Center for the blind willopen

SANTA CRUZ - The Doran Resource Center for the Blind, the only facility of its kind in Santa Cruz, has moved into new headquarters at 413 Locust St. The move will allow the center to house its Low Vision Clinic. offices and other services under one roof.

The Doran Center offers a range of services for the blind or people with extremely low vision, including classes in Braille, cooking and homemaking, foreign languages, weaving, creative writing and poetry. The center also sponsors field trips, speakers, bridge games, Bingo, and weekly lunches for participants. Personal counseling and free recording of written materials also is available.

The center is dedicated to the purpose of enabling vision-impaired people to become independent and confident. A mobility specialist teaches cane travel throughout the county, as well as daily living techniques in and out of the home. The center is a volunteer, non-profit organization that depends on funds from service organizations, private donations and bequests.

The Doran Center was founded 10 years ago by Ray Westman, Ruth Davidson and Mary Dunham, all of whom had worked with the blind in areas. In 1986, the Lamplighters Club joined forces with the Doran Center and merged their assets so the center's work could continue.

Volunteers are needed to serve as readers, social coordinators, drivers, cooks and bridge players. For more information, call the center at 458-9766.