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



NewsLink



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

Illinois Bicentennial reading challenge

Illinois' Bicentennial anniversary is on Dec. 3, 2018. Celebrate this occasion by challenging yourself to read Illinois authors throughout the year. There are numerous well-respected authors with connections to our state. Contact TBBS to request the Illinois Authors bibliography that contains Illinois-related fiction and nonfiction for all ages or ask your Reader Advisor (RA) for recommendations. Not all Illinois authors will be available in the TBBS book collection. Additional information about Illinois authors can be found on the Illinois Center for the Book's website at: <http://illinoisauthors.org/authors/Home>.

NASCAR schedules available in braille

Braille schedules for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series, the Xfinity Series and the Camping World Truck Series are available upon request from TBBS.

Address cards

All books sent from TBBS have a reversible address card inserted into a slot on the outside of the container. The patron's address is on one side and the library's return

address is on the opposite. The card holder should also contain an annotation card and “filler” cards that prevent the address card from falling out in transit. These must not be discarded. Printed below the patron address is the mailing date. The loan period for books is six weeks from this date before it should to be returned or renewed. To return a book to the library, flip the address card over and reinsert it into the card holder, making sure the hole punch is positioned on the left side of the card.

The return side of the address card has boxes to mark if the book is defective and to request a replacement. The boxes are located at the top left corner of the card, directly above the hole punch. A book is defective if any of the following playback errors are present: no book on the cartridge; book will not play; book starts but stops partway through; the player reports a “cartridge error” and cannot play the book; or states you are “not authorized to play this book.” Check the defective box if the wrong book came in the container.

Please do not use the mailing card to share your opinion about the book, to make requests or to stop the service. These notes are against USPS regulations. Contact TBBS at 800-426-0709 or isltbbs@ilsos.net for all service-related matters. A RA can adjust your preferences so that you get more of the types of books you enjoy, make address changes, and hold or cancel your service.

Voicemail tips

TBBS serves more than 15,000 patrons and receives over 2,000 calls each month. When you call the library during business hours, it is possible that you will reach voicemail instead of a person if all RAs are busy assisting other patrons. Here are a few tips to make the best use of our voicemail:

- Please do not hang up. We know that you would prefer to talk to a RA rather than a machine, but we cannot help you if there is no message. We understand that it is frustrating when you cannot speak to a RA immediately, but you will get more efficient service by leaving a message.
- The message should include your full name and telephone number with the area code, as well as pertinent information regarding your order, question or service change request. Please spell your last name. When calling for another person, provide that name along with your own.

- Given the large number of calls TBBS receives, simple requests like sending more books or adding titles to your request list will be handled without a return call. Your call will be returned if additional information is needed or if you request a call back in your message.
- Email a message to isltbbs@ilsos.net for a convenient alternative—the same tips apply.

New accessories for digital player

NLS has introduced a breath switch for patrons who are unable to use the buttons on a digital player. It is compatible with both the standard and advanced machine models. The switch allows Sip-and-Puff actions to control all functions of the digital player except Power On/Off. Because the breath switch cannot turn the power on or off, the player must be plugged in during use. The unit comes with a shirt clip, mouth tube and moisture filter. This device requires a separate, additional application.

The new remote control is intended for users who are confined to bed or have limited mobility. For convenience, the remote can be attached to a lanyard, which the user must supply. Approximately 5 inches long by 2.5 inches wide, the 15 buttons are identical in shape and function to those on the advanced digital player. The only button not available on the remote control is the Power On/Off. The remote operates in conjunction with a small receiver that fits into the USB port of the digital player and has a range of 0-15 feet. You must keep the player plugged in when using the remote control. The receiver requires additional power from the player to operate. Contact TBBS at 800-426-0709 if you have questions or would like to order either of these devices.

Music Appreciation Catalog

This catalog is a guide to music appreciation recordings in the NLS collection. The first section, "Learning to Listen," includes recordings that help the novice discover the joys of classical and popular music. "Biography," the largest section, explores the lives and works of composers, performers, educators and conductors. Examples of other sections are: "History," "Instruments," "Rehearsals," "Songwriting/Composing," "Ornamentation," "Forms and Analysis" and "Master Classes." The catalog ends with special topics including folk music from around the world, holiday and seasonal music, jazz, nostalgia, opera, patriotic music, sacred/gospel music, and music and the human experience.

Contact TBBS to request this catalog or access the online version at: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/music-materials/music-appreciation/>.

Music materials listed in this catalog are circulated directly to patrons from the NLS headquarters in Washington, D.C. To request music service, contact the NLS Music Section by phone at 800-424-8567, ext. 2, or by email at nism@loc.gov. The NLS music collection includes braille and large-print musical scores, recorded instructional materials and recorded materials about music and musicians. Some digital audio and e-braille materials are available for download on BARD. The “NLS Music Notes” blog is available at <https://blogs.loc.gov/nls-music-notes/about/>.

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.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY TALKING BOOK AND BRAILLE SERVICE



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