



AROUND THE CENTER

CICBVI NEWS May, 2023

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Paula Balistreri, Editor

TERRIFIC TURN-OUT

Of course, the big news from April is our first-ever Trivia Night fundraiser. With over 130 guests it was an event for the record books but it couldn't have happened without our team, our supporters and our volunteers. Thank you to our:

SPONSORS:

Galaxy Giver level

Uftring Auto Group and IL Eye Center

Solar System Standout level

CEFCU

Shining Star level

POGO Marketing

Planetary Partner level

Brad & Krissie Foster

Kurt Norris

DONORS:

Baskets

Bernice Gordon Young

Hoerr Nursery

Kurt Norris

Tippy Creek

Jill Owen

Dave Murphy

Paula Balistreri

Prizes

RC Outfitters

Maui Jim

Photo Booth

Dr. Stephen Eyler

VOLUNTEERS:

Impact Central Illinois

Rotary Peoria-North & Friends

Kirk Johnson

Jamie Lang

SPECIAL THANKS:

Twin City Trivia

Barrack's Cater Inn / Jim Barrack

Pogo Marketing

THE TEAM:

Paula Balistreri

Jill Owen

Kurt Norris

WINNING TRIVIA TEAM: Uftring Auto Group

BEST TEAM NAME: Special OPS (This team was dressed to fit their name AND the name incorporated their last name initials.)

BEST DRESSED TEAM: Ron's Zany Zoo (This team suffered the loss of a giraffe, but pulled together and came up with a substitute that, along with the rest of the team, completed their zoo!)

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU See you next year!

ALSO IN APRIL –

The CICBVI was busy with all sorts of activities. The Ladies' Lunch Group met again, we gave away two white canes, we distributed 30 food baskets and celebrated Spring by grilling chicken breasts and pork chops for lunch. (Thank you to Mark & Earl for being Grill Masters.)

Paula B was invited to speak at Midwest Central School to three groups of about 25 – 30 each plus Board President joined Paula B for a presentation to the Washington Rotary Club.

The Center once again benefitted from the Dream Center's "Serve the City" initiative. We were blessed with volunteers from Grace Presbyterian Church and CAT Young Professionals who came and cleaned up leaves and debris, pulled weeds and spread mulch in our planting areas. Board member Gabe DuBois brought his entire family to help, Kurt Norris was on "dumpster patrol" and Paula B made sure there were donuts and coffee! Be sure to check out our Facebook page where you can see pictures!

DID YOU KNOW . . .

There is a brand new eyewear collection box located behind Village Hall in Peoria Heights where you can drop your used prescription glasses. The Peoria Suburban Lions Club provided the box and they pick them up to be distributed.

FOOD BASKET REMINDER: Please, if you want to cancel your basket for the month CALL THE CENTER AHEAD OF TIME. When you wait until the last minute and call the driver, food gets wasted so your help is greatly appreciated! Thanks.

AMAZING MAY EVENTS:

The Ladies' Lunch group is a lot of fun! This month, they will once again meet at Donna's Café inside Two Sisters and a Warehouse (where last month there was some shopping done along with enjoying a yummy lunch.) The date is April 9th at 11:00 AM. Please call and reserve your spot ASAP.

On May 17th we will be having a Tactile Art Night. In April, we received some tactile art made by students at Springfield Christian School and it has inspired us to make our own. We will have a simple supper and then get crafty. This is art ANYONE can do and we will provide all the supplies. Just call in your reservation no later than May 12th to save your spot.

Then it is off to shop! On May 24th we will take the bus and go shopping at Wal-Mart in Washington, then have lunch nearby at Washington Family Restaurant (lunch cost on your own) and afterwards visit Holland's candy and ice cream shop on the Square in Washington. This is a fairly early event – the plan is to be at the Wal-Mart by 10 AM to allow an hour or so to shop – and space is limited so get your reservations in ASAP – deadline is either when we are full or April 19th, whichever comes first.

DATE CHANGE DUE TO HOLIDAY – The “Visionaries” Lions Club meeting will be held Tuesday, May 30th, at the Center.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE:

Save the date – on June 30th we will be traveling to the Rockford Sight and Hearing Center for a tour and will be joining their social group for lunch. More details will be in next month's “Around the Center” newsletter but get it on your calendar now.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- May 1 Happy Birthday Batman!
- May 4 Grant committee meeting – 5:00 PM
Happy Birthday Farrah Green
- May 7 Happy Birthday Brenda Pierce
- May 9 Ladies' Lunch Group at Donna's Café – call in your
reservation now!
- May 10 Food Bank pick-up
Golf Event Planning Committee Meeting
- May 11 Happy Birthday Angie Porter
Happy Birthday Jonathan Gammell
- May 11-12 Food Basket distribution
- May 12 Presentation at El Visa Baptist Church, Peoria
Happy Birthday Bob Coney
- May 14 Happy Mothers' Day!
- May 15 Volunteer Training Session – 11:00 AM
- May 17 Tactile Art Night at the Center – 5:30 PM – call in your
reservations ASAP!
- May 19 Happy Birthday Kathy Smith
- May 20 Happy Birthday Cora Quinn
- May 22 Filming CICBVI informational TV spot for WTVP
- May 24 Field Trip to Wal-Mart/lunch/Holland's Candy Store
Call in your reservations ASAP
- May 25 Happy Birthday Star Johnson
- May 30 Visionaries Lions' Club meeting
- May 31 Happy Birthday Jim Sorrell

Special thoughts go out to our patron and friend Esther Knott. She has been in the hospital and now has been transferred to the Renaissance Care Center in Canton, IL

SAVE THE DATE

One of our most popular events is our annual golf outing. This year it will be on July 17th and will be our 16th annual. There will be some special things planned to make this an afternoon of golf, fun and friends!

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The CICBVI always has opportunities to volunteer – either here at the Center or accompanying patrons on a field trip. As we are shaping up for a busy summer now would be a great time to get on board.

There are some special aspects of being a guide for a blind or visually impaired person and a special training session will be held at the Center on May 15th at 11:00 AM.

We also have two events planned for May where an extra volunteer or two would be helpful. First up is a Tactile Art Night on May 17th, 5:30 PM at the Center. The second is a shopping trip to Walmart, lunch and a visit to a candy store all in Washington on May 24th (for this one, you must have completed our training session since it involves guiding patrons out in the community). Questions? Does this sound like something you'd like to do? Call the Center at 309-637-3693.



Serve the City work day volunteers

Ron's Zany Zoo –
Trivia 2023 Best Dressed Team



The IL Eye Center Einsteins
were tough competitors!



The Kurt's Krazy Korner team



Best Team Name – Special OPS



The winners of Seeing Stars
Trivia 2023 – The Utring Auto
Group





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Quote for the Month

Never turn your back on the ocean. Why? Because it might be waving at you!