



Hotlines

A Newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana, Office of Lt. Governor, Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism

Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
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Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Telephone Numbers
Toll Free: 800-543-4702
Phone: 225-342-4944
Fax: 225-342-6817
Braille Service:
800-453-4293

E-mail
sbph@state.lib.la.us
sbphkids@state.lib.la.us

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Library Services
Recorded Books & Magazines
Braille Books & Magazines
Large Print Books
Descriptive Videos
Online Catalog

Eligibility
Any Louisiana resident who is unable to read or use standard print materials as a result of a temporary or permanent visual or physical limitation is eligible to receive free library services.

From the Librarian's Desk...

Staffing changes

I want to share a few notes and thoughts with you, our readers. We have had some recent staffing changes at the library. You can read the details on pages 2-3. We are fewer in number, and due to state budget difficulties, we will not be able to hire replacement employees at this time. You may find yourself being served by a different Reader Advisor, but our whole staff pledges to work hard and to continue to provide the same careful, personal service that you have come to expect.

Digital players

As this newsletter goes to press, we are still waiting for the first shipment of digital players. There have been a few delays in shipments of digital books while some minor problems are being corrected. But very soon, we will begin lending the new players and the new books to the folks on the waiting list. We know that you will love this new technology! The player is far smaller and lighter, the sound quality is better, and the books are easy to play.

We currently have more than 400 people on the waiting list for the new digital players. If you aren't on the waiting list for the new

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players, please contact your Reader Advisor to place your name on the waiting list. It will take several months for us to send a player to everyone who wants one. Our goal is to eventually get a digital player to every active patron.

Cassette players

Please, please keep your old cassette player! You will need it to listen to our large library of books on cassette, to listen to magazines, and to listen to *Louisiana Hotlines*! Each patron is entitled to the loan of one cassette book machine (cbm) and one digital talking book machine (dtbm).

Thanks to our patrons

We want to thank everyone who returned overdue books and extra cassette players to the library in the past few months. Although we do not have a machine shortage in Louisiana, there are some states in the network that have waiting lists for replacement cassette players. We need to repair extra players and share them with the network.

Read and return

Please remember to read and return your books. The National Library Service for the Blind (NLS), which supplies us with recorded books and playback machines, has put most of its budget into the new

digital players. The result is a cutback in the number of books we receive. As soon as you finish a book, please get it back in the mail to us so that we can loan it to another patron.

Keep cards with books

The mail card that comes with each recorded book is printed with important information about the book. We use the mail card to check books in and out of the library. Please keep the mail cards with the proper books. If you switch cards between books or lose the mail card, it can cause problems because we use scanners and computers to check books in and out of the library.

Reader Advisors Alphabet Reassignment

Because of recent staff changes some of you may have a new Reader Advisor. These changes are reflected in the list below.

Bonnie: A H I K L M

Ray: D G P T and Large Print

Carolyn: C E F J R U V W X Y Z

Shelia: B N O Q W
and Adult Institutions

Emma: Kids 1-18 and Schools

Where's Sheritha?

Many of her patrons have been asking that question and we are happy to report that she is doing well as she recuperates from a long awaited kidney transplant. She is feeling good and looking forward to returning to work soon. She thanks everyone for their good wishes and prayers.

Fond Farewell to Beverly Dugas

State Librarian Promotes Dugas to Business Manager

SBPH congratulates Beverly Dugas. State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton promoted Beverly to the position of Business Manager at the State Library of Louisiana. Although we know her patrons will miss her very much, we are excited for Beverly as she moves forward in a new career direction. Beverly recently received her Associates degree in Business/Accounting from Baton Rouge Community College.

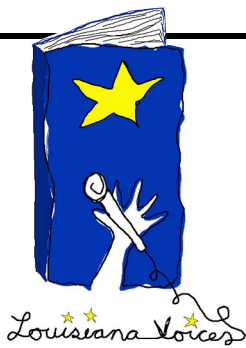
Hamilton said, "I know Beverly felt that serving SBPH readers was an honor and joy. Out of 27 years of working for the State Library, she served 26 of those years in SBPH."



L-R: Sheritha and Beverly at a staff outing.

New Source for Free Braille Calendars

Due to budgetary constraints, SBPH will no longer mail out Braille calendars. We do, however, have the name of the organization that offers them. To order, contact the Independence Market at the National Center for the Blind by phone at (410) 659-9314, extension 2216; by fax at (410) 685-2340; by e-mail at IndependenceMarket@nfb.org; or by mail at Independence Market, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230.



From Our Studio

Louisiana Voices records its first Western

The Lawless Frontier

by Randy Denmon, RCL 467

As the forces of revolution seize control of the country, Stewart Cook travels across the Mexican landscape to save his beloved Alexia Garcia. With partner-in-arms Myles Adams, the gunslingers face the horror of full-blown civil unrest and persevere for the sake of love. Violence and some strong language.

If you like the *Harry Potter* or *Lemony Snicket* series...

Try these two captivating stories narrated with varied character dialog by Bruce Morgan. For grades 3-5 and older interested readers.

The Prophecy

by Hilari Bell, RCL 447

A scholarly young prince sets out to slay a black dragon with the help of a bard, a unicorn and a legendary sword. Will magical intervention be enough to save his ailing kingdom from total destruction?

Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat

by Lynn Jonell, RCL 465

Emmy's wealthy parents abandon her for worldly travel, leaving her behind with a vindictive nanny obsessed with potions and odd "cures". The unexpected entrance of a strange rat uncovers a hidden world that changes Emmy's life.

Honor our Soldiers on Veteran's Day with books narrated by WWII Veteran Ralph Sims

Cranking up a Fine War:

a Louisiana Soldier from

Boot Camp to General's Aide

by Van R. Mayhall, Sr., RCL 374

This is the coming-of-age story of a young WWII soldier from Baton Rouge who worked his way to high ranks within the army. Mayhall chronicles his career including meetings with royalty, Hollywood elite, and the life long love affair with his wife, Marie.

Louisiana Haunted Forts

by Elaine Coleman, RCL 439

Experience tales of the supernatural with soldiers who still patrol the ruins of wartime fortifications they built, defended, and died for in Louisiana.

LYRC 2010: Your Vote Counts!

The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award is a reading program designed to let kids in grades 3-5 and teens in grades 6-8 participate in the selection and recognition of outstanding books. Even if your school is not participating in the LYRC program, you can still participate individually through SBPH now! Read at least 3 of the 13 books below and call Miss Emma, the Children and Teen Services Librarian, by February 1, 2010 to cast your vote, to get the titles for grades 3-5, or for more about the LYRC program.

LYRC Books For Grades 6-8

Chaos Code by Justin Richards

Cracker: The Best Dog in Vietnam
by Cynthia Kadohata

Deep and Dark and Dangerous
by Mary Downing Hahn

Diamonds in the Shadow
by Caroline Cooney

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

Dragon Slippers by Jessica Day George

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher P. Curtis

Football Genius by Tim Green

Gabriel's Horses by Alison Hart

Kimchi and Calamari by Rose Kent

Night of the Howling Dogs
by Graham Salisbury

Peak by Roland Smith

Schooled by Gorgon Korman

Get set for the 2009 Louisiana Book Festival

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Book Festival is back for its seventh year!

Louisiana's world-class celebration of readers, writers and their books will return to Baton Rouge from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Saturday, October 17, 2009.

The seventh annual event will feature more than 175 authors discussing their books; the Young Readers Pavilion, where children and parents will enjoy storytelling performances, writing enrichment exercises and other exciting activities; and a wide variety of book-related activities, demonstrations, exhibitions and performances. Food and music will complement the festive occasion.

It all takes place at the State Library of Louisiana, the Louisiana State Capitol, the Louisiana State Museum, and in tents on neighboring streets. To learn more about the LBF, visit www.LouisianaBookFestival.org or call 225-219-9503.

The Louisiana Book Festival is co-sponsored by the Louisiana Center for the Book; the State Library of Louisiana; the Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism and the Office of Lt. Governor.

The Seeing Eye Seminar for Youth October 15-18, 2009

The Seeing Eye Seminar for Youth in Morristown, New Jersey is designed to introduce young people who are blind or visually impaired, along with their Orientation & Mobility specialists, to the increased mobility and companionship provided by a Seeing Eye dog. The three day experience allows teens to practice handling, feeding and grooming a dog. The entire cost to the student and to participating O&M specialists is covered by The Seeing Eye. The Seeing Eye pays for round-trip airfare, ground transportation in New Jersey, hotel and meals. Students must be 15 to 19 years old; severely visually impaired; and

in good physical and mental health. At the June seminar, one of SBPH's teens, Dimitrios Kouniaris, attended the camp and really enjoyed it. He said five teens from across the United States attended the program and that he practiced walking with a German Shepherd named Foster. Foster gave him a new sense of freedom as they walked around the campus – "He helped me with getting around and I felt free and comfortable with the dog." Applications are available by contacting Ray Kornman at 973-539-4425, or by e-mail to: rkornman@seeingeye.org.

National Federation of the Blind Free White Cane Program

The National Federation of the Blind believes the long white cane is a means to independence. The white cane has proved a useful tool to millions of blind people in navigating their environments with confidence and safety. It is a tool that allows blind people to travel when and where they want, leading to self-sufficiency. The NFB believes that independence and freedom to travel are so important to the quality of life that every blind person should have a cane, regardless of ability to pay. Because of this, they are giving away straight fiberglass canes, free

of charge. Any blind individual in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico may request a cane for personal use. Requests may be made as often as every six months. The canes are available in the following lengths: 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, and 63 inches. Call 410-659-9314 for more information or visit the NFB's web site for their free white cane application at: www.nfb.org/freecane/forms.asp

News you can use

Web Site Offers GED Support

The E-Learn, Inc. web site has numerous free articles and information developed to support adult learners preparing for the GED. The articles include frequently asked questions, study skills, test tips and how to get motivated and how to manage test anxiety. Articles also address GED benefits and resources, from where to take tests and why they're valuable, to guides for finding financial aid and support. To view the free articles visit:
www.passged.com/

Accommodations for Standardized Tests

Students who are interested in taking any kind of standardized test, such as ACT or SAT, must apply well in advance in order to take these type of tests with accommodations. Applicants must be approved before taking the test, and the approval may take up to eight weeks. If you are currently using accommodations, it is highly

recommended that extended time or alternate test formats as an accommodation be requested in the application for accommodations. High school guidance counselors and/or test coordinators should be contacted for more information. You may also contact the ACT or SAT directly for practice tests in large print, Braille or audio. You can reach them at:
ACT – 1-319-337-1332 or
www.actstudent.org
SAT/PSAT – 1-609-771-7137 or
[email sat.ssd.ets.org](mailto:sat.ssd.ets.org)

Seedlings Free Braille Book Program

We wanted to let you know that Seedlings Braille Books for Children has a free program open to all VI children in the US that enables them to receive two free Braille books per year, so sign them up now if you haven't already! It is called the Book Angel Program, and you can register your children online at <http://www.seedlings.org/bkangel2009.php> or you can call toll free at 800-777-8552.

The announcement of products and services in this newsletter should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation by SBPH. The library cannot be held responsible for the reliability of products or services mentioned.

State Library of Louisiana
Services for the Blind & Physically Handicapped
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**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**

Special format library materials
are loaned to qualified patrons by

Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

State Library of Louisiana

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

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STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR
Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism



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