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



NewsLink



Jesse White
Secretary of State
& State Librarian

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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 Talking Book and
Braille Service (TBBS) website
at www.ilbph.org
(click TBBS NewsLink).

Necessary skills for BARD usage

BARD, BARD Mobile and BARD Express allow TBBS patrons to download audio and braille titles themselves. These services work best for those who are tech savvy or have someone available to assist them.

BARD users must be able to navigate a web browser; send and receive email; fill out online forms; use a personal username and password; download and locate files; create folders; copy and paste files; extract files from a zipped format; and connect, remove and erase files from a cartridge, USB flash drive or computer.

BARD Express offers a faster way to download to a computer. Patrons must be able to locate, save and move files to the USB drive to use in their players. BARD Mobile requires users to have a good working knowledge of their smart phone or tablet and the ability to download and utilize the app. Visit the National Library Service (NLS) website at <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/bard-access/> for additional information.

TBBS staff can offer basic BARD support, but are unable to train patrons in computer or device usage or help with equipment or

provider problems. TBBS staff will inform you if there are known issues with BARD. Problems on the patron's end that are not expressly BARD related should be handled by third parties, such as the phone company or service provider; a computer repair shop; or the company that sold you your device or installed your equipment.

Online catalog reminder

Always check the book status before placing an online catalog order. If the status says "Download or Special Order Only," TBBS does not have any hard copies of the book. Please contact TBBS at 800-426-0709 or isttbbbs@ilsos.net to inform staff to make a copy or order it through interlibrary loan. If TBBS is not notified, the special order request will not be sent. This status is usually found on older books in the DB 06000 to DB 67000 range that were originally issued on cassette, as well as on books that begin with the prefix DBC.

Order forms

All order forms should be mailed directly to TBBS and must include your name and address on each page. This will ensure that your book orders reach the office and get added to your request list. Unfortunately, order forms with no patron identification are discarded.

Magazine and catalog shipment dates

Audio and braille magazines and large-print catalogs are produced and mailed by the National Library Service. Talking Book Topics (TBT) and Braille Book Review (BBR) are bimonthly publications. Each issue is released no earlier than the last week of the first month of that issue. For example, the July-August issue will typically arrive during the last week of July or the first week of August. Sometimes printing and recording problems can cause shipment delays, which may affect the timeliness of an issue. Unfortunately, TBBS has no control over shipment scheduling. Current and past TBT and BBR catalogs can be found online at <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/latest-books-in-braille-and-audio/>.

Keep BARD account active

Any patron account that has not been used in over a year will be moved to inactive/suspended status. Each day, BARD checks to see when a patron's account was last used. When BARD identifies unused accounts, they are moved to inactive/suspended status. NLS has made the following change to BARD to enhance the security of patron accounts and prevent misuse.

To prevent your account from being deemed inactive/suspended, you must download one item a year to maintain activity on your BARD account. If for any reason you find yourself locked out of your account, please contact TBBS. Any BARD account that holds the status of inactive/suspended can be reactivated quickly and easily by a library administrator.

Returning your digital talking book machine

Keep the digital talking book machine box to use when you need to return the player. Complete the enclosed return form and indicate whether you are canceling service or returning the machine for repair. If you are returning a machine for a relative who has passed away, please write deceased on the form. Place the machine and form in the box; reverse and if necessary, correct the mailing card to show Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service, 300 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701-1796 and return postage free via U.S. mail. Call TBBS at 800-426-0709 if you need to request a replacement machine or if you no longer have the original box.

Illinois Authors multi-book cartridges for Bicentennial

The Illinois State Library Gwendolyn Brooks Building has the names of Illinois authors etched into the building's exterior fourth-floor frieze. These 35 distinguished authors made an indelible mark in literature and in the rich history of Illinois. The authors are: Jane Addams, George Ade, Nelson Algren, Sherwood Anderson, Paul Angle, L. Frank Baum, Saul Bellow, Black Hawk, Ray Bradbury, Gwendolyn Brooks, Cyrus Colter, Theodore Dreiser, Finley Peter Dunne, Eliza Farnham, James T. Farrell, Edna Ferber, Henry Blake Fuller, Hamlin Garland, Lorraine Hansberry, Ben Hecht, Ernest Hemingway, Robert Herrick, James Jones, Ring Lardner, Abraham Lincoln, N. Vachel Lindsay, Edgar Lee Masters, William Maxwell, Frank Norris, Donald Peattie, Elia Peattie, Carl Sandburg, Upton Sinclair, Louis (Studs) Terkel, and Richard Wright.

In honor of the Illinois Bicentennial, TBBS created multi-book cartridges highlighting these authors. Each cartridge will include several authors and one of their works. Patrons will need to navigate these cartridges using the "bookshelf" feature. To access "bookshelf" mode, hold down the square green play/stop button. Wait for a pause, a distinctive beep and the word "bookshelf," followed by the number of books on the cartridge. Wait until the title you want to play is fully announced. Then, wait a second and press the play/stop button again to play. Contact TBBS to request Illinois Authors multi-book cartridges.

Toll-free numbers

Illinois State Library TBBS.....800-426-0709, 800-757-4654

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

