**A Newsletter of the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library - Winter 2014**

**What’s been happening at the WTBBL!**

Hello Readers!

I hope you have been keeping warm and dry   
during this cold and snowy winter. Between the Fall Federal Government Sequestration, the   
turbulent weather, and the Olympics, the last few months have been exciting.

Here at WTBBL, we’ve been busy. Staff events include:

• Becky, WTBBL’s Outreach Librarian, gave birth to Amelia Grace on December 9th.

• WTBBL welcomed a new Circulation Supervisor, Laurel, who comes to us from MPL’s Zablocki Library.

• Kaliya, a new Circulation Aide, started on January 8th.

• ABLE (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement) finished recording three new   
digital audiobooks which can be requested:

DBW00032 **A Short History of Wisconsin** by Erika Janik

DBW00033 **Coop: A Family, a Farm, and the Pursuit of One Good Egg** by Michael Perry

DBW00034 **Limping Through Life: A Farm Boy’s Polio Memoir** by Jerrold W. Apps

Are you aware of these 2013 WTBBL statistics?

- WTBBL has over 5,500 registered patrons and 500 institutions (e.g. libraries, schools, nursing homes, veteran’s centers).

- WTBBL provides patrons with access to more than 113,000 audiobook titles, 2,450 descriptive videos/DVDs, 70 magazines, 300 US newspapers and the Utah Braille Library’s collection.

- WTBBL circulated 363,509 items.

- There were 1,174 new WTBBL registrations.

- WTBBL staff answered over 19,000 phone calls.

- WTBBL reached over 10,250 people with 176 exhibits and presentations.

- WTBBL sponsored and participated in the 11th Annual Braille Games, Vision Walk, a summer reading program for children and young adults, and many library tours.

WTBBL has new informational brochures available in English and Spanish. The ORANGE brochures replace the blue and white (English) and green and white (Spanish) brochures.

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

**Books to Get You Pumped for the Olympic Winter Games!**

The XXII Olympic Winter Games were held in Sochi, Russia February 7-23, 2014. Did you know that the United States has won more gold and overall medals than any other country in the Summer Games and also has won the second most overall medals at the Winter Games trailing only Norway? In 2010, Team USA broke the record for the most U.S. Olympic Winter Medals won in a single day. There were 98 events in 15 winter sports held in Sochi, including hockey, skiing and figure skating. Here are some exciting Winter Olympics books that you might want to order:

• DB36082 **The Olympics: A History of the Modern Games** by Allen Guttmann

• DB50298 **The Story of the Olympics** by Dave Anderson

• DB57065 **A Journey: The Autobiography of Apolo Anton Ohno**

• DB57856 **On the Ice with Tara Lipinski** by Glenn Stout

• DB57856 **The Boys of Winter: The Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream, and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team** by Wayne R. Coffey x

• DB63785 **Fire on Ice: Autobiography of a Champion Figure Skater** by Sasha Cohen

• DB64877 **Ice Time: The Story of Hockey** by Michael McKinley

• DB65389 **A Skating Life** by Dorothy Hamill

• DB72184 **The Winter Olympics: An Insider’s Guide to the Legends, the Lore, and the Games** by Ron C. Judd

**Original Signatures No Longer Required on Applications**

WTBBL can now accept applications that are faxed, emailed, scanned, stamped or photocopied. Original signatures are no longer required by NLS. We hope this will make it more convenient for you to submit applications to WTBBL. Faxed applications can be sent to 414-286-3102. Email applications to wtbbl@milwaukee.gov.

**35 New Audio Described Movies Available for Checkout**

• DVD00671 **Brave** - Starring Kelly Macdonald and Billy Connolly

• DVD00674 **Ice Age: Continental Drift** - Starring Ray Romano and John Leguizamo

• DVD00682 **Magic of the Snowy Owl** - PBS Documentary

• DVD00688 **Through Deaf Eyes** - Documentary narrated by Stockard Channing

• DVD00692 **Hitchcock** - Starring Anthony Hopkins and Helen Mirren

• DVD00693 **Iron Man 3** - Starring Robert Downey Jr and Gwyneth Paltrow

• DVD00695 **Men in Black 3** - Starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones

• DVD00696 **Oblivion** - Starring Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman

• DVD00700 **Skyfall** - Starring Daniel Craig and Javier Bardem

• DVD00703 **World War Z -** Starring Brad Pitt and Mireille Enos

Search for DVDs in the WTBBL Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) at

webopac.klas.com/wmbph or request a large print or digital DVD catalog from WTBBL.

**Request a Cable for Downloading**

Request this three feet long cable to facilitate the use of DTB cartridges with a personal computer (PC). There is a standard USB plug on one end and a USB socket and plastic molding−conforming to the “D” shape of the cartridge−on the other. When connected to the PC, the cartridge will be available as a removable storage device (a Microsoft Windows PC user will find this under “My Computer”). A user may then transfer DTB files from the PC to the cartridge for playback on the digital talking-book machine.

**Connections in Sight: A Website to Connect Vision Loss Resources in Southeastern Wisconsin**

The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL), Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement (ABLE), Beyond Vision, Center for Deaf-Blind Persons and Vision Forward have been working together to increase awareness and access to vision-loss resources in the seven county region of Southeastern Wisconsin (Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha Counties). This project, Connections in Sight, is a combination of outreach and marketing efforts that has resulted in a website with easy-to-access information on the types of services available from each agency. The website contains information on resources for living, reading, coping, getting around, finding recreation opportunities, getting career ready and finding a job with vision loss.

For more information, check out the website at www.connectionsinsight.org or contact Katia, the Communications Manager at 414-481-7477 or info@connectionsinsight.org.

**Need a Speaker or Have an Upcoming Event?**

If you are a member of a support group or know of any organization that would like a presentation about WTBBL, please call us. WTBBL staff would be happy to visit your group or facility and discuss our library services. We can also set up an exhibit table at a health fair or conference and demonstrate the digital player and highlight some of the services that WTBBL offers. We enjoy reaching out and meeting some of the people that use or refer our library.

**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.

April 18, 2014

Library Closed (Good Friday)

May 23, 2014

Library Closed (Furlough Day)

May 26, 2014

Post Office & Library Closed (Memorial Day)

July 3 & 4, 2014

Library Closed (Furlough Day and Independence Day)

August 29, 2014

Library Closed (Furlough Day)

September 1, 2014

Post Office & Library Closed (Labor Day)

October 13, 2014

Post Office Closed (Columbus Day)

November 11, 2014

Post Office Closed (Veterans Day)

November 27 & 28, 2014

Library Closed (Thanksgiving)

December 24 & 25, 2014

Library Closed (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

December 31, 2014 & January 1, 2015

Library Closed (New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day)

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

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