

# Louisiana Hotlines



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

Vol. 15 No. 3

Summer 2015

## Holiday closings

Sept. 7 Labor Day

## TBBL staff news

David Rainey is our new supervisor for the reader advisers. For three years, David has been working with TBBL as the children's librarian. Before that, David was a reference librarian for the State Library for 11 years. David earned his master's degree in library science from Louisiana State University in 2000. He loves reading a wide variety of nonfiction.

## BARD Mobile app for Android devices

The BARD Mobile application for Android devices is available at the Google Play store for free. The app enables NLS patrons to download audiobooks and audio magazines directly to their Android devices, provided they have BARD accounts and are using devices with Android OS 4.1 or later.

Android devices have pre-installed accessibility features that make BARD Mobile accessible to visually impaired individuals. These features help you

better navigate your device and BARD Mobile.

TalkBack, a screen reader for blind and visually impaired users, is provided by Google and uses spoken feedback to describe the results of gestures: what you touch, select and activate.

Gestures used to operate BARD Mobile using TalkBack are different from the gestures used to operate BARD Mobile without it. They are based on the Explore by Touch system. As you explore the device, TalkBack will announce the buttons and icons you pass and say where focus is fixed. To select the focused item, double-tap on the screen. You can also simply swipe up, down, left or right, to focus on a particular item and hear what icons and buttons are on the screen.

Explore by Touch is automatically enabled when TalkBack is turned on, and standard TalkBack gestures should be applied if you use TalkBack to interact with BARD Mobile.

To download the app, tap on the PLAY STORE icon on your device screen. This

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takes you to the Google Play store. Select the APPS button. In the Search field, type "BARD". The search results will list the BARD Mobile app icon. Tap on the icon and select Download from the prompt. This downloads the app to your device.

The user guide within the app is available by selecting the Bookshelf button. An online help menu can be found at [nlsbard.loc.gov/apidocs/android/v1.0/toc.html](https://nlsbard.loc.gov/apidocs/android/v1.0/toc.html).

### **NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> adds *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review***

*Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review* are now available through the NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> service. This is a free audible information service available to the blind and print-disabled that offers more than 400 publications including newspapers, magazines, emergency weather alerts, job listings and TV listings. The service is accessible via telephone, email, Internet, portable player or an iOS mobile app.

Please call 800.543.4702 today to get *Talking Book Topics* through NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> instead of receiving the digital cartridge which has to be returned.

*Talking Book Topics* lists digital audio books and magazines available through the NLS network of cooperating libraries. *Braille Book Review* lists Braille books and magazines available through the library network. Both publications carry news about library services. The annotated list in each issue of these

bimonthly magazines is limited to titles recently added to the national collection including fiction, nonfiction, best-sellers, classics, biographies, romance novels, mysteries and how-to guides.

To read the list of new titles added to the NLS collection on NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup>, press 7 from the main menu of a phone to choose magazines. Select the Blindness Specific category, then choose *Braille Book Review* or *Talking Book Topics*.

Each book and its description are listed as a separate article. Subscribers can easily search and navigate through the articles to find the books of interest. Additionally, subscribers can press 9 from the telephone and send individual book listings to an email inbox. From there, subscribers can forward the email to a cooperating regional library such as TBBL to request the book.

To sign up for the free NFB-NEWSLINE<sup>®</sup> service call 1.800.543.4702.

### **BARD notice**

Your email address is your user ID for your BARD account. If you move or change email addresses, you do not need to create a new BARD account. Instead, log in to your BARD account and choose the Update Account Settings link that is located about two-thirds of the way down the BARD main page. Then choose Change Your E-Mail Address. Once you have changed your email address/user ID, you will be required to reset your password.

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## Network-produced audiobooks

Talking Book libraries around the country record books of local interest that may not be available through NLS. NLS is making these locally produced books available to you. If you are interested in listening to any of the following titles, call 225.342.0035. Books available through interlibrary loan:

DBC 00002 *More than Petticoats: Remarkable Massachusetts Women*

DBC 00045 *Pat Garrett: The Story of a Western Lawman*

DBC 00048 *Outlaw Tales of Texas: True Stories of the Lone Star State's Most Infamous Crooks, Culprits, and Cutthroats*

DBC 00089 *Satchel Paige's America*

DBC 00202 *Ben Snipes: Northwest Cattle King*

DBC 00203 *Slade Gorton: A Half Century in Politics*

DBC 00659 *Under the Devil's Thumb*

DBC 00681 *I See by Your Outfit*

DBC 00794 *Idaho 100*

DBC 00805 *Lioness of Idaho: Louise Shadduck and the Power of Polite*

DBC 01518 *Wicked Lexington, Kentucky*

DBC 03377 *Detroitland: A Collection of Movers, Shakers, Lost Souls, and History Makers from Detroit's Past*

DBC 03380 *Al Kaline: The Biography of a Tigers Icon*

DBC 03676 *Cruelly Murdered: The Murder of Mary Magdalene Pitts and Other Kentucky True Crime Stories*

DBC 03759 *A Secret Gift: How One Man's Kindness—and a Trove of Letters—Revealed the Hidden History of the Great Depression*

DBC 04756 *Karnee: A Paiute Narrative*

DBC 04758 *Women of the Sierra*

DBC 05172 *John Gary Anderson and His Maverick Motor Company*

## Free audio magazine

*Choice Magazine Listening* is a free audio magazine for adults with impaired vision or other disability. Four times per year, listeners receive 12 hours of feature stories, poems and articles selected from publications such as *National Geographic*, *The New Yorker*, *TIME*, *Vanity Fair*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Smithsonian*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Southern Living*, *Oxford American* and *Texas Monthly*. All CML selections are read by some of America's top audiobook narrators.

Listeners love the mix of interesting, entertaining and amusing pieces they download or receive on a digital cartridge easily returnable in the postage-free mailer in which it arrives. This quarterly service is free due to the support of a charitable foundation established to ensure that all Americans enjoy the best writing from leading magazines. CML's tens of thousands of subscribers include those with

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conditions such as low vision, macular degeneration, blindness, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, cerebral palsy, Lou Gehrig's disease, dyslexia and Parkinson's disease.

If someone you know would enjoy this free service, call 1.888.724.6423 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. CDT. Your call will be answered by a friendly person happy to help—not a machine. Further information is available on CML's website at [choicemagazinelisten-ing.org](http://choicemagazinelisten-ing.org).

### **Netflix begins audio description for visually impaired**

Netflix is expanding accessibility options by adding audio description on select titles. This began in April with the new critically acclaimed series, Marvel's *Daredevil*.

Audio description describes what is happening on-screen including physical actions, facial expressions, costumes, settings and scene changes. Customers can choose audio narration just like choosing the soundtrack in a different language.

In coming weeks, Netflix will add more titles, including current and previous seasons of the Golden Globe and Emmy award-winning political thriller *House of Cards*, Emmy award-winning comedy-drama series *Orange is the New Black*, as well as Tina Fey's *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* and the epic adventure series *Marco Polo*.

Over time, Netflix expects audio description to be available for not only major Netflix original series, but also other shows and movies. Netflix is working with studios and other content owners to increase the amount of audio description across a range of devices including smart TVs, tablets and smartphones.

### **Braille collection at the Vermilion Parish library**

For those living in Vermilion Parish, the public library has a collection of Braille books available for checkout. The Braille collection consists of mostly short stories, but there are also back issues of magazines, a Bible and other books. Patrons of the library can borrow the books, and anyone outside of the parish may borrow them through interlibrary loan with his or her parish library.

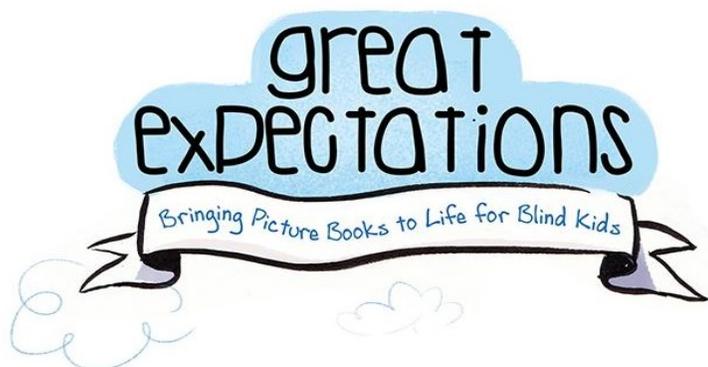
### **Medicare & You handbook in accessible formats**

The annual handbook is available in a variety of accessible formats at [medicare.gov/medicare-and-you/different-formats/m-and-y-different-formats.html](http://medicare.gov/medicare-and-you/different-formats/m-and-y-different-formats.html).

View the large print PDF file or listen to audio podcasts in English or Spanish on your computer. The handbook is available for download to a variety of devices, or you can order the handbook in Braille and on CD. For more information call 1.800.MEDICARE.

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## Books and Beyond: A Section for Children and Teens



### **Great Expectations: bringing picture books to life for blind kids**

Great Expectations is a National Braille Press program that promotes Braille literacy for kids. Great Expectations is a great tool for parents. It delivers a kid-friendly learning experience to enhance the power of reading for blind and visually impaired children.

This innovative program brings popular picture books to life using a multi-sensory approach—with songs, tactile play, picture descriptions, body movement and engaged listening—designed to promote active reading experiences for children with visual impairments.

Parents learn how to describe a picture in a book, explore a book's visual concepts and play and have fun telling the whole story. Children learn to listen carefully to words, feelings, actions, scenes, plots and character development—elements that they would otherwise miss by not seeing the pictures.

To learn more about this program and access free resources including articles and videos visit [nbp.org/ic/nbp/programs/gep/ge\\_index.html](http://nbp.org/ic/nbp/programs/gep/ge_index.html).

### **Children's and teen summer reading programs update**

Don't forget to turn in your Reading Log before August 28. Kids and teens must read at least four books to complete the program and win prizes. Mail the completed reading log to TBBL and contact the children's department at 225.342.9563 or email [tbblkids@state.lib.la.us](mailto:tbblkids@state.lib.la.us) to tell us how many books your child has read. The more books, the better!

### **PTA Family Reading Challenge**

The National Parent Teacher Association will be including NLS as a resource in its Family Reading Challenge. This campaign, which launches in July, encourages families to read together. A short paragraph about NLS and a link to the [www.loc.gov/ThatAllMayRead](http://www.loc.gov/ThatAllMayRead) website will appear on a list of free summer reading resources on the PTA Family Reading Challenge website at [ptareadingchallenge.org/](http://ptareadingchallenge.org/).

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## BookTalks:

### What should we read next?

BookTalks, TBBL's email discussion book club is ready to pick a new title for our next book discussion.

Pick one of these three titles or suggest a title of your own choosing!

*My Sunshine Away* by M.O. Walsh  
(DB80824)

*Queen Sugar: A Novel* by Natalie Baszile (DB80375)

*Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee  
(to be released soon)

If you want to join the email book club or select a book title for the club, email David Rainey at [drainey@slol.lib.la.us](mailto:drainey@slol.lib.la.us).

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## New digital books

Call your reader adviser if you would like to order any of the digital books listed below.

### Fiction

- DB80192 *Fortune & Fame* by Victoria Christopher Murray
- DB80169 *Rise of the King* by R.A. Salvatore
- DB80430 *The Mistletoe Promise* by Richard Paul Evans
- DB80171 *The Peripheral* by William Gibson
- DB81252 *Mr. Darcy's Daughters* by Elizabeth Aston
- DB81256 *The House of Silk: A Sherlock Holmes Novel* by Anthony Horowitz
- DB81175 *Last One Home* by Debbie Macomber
- DB81123 *Inspector of the Dead* by David Morrell
- DB81103 *Echo Lake* by Carla Neggers
- DB80205 *The Cinderella Murder* by Mary Higgins Clark and Alafair Burke
- DB80106 *Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good* by Jan Karon

### Nonfiction

- DB80120 *Jesus on Trial: A Lawyer Affirms the Truth of the Gospel* by David Limbaugh
- DB80540 *UnPHILtered: The Way I See It* by Phil Robertson
- DB80232 *Tinseltown: Murder, Morphine, and Madness at the Dawn of Hollywood* by William J. Mann
- DB80255 *As You Wish: Inconceivable Tales from the Making of The Princess Bride* by Cary Elwes
- DB80261 *Not My Father's Son: A Memoir* by Alan Cumming
- DB80487 *Rise of ISIS: A Threat We Can't Ignore* by Jay Sekulow
- DB80105 *The Organized Mind: Thinking Straight in the Age of Information Overload* by Daniel J. Levitin
- DB80409 *No Hero: The Evolution of a Navy SEAL* by Mark Owen
- DB80407 *There Was a Little Girl: The Real Story of My Mother and Me* by Brooke Shields

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## **Support our TBBL friends organization**

Since 1981, the Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation has acted as a friends group for the Talking Books and Braille Library in the State Library of Louisiana.

It provides a mechanism for accepting donations to enhance and support services to the blind and physically handicapped community statewide.

It directly supplements the programs and initiatives of TBBL within the State Library. It is a primary sponsor of the State Library's large print collection and TBBL's summer reading program and descriptive video collection, and it supports volunteer efforts in the area.

Board members met at the State Library of Louisiana April 21, 2015, and elected officers for the upcoming year.

Donations from the Foundation were used to purchase 35 new large print books. Please contact your reader adviser if you are interested in ordering some of these.

To contribute, make checks payable to the Foundation and mail to the following address:

Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation  
1131 N. River Road  
Port Allen, LA 70767

All donations are tax deductible. Anyone who makes a donation receives a one-year membership to the Foundation. For meeting information call Shelia Coleman at 225.342.4942.

## **Library address**

Talking Books and Braille Library  
701 N. Fourth St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

## **Telephone numbers**

Toll free: 800.543.4702  
Phone: 225.342.0035  
Fax: 225.342.6817  
Braille service: 800.453.4293

## **Email**

tbbl@state.lib.la.us  
tbblkids@state.lib.la.us

## **Hours**

Monday – Thursday  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## **Email and phone hours**

Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## **Library services**

Recorded books and magazines  
Braille books and magazines  
Large print books and big books  
Descriptive videos  
Online catalog  
BARD download service

## **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.

State Library of Louisiana  
Talking Books and Braille Library  
701 N. Fourth Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**

Special format library materials are loaned  
to qualified patrons by

Talking Books and Braille Library  
State Library of Louisiana  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

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