

# idea corner

## **Extension Reaches Out to the Blind**

In Greenville, South Carolina, Extension home economists have been actively involved in helping the blind. Cassette tapes on home management and budgeting have been prepared to use in classes taught by the Commission of the Blind.

A blind homemaker was helped to decorate a new home. She wanted her home to be attractive for her sighted husband, children, and friends. The home economist even helped her shop for drapes.

Another home economist has been teaching classes with Patti Tuck, rehabilitation teacher from the South Carolina Commission on the Blind in Greenville. Patti has given the training and guidance



Extension Service for these blind adults. This is just another way Extension reaches out to help all people have a better quality life.

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*Blind young adults find the temperatures marked on the range.*

on skills needed to work with the blind. She is legally blind.

Meal preparation skills are put into practice during two-hour food labs. The blind are helped to feel more confident in their ability to manage a meal preparation at home. An oven meal, brunch, and light lunch have been prepared.

Since programs began in 1979, 3 classes have been taught reaching 18 adults who hadn't been served by Extension before.

Many of the newly blinded adults are diabetics. I have had six newly blinded adults in my classes. Assistance on adjusting menus for the diabetic is given. The next program is scheduled to teach the blind how to use the food processor to perform cutting operations.

Clients range in age from 17-70. Both men and women, black and white, old and young learn skills to help them. This was the first contact with the