



Winter 2022 Talking Times Newsletter

That All May Read

Rhode Island Regional Library for the Blind and Print Disabled

Talking Books Library

Office of Library and Information Services

olis.ri.gov/tbl / 401-574-9310 TTY 711 / talking.books@olis.ri.gov

NLS Launches Quarterly Patron Corner Programming

As part of the Patron Engagement Section's mission to offer services, resources, and programs to enrich the library experience for patrons, the National Library Services, NLS will host a quarterly Patron Corner virtual event where patrons can learn more about various services directly from NLS staff. The quarterly Patron Corner will occur on the second Monday of the third month of each quarter. The next quarterly Patron Corner will occur Monday, December 12 @ 7 pm. The program will be interactive, last for one hour, and have a designated topic of discussion. Guests will be members of the Collections Division at NLS responsible for selecting the books in the collection. Please bring your questions and thoughts about the collection when you join us via Zoom. Call 401-574-9310 or email talking books at talking.books@olis.ri.gov for the Zoom link and phone numbers for the sessions.

NLS Updates to BARD

NLS has released version 1.4.5 of the BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) Mobile Android app. This release brings major improvements, bug fixes, and increased stability since the March 2022

release. Users who have not enabled automatic updates (as recommended by the NLS) will need to perform the update manually through Google's Play Store. BARD Mobile users can confirm that they are running the latest version by checking the bottom of the app's settings screen. NLS plans to follow up quickly with a v1.4.6 release to address additional bug fixes. NLS has also released version 2.0 of BARD Mobile for iOS devices. In this version, the BARD website option is replaced by a new and powerful search engine. For specific details of the BARD enhancements and fixes see the TBL Blog at <https://olis.ri.gov/tbl> and click on the "News" link on the righthand side of the screen.

BARD Support: The Many Faces of BARD

For many patrons, BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) can be intimidating, but it doesn't have to be. That's why the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled now offers a free, monthly educational series called, The Many Faces of BARD, provided by the Patron Engagement Section of NLS. This series will take place on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm ET. Each session will be an hour and will focus on one area of BARD and how to use it; they will begin with a brief presentation about the main topic, followed by audience questions about the subject and BARD usage in general. At the end of each session, NLS will announce the subject for the following meeting. This program is open to all patrons. Call 401-574-9310 or email the Talking Books staff at talking.books@olis.ri.gov for the Zoom link and phone numbers for these sessions.

Braille on Demand!

As part of its braille modernization initiative, NLS launched the Braille-on-Demand pilot project this past summer. This project will allow active patrons to request and receive one hardcopy braille title per month to KEEP for their personal use. Braille titles will be limited to books currently available on BARD. To request a braille-on-demand book, please complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/braillefree>. Call (401)574-9310 TTY 711 if assistance is needed.

Large Print NLS Catalogs Ceasing Publication

Due to the ongoing worldwide paper shortage and significant increases in printing costs, NLS has decided to cease production of all large-print serialized publications. These publications – Talking Book Topics, Braille Book Review, and Musical Mainstream – will continue to be available in other formats, including hardcopy Braille, Audio magazine, online, dial-up from NFB Newslines, and PDF.

RI Talking Book Discussion Group

The next Talking Books discussion will take place on November 23 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. We will discuss *Mercy House* by Alena Dillon (DB 99030), reading time 9 hr. 37 min. Annotation: Sister Evelyn and her fellow nuns do all they can for those seeking Mercy House's shelter. Then she finds out their methods are to be investigated by a man with whom she shares a history. She must relearn the blessing of mercy. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Group Narration. Christian Fiction. 2020. Please register at <https://olis.ri.gov/tbl/discussion.php> to

receive the Zoom link and phone numbers or call (401)574-9310 or email talking.books@olis.ri.gov.

US Postal Box Slots too Narrow to Fit Talking Books

Is the mailbox slot too narrow to place your talking books into for return? Drop off your materials for return to your local post office or call your local post office if you need assistance.

Online Tech and Culture Workshops from Andrew Heiskell Library, New York

The Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library, NY is offering a virtual Braille Study Group, every Saturday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm ET and Tuesdays from 7 to 9 pm ET. If you want to join the program, please email or call the Talking Books Library for more information.

Some Good Books to Keep You Reading Over the Holidays

Dear Santa by Debbie Macomber (DB 105316)

Feeling low after her boyfriend cheated on her, Lindy Carmichael heads home to Wenatchee, Washington for Christmas. Her mother encourages her to write a grown-up letter to Santa, which ultimately brings her hope and joy, not to mention a chance at love with a handsome former classmate. Commercial Audiobook. Romance. 2021.

The Haunting Season: Eight Ghostly Tales for Long Winter Nights by Bridget Collins (DB 105999)

Eight master storytellers of the sinister and the macabre pen seasonal ghost stories for an original anthology. In Andrew Michael Hurley's

"The Hanging of the Greens," a man once devoted to God cautions about good deeds during the holidays. Occult. Ghosts, Supernatural. Violence, strong language, some explicit descriptions of sex. 2021.

The 19th Christmas by James Patterson (DB 96863)

When a fearsome criminal known only as "Loman" seizes control of the headlines, December is upended for the Women's Murder Club. Loman is planning a deadly surprise for Christmas morning and commissioned dozens of criminal colleagues to take actions that will mask his plans. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Mystery/Detective 2019.

One by One by Ruth Ware (DB 100607)

A French Alps trip for the team of a trendy London-based tech company starts out as a typical corporate retreat. But as soon as one shareholder upends the agenda by pushing a buyout offer, tensions simmer. When an avalanche leaves them stranded, the group dwindles one by one. English fiction. Suspense. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

The 13th Gift: A True Story of a Christmas Miracle by Joanne Smith (DB 80286)

Journalist describes receiving mysterious gifts on the twelve days leading up to her first Christmas alone following the death of her husband. Details her efforts, with the help of her three children, to identify the sender of the gifts, and the impact the gifts had on them. Autobiography. Short book. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

Winter Storms by Elin Hilderbrand (DB 85810)

The Quinn family brace for a huge storm at the Winter Street Inn on Nantucket. Kelley Quinn hopes he has beaten his cancer diagnosis while his adult children try to sort out their lives. Sequel to Winter Stroll (DB 82793). Holiday celebrations. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry

Information provided by the Rhode Island Department of Health. Enrolling in the Special Needs Emergency Registry lets police, fire, and other first responders in your community better prepare for and respond to your needs during a hurricane, storm, or other emergencies. Many people may need extra help during a time of emergency, including people who:

- Use life support systems such as oxygen, respirator, ventilator, dialysis, or a pacemaker; or for those who have chronic conditions and require treatment (such as, diabetics requiring insulin)
- Have mobility needs and use a wheelchair, scooter, walker, cane, or other mobility devices
- Are visually impaired, blind, hard of hearing, or deaf
- Have speech, cognitive, developmental, or behavioral health disabilities
- Use assistive animals or a prosthesis.

The information submitted to the Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry is shared with local and state first responders and

emergency management officials. Your information is held confidential and only accessed to assist your safety and well-being. The Department of Health and Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency have worked with E-911 to notify first responders when responding to a household that may have someone enrolled in the Registry. While enrolling in the special needs registry does not guarantee assistance, this notification allows first responders additional time to consider how to best respond to that incident. Please note that strict confidentiality is always maintained, and only those with a reason to access the information are authorized to do so. To enroll, go to <https://tinyurl.com/RIEMReg>.

VA Pays for Medical Alert Systems

The VA has programs in place to pay for medical alert systems. The Department of Veterans Affairs offers two options for senior veterans who want a medical alert system. These systems can be an excellent way for seniors to avoid or minimize serious medical emergencies when they're home alone. Family and friends can also feel more at ease knowing their aging loved one is safe and protected. See the link for complete information. <https://tinyurl.com/FreeLifeAlert>.

Talking Books Library News Blog

Be sure to visit the TBL Blog to learn about free programs and training, virtual events, and news from the National Library Service. The TBL Blog offers great information on many available resources to our members. Visit the News section at <https://olis.ri.gov/tbl/>.

The Talking Books staff wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

RI TALKING BOOKS LIBRARY
OFFICE OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES
ONE CAPITOL HILL
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02908-5803

Postage
Free
Matter
for the
Blind

Holiday Observances

November 8, 2022 - Election Day
November 11, 2022 - Veterans' Day
November 24, 2022 - Thanksgiving Day
December 25, 2022 - Christmas Day



This publication is supported by the

Institute of Museum and Library Services through the
Library Services and Technology Act administered by the
Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services.