

WINTER 2014

Illinois State Library
TBBS
300 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1796



Jesse White
Secretary of State
& State Librarian

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TBBS NewsLink is available in braille and large print, on cassette or via email by contacting the State Library, or on the TBBS website at www.ilbph.org (click TBBS NewsLink).



Make a New Year's resolution!

Please resolve in 2014 to return all your books and magazines on time and in the correct container. This simple New Year's resolution will help us keep the talking book service running smoothly for you and other patrons. It is **especially** important to return lower-number books promptly (below DB 65000), because only a few copies of these titles are available.

TBBS Advisory Committee openings

Four seats need to be filled on the Talking Book and Braille Advisory Committee for the term beginning July 1, 2014. The committee assists the Illinois State Library in improving services offered through TBBS. Members serve three-year terms and represent all regions of the state, as well as the ages, interests and concerns of TBBS users. To apply for the committee, please call Delilah Jackson at **618-244-5089**. For more information visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/about/committees/tbbsadvisory.html.

Current advisory committee members are Maryann Bartkowski, Camille Caffarelli, Bill Cope, Bryan Dufelmeier, Robert Hansen, Delilah Jackson, Paul Rink, Greg Rowden and Larry Whewell. If you would like to arrange to talk to a committee member, please call ISLTBBS at **800-665-5576, ext. 1**.

TBBS applications now available by fax or email

The National Library Service now allows network libraries to accept faxed or electronic applications for Talking Book and Braille Service. The application must be signed or stamped by a “competent authority” who can certify that the applicant has a qualifying condition, and all pertinent information must be legible. The completed application can be faxed or scanned and emailed to:

- **Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service**
Fax: 217-558-4723 Email: isltbbs@ilsos.net
- **Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center**
Fax: 312-747-1609 Email: tbc@chipublib.org
- **Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center**
Fax: 630-734-5050 Email: info@illinoistalkingbooks.org

Of course, **we still accept applications by regular mail.** Applications can be completed and printed from the TBBS website at www.ilbph.org, or we can mail an application to anyone interested in receiving service.

The Audio Description Project

Audio description (AD) is commentary and narration that makes the visual images of television, movies, theatre and other art forms accessible for people who are visually impaired. These audio explanations guide the listener through the presentation with concise, objective descriptions of new scenes, settings, costumes, body language and "sight gags" during natural breaks in the action or dialog.

The Audio Description Project (ADP) is an initiative of the American Council of the Blind dedicated to promoting and expanding the use of audio description. ADP collects and provides information on audio description in all its forms, including how and where it is available. The ADP website at www.acb.org/adp/index.html provides current AD news; lists of audio-described TV shows, DVDs and first-run movies; links to other helpful websites; and much more.

Digital player user guide

Your NLS digital player has a built-in user guide that explains how to use all of its features:

- On the STANDARD PLAYER — Access the guide by holding down the rectangular **Play/Stop** button until you hear “standard user guide.” Press and hold the **Play/Stop** button again to close the guide.
- On the ADVANCED PLAYER — Hold down the diamond-shaped **Info** button until you hear “advanced user guide.” Press and hold down the **Info** key again to exit the guide.

NFB college scholarships

Each year the National Federation of the Blind offers 30 scholarships worth from \$3,000 to \$12,000 to eligible college students. These merit scholarships are based on academic excellence, community

service and leadership. You must be legally blind and live in the United States or Puerto Rico to apply. The application deadline for this school year is **March 31, 2014**. Applications for 2015 scholarships will be accepted from November 1, 2014, to March 31, 2015. Visit www.nfb.org/scholarships for complete rules and requirements.

BrowseAloud now available on Secretary of State website

BrowseAloud is free software that turns web pages into audio format, and is now available on Secretary of State Jesse White's website. Once BrowseAloud is downloaded, users may simply point their mouse at words on the Secretary of State website, including Illinois State Library web pages. BrowseAloud will highlight the words and read them aloud. Learn more and download the software at www.cyberdriveillinois.com/browsealoud.html.

Travel the world with the Adult Winter Reading Program

You are invited to "book" an expense-free trip with the Adult Winter Reading Program and go ***Globe Trekking at Your Library: To the Seven Continents and Beyond***. Sign up today and join us on our travels. From intrigue in exotic lands to love found on distant shores, from historic wanderings to humorous travelogues, our reading program guide has something for everyone. Read at least ten books from the guide and submit your report by **April 19, 2014**, to be entered in a multiple-winner, grand-prize drawing. Call **800-426-0709** to register.

BARD mobile application update

The National Library Service (NLS) developed the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) mobile application because library patrons wanted the convenience and portability of downloading books, magazines and musical scores directly to their personal mobile devices.

Last September, NLS released the BARD mobile application for Apple iOS devices, version 4.3 or later. This includes the iPhone 3GS and all later iPhones, all iPads and fourth generation or later iPod Touches. The app is available for free download at Apple's online app store, iTunes.

Unfortunately, the development of the BARD mobile app for Android devices has experienced some critical failures, and NLS does not anticipate its release until mid- or late 2014. Contact your Reader Advisor if you have any questions regarding the BARD mobile app or are interested in signing up for a BARD account.

Sign up for TBBS emails

Our email distribution list is a great way to get the latest news about the Talking Book and Braille Service! Call your library if you'd like to be added to the list. Important NLS announcements, TBBS newsletters, summer and winter reading program information, and other items of interest will be sent directly to your email address.

2013 TBBS Snapshot

- **Total registrations:** 28,291
- **Gender:** Male: 36.1% Female: 63.9%
- **Ages:** 17 and under: 817
 - 18–49: 3,877
 - 50–79: 8,675
 - 80–99: 11,763
 - 100 and older: 87
- **Active patrons:** 14,504
- **Active institutions:** 1,325
- **Circulation by mail:** 719,497
- **Braille and audio reading downloads:** 115,514
- **New patrons:** 1,764

Toll-free numbers

Illinois State Library TBBS: **800-665-5576, ext. 1**

Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center: **800-757-4654**

Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center: **800-426-0709**

The announcement of products and services in this newsletter should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation by the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service. Products and services are listed free of charge for the benefit of our readers. TBBS cannot be responsible for the reliability of products or services mentioned.



Free matter for the Blind.

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