TBBS
NewsLink

Fall 2016

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

Jesse White
Secretary of State
& State Librarian

In this issue:

TBBS NewsLink is available in braille and large print, on cassette, on NFB-NEWSLINE, via email by contacting the State Library or on the TBBS website at

www.ilbph.org

(click TBBS NewsLink).

Service center hours

The Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service provides reader advisory service to Chicago residents from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday; closed on state and federal holidays. Please call 800-757-4654 or 800-665-5576, ext.1.

All other patrons receive reader advisory service from the Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday–Friday; closed on major holidays. Please call at 800-426-0709.

You may leave a message at either of these service centers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The message should include your full name and telephone number, including area code, as well as other pertinent information about your order, question or service change request. When ordering for someone else, provide that person's name. Please speak slowly and clearly. Your call will be returned only if a reply is necessary or more information is needed. Otherwise, assume that the book order or service change requests have been processed. Please remember that TBBS can only return calls during regular business hours.

U.S. Constitution available in audio or braille

Spirited post-national convention discussions have sparked a renewed interest in the text and meaning of the U.S. Constitution. This important document is available in braille and audio formats from TBBS. Call your Reader Advisor to request a braille copy or request the audio version by ordering DIL00023. Patrons may keep the braille copy but the audio copy on digital cartridge must be returned.

NLS initiatives

The National Library Service (NLS) introduced several new initiatives that will affect network libraries and their readership in the short, medium and long term. These plans were announced earlier this year at the National Conference of Librarians Serving Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals.

In the short term (one to three years), NLS will introduce BARD Express. This software will allow BARD patrons who have problems downloading and unzipping books to bypass that process.

NLS is also making plans for Duplication 4 Demand (D4D). This hardware will be used with the library's circulation system to easily duplicate titles. D4D will enable libraries to duplicate copies of digital talking books that are unavailable in a hard copy as well as to duplicate additional copies of titles that are currently all in circulation. D4D will also offer libraries the option to provide service by duplicating all titles on demand. Information regarding this project will be available in future newsletters.

In the medium term (three to five years), NLS plans to acquire refreshable braille displays that it will lend to braille readers. A pilot project is underway between NLS and a regional library to develop the circulation process for the refreshable braille units. Braille books will eventually be produced on cartridge (the way audio books are produced) and provided to libraries to serve braille readers. These braille readers will also have the opportunity to download braille books from BARD. Braille magazines will become part of the Magazine on Cartridge (MOC) program.

NLS is acquiring directly from publishers electronic text (e-text) of many titles now offered only in print. By combining this text with Text-to-Speech (TTS) software, patrons could download a title and listen at their leisure. Conversely, this e-text could also be coupled with a braille translation program to provide an electronic braille file of the book.

In the long term (five years or more), NLS is beginning to develop its next generation of digital players. These players will have wireless capability, so a patron will be able to download a title directly from BARD to the player. In addition, a library

will have the capability to "send" books to a patron's player.

Parallel to the player development, NLS is investigating the development of an infrastructure to support wireless delivery of books for all patrons; mail delivery will no longer be necessary. Library staff will provide training for this enhanced technology as it becomes available and continue providing reader advisory and reference service. The estimated timeline for these developments is three years to develop the new player and infrastructure, two years to disseminate and another two years to fully implement.

NLS plans to maintain a dialog with all stakeholders as these projects move forward to identify and resolve issues and concerns.

Holiday mail delays

Holidays create mail delays for both incoming and outgoing books. It's a good idea to request books at least a week in advance of these dates to improve the chance of receiving books before holidays.

TBBS Advisory Committee

TBBS would like to thank all Advisory Committee members for their service, especially outgoing members Anthony Chandler, Linda Hendle and Delilah Jackson. Their efforts and advocacy for the program are greatly appreciated. Current members and new appointees include Rhonda Coe Bargiel, Matthew Janusauskas, Kim Tarkowski, Maryann Bartkowski, Sean Martin, Antonietta Tesfaye, Margaret Varney, Deborah Watson, Larry Whewell and ex-officio members William Bogdan and James Dunnington. The Advisory Committee assists the Illinois State Library in improving services offered through TBBS. Patrons who would like to speak with a committee member should call 217-782-9435 to make arrangements.

Navigating between books

Patrons can use the Bookshelf mode on NLS digital book players to navigate between multiple books that have been downloaded onto a cartridge. This feature only works when each book has its own, unique DB number. To enter Bookshelf mode, insert the cartridge into the digital player and hold down the Play/Stop button until you hear a beep; the machine will announce "Bookshelf." Then it will announce the title of the book most recently played. Tap the Fast-forward (FF) or Rewind (RW) buttons located on either side of the Play/Stop button to move through the titles on the cartridge until you hear the title you want. Press the Play/Stop button to begin reading. When you reach the end of the book, you will need to return to Bookshelf mode to select another book.

Sometimes NLS will produce a digital book that includes several books in a series.

In these instances, the Bookshelf mode will not work because the books were recorded together and share the same DB number. The books are narrated in series order with no breaks in between, except for the narrator announcing the titles when each book begins or ends. Patrons must have an advanced digital talking book machine to easily move back and forth between titles on this type of book. Every digital book contains markers that allow direct access to its navigation levels when used with the advanced player's extra control buttons. Most books containing multiple series titles have two navigation levels, books at level one and chapters at level two. Insert a series cartridge into the advanced digital book player and press the Menu button until you hear it announce "Book." Use the Next and Previous (Prev) buttons located on either side of the Menu button to move between titles.

Toll-free numbers

Free matter for the Blind.