

# Insight

Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth

Spring 2008

## The Lighthouse Has a New Web site

The Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth has a new Web site. Real World IMC, TCU's student-run advertising agency, helped give the site a new look. The site was recently updated to match the new rebranding image of the Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth.

Visitors to the site are now able to find out more information on services offered by the Lighthouse, as well as view pictures and descriptions of our numerous products. An archive of past newsletters and a calendar of events for the Lighthouse and the community are now available for viewing at any time.

Visit the site at [www.lighthousefw.org](http://www.lighthousefw.org). Visitor feedback is welcome at [sales@lighthousefw.org](mailto:sales@lighthousefw.org).






### Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth

The Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth provides many essential services to people who are visually impaired through diverse programs administered by a staff of skilled and caring professionals. These programs offer self-help skills for adults, aid for seniors, special opportunities for children, summer employment for teens, and meaningful employment for men and women who are blind.



### Personal Products

	<b>Coffee Mugs</b> Ceramic coffee mugs with the emblem of the State of Texas and the no littering slogan, "Don't Mess with Texas" are an ideal addition to the lunchroom or as gifts to clients.
	<b>Insulated Mug</b> This 16 oz insulated mug is available with a copper or silver finish. Engraving or a die cast company logo in 15/16" brushed metal medallion, are available options.
	<b>Leather Writing Pad</b> Millennium black writing pad with pen holder and writing pad insert.
	<b>Leather look with hand straps</b> Leather look with hand straps in a deluxe gift box.
	<b>Blankets</b> Blankets measure 50 x60" bag. Comes in red or blue.



### Purpose

Each year, hundreds of men, women and children receive help and gain increased awareness of their abilities from programs only the Lighthouse for the Blind offers. The number served grows annually. The quality of these programs is a source of pride for those who are connected with the Lighthouse and a source of comfort for those served.

For over 70 years, the Lighthouse has been available to assist the blind and visually impaired community through these programs:

- Skills Assessment
- Orientation and Mobility Training
- Information and Referral
- Senior Services
- Employment Opportunities
- NASJRB Servmart

### Mission

The mission of Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth, a nonprofit organization, is to provide services to assist legally and totally blind individuals to achieve their highest level of personal, economic self-sufficiency, consistent with their specific skills, general abilities and interests.

7.332.3341 • Fax 817.332.3456

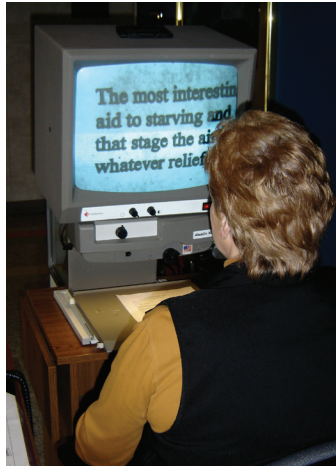
© 2007

912 West Broadway • Fort Worth, Texas 76104 • 817.332.3341 • Fax 817.332.3456

Visit our Web site at [www.lighthousefw.org](http://www.lighthousefw.org)

# CCTV Equipment Loan Program

A Closed Circuit Television, or CCTV, is a low-vision magnification device that can be of great benefit to many elderly individuals contending with vision loss as a consequence of eye-related disorders, like Macular Degeneration. A CCTV enables individuals with limited eyesight to read mail, review bank statements, write their own checks or clearly see pictures of their family. This equipment can provide a much higher degree of independence in everyday activities, but comes at a rather high price. A CCTV may cost from \$1,500-\$3,000, far beyond the financial capability of many elderly people on limited, fixed incomes.



As a part of our Service for Seniors with Vision Loss Program, The Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth has for the past several years carried out a CCTV Loan Service. CCTVs are made available on a loan basis and placed in the homes of individuals who would otherwise never be able to afford to purchase this equipment. The Lighthouse has purchased CCTVs for this service with a grant from Bank of America and with individual donations. Presently, there are 25 CCTVs loaned to individuals with limited eyesight, and we currently have a waiting list of 5-10 people waiting for a device when one becomes available.

## General Services Administration Purchases TRIAD Boxes



The Lighthouse has received its first order for 250 TRIADS (Tri-Wall Aerial Delivery System) boxes that will be shipped to the General Services Administration (GSA) Depot in Burlington, N.J.

TRIADS are designed to deliver Humanitarian Relief Supplies from

an aircraft into a disaster area and can be dropped with or without parachutes. The TRIAD is constructed of triple wall corrugated cardboard that is 40 inches wide, 48 inches deep and 80 inches tall.

The units will be shipped in component parts to be set up at the air base where the relief supplies

are staged. GSA estimates that 1,000 of the TRIADS will be used annually around the globe.

The TRIAD is the second air-drop product that the Lighthouse supplies to the government through the AbilityOne Program.





# Digital Data Scan Celebrates 1st Year Anniversary

Digital Data Scan, the Lighthouse document imaging project, celebrated its one-year anniversary with a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 12. The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce sponsored the ceremony, and a number of Chamber Ambassadors were in attendance.

Our customer list continues to grow, consisting of banks, credit unions, attorneys, medical and dental offices, commercial businesses and a number of local school districts. Projects have ranged from accounting and HR documents to medical records, client files, bank signature cards and school board minutes and agendas.

As demand has increased for our services, so has the opportunity to employ additional visually

impaired workers. Our staff has grown from our original six employees to 10, with plans to add additional staff and equipment as our business grows.



*Pictured Above: Joyce Trimble and Karl Kiene cut the anniversary ribbon for the DDS program with the help of the Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.*

## Medical Students Tour Lighthouse



For 10 consecutive years, the Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth has provided an observational experience for second year medical students attending the University of

North Texas Health Science Center's Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM). Community observations are designed to provide student physicians with an overview of support services available in various health and social service organizations in the community.

In the past, student physicians have commented on the value of their community observation experience at the Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth, stating,

*"This was an excellent experience. I learned something no textbooks and no lectures could have taught me in medical school. The Lighthouse for the Blind is an amazing place... I am really glad I had the opportunity to visit this organization."*

Ten student physicians per visit will begin rotation on April 29 and will continue through June 17. Student physicians will be provided with a history of the Lighthouse, a detailed overview of programs and services, and will conclude with a tour of the facility, taking time to observe and interact with employees in each department.

The Lighthouse is pleased to partner with the University of North Texas Health Science Center's TCOM to provide these medical students an opportunity to learn more about services available for those who contend with vision loss.

# New Hire Tom Carlson



We are proud to announce the addition of Tom Carlson to the Lighthouse for the Blind family.

Tom has replaced Deanna Conner, who is retiring, as the Controller at the Lighthouse.

Tom brings over 30 years of experience in financial reporting, budgeting, cost management and credit management to his position.

He attended college in Illinois, earning a bachelor's degree in accounting from Rosary College,

and completed his M.B.A in accounting from DePaul University.

Tom was the controller for a \$500 million nationwide professional employment organization.

Locally, Tom held the position of controller for QFC Plastics in Arlington, Texas, where he was responsible for many processes, including preparing and implementing an annual budget.

Tom is excited to be working at the Lighthouse for the Blind. This is the first time he has been employed by a non-profit organization.

Tom moved to the DFW area five years ago to be closer to his family.



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
for the Blind of Fort Worth  
912 West Broadway  
Fort Worth, Texas 76104

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Fort Worth, TX  
Permit No. 1673