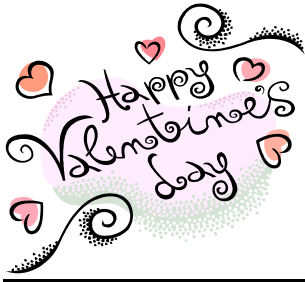


# E-CONNECTOR

## News from Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC)

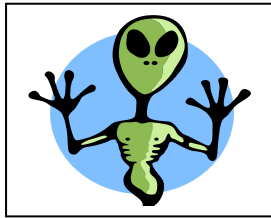
### Inside this issue:

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**Editor's Note:** Please feel free to contact us if you have an announcement you would like included in the newsletter 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](mailto:copobc.newsletter@gmail.com),  
attention Julie Hunter, editor.

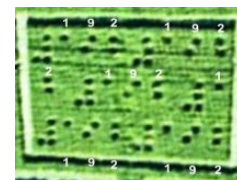


### BRAILLE-IENS

Some folks suspected the earth had been visited by aliens (or perhaps we should call them "Braille-iens") when a mysterious crop circle depicting a message in Braille appeared in a California barley field last month. The crop circle south of San Francisco contained a stylized image of a computer chip design and the number "192" in Braille repeated 6 times. Hundreds of locals and news crews flocked to the site before it was plowed under by the farmer, who was not happy to have gawkers trampling his fields. The publisher of *Skeptics Magazine* was quoted as saying: "We have to make a choice: what's more likely? That aliens landed in Chualar, California, or that a couple of pranksters made it?"

The mystery was solved several days later when the Nvidia Corporation, a technology

company based in Santa Clara, California introduced the Tegra K1, a new chip for tablets and smartphones that contains 192 computing "cores". With only a very limited marketing budget, the company wanted to promote the chip prior to the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. They definitely succeeded in getting attention, with national news coverage and YouTube exposure that went viral. We're not sure how the "192" was received at the Electronics Show, but we're happy they chose to use Braille in their stunt! Many people around the world learned a tiny bit about the Braille code, and that's not a bad thing. Aerial photos:





## 2014 DAY AT THE COLORADO CAPITOL

Parents, students and teachers...WE NEED YOU! Please join other parents and members of the NFB of Colorado for a "Day at the Capitol" in Denver on Friday, February 28, 2014. The purpose of the NFBCO Day at the Capitol is to communicate the legislative priorities of blind Coloradans to our state senators and representatives. Members of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado will meet in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at 8:00 a.m. Following a briefing on the issues to be presented to the legislators, the group will divide into teams. Each team will be given the names and office locations of a few representatives and senators and the teams will visit those offices to present the NFBCO legislative agenda. Improving the education of blind children, demanding equality for Coloradans with disabilities, and insuring continuity and growth of NFB NEWSLINE® and Audio Information Network of Colorado are just a few of the ways that your efforts on Friday, February 28 will help blind people throughout Colorado.

Mark your calendars and join us in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the Capitol building at 8:00 a.m. on February 28<sup>th</sup>. A continental breakfast will be available. Parents of Blind Children will meet outside the Old Supreme Court Chambers door before going in to sit together.

The NFBCO will have a drawing for a prize if 100 people participate, so BRING A FRIEND! The legislative visits will wrap up before noon, but if you are able, plan to stay for the afternoon board meeting of the NFB of Colorado.

For more information contact Lisa Bonderson at 303-504-5979 or e-mail [copobc@gmail.com](mailto:copobc@gmail.com).



## SCENTED BRAILLE VALENTINE CARDS

(from National Braille Press)  
Two oranges hold hands beneath a banner reading "Orange you glad we're friends". On the back of the valentine a braille "decoder" will help the sighted recipient decipher the Braille lettering. Packets of 20 cost \$10; large packets of 32 valentines cost

\$14. Designs from past years are available for \$7. Visit their website [www.npb.org](http://www.npb.org) or call 800-548-7323.

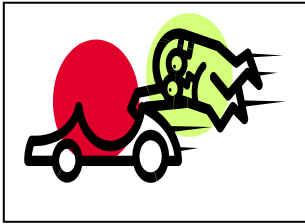


## READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

On Read Across America Day, as in years past, the National Federation of the Blind will be joining in the celebration of literacy for all children, focusing particularly on the importance of Braille literacy. Read Across America asks everyone across the country to celebrate reading on March 3. The NFB is asking you to celebrate with us and spread the good news about Braille. To be ready for March 3, we need your help now!

You can help us prepare by taking a picture or video of you or your child reading Braille at home, on vacation, at the library, at the park, by a local landmark, or at your favorite reading spot. You can submit your picture or video through the [Read Across America media submission form](#) at the NFB web site. We want to show the world that Braille rocks and we need your help to do that! So, grab your camera or smart-phone and a great book and head off to your favorite

reading spot to snap a picture. By visiting the [Read Across America page](#), you can learn about other ways you can get involved on March 3—including how you can win a free Dr. Seuss book in Braille. If you have questions about the NFB's participation in Read Across America, please contact Natalie Shaheen by e-mail at [nshaheen@nfb.org](mailto:nshaheen@nfb.org).



COMING SOON...

## *FAST*

- \* FUN
- \* ACTIVITIES
- \* SKILLS
- \* TRAINING

This news is from Brent Batron, Youth Services Coordinator at the Colorado Center for the Blind:

We are proud to launch our new FAST Saturday Program. This program will meet the first Saturday of each month. FAST stands for Fun Activities and Skills Training. We will focus on having fun while developing skills.

### **March 1: FAST Saturday Program**; 10 am -2 pm

We will be focusing on Braille, technology and a fun activity which will include lunch! This is for kids ages 5-18. The kids will be divided into groups based on age and ability. Space is limited so please RSVP by February 21<sup>st</sup>. There is no cost for this event.

### **March 21-22: FAST Overnight Family Seminar**

Families will arrive at the Center by 5 pm on Friday evening. Parents and siblings will join with blind kids and mentors to participate in a variety of different activities. Following overnight accommodations at the CCB apartments, the seminar will conclude at 8 pm on Saturday evening. There is no cost to this event but space is limited to 4 families so please register your family by contacting Brent Batron at the Center by March 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be lots of fun and learning for all family members.

### **April 5: FAST Saturday Program** 10 am-2 pm

We will be focusing on Braille, technology and a fun activity which will include lunch! This is for kids ages 5-18. The kids will be divided into groups based on age and ability. Space is limited so please RSVP by

March 29<sup>th</sup>. There is no cost for this event.

### **May 3: FAST Saturday Program**

This will be a field day where we will play some goal ball, beep baseball and other fun sports that the kids are sure to love!

To RSVP to these events contact Brent Batron 303-778-1130 x 222 or [bbatron@cocenter.org](mailto:bbatron@cocenter.org)



### **AUDIO DESCRIBED CHILDREN'S THEATER**

The Arvada Center children's theater program presents "Lyle the Crocodile"

February 13-May 23, 2014.  
AUDIO DESCRIBED on March 4, 2014 at the 10 a.m. and noon performances.

When Lyle the big green crocodile turns up in the Primm family's bathtub nobody quite knows what to do. Find out what happens to Lyle in this delightful musical tale.

Tickets are available for \$8 each by calling the Arvada Center: 720-898-7245.