

Spring 2008

TALKING TIMES

TALKING BOOKS PLUS LIBRARY

Andrew Egan, Regional Librarian

Ann Piascik, Editor

TALKING TIMES FEEDBACK

This issue of Talking Times includes booklists of interest for all readers. Look for **Catch the Reading Bug!**, a children's booklist; **Reading Across Rhode Island**, a teen booklist; **E-Zone Biographies**, an adult booklist; and **USA Today Top Talking Books for 2007**, a booklist for all ages. Also in this issue is instruction and information to help talking book readers get the most out of the latest talking book technology available to them. In addition, new and regular information found through the Talking Books webpage (www.olis.ri.gov/tbp) is featured. Gain insight into webpage links to such sites as E-Zone and its collection of digital talking books. If you like this issue or have a suggestion for future issues of Talking Times, give us your feedback by emailing tbplus@olis.ri.gov Subject: Talking Times or sending a note to Talking Books Plus, Attn. Talking Times, One Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5803. Every comment will be read and considered. Some responses may be published in the Talking Times Feedback section of this publication for the benefit of all readers. Library hours and more contact information are on the last page of the newsletter.

TAKE EXTRA GOOD CARE OF YOUR PLAYER!

On February 17, 2007 the National Library Service For The Blind And Physically Handicapped (NLS), Library Of Congress, produced its last cassette book machine (CBM). NLS was presented with the 1,248,113th c-1 player. C-1's had been manufactured since 1983. The analog audiocassette and the cassette book machine are outdated and reaching the end of their useful life. Since the production and distribution of digital talking books (DBS) and players has been slowed by the lack of sufficient funding for this conversion, it is important in the meantime to take extra good care of your cassette player. Please make every effort to keep food and liquids a safe distance from the machine and cassettes.

If you have stopped service, please return machines to us as soon as possible so that others may use them.

As always if your machine has stopped working, Ken Marold (574-9313) will help you troubleshoot any problems that can be resolved over the phone. If the machine still malfunctions, request a replacement machine. One will be sent as long as cassette machines are available.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUND

The Association of Blind Citizens operates the Assistive Technology Fund. The Assistive Technology Fund (ATF) will provide funds to cover 50% of the retail price of adaptive devices or software. To read more about the program, visit

http://www.blindcitizens.org/assistive_tech.htm.



SUMMER READING Program for our Young Readers

By Hope Houston

This year, as in previous years, Talking Books Plus is encouraging readers, ages 5 to 16, to take part in the summer reading program at their public libraries. The theme for this year's reading program is **Catch the Reading Bug!**

Over the summer you will have the opportunity to listen to and read many wonderful books about backyard bugs, creepy crawly critters, and insects that flutter, buzz, and zoom. If you sign up for your local library's summer reading program, you will be eligible to hear storytellers, participate in science programs, receive reading incentives, and be entered into a contest to win four tickets to a Pawtucket Red Sox Game at the end of August.

Call your local library to find out more about this summer's reading program. Also, look for the list of books for young readers available through the Talking Books Library in this newsletter. Keep on Reading!

Editor's Note: The book titles added on the following page were generated from the *Catch the Reading Bug! 2008 Collaborative Summer Library Program Manual* edited by Patti Sinclair and written by Diane Findlay, Tami Chumbley Finley, Susan Mast, Kathy Ross and Patti Sinclair.

CATCH THE READING BUG! Resource Books

Young Readers Reading Levels:

Pre-Preschool, *Pri*-Kindergarten-3rd grade, *Int*-4th to 6th grade

Bats at the Beach by Brian Lies. *Pre, Pri.* RCM00923

Breakout at the Bug Lab by Ruth Horowitz. *Pri.* RC054623

The Bug Scientists by Donna Jackson. *Int.* RC060167

Bugs Before Time: Prehistoric Insects and Their Relatives by Cathy Camper. *Pri, Int.* RC56567

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White. *Pri. Int.* RC046839, RC008723, RC007107

The Fire Bug Connection, an Ecological Mystery by Jean Craighead George. *Pri, Int.* RC039816

How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell. *Pri.* RC033534

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl. *Pri, Int.* RC32548

Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices by Paul Fleischman. *All Ages.* RC028922

The Life and Times of the Honeybee by Charles Micucci. *Pri, Int.* RC046172

Oliver and Albert, Friends Forever by Jean Van Leeuwen. *Pri.* RC052117

Outside and Inside Killer Bees by Sandra Market. *Int.* RC060122

Seven Spiders Spinning by Gregory Maguire. *Pri. Int.* RC043314

Shoebag by Mary James. *Pri, Int.* RC035249

READING ACROSS RHODE ISLAND is a literacy project of the Rhode Island Center for the Book at the Providence Public Library; and affiliated with the Library of Congress. Book discussion groups and special events are coordinated at local public libraries, culminating in an event in early May when readers from around the state gather to hear the author speak and, at the same time, have the opportunity to hear how others were impacted by the book. This year's book is **Water for Elephants (RC062718)** by Sara Gruen. For more information about readings and events, visit the Reading Across Rhode Island website, www.readingacrossri.org.

Water for Elephants TEEN RESOURCE BOOKS

Beast Master's Circus by Andre Norton and Lyn McConchie. RC064811

Cart and Cwidder by Diana Wynne Jones. RC048849

Ghost Boy by Iain Lawrence. RC052513

Lionboy by Zizou Corder. RC058007

Modoc: The True Story of the Greatest Elephant That Ever Lived by Ralph Helfer. RC062620

The Kite Rider: A Novel by Geraldine McCaughrean. RC055941

The Prestige by Christopher Priest. RC044253

Something Wicked This Way Comes by Ray Bradbury. RC050233, RC009245

Suite for Calliope by Ellen Hunnicutt. RC026887

Twilight Eyes by Dean Koontz. RC027583

World of Wonders by Robertson Davies. RC035300

FILM ACCESS

WGBH's Motion Picture Access or MoPix systems enable people who have trouble seeing a movie screen to follow the action via discrete "at seat" description. DVS Theatrical delivers descriptive narration via infrared or FM listening systems, enabling blind and visually-impaired moviegoers to hear the descriptive narration on headsets without disturbing other audience members. The descriptions provide narrated information about key visual elements such as actions, settings, and scene changes, making movies more meaningful to people with vision loss. Showcase Cinemas in Warwick, Warwick Mall, Providence Place Mall, Seekonk Rt. 6, and North Attleboro are equipped with MoPix. For a complete listing of current and coming soon MoPix movie titles, visit www.mopix.org. The following title, coming soon to the theatre, is also available in talking book format from TBPlus.

Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian by C. S. Lewis RC050983

Examples of past MoPix movies include **Amityville Horror, Bourne Supremacy, Cheaper by the Dozen, Da Vinci Code, Devil Wears Prada, E.T., Memoirs of a Geisha, Pride and Prejudice, Poseidon,** and **Time Machine**. Enjoy all of these films in book format from the Talking Books Plus collection.

WGBH's Media Access Group is working on this particular outreach and awareness effort in conjunction with and in the spirit of the National Education Association's Read Across America campaign.

USA TODAY TOP BOOKS FOR 2007*

1. **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows** by J.K. Rowling. RC064495
2. **The Secret** by Rhonda Byrne. RC063764
3. **Eat, Pray, Love** by Elizabeth Gilbert. RC061789
4. **A Thousand Splendid Suns** by Khaled Hosseini. RC064803
5. **The Memory Keeper's Daughter** by Kim Edwards. RC063403
6. **The Kite Runner** by Khaled Hosseini. RC057457
7. **Water for Elephants** by Sara Gruen. RC062718
8. **The Dangerous Book for Boys** by Conn And Hal Lgguiden. RC064723

Visit <http://www.olis.ri.gov/tbp> for the complete list of Talking Books that made the 100 Top Books for 2007 published by USATODAY.com. The RC Number for each title available through Talking Books Plus is provided in the list.

*Source: USA TODAY Best-Selling Books. Books are ranked based on sales collected from Jan 1 – Dec. 31, 2007. Visit

http://www.usatoday.com/life/books/news/2008-01-16-top-100-books_N.htm

CONSIDER THE SELF SERVICE OPTION

The Rhode Island Talking Books Plus (TBPlus) online catalog allows TBPlus library users to directly order books electronically without assistance from TBPlus staff. Users of this service can order books when they want any time of day, 7 days a week. For those without a

home computer, ask the local public library about adaptive accessibility of public computers with Internet connection. The self-service online option integrates with assistive technologies such as screen readers and type enlargement.

Need a User ID and Password? Call the TBPlus Library to get one. A User ID and Password gives registered TBPlus members unlimited access to the online TBPlus book catalog and talking book request center. Once the User ID and Password is acquired go to <http://www.olis.ri.gov/tbp> and follow the simple instructions below to order talking books online by RC number. Some patience may be required as it may take 10 seconds or more to click from screen to screen.

Step 1. Click Catalog from the Talking Books Plus choices.

Step 2. Click Place Requests from the Menu choices.

Step 4. Type your alphanumeric User ID

Step 5. Tab; then type the 4 digit Password

Step 6. Click Login then for each book ordering,

Step 7. Type a RC Book Number to order, Click Enter, Repeat

Step 8. Click Add to Book Basket

Step 9. Click "Rush This Item" to ship up to 5 books next day

Step 10. Click "Proceed to Checkout"

Step 11. Click Log Off/Start Over



INCREASE YOUR TALKING BOOK SELECTION

As a subscriber of E-Zone through the Ocean State Libraries (OSL) consortium, Talking Books Plus provides access to E-Zone titles through its website, www.olis.ri.gov/tbp. Click *E-Zone* Quick Link.

E-Zone titles may be borrowed online with a valid public library card. Five titles found by searching "Biography" on E-Zone are not in the Talking Books Plus Library collection and are listed below. For more information about how E-Zone works, read the Fall 2007 issue of Talking Times. To read an electronic version or to print a copy, visit www.olis.ri.gov/tbp/newsletter/

E-ZONE BIOGRAPHIES

Frankie's Place: A Love Story by Jim Sterba. 9 hrs. 39 min.

Julie and Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen
by Julie Powell. 5 hrs. 54 min.

Sailing Alone Around the World by Joshua Slocum. 7 hrs. 43 min.

Sons Of Camelot: The Fate Of An American Dynasty by
Laurence Learner. 7 hrs. 1 min.

Witness by Whittaker Chambers. 30 hrs. 19 min.

Talking Books Plus Library 2008 Holiday Closings

Memorial Day	Monday, May 26
Independence Day	Friday, July 4
Victory Day	Monday, August 11
Labor Day	Monday, September 1
Columbus Day	Monday, October 13
Election Day	Tuesday, November 4
Veterans' Day	Tuesday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25

Regular Hours: Mon – Fri 8 AM – 4 PM ■ Email: tbplus@olis.ri.gov

■ Fax: (401)574-9320 ■ Phone: (401)574-9310 TTY 711

R.I. TALKING BOOKS PLUS

FREE MATTER

OFFICE OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

FOR THE BLIND

ONE CAPITOL HILL

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