

Sharing the Caring

By: Lisa Ciszczon Brennan - Executive Director

A Note from the Director:

344-8080

lbrennan@fiacollinsville.org

We're Better Together



The sun is shining, the ground is thawing, and spring is finally here. Thank goodness! After what seems like a very dark and isolating winter season, there is much to be hopeful about including the drop in infection and hospitalization rates of Covid-19 cases, the return of social gatherings and volunteer events at CFIA, and the re-opening of garden centers and ice cream shops!

Truly, it was a challenging winter season, but there is much to look forward to in the coming months including a return to face-to-face monthly luncheons with the Elder Connection participants, the celebration of Easter, our Spring Yard Clean Up service, Give STL Day, the beginning of a new pilot program called Circle of Friends, and an exciting garden project taking place at CFIA.

A bright spot in the winter months has been our incredibly dedicated volunteer drivers in our Assisted Transportation program. Even with Covid, these volunteers gave of their time and energy to transport clients to medical appointments. Volunteers made many phone calls to clients helping prevent social isolation and feelings of loneliness, and their work has been instrumental in keeping clients healthy and safe. New Volunteer Orientation and Volunteer Training sessions are scheduled for April, with more training available in August. So, if you are an experienced CFIA volunteer or just getting started with CFIA, please plan on attending in the spring or summer sessions.

Other important events coming up include Staff and Volunteer Half-Day Training and Half-Day Staff Retreat in early April; CFIA participation in the Collinsville-Wide yard sale; and an Ice Cream Social. Whew! It's good to be active again! Please check our website for updates and other announcements.

The future looks bright!

Mark Your Calendar!

Volunteer Training	April 8
Yard Clean-up	April 23
City-wide Yard Sale	April 29
Give STL Day	May 2
Ice Cream Social	June 2



In this issue:

Director's Note	1
On The Move With Beth	2
Elder Connection	2
Answers On Aging	3
Ways to Give	4
Circle of Friends	5
Tips	5
Nancy Berry Interview	6-7
Mission Moment	8
Contributions	9-10
CFIA Crossword	11-12
Neighbors Helping	13

Issue:
March 2022

Land of Lincoln Legal Aid

8787 State St. Suite 201

E. St. Louis, IL

(618)398-0574



*Free Advanced Directives
seminar at the CFIA office
on Thursdays at 10 am:*

June 23

September 20

December 15

ON THE MOVE WITH BETH...



As winter snow and ice melt into spring, let us remember that the transitions of life may lead to a new and more beautiful stage of life. When flowers begin to bud, let them serve as a reminder that the smallest gesture or kind word can have a big impact on someone else's life. So, if you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.

I would like to thank our volunteers and clients for their patience and cooperation during the pandemic. Even though disease-prevention mandates have transitioned into recommendations, we ask that everyone continue with masking and spatially distancing during their trips for the health and safety of all.

Our hearts are saddened by the loss of our long-time and dedicated volunteer, Tinker. Sadly, we also lost our long-time friend, Evelyn Ratay. Their family and friends continue to be in our hearts and prayers.

Our popular Telephone Reassurance program continues. If you would like to receive friendly telephone visits from one of our volunteers, or if you'd like to volunteer to make Telephone Reassurance calls, please contact the office at 618-344-8080. Social isolation can be emotionally AND physically damaging to one's health. So, if you know someone who is feeling lonely or isolated, please share this information with them.

Elder Connection is Back!



Ready to get together each month to make new friends and see some you haven't laid eyes on in what feels like forever? Each month we plan a different theme, activity, and location, so mark your calendars and call us to reserve your spot! This free monthly social program includes lunch but is limited to only 12 participants. Call for a ride or to get more information about Elder Connection.

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, April 13, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, July 20, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, September 14, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, October 12, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, November 16, 2022 11a-1p
 Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11a-1p

U.S. households may order their second set of four free at-home COVID-19 tests, via the [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) website or by calling [1-800-232-0233](tel:1-800-232-0233)

(TTY [1-888-720-7489](tel:1-888-720-7489)).

Answers on Aging

Patrick Bivens - Answers on Aging
344-7788
answers@fiacollinsville.org



Two years of pandemic. Two years of mask mandates, quarantines, COVID tests, six-foot distancing, and missed family gatherings. It has been a challenge for everyone, but especially for seniors and people with disabilities, who often have been isolated from friends and loved ones, sometimes for months on end.

We have all had to adapt. At CFIA, our staff have minimized our face-to-face operations to reduce the chance of COVID transmission. We have relied more on using telephone and computer online services (e.g., Zoom) to meet the needs of our clients. While we have been effective, there really is no substitute for face-to-face interaction.

It appears that we are seeing a glimmer of light at the end of this very long COVID tunnel. Infections, hospitalizations, and deaths are declining. Local governments are easing up on mask mandates. We are cautiously returning to pre-pandemic activities.

To that end, Collinsville Faith in Action (CFIA) is re-starting monthly site visits, starting in three locations (see below). By coming into the community, CFIA staff will be able to interact directly with people who may not be able to easily get to CFIA offices. As we have learned during the pandemic: there is no replacement for direct, face-to-face communication.

We do not have formal agendas for our site visits. Instead, we are prepared to discuss:

- Medicare: Choosing a Medicare plan, how/when to make changes to your selection, etc. (Note: if you wish to discuss Medicare in detail, please call Pat at (618) 344-7788 to schedule time during the site visit).
- Benefit Access Application Services: Applying for discounted license plate stickers or Ride Free Transit Cards. (Note: If you wish to apply, please bring copies of your 2020 and 2021 tax forms and any 1099 or W2 forms you received).
- Collinsville Faith in Action: Supplying information about the various services that CFIA provides, such as assisted rides, minor home repair, bi-annual yard clean up, Elder Connection, etc.
- Referrals: Providing contact information for services that CFIA does not directly perform. Examples include contact information for organizations that provide:
 - home nursing services
 - custom built wheelchair ramps
 - energy cost expenses
 - durable medical equipment (e.g., wheelchair, walkers), etc.
 - nutrition assistance
 - legal assistance
 - Illinois Application for Benefits Eligibility (ABE) services (i.e., Medicaid, SNAP, Cash Assistance, and/or Medicare Savings Program)

Please join us to learn more about CFIA services.

C F I A	Collinsville Library	Fairmont City Library	Granite City
	408 W Main St.	4444 Collinsville Rd	To Be Determined
	Collinsville, IL 62234	Fairmont City, IL 62201	
	3 rd Monday	3 rd Tuesday	To Be Determined
(9:30a – 12:00p)	(1:00p – 3:30p)	To Be Determined	
Mar-22	3/21/22	3/15/22	To Be Determined
Apr-22	4/18/22	4/19/22	To Be Determined
May-22	5/16/22	5/17/22	To Be Determined
Jun-22	Holiday	6/21/22	To Be Determined
Jul-22	7/18/22	7/19/22	To Be Determined
Aug-22	8/15/22	8/16/22	To Be Determined

Ways to Give



Click to Donate: Click the DONATE button on our webpage to make a one-time or recurring monthly donation. Regularly scheduled monthly or quarterly donations help us plan our budget more accurately.



Text to Donate: Text the word PLEDGE to 618-249-3227 on your smart phone to quickly and easily set up a one-time or regularly scheduled donation. This is an easy way to donate, and you can share the text-to-donate information easily with friends and family.

Plan to Donate:



1. Check with your employer to see if they offer a Matching Donor benefit. If so, for every dollar you donate, your employer will match that amount thereby doubling your donor power.
2. Bequests are a beautiful way to build your Faith in Action legacy. Working with your lawyer or meeting with Land of Lincoln Legal Aid at no charge, you can name CFIA in your will or as an organization that is named by you as a recipient receiving donations in your memory.
3. Talk to your financial advisor to have funds that may increase your taxes to be directly donated to CFIA. You help your community, and you don't have to pay income tax on the earnings.



Call to Donate: Call us at 618-344-8080 to set up a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card. In just a few minutes, we'll have you set up!



Mail to Donate: It's always a pleasure to receive notes from our supporters, so if you prefer to mail in a check, we appreciate it! CFIA, 233 N. Seminary St., Collinsville, IL 62234.

The Epidemic in Plain Sight: Social Isolation & Loneliness

While the Covid pandemic certainly was front and center for people, it brought to light and further complicated another epidemic: social isolation and loneliness. Social isolation refers to the number of interactions one has with others in a set period of time. It is quantifiable. Loneliness is often the resulting feeling from social isolation; it is subjective but stems from isolation.

Of course, being alone does not always lead to feelings of loneliness. In fact, some “alone time” allows for reflection and is a part of many faith traditions (the season of Lent is based on the 40 days Christ chose to be alone); however, as humans, we are social and our well-being is also based on our communing with others (faith traditions also incorporate practices of being together and receiving communion). Researchers have taken a renewed interest in social isolation and feelings of loneliness, and the findings are surprising. Social isolation leads not only to emotional unwellness, but to physical problems too.

Researcher Steve Cole of UCLA reports that “Loneliness acts as a fertilizer for other diseases,” and multiple studies show that social isolation leads to loneliness. Being alone can result in physical ailments or complications of current medical problems. Older

adults are at higher risk for loneliness especially since the Covid-19 epidemic, and isolation has become a global public health issue.



In an effort to better understand social isolation, loneliness, and the resulting physical and mental detriment to older adults, this winter, Executive Director Lisa Brennan completed Circle of Friends® training at St. Louis University. With long-time volunteer and new CFIA Board Member Laura Cruse, they will address the problem of social isolation and feelings of loneliness by piloting two groups of Circle of Friends®. This program is based on evidence from the initial groups that were formed in Finland and that then began to form across the world. Repeatedly, participants experienced a bond with the others leading to strong friendships and social lives that were healthier both physically and emotionally.

Circle of Friends® is a set of 12 guided get-togethers, and CFIA will facilitate those 12 gatherings so that each will include activities focused on the arts, exercise, and reflection. Circle of Friends® is designed to be self-sustaining, so after the initial facilitated gatherings, these new friends continue meeting and building their friendships. If you or someone you know would benefit from building more social connections, please call Lisa for more information at 618-344-8080 extension 2. The first session will begin in summer and the second will begin this fall



Health & Wellness Tip:

Did you know that as we age, we are less likely to feel thirst when we need fluids? Drinking an adequate amount of water prevents health issues that can cause temporary confusion and irritability and problems relating to dehydration such as Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) and bladder disfunction. Keep your body and mind strong by making sure you sip on water throughout the day, every day!



Financial Tip:

Madison County Community Development offers grants to help pay for rent or mortgage. If you have fallen behind or are having difficulty keeping up with payments, call us to learn more about their programs.



Safety Tip:

Minor modifications to your home can keep you safe, and CFIA offers minor home modifications such as installing grip bars in your shower area. Call us to learn more about keeping yourself safe within your home or to receive a falls-prevention worksheet to check your home for fall risks of which you may not even be aware.

Founder of CFIA Nancy Berry Prepares to Retire

In 2023, CFIA will celebrate 25 years of serving the Collinsville-area community, and in just a few short months, the founder of our organization, Nancy Berry, will be retiring. We spent some time discussing her experiences as a founder, the first CFIA Executive Director, and then consultant to CFIA's Executive Directors.

Tell us how you began working with people in need:

Our pastor at St. John's United Church of Christ (UCC) asked me to serve on the church's Healing Community Board because I had a degree in Health Care Administration. I really believe God put me there (kicking and screaming) because it's not like I sought it out. It [the opportunity of serving those in need] just waited until I came to it.

St. John's Homebound Care was a program that started in 1985 when I was President of its Board of Directors. In 1988, when the first director resigned, I became the Homebound Care program's Executive Director, and my thought was that "I will run this just for a month..." and then move on. It was just a part-time position working out of the church, but after a month came and went, I was still here. Now this is known as St. John's Community Care.

During this time, I had the chance to network with others in our region doing similar work, including, in 1997, a United Church of Christ pastor in Lebanon who told me about \$25,000 grants being offered by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to establish a Faith in Action ministry. The grants were designed to go into communities all across the country to start FIAs. An organization could form partnerships with churches in the community, and together, the organization and partner churches would serve older residents and adults with disabilities.

I remember telling my board about this opportunity and telling them that I just didn't have the time to establish another program. That grant kept nagging at me, and I made time to apply. I didn't want to make this a St. John UCC program nor alienate any other churches, so I reached out to the Collinsville Area Ministerial Association (CAMA) that represented many churches in the community.

And clearly, you secured the grant funding. Tell us how volunteer recruitment took place.

After recruiting volunteers through CAMA churches, we offered the first volunteer training to about 30 people in Fellowship Hall. I remember that I was so sick on the planned day, but I just had to be there and do it! Then our first care receiver called: a lady who *really* wanted to get her hair "done" for the upcoming Valentine's Day. The first Assisted Transportation ride was on Valentine's Day, 1998.

Is CFIA still a program within St. John's Community Care?

No, they are now two separate non-profit organizations. A couple of years after that first care receiver was taken to have her hair done, it was time to hire employees dedicated to CFIA work and not just use the staff of St. John's Community Care. In 2001 CFIA and St. John's Community Care also moved from the buildings of St. John United Church of Christ to the current home of St. John's Community Care on Goethe.

When CFIA grew to the point that I needed to hand off leadership, a St. John's Home Services Supervisor, Mary Jane Thebeau, became Coordinator of Volunteers for CFIA. As the program expanded and Mary Jane left in 2000, I recruited Pam Gates, a volunteer driver, to replace her. Erla Pieplow was also hired as her part-time CFIA assistant. When Pam left the position, Erla recommended Lori Fry, and Lori served as Director for more than ten years. During Lori's term, Answers on Aging funding became available and we hired Kay Curtis as our first Answers on Aging Specialist, based on the recommendation of a care

receiver who knew her as a volunteer driver. During Kay's tenure, she was assisted with several part-time people (Becky McNeil, Judy Brombolich, and Judy Balsters). Valerie Mueth supported Lori part-time, and Erla moved into a full-time position with St. John Community Care.

It sounds like a lot of people and fast growth!

Yes, I recall 5-6 employees and volunteers all working in the space that now houses two employee workstations and our copier room. There was growth from a program within St. John's Community Care to a stand-alone Collinsville Faith in Action.

So the roots of CFIA definitely run deep with St. John's CC.

Yes. There were employees of CFIA that became employees of St. John's CC and vice versa. Ray Gallaher was a volunteer at CFIA and then was hired by St. John's CC and worked many years in our adult day program. Erla Pieplow and Becky McNeil both started as part-time support at CFIA but became full-time employees of St. John's Community Care.

The seed money to get started came from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, but how does CFIA continue to operate nearly 25 years after that?

I applied for many other grants, and other Executive Directors of CFIA have also learned to and apply for grants, but **the community** has supported us.

In the beginning, we worked with a few other non-profit organizations to hold an annual dinner and auction fundraiser, and then after three years, continued the auction on our own.

The first dinner-auctions were held at the hotel that is now a Hilton where Porter's Steakhouse is located [near the Collinsville Convention Center]. It was either the third or fourth year when the hotel called us a few weeks before the event because they'd inadvertently double booked on our auction night, so we moved the event that year to Sunset Hills Country Club and then after that, dinner-auctions were held at the Convention Center.

The year of the summer storm is memorable! We were setting up on Friday afternoon at the Convention Center when Collinsville was hit with a big storm. There was so much wind and rain! Well, the power went out at the Convention Center, and they offered us the option to reschedule or [because there was no power to prepare the food] serve just drinks and desserts. We called every invitee and told them to dress for the tropics because it would be hot! We asked them to bring a flashlight and to eat dinner before the dinner auction! Of course, we offered everyone a chance to have their money refunded, but almost no one chose the refund. We had a lot of fun at the auction with no power and cleared the most money of any auction because we did not have the expense of dinners!

How do you feel about the future of CFIA? What does retirement look like for you?

I helped to birth CFIA and raised it through its childhood, [but others have helped it grow through the years] and I trust the leadership there.

I hope some of the younger Baby Boomers [now in their late 50s] look for opportunities to volunteer. I also hope society realizes that aging isn't always chronic pain and sickness. Most folks don't need the services available to them [through CFIA and other agencies], but when they need 'em, they need to have them.

I'm planning on not having deadlines and not working on budgets. I am planning on being a more active volunteer in our church, including the Homework, Hoops, and Help program. I'm also planning to drive for CFIA [as a volunteer], but probably after a summer of reading and having lunches with friends.

Mission Moment: Lou and Madison County Community Development

While the winter season brought some beautiful snowy days, few of us saw the more difficult side of what cold weather brings. In the late fall, we received a call from Lou, a Collinsville resident who hadn't ever used our services, but knew of our work. Lou was 81 years old and very hesitant to call, but the weather was turning, and he'd run out of options. His home furnace wasn't working, and with only his small pension and Social Security payments, he didn't have the money to replace it. "I've never ever had to ask for help before, and it bothers me that I need to now, but I just don't know how I can afford to warm my house. I'm worried about the pipes freezing, and I'm running several space heaters now that will result in BIG utility bills!"

Lou and CFIA worked together to explore options that would keep him in his home he and his wife had worked so hard to purchase and maintain. "Since she died, I've just been so lost. It's hard to return to our church because I think of her so much. I remember Sundays we went to church together, but now it's hard to go back to church since it stirs up so many memories. Since she passed, my household income dropped almost \$900 a month. I just don't know how I can do this!" Lou signed up for assistance with paying utilities through Collinsville Township and the LIHEAP program to help with the utility bills that were sure to increase. He also worked with CFIA to organize his paperwork and apply for the Madison County Community Development program to replace his furnace. Taking care of the emergency situation was just the first step in a longer-view approach.

Options Counseling is a service CFIA offered to Lou so that he could consider what steps to take now that would keep him in his home in the future. We looked at other factors beyond the home that also play an important role in his well-being and independence. He learned of the many transportation services in Collinsville such as the Collinsville Shuttle, Madison County transit, and CFIA's Assisted Transportation. Lou owns a car, but Options Counseling helped him see that car maintenance can be expensive, and other options are available should he choose to use them now as an alternative and in the future as a primary means to get transportation. We also discussed the importance of staying socially connected.

Lou gave more thought about community involvement. CFIA showed him how he could become more involved in the community even if he wasn't yet ready to return to church. A naturally social person, Lou learned how connecting with others and being part of a community could keep him healthier and happier. Interacting with CFIA by phone and in-person was a start, and we hope he'll join us for upcoming events like our monthly luncheons and Circle of Friends program. "I thank God for you all and CFIA. I was overwhelmed with everything that was happening, but you helped me see that I could do this. I'm still not completely comfortable accepting help, but I've come through this with you. You've been a real gift from God for me."

Thanks to our volunteer Assisted Transportation drivers:

Sherry Keller
 *Jean Buchana
 Donna Jesse
 Mary Mitchell
 Annie Ratliff
 Jerry Pace
 *Bonnie Farrington
 Mike Morgan
 Laura Cruse
 Kay Holtaus
 *Pat Schapp

Thanks to our Telephone Reassurance volunteers:

Laurie Koch
 Mary Lee Hooper
 Sylvia Mueth
 Jean Bedalow
 Irene Krotz
 Pam Boxdorfer
 *Bonnie Farrington
 *Pat Schapp
 *Jean Buchana

*Indicates this volunteer completes *both* Telephone Reassurance calls and Assisted Transportation.



Crime Prevention Tip: One of our volunteers was notified by a company she does business with that her payment hadn't been received. After making a few phone calls, she discovered that someone had taken her mail from her mailbox and changed the check she had made out when paying her bills. The thief had seen her mailbox flag up, checked the envelopes, taken her bill and payment, and then changed the check. Luckily, this client was able to get help from her bank and the check was made null and void. Drop your outgoing mail that contains payments/checks into a public mailbox or at the post office.

Thank you for your contribution

Individual Donations

Patsy Ruth Adams	Marilyn L Doty	Marilyn Joyce Johnson	Linda Mueth-Poettker
Arleen F Althardt	Patricia Duhr	Lynne Kerfoot	Judith L Nelson
Harvey Baca	Cheryl L Eaton	Barb Kusmierczak	Patricia L Niedrighaus
Paul Bargiel	Doris Edwards	Karen Landwehr	Donald P Osborn
Donna M Bast	David Eisele	Stella Lawler	Gary & Debra Peccola
Terry & Joyce Biegert	Dale & Bonnie Farrington	Sheila Lesicko	Jane E Pfaff
Gary Borgard	Nancy A Fischer	William A Lindsey	Sally Pickering
Lisa C Brennan	Nancy Garcia	Rodney R Lochman	Amelia Prestito
Eva L Briley	Pamela Gates	Wanda J Lucas	John Raffaele
Betty K Brown	Sandra Goodman	Darlene M Loyet	Ivan & Rose Richardson
Barbara Buxton	Donna Grotefendt	David & Denise Lyons	Jim & Pat Schapp
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Nancy Cookson	Cherrie Hays	Lisa J McMichael	Juanita Stell
Rachelle Aud Crowe	James & Gail Herren	Becky McNeil	Robert & Linda Stuckey
Cody & Laura Cruse	Franklin & Jane Hester	Mollie Meldrum	Kenneth R Theis
Barb Daniel	Alberta Hoffman	Patricia Meskegeorge	Harold Tottleben
Virginia Davinroy	Carol J Holbert	Lois W Metzger	Jeanne A Vick
Mary L Demetrulias	Charles Insko	Catherine A Miller	Phyllis Waltermire
Joseph Diekemper	Donna Jesse	Dolores Miller	Anita K Whittington
Nelda Donati		Susan E Moss	Carol Zarzecki

Very special thanks to Wildflower Shop for donating the gorgeous carnations, ribbon, and packaging for our annual Valentine's Day fundraiser.

We're also grateful Alpha Storage in Collinsville that donates a storage unit to our organization that we use year round.

We were very saddened to lose one of our favorite volunteers, Tinker Janruck, but have been so moved by the notes and phone calls from friends and families who have chosen to honor Tinker's memory with donations to CFIA. It's incredibly touching to read and hear the many comments about Tinker's faith and how her love and support for CFIA continues through her loved ones.

Sadly, we also lost our long-time friend, Evelyn Ratay. One of the many cards and letters from her family and friends read "We admire your organization tremendously... [CFIA] allowed Grandma to live in her own house a few more years. We thank you for being there and being friends with Grandma. Please use this to bless others, as you've blessed our family." It's gratifying to know that the work we do at CFIA so positively touched this family and continues to impact our community.

Donations received are updated monthly and acknowledged with a receipt sent by mail to the donor. Donations are then recognized quarterly in this newsletter. Gifts received after our newsletter has been sent to the printer will be recognized in the next newsletter.

In Memory

Ronald & Nancy Barberis
for Winona Barberis

Nancy Berry
for Jimmy Bivens

Donald & Carol Block
for David Pieplow

Linda Bohnenstiehl
for Thomas O'Connell

Judith K Brombolich
for Ed Ogle

Kathy Bummond
for Eileen Jamruk

Fay Churovich
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Peggy DesPain
for Thomas O'Connell

Stephen Devaney
for CFO Brian Devaney
who died in combat

Gina Dieckhaus
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Lisa Durham
for Christopher Durham

Mary Louise Fedder
for Wally Fedder

Tom & Mary Fenoglio
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Susan Harris
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

The Holmes Family
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Mary Hundsdorfer
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Carol Jenkins
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Ron & Judi Joergensen
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Thomas H Kampwert
for Susan Kampwerth

Frances Kassingf
for Virgil E. Kassing, Phyllis B.
Karrer, and J. Marion Hott

Phyllis G Kessler
for Mary Ann Grove

Anne & Ron Lacy
for Tinker Jamruk
- She was a loving mother to our friend

Doris M Lacy
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Kenneth M Lawrence
for Al Artimisi

Leonard Locus
for Lura Wall

R. Craig McKee MD LLC
for Floyd Fisher

Merck Foundation
for Evelyn Ratay

Mike Morgan
for Calvin Curtis

Bob & Mary Muentnichfor
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Nancy Nicol
for Evelyn Ratay

Daniel W O'Connell
for Bruce & Dee Mort

Priscilla Parker
for John T Parker

Sara Pauch
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk
- Thanks for your friendship
and memories

Robert H Ripley
for Patricia Ciszczon

Jim & Pat Schapp
for Beulah Kalbfleisch

Jim & Pat Schapp
for Tinker Jamruk

Jim & Pat Schapp
for Herman Wenos

Mr & Mrs Jeff Scheiter
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

Rodney & Debra Schmidt
for Eileen "Tinker" Jamruk

James & Rebecca Shimkus
for Evelyn Ratay

John & Karen Shimkus
for Evelyn Ratay

Randall & Jane Shimkus
for Evelyn Ratay

William Thompson
for Eileen Jamruk

Stephen & Mary Wells
for Evelyn Ratay

In Honor

Harvey Baca
for Laura

Jean M Buchana
for Volunteers and Staff

Denise Davinroy
for Virginia Davinroy

Karen Landwehr
for Mary Mitchell

Jim & Pat Schapp
for Eleanor Risman

Anita Schmitt
for Lisa Brennan

Doug Willett
for Nancy Willett

Business Donations

Amazon Smiles

Benevity Community
Impact Fund

B&K Towing

Davis Pet Hospital

Hillside Pet Clinic

Laura Buick-GMC

Leisure World Heath Club

L.W. Contractors Inc.

Leisure World Health Club

Tamra Coldren: Mary Kay
Independent Sales Director

Thrivent

Church Donations

Bluffview Baptist Church

First United Methodist Church

First United Prebyerian Church
(Priscilla Circle of FUMC Christmas Love Gift)

St John UCC
(Evening Circle Donation)

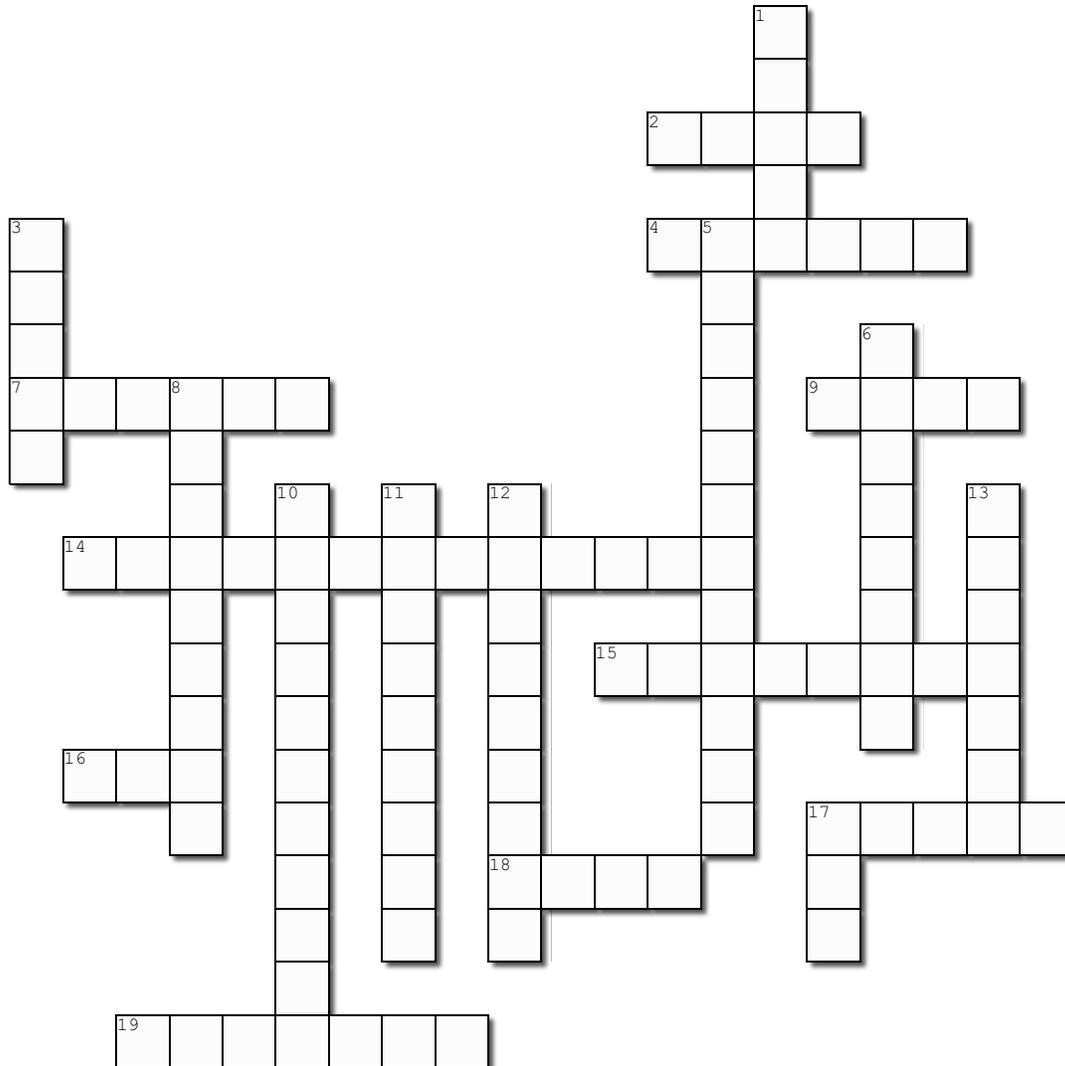
Capital Campaign

L.W. Contractors Inc.

Name: _____

Collinsville Faith in Action

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. acronym for Medicare counseling program
4. acronym for program that helps residents pay utility bills
7. choice; the power or right of choosing
9. CFIA Team member with the longest CFIA employment history
14. people or organizations working together to accomplish a common goal
15. Area Agency on Aging that funds many CFIA programs
16. number of decades CFIA has been serving the community
17. last name of CFIA founder
18. Christian annual season of fasting and penitence
19. organization that can provide financial support to applicants

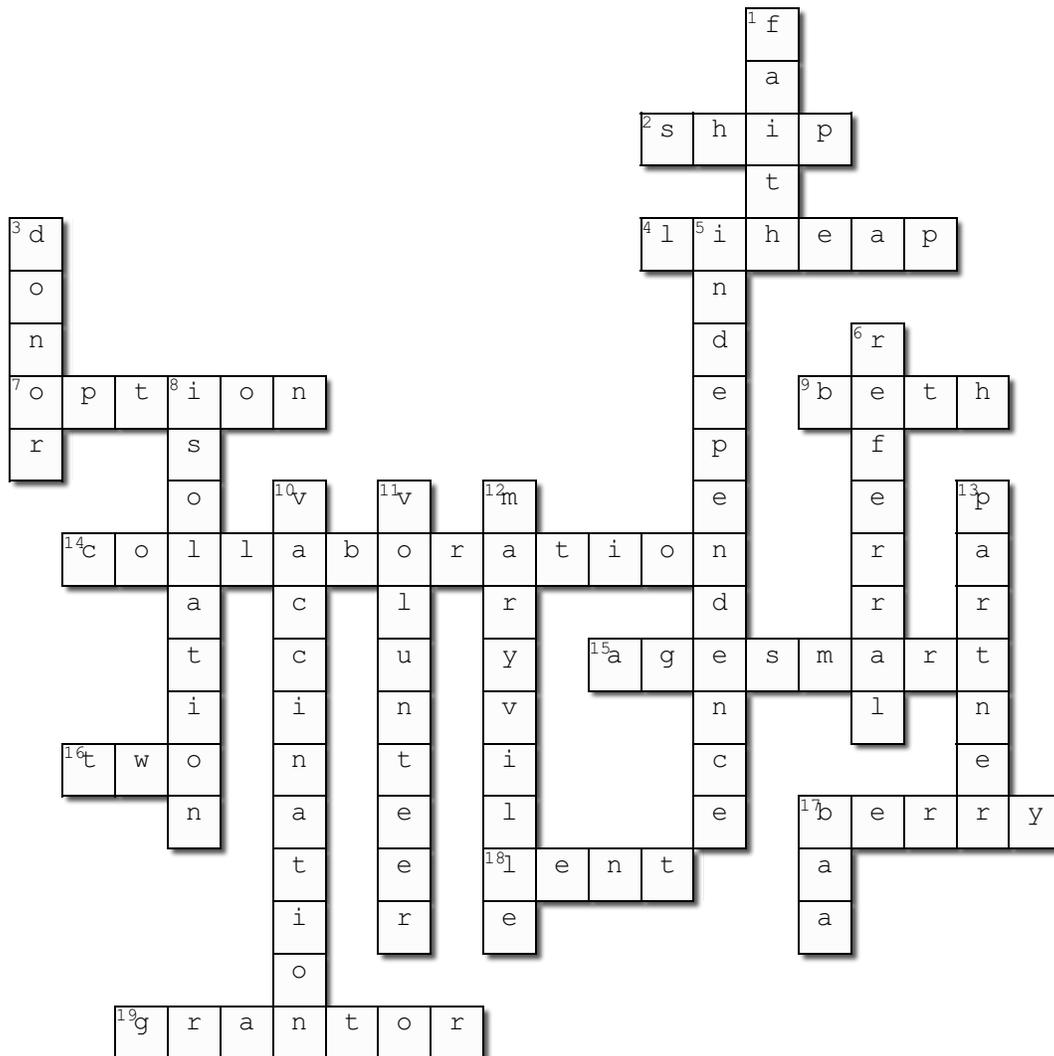
Down

1. belief and trust in something or someone
3. person who willingly gives financial support
5. freedom from control of others
6. a person or organization recommended to someone for a service
8. this can be a danger for many people, and socializing can prevent it
10. one form of protection against Covid-19
11. someone who donates time and talents to CFIA
12. town bordering Collinsville that is included in CFIA 'territory'
13. CFIA depends upon _____ congregations for volunteers
17. acronym for program that offers discounted license plate stickers and/or public transit passes

Name: _____

Collinsville Faith in Action

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. acronym for Medicare counseling program (**ship**)
4. acronym for program that helps residents pay utility bills (**liheap**)
7. choice; the power or right of choosing (**option**)
9. CFIA Team member with the longest CFIA employment history (**beth**)
14. people or organizations working together to accomplish a common goal (**collaboration**)
15. Area Agency on Aging that funds many CFIA programs (**agesmart**)
16. number of decades CFIA has been serving the community (**two**)
17. last name of CFIA founder (**berry**)
18. Christian annual season of fasting and penitence (**lent**)
19. organization that can provide financial support to applicants (**grantor**)

Down

1. belief and trust in something or someone (**faith**)
3. person who willingly gives financial support (**donor**)
5. freedom from control of others (**independence**)
6. a person or organization recommended to someone for a service (**referral**)
8. this can be a danger for many people, and socializing can prevent it (**isolation**)
10. one form of protection against Covid-19 (**vaccination**)
11. someone who donates time and talents to CFIA (**volunteer**)
12. town bordering Collinsville that is included in CFIA 'territory' (**maryville**)
13. CFIA depends upon _____ congregations for volunteers (**partner**)
17. acronym for program that offers discounted license plate stickers and/or public transit passes (**baa**)

Be A Neighbor Helping Neighbors

Volunteers are at the heart of CFIA's mission, putting their faith into action. Although FIAs were begun in the United States as long as 40 years ago with a model based on volunteers from Partner Churches, CFIA also has volunteers from the community at large. Neither volunteers nor clients need to have a church affiliation. If you are an individual interested in becoming a "neighbor helping neighbors," please call us or visit our website to learn about the variety of volunteer opportunities here.

If you are part of a church or organization that would like to know more about volunteering with us, we'd love to chat with you too. Groups who volunteer just occasionally are not required to complete orientation or training.

 Step one to become a volunteer is simply to reach out to us at 618-344-8080 or fiacollinsville.org.



Step two is to hear about the wide variety of volunteer opportunities and match your interests and schedule to the best fit. An interest-inventory worksheet can be used to narrow down the choices to better suit your interests.



Step three is to attend an orientation to learn more about the organization and to sign any necessary paperwork. While orientation can be scheduled on an individual basis, most volunteers enjoy meeting one another. Orientation takes about 45-50 minutes, and many options are scheduled.

Choose one orientation date:

Tuesday, April 19
Saturday, April 30
Friday, August 19
Saturday, August 20.



After orientation, volunteers attend training that is based on their interest survey and the type of volunteer service they choose. Volunteer drivers, for instance, would have different training than volunteer office workers. Each volunteer training runs 45-50 minutes.

Choose one training session:

Tuesday, April
Saturday, April 30
Friday, August 19 or
Saturday, August 20

Trainings can also be scheduled individually, but group sessions include a team of current volunteers with staff members leading the training.

Lastly, additional training is offered at least once per year to all volunteers who have completed the orientation and initial training. In the past, this has included CPR training.

Our experienced volunteers are welcome to join us for the half-day training scheduled for Friday, April 8 at the Center of Spirituality and Sustainability on the campus of SIUE. Please register for this training event as soon as possible since space is limited.

Collinsville Faith in Action
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Collinsville, IL 62234



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Faith in Action

Partner Congregations

Caseyville

Caseyville United Methodist Church
St. Stephen Catholic Church

Maryville

Copper Creek Christian Church
Our Mother of Perpetual Help
Catholic Church
Our Lord's Lutheran Church

Collinsville

Collinsville First United Methodist Church
First Baptist Church
First United Presbyterian Church
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Meadow Heights Baptist Church
Navigation Church
Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church
Revive
St. John United Church of Christ
S.S. Peter & Paul Catholic Church