

AROUND THE CENTER

CICBVI NEWS

February 2024



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Paula Balistreri, Editor

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXCLUSIVE NEWS FOR YOU!

We hope you have already saved the date for our 2nd annual Trivia Night fund raiser being held April 18th. This is a fun event and tickets go FAST. Tickets are \$60 per person, but as a newsletter recipient you are getting an EXCLUSIVE \$10/per person discount if you reserve your seat and pay for your ticket **before** February 29th.

Details:

- April 18th at Barrack's Cater Inn – "Trivia Through the Decades"
- Prizes for best theme-related dressed best team name
- Each winning team member wins a cash prize!
- Teams can have from 2 to 8 members.
- Appetizer buffet included with cash bar available.
- Auction baskets, raffle prizes, 50/50, side games and free photo booth
- Hosted by Twin City Trivia

To take advantage of this discounted price (\$50 per person), please call (309-637-3693) or e-mail (info@cicbvi.org) the center to reserve and purchase your tickets.

PS – you will also be getting a flyer soon so watch your mail!

DID YOU KNOW . . .

We still have a few free Braille or large print calendars available – call the Center to get yours.

We are accepting nominations for PATRON OF THE QUARTER. Criteria are good attitude, attendance at center social and volunteer events and general helpfulness and positive promotion of the center. Any patron can be nominated, and the winner will be eligible for Patron of the Year. Just tell us why you think your nomination should win! The patron selected will win a gift card.

The center has a loaner program for assistive devices specific for the visually impaired. We can also provide in-home Alexa devices. Call the Center to learn more.

SUPPORT OUR PARTNERS

The Peoria North Rotary Club is holding a fund raiser to support the Human Traffic Prevention division of the Center for Protection from Abuse. Human Trafficking can be anything from selling a person's body or services to underage workers and is a crime that occurs not only globally but right here in our community. The Rotary event is February 9th at the Warehouse on State and features food, entertainment by Dexter O'Neal and the Funkyard and more. Visit <https://peorianorthrotary.org/mardigras/> for more information and tickets.

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FREE LONG WHITE CANE WITH TRAINING – Friday, February 9 (10am) at the Center. Any blind or visually impaired person is eligible to receive a free long white cane and the associated training provided by a certified O & M specialist. If you would like to attend, please call the center at 309-637-3693 to reserve your spot. If you need a ride, free transportation is provided if you live in the general Peoria area.

iPHONE TRAINING – did you know your iPhone can be equipped for the visually impaired? We offer free small group training on how to best use your iPhone. Our February 17 class is full, but you can call to be put on the list for the next one. You will be asked about the most convenient March date and that date will be published in the next newsletter. Transportation is provided if needed. NOTE: this training is for iPhone users but we are working on being able to provide similar training for Android phones. Stay tuned!

IF WE DIDN'T SEE YOU IN JANUARY – you missed a great Thrift Shop Hop trip to our partner's thrift shops: Helping Hands and The Dream Center, followed by lunch at Gebby's. You also missed our Chili Chat dinner and the opportunity to hear stories from our patrons and play a rousing game of Bingo.

COMING IN FEBRUARY

LADIES' LUNCH - Tuesday, February 6 at Jubilee Café (11:30am). It isn't too late to reserve your spot. While this event is enabled by the CICBVI, it is patron led – in other words, attendees choose where they will go next and whether or not they want to have a speaker or just visit. Attendees are “on their own” for the cost of their meal but the CICBVI will provide free transportation – just call and save your spot! And, go ahead and mark your calendars now for March 5 at the Billboard Bistro in Bartonville.

COMBO VALENTINE'S AND MARDI GRAS LUNCH AT CENTER – Monday, February 19 (11:30am). We will have a Mardi Gras King and Queen plus play some games. Reservations are due by February 14th.

OUR FAMOUS AND ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO SUPPER AT GIL'S - Thursday, February 29 (5:30pm). We always have a big crowd for this event so it is important you make reservation early. Transportation will be provided but since there is a good chance our vehicles will fill up fast, seats will be provided on a first come/first served basis. Deadline for reservations is February 21.

LOOKING AHEAD – GET FIT FOR SPRING with a dinner and fitness session lead by Evan from Cane & Able Fitness. You may recall him from last year – he has a program specifically designed for the blind and visually impaired. Save the date: April 9th!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- February 1 Happy Birthday Jarmirah Richardson Brock
- February 2 Happy Groundhog Day!
Happy Birthday Shirley Artis
- February 4 Pancake Brunch at Wyoming Lions
- February 6 Ladies' Lunch at Jubilee Café
Happy Birthday Matthew Stein
- February 7 Happy Birthday Ed Lindsay
- February 9 FREE White Cane & Training Day at Center (10am)
Happy Birthday Edna Engberts
- February 10 Happy Birthday Lloyd Ingersoll
- February 11 Happy Birthday Connie Schiele
- February 12 Happy Birthday Jim Gruver
- February 14-16 Food basket pick-up & delivery
- February 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- February 15 Morton Rotary speaking engagement
- February 17 iPhone Training class (full) 1:00 PM
- February 19 Valentine/Mardi Gras Lunch at Center (11:30am) rsvp 2/14
- February 20 Happy Birthday Jane Fishkin
- February 23 Partner meeting with MW Food Bank
- February 25 Happy Birthday Robert Kelleher
- February 27 Happy Birthday Lynn Freeman
- February 28 Happy Birthday Leona Eppy
- February 29 Dinner at Gil's (5:30pm) rsvp 2/21
- March 5 Ladies' Lunch at Billboard Bistro (11:30am)



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FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Quote for the Month

“Keep on beginning and failing. Each time you fail, start all over again and you will grow stronger until you have accomplished a purpose – not the one you began with perhaps but one you’ll be glad to remember.”

~Ann Sullivan (Helen Keller’s teacher)