - Travis Goff

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE AND
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

THANK YOU TO OUR GOLF OUTING SPONSORS

– We couldn't do what we do without you!

GOLD SPONSORS:

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OCTOBER EVENTS:

First up is a quick trip to the Dairy Queen to say good-bye to summer and to celebrate National Dessert Day! Space is limited so call the center to reserve your spot no later than October 7th. This is a “treat” event, not a meal unless you choose to do so on your own. We will go to the Washington DQ and plan to be there around 2:00 PM.

Next is your chance to “pop some tags” and go thrift store shopping on October 20th. Space is limited for this trip, too, so call the center to reserve your spot no later than October 14th. We will go to the “Spare & Share” thrift shop in El Paso – arriving around 10 AM – with lunch to follow in Eureka. NOTE: this is a Thursday trip!!!

Finally, Trick or Treat at the center Wednesday evening, October 26th. If you wear a costume, you will be eligible for a prize!! We will have dinner and some Halloween fun – treats and maybe even a trick or two! Arrive at 5:30 PM – and get your reservations in no later than October 21st.

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!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- October 5 Happy Birthday Delilah Russell
- October 9 Happy Birthday Earline Clark
- October 10 Field Trip to Dairy Queen – get your reservations in no later than October 7th
- October 11 In 1987 the world's largest pizza was baked – and cut into 94,248 slices!
- October 12 Midwest Food Bank pick-up
- October 13-14 Food Basket deliveries
- October 15 White Cane Day Bridge Lighting and Banquet at the Peoria Riverfront Museum
- October 16 Happy Birthday to Robert Rose
- October 18 CICBVI presentation to Advocates for Access (Paula B)
- October 19 Happy Anniversary Lance & Grace Barke
- October 20 Field Trip to Spare & Share Thrift Shop, followed by lunch. Get your reservations in no later than October 14th
- October 20 CICBVI informational event at Pearce Community Center, Chillicothe (Felisa D)
- October 25 Happy Birthday Mike Ingram
- October 26 Trick or Treat dinner at the Center – get your reservations in no later than October 21st
- October 27 Happy Birthday to the Dragon Lady (otherwise known as Paula B's mom) – 97 years old today!
- October 29 Happy Birthday Barb Fraizer
- October 31 Happy Birthday Brandon Clark
- October 31 Happy Halloween



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**Free Matter for the Blind &
Visually Impaired**

Quote for the Month

"You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results." ~ **Mahatma Gandhi**