

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

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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. Greetings from SBPH....

As many of you are aware, Hurricanes Gustav and Ike hit Louisiana hard. The State Library of Louisiana was closed for most of a week while the power was out all over Baton Rouge. We may have missed out on some of your telephone calls or messages during that week. We are sorry for any negative impact this may have had on your library service. Please call your Reader Advisor if there is anything we can do to help you.

#### Read, Rewind and Return

NLS has imposed quotas, or upward limits, on the number of recorded cassettes (RCs) and digital books on cartridge (DBs) that each library may order. The quota system means that SBPH is receiving fewer copies of each book for our collection. We want to maintain our level of service to our patrons, but we need your help. Please read your books and return them as you finish them. When you get a book that you know is popular, read it quickly and return it to the library so that others may enjoy it. Each book will have to circulate more times to reach the same number of readers. Some of our sister libraries are shortening their due dates, or setting limits on the number of books that a patron may check out, to keep books circulating. We do not want to have to use

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those methods, so we are asking our patrons to "Read, Rewind and Return" their books.

### Countdown to digital

NLS has contracted with a Japanese company, Shinano Kenshi Corporation, to manufacture digital talking book players. The first factory run is due out in late 2008. These first digital players will go to seven regional libraries for testing and quality review. Louisiana is not in this group.

If things go as planned, Louisiana should start receiving digital players for patrons in mid-2009. It is not clear yet how many digital players Louisiana will receive on a monthly basis. The digital players will be sent to libraries based on the number of active patrons. By law, military service veterans will have first priority in receiving digital players. Veterans must submit a copy of their discharge papers to SBPH as proof of military service.

After veterans have received their digital players, SBPH will begin to distribute the new players to active patrons in good standing. "Good standing" means that a patron has not lost or destroyed machines in the past, that the patron does not have excessive cassette book machines on hand, that the patron has not lost many recorded cassettes, and does not have any or very many overdue books. In other words, a patron in good standing has a good record with the library.

You can read about our digital progress in several NLS publications, including your bimonthly Talking Book Topics, or online in the NLS Flash at <u>http://www.loc.gov/nls/</u> <u>newsletters/flash/index.html</u> Your Reader Advisor will be happy to answer your questions; just call, write or email us at <u>sbph@state.lib.la.us</u> or <u>sbphkids@state.lib.la.us</u>

# Calling all Tiger Fans...

#### RCL 229

Tales from the LSU sidelines: a captivating

collection of Tiger football stories. by Baton Rouge sports writer Lee Feinswog

Louisiana Voices' second book by sports insider Lee Feinswog is narrated by Scotty Drake, and gives "fly on the wall" access to conversations about and by LSU's most famous coaches, players and team staff. 1 cassette.



# It's Easy to Adjust Your Service!

Please call or write your reader advisor if you wish to have your SBPH service adjusted. It's quick and easy for us to make changes to your KLAS account. If you are not getting enough books, or you are getting too many, or you are not pleased with the selections you receive, please contact the library. We will be happy to send more books, or find a different author or subject. It is never a bother; it is our job. Call us toll free at 1-800-543-4702.

### Free Newspaper service

Would you like a newspaper with your morning cup of coffee?

NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> added its 250th newspaper in 2007 and it's still growing. Four Spanish-language newspapers are now available to all subscribers. A subscriber can choose that day, the previous day, or the previous Sunday issue of any newspaper in the service. Using a standard touch-tone telephone, the user can easily choose which section, and article to read, change the speed and voice settings, spell out words, or search for a particular word or subject.

NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> now offers special local channels to distribute announcements of specific interest to the blind. Call your reader advisor to request the service.

# Food and Gifts

Those of us employed at SBPH are privileged to have you, such wonderful people, as our library patrons. Often friendships can develop between patrons and reader advisors. In the past, some of our patrons have sent small gifts of appreciation to our staff or to one of our reader advisors. There is a new emphasis on ethics in state government, so new rules are being written and old ones are being examined. We have never accepted monetary gifts, but we recently learned that we are unable to accept any sort of gifts from our patrons. This includes food items. There are still several ways that you can express your thanks for a job well done. A monetary gift to the Jones Foundation (see next page) is a grand way to help this library, and it directly benefits our patrons. We always appreciate a nice card or note of thanks, and many of you include these in your mail to the library. If your reader advisor or anyone else has done an exceptionally good job for you, please put it in writing and it will go into that person's file.

## New Descriptive Videos Added to Collection

The State Library of Louisiana Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH) and the Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation for the Blind and Physically Handicapped are pleased to offer over 275 descriptive videotapes on loan to our blind and low vision patrons. Inserted into the video soundtrack, without interfering with the film's normal dialogue or sound effects, is the description of action, character, location, costume, gestures, facial expressions and scene changes.

To hear the descriptions and watch these movies, you will need a regular VHS video cassette player (VCR) and a television. Videos are also Closed Captioned for the hearing impaired. Patrons may borrow up to two videos at a time and the loan period is one week. SBPH sends you videos via "Free Matter" and you return them to the library the same way, by turning over the mail card on the mailing case. If there is a problem with one of the video tapes, mark the defective tape box on the mailing card. Please rewind your descriptive video before returning it to the library.

We invite you to try a descriptive video, especially since we have recently replaced many lost and worn out videos courtesy of The Jones Foundation. The newest videos added to our collection are below.

**DV 284** Cheaper by the Dozen 2 - Tom and his wife Kate bring their clan together for a memorable summer getaway. Their dream vacation turns into an outrageous competition with the overachieving, overzealous family of Tom's longtime rival. 2006. 94 minutes.

**DV 285** Chicken Little - Chicken Little causes widespread panic when he mistakes a falling acorn for a piece of the sky. After the fall out, the youngster becomes determined to restore his reputation. But just as things are starting to go his way, a real piece of the sky lands on his head. 2007. Rated G. 81 minutes.

**DV 286** Cinderella Man - During the Great Depression, an everyday common-man hero, James J. Braddock was to become one of the most surprising sports legends in history. With the Depression going strong in the early 1930s, the impoverished ex-boxer was seemingly as broken-down and out-of-luck as the rest of the America. Driven by love and determination, he returned to the ring. 2005. Rated PG-13. 2 hours 25 minutes.

**DV 287** 1865 The Better Angels of Our Nature - Covers the events from Lee's surrender, Lincoln's assassination and funeral, the capture of John Wilkes Booth, and the consequences of the war.1990. Not Rated. 1 hour 8 minutes.

**DV 288** Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer - This is the classic Christmas tale of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Shunned by the other reindeer because of his red nose, Rudolph becomes a hero when he guides Santa's sleigh through a blinding blizzard, and Christmas morning is saved for boys and girls all over the world. 1993. 53 minutes.

**DV 289** Eight Below - The thrilling tale of incredible friendship between eight amazing sled dogs and their guide Jerry. Stranded in Antarctica during the most unforgiving winter on the planet, Jerry's beloved sled dogs must learn to survive together until Jerry - who will stop at nothing - rescues them. 2006. Rated PG. 2 hours.

**DV 290** Road Rage - After saving a woman from her abusive ex-boyfriend, Jim offers Sonya a ride home from school. When Jim accidentally cuts off a giant pickup truck they suddenly find themselves in the middle of a deadly game of cat and mouse. 2000. 97 min.

**DV 291** Mr. & Mrs. Smith - John and Jane Smith are a married couple who are beginning to get bored with their quiet domestic life. What they don't know, however, is that they are both assassins, secretly traveling around the world and killing for hire. But their separate lives are about to collide when they discover they are each other's next target. 2005. Rated PG-13. 2 hours.

**DV 292** Nothing in common - Life is great for David Basner until his parents split up after thirty-four years of marriage. 2002. Rated PG. 119 minutes

**DV 293** Batman Begins - As a boy a young Bruce Wayne watched in horror as his millionaire parents were slain in front of his eyes. This trauma led him to become obsessed with revenge. After disappearing to the East where he seeks counsel with a ninja cult leader, he returns to his now decaying Gotham City. 2005. Rated PG-13. 2 hours 20 min.

**DV 294** MightyDucks - Slapped with a community service assignment, a tough trial lawyer must coach a ragtag team of pee wee hockey players who can't skate, can't score and can't win. 2002. Rated PG. I04 minutes

**DV 295** Frosty the Snowman - When Frosty the snowman is accidently brought to life, he has several adventures and must outwit the plans of an evil magician in order to find safety at the North Pole. 1993. 30 minutes.

**DV 296** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Charlie and five others draw golden tickets from Wonka chocolate bars and win a guided tour of the legendary candy factory that no outsider has seen in 15 years. Dazzled by one amazing sight after another, Charlie is drawn into Wonka's fantastic world. 2005. Rated PG. 115 minutes.

**DV 297** Dr. Seuss: How the Grinch Stole Christmas - Why is the Grinch such a grouch? No one seems to know, until little Cindy Lou Who takes matters into her own hands and turns both Whoville and the Grinch's world upside down, inside out ... and funny side up in her search for the true meaning of Christmas. 2001. Rate PG. 105 minutes.



### SERVICES FOR THE BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

### DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO ORDER FORM

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DV Number	DV Number	DV Number

## New Web Community for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments

When parents learn their child has a visual impairment, it can be overwhelming. Parents wonder, "Will my child fall behind at school?" or "Will my child make friends?" or "Will my child have a successful career?" To help families connect with each other and find comprehensive resources and support 24 hours a day, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) and the National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI) launched FamilyConnect<sup>™</sup>, an online, multimedia community for parents and quardians of children with visual impairments.

FamilyConnect gives parents access to message boards where they can talk to other parents, videos featuring real-life families, parenting articles, a momauthored blog, a glossary of more than 30 eye conditions, and links to local resources.

For more information visit www.familyconnect.org.

# Shared Vision Track Club

Shared Vision Track Club of Baton Rouge provides an avenue for individuals who are blind or visually impaired to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. This is accomplished by partnering individuals with visual impairments to sighted guides in order to compete (run/walk) in local road races.

The club is founded on the principle of inclusion, and will therefore provide customized training to every individual regardless of age or athletic ability. In order to train for upcoming races, the club will have weekly workouts around the Lakes on LSU's Campus.

The Track Club will provide training programs for each individual, training for all guides, and pay entry fees into races. Membership is absolutely free. If you are interested in participating please call: (225) 287–0312 or e-mail: <u>sharedvisiontrackclub@gmail.com</u>

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 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0131

### 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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