**Fall 2013 Bulletin Board Newsletter**

**Hello Readers!**

I hope that the Federal Government has reopened by the time you receive this newsletter.

As I write this:

• The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL) remains open during the Federal Government shutdown.

• The National Library Service (NLS), a part of the Library of Congress, had to shut down.

• Some government web sites (including BARD and the NLS Voyager catalog) are accessible.

• WTBBL’s catalog is still up and running.

• WTBBL is sending and receiving DBs, RCs and DVDs, during this shutdown period. The United States Postal Service is an independent federal agency and continues service.

• Unfortunately, the Magazines on Cartridge (through NLS) are suspended.

• NFB-Newline is run by the National Federation of the Blind, so it is available.

The exciting new iOS mobile app which works with the NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) service is available, although NLS tech support is not currently available during the shutdown. More Web-Braille information is available in the NLS factsheet Web-Braille (http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/factsheets/webbraille.html).

In September, here in WTBBL, we bid good-bye to Beth, our longtime Library Services Assistant. She left the library for the world of insurance. She will be missed. Also new to WTBBL, since the last newsletter, is Shamus (Circulation Assistant I). Shamus comes to us from working in Milwaukee Public Library neighborhood libraries and the Central Library.

Keep reading and talking about us to your friends. We love to keep you in books, Linda

**Free BARD Mobile App for iOS Devices Now Available!**

The BARD Mobile application for iOS devices, version 1.0, is now available at Apple’s online app store: itunes.apple.com/us/app/bard-mobile/id705229586. Patrons can search online in the app store using the term “bardmobile” or “nls.” NLS plans to release an app for Android devices in the near future. The app is free of charge.

The BARD Mobile app enables NLS patrons to download audio and braille books, magazines, and music scores directly to their iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, provided they have a BARD account.

The user guide is available in the Help section of the app and online in HTML format at nlsbard.loc.gov/apidocs/BARDMobile.userguide.iOS.current.html. The full BARD Mobile user guide is available from within the application. Double-tap Help to find the item called User Guide. To read it, open the Bookshelf tab. There you will find five categories: Audio Books, Audio Magazines, Braille Books, Braille Magazines, and Help. If you plan to read braille books, it’s particularly important that you read Section 7 of the user guide, as it tells you how to configure your braille display and provides keystrokes that will make it easy to read and navigate braille books and magazines.

Standard VoiceOver reading commands work just fine. To have VoiceOver read from the current position, swipe down with two fingers. To pause and resume the speech, do a two-finger single tap.

A video introduction to the BARD Mobile application is available at www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\_wdesc.php?rec=5955

**Exciting News!**

**•** WTBBL recently added over 40 new audio described movies to our library. Audio described movies provide descriptive narration of actions, costumes, gestures, facial expressions and scene changes. These descriptions add detail for patrons that are visually impaired. To order the DVDs, you can:

 ○ Call WTBBL,

 ○ Email WTBBL,

 ○ Check out a digital cartridge that lists the audio described movies the library owns, or

 ○ Search for actors as authors using our catalog at <http://webopac.klas.com/wmbph>.

The new titles include: *Red Tails*, *Mr. Popper’s Penguins*, *Strawberry Shortcake Bloomin’ Berry Garden*, and Seasons 1 and 2 of the TV show *Covert Affairs*. Patrons can check out 3 movies at a time for a 30 day loan period. WTBBL has audio described documentaries, TV shows, and entertainment movies, in VHS and DVD formats, for children and adults. For the grandparents out there, why not enjoy a movie, such as *Rio* with your grandkids?

**•** WTBBL has some new locally produced digital books available for check out:

 ○ *Night Sisters: A Novel*  DBW00029

 by Sara Rath

 ○ *Truth Catcher*  DBW00030 by Anna

 C. Salter

 ○ *Visiting Tom : A Man, A Highway,*

 *and the Road to Roughneck Grace*

 DBW00031 by Michael Perry

 ○ *Dead Jitterbug* DBW00026 by

 Victoria Houston

 ○ *Dead Boogie* DBW00027 by

 Victoria Houston

 ○ *Dead Madonna*  DBW00028 by

 Victoria Houston

**•** Do you need to sign up for the new federal health care coverage? Applying for insurance started October 1st. Go to HealthCare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596, or 1-855-889-4325 TTY.

**•** According to the World Blind Union, of the million or so books published each year in the world, less than 5 percent are made available in formats accessible to visually impaired persons. To improve access for the blind, visually impaired, and print disabled to published works in formats such as braille, large print text and audio books, on June 27, 2013, the historic “Marrakesh Treaty” was adopted by international negotiators for the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (PR/2013/741). Twenty WIPO members were expected to ratify the treaty, agreeing to be bound by its provisions.

**Digital Player Batteries**

The National Library Service announced that digital players are holding less battery charge. A new digital player holds about 29 hours of battery charge. Over time, this will decrease, especially if you plug a flash drive into your digital player to listen to books. If your digital player is not charging up to over 12 hours, you can return it to WTBBL, and we will issue you a replacement digital player.

**BARD Magazines Available by Download Only**

There are 8 magazines that are only available by downloading them from NLS’s BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) website. The BARD only magazines are: *Audubon*, *Cowboys & Indians*, *Humpty Dumpty Magazine*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Playboy*, *Smithsonian*, *Southern Living*, and *Vital Speeches of the Day*. Patrons can download these titles to listen to on the digital player using a flash drive or customized cartridges purchased from American Printing House for the Blind, Inc., Howell Mobility Products, Perkins Products, Twin Ports Low Vision Center, or Vistas. Please contact WTBBL at 1-800-242-8822 or wtbbl@milwaukee.gov for more information. You may visit https://nlsbard.loc.gov/login to login to BARD or complete the BARD application to gain access.

**Holiday Closings Reminder!**

Make sure to call us at least a week ahead of a closing so you will have books to read. Even if WTBBL is open, some days the Postal Service is on holiday and there is no service. We can increase the number of books you receive for the holidays and update your author, series, or subject preferences to make sure you are receiving interesting and worthwhile books.

Monday, November 11, 2013

 Post Office & Library Closed (Veterans

 Day)

Thurs.-Fri., November 28-29, 2013

 Library Closed (Thanksgiving holiday)

Tues.-Wed., December 24-25, 2013

 Library Closed (Christmas holiday)

Tuesday, December 31, 2013

 Library Closed (New Year’s Eve holiday)

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

 Library Closed (New Year’s Day holiday)

**Here are Some Good Reasons to Contact Us at WTBBL!**

• You want to start checking out audio described movies.

• You want to sign up for NFB-NEWSLINE® to listen to newspapers, magazines, the TV guide, or the job announcements on the phone.

• You want to sign up to receive the WTBBL newsletter by email.

• Your group would like a presentation or would like WTBBL to exhibit at an event.

• You want to start a book club.

BULLETIN BOARD is available in large print, braille, and audio editions, and is also available electronically via email and through *Newsline*, a newspaper by telephone service.

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