

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. 23 No. 3

Summer 2023

Holiday Closings

July 4 Independence Day
Sept. 4 Labor Day

Congratulations Shelia Coleman!

The Head of the Talking Books and Braille Library, Shelia Coleman, was honored to receive an award at the most recent LCB convention. The Louisiana Council of the Blind Service and Dedication Award (Outside of LCB) is presented to a person, organization, or agency that has dedicated their time, service, effort, and energy for the betterment of the Louisiana Council of the Blind statewide. Mrs. Leola Campbell is the current LCB president.

New Title for BookTalks Discussion Group

Our BookTalks Summer Book Selection will be:

(DB 103191) *People We Meet on Vacation* by Emily Henry.
Travel writer Poppy and her friend Alex could not be more different, but they

bonded on a road trip home from college and afterwards took annual vacations together. Unfortunately, their last vacation ruined everything between them. Two years later Poppy talks Alex into one more trip together.

How to Join BookTalks

We hold our book discussions via an email discussion list. Members comment on the book by sending an email to the discussion list. All members then see the comments and have the ability to respond by email to the group. If you want to join our discussion group, go to: <http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mailman/listinfo/tbblbooktalks> and create an account by entering your name (make sure to put your name so we can verify you), email address and make up a password or, as always, you can call your reader advisor.

BookTalks Book Club

If you join BookTalks, we will add you to our mailing list and automatically send you a digital book copy of the newest selection. I hope that this will make it more convenient to read the book and participate in the discussion. Thank you and, I hope to hear from you soon!

Dinner in the Dark

The non-profit organization Blind Grace will host *Dining in the Dark* on October 7, 2023, at the Marriott in Baton Rouge.

Dining in the Dark is a unique dining experience where guests enjoy a meal in a completely dark room.

The concept of this experience is to have guests immerse themselves in an environment in which they rely solely on their other senses, especially taste and smell, to savor the meal. This experience involves a set menu, where dishes are presented without any visual stimulus, and guests are challenged to identify the flavors and textures of each dish. This event will be followed by a silent auction to benefit the visually impaired community of Louisiana. Registration will open July 1st for this special dining experience. Contact Blanche Faulk at 337-298-4616, or email blanchefaulk@blindgrace.net for more information.

NLS launches listserv for patrons

Want to learn how to make the most of the services NLS provides? The NLS Patron Engagement Section now hosts an announcement-only listserv that will include information and updates about NLS programs, services, and products that might be of interest to patrons. New posts will be added to the list a few times a week. If you are interested in signing up for this listserv, please send your name and email address to the Patron Engagement Section at nlspes@loc.gov. You will be able to unsubscribe yourself from the list at any time.

Summer 2023 Book Recommendations by Sneha Padumane

(DB 108995) *Miss Delectable* by Grace Burrowes

Miss Ann Pearson has spent years learning the difficult art of the professional cook and jealously guarding her position in the kitchen of the fancy Coventry Club. When Colonel Sir Orion Goddard asks her to take on a young apprentice, Ann would rather refuse. But Orion is respectful, gruffly charming, and looking out for a girl whom others have neglected, and that is a combination Ann cannot resist. Lingered scandal has taught Orion to make his way with allies or entanglements along the fringes of polite society. Then he meets Ann, who is fierce, passionate, and warm-hearted, and also worth fighting for. If Orion and Ann are to forge a new love, they must first learn to trust each other, and find the courage to overcome old enemies who will do anything to keep the cook and colonel apart!

(DB 102756) *True Believer: The Rise and Fall of Stan Lee* by Abraham Riesman

A journalist chronicles the life of Marvel Comics legend Stan Lee (1922-2018), who is credited with creating characters core to the comics canon, such as Spider-Man, the Fantastic Four, and the Avengers. While honoring his creative achievements, it also dispels myths surrounding Lee.

(DB 108713) *Flying Solo* by Linda Holmes

Smarting from her recently canceled wedding and about to turn forty, Laurie Sassalyn returns to her Maine

hometown of Calcasset to handle the estate of her great-aunt Dot, a spirited adventurer who lived to be ninety-three. Alongside boxes of Polaroids and pottery, a mysterious wooden duck shows up at the bottom of a cedar chest. Laurie's curiosity is piqued, especially after she finds a love letter to the never-married Dot that ends with the line "And anyway, if you're ever desperate, there are always ducks, darling." Laurie is told that the duck has no financial value. But after it disappears under suspicious circumstances, she feels compelled to figure out why anyone would steal a wooden duck--and why Dot kept it hidden away in the first place. Suddenly Laurie finds herself swept up in a righteous caper that has her negotiating with antiques dealers and con artists, going on after-hours dates at the local library, and reconnecting with her oldest friend and her first love. Desperate to uncover her great-aunt's secrets, Laurie must reckon with her own past and her future--and ultimately embrace her own vision of flying solo.

(DB 108988) *Wired Differently: 30 Neurodivergent People You Should Know* by Joe Wells

This collection of illustrated portraits celebrates the lives of influential neurodivergent figures who have achieved amazing things in recent times. Showcasing these 30 incredible people, the reader sees that the things they've achieved, created and inspired were because they are different, not despite their differences. From politicians, activists and journalists to YouTubers, DJs and poets, this book highlights a wide range of exciting career paths for neuro-

divergent readers.

(DB 109445) *Daughter of the Moon Goddess* by Sue Lynn Tan

Growing up on the moon, Xingyin is accustomed to solitude, unaware that she is being hidden from the feared Celestial Emperor who exiled her mother for stealing his elixir of immortality. But when Xingyin's magic flares and her existence is discovered, she is forced to flee her home, leaving her mother behind. Alone, powerless, and afraid, she makes her way to the Celestial Kingdom, a land of wonder and secrets. Disguising her identity, she seizes an opportunity to learn alongside the emperor's son, mastering archery and magic, even as passion flames between her and the prince. To save her mother, Xingyin embarks on a perilous quest, confronting legendary creatures and vicious enemies. But when treachery looms and forbidden magic threatens the kingdom, she must challenge the ruthless Celestial Emperor for her dream--striking a dangerous bargain in which she is torn between losing all she loves or plunging the realm into chaos.

(DB 108967) *Treasures of the Mexican Table: Classic Recipes, Local Secrets* by Pati Jinich

Although many of us can rattle off our favorite authentic Mexican dishes, we might be hard pressed to name more than ten. This is preposterous given that Mexico has a rich culinary history stretching back thousands of years. For the last decade, Pati Jinich has sought out the culinary treasures of her home country, from *birria*, to *salsa macha*, to

coyotas, to *carne asada*. Many of these dishes are local specialties, heirlooms passed down through generations, unknown outside of their original regions. Each recipe is a classic. Each one comes with a story told in Pati's warm, relatable style. And each has been tested in Pati's American kitchen to ensure it is the best of its kind. Together, these essential recipes paint a vivid picture of the richness of Mexico.

(DB 98494) *Country Strong* by Linda Lael Miller

Montana rancher Cord Hollister is shaken when a girl arrives in Painted Pony Creek who looks like Reba, the woman who broke his teenage heart. Even though Shallie Fletcher had an unrequited crush on Cord in school she still seeks his help starting a therapeutic riding program for kids.

(DB 109302) *Ali's Well That Ends Well: Tales of Desperation and a Little Inspiration* by Ali Wentworth

New York Times bestselling author Ali Wentworth offers a comedic look at family, friendship, and lessons learned during the Covid-19 pandemic in her new collection of laugh-out-loud comic vignettes. Like many, Ali Wentworth spent the pandemic seesawing between highs, lows, and baking an unnecessary amount of chocolate cake. Between binging every tv show in existence to conquering TikTok to becoming a (semi) empty-nester, Ali experienced her share of turmoil (including an early case of Covid), but she also grew a little, learned a lot, and found comfort in some unexpected people and places.

(DB 108193) *River Kings: A New History of the Vikings from Scandinavia to the Silk Roads* by Cat Jarman

Follow an epic story of the Viking Age that traces the historical trail of an ancient piece of jewelry found in a Viking grave in England to its origins thousands of miles east in India. An acclaimed bioarchaeologist, Catrine Jarman has used cutting-edge forensic techniques to spark her investigation into the history of the Vikings who came to rest in British soil.

(DB 109499) *The Daughter of Doctor Moreau* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

From the bestselling author of *Mexican Gothic* comes a dreamy reimagining of *The Island of Doctor Moreau* set against the backdrop of nineteenth-century Mexico. Carlota Moreau: A young woman growing up on a distant and luxuriant estate, safe from the conflict and strife of the Yucatán peninsula. The only daughter of a researcher who is either a genius or a madman. Montgomery Laughton: A melancholic overseer with a tragic past and a propensity for alcohol. An outcast who assists Dr. Moreau with his experiments, which are financed by the Lizaldes, owners of magnificent haciendas and plentiful coffers. The hybrids: The fruits of the doctor's labor, destined to blindly obey their creator and remain in the shadows. A motley group of part human, part animal monstrosities. All of them live in a perfectly balanced and static world, which is jolted by the abrupt arrival of Eduardo Lizalde, the charming and careless son of Dr. Moreau's patron, who will unwittingly begin a dangerous chain reaction. Carlota has questions, and, in the sweltering heat of the jungle, passions may ignite.

Talking Books and Braille Library 2023 Biennial Survey

To help us better serve you, please provide your feedback in this survey. Pull out this section from the newsletter. Fold it so that the library's return address is visible; secure with tape, and drop it in the mail. No postage is required. To complete the survey online, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023TBBL>

1. Name (optional): _____
 2. Phone number (optional): _____
 3. Please mark the types of material you receive from the library.
 - Digital Books
 - Large print books
 - Braille books
 - BARD books
 - Magazines
 4. Do you or a family member use the web catalog to search for and order books?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I would like information (contact reader adviser)
 5. For what purpose do you use the TBBL web catalog? (Check all that apply.)
 - Search for authors, titles, or subjects I want to read
 - School book requests and reserves
 - School assignments
 - Check my account for overdue books, lost items, etc.
 - Check my reading history
 - N/A
 6. Have you visited the TBBL web site?
 - Yes
 - No
 7. How do you rate the TBBL web site in terms of accessibility?
 - Excellent
 - Good
 - Average
 - Fair
 - Poor
 8. Do you or a family member download books from BARD?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I would like information about the service.
-

-
9. If you are not a BARD user, what prevents you from using it?
- I have no internet access
 - I did not know about BARD
 - I do not have a computer
 - I am not interested
10. Do you currently use a smart phone, tablet, or e-book reader?
- Yes
 - No
11. Have you downloaded the BARD mobile app to an iOS or Android device?
- Yes
 - No
12. Which device?
- iOS
 - Android
13. Would you like to have NFB Newslines service read newspapers and popular magazines to you over the phone?
- Yes
 - No
 - I would like more information
14. Would you be interested in participating in the next Adult Summer Reading Program?
- Yes
 - No
 - I would like information (contact reader adviser).
15. Do you use any type of social media? (Check all that apply.)
- Facebook
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - Google+
 - Instagram
 - Other (please specify)
-
16. Please rate the courtesy you receive when you contact the library staff.
- Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
-

17. When you order books and other materials from TBBL, how would you rate the speed of delivery?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

18. Please rate TBBL services overall.

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

19. Do you have suggestions for improving the library service?

20. Please make additional comments here.

21. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

22. Did you participate in the Teen/Children Summer Reading Program?

- Yes
- No

23. If you answered yes to question 22, please respond. The Summer Reading Program helped me improve my literacy skills.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Thank you so much for your feedback. Pull out this section from the newsletter. Fold it so that the library's return address is visible, secure with tape, and drop it in the mail. No postage is required.

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**

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

Books and Beyond: A Section for Children and Teens

Summer Reading 2023

Take time to enjoy your summer with a good book. Our Summer Reading Program is currently underway. Packets for children and teens are going out, but there is still time to sign up. Everyone who participates will receive a Grab 'n' Go Summer Packet with a welcome folder, reading log, activities, craft ideas, and reading incentives. Just read books or magazines by Thursday, August 31 and turn in your reading log to receive a free "All Together Now" t-shirt, reading certificate, and other incentive prizes. Send in your summer reading invitation, or contact Charlene Moore at 225-342-9563, or email tbblkids@state.lib.la.us to register. Many thanks to the Jones Foundation for providing this year's summer reading program prizes.

From Crib to Crayons

The TBBL Early Literacy Program *From Crib to Crayons* will start in July. Designed for children ages 0-6, bi-monthly literacy packets will be sent throughout the year to children and their parents. Each kit is focused on one of six early literacy skills. For more information, contact the Children's Librarian, Charlene Moore at 225-342-9563, or email tbblkids@slol.lib.la.us. This program is made possible through the generous support of the Jones Foundation. Braille services provided this year through the Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

NLS Offers Virtual Summer Reading Events

The National Library Service is pleased to announce its first nationwide Summer Reading Program, which will run from Monday, June 26, through Friday, August 11, 2023. These special virtual events for all ages, and hosted by NLS, include a kickoff event with music, author talks, and a story time. Each event will be livestreamed and will not be recorded. For more information about registration, contact Charlene Moore at 225-342-9563 or tbblkids@slol.lib.la.us, or contact your reader advisor.

Schedule of Events

Kickoff event for all ages: Monday, June 26 at 3:00 pm.

Author talk for adults with Shelby Van Pelt featuring **BR024204, DB107924** *Remarkably Bright Creatures*: Thursday, June 29 at 6:00 pm.

Story time and music for children featuring Turtle Dance Music: Thursday, July 6, at 6:00 pm.

Author talk for middle grades with Celia Perez featuring **BR024708, DB089161** *The First Rule of Punk*: Tuesday, July 11, at 6:00 pm.

Author talk for grades K-5 with Annette Bay Pimentel and Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins featuring **BR024705, DB104007** *All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything*: Saturday, July 22, at 12:00 pm.

continued on next page

(NLS Summer Reading Schedule of Events, Continued:)

Author talk for middle grades with Kwame Alexander featuring **BR024707, DB079528, LP025967** *The Crossover*. Thursday, July 27, at 6:00 pm.

Author talk for young adults with Jenny Torres Sanchez featuring **DB099474, LP026840** *We Are Not from Here*: Thursday, August 3, at 6:00 pm.

Check out These Titles Available in Braille

Grades Preschool-Grade 2

BR022790, DB097290, DB097274 *Pete The Cat Treasury* by Kim Dean
Five previously published humorous tales, featuring Pete the Cat.

BR012700, DB049758 *Ira Sleeps Over* by Bernard Waber
Ira is delighted with his first invitation to spend the night at his friend Reggie's house, until his mischievous older sister asks if he is taking along his teddy bear.

Grades 2-4

BR019340, DB088546 *A Brand-New Day with Mouse and Mole* by Wong Herbert Yee
After moths eat holes in Mole's shirts and pants, Mouse helps him by patching his old clothes in a special way.

BR015056, DB058154 *Junie B. Jones Is*

Captain Field Day by Barbara Park
Junie B. Jones rallies her team to victory when she is selected as a captain in the kindergarten field day.

Grades 4-7

BR021131, DB082092 *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar
Two kids, taking a shortcut home from school, discover what looks like fuzzy mud, but it is actually a dangerous mutated organism.

BR024213, DB096813, LP026842 *Dork Diaries* by Rachel Renée Russell
Nikki Maxwell writes in her diary about her life at an exclusive new private school.

Grades 6-9 and Young Adult

BR022120, DB089430, LP026827 *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
Born without arms, spunky thirteen-year-old Aven and her friend Connor investigate a mystery involving her family's Stagecoach Pass theme park.

BR020579, DB080184 *Jessica Darling's It List: The (Totally Not) Guaranteed Guide to Popularity, Prettiness & Perfection* by Megan McCafferty
Twelve-year-old Jessica follows her sister's advice on being popular in seventh grade with hilarious and chaotic results.

BR020132, DB076877 *Far Far Away* by Tom McNeal
Jeremy, who can speak to the ghost of Jacob Grimm, and his friend Ginger encounter a strange set of circumstances, placing them in a dangerous adventure.

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of longtime Jones Foundation board member, Grace Moore Scoggin.

Grace earned a Master's degree in Library Science from LSU and spent her 28-year career at the State Library of Louisiana. Mrs. Scoggin passed away Sunday, May 28th, with her family by her side.

Support the Jones Foundation

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 state-wide. 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, staff enrichment, and early literacy 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 Jones Foundation. For meeting information, call Shelia Coleman at 225.342.4942.

TBBL Directory

Library address

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

Phone numbers

Baton Rouge: 225.342.0035
Statewide: 1.800.543.4702
Fax: 225.342.6817

Special services

Music section: 800.424.8567
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.

Phone and email hours

Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Library services

Audio books and magazines
Braille books and magazines
Large print books and big books
Online catalog
BARD download service
BARD mobile apps
Newspaper reading 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.

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

