

# AROUND THE CENTER

## CICBVI NEWS

April 2024



2905 W. Garden St., Peoria, IL 61605

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Paula Balistreri, Editor

### DEADLINE LOOMING!

You only have a short time to get your reservations in for our 2nd annual Trivia Night! You not only will have fun, enjoy a great appetizer buffet, and be able to try your luck at 50/50 and raffles! **If your team wins, you get bragging rights AND each team member wins \$100.** Check out the flyer for more details and the QR code to scan to reserve your spot now!

### 1ST EVER PATRON OF THE QUARTER NAMED

We are pleased to announce that Z. L. King is the 1st Patron of the Quarter. Z.L. is a very deserving person who has been regularly attending CICBVI events and activities since 2022. His smile lights up the room and he never fails to greet everyone with a cheerful hello. He has contributed to our meals (he is a certified chef!) and regularly expresses his appreciation for the center and our work. His positive attitude is delightful.

Z. L. wins a \$25 gift card of his choice and is now eligible for Patron of the Year. If you would like to nominate a patron for the 2nd quarter, just call the center – 309-637-3693 to submit a name!

## COMING IN APRIL

First up is the Ladies' Lunch on April 2. This month they are meeting at the Red Robin restaurant in East Peoria. If you would like to attend and are a patron of the CICBVI needing a ride, please call the center.

This was popular and helpful last year so we are doing it again – an evening with Cane & Able Fitness on April 16th. Patron Evan Schwerbrock is a certified fitness professional specializing in fitness and health routines specifically for the blind and visually impaired. We will have a healthy dinner first then participate in some easy activities with Evan. If you would like to learn more about Evan's work visit [www.caneandablefitness.com](http://www.caneandablefitness.com) Reservations are due April 10.

Most importantly, in April is our "Dynamic Decades" Trivia event on April 18. Check out the flyer!

On April 25, we will be taking a field trip to Braker's Market and Deli between Washington and Eureka. This country-style store features homemade goodies and we will have lunch (on your own) right there from their deli. Reservations are due April 22.

On April 27, we will once again be beneficiaries of the Dream Center's Serve the City program with volunteers coming to do some spring clean-up work around our yard. The more the merrier so if you'd like to help, please feel free to join us, starting at 9:00 AM. Bring work gloves and if you have a spare rake, shovel, trowel, etc., bring that, too.

Looking ahead to May, the Ladies' Lunch will be at LePeep on May 7. Please be sure to call in your reservations if you need a ride!

## **SMART PHONE TRAINING**

We are now able to offer smart phone training for BOTH iPhone and Android devices. Classes are customized to your user level, too, so beginners to advanced level users are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Training is scheduled based on your level and is individualized as well as small group. Dates are flexible right now, so call Jill at the Center to see what works best for you. 309-637-3693.

## **TECH ROOM UPDATE**

We are nearing completion of the technology room re-do – we have workstations and equipment arriving soon. Are you challenged by technology? We are here to help. There are so many options out there that it is important we hear from you to know what would be the most beneficial. Let us know your needs! We also have a WEWalk cane available for loan and, we can help you get it set up to your smart phone. Interested? Give us a call. 309-637-3693.

## **IN MEMORY OF CORA QUINN**

The following people gifted the CICBVI in honor of and in memory of long-time patron Cora Quinn, who passed away in February.

- Earl and Linda Kalb
- Deb Conklin and Rob Preston
- Yvonne Hammond and Bill Reif
- Stanley and Diana Mohn
- Gayle Workman
- Lance Barke
- Jill Owen
- Amanda Sweigart-Quinn

Thank you. We will never forget Cora and appreciate your expressions of remembrance.

## **FOOD BASKET DELIVERY UPDATE**

We are happy to be able to personally deliver food baskets to our patrons who need them, but we also ask that recipients follow a few basic guidelines:

1. Basket delivery dates are in the newsletter. If you do NOT want a basket that month you need to let us know **AHEAD OF TIME** – not the day of delivery. We pack these baskets and they sometimes have perishable items in them so to go out for delivery only to have them refused means ruined food someone else could have used. Please be respectful of this – if it happens two times in a row or three times in a year, you will be taken off the list.
2. The delivery containers get reused. Please return them in clean condition. A quick wipe down with anti-bacterial wipes work well and these wipes are periodically provided in your basket.
3. If you do not answer your phone, your basket will not be delivered. We can't leave it without a person there. If this happens two times in a row or three times in a year, you will be taken off the list.

## **DID YOU KNOW**

Call the Center to learn more about what we offer, including:

- Loaner program for assistive devices (such as magnifiers or home Alexa devices)
- Free long white cane and the associated training
- Loan and training on GPS enabled WEWalk canes
- Customized training on Smart Phones and other computer programs specifically designed for the visually impaired.
- Fun events and field trips at low or no cost (including transportation)!
- Monthly food basket delivery (Peoria area)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- April 1 Play a prank! Its Aprils Fool's Day!
- April 2 Ladies Lunch at Red Robin
- April 3 Happy Birthday to Rip Van Winkle – take a nap today!
- April 4 Happy Birthday William Hurst
- April 5 Happy Birthday Grace Barke
- April 9 CICBVI Board meeting
- April 10 Happy Birthday Lance Barke
- April 10 Food basket pick-up  
Happy Birthday to the safety pin – 174 years old!
- April 11-12 Food basket deliveries
- April 13 Happy Birthday Katrina Silas
- April 16 Dinner at Center featuring Cane & Able Fitness (rsvp by 4/10)
- April 18 Dynamic Decades Trivia fund-raiser (check out the flyer)
- April 20 Happy Birthday Brandy Foiles  
Paula B Speaking Engagement (District Lions)
- April 23 Paula B Speaking Engagement (TOPS)
- April 25 Happy Birthday Patrick Lee  
Field trip/lunch at Braker's Market (rsvp by 4/22)
- April 25 The first seeing eye dog (Buddy) was provided to his owner in 1928.
- April 27 Outdoor work day at the Center – 9:00 AM  
Happy Birthday Dustin Cather
- April 28 Happy Birthday John Lampe

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If your group or organization would like to learn more about the CICBVI,  
just give us a call – we love to share our story!

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## FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

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**April, 2024 "Around the Center" Newsletter**

### **Quotes for the Month**

A smile is a facelift that's in everyone's price range! - Tom Wilson

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

Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.  
-Daniel J. Boorstin