

Talking Book Times, Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, 600 High Point  
Lane, East Peoria, IL 61611 1-800-426-0709

November 2007

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CASSETTE TAPE AND IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT FOR OUR WEBSITE: [www.mitbc.org](http://www.mitbc.org)

A SALUTE TO VETERANS: HONOR THEIR SERVICE. PRESERVE THEIR STORIES

Bob Patrick, Director of the Veterans History Project at the Library of  
Congress was the keynote speaker at "A Salute to Veterans: Honor Their  
Service, Preserve Their Stories" at the Mid-Illinois Talking Book  
Center on September 19, 2007. Patrick spoke about a national  
initiative to collect oral histories that chronicle the stories of  
America's veterans.

Workshops taught librarians the skills needed to collect oral histories  
from veterans and each librarian that participated in the workshop  
received a Take Home Toolkit explaining the Illinois Veterans History  
Project. The Secretary of State and State Librarian, Jesse White is  
spearheading the Illinois Veterans History Project.

Throughout the coming year, Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center is  
offering to bring a one-hour program to local libraries entitled: "A  
Salute to Veterans." The program consists of a DVD presentation, a  
"Wartime Trivia" game with prizes, and intergenerational interaction.  
Individual appointments will be scheduled for oral history interviews  
with veterans.

Veterans honored at the September workshop were interviewed by local  
media and appeared on television and radio broadcasts. Listen to the  
podcasts at: [www.wqilt.org/newsroom](http://www.wqilt.org/newsroom) and [www.wcbufm.org/news/news1.htm](http://www.wcbufm.org/news/news1.htm).  
Attending were: Dixon Montgomery, from Rochelle; Lester Icenogle, from  
Mattoon; Evelyn Phillips, from Peoria; and Jerry Guinn, from Cordova.  
Some of these veterans tell their wartime story in their own words in a  
13-minute DVD, produced by Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center. Two titles  
from the Library of Congress veterans' history website are available:

Forever A Soldier: Unforgettable Stories of Wartime Service  
RC61291 and BR 16390

Voices of War: Stories of Service from the Home Front and the Front  
Lines RC59334 and BR15634

NEW MAGAZINES AVAILABLE

Did you know that more than 100 magazines are available to you free of  
charge? Here are the latest cassette magazine additions. Call the  
Talking Book Center to order the complete list or to request a  
subscription.

American History-bimonthly

Better Homes and Gardens-monthly

Taste of Home-bimonthly

Playboy-monthly

Wallace's Farmer-bimonthly

#### NLS DIGITAL BOOK PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE

The NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) is now ready at a test-level for NLS patrons who meet the following qualifications: Firstly, you must have your own HumanWare Victor Reader Stream player. You can find out more about the Stream at [www.humanware.com](http://www.humanware.com). Secondly, you need to have high-speed internet access with an active e-mail address. And, of course, thirdly, you need to have an active account with your Talking Book library and be qualified to receive books from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

You need to enroll with NLS and get a password to the site before using to download digital versions of audio books and magazines. The site can be reached at [www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb](http://www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb).

#### OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR UNABRIDGED SUBSCRIBERS

The statewide contract for the Unabridged service expires in December and will not be renewed due to budget considerations. Other options for digital audio books are available and may include:

PlayAway - Digital sound quality in a pre-loaded, palm-sized device that does not require downloading from a computer. These are mailed to you from your Talking Book Center. Call us to request a catalog.

LobeLibrary - Preloaded listening on an MP3 player. You request a title and it is loaded and mailed to you. Find a list of titles at [www.lobelibrary.com](http://www.lobelibrary.com)

BARD from NLS - The National Library Service is offering a pilot site for downloading audio books onto a Victor Reader Stream.

My Media Mall-Your local public library may offer audio books from Overdrive (the same people that brought you the Unabridged collection). Call your local library to see if this is available to you.

#### READ MORE BOOKS!

Current research into the causes of memory loss shows that in addition to exercise and healthy eating, keeping your mind active can be very beneficial. Scientists recently have discovered that the brain can produce new nerve cells even as we age. Some research is also showing that memory loss begins as early as your late teens! No matter your age-keep your mind active this winter by stocking up on great reading material. Challenge your mind by stepping out of your "reading box" and ask for something different. It's a good idea to ask for 5 or 6 extra books during the winter months to keep you supplied during snowstorms and holiday closings.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Talking Book Center staff were recently asked to name three books that they would recommend to you, our readers. The results are listed below. Call or email your selections to your reader advisor.

Mary Coffey, Machine Services Advisor recommends three books by Richard Paul Evans:

Timepiece RC43227

The Christmas Box RC43556

The Letter RC44841

Nancy Boucher, Reader Advisor recommends:

Shop on Blossom Street by Debbie Macomber RC58642

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd RC55533

Agatha Raisin and the Case of the Curious Curate by M.C. Beaton RC57991

Jan Plemons, Reader Advisor recommends:

A Christmas Guest by Anne Perry RC61671

A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg RC58836

Christmas Bride by Grace Livingston Hill RC36789

Karen Bersche, MITBC Director recommends some PlayAway titles:

The Tipping Point by Gladwell PL000062

First Things First by Stephen Covey PL000128

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry PL000032

Judy Showalter, Circulation Assistant:

Left Behind Series by Tim LaHaye

White Indian Series by Donald Porter

The Navajo Code Talkers by Doris A. Paul RC55315

Love comes Softly by Janette Oke RC22376

Roses for Mama by Janette Oke RC33460

Priscilla Whipp, Reader Advisor:

In His Steps by Charles M. Sheldon RC27232

James Heriott's Cat Stories RC38880

Inside My Heart, Choosing to Live with Passion & Purpose by Robin McGraw (new)

Jessica Bastian, Special Project Coordinator:

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith RC44769

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens RC43546

Jane Furrh, Circulation Assistant

Journey Into Christmas by Bess Streeter Aldrich RC44446

Saving Graces by Elizabeth Edwards RC63105

The Traveler by John Twelve Hawks RC60740

Janie Spelbring, Circulation Manager

Letters From Father Christmas by JRR Tolkien RC63808

House of the Red Fish by Graham Salisbury for grades 5-8 RC63881

Oliver Pig and the Best Fort Ever for grades K-3 RC63670

#### HOLIDAY AND WINTER CLOSINGS

The Staff of the Talking Book Center sends warm holiday greetings to you and yours. We hope you enjoy time spent with family and friends. The Center will be closed on the following days:

December 24, 25, 31, 2007, January 1 and 21, 2008

#### DONORS CONTRIBUTE TO EXPANDED SERVICES

Throughout the year we receive many generous donations in gratitude or in memory of a loved one who has passed. These contributions allow us to provide a high level of service to you. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

#### ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Congratulations to M. Thomas, one of four grand prize winners in the Adult Summer Reading Program. She won a \$10.00 gift card from Border's, a T-shirt, tote bag, water bottle, and READ bracelet. Plans for the Adult Winter Reading Program are under way. The theme this time is Reading Rhapsodies: Exploring the Art of Music through Words. Call your reader advisor to sign up.

#### READER ADVISORS ARE A CLICK AWAY

Your reader advisors welcome email requests and questions from you. If you, a friend, or a family member has internet access and would like to contact us by email these are the addresses of your reader advisors:

Priscilla: [pwhipp@alliancelibrarysystem.com](mailto:pwhipp@alliancelibrarysystem.com)

Jan: [jplemons@alliancelibrarysystem.com](mailto:jplemons@alliancelibrarysystem.com)

Nancy: [nboucher@alliancelibrarysystem.com](mailto:nboucher@alliancelibrarysystem.com)

CHECK OUT A PLAYAWAY TODAY!