

SPRING 2014

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



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Secretary of State
& State Librarian

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Thanks for Your Generosity

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).



eRead Illinois

Thanks to a grant provided by the Secretary of State through the Illinois State Library, TBBS users will soon have access to eRead Illinois, a digital collection of electronic books (eBooks). eRead Illinois features new releases and popular titles in adult, young adult and juvenile fiction and nonfiction that may not be available in our regular collection—including some in Spanish. Although not compatible with the National Library Service (NLS) digital player, these books can be downloaded to a patron's own Apple or Android mobile device, eBook tablet or Windows computer.

Every stage of eRead Illinois—finding books, checking them out and reading them—is designed to be accessible for everyone, including those with visual disabilities. Text tools on eBooks allow the user to highlight words and adjust the font size and color scheme and might include text-to-speech or studio narration. The digital media and delivery software platforms are fully ADA-compliant and were developed in cooperation with the National Federation of the Blind to work with the leading screen-reader technologies and refreshable braille displays.

eRead Illinois will be open to our users in mid to late April. Call your Talking Book Center to register or to request more information.

Spring Cleaning

It's spring cleaning time and we'd like you to be on the lookout for any stray books or magazines that you might find under the couch or hidden behind a cushion—it's never too late to return them! You can also clear out space in your closet by sending back your big, old yellow cassette player if you have one and are no longer using it. Call your library if you need a mailing card, book container or machine box to return these items.

Format Changes to *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review*

The National Library Service (NLS) has made some subscriber-requested changes to *Talking Book Topics* (*TBT*) and *Braille Book Review* (*BBR*). The large-print, online and audio versions of *TBT* have returned to the 50 word annotation, and in both *TBT* and *BBR*, books are listed in a structured, alphabetical format to make it easier for patrons to find books by subject and author.

1. As before, the titles are listed under broad headings: Books for Adults, Books for Children and Foreign Language Books.
2. Within Books for Adults and Books for Children, titles are subdivided into Fiction and Nonfiction.
3. Inside the Fiction and Nonfiction genres, titles are listed by their subject categories in A-to-Z order, for example, Adventure to Westerns.
4. Within each subject category, the titles are arranged alphabetically by the author's last name.
5. If there is more than one title by a given author, the titles are organized alphabetically.

The new arrangement eliminates the need for an index. In addition, the 2013 edition of *Digital Talking Books Plus* will be the last audiobook catalog produced and the 2011–2012 edition of *Braille Books* will be the last braille book catalog. The biennial *For Younger Readers* catalog will continue.

Gardening Books – Fact and Fiction

Planting season is here and it's time to start thinking about how to spruce up your outdoor spaces! From *A Kid's Guide to Container Gardening* (DB 70025) to *Gardening for a Lifetime: How to Garden Wiser as You Grow Older* (DB 72840), we have how-to books for all ages about all sizes and types of gardens—fruit, vegetable, herb, organic, flower, container, accessible, four-season, shade, low-maintenance and more.

If you don't want to get your hands dirty and prefer fictional gardens, check out these series:

- An English Garden Mystery by Anthony Eglin features retired botany professor, Lawrence Kingston.
- A Gardening Mystery by Ann Ripley stars public television garden show host, Louise Eldridge.

- A Dirty Business Mystery by Rosemary Harris features landscaper Paula Holliday.
- In the Garden Trilogy by Nora Roberts is about nursery business partners who find romance.

Call your library if you'd like to sign up for one of these series or to request books about any type of garden.

Download American Printing House Magazines

Although NLS produced magazines are now sent out on digital cartridges, the American Printing House (APH) still mails patrons the cassette version of *Reader's Digest* and *Newsweek*. For financial reasons, APH does not plan to convert these magazines to digital cartridge. If you prefer the digital format, you can download these magazines from the APH website onto either a flash drive or a blank cartridge for use with your digital player. More information is available at <http://tech.aph.org/mags>.

Juvenile Series

Young patrons will enjoy reading about George and Harold, two fourth-graders who write comic books and love to pull pranks. When they hypnotize their principal into thinking that he is their superhero, Captain Underpants, they have some hilarious adventures. The first eight books in this series can be ordered as DIL 00003, Captain Underpants Series. These books were recorded by the Colorado Talking Book Library and made available to TBBS on a single cartridge courtesy of Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library in Missouri.

New Online Catalog

The Web Online Public Access Catalog (WebOPAC) contains the entire TBBS collection and allows patrons to order their own materials online if they choose to do so. In the next few months, TBBS will be moving to a newly designed and updated WebOPAC, and both the old and new catalog formats will be available for a limited time at <http://webopac.klas.com/ilbph>. Enhanced features will include better search capabilities, browsing lists and direct links to the Braille and Audio Reading Download website.

TBBS Advisory Committee

Applications are still being accepted for the Talking Book and Braille Advisory Committee, which assists the Illinois State Library in improving library offered through TBBS. Members serve three-year terms and represent TBBS users in all regions of the state. New members will begin their terms on July 1, 2014. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please call Delilah Jackson at 618-244-5089 for more information. Applications are not held over from year-to-year so previous applicants will need to reapply.

Thanks for your generosity

We would like to extend our thanks to the many patrons, family members and community members who have contributed to TBBS in the past. These donations are used to maintain and expand patron services and go directly to the Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center and the Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center.

For more information, toll-free numbers are as follows:

- 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.

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Free matter for the Blind.