

ENSIGHT

Skills Center, Inc.

for visual rehabilitation



May/June 2010

"Vision Matters 2010"

The next "Vision Matters" low-vision seminar is coming to Loveland in May. Disabled Resource Services (DRS) and Ensign are co-sponsoring the event, which will be held on Wednesday, May 12th, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Hillcrest Senior Living Center (535 North Douglas Avenue, Loveland).

This is a great opportunity to learn about low-vision resources, adaptive equipment, supportive services, and much more. Nancy McKelvey, a licensed counselor, and a panel of guests with low vision/blindness, will speak and share coping mechanisms for dealing with vision loss.

The cost of the seminar is \$10, which includes a tasty lunch, and you do need to RSVP to attend, as there are only a few spots left. For more information or to RSVP, contact Penny Bowden at DRS (970-988-8363).

Dr. DeGeorge Update

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, Ensign's longtime optometrist, Mark DeGeorge, is battling a rare form of blood cancer. His team of cancer doctors is pleased with his response to treatment thus far. Based on various lab tests, they have decided to continue chemotherapy for another six weeks. He then anticipates a stem cell transplant in July. Mark continues to feel well and is optimistic that he will enjoy a lengthy remission of his myeloma when his treatments are completed. If you would like to read more about his cancer journey, he maintains a blog at www.carepages.org.

Ensign Skills Center
3307 S. College Ave, #108
Fort Collins, CO 80525
970-407-9999
Curtis Strong Center
918 13th Street, Suite 4
Greeley, CO 80631
970-353-9417

That's "Ms. Moyer" To You...

Denny Bettenhausen, our director, has decided to change her last name in conjunction with her upcoming marriage to Loveland's very own Dan Moyer. So, effective May 8th, she'll be answering to Denny Moyer.

Reminder About Operating Hours

During a very lean winter, financially, Ensign had to cut back on operating hours at our offices. Things has gotten a little better now, and we've been able to greatly expand our Denver office hours. So, here are the current operating hours for each of our offices:

Fort Collins (3307 South College Avenue) Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Greeley (918 13th Street) Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Denver (6000 East Evans Avenue) Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Time Again to Make "The Ask"

As we mentioned above, it's been a pretty tough financial winter for Ensign. But now it's springtime and the promise of better times ahead. We haven't done this in quite a while, but included in this newsletter is a donation envelope. Ensign cannot operate without the generous support of individual donors like you. So please, take a moment and make a donation. Your support will help us continue to serve the low-vision population in Colorado.

Co-Pilots Cycling Program Off to a Great Start

We had a great turnout for our first ride, with seven tandem bicycle teams helping blind and low-vision riders experience cycling again. The next rides are scheduled for May 10th and June 7th. If you'd like to ride, contact New World Sports at **970-224-5857**.

Upcoming Low-Vision Seminars/Events

May 27th (Thursday) "Style for Independence", 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Ridgen Farm Senior Living (2350 Limon Drive, Fort Collins). Enight and Disabled Resource Services are co-sponsoring this design seminar. Enight's Diane Gunson (a professional interior designer) will present ways to design your living space in style, using lighting, contrast, texture, and other accessible design ideas for low vision. You'll also be able to tour a "low-vision friendly" Ridgen Farm residence designed by Diane. This is a free event and refreshments will be served, but you do need to RSVP by calling Penn Bowden at 970-988-8363.

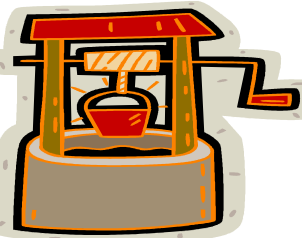
June 16th (Wednesday) "MagnifEYEd Living", 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Weld County Training Center (1104 H Street, Greeley). The Weld County Area Agency on Aging, Connections for Independent Living, and Enight are co-sponsoring this first event in a lecture series for those affected by low vision and blindness. There will be magnification specialists and vendors on hand to answer questions and demonstrate assistive aids. There is a \$5 admission fee. To reserve a seat, call Enight at 970-407-9999.

June 17th (Thursday) "Magnification", 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Enight Skills Center in Fort Collins (3307 South College Avenue, Suite 108). Experts from Eschenbach will be here to answer questions and demonstrate the latest in magnification aids. This is a free event. For more information, call us at 970-407-9999.

September 22nd (Wednesday) "Interior Design for the Aging Eye", at Weld County Training Center. Details in next newsletter.

Our Wish List

We need several items to help run our office but have limited funds. Please consider helping us with these items from our current wish list. Thank you!



- * Batteries (especially the "C" and "AAA" sizes)
- * Kleenex tissues, paper towels, toilet tissue
- * Copy paper
- * Postage stamps
- * Dishwashing detergent

Ensign Skills Center
3307 S. College Ave
Suite 108
Fort Collins, CO 80525

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Fort Collins, CO
Permit # 174

Ensign -- Empowering Independent Living

Support Groups for May and June 2010

Greeley - May 20th (Thursday) 10-11 a.m. Good Samaritan Center. Topic will be "Solar Shields and Sun/Snow Glare."

Fort Collins - May 27th (Thursday) 9-11 a.m. Special event and location. Rigden Farm Senior Living (2350 Limon Drive) Topic will be "Style for Independence". See article on Page 3 for more information.

Greeley - June 17th (Thursday) 10-11 a.m. Good Samaritan Center. Topic will be "Colorado Talking Books Library"

Fort Collins - June 24th (Thursday) 10-11:30 a.m. Ensign Skills Center. Topic will be "Magnification."

For more information about support groups, call **970-407-9999**.