

**SPRING 2017**

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



**NewsLink**



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TBBS NewsLink is available in  
braille and large print, on NFB-

NEWSLINE, via email

by contacting the State Library

or on the TBBS website at

**[www.ilbph.org](http://www.ilbph.org)**

(click TBBS NewsLink).

## Postal delivery slow down

Last year the U.S. Postal Service continued its consolidation of mail processing facilities across the country. Books and equipment sent to and from the TBBS circulation center in Springfield now pass through the facility in St. Louis, MO, which can lead to longer transit times. To make sure you always have books on hand, TBBS encourages patrons to increase the number of books they receive, up to a maximum of 40.

## NLS book selection

The National Library Service (NLS) produces reading materials destined for a diverse national audience. Its selection goal is to meet the recreational and informational reading needs of a large readership with vastly different tastes, interests, purposes and reading levels. The resulting collection is similar to that found in a public library.

Books are considered for production by NLS only when print copies are available for examination and they have a U.S. copyright. Foreign titles present copyright issues that must be resolved before they can be produced. Only books that can clearly be transferred to braille or recorded format are considered; books that are heavily dependent on illustrations or pictures are not suitable for the collection. All books should

have at least two favorable reviews from widely distributed national professional library publications such as “Library Journal” or “Publishers Weekly” or be included in authoritative bibliographies.

Patrons are encouraged to bring book suggestions to the attention of NLS by contacting their service center. TBBS will forward titles to NLS for consideration if the requests meet the above mentioned selection criteria. This does not guarantee that NLS will produce the books. Those that are selected for production usually take several months before they become available.

## **Network library books**

TBBS is part of the NLS’s network of libraries, located throughout the U.S. and its territories. While NLS produces books that have broad appeal, a network library chooses to record titles based on its author, subject or setting having a local or regional connection. Network libraries can submit their locally produced titles to the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) service, making them accessible nationwide. This type of book is very similar to an NLS book, except the opening announcements will mention the state and library where it was recorded and the book number will begin with DBC.

Patrons can find locally produced titles by including the term “DBC” when searching on BARD or the TBBS Online Catalog. Download them from BARD or contact your service center if you wish to receive a DBC book by mail.

## **BARD Express**

BARD Express is a free application that simplifies logging in, searching, browsing, downloading and transferring audio reading material from the BARD website to a cartridge or a USB flash drive for playback on a digital player. An active BARD account and a personal computer running Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1 or 10 are required to use BARD Express; it is not compatible with Apple computers. Please note that BARD Express is NOT a replacement for the BARD Mobile app, which is meant for mobile devices like smart phones and tablets.

Download the application from the BARD Express home page at [https://nlsbardpractice.loc.gov/LOC\\_02/BARDExpress.html](https://nlsbardpractice.loc.gov/LOC_02/BARDExpress.html). This page also includes the BARD Express Users Guide and a set of video tutorials, called the BARD Express How-To Series, in the Frequently Asked Questions section. You will need your BARD user name and password to log into BARD Express. If you currently do not have a BARD account, apply for one at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/cgi-bin/public/nlsbardprod/accountrequest.cgi?libcode=IL1A>.

## **Mailing changes to audio Talking Book Topics**

Talking Book Topics (TBT) in audio format now arrives in a new container. The digital cartridge in its plastic mailer box and its large-print paper order form are sent together inside a disposable cardboard container. When you have finished listening to the magazine, return the cartridge the standard way in its plastic container – with one exception – it does not have a card to turn over. Instead of a mailing card, the plastic box has a permanent, adhesive address label on it that will return it to the producer to be used again for another magazine. Please do not remove the label or use an extra mailing card that you might have on hand, just place the cartridge inside its plastic box and place in the mail.

The order form comes preprinted with the library's address and also includes your return address so staff will know who is sending the request. Simply mark the printed order form with your latest book requests, seal the form with a small piece of tape on the right side and put it into the mail. The cardboard container should be discarded – please do not try to return it.

## **Vision Fair**

Join us in Springfield for the **Next Steps: Where Do I Go From Here** Vision Fair on June 1, 2017. The Vision Fair is at 2600 South MacArthur Boulevard located in South Side Christian Church and will start at 9 a.m. There will be vendors showing the latest vision equipment, information booths and speakers. Lunch will be provided. For additional information, or to RSVP for lunch, please contact the Illinois Assistive Technology Program at 800-852-5110.

## **New braille magazines**

Three new braille-format magazines are available via BARD download or by subscription to the embossed version via the mail. The magazines and their frequency are:

Cooks Illustrated, bimonthly  
O, The Oprah Magazine, monthly  
Popular Science, bimonthly

Contact us if you wish to receive these magazines in hard copy by mail. If you prefer to download your magazines, you may set up your BARD account to automatically place a new magazine issue on your wish list once the issue becomes available. For this service, go to the page for a particular magazine title and press the "Subscribe to" button. Once you have subscribed you will receive email notification when there are new issues.

## Very Short Introductions

NLS has added the Very Short Introductions (VSI) series by Oxford University Press to its collection. From Accounting to Zionism, this series offers concise introductions to a diverse range of subject areas in Arts and Humanities, Law, Medicine and Health, Science and Mathematics and Social Sciences. All titles are written by experts in the field who combine facts, analysis, new ideas and enthusiasm to make challenging topics highly readable for a general audience. VSI is the best way to quickly learn about a new subject. Contact the library to sign up for this series.

### Toll-free numbers

- Illinois State Library TBBS.....**800-665-5576, ext. 1**  
**800-757-4654 (Chicago Residents)**
- 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.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY TALKING BOOK AND BRAILLE SERVICE



JESSE WHITE • ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE

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Free Matter for the Blind