

AROUND THE CENTER



CICBVI NEWS

June 2023

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NOT-SO-LAZY SUMMERTIME IS HERE

First, our Annual (16th!) Golf Outing is on July 17th and spots are filling up fast. Look for the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter and register to join us for a fun day on a beautiful course all while supporting the work of the CICBVI.

Secondly, we are happy to report our Impact Illinois grant funds are being put to use – both the kitchen and the Uprising Tech Center are in the process of being refreshed and re-organized. This means the center is in a bit of chaos right now but the end result will be so worth it. Special thanks to Dave Murphy and Kurt Norris for their demolition work, painting and shelving placement. Also, special thanks to our tech committee (Jill, Lance, Chris W and Deanna B) for working very hard to take inventory of our items and get that room ready for new work stations and flooring.

In other news, you may recall we were selected as a project for the Peoria Chamber of Commerce Leadership School and this past month we received the completed package. This group of talented community members put together a complete marketing package that includes an updated brochure, newly designed business cards and handouts and more that we will be putting to good use. Not only that, but our team had to present in front of

all the others and were voted as the best collaboration and presentation. We are so thankful and appreciative their hard work!

IF YOU MISSED JOINING US IN MAY YOU MISSED:

A fabulous Ladies Lunch that included a tour of Grand View Drive, the castle house and a little bit of Peoria area history related to the World's Most Beautiful Drive.

Tactile Art Night where patrons and volunteers made really cool 3-D art work (check out our Facebook page for some pictures). Plus we had yummy pulled BBQ chicken sandwiches. Special thanks to our med-student volunteers Grace and Ben, who helped with everything along with our usual helpers, Artie, Kathy and Jamie.

Our road trip to Washington Wal-mart where everything from a scale, to dog food, to cute dresses and shirts were purchased. Then it was on to Washington Family Restaurant where we ate good food, learned some new knock-knock jokes and laughed a lot. Finally, we headed to Washington Square and visited Holland's old fashioned candy and popcorn shop and ice cream store. Needless to say, we enjoyed some great ice cream for dessert and the nice folks at Holland's welcomed our groups with snack size bags of caramel and cheese corn for everyone. It was a beautiful day and everyone had a good time.

Also during May, we were the beneficiaries of the proceeds from Royal Publishing's Employee Casual Day. Paula visited them to make a presentation about what we do and was presented with a check for nearly \$3000. What a blessing from this company and their employees!

The CICBVI was out and about in the community multiple times during the month, speaking at and sharing what we do with churches, schools and service groups. We also are planning ahead for more activities so read on!

COMING IN JUNE

Ladies Lunch at Donna's Café inside Two Sisters and a Warehouse is on June 6th this month. Be sure to call the Center to make your reservation – and get put on the transportation list if needed. If you haven't made it to one of these yet, what are you waiting for? Enjoy good food, great conversation and perhaps a little surprise or two.

One Piano and a lot of Pizza. By request, Finn will be performing his recital pieces for you at the Center (on our newly tuned piano!). Once he heard you wanted to hear him, he has been working hard at practicing. This is a short recital and afterwards we will have pizza for lunch and Finn will call a few games of Bingo for you. Reservation deadline is June 15th

Field Trip to the Rockford Sight and Hearing Center. We will be joining the RSHC's social group for lunch (cost is \$5/each person) and touring this fabulous facility. This is a fairly long road trip with an early morning start so be prepared. We will pick you all up, gather at the center for a quick restroom break and head out. This is about a one and ½ to two hour trip. Reservation deadline is June 23rd and space is limited.

AND COMING IN JULY – FREE WHITE CANE TRAINING

We will be offering another white cane training day on July 21st, 11:00 AM. Participants must register no later than July 17th. Each participant will receive a free, properly sized, long white cane along with the free training. Call 309-637-3693 to reserve your spot!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- June 1 Happy Birthday Superman – first created in 1938
- June 3 Happy Birthday Patrick Martinson
- June 6 National Yo-Yo Day
- June 9 Happy Birthday Elaine Butler
- June 10 Happy Birthday to the ball point pen
- June 12 Happy Birthday Deanna Bruce
Happy Birthday Margaret Lowery
- June 13 CICBVI Board Meeting
- June 14 Food Basket pick-up
- June 15-16 Food Basket delivery
RSVP deadline for One Piano, lots of Pizza
- June 22 One Piano, lots of Pizza – lunch at the Center – 11:30am
- June 23 RSVP deadline for Rockford Sight & Hearing Center trip
- June 26 Visionary Lions Club meeting at the Center; 11:30 am
- June 27 Happy Birthday Helen Keller
- June 29 Happy Birthday Jill Owen
- June 30 Happy Birthday Robert Quinn
- June 30 Field Trip to Rockford Sight & Hearing Center – rsvp due
June 23rd

If you are interested in helping to stuff “swag bags” for our golf outing, please call the center. Date for stuffing to be determined. This is a major fund raiser for the CICBVI and your help will allow us to continue to offer the services we do. Thanks!

ASSISTIVE DEVICE LOANER PROGRAM

Did you know the CICBVI offers various assistive devices for low and no vision individuals through their loaner program? We have various items, including desk top magnifiers available to loan for however long they are needed. For the more expensive items (some of these items cost thousands of dollars) we do require a small, refundable, deposit.

We also have other items such as personal braille machines, audio devices and more. In addition, we have a program to provide free Alexa devices to qualifying patrons. All you have to do is call the center and ask. We have already provided devices and Alexa's to several patrons and the feedback has been very positive. These devices can make a huge difference in patrons' ability to be independent and safe in their homes. This program is made possible through the grant we received from the Peoria North Rotary.

But wait. There's more! We have a fairly extensive library of books and music on CD that patrons can borrow. Not only that, we can mail them directly to your home! Questions? Interested? Just call the Center – 309-637-3693.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED –

We have been asked to provide classes to share tips on living with a visual impairment. This means we need your expertise and willingness to share “what has worked for you” with others who have more recently experienced vision loss. Some topics may include handling money, arranging closets, record-keeping, cooking, and other everyday type tasks. If you can add to this list of topics or, if you are willing to share your experience, please call the center!



***FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED***

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June, 2023 Newsletter

Quote for the Month

"Some of the best memories are made in flip flops."

~ Kellie Elmore ~