

SUMMER 2014

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



Jesse White
 Secretary of State
 & State Librarian

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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).



Kids and Summer Reading

School is out and that means it's time to read for pure entertainment. Mix it up; try something different and discover new books and interests. Instead of a mystery, try a fantasy, or swap adventure for science fiction. Read the book that was made into a blockbuster movie, or check to see if the public library offers a summer reading program.

Many studies have shown that kids who have fun reading are more likely to maintain or improve their language skills during the summer. One study found that children can lose up to 60 percent of their reading skills over summer vacation. To encourage students to keep reading, Secretary of State Jesse White and the Illinois State Library are promoting the "Find a Book" learning resource at www.lexile.com/fab/illinois. "Find a Book" is a free, online book search that allows children and their parents to quickly and easily select books to match a child's reading level and interests. Call your library to order books or to find that perfect summer read.

Toll-free numbers

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**

Disney World Improves Accessibility

Disney agreed to provide “certain braille schedules, menus and maps” as part of a settlement reached in a 2013 class-action lawsuit, which claimed that Disney failed to meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Now, 16 Disney World restaurants offer braille menus for guests with visual impairments. Cast members are available to read menus to guests at locations that do not yet offer braille menus, or at a guest’s request. In recent months, the domestic Disney theme parks have made other changes stemming from this settlement, including installing braille maps in the theme parks and Downtown Disney; adding and installing signs for service animal relief areas on Disney property; and providing crates at attractions where service animals cannot ride.

Adult Reading Programs

TBBS is pleased to announce that Vanda W. and Walter B. are the winners of the winter reading program, “Globe Trekking at Your Library: To the Seven Continents and Beyond.” They each received a talking electric atomic clock radio and a library-themed canvas tote bag. All participants received a letter, certificate of participation and a thank-you gift.

The adult summer reading program is now in full swing. “All Creatures Great and Small at Your Library: Exploring Animals and the Environment” is more than just a reading program; it’s a summer learning challenge! Sign-up today if you’re wild about reading and want to explore the animal world and environment. Those who read at least 10 books from the program guide and submit a report by September 15 will be entered in a multiple-winner, grand-prize drawing. To register, please call the Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center at **800-426-0709**.

TBBS Voice Mail Messages

You may leave a message at TBBS 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The message should include your full name and telephone number, including area code, as well as other pertinent information about your order or question. When ordering for someone else, provide that person’s name. Please speak slowly and clearly. If we are unable to understand the message, we cannot process the request. We will only return a call if a reply is necessary or more information is needed. Otherwise, assume that the book order or service-change requests have been processed.

TBBS has been encountering issues with incoming telephone calls and messages, especially those made from cellphones. TBBS can only return calls during regular business hours. If you must leave a message, please do so with a return phone number.

Travel Books

TBBS has a great selection of guidebooks to help plan the perfect vacation, no matter the destination. Travel titles include:

- *Twenty-two Accessible Road Trips: Driving Vacations for Wheelers and Slow Walkers* features a “Land of Lincoln” excursion. DB 75991
- *One Hundred Best Affordable Vacations*. DB 73664
- *One Thousand Places to See in the U.S.A. and Canada Before You Die*. DB 69698

Call your library to request any of these titles or to inquire about other travel books in the collection.

Notes in Containers

Please **do not** send notes inside the mailing containers of talking books being returned to TBBS; it is against U.S. Postal Service regulations. Continuing to send notes in the talking book containers could result in the loss of “Free Matter” mailing privileges.

To send requests, please call, email or mail them in a separate envelope. Write “Free Matter for the Blind or Handicapped” on the envelope so it is still free to mail. To report a defective book, mark the box in the upper-left corner of the return mailing card and place a string or rubber band around the damaged cartridge or cassette. Call if you need a replacement book sent.

Bible Loans and Personal Copies

Many TBBS patrons request *The Holy Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments*, DB 68777. Although at one time TBBS had 115 copies, nearly 70 percent of them are unavailable for circulation because they are lost or long overdue.

Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) users can make their own, personal copy of this Bible. However, if you’re not a BARD user, it is now possible to get a permanent copy. Please follow the directions below:

1. Purchase a blank cartridge from one of the sources below. Cartridges cost about \$13, plus shipping and handling. Additional cartridge sources are available upon request.

American Printing House for the Blind
P.O. Box 6085, Louisville, KY 40206-0085
800-223-1839 info@aph.org

Perkins Products
175 N. Beacon St., Watertown, MA 02472
617-972-7308 perkinsproducts@perkins.org

2. Once received, write “Bible” on the cartridge along with your name and address.
3. Send it to the Illinois State Library, TBBS, 300 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701.

A copy of the Bible will be sent back to you. It’s that easy! If you have any questions, please call the TBBS at 800-665-5576, ext. 1.

Managing Your Book Request List

When ordering specific titles, here are a few important items to remember about managing your request list:

- **Keep a sufficient amount of books on the list.** We recommend that you keep at least 50 books on your request list to ensure that we can continually send books you have chosen.
- **Newer requests always go out first.** Please note that the computer will select available books from the newer requests before checking the older requests. Talk to a Reader Advisor (RA) about what is on your list.
- **Books numbered below DB 65000 are not always available.** Check with your RA who will request a copy for you.

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.



Free matter for the Blind.

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