

SPRING 2015

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



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Secretary of State
& State Librarian

In this issue:

eRead Illinois Updates

Magazine Loan Time Extended

How to Request Books

Returned Book Problems

Old Time Radio

Now on Facebook

Choice Magazine Listening

Subject Preferences

Book Supply Reminder

TBBS NewsLink is available in braille and large print, on cassette, on NFB-NEWSLINE, via email by contacting the State Library or on the Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS) website at www.ilbph.org (click TBBS NewsLink).



eRead Illinois Updates

TBBS patrons have another source for audiobooks through the eRead Illinois program. eRead Illinois added more than 700 audiobooks to its digital collection, which also includes more than 18,000 e-books. New titles in both formats are added weekly. A new app from Baker & Taylor creates an easy listening and reading experience for users with its built-in audiobook player, e-book reader and simplified checkout process. The free Axis 360 app is available from the iTunes store or Google Play.

To set up an eRead Illinois account, call a Reader Advisor at 800-426-0709 or 800-757-4654 for Chicago residents. TBBS patrons can also view the eRead Illinois collection online at <http://ilbph.axis360.baker-taylor.com>.

Magazine Loan Time Extended

The National Library Service has increased the amount of time a patron can keep a digital magazine cartridge before it must be returned. The loan period has been extended to three weeks for weekly cartridges (those containing only weekly magazines) and

Toll-free numbers

- Illinois State Library TBBS800-665-5576, ext. 1
- Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center800-757-4654
- Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center800-426-0709

to seven weeks for monthly cartridges (those containing monthly and weekly magazines). This change will allow subscribers more time to enjoy their publications.

How to Request Books

All TBBS users can request books by specific title, subject and author preferences. There is a variety of ways to make requests. The most common way is to review the bimonthly “Talking Book Topics” catalog and mark the books you want on the order form. Mail the form to your service center and the books will be added to your request list. You can also order books by phone or email.

The “Talking Book Topics” catalog lists only the most recent titles. Contact your service center to locate older titles or those that you learn about from a friend, family member, book review, news segment or other source. Let the Reader Advisor know if you want books on a certain topic or by a particular author. If it’s in the TBBS collection, it can be added to your request list or author and subject preferences.

Patrons can search the entire collection by using the TBBS Web Online Public Access Catalog at <http://webopac.klas.com/il1aopac>. Call the service center to get a personal ID and password to order books online.

Returned Book Problems

Returning a book improperly can cause a service delay. Many containers are returned empty or with a mismatched cartridge or mailing card. Avoid this problem by following these simple steps:

- When you finish a book, place it back in its container before opening the next book. Make sure the latches on the case are firmly locked.
- Do not take the mailing card out of the container until you are ready to send the book back. Then flip the card over so the return address shows and reinsert the card in its slot, making sure that it is secure.
- If you do have more than one book open at a time, make sure the number on the book cartridge matches the number on the container before returning the book by mail.

Mistakes do happen, so call the library right away if you think you have returned a book in the wrong container or if you need a container to return a loose cartridge.

Old Time Radio

The TBBS Old Time Radio Shows collection features popular programs from the golden age of radio, including westerns, dramas, comedies and variety shows. These shows are only available on cassette and can be played on the yellow, C-1 cassette player issued by the library or on any regular cassette player. Call to request a catalog.

Additional sources for old time radio shows include the Internet Archive at <https://archive.org/details/oldtimeradio> and the Old Time Radio Researchers Library at

www.otrrlibrary.org, where thousands of shows can be streamed or downloaded for free. Patrons can also find free mobile applications for Android and Apple devices that feature old time radio shows.

Now on Facebook

The Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center and the Illinois Machine Sub-lending Agency invite patrons to join them on Facebook, a social networking website. Library staff will post the latest news and updates from TBBS and the National Library Service, along with upcoming events, engaging stories and fun facts related to patron interests. Holiday and weather closings will also be posted.

Follow these libraries at

<https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisTalkingBookOutreachCenter> and
<https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisMachineSublendingAgency>.

Choice Magazine Listening

“Choice Magazine Listening” (CML) is an audio anthology of unabridged articles, essays, fiction and poetry selected from nearly 100 magazines and literary journals. As of April 1, 2015, the State Library stopped circulating cassette versions of the magazine. Instead, TBBS patrons can receive a free digital subscription by contacting CML directly at 888-724-6423 or <http://www.choicemagazinelisting.org/content/subscribe>.

This quarterly magazine is mailed in a gray, plastic container and usually arrives during the first two weeks of January, April, July and October. CML cartridges can be kept for approximately two months and need to be returned by a specific date.

CML is also available on the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) website.

Subject Preferences

Subject codes are used to broadly categorize a book according to its main themes or topics, and all relevant codes are added to the title record. TBBS uses these codes to select books for patrons by matching a book’s subject codes to a patron’s subject preferences. It’s important for patrons to keep their subject preferences up-to-date to aid this selection process.

Let the library know which subjects you like and dislike or if you want to try another type of fiction or nonfiction. For instance, if you like romance stories, but not when they are about vampires, the Reader Advisor (RA) can update your reading preferences to make sure the romances you are sent do not have the occult/supernatural subject code. Many books are given the Young Adult subject code when they are suitable for senior high up to adult readers. If you feel that these books are not the appropriate age level, the RA can add the No Young Adult subject code to your preferences. Any changes you make will take effect immediately, and you can change your preferences at any time.

Book Supply Reminder

TBBS recommends that patrons keep an ample supply of books on hand to allow for postal service delivery delays. Transit times for mailing a book to a patron or back to the library can take anywhere from a couple of days to more than a week. Call and talk to a Reader Advisor if you frequently run low on reading material; you can choose to increase the number of books you get, up to a limit of 40.

Patrons can also get 24/7 access to books and avoid mail delays entirely by signing up for the Braille and Audio Reading Download program. For more information, visit the TBBS website at www.ilbph.org and click on the link to BARD.

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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