



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**
701 North Fourth Street
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.

A Note from the Library Director

As you will read in this newsletter, SBPH has experienced many ups and downs in the past few months. We lost a dearly valued member of our staff in October. The 7th annual Louisiana Book Festival was held October 17, and it took the whole State Library team, along with 350 volunteers and a beautiful fall day to bring about a very successful event. Mark your calendars for October 30, 2010, for the next one! We are coping with a very stringent state budget this year.

But the best news of all is that we are finally bringing the long-awaited digital books and players to our patrons. So far, 280 of our readers have the new players, and they report that the new machine is wonderful. It is easy to use, the sound quality is great, and there is no need to rewind or flip tapes over. This library will be receiving regular shipments of new digital players from NLS. As fast as we get the shipments in, we will be sending the players out to the people on our waiting lists. If you have not put your name on the waiting list for a new player, please call your reader advisor. We are anxious to share this new technology with everyone.

Once you have a digital player, you may wish to sign up for BARD, the digital book

Continued on page 2

downloading program at a secure NLS web site. BARD allows you to download books to a high speed computer, to transfer those files to an NLS-type cartridge or a simple flash drive, and then to play those books on your digital player. There

are more than 15,000 titles currently available from BARD. To get more information, visit the BARD web site at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/ApplicationInstructions.html> or call your reader advisor.

SBPH By The Numbers...All data is current as of November 1, 2009

Digital players have been loaned to patrons	280
Additional digital players SBPH will receive before years' end.....	296
People on the waiting lists for digital players.....	366
People waiting for the standard player	276
People waiting for the advanced player	90
The percentage of standard players in each shipment from NLS	80%
The percentage of advanced players in each shipment from NLS	20%
SBPH patrons who are enrolled in BARD—digital book download service...	108
The average wait for a digital player	6 months
Digital book titles in the collection	440
Copies of digital books in the collection	1398
Recorded cassette book titles in the collection	53,772
Copies of recorded cassette books in the collection	267,750
Cassette book machines loaned out to patrons.....	5276

In Remembrance...Sheritha White

We are very sorry to tell you that Sheritha White passed away on October 4, 2009, at the age of 48, of complications and illness that set in several months after her transplant surgery. Sheritha worked at the State Library of Louisiana for nearly 28 years. During that time, she touched many hearts. She was Reader Advisor for all of the large print readers and a number of other SBPH patrons. She was a dedicated employee who worked hard and enjoyed life. Sheritha struggled bravely with kidney disease for a number of years, and her passing has left all of us bereaved. Sheritha leaves two sons, Chaz, age 13, and Sean, age 20, and a large extended family. She had many friends and she was admired by all for her positive attitude in the face of extended illness.

It Was A Creative Summer At the Library!

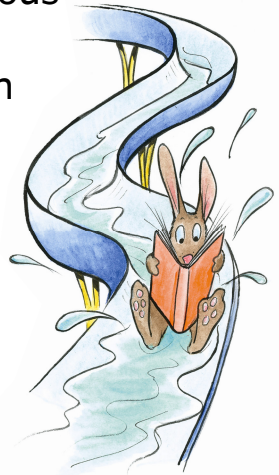
The 2009 "Be Creative @ Your Library" summer reading program was a big hit! This summer 115 children and young adults registered to participate in the program. Everyone who registered received a folder with a reading log and bibliographies.

An amazing 99 readers completed the program, reading 1,030 books between June 22 and August 17, 2009. All of these brilliant readers received a fabulous "Be Creative" t-shirt. Finally, at the end of the program, a special drawing was held and eight summer readers each won

a \$50 United States Savings Bond. Congratulations to all of our winners!

"Be Creative @ Your Library" was made possible through a grant from the Louisiana Library Foundation and from the on-going generous support of the Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Our theme for the 2010 summer reading program is "Make A Splash – READ!" and we hope to see you there!



Braille Readers Are Leaders 27th Annual Contest for Blind Youth and Adults 2009-2010

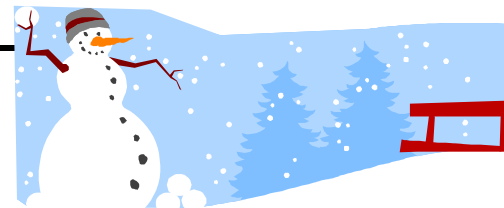
Calling all Louisiana Braille readers! Let's show the rest of the country that Louisiana has some fantastic Braille readers. The National Federation of the Blind and the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children are pleased to announce the 27th annual Braille Readers Are Leaders contest. This contest encourages children to be proud of their ability to read Braille. Children in grades K-12 can win t-shirts, cash prizes and even an all-expenses-paid trip to the 2010 NFB Convention in Dallas, Texas. Along with the contest for children

grades K-12 there is a new contest for adults this year. Adults with various levels of experience reading Braille have the chance to join in the fun! The adult competition will very closely parallel the traditional student competition.

It is not too late to sign up! This year, the NFB is asking that all contestants register online at www.nfb.org/nfb/Braille_Readers_Are_Leaders_Overview.asp. If you do not have access to a computer, you may request paper forms by calling (410) 659-9314, extension 2510.



oliday Reads for the Season



A Cedar Cove Christmas by Debbie Macomber. RC 68061, LP 22153. Pregnant Mary Jo Wyse comes to Cedar Cove on Christmas Eve seeking the father of her baby. Bestseller.

The Christmas Blessing by Donna VanLiere. RC 58707, LP 19080. Nathan, in his third year of medical school, still has much to learn about life, faith and blessings.

A Christmas Secret by Anne Perry. BR 16908, RC 64292, LP 19510. A London vicar spends Christmas in an isolated village substituting for the local Reverend, who has taken a last-minute holiday.

The Christmas Thief by Mary Higgins Clark and Carol Higgins Clark. BR 15551, RC 58834, LP 19092. During a vacation weekend in Vermont, a lottery winner and her friend, private investigator Regan Reilly, become involved in the case of a stolen Christmas tree.

The Christmas Train by David Baldacci. BR1 4463, RC 55045, LP 14816. Journalist Tom Langdon takes a cross-country train from the East Coast to Los Angeles to spend Christmas with his girlfriend. On

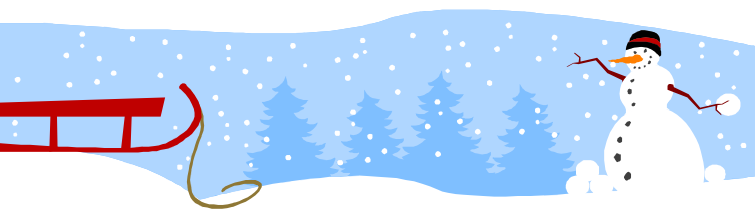
the trip, he meets his former lover and sparks fly until Tom's girlfriend shows up in Chicago. Bestseller.

A Covington Christmas by Joan Medlicott. BR 16489, RC 63087. The new pastor in Covington, North Carolina, discovers that his predecessor was never ordained, leaving five older couples' marriages in limbo so three friends organize a joint wedding in time for the holidays. Includes recipes and discussion questions.

Follow the Star: Christmas Stories That Changed My Life by T.D. Jakes. LP 16837. The author's personal remembrances of the Christmas season.

General Washington's Christmas Farewell: A Mount Vernon Homecoming, 1783 by Stanley Weintraub. RC 57652. Drawing on Washington's letters and private papers, the author recreates Washington's journey back home to Virginia after the Revolutionary War in time for Christmas.

The Handmaid and the Carpenter Elizabeth Berg. RC 63114, LP 19512. In this interpretation of the nativity story, Mary and Joseph alternately relate the tale of their



romance and betrothal. Follows the gospel version.

A NASCAR Holiday by Kimberly Raye, Roxanne St. Claire, Debra Webb. RC 65327. Three short stories involving romance and NASCAR drivers.

The Purpose of Christmas by Rick Warren. BR 18221, RC 67520. The author uses biblical scripture to examine the origins of Christmas.

The Red Gloves Collection by Karen Kingsbury. RC 64411. Four novels of family and faith at Christmas. In Hannah's Hope a teenager seeks her biological father stationed in Iraq.

Silver Bells: A Holiday Tale by Luanne Rice. BR 15767, RC 59402, LP 17501. Widowed Canadian farmer Christopher Byrne journeys to New York City every December to sell Christmas trees. Manhattan librarian Catherine Tierney buys her trees from Chris and soon love is in the air.

Under the Mistletoe by Mary Balogh. RC 63665. Regency England, early 1800s. Five holiday stories whose lonely characters unexpectedly find love and joy.

You've Seen The Movie, Now Read The Book!



Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There by Lewis Carroll. BR 12746, RC 50842, LP 17911.

Angels & Demons by Dan Brown. RC 51799, LP 17866.

Chéri and The Last of Chéri by Colette. BR 14421, RC 63165.

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett. BRA 18865, RC 50751.

Coraline by Neil Gaiman. BR 14469, RC 54845, LP 15798.

The Informant: A True Story by Kurt Eichenwald. RC 60928.

The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold. BR 14806, RC 54698.

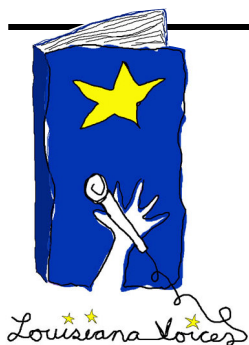
My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult. RC 58402, LP 17108.

New Moon by Stephenie Meyer. RC 64367, LP 22592.

Not Easily Broken by T.D. Jakes. RC 64822, LP 20516.

The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger. RC 57102, LP 16555.

Where The Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak. BR 16352, RC 22906, LP 11139.



Louisiana Voices offers new titles for a spiritual Christmas season



The Joy of Y'at Catholicism

by Earl J. Higgins, RCL 437.

Higgins amuses readers with an affectionate look at "Y'at" culture as it is connected to Catholicism. New Orleans Catholics proudly identify with their saints and churches, high schools, and unique holiday customs for Christmas and Mardi Gras.

This lighthearted guide full of good humor is narrated by a card carrying Y'at, Phil Chenevert.

Hurry Less Worry Less at Christmastime by Judy Pace Christie, RCL 468.

Discover how to turn a hectic and anxiety-driven holiday season into a more meaningful and enjoyable personal experience. Christie shows how a Christian understanding of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany help can transform a secular perspective into a more Christian one.

15 Days of Prayer with St. Katherine Drexel by Leo Luke Marcello, RCL 477. Born into a family of great wealth and religious practice, Katherine Drexel spent her

long life fighting racial injustice and established schools for Native Americans and African Americans, including Xavier University. This guidebook uses two weeks of daily prayer to help us examine our own abilities to serve one another through God.

New Louisiana Voices Titles for Children

Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery, RCL 477.

The Best Friends Animal Society rescues two furry companions, a dog and a cat who is blind, four months after Hurricane Katrina.

For grades 3-5 and older interested readers. LYRC Nominee 2011.

The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary by Candace Fleming, RCL 461.

Laugh aloud at the antics of the exotic Mr. Jupiter and his colorful 4th grade class through clever Aesop-like vignettes.

News you can use

NLS Offers Choice Magazine Listening as a Digital Download

Reconnect with an old friend or meet a new one – Choice Magazine Listening is now available for free digital download from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Produced six times a year, each issue contains unabridged articles from over 100 quality publications such as National Geographic, Smithsonian, Sports Illustrated and the New Yorker. Every other month, this free service offers its subscribers eight hours of articles, fiction and poetry read by professional voices. CML continues to be released on four-track cassette tape for those preferring that format. For more information on subscribing to CML, contact your reader advisor.

RFB&D Individual Membership is Now FREE

Thanks to major funding from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs grant and support of private donors, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic individual membership is now free to

individuals with proper certification. This is significant news as RFB&D represents, with its 50,000 recorded titles, the largest library of textbooks and non-fiction books in the world. Books are available in various downloadable formats, including DAISY and WMA (Windows Media Audio). Individuals can register online or download an application form on the RFB&D website at www.rfbd.org/membership-individual.htm. Alternatively, individuals can call 800-221-4792 for material to be mailed to them.

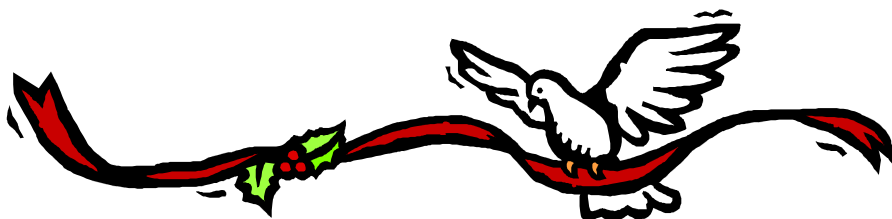
Math and Science Camp

The Louisiana Center for the Blind, in conjunction with Louisiana Tech University, is hosting a Math and Science Camp from January 15-18, 2010 in Ruston. The event is open to high school and college students across Louisiana. For more information, please contact Eric Guillory at (800) 234-4166 or by email at eguillory@lcb-ruston.com. If you are interested in attending and/or if you will need transportation, please contact Mr. Guillory no later than January 8, 2010.

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
P. O. Box 131
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State Library of Louisiana

Office of Lieutenant Governor

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

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