

Summer 2015

TALKING TIMES

**RHODE ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE
BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**

Office of Library and Information Services

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Book Programs For You

Talking Books Plus (TBP), the Rhode Island Regional Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped, links to several book discussion and reading programs whose titles are in the TBP Catalog on the TBP website. The programs described below are posted on the TBP Blog on the TBP website.

RARI (Reading Across Rhode Island) is a one book, one state program with events at public libraries around the state. Each RARI book is announced at the kickoff in January. The program runs until early May culminating in a breakfast event with the author. TBP generates booklists that support the RARI program. The RARI book itself is added to the TBP Catalog, if not already available.

KRARI is a children's version of RARI. This program kicks off in May. TBP generates booklists that support the KRARI program. The KRARI book itself is added to the TBP Catalog, if not already available.

The **Summer Reading Program** is another program offered every year through public libraries. This program promotes a selected theme and includes lists of resource books for adults, preschool, young adults and school

aged children. The reading lists include braille and audio versions of the Summer Reading Program resource books so that TBP members may participate more fully by listening to the titles available in the TBP Catalog.

BARD Talk is an online discussion group that connects subscribers to talks on technology related to BARD (Braille Audio Reading Download) and discussions of books available through BARD. Book discussion topics include Fiction, Old and New; Science Fiction; History; Fantasy; and Mystery. The TBP Blog posts the day and time of these book discussion sessions by topic with book information and links to the TBP Catalog and the online event at AccessibleWorld, sponsor of this program. For more information visit <http://yhoo.it/1NR88ZU>.

Kids Reading Across Rhode Island

Join in the discussion of the 2015 KRARI (Kids Reading Across Rhode Island) book, *Flora and Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo. The kickoff event was held at the State House on May 9th. For more details, visit the TBP website.

As of this writing, NLS plans to add the commercial recording of this title for inclusion in the TBP Catalog. When available from the TBP Catalog, you can download or request a hardcopy of *Flora and Ulysses* (DB080753.)

Reserve the title through the TBP Catalog. TBP members who want to use the TBP Catalog to request the book online must have a Patron ID and password. If a TBP member doesn't know their ID and password, call TBP.

Don't Miss the Fun This Summer

This summer your local library is offering entertainment for the whole family. Stop by, find out what's planned, and sign up for the summer reading program at your neighborhood library. Younger readers may participate to

find out who their hero is in the "Every Hero Has a Story" program, while teens can "Unmask!" their favorite heroes to reveal who they really are as adults "Escape the Ordinary" in the adult program.

Participating in any summer reading program is as simple as visiting or calling your local public library. Registration starts in June. Sign up, then record the books you read or the time you spend reading. Young readers can earn free passes to more than 14 museums and attractions statewide.

This summer's reading program also includes programs and interactive workshops for children and teens by artists and educators at libraries around the state, including the library at Meeting Street School. Many libraries also plan special book clubs, workshops, and raffles for adults.

All programs are free, though sign up may be required at some libraries. TBP has audio and braille books to support TBP member participation. For facts about the program, visit the Summer Reading Program at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/services/srp/>. The Summer Reading Program is coordinated by the RI Office of Library and Information Services.

Extended Loans for Magazines

The National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) announced it increased the loan period on magazines circulated on cartridge to allow NLS magazine subscribers more time to enjoy their publications. NLS magazines are delivered in red plastic containers.

The allotted reading time for weekly cartridges (those containing weekly magazines only) has increased from one week to three weeks and reading time for monthly cartridges (those containing monthly and weekly magazines) has increased from four weeks to seven weeks.

With travel time, weekly magazine cartridges are loaned a total of five weeks from delivery to return; monthly and weekly magazine cartridges are loaned a total of nine weeks from delivery to return.

Newsweek and Reader's Digest

TBP members are eligible to download Reader's Digest and Newsweek in Digital Talking Book (DTB) format from the American Printing House for the Blind (APH). APH provides full instructions on how to download these magazines at <http://tech.aph.org/mags/>.

Celebrating 25 Years of ADA

The 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is July 26th, 2015. ADA became law in 1990. ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. ADA is divided into five titles (or sections) that relate to different areas of public life. For more information, contact 1-800-949-4232 or visit <http://adata.org>.

Digital Audio Books When You Want Them

There are more than 62,000 titles available for download in the TBP Catalog. To avoid days of waiting for audio or Braille books to arrive by mail, download titles from the Internet in just a few minutes.

TBP members may apply for the no cost digital download service called BARD even if they don't own a computer. TBP members can access BARD through a public computer at a local public library. A family member, caregiver or a

friend can apply for a BARD account on a member's behalf. Click the BARD link to log in from the TBP website. Once the application is filled out online, the account must be validated. Upon validation a BARD password will be sent to the member's email address.

TBP provides a 4GB digital cartridge and USB cable to TBP members when their BARD application is validated. The USB cable is used to transfer the title's digital book files from the computer to the cartridge. The NLS digital player can then play downloaded titles from the cartridge; cartridges can also be played on other devices purchased from authorized vendors.

When using the BARD App with an Apple iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch, a TBP member is able to download up to 100 digital titles within a 30 day period. There are more than 60 digital magazines, journals and the bimonthly Talking Book Topics book catalog that are available for downloading. The majority of NLS magazines are recorded in English. A few are recorded in French, German, and Spanish.

Reading with Memory Loss

When a TBP member with memory loss cannot remember the book they just read, it doesn't mean they lost their love of books. They may still relish reading a favorite book from the past. These members may benefit from TBP loans through BARD download. BARD has unlimited loan periods; the six week loan policy required for mailed books does not apply to downloads. Books downloaded on to a cartridge may be kept on the cartridge until service is canceled. For more information, phone TBP or visit <http://www.olis.ri.gov/tbp/bard/>.

Locally Recorded Books Available

Regional libraries including Rhode Island share locally produced titles in the SHELF (Shared Electronic Files) collection. This special collection includes titles about local regions, publications by local authors, and books selected for statewide library programs.

A New England book, *The Enduring Shore: a History of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket* by Paul Schneider (DBM00752) was recorded by Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library. In Utah, the regional library locally produced *Long Shadows* (SUT 01074). This book is based on the life of the author Wilford Meeks Halladay's grandfather, a lawman, who was Butch Cassidy's friend. *The Beauty of Humanity Movement* by Camilla Gibbs (DBM00165) is a Rhode Island title in SHELF. Perkins recorded this title for the 2013 Reading Across Rhode Island program. These books including 4,400 other SHELF titles are in the TBP Catalog. SHELF talking book libraries are in California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Rhode Island, Utah and Vermont.

TBP members must "Sign in" to the TBP Catalog, in order to download SHELF books. The SHELF books can be played on any media player or call Talking Books Plus to request a cartridge, if available, to play on an authorized NLS player. Search *Locally produced content* in the *Special Collection* of the TBP Catalog.

Currency Reader Update

As of January 2, 2015, TBP members who want a currency reader should contact the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) directly. To request a print copy of the application phone the BEP Call Center at 1-844-815-9388.

Member Support Services

NLS BARD Support, nlsdownload@loc.gov - NLS provides technical assistance to members downloading from a computer to a cartridge.

BARD App Support, bardmobilesupport@loc.gov - NLS provides technical assistance to members downloading through the BARD App on one of the designated mobile devices.

BARD Talk, bardtalk-subscriber@yahoogroups.com – A Yahoo group, BARD Talk is an alternative method for many users of the BARD site to find answers to commonly asked questions.

Victor Reader Stream (VRS) chat – For those who use the VRS, this is a newly formed monthly chat that meets the second Wednesday of every month at 9:00 pm EST. The chat number is (605) 562-0020. The nine digit meeting ID is 255-396-424. This chat discusses first and second generation VRS players.

New Braille Code

In 2016, NLS will transition to the new Braille code. The Unified English Braille (UEB) code will be adopted to simplify the rules of Braille to make it easier to use and improve capability with computers and other devices. The Braille Authority of North America (BANA) released the UEB Reader, a hardcopy booklet in Braille only. This booklet provides an overview of the changes in coding. Anyone who reads Braille can get a Braille copy from BANA by contacting Kim Charlson at kim.charlson@perkins.org or by calling 617-972-7248.

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