

SUMMER 2012

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



Jesse White
Secretary of State
& State Librarian

National Library Service director appointed

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has announced the appointment of Karen A. Keninger as the new director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). She succeeds Frank Curt Cylke, who retired in February 2011, and interim director Ruth Scovill.

Since 2008, Keninger served as director of the Iowa Department for the Blind, a leading provider in the United States of vocational rehabilitation and independent-living programs and library services for blind and visually impaired individuals. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Drake University, a master's degree in English, business and technical writing from Iowa State University, and completed graduate courses in library and information science at the University of Iowa.

TBBS NewsLink is available in braille and large print, on cassette or via e-mail by contacting the State Library, or on the TBBS Web site at www.ilbph.org (click TBBS NewsLink).



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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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By download — A Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) account offers many advantages to patrons with computer access and a high-speed Internet connection. With a BARD account you have 24/7 access to as many books as you choose. Other perks include the ability to download magazines and the newest books as soon as they become available, and to manage your own library collection the way you want it — no due dates or return-mail hassles!

If you don't have a computer, a friend, family member or possibly your public library can help you download books. To register for BARD, visit

<https://nlsbard.loc.gov/IL1A/ApplicationInstructions.html> or contact your library. Web-Braille users **MUST** register for a BARD account in order to be able to use Web-Braille after the move to BARD.

BARD made easy

Two products are available that make it easier to use Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD).

1) HumanWare Companion is a free program that allows the user to unzip downloaded NLS books and place them on a USB drive or blank cartridge. An Audio/Video on How to Install and Use HumanWare Companion is available at

http://support.humanware.com/en-usa/support/humanware_companion.

2) CDesk For Media is a high-contrast, large-print, fully speech-enabled desktop solution for downloading and managing access to BARD. When you enter a book title or author name, select from the results list and choose GET. CDesk for Media will automatically retrieve the book from BARD, uncompress the files, store the book in its own directory on your disk drive, and transfer the book to your USB drive or digital cartridge. To purchase CDesk for Media (\$39), visit **www.cdeskforbooks.com**.

Bookshelf feature on digital players

When a book cartridge or flash drive has several books or magazines on it, the user can jump from book to book or magazine to magazine by using the bookshelf feature.

- To activate this feature, hold down the green PLAY/STOP button for a few seconds. The machine will announce, "Bookshelf."
- The REWIND or FAST FORWARD keys can now be used to go backward and forward from book to book and magazine to magazine. The keys automatically skip to the next title.
- When the announcement for the desired book or magazine issue is heard, press the green PLAY/STOP key to listen to that particular book or magazine.

Firmware upgrade

Your digital talking book machine is operated by permanent software called firmware, which needs to be upgraded occasionally to fix operational problems and enhance performance of the player. The most recent upgrade is included on all new digital talking books. The first time you listen to a book containing the update, your player will say, *"Updating your player's software; please do not power off your player or remove the cartridge from the player,"* followed by a series of beeps. When the update is complete, the player will announce, *"Software upgrade completed; stand by while your player is restarted."* The player will automatically restart after 10 seconds. A player will only read the upgrade file once and then ignore it on any subsequent books or cartridges containing the file.

For BARD users, the update may be downloaded from BARD's main webpage.

National Library Service music collection

Professional musicians, students, teachers and music lovers can take advantage of the Music Section provided by NLS. From beginning to advanced levels, this collection includes more than 30,000 audio, braille and large-print musical scores, instructional texts and reference materials about music and musicians, as well as six direct-mail magazines. Many of these items can also be accessed via the Internet. (Musical recordings intended solely for listening are not part of the music collection, as these materials are readily available from stores and public libraries.)

Anyone currently registered with a library in the NLS network of cooperating libraries may receive music services and can contact the NLS Music Section directly at 800-424-8567 or e-mail nlsm@loc.gov.

TBBS Snapshot:

Illinois Authors — Mystery/Detective/Suspense

Eleanor Taylor Bland – Marti MacAlister Mysteries

Jill Churchill – Jane Jeffry Mysteries

Barbara D'Amato – Cat Marsala Mysteries

David Ellis Novels

Andrew M. Greeley – Blackie Ryan & Nuala Anne
McGrail series

Michael Harvey – Michael Kelly Mysteries

Stuart Kaminsky – Abe Lieberman series

Ralph McInerny – Father Dowling Mysteries

Sara Paretsky – V.I. Warshawski Mysteries

Marcus Sakey Novels

Toll-Free Numbers

Illinois State Library
Talking Book and Braille Service
800-665-5576, opt. 5

Chicago Public Library
Talking Book Center
800-757-4654

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center
800-426-0709

Voices of Vision Talking Book Center
800-227-0625

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