



STROM CENTER NEWS

JANUARY
2024
EDITION 404

REFLECTIONS.....from Carol

Looking back on year 2023 I am overwhelmed with gratefulness...I have been blessed with a wonderful family and "work family" as well. I have said on numerous occasions that I feel like locking the doors, no....not to keep anyone from entering but to keep the staff I have from ever leaving! What a variety of personalities, talents, ways of looking at an issue, and interests (and if you include me in the mix... a variety of ages!!)it's kind of like of patchwork of teammates which provides many dimensions to our center. They all are unique and are each special in their own way. In the order of their length of service....



Kathleen O'Brien-
Haddick

KATHLEEN OBRIEN-HADDICK

Kathy started working for Strom Center in 2006. She initially was our data-entry person, but over time put her creativity to work and worked on various parts of the Strom Center News. She is the author and creator of the Strom Center Mind Explorers page as well as the person who provides all the clues and answers to the weekly V.O.P.A. (Very Observant Person Award). She also provides the framework for the monthly Warren and Henderson County's calendars in our newsletter. (She also is my identical twin sister.....)

KATHY FERRENBURG

Kathy Ferrenburg began her position at Strom Center in April of 2014. She is a certified SHIP counselor as well as an Information and Assistance worker. She has earned her AIRS certification (Alliance of Information and Referral Systems). Among many other services Strom Center provides, Kathy completes a large number of Benefit Access applications as well as assists persons with disability applications and Homestead Exemption Applications. Kathy works in our Monmouth center Monday through Fridays except on Tuesdays when she assists persons in our Henderson County Strom Center located in Oquawka, Illinois. Kathy is great listener and encourager....



Kathy Ferrenburg



ERICA PENCE

ERICA PENCE

Erica is also a great person to have on our team. She has been with Strom Center since October, 2016. She works almost exclusively in our Henderson County Strom Center in Oquawka on Thursdays. However, she has helped at Strom Center in Monmouth with events such as our Christmas party. Erica is SHIP certified, provides Medicare Counseling and enrollments, completion of Benefit Access applications, as well as other areas of assistance. *Amnd* she always has a smile of her face!



Lynda Melvin

LYNDA MELVIN

Lynda started work at Strom Center in November, 2016right in the middle of Medicare D Enrollment Season. However, she completed her SHIP training and has done a great job ever since. Lynda keeps our Resource Center updated and is the lead program person in our Social Isolation program. She led the first Stress Busters Class in 2023 and is planning the class again in 2024. She completes countless Medicaid applications along with other services Strom Center provides. Lynda works in our Henderson County Strom Center on Mondays and in our Monmouth Strom Center Tuesday through Friday.



Stephanie Reading

STEPHANIE READING

Stephanie has been with Strom Center since June, 2018. She is both SHIP certified as well as AIRS (Alliance of Information and Referral Systems). For years I signed persons up for Social Security and Medicare and assisted in transitioning them into retirement plans. The year after she started at Strom Stephanie did a great job in assisting me in those areas and for the past almost three years has been exclusively the "retiree" person....(allowing me more time in the administrative role.) She does a great job of keeping up on the most current Medicare rules for new enrollees, which is a must in her position. She has a way of explaining the ins and outs of Medicare to newbie's. She works in our Warren County Strom Center every day except Wednesday when she works in our Henderson County Strom Center.



Lisa Ray

LISA RAY

Lisa joined Strom Center in July, 2020....and we all know what happened in 2020. Lisa started out as a receptionist but soon became much much more. We stayed open all during Covid, and thanks to Lisa she kept all appointments on track while observing the rules of distancing time-wise, temperature taking upon entering, and sanitizing in-between. And....four months after starting she experienced her first Medicare D enrollment season and all the scheduling that entailed, and she did it all with great success and still does. Lisa is now officially Assistant to the

Director...among all of the responsibilities that entails she does a phenomenal job of keeping Strom Center in the spotlight through Facebook.



Carol Neal
McCrery

Carol Neal McCrery

I am in my 37th year at Strom Center as a Director. I graduated from Monmouth College in 1970 with an BA degree, became licensed in Elementary Education and have spent half of my life as a Senior Center Director! And I love it! I am a certified SHIP Coordinator, and have earned my AIRS certification. The changes over the years have been dramatic...but I have had the benefit of seeing each of those changes incrementally, making it a kind of metamorphosis... I have been tremendously blessed by the people I have met and had the priveledge of assisting. While I am focusing on the administrative side of my job, I continue to carry out help in all areas when necessary....(like doing Medicare D reviews.....!!) I consider many who have

frequented Strom Center very good friends...I can't imagine myself in any other position....

***** STROM CENTER BOARD *****

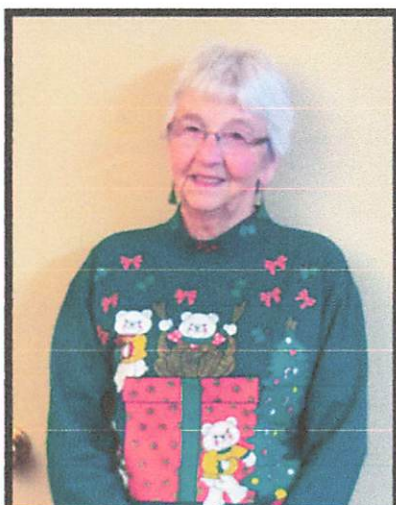
Not only am I very fortunate to have great staff, I am equally blessed to have a great 'hands on' Board. Everyone of these persons have not only attended board meetings, but also have offered great advice and opinions that I value. But the meetings are only a part of the time they devote to Strom Center...They each one are a 'working board member' who is involved in events, fund-raisers, getting the monthly newsletter out, cleaning, building upkeep, and the list goes on and on!

I am sharing their pictures and positions on the Strom Center Board, but am not including all they do for and at Strom Center or I would be adding pages and pages to the newsletter!

And here they are...



JUDY RAES
STROM CENTER BOARD
PRESIDENT



SHIRLEY CALDWELL
STROM CENTER BOARD
VICE PRESIDENT



SHIRLEY PETERSON
STROM CENTER BOARD
SECRETARY



MARILYN PERRIN
STROM CENTER BOARD
TREASURER



JACKIE LEMLEY
STROM CENER BOARD
MEMBER AT LARGE

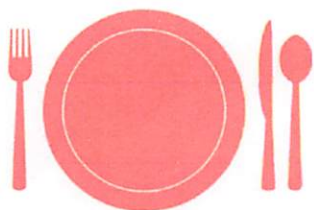


ANNE LIBY
STROM CENTER BOARD
MEMORIAL
REPRESENTATIVE

THANK YOU STROM CENTER BOARD FOR YOUR SERVICE!

COMING UP THE FIRST EVENT OF 2024 !!...

YOU are invited to



**STROM CENTER'S NEW YEARS DAY POTLUCK
MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST AT NOON**

Bring a dish to pass and everything else will be furnished. Following a delicious meal, we will play Bingo and or Cards.

JANUARY TRIAD



The presenters for our January 11th Triad Meeting will be CRYSTAL DOUGHERTY, RN, and Service Advocate and SAMANTHA LAKE also from Western Illinois Home Health Care.

Both will be talking about home health in general and will be happy to entertain questions.

The meeting will begin at 1 PM. Zoom attendance is offered, but you must call two days prior to the meeting to request an invitation (309 734 5677) There is no prior sign up or registration if you attend the meeting. Refreshments are served following the meeting.

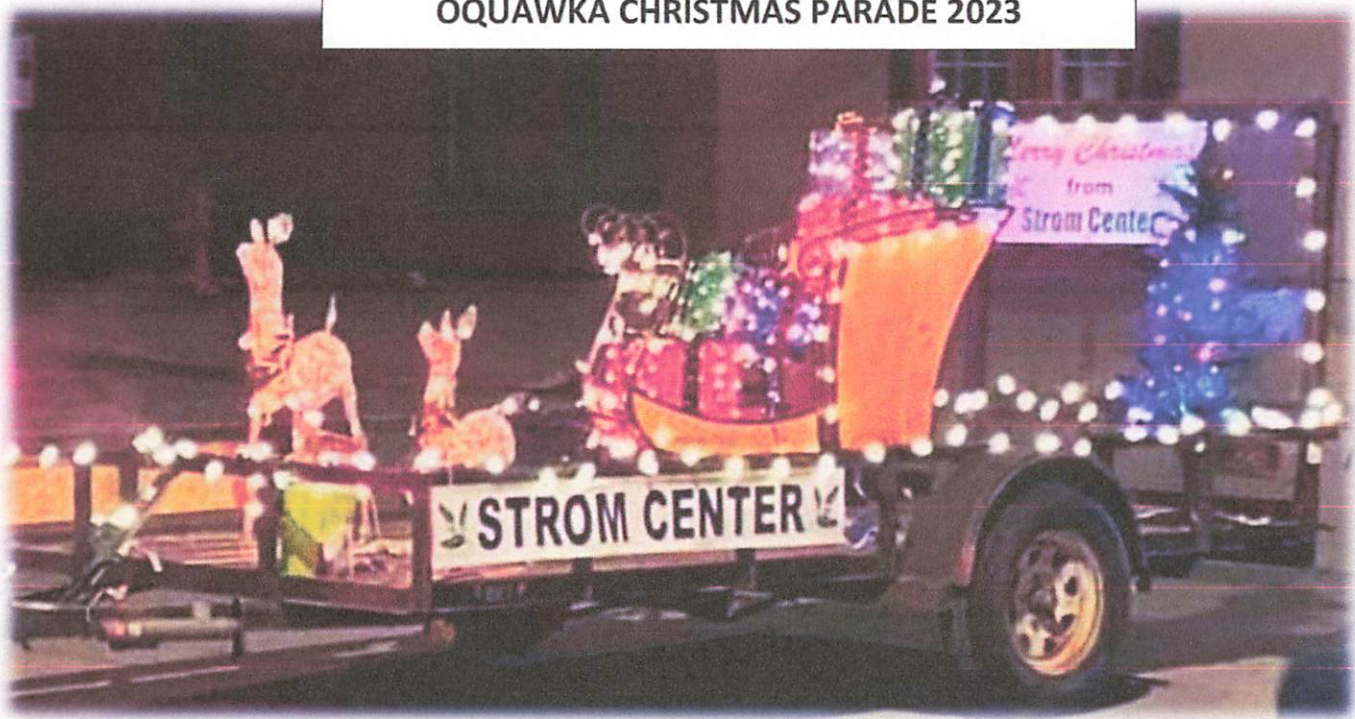
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU..



..to the **FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 265**, for honoring our senior population with the **POWER FOR SENIORS** program. Thirty persons won \$100 Ameren checks, 32 persons won \$25 gift cards, 12 turkey breasts, and 6 hams, and all that went into a delicious lunch. **JOSH KRAMER**, who did a great job of planning along with several other police officers helped set up tables outside for the gift bags and lunches and then delivered to each drive up vehicle. They along with some of the volunteers made a number of house deliveries as well. Josh did share that our first Power for Seniors event was held in the year 2001...!! Our area is so greatly blessed with our Police and the thoughtfulness they show our senior population.



OQUAWKA CHRISTMAS PARADE 2023



Thank you to Scott and Lisa Ray for all you did providing and working on the Strom Center Float...The float was wonderful, the entire Christmas Parade was awesome!! Thanks also to **Doug and Denny McCrery** for driving, **Gene Ray** for his help, and **Kathy Ferrenburg, Stephanie Reading, and Lisa Ray** for sharing the figurines with all the kids!!

A MESSAGE FROM JAMIESON COMMUNITY CENTER



Jamieson Community Center congregate meals sites in Kirkwood and Roseville will reopen starting the week of January 8, 2024. People 60+ can join their peers for a nutritious hot. Lunch will be served at Kirkwood Village Center on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11:00 AM. Lunch will be served at Roseville Community Center on Fridays at 11 am. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance. Please call 309-371-4203. A menu is available online at jamiesoncommunitycenter.org/senior-nutrition.

We are looking for Site Managers in Monmouth and Alexis. If you are retired and looking for a little extra income by working a few hours in the day, this may be the job for you. The position is part-time work with NO weekends or evenings. There is some flexibility in scheduling, with the main hours being between 10 am - 1 pm. The Site Manager serves lunch and supervises volunteers. Food Safety Manager certification is required. We can provide training. For a complete job description and online application visit us at <https://www.jamiesoncommunitycenter.org/job-opportunities> or stop by our office and fill out the application on site.

For more information about Jamieson Community Center call (309) 734-4251, online at jamiesoncommunitycenter.org or visit 1025 S. 2nd Street from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

✓ **RECOGNITIONS ...Winners in November & December**



VOPA Winners for November

- Week# 1 Winner: **LOU BOYER** Answer: Date
- Week # 2 Winner: **DARLENE SCALF** Answer: Ball
- Week # 3: Winner: **DAVE GILES** Answer: Tire
- Week # 4: Winner: **DONNA SMOCK** Answer: Dough
- ! Grand Finale Winner: **DARLENE SCALF**

SEPTEMBER MIND EXPLORER:
Warren County: **TINA CANADA**
Henderson County: **TOM ROBBINS**

BRIDGE WINNERS....Will resume playing in February

SHANGHI RUMMY December 5:

Table 1: **Low: DARLENE SCALF** 2nd: **JULIE BLACKMAN**

December 19th:

Table 1: **Low: ANNETTE MANTHEI** 2nd: **BONNIE MUNSON**

Table 2: **Low: ANNE LIBY** 2nd: **SHIRLEY PETERSON**



RACEHORSE CANASTA



December 11th, Game 1:

Table 1: 1st **ROBERTA HASTEN, LOUISE ANDERSON**

Table 2: 1st **SHIRLEY PETERSON & MAXINE BIRD & FLO MOSLEY**

Game 2:

Table 1: 1st: **PAT BELL & ANNE LIBY**



DOMINOES (WARREN COUNTY)

DECEMBER 7TH: Game 1: 1ST: ANNE LIBY 2ND: DALENE SCALF

DOMINOES (HENDERSON COUNTY)

DECEMBER 5TH: 1ST: DIANE MELDRUM 2ND: RUBY JOHN

DECEMBER 19TH: 1ST: DIANE MELDRUM 2ND: RUBY JOHN

NEWSLETTER ASSISTANT: CAROLYN BUTLER

MONMOUTH BINGO DATES IN JANUARY

TUESDAY, January 9th and 23rd at 1 PM

OQUAWKA BINGO DATES IN JANUARY

WEDNESDAY, January 10th and 24th at 1 PM

Zoom BINGO, Tuesday, January 16th at 1 PM (Call by Friday, Jan 12th for an invitation 309 734 5677.)



AND THE WINNER IS.....



PATTY SCHWASS

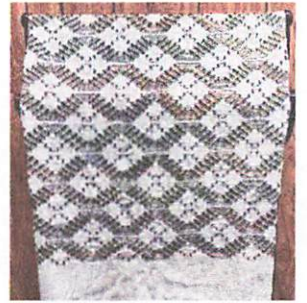
THE BEAUTIFUL THROW CREATED BY PATTY SCHWASS WAS RAFFLED AT OUR STROM CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Before her passing, Patty wove this latest creation and wanted Strom Center to use it for a raffle as she had donated so many in past years.

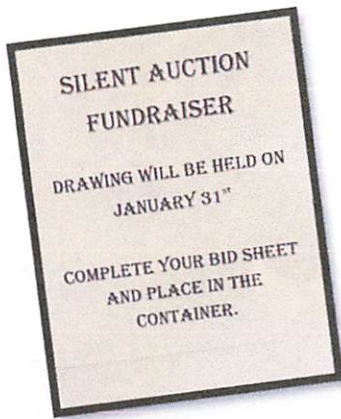
The winner name drawn was:

DALE GIBBS

Congratulations Dale!!



SILENT AUCTION NOW AT STROM CENTER



#1: A soft cuddly grey throw with darling snowmen with red tassels

#2: A white background with wintery green trees and white and black tassels

#3: A very colorful red background with snowmen and snow flakes with light green tassels.

All throws are large enough to easily cover up with on a cold wintery night. They are nice and thick and wash up beautifully.

Write your bid and place in the red container located near the throws.

Thank you very much for the special lady who created and donated the throws.





JANUARY 2024 Events MONMOUTH



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Strom Closed except for NEW YEARS DAY POTLUCK AT NOON	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:00 AM: Crafters 9 AM: Woodcarvers 12:30 PM: Shanghai Rummy	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open: 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	8:30 AM – 3:00 PM 12:30 DOMINOES Strom Open	8:30AM -4 PM Strom open 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:30 AM: Exercise Class11:30 AM: Racehorse Canasta	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:00 AM: Crafters 9 AM: Woodcarvers 1 PM: Bingo	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open: 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	8:30 AM – 3:00 PM Strom Open 1 PM: TRIAD	8:30AM -4 PM Strom open 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	STROM CLOSED: Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:00 AM: Crafters 9 AM: Woodcarvers 12:30 PM: Shanghai Rummy 1 PM: Zoom: Bingo	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open: 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	8:30 AM -4 PM Strom open 12:30 PM: Dominoes 1:00 PM: Board Meeting	8:30 AM -4 PM Strom open 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:30 AM: Exercise Class 11:30 AM: Racehorse Canasta MIND EXPLORER DUE	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9 AM: Wood Carvers 9 AM: Crafters 1 00 PM: Bingo	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open: 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	8:30 AM -3 PM Strom open	8:30AM-3 PM Strom open 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	
28	29	30	31			
	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9:30 AM: Exercise Class	8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open. 9 AM: Wood Carvers 9 AM: Crafters	22 8:30 AM – 4 PM: Open: 9:30 AM: Exercise Class			



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	 STROM CLOSED	9:0 AM – 4 PM: Open. Noon Meal 1 PM: Dominoes Staff: Kathy Ferrenburg	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Strom Open Noon: Meal Staff: Stephanie Reading	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Strom Open Noon: Meal Staff: Erica Pence	CLOSED	
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28	29	30	31			
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MIND EXPLORER



'Mind Explorers' is a monthly feature of STROM CENTER NEWS

Answer the questions and turn them in or mail them in by the 20th of the month.

The person with the highest number of correct answers will be recognized in our next Monthly Newsletter. (The winners will be drawn). This month's quiz is "Too Cold Outside-What To Do Inside!" with a difficult-o-meter rating of 7.0...!!

1. This game involves putting letters together to make words : _____
2. The definition of this hobby is "to carve (wood) into an object by repeatedly cutting small slices from it": _____
3. The definition of this herb is "an evergreen aromatic shrub of the mint family. The narrow leaves are used as a culinary herb" and it is also a woman's name: _____
4. "Purl" and "garter stitch" are words associated with this activity: _____
5. This is an American television game show that reverses the traditional question-and-answer format of many quiz shows. Instead, the answers are given and the contestant must identify the response in the form of a question: _____
6. What is "a room or other part of a home used by a man as a place to relax and pursue hobbies away from the rest of the family"? _____
7. The name of this game also means "the exclusive possession or control of the supply of or trade in a commodity or service": _____
8. Unscramble the letters to find another activity done indoors:
SIZZLEPUGJAW (2 words): _____
9. The NFL is divided into what two conferences? _____
10. This "programmable usually electronic device that can store, retrieve, and process data" might be found in a study: _____

??

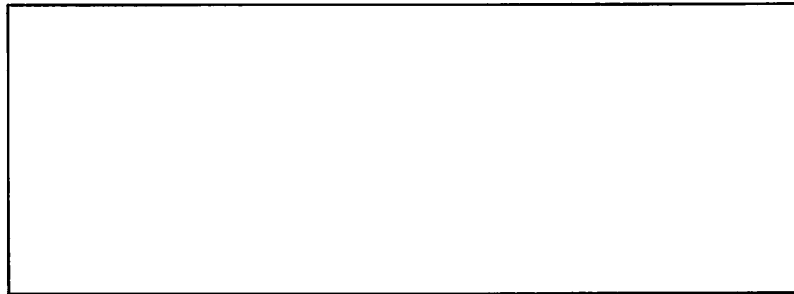
Answers to the Previous Mind Explorer (Winner is named on Recognition Page!)

1. In this 1983 movie about a 1940 Christmas, a boy named Ralphie wanted what for Christmas? : AIR RIFLE
2. This 1976 Olympic skater made ice skaters a popular Christmas gift desire : DOROTHY HAMIL
3. The show, "Davy Crockett, King of the Wild Frontier" made this item a popular gift boys would ask for:
COON SKIN CAP
4. This gift of the 1980's was described as "a transistorized portable music player featuring one or two cassette tape: BOOMBOX
5. "The Little House on the Prairie" books might be a gift found under the Christmas tree. Who was the author of these books? LAURA INGALLS WILDER
6. This board game introduced over 50 years ago includes a character named Colonel Mustard. What is the name of the game? CLUE
7. This doll has a boyfriend named Ken: BARBIE
8. Unscramble the letters to find something often found under the Christmas tree (3 words):
LOOKISKIMDANCE MILK AND COOKIES
9. This Christmas gift is defined as "a token that can be exchanged for a specified cash value of goods or services from a particular business" : GIFT CARD
10. The much- loved stuffed toy was named for a former US President: TEDDY BEAR

STROM CENTER, INC.
211 South A Street
Monmouth, IL 61462

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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MONMOUTH, IL 61462



STROM CENTER, INC.

Warren County Site: Monmouth

211 South A Street, Monmouth, IL 61462

Henderson County Site: 410 Schuyler Street, Oquawka, IL 61469

Fax: 309-539-4256 Toll-free: 833 856 9624

Strom Center Monmouth Site: 309 734 5677

Strom Center Oquawka Site: 309 536 2558 (Please call Strom Monmouth site for appointments 309 734 5677)

Carol Neal McCrery, Director

Non-Discrimination Policy:

Strom Center does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act; the U.S. Civil Rights Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Employment Act; and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. If you feel you have been discriminated against, you have a right to file a complaint with the Illinois Department on Aging. For information call 800-252-8966 (Voice and TDD) or contact Programs and Services Manager at Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging at 800-322-1051.

Strom Center is partially funded by:

The Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging and The Warren County United Way