

E-CONNECTOR



BULLETIN BOARD

Notes and Notices from Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC)



Dear Reader:

Please contact us if you have an announcement you would like to tack up on our bulletin board, or if you would like to add a friend or family member to the e-mail list. Direct all communications to: copobc.newsletter@gmail.com, attention Julie Hunter, editor.



COLORADO CENTER FOR THE BLIND ON CHANNEL 9 NEWS!

In advance of **Colorado Gives Day (December 9)**, Channel 9 News decided to feature four non-profit organizations on the "Where in the Town" segment of the morning news. There were 30 applications for this honor and the Colorado Center for the Blind was chosen as one of the four. On Monday, November 24, news anchor, Gregg Moss, traveled to the Center to find out what the Colorado Center for the Blind is all about. In five separate short interviews, Gregg learned a little bit about the Center and its mission. He put on sleepshades to try his hand at cooking eggs, cutting wood on a chop saw, and traveling with a long white cane. In other segments he learned about

using an iPhone with voiceover and some basics of Braille. If you would like to view "Where in the Town" with the Colorado Center for the Blind click on this link: [9News Video: Helping the Blind Lead Independent Lives](#)

COLORADO GIVES DAY

Colorado Gives Day will take place on Tuesday, December 9. The Community First Fund and FirstBank have established a One Million Dollar Incentive Fund to encourage the community to contribute to local non-profit organizations on that day. Donations made to the CCB through the Colorado Gives Site will help qualify the Center for an additional payout from the One Million Dollar Fund. Best of all, you don't have to wait for the 9th to make your contribution! You can schedule your donation in advance to be paid out on December 9th. Remember, no donation is too

small. We all can do our part to support the life changing work being done at the Colorado Center for the Blind. Click here to schedule your contribution: [Visit Colorado Gives Site & Give Where You Live Now!](#)



DO YOU TWEET?

(From [APH News](#))

Here are some helpful Twitter hashtags to use to stay connected to the blindness community.

[#visuallyimpaired](#) - Tweets specifically about visual impairments and blindness

[#blindness](#) - You will probably find this hashtag more useful than #blind, because a lot of people use #blind as a catch-all for phrases such as "blind as a bat," "blind to the truth," and, especially right now, TV's "The Voice" blind auditions.

[#braille](#) - Tweets from organizations, parents, students, and adults about braille literacy, DIY braille projects, braille resources, and current news.

[#UEB](#) - Stay up to date on the latest news involving Unified English Braille.

[#a11y](#) - The most comprehensive hashtag for anyone looking for accessibility resources, news, events, and more. There are 11 letters between the a and y in "accessibility," hence the abbreviated hashtag. Some people prefer to spell it out, so searching [#accessibility](#) could also be helpful.



FREE WHITE CANE PROGRAM

(Reprinted from November 2014 NFB Newsletter)

Did you know that the National Federation of the Blind offers free white canes to the blind? We believe that the long white cane is the key to independence for the blind. The white cane has proved a useful tool to millions of blind people in navigating their environments with confidence and safety. Since independence and the freedom to travel are so vital to our quality of life, the National Federation of the Blind believes every blind person should have a cane, regardless of ability to pay. Learn more about our free white cane program in a fun new video at <http://youtu.be/3gOGVToMTjo>

[Canes for children start at 24" in length. One free cane per year.]



CCB SENIOR PROGRAM SEEKS HELP DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION ABOUT BLINDNESS

Estelle Shukert, member of the CCB Seniors Program, asked for this notice to be posted:

"At the Senior program of the Colorado Center for the Blind, we have learned from the NFB and from experience, that one of the biggest problems for the blind is not blindness, but the attitudes of others toward us. We want to help! The seniors at CCB have started a program to educate the sighted and to let the visually impaired learn more about the resources available to them.

We are distributing Kernel books, published by the NFB, which have personal stories of blindness. In each book, we have placed a braille alphabet card with information about CCB, and a list of the Courtesy Rules of Blindness. We are taking these books with us and leaving them in waiting rooms everywhere!! We leave them when we go to doctors offices, hospitals, clinics, in banks, hotels, barber and beauty shops, restaurants and any public place or business we are going to that has a waiting room. I have even left one on

the Light Rail! We seniors want to do our part and hope you will join us. We can send you some of these books to show you how we are doing. If you are interested in distributing books you may call me at [303-789-7538](tel:303-789-7538). Blessings and thanks, Estelle Shukert "



PRINT, BRAILLE OR BOTH?

The Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness offers a free assessment tool for evaluating the visual reading efficiency of youth in kindergarten through 12th grade who are visually impaired. The National Reading Media Assessment (NRMA) is designed to measure the extent to which large print materials are sufficient to complete academic tasks, whether Braille should be introduced and whether a student should be given primary instruction in braille. The target population for this tool consists of youth with an identified visual impairment who have enough visual functioning to identify print letters or shapes by sight. The NRMA is typically administered by teachers of the visually impaired and is offered free of charge. For more information [click here](#).



NFB BID FOR EQUALITY (Ends on December 2!)

The National Federation of the Blind is currently holding the second annual Bid for Equality online auction. The auction began on Black Friday, November 28 and **will end on Tuesday, December 2**. To view the auction items, visit the auction homepage at <http://www.biddingforgood.com/bid-for-equality>. Support the efforts of the NFB to help blind people live the lives they want!



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13:
NFB Denver Chapter Holiday Party
1:00 - 4:00 pm.

Colorado Center for the Blind
2233 W. Shepperd Ave.
Littleton, CO 80120

The chapter will provide meatball sub sandwiches and soft drinks. Others are asked to bring side dishes or desserts, pre-plated and ready to serve. The kids will have fun decorating cookies, making holiday decorations, decorating their canes and choosing a Braille book from our Braille

Book Fair table. Santa is expected to drop in for a visit !

December 20:

The CCB has acquired a limited number of tickets to the DCPA production "A Christmas Carol". First come-first served. RSVP to Brent Batron at 303-778-1130 x 222 or bbatron@cocenter.org.

January 10:

FAST Saturday
10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Colorado Center for the Blind
2233 W. Shepperd
Littleton, CO 80120

Fun With Mathematics:
Making Math Accessible.
Lunch will be provided and all family members are welcome. RSVP Brent Batron at 303-778-1130 x 222 or bbatron@cocenter.org.



BRaille LETTERS FROM SANTA

Think how exciting it would be to receive a letter from Santa in braille! Go to NFB.org before December 19 to register a child to receive a personalized braille letter from Santa, coloring pages and a kid friendly recipe. A print copy of the letter will be included.