# Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library Bulletin Board Winter 2020 Newsletter banner

## What’s Been Happening at WTBBL!

Happy New Year, and welcome to the start of a new decade! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

We want to give a warm welcome to WTBBL's newest staff member, Library Reference Assistant Amanda M., who joins our team of reader advisors. At the same time, we bade farewell to Jill F. and Lexi B. and congratulated them on their promotions.

2019 was an active year for WTBBL services. We had 6,800 readers (a slight drop from 2018), but keep on reading since the circulation of materials has been increasing since July 2019. Last year, we circulated 374,104 library materials! Give and take, that's about 1000 items every day. We also gained 1,136 new library members. Please keep sharing our information with any individual who could benefit from our service. This year we are adding webinars and conference calls to expand our outreach work. We will include dates and times in the upcoming newsletters. So, stay tuned!

Thank you for being great patrons and keeping us busy. We appreciate all of you.

Stay warm and safe, and keep on reading!

## AIRA

Aira is a service that allows people with vision impairments and blindness to access visual information through a trained agent via an app. Although the app is not completely free, Aira is offering free five minute trial calls. Additionally Aira is available free of charge at numerous Milwaukee County locations.

## That can’t be right…that’s too many numbers!

The NLS has reached DB100000. That’s right — you will now be seeing book numbers with six-digits, not just five.

## Do you have an extra Digital Talking Book Player?

The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library needs your extra player! If you have a Digital Book machine that you do not use, send it back to us!

If you need a box with mailing card and postage, just let us know and one will be mailed out to you. Contact us at **1-800-242-8822** or **414-286-3045;** or email wtbbl@milwaukee.gov.

## Animal Stories

A list of books, both fiction and nonfiction, for every animal lover:

*Izzy and Lenore: Two Dogs, an Unexpected Journey, and Me* by Jon Katz DB068441 Author recounts the addition of Izzy, an emotionally damaged border collie, and Lenore, a spirited black lab puppy, to his upstate New York farm. Describes Izzy's acute sensitivity, which inspired Katz to do hospice volunteering, and Lenore's affection, which helped Katz cope with his own painful past. 2008.

*Saving Sadie: How One Dog that No One Wanted Inspired the World* by Joel Derse Dauer DBC08315Shot in the spine and head, Sadie was left for dead on a cold Kentucky mountainside. That could have been the last of Sadie, but this dog's story has a happy ending. Some violence.

*Love Is the Best Medicine: What Two Dogs Taught One Veterinarian About Hope, Humility, and Everyday Miracles* by Nick Trout DB072694 Boston veterinary surgeon Trout, who wrote Tell Me Where It Hurts (DB/RC 66505), presents the contrasting lives of two canines: abandoned ten-year-old cocker spaniel Helen and coddled fourteen-year-old miniature pinscher Cleo. He also describes the dogs' influence on their owners. 2010.

## ***My Patients and Other Animals: A Veterinarian's Stories of Love, Loss, and Hope* by Suzanne Fincham-Gray DB090797** Memoir of a veterinarian who has worked on pastoral English farms and in urban American animal hospitals. She shares stories of some of her memorable patients--including her own beloved cat and dog--and discusses what it's like to care for patients who cannot advocate for themselves. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

*A Dog Called Hope: A Wounded Warrior and the Service Dog Who Saved Him* by Jason Morgan DB088872The memoir of a former Special Forces soldier. Wounded badly and told he would never walk again, Morgan's recovery was long, and his wife left him with their three young sons. At this lowest point, a special service dog named Napal entered his life. Some violence and some strong language. 2016.

## ***Spying on Whales: The Past, Present, and Future of Earth's Most Awesome Creatures* by Nick Pyenson DB091534** Smithsonian curator presents an evolutionary history of whales using a combination of fossil analysis and studies of live specimens. Examines the mechanics of the ways whales evolved from a land-dwelling species to a marine mammal, the ways they live today, and their prospects for the future. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

*Finding Gobi: A Little Dog with a Very Big Heart* by Dion Leonard DB089278 An Australian marathon runner tells the story of finding a stray dog while on a race across the Gobi desert. After keeping him company for many of the 155 miles of his ultramarathon in China, the dog disappeared, leaving the author determined to find her again. 2017.

*Lessons From Lucy: The Simple Joys of an Old, Happy Dog* by Dave Barry DB095148Humorist and author of books including Best. State. Ever (DB 87795) shares lessons on growing old gracefully, some of which he learned from his beloved dog Lucy. Lucy has taught him how to live his best life, let go of daily grievances, and be in the moment. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

## WTBBL 2020 Adult Book Club

The WTBBL Adult Book Club meets on the phone using a toll-free phone number **1-855-753-0200** every other month on a Tuesday. There are two sessions from which to choose: **1:30 to 2:30 pm** or **6:30 to 7:30 pm**. The same book is discussed at both sessions.

**\*Please note that the books for August and October have been switched.**

### February 4, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. DB092245 In late 1969, when Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals of Barkley Cove, North Carolina, immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018

### April 7, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin. DB086961In 1969 New York City, the four Gold children meet a psychic who tells them each the date they will die. They each grow up and live their lives, but always with the knowledge of the psychic's prophecy hanging over them. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

### June 9, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

Haben: The Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law by Haben Girma. DB096188The autobiography of the first deaf-blind graduate of Harvard Law School. Girma describes her childhood, world travels, development of a text-to-braille communication system, and time at Harvard Law, as well as the ways she uses her talents to advocate for those with disabilities. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

### August 4, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

Where’d You Go, Bernadette a Novel by Maria Semple. DB075351 Seattle. Eighth-grader Bee's request for a family trip to Antarctica is the last straw for her mother Bernadette, who has become so socially inept that she hired a virtual assistant in India to handle her life. Just before the trip, Bernadette vanishes. Heartbroken Bee investigates. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2012.

### October 13, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

In a Moment by Theresa Gilliland. DBW01526In a very short span of time, Terri experienced three traumatic events. She lost her sight, her husband's life was dramatically altered after a near-fatal motorcycle accident, and their 15-year-old son was diagnosed with brain cancer. *In a Moment* is a contemporary autobiography of one woman's roller coaster life filled with pain, struggle, love and triumph.

### December 1, Tuesday 1:30 and 6:30

A Wolf Called Romeo by Nick Jans. DB094157Photographer recounts the interactions between residents of Juneau, Alaska with a black wolf--who is eventually dubbed Romeo--that he encountered for the first time in 2003. Explores the mystique, lore, science, and history of the wolf. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

## WTBBL Outreach Winter 2020

Remember WTBBL when scheduling resource fairs, conferences, and local events.

Here are some of WTBBL’s upcoming **Spring** Outreach events:

* Wisconsin State Reading Association 2020 Conference 02/05/20
* National Federation For the Blind-Wisconsin State Convention 03/06/20
* Braille Games 03/12/20
* Wisconsin Assisted Living Association (WALA) State Conference 03/18/20
* 12th Annual Vision Walk 05/17/20

These are just a few of the events that WTBBL will attend. If you see WTBBL at an event, please stop by our table and say hi! We love to get the opportunity to meet in-person the great people we talk to on the phone!

Please contact Katie at **414-286-6918** or [CEMallo@milwaukee.gov](mailto:CEMallo@milwaukee.gov) to schedule a speaker or exhibitor for an event.

## New Audio-described DVDs

WTBBL has audio-described movies and TV shows available on DVD. You may check out three movies at a time. The loan period for each is one month.

A new movie catalog is available from WTBBL in large print, braille, or digital cartridge. Here are some of the new DVDs by genres:

### Action

DVD01058   Ocean’s 8

DVD01059   Godzilla: King of the Monsters

DVD01063   Bumblebee

DVD01064   X-Men: Dark Phoenix

DVD01065   Shazam!

DVD01069   Aquaman

DVD01071   Robin Hood

DVD01082   Red Sparrow

### Animated, Children’s Movies & Children’s Television Programs

DVD01044   The Star

DVD01046   The Lego Movie: The Second Part

DVD01047   Shrek the Third

DVD01048   How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World

DVD01049   Spider-man: Into the Spider-Verse

DVD01050   Peter Rabbit

DVD01051   The Grinch

DVD01052   Sherlock Gnomes

DVD01053   The Secret Life of Pets

DVD01054   The Secret Life of Pets 2

### Biographical

DVD01060   First Man

DVD01068   The Post

DVD01076   Green Book

DVD01080   Molly’s Game

DVD01083   Thank You for Your Service

DVD01085   The Favourite

DVD01088   Rocketman

### Comedy

DVD01055   Isn’t It Romantic

DVD01056   Instant Family

DVD01062   The Hustle

DVD01073   The Upside

DVD01074   Night School

DVD01087   Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

### Documentary

DVD01042   Decoding Watson

DVD01061   Won’t You Be My Neighbor?

### Drama

DVD01045   A Dog’s Way Home

DVD01057   Murder on the Orient Express

DVD01067   The Tomorrow Man

DVD01077   If Beale Street Could Talk

DVD01084   A Star is Born

DVD01086   The Mule

### Horror

DVD01066   A Quiet Place

DVD01078   Us

DVD01079   Ma

### Romance

DVD01089   Call Me By Your Name

### Science Fiction

DVD01075   Glass

DVD01081   The Shape of Water

### Sports

DVD01072   Creed II

### Television Show

DVD01043   King Arthur: Lost Kingdom

### Thriller

DVD01070   Roman J. Israel, ESQ.

## Print/Braille Picture Books

WTBBL has print/braille picture books that are great for sharing with a child. The new books are contracted braille using the Unified English Braille Code.

BR 22617 *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander; illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Poetic ode to black American triumph and tribulation. Highlights the traumatic and tragic events in black history; the faith and fire of the civil rights movement; and the grit, courage, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades 2-4. 2019.

### BR 22634 *Love Like Sky* by Leslie C. Youngblood

Eleven-year-old Georgie, who prefers to go by G-Baby, is still adjusting to leaving Atlanta for a small town and having a new blended family. Then her little sister, Peaches, suddenly becomes very ill and turns G-Baby's world upside down. For grades 4-7. 2018.

### BR 22645 *Music for Mister Moon* by Philip C. Stead; illustrated by Erin E. Stead

After shy cello player Harriet Henry accidentally knocks the moon out of the sky, the moon becomes her friend. Harriet slowly gains the courage to share her music. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades K-3. 2019.

### BR 22672 *Because* by Mo Willems; illustrated by Amber Ren

A series of events, some seemingly insignificant, lead to a young girl attending a life-changing concert. PRINT/BRAILLE. For preschool-grade 2. 2019.

### BR 22673 *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson; illustrated by Rafael López

Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself. Later, however, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades K-3. 2018.

### BR 22674 *The Remember Balloons* by Jessie Oliveros; illustrated by Dana Wulfekotte

A young boy has a bunch of balloons, each of which holds a special memory. But as his grandfather ages and loses his own balloons, the boy struggles to understand why. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades K-3. 2018.

### BR 22675 *The Dragon and the Nibblesome Knight* by Elli Woollard; illustrated by Benj Davies

A case of mistaken identity allows a young dragon and knight to become friends, but the two sworn enemies must decide what to do when they discover the truth. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades K-3. 2016.

### BR 22676 *Nothing Stopped Sophie: the Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain* by Cheryl Bardoe; illustrated by Barbara McClintock

Biography of Sophie Germain (1776-1831), who grew up during the French Revolution and followed her dream of studying mathematics. In 1816 she was the first woman to win a grand prize from the Royal Academy of Sciences for her work on vibrations. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades 2-4. 2018.

### BR 22677 *A Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin

Despite Mama's request to wait after she bakes a Big Mooncake, Little Star begins nibbling at it every night and changes its shape. PRINT/BRAILLE. For preschool-grade 2. 2018.

### BR 22679 *If You’re Groovy and You Know It, Hug a Friend!* by Eric Litwin; illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld

Set to the rhythm of the classic children's song, canine Groovy Joe invites everyone to laugh, sing, explore, and--best of all!--hug a friend. PRINT/BRAILLE. For grades K-3. 2018.

### BR 22682 *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry

When Kira is suddenly orphaned, the neighbors try to expel her because of her lame leg. Kira's talent for embroidery saves her life but her new privileges come with an awareness of her society's secrets. Companion to The Giver (BR 22397). For grades 6-9 and older readers. 2000.

## New Wisconsin Titles Available

ABLE (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement) has produced more Wisconsin books for your reading pleasure. These titles are available on DB cartridges or on BARD.

### DBC08238 *One-Room Country Schools: History and Recollections* by Jerold W. Apps

Author Jerry Apps recounts the history of rural schools in Wisconsin drawing on his own memories as well as stories related to him by others. He paints a vivid picture of what school was like for teachers and students in the past.

### DBC08255 *Wisconsin’s Flying Trees in World War II: A Victory for American Forest Products and Allied Aviation* by Sara Witter Connor

The author explores Wisconsin’s role during World War II in the production of military air gliders. This book takes an in-depth look at the factory workers, lumberjacks, and pilots that made it all possible as well as the innovators at the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory.

### DBC08292 *Haunted Summerwind: A Ghostly History of a Wisconsin Mansion* by Devon Bell

The author explores the haunted remains of a fabled mansion in Wisconsin's Northwoods called Summerwind. Join her as she takes a hard look at the building's history as well as its current status.

**DBC08293 *Hidden History of Milwaukee*** by Robert Tanzilo

The author takes the reader for an urban spelunking adventure as he details his explorations throughout various historical buildings in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

### DBC08322 *Walking Home Ground: In the Footsteps of Muir, Leopold, and Derleth* by Robert L. Root

Settling in Wisconsin, Robert Root seeks to make where he lives seem like home. He finds inspiration from three other authors whose work is based on a sense of place -- John Muir, Aldo Leopold, and August Derleth. In this book, Root shares his own experiences and seeks to embrace the history that surrounds him.

### DBC08324 *Danger, Man Working: Writing from the Heart, the Gut, and the Poison Ivy Patch* by Michael Perry

*Danger, Man Working* is a collection of essays spanning a wide variety of topics from musky fishing to the frozen head of Ted Williams.

### DBC08341 *No Stone Unturned: A Brother and Sister’s Incredible Journey Through the Olympics and Cancer* by Jessie Garcia

The Wisconsin author shares the incredible story of two siblings, Olympic gold medalist Casey FitzRandolph and his sister, Jessi, who fought breast cancer. This book looks at how a family goes through both the highs and lows in life.

### DBC08334 *The Biography of Jeffrey Dahmer: The Milwaukee Cannibal* by Buck Lamar

A brief biography of serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer who committed many of his crimes in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

### DBC15436 *Aaron Rodgers: Titletown MVP* by Rob Reischel

The author chronicles the rise of the Green Bay Packers' star quarterback Aaron Rodgers from his early days in Chico, California to his historic Super Bowl run and beyond.

## 2020 Holiday & Postal Office Closings

* **January 20**, 2020 (MLK Day)
* **February 17,** 2020– No Mail (Washington’s Birthday)
* **April 10**, 2020 (Good Friday)
* **May 25**, 2020 (Memorial Day)
* **July 3**, 2020
* **September 7**, 2020 (Labor Day)
* **October 12**– No Mail (Columbus Day)
* **November 11**, 2020 No Mail (Veterans’ Day)
* **November 26-27**, 2020 (Thanksgiving)
* **December 24-25**, 2020 (Christmas)
* **December 31**, 2020 (New Year’s Eve)

**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 phone service.**

**Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille**

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