

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. 16 No. 1

Winter 2016

Holiday closings

Jan. 18	MLK Day
Feb. 9	Mardi Gras
Mar. 25	Good Friday

Hotlines newsletter: print or electronic?

Beginning with the Spring issue of Hotlines, TBBL will only send out one copy of the newsletter per user. If you are receiving both the electronic and large print formats, then you will receive only the electronic format. If you are receiving large print and would like to receive electronic instead, contact your reader adviser with your current email address.

The Audio Description Project

The Audio Description Project is an Initiative of the American Council of the Blind: www.acb.org/adp/dvdsalpha.html.

The website provides an alphabetical listing of DVDs and/or Blu-ray titles released since 2001 which have audio description tracks. Links take you to Amazon.com to purchase these videos. Amazon.com seldom lists the availability of audio description for the videos they sell. But if the video is on the ADP list, then the American Council of the Blind

has confirmed that it has audio description tracks.

NFB-NEWSLINE has Louisiana newspapers by phone

NFB-NEWSLINE is a free service that allows you to listen to newspapers and other publications on your telephone. Eight Louisiana newspapers are currently available:

Acadiana Advocate
Alexandria Daily Town Talk
Baton Rouge Advocate
Monroe News Star
New Orleans Advocate
New Orleans Times-Picayune
Opelousas Daily World
Shreveport Times

Contact your reader advisor to sign up for Newsline. Learn more at: nfb.org/audio-newspaper-service.

Reader's Handbook available

The updated TBBL Reader's Handbook is now available in large print format and on our website. It describes TBBL services and provides information for new patrons. Call your reader advisor to request a copy.

NFBL convention

The 2016 annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana (NFBL) will be held April 15-17 in Baton Rouge at the Crowne Plaza. For information call contact Pam Allen, President at 800.234.4166.

Topics include:

- How to become comfortable with my blindness
- How to deal with day-to-day activities such as reading mail, transportation, preparing meals, managing a household and networking (in person or online)
- What types of employment opportunities are possible
- Meetings for blind students, parents and teachers of blind children, seniors, entrepreneurs and the newly-formed deaf-blind division
- How to obtain assistance from the Social Security Administration and other human services agencies
- How to know when to use a white cane, or when to learn Braille
- How to get help for my blind child
- How new technology could benefit me
- How to fully participate in hobbies such as cooking, traveling, community service, gardening, hiking, acting in a play and shopping (to name a few)!

The NFBL is an organization of blind and visually impaired Louisianans who believe that with the appropriate training, attitude and opportunities, blind people can live the lives they want.

Unified English Braille materials available

The National Library Service implemented the Unified English Braille (UEB) code on January 4, 2016 and now all new Braille titles added to the collection will be produced in UEB. If you would like to receive *Frequently Used UEB Symbols* call your reader adviser. The .brf file can also be downloaded at www.loc.gov/nls/.

TBBL friends of the library provide funds for 2016 summer reading

The Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation, our friends of the library group, is graciously providing funds for the 2016 Summer Reading Program. The 2016 theme for children, teens, and adults will be "Wellness, Fitness, and Sports."

TBBL's Summer Reading Program makes it possible for visually impaired children, teens, and adults to actively participate in developing a lifelong love of reading.

Black History Month reads

DB82281 *Don't Fail Me Now*
by Una LaMarche

Five interracial half siblings come together for the first time. They embark on a cross-country road trip in an old station wagon to confront their absentee father before he dies.

DB82193 *The Ultimate Betrayal*
by Kimberly Lawson Roby

Alicia, daughter of the Reverend Curtis Black, is preparing to remarry her first husband, assistant pastor Phillip. However, Alicia's ex-flame, Levi, is

released from jail and wants to rekindle their relationship.

DB82034 *Paradise Sky*

by Joe R. Lansdale

Willie flees his farm after his father is murdered. After a mentor teaches him a variety of skills, he makes a new life as a buffalo soldier. When his woman is attacked, however, he faces a final, deadly showdown.

DB82006 *Twisted: The Dreadlock Chronicles* by Bert Ashe

English professor explores the personal and cultural impact of dreadlocks, particularly for black men. Ashe examines the history of dreadlocks, their connection to Rastafarianism, and noted wearers of the hairstyle.

DB81875 *1954: The Year Willie Mays and the First Generation of Black Superstars Changed Major League Baseball Forever* by Bill Madden.

Although Jackie Robinson officially broke baseball's color barrier in 1947, sportswriter Madden dates the true integration of the game to 1954. That was the year players like Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, and Ernie Banks took center stage and changed baseball.

DB81605 *God Help the Child*

by Toni Morrison

Bride, who was rejected by her light skinned mother when she was born for being too black, has made her life into one that many envy. She has her own company, fortune, and a lover. Dark secrets from the past are coming home to roost, however.

New network-produced audiobooks

DBC05879 *The Chocolate Cat Caper*

by JoAnna Carl

After accepting a job supplying chocolate from her aunt's luxury chocolate business to a party for unpopular defense attorney Clemintine Ripley, Lee McKinney takes on a new job as detective when someone adds cyanide to a chocolate confection eaten by the hostess.

DBC04847 *Outlive Your Life: You Were Made to Make a Difference*

by Max Lucado

Lucado used the first 12 chapters of the biblical book of Acts as a springboard, describing how God uses Galilean fishermen to change the world.

DBC04948 *Hard Country*

by William W. Johnstone

Jason Fury reluctantly becomes the marshal in the Arizona Territory. Trouble is brewing between Matt MacDonald, the suitor of Jason's sister and rancher Ezra Dixon. The men will need to put their differences aside after bandits pillage the town and kidnap four women.

DBC00130 *Left for Dead*

by Judith A. Jance

When deputy sheriff Jose Reyes, one of Ali Reynolds' classmates from the Arizona Police Academy, is gunned down and left to die, he is at first assumed to be an innocent victim of the drug wars escalating across the border. But soon he and his pregnant wife are under suspicion, and it is impossible for Ali to turn away. Violence and some strong language.

Books and Beyond

A Section for Children and Teens

Two NFB scholarship programs offered in 2016

To recognize achievement by blind scholars, the National Federation of the Blind annually offers blind college students the opportunity to win one of thirty merit-based, national-level scholarships worth \$3,000 to \$12,000. All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service and leadership.

Applicants for these scholarships must:

1. Be legally blind in both eyes;
2. Reside in the United States, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico;
3. Be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, postsecondary course of study in a degree program at a United States institution in the 2016 scholastic year, except that one scholarship may be given to a person employed full-time while attending school part-time; and
4. Participate in the entire NFB national convention and in all of its scheduled scholarship program activities.

Each winner will receive assistance to attend the 2016 National Federation of the Blind Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida, June 30 to July 5. Application deadline is March 31, 2016. For more information, contact Chairperson Patti Chang, Esq., at: scholarships@nfb.org or call 410.659.9314, extension 2415, or:

NFB Scholarship Program
National Federation of the Blind
200 East Wells St. at Jernigan Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Each year at its state convention, the National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana (NFBL) awards scholarships to recognize the achievement of blind scholars in Louisiana. The four scholarships range from \$750 to \$1,500. Applicants for these scholarships must be:

1. Legally blind;
2. Residents of Louisiana; and
3. Pursuing or planning to pursue a fulltime, postsecondary course of study at an accredited college, university, or trade/technical school in the fall of 2016.

Criteria: All scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, leadership ability, community service, and financial need.

Membership: The National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana is dedicated to providing opportunities for all blind people. Recipients need not be members of the National Federation of the Blind.

Deadline: All applications must be in the committee chairperson's office no later than March 25, 2016. For more information and to receive an application contact: Eric Guillory, Chairperson NFBL Scholarship Committee, 101 South Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270, phone: 800.234.4166, email: eguillory@louisianacenter.org.

The NFB BELL Program for 2016

The NFB Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning (BELL) program provides children ages four through twelve a two week course of concentrated Braille instruction through fun, hands-on learning. This program is for all blind

children, including those with low-vision, have recently lost their vision, have been blind since birth or children who have additional disabilities.

The NFB BELL program is sponsored by the Louisiana Center for the Blind in Ruston. Children may attend daily or in residence during the two-week program, to gain a wide variety of blindness skills. In addition to Braille, projects, games, and other engaging activities, children will enjoy field trips to sites related to content being covered in the program.

The most unique and meaningful aspect of the NFB BELL program is the role models facilitating the majority of the lessons. Children will learn that blind people can lead successful lives. The NFB BELL program uses time-tested lessons and proven techniques to build self-confidence, positive attitudes, and skills in blind children. The program runs Sunday, June 12, through Saturday, June 18, 2016.

To learn more about the NFB BELL program, or to apply, visit: www.nfb.org/BELL, or contact Krystal Guillory at 318.245.8955 or kguillory@lcbbruston.com.

Upcoming workshops, fairs, and events

The Louisiana chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired is sponsoring a technology workshop on January 12, 2016 at the Louisiana School for the Deaf and Visually Impaired, located at 2888 Brightside Lane in Baton Rouge. Registration will start at 7:30 AM, with programming from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The

workshop focuses on technology and accessibility for the blind and visually impaired. Presenters will provide an overview of some of the newest technologies being produced by Apple, Humanware and Southern Assistive Technology. For additional information contact Blanche Faulk, O&M/Outreach Coordinator at 225.757.3489 or BFaulk@lsdvi.org.

The St. Tammany Parish School System Special Education Department Team is holding a Family Information Fair for students with disabilities and their families. It will be held at Harrison Curriculum Center, January 26, 2016, from 5 to 7 p.m. For information contact Suzanne Hughes at 985.966.5929 or Suzanne.hughes@stpb\sb.org.

Louisiana History Day is a contest that allows students to explore local, state, national, or world history through a research project that relates to an annual theme. The 2016 theme is "Exploration, Encounter and Exchange." History Day builds college readiness, career skills, and a deep appreciation of history. The competition is open to middle school and high school public, private, parochial, and home school students. For more information about Louisiana History Day, visit www.louisianahistoryday.org; or contact Collin Makamson at 504.528.1944 ext. 304 or historyday@nationalww2museum.org.

The Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students in Huntsville, Alabama will be held September 24-29, 2016. For more information contact Dan Oates at 304.851.5680, or scvis@atlanticbb.net, or www.tsbvi.edu/space/index.htm.

The Louisiana Center for the Blind Buddy Program 2016 is an innovative summer program for blind children in grades four through eight. Classes include cane travel, Braille, computer literacy and daily living skills. For more information, contact Eric Guillory at 800.234.4166.

Celebrate Black History Month

DB81488 *Public School Superhero* by James Patterson and Christopher Tebbetts. In Kenny Wright's active imagination he is superhero Stainlezz Steel. In the real world, he is a sixth grade "grandma's boy" who struggles to fit in at school while searching for his own unique inner strength. Grades 3-6.

DB81470 and **BR20808** *28 Days: Moments in Black History That Changed the World* by Charles R. Smith. The author retells the events of 28 days that revolutionize life for African Americans. Grades 2-4 and older readers.

DB80875 *Hazelwood High Trilogy* by Sharon M. Draper. Written between 1994 and 2001, the stories feature high school students dealing with the aftermath of tragedies. Senior high readers.

DB80704 *Harlem Hellfighters* by Patrick J. Lewis. Poetical account of the Harlem Hellfighters who traveled across the Atlantic to fight alongside the French in World War I, inspiring a continent with their brand of jazz music. Grades 6-9.

DB80026, BR20541 *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. In this autobiography told through vivid poems, Woodson explores her childhood in the 1960s and 1970s and her growing awareness of the civil rights movement. Grades 4-7.

DB71322, LP24204, BR20227 *The Red Pyramid* by Rick Riordan. Carter Kane and his sister go on a dangerous adventure to save their Egyptologist father. First book of the Kane Chronicles trilogy for grades 5-8 and older readers.

DB69305 *Gabriel's Horses* by Alison Hart. Kentucky, 1864. Twelve-year-old slave Gabriel's free father joins the Union Army to earn his family's freedom. Meanwhile Gabriel contends with the new, cruel, white horse trainer and dreams of becoming a jockey. Grades 4-7.

DB67045 *Akimbo and the Elephants* by Alexander McCall Smith. Akimbo loves watching the elephants on the East Africa game preserve where his father works. When the authorities cannot catch the poachers who kill elephants for their ivory tusks, Akimbo comes up with a plan to save the elephants. Grades 2-4.

DB74503 *Ghetto Cowboy* by Greg Neri. Tired of her twelve-year-old son's bad behavior, Cole's mom sends him to live with his father. Cole's dad introduces him to a group of African American cowboys who rescue horses and help keep kids off the streets. Grades 5-8.

DB72076 *Mamba Point* by Kurtis Scaletta. From the moment Linus, a timid twelve-year-old American boy, steps off the airplane in Liberia, black mamba poisonous snakes figure prominently in his life. Linus soon discovers his "kaseng," or affinity, with these creatures and keeps one in a laundry hamper with disastrous results. Grades 4-7.

Support our TBBL friends organization

The Jones Foundation acknowledges the following donors for their generous contributions:

Sam and Donna LeBlanc
Jane Wheelahan

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, TBBL's summer reading program, and descriptive video collection and it supports volunteer efforts in the area.

Donations from the Foundation were used to purchase prizes and materials for adults and children who participated in the 2015 summer reading program.

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

Walk-in 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
BARD mobile apps

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

Supported in part by funding from the
Institute of Museum and Library Services

