



State Library of Louisiana  
Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism  
P. O. Box 131  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821 - 0131

## FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR HANDICAPPED

### Attention Harry Potter Fans:

The last Harry Potter Book, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows (Book 7), is set to be released on July 21, 2007. We have already started a list of readers who want to read this book. Please give Miss Emma a call at 1-800-543-4702 or (225) 342-9563. You can also email her at [sbphkids@state.lib.la.us](mailto:sbphkids@state.lib.la.us).



# Louisiana HOTLINES

A publication of the State Library of Louisiana



Summer 2007  
Vol. 7, No. 2

**SERVICES FOR THE  
BLIND & PHYSICALLY  
HANDICAPPED (SBPH)**  
State Library of Louisiana  
701 North Fourth Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

#### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Toll-Free: 800-543-4702  
Baton Rouge: (225) 342-0035  
Fax: (225) 342-6817  
Braille Service: 800-453-4293

#### EMAIL

[sbph@state.lib.la.us](mailto:sbph@state.lib.la.us)  
[sbphkids@state.lib.la.us](mailto:sbphkids@state.lib.la.us)

#### HOURS

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

#### 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.

#### LIBRARY SERVICES

Recorded Books & Magazines  
Braille Books & Magazines  
Large Print Books  
Descriptive Videos

### Summer Reading @ Your Library

Do you need a few ideas for something to read now that summer is here? To help you out, try some of our favorite reading selections. We invite you to check them out!

**M**argaret Harrison, Outreach Services  
Coordinator

#### **The Last Detective**

RC 59895, LP 15286

By Robert Crais.

Ten-year-old Ben, son of Elvis Cole's girlfriend, is kidnapped while the private investigator is watching the boy. Violence and strong language. Bestseller. 2003.

#### **Playing for the Ashes**

RC 40562, BR 14896, LP 8419

By Elizabeth George.

Detective Lynley and his partner face the most frustrating and dangerously political case of their careers. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller.

**A**ngi Cinquemano, *Louisiana Voices*  
Program Manager

#### **The Secret Life of Bees**

RC 55533, BR 15225

By Sue Monk Kidd.

Fourteen-year-old Lily rescues her

African American housekeeper Rosaleen after she was beaten for trying to register to vote. They flee to a safe place — a beekeeping operation run by three black sisters. Some strong language.

**You Are My Friend: A Celebration of Friendship**  
RCL 399  
By Editors of Halo Books.  
Insights into the virtues of friendship from classic literature to modern song writing around the world.

**Emma K. Schroth**, Children and Teen Services Librarian

**Quirky Kids: Understanding and Helping Your Child Who Doesn't Fit In; When to Worry and When Not to Worry**  
RC 57786  
By Perri Klass and Suzanne Toren.  
Pediatricians' guide to coping with developmental and behavioral problems associated with autistic spectrum disorders, Asperger's syndrome, nonverbal learning disability, sensory integration dysfunction, pragmatic language disorder, and more.

**Bringing Ezra Back**  
LP 19308  
By Cynthia DeFelice.  
Sequel to **Weasel** (RC 32661). In the mid-1800s, twelve-year-old Nathan journeys from his farm

on the Ohio frontier to Western Pennsylvania to rescue a friend held captive by the owners of a freak show.

**Bonnie Bart**, Reader Advisor

**And Still I Cook**  
RCL 288  
By Leah Chase.  
The Creole cuisine recipe and memory book of Leah Chase, owner and head chef of Dooky Chase Restaurant in New Orleans tells of one of the first fine dining places in the United States to be run by and to serve African Americans.

**A River and Its City: The Nature of Landscape in New Orleans**  
RC 62235  
By Ari Kelman.  
Explains the environmental history of New Orleans covering fires, floods, hurricanes, and epidemics. Includes a post-Hurricane Katrina preface that advocates rebuilding.

**Ray Brister**, Reader Advisor  
**Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking**  
RC 60186, LP 17915  
By Malcolm Gladwell.  
This writer for the New Yorker examines making choices in an instant—in the blink of an eye. Gladwell, author of **The Tipping Point** (RC 50027), draws on neuroscience and psychology data

RFB&D member and order at least one digital book. This offer applies through September 30, 2007.

If you'd like to become a first-time member, download or ask for an application form which can be certified by one of the SBPH librarians. You can contact RFB&D toll-free at 1-866-732-3585 or online at [www.rfbd.org](http://www.rfbd.org). Be sure and check with RFB&D to determine whether you are eligible for any digital player discounts and/or promotions.

## New Staff

**Julie Williams** has joined SBPH as the Assistant Studio Producer for *Louisiana Voices*. Says Williams:

I love to read. Some of my favorite books are series, such as the Harry Potter series; a mystery series by John Dunning that features a rare book collector; and a light mystery series by Anne George about two retirement aged sisters who solve crimes. But some of my old favorites are The Fountainhead (RC 53087), by Ayn Rand and Jane Eyre (RC 47868, BR 10514, LP 8468) by Charlotte Bronte.

I also like to write, cook and walk my grandpuppy among other things. But, I hate to drive. I have been trying to get my husband to move next door to the library (or at least down the street) for the 7 years that I have worked for the State Library!

## Holiday Closings

Independency Day - July 4  
Labor Day - September 3

**Louisiana HOTLINES** is published quarterly by the State Library of Louisiana, Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH), P.O. Box 131, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0131.

Subscriptions are available in large print, Braille, email or on audiocassette. All issues are free. Anyone may receive a free large print subscription. To request a free large print subscription or to change your current subscription to a different format, please contact the library.

The announcement of products and services in this newsletter should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation by SBPH. Products and services are listed free of charge for the benefit of our readers. The library cannot be held responsible for the reliability of products or services mentioned.

*Emma K. Schroth*

Emma K. Schroth  
Editor

## Spotlight On: The AT Marketplace

The AT Marketplace is a free classifieds database where you can list devices you (or your organization) no longer need. List items in the categories of: Computer Access, Daily Living Aids, Environmental Adaptations, Hearing, Learning, Mobility, Recreation/Sports, Speech Communication, Vehicle Modifications, Vision, plus others.

Check it out! Visit the AT Marketplace by LATAN online at [www.latan.org/atmarketplace](http://www.latan.org/atmarketplace)

Or call (225) 925-9500 or  
1-800-270-6185 (toll-free in LA)

## Read Oprah's Newest Pick!

Start Oprah's latest selection today—Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides. (RC 54934, LP 15836) As a child, Calliope Stephanides never felt like other girls her age. On her road to self-discovery, family secrets are exposed and an astonishing genetic history is uncovered. Explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. Bestseller.

## Textbook Source Goes Digital in July

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D) is a nonprofit organization that loans recorded textbooks and works of nonfiction to qualified blind, visually impaired and dyslexic individuals. These books have proven very helpful to students and scholars. RFB&D is not a free library service like SBPH. They charge a registration fee, as well as an annual membership fee. Many SBPH patrons are also members of RFB&D.

RFB&D is switching from books on cassette to books on compact discs (CDs) and eliminating cassette tapes from their program as of July 1, 2007. In order to listen to these special format CDs, it will be necessary to purchase a special Victor Vibe CD player from RFB&D. RFB&D is striving to make the switch to digital a smooth one. If you used them years ago while a student and prior to 1996, you're still an RFB&D lifetime member.

If you received a cassette message in early January from RFB&D President John Kelly about the digital transition, you can receive a Free Victor Vibe player. Just call RFB&D's Member Services Department at 800-221-4792, verify your membership status and ask for promotion code DM104. To qualify, you must be a current

to analyze how people make snap judgments.

## Charlene Moore, Materials & Machine Unit

### Little Women

RC 58830, BR 11778, LP 17466  
by Louisa May Alcott.

The author's home life in New England is the basis of this book. The tale tells of the four March sisters. For grades 6-9 and older readers.

### Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe

RC 26698, LP 7985

By Fannie Flagg.

This story centers on a cafe in the railroad town of Whistle Stop, Alabama, and on Idgie and Ruth, the two women who run the cafe back in the thirties. Some strong language.

## Gordon Loyd, Materials & Machine Unit

### Shutter Island

RC 56046, BR 14802, LP 15393

By Dennis Lehane.

The events of four strange days in late summer 1954, when two U.S. marshals arrive on tiny Shutter Island to investigate a female patient's disappearance from a locked room in the asylum for the criminally insane. Some strong language.

## Digital Talking Book Machine Update

*Editor's Note: In early May, Margaret Harrison attended the National Library Service Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. At this Conference, representatives attended from both the southern and northern regional libraries. The main topic was the DTBM, or, the Digital Talking Book Machine. Here is her report.*

The DTBM is currently in the prototype stage. Now that the prototype has been made and tested, the manufacturer will be making the first run of machines, which will also be tested. The machine is about half the size and weight of the current cassette book machine, and the battery will last about 30 hours before it needs to be recharged. It does not come with a carrying strap, but there are two places where the patron can attach their own strap. It has a place to plug in headphones, and a USB port on the side so that it can "talk" to other computer devices.

There are two versions of the DTBM—a standard player and one with more enhanced features. When you turn the machine on, it announces the title of the book that is in the machine, and how much longer the book will take to read. The new machine has soft touch buttons rather than hard keys. When you press the keys, the machine announces the function,



like “Forward one minute” or “back one minute”, and pressing the key multiple times will make it perform the function several times over. The books will be tone indexed by chapter and parts to make it easy to skip forward or back through major portions of text. Both machines have a sleep feature where the user presses a button and the machine plays for 15 minutes longer and then stops. When you press the forward key 10 times in a row, the machine will announce the serial number.

The new “books” will be called “DBs” for digital books. The DB will contain a flash memory card inside a cartridge and it will have enough memory for almost every book. The cartridge is big enough to hold a print/Braille label that identifies the book. The mailing case is slightly smaller and thinner than the current green mailing case. We will continue to use the same mailing cards to mail books to patrons and for you to return the DBs back to us.

It will take a while – several years – for NLS to make and distribute enough DTBMs to be able to loan one to every patron. The network libraries will each receive 1 digital player next spring for demonstration purposes. NLS promises that we will get our first shipment of DTBMs for our patrons by late 2008. Veterans will receive first priority for the DTBMs.

SBPH will start a waiting list of patrons who want the new DTBMs in July 2008. In the meantime, we will keep patrons informed with both our newsletter, Louisiana Hotlines, and with our web site.

Not every title will be available on a DB and not every title will be available on cassette. Some old cassette books are being redone in digital format, so there are some titles that will be available in both formats. This means that SBPH patrons may have to borrow fewer books at a time, read them, and return them to the library before they are able to get more books. You may also be using both the cassette player and the DTBM until the switch is complete.

NLS has promised to stand behind the cassette players. NLS has ordered a lifetime supply of parts for the cassette players. There is a supply of more than 1,000,000 working machines in the network to keep patrons furnished with CBMs until the conversion from analog to digital is complete.

This library pledges to do its best to keep our patrons supplied with machines and books during the switch to digital talking books. We promise to keep our patrons up to date with news about the digital program, and to post information on our web site and publish it in our newsletter.

## Staffer Named Educator of the Year

On March 31, 2007 the National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana (NFB of LA) presented the 2007 “Educator of the Year” award to State Library of Louisiana (SLOL) librarian Emma K. Schroth. Schroth, Children and Teen Services Librarian, was recognized for her commitment to increasing opportunities and enriching the lives of blind children throughout Louisiana.

“The State Library of Louisiana offers so much to all citizens of this state,” said Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, whose office in the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism oversees the State Library. “In our efforts to see that every Louisiana citizen has access to literature, we strive to ensure that each child in Louisiana has the opportunity to grow and learn, regardless of that child’s circumstances.”

Schroth has worked with children and young adults for over 10 years at SLOL’s Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. She takes care of their individual reading needs throughout the year, provides service to schools and coordinates an annual summer reading program.

“I know that Emma feels honored to receive such a wonderful award from the Louisiana NFB,” said Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian. “The State

Library of Louisiana is fortunate in that our staff are truly committed to the needs of our patrons. I am proud of Emma. She typifies the care and compassion demonstrated by the entire Library staff.”

The National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana is an organization of hundreds of blind and visually impaired Louisianans who believe that with the appropriate training, attitude and opportunities, blind people can and do achieve their dreams.

Angèle Davis, Secretary of the Office of the Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, under which the SLOL falls, expressed her pride. “I know that Emma is devoted to her work in serving the needs of the sight impaired and physically handicapped,” said Davis. “She is an exceptional example of the work that the State Library of Louisiana does.”

