

Reading is for Everyone...

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped @ CMPL

(586) 286-1580

Winter 2014

Library of Congress Braille and Talking-Book Program Releases Book Download App through Apple

Patrons registered at the Macomb Library for the Blind may now download audio and braille books to their iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch, from the Library of Congress free library service Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD).

The BARD mobile application (app) is now available through the Apple App Store. This free app allows readers to download audio and braille books from their BARD accounts. BARD contains nearly 50,000 books, magazines and music scores in audio and braille formats, with new selections added daily.

National Library Service (NLS) Director Karen Keninger said, "The BARD Mobile app allows searching, downloading and reading braille and talking books and magazines on one fully accessible, mainstream device. It's a library in your pocket."

She explained, "With BARD Mobile, patrons can play talking books and magazines on their iOS devices. Patrons may also read electronic braille books, magazines and music scores using a refreshable braille display connected to their iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch through Bluetooth."

"BARD Mobile is another benchmark in our use of technology to enhance the delivery and reading experience of NLS patrons," Keninger said. "NLS developed the BARD Mobile app in response to demand from our borrowers. Blind and disabled Americans are as keen as everyone else to use mobile devices. Our younger patrons are particularly eager to use the same gadgets as their peers." NLS is also working on an app for Android devices.

Hours	
Monday-Thursday	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday*	1 - 6 p.m.
* September-May	

If you would like more information about the BARD Mobile App, please call the library at 586-286-1580 or toll free 1-855-203-5274.

Updates from Your Library

Although the thermometer tells us it's winter, we can take a quick moment to reminisce about summer and congratulate our patron **Richard Chinoski** who won our 2013 Summer Reading Program prize of a Victor Reader Stream! A Victor Reader Stream is a portable book player that plays audio books.

If you did not have an opportunity to participate in the Summer Reading Program, we invite you to sign up for our **Winter Reading Program** that starts on **February 3rd** and ends on **March 29th**. The program theme will be "Books into Movies." You can choose any book that has been made into a movie or pick one from our Books into Movies reading list, located on page 7 of this Newsletter. Once you have a title, call us so we can send you that audio or large print book, and when you have finished the book, give us a call so we can enter your name in a drawing. There will be two winners who can choose one prize from the following selection: a Handi-Lens Full Page Magnifier Sheet, an EZ Eyes Large Print Computer Keyboard, or a talking calculator. Prizes can be mailed or picked-up at the library.

Another new and welcome addition to the library service is the free BARD app available for users of iPhones, iPads and iPod Touch. BARD is the website where you can download our books to listen to on your talking book player. Now, patrons who own any Apple product can use that device to download and listen to our audio books. For our Braille patrons, Braille books can also be downloaded to an Apple device if you have a refreshable Braille reader.

If you are no longer using your four-track tape player and are solely using the new digital talking book player to listen to your audio books, please call and we will let you know how you can mail consider returning the tape player back to us. If you do not have your original box, we can mail you an empty one with a mailing card on it. Likewise, if you have any of the four track tapes that come in the green cases that you are no longer listening to, please mail those back as well.

Finally, just a quick informational note for our large print patrons: If you, a friend or family member return books in a purple canvas bag at the library, please do not place the canvas bag on the automatic return belt. The canvas bags can get caught in the conveyor belt rollers. Instead, please drop the bag in the stationary drop-box outside of the building or return it to a staff member inside the building. Of course, you can always mail your canvas bag using the postage paid mailing card that is attached to the bag.

Have a safe and cozy winter. Stay warm with a good book from your library!

Another Way to Experience Your Audio Books

Have you ever wished to have an entire audio book series on hand to listen to at one time? Have you ever wanted to have all the books written by your favorite author in one spot? Patrons, or their family members or friends, who have access to a computer, can do this already through the BARD system. But, what if you do not have access to a computer? Here is where your Macomb Library for the Blind can help!

We can download a series or multiple books by a favorite author onto a device called a flash drive. The flash drive will fit into a port that is located on the right hand side of your Talking Book Player. There is a little cap that fits snugly over the port, so many of you may not have known it was even there! It is in this manner that you will be able to listen to books that have been downloaded for you on a flash drive.



If you are interested or would like more information, please call us at 586-286-1580 or toll free at 1-855-203-5274.

A New Way to Order Your Books

The Macomb Library for the Blind has another way you can order books if you, a family member, or friend have a computer with internet access.

You can go to the following website: <http://sbphopac.libraryofmichigan.org> and look up the book or books you would like to order. If they are



available and you are ready for more books, they can be sent to you the following day or, if you want them sent later, they can be added to your request list. To complete your order, you will need a login and password. Please call our library to register for this service or if you have questions or would like further information on this service.

Macomb LBPH Holiday Closures

The Clinton-Macomb Public Library and LBPH are closed on the following dates for holidays:

Sunday, April 20: Closed for Easter

Friday, April 25: Closing at 2 p.m.

Saturday, May 24- Monday, May 26: Closed for Memorial Day

CCTV For Sale

A patron in the Port Huron area would like to sell a color CCTV. It is an Enhanced Vision Merlin. If you are interested in purchasing one, please call the patron at 586-484-7709 or 586-822-0243.

Descriptive DVD Movies

If you love movies, but are unable to see the television screen, please note that MLBPH has descriptive DVDs available. Descriptive DVDs are movies that are audio described. When actors or actresses are not speaking, a narrator will describe for you what is taking place on the screen.

Macomb LBPH patrons are eligible to borrow these DVDs. The service operates just like your other materials you receive from our library. The DVD will come to you in the mail in a canvas bag. When you are done viewing the movie, place the DVD back in its container and then place the container in the canvas bag. The mailing card will be in a plastic pocket on the front of the bag. Just turn the card over with our name and address showing and mail the bag. Postage is already paid. To request a list of available movie titles please call us at 586-286-1580.

If you are interested in purchasing audio described DVDs for yourself, the American Council of the Blind's website offers a list of audio-described DVDs and includes a direct link to Amazon for purchase. The website is: <http://www.acb.org/adp/dvds.html#ordering>

For general information about movies and television shows that are audio described, the American Council of the Blind offers great information here: <http://www.acb.org/adp/>

Spring Computer Classes

For those interested in learning how to use the computer with adaptive technology software, our computer tutor, Sharon, will be offering one-on-one computer training.

Sharon offers a weekly one hour class over eight weeks here at the Macomb Library for the Blind. We use magnification software (ZoomText) for those students who have some vision, and we also have screen reader software (JAWS) for students who are unable to see the screen. You do not need to have prior computer experience in order to register for class.



Also, if you have an iPhone or iPad and would like to learn how to use VoiceOver to operate your device, you can register for class sessions as well. VoiceOver technology is built right into the Apple products so you can hear what is on your iPhone or iPad.

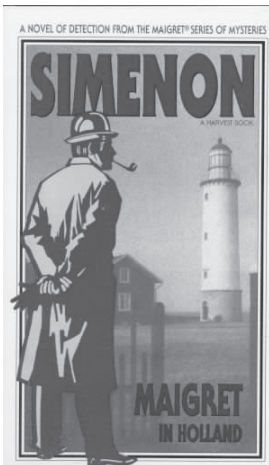
Classes begin in March and registration is required. Please call the library at 586-286-1580 to request a spot.

Macomb LBPH Newsletter Now Audible on Website

Our Newsletter is now available as an audio file on our website. Just go to www.cmpl.org/mlbph and choose the link "Newsletter" on the page. Then choose the audio link of the issue you would like to hear.

Reader Recommendations

Phyllis Gramza recommends the mystery books by Georges Simenon for something a bit different in the way of detective stories. Try Maigret in Holland. When a French scholar is



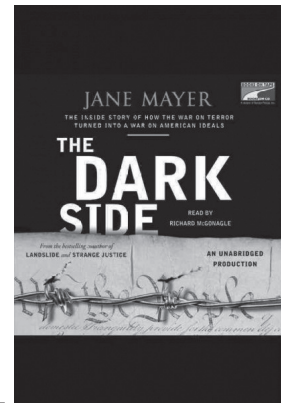
suspected of murder while he's on a lecture tour in Holland, he calls for his friend Maigret, even though the inspector can't speak Dutch. The visiting scholar had been a guest of the victim, who was a teacher on a cadet training ship.

But others were present at the time the murder was committed, and when Maigret stages a reenactment of the crime, he gets to the real story. The author's descriptions make you feel as if you are right there with Inspector Maigret. **DB 41452**

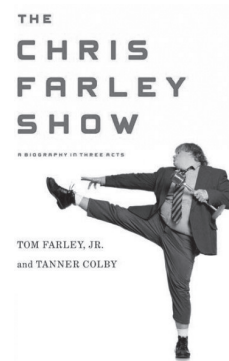
Jean Dicks recommends Lessons I Learned in the Dark by Jennifer Rothschild. Christian inspirational speaker and singer, who lost her eyesight in high school due to retinitis pigmentosa, emphasizes the importance of spiritual beliefs in overcoming personal problems. Rothschild describes her first and greatest lesson learned from God: "Even when it is not well with our circumstances, it can be well with our souls." Jean wishes everyone could hear this book. She enjoyed it and felt it gave very good tips as well as being an inspirational story. **DB 57411**

Susan Perry recommends The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals by

Jane Mayer. Mayer investigates America's use of forceful interrogation techniques to obtain information from radical Islamists after the September 11, 2001, attacks and the 2001 anthrax mailings. Details battles within the Justice Department over constraints on the treatment of detainees. Bestseller. Susan says this gives more insight into the war. **DB 67341**



Susan also recommends The Chris Farley Show: A Biography in Three Acts by Tom Farley. Biography co-authored by the brother of the comic actor Chris Farley, who died in 1997



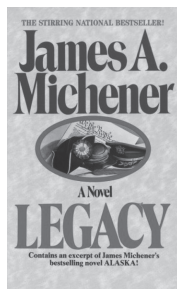
at the age of thirty-three. Family members, friends, and colleagues discuss Farley's personal life, marked by substance abuse, and his career, which included various roles in the television series Saturday

Night Live. Strong language. Susan mentions it not only shows Chris' sense of humor but also his troubles staying away from alcohol and drugs. **DB 66868**

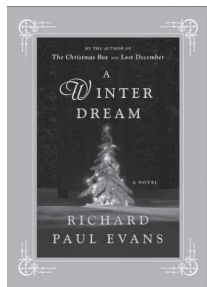
Continued on next page...

Reading Recommendations

Rita Taylor recommends Legacy by James Michener. A novel that links the anniversary celebration of the U.S. Constitution with the Iran-Contra affair. U.S. Army officer Norman Starr broods over his testimony before a senate committee and reflects on his ancestors who "helped to create, interpret and enlarge" the Constitution. Rita says this true story is a must read with good, historical insights. **DB 26012**



Rita also suggests A Winter Dream by Richard Paul Evans. Joseph "J. J." Jacobson, the twelfth of his father's thirteen children, is forced out of the family's Denver advertising agency by his jealous siblings. J. J. excels at a rival agency but returns to help his brothers. Based on the biblical tale of Joseph and the coat of many colors. 2012. Rita mentions there are many twists and turns in this really good story. **DB 75963**



Another Rita pick is Last of the Great Scouts by Helen Cody Wetmore and Zane Grey. An account of the adventurous life of Buffalo Bill Cody as narrated by the sister of the legendary Western figure. Rita indicates that fans of American history and the west will enjoy this biography that covers Cody's tenuous fortunes in life. **DB 49361**

Music at Main

Come to the **Main Library** for a free hour of music open to all ages. No registration is required. Join us at 2 p.m. on the following dates:

Sunday, January 12: Fleur de Lys Chamber Ensemble

Sunday, February 9: Matthew Ball

Sunday, March 30: The Moxie Strings

Michigan Opera Theatre presents:
Gazing at A View from the Bridge

Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. ♦ Main Library

In 1955, iconic American playwright Arthur Miller wrote his *A View from the Bridge*. Forty years later, composer William Bolcom saw the stuff of great opera in Miller's play. Michael Yashinsky of the Michigan Opera Theatre relates fascinating details of this transformation, plays excerpts from the jazz and early rock 'n' roll-inspired score, and gives a behind-the-scenes look at the thrilling MOT production. Please call 586-286-1580 to register.

Fraud & Identity Theft Prevention

April 15 at 10 a.m. ♦ Main Library
The U.S. Postal Inspection Service will visit to discuss identity theft and scams. Learn how to protect yourself from check scams, Ponzi schemes, sweepstakes and lottery scams and more. Information about protecting your identity will also be covered. Please call 586-286-1580 to register.

Books into Movies Winter Reading Program

Below are some reading suggestions if you wish to enter the Macomb LBPH Books into Movies Winter Reading Program. Please choose a title from this list, or another book title of your choosing that has been made into a film, give us a call at 586-286-1580, and we will send out your title. Good luck!

Abraham Lincoln: vampire hunter by Seth Grahame-Smith DB 70658

An Inconvenient Truth by Al Gore DB 67444

The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin DB 76448

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini DB 57457

Beautiful Creatures by Kami Garcia DB 70871

The Lucky One by Nicholas Sparks DB 67541

Charlie Wilson's War by George Crile DB 56253

The Monuments Men by Robert M. Edsel DB 74650

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert DB 61789

The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones by Cassandra Clare DB 67159

The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje DB 35558

Paranoia by Joseph Finder DB 57827

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson DB 67759

The Rum Diary by Hunter S. Thompson DB 73960

The Help by Kathryn Stockett DB 68889

Safe Haven by Nicholas Sparks DB 71968

Horns by Joe Hill DB 70788

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay DB 67934

The Host by Stephenie Meyer DB 66719

Serena by Ron Rash DB 68405

How Stella Got Her Groove Back by Terry McMillan DB 42803

The Silver Linings Playbook by Matthew Quick DB 76245

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins DB 68384

Warm Bodies by Isaac Marion DB 76132

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald DB 16147

MLBPH @ CMPL
40900 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
OR HANDICAPPED

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is a public service of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

The New Health Care Law: What it Means for You

Thursday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. ♦ Main Library

The deadline to register for health care through the government exchange without penalty is February 15. Are you eligible to sign up for health care under the Affordable Health Care Act? Are you confused by the process? Come to the Main Library where a representative from the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services will explain the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and how it will affect consumer and senior health coverage today and in the future, including information on the Health Insurance Marketplace. Please call 586-286-1580 to register for this Library program.

The Great Jazz Day

Monday, Feb. 17 at 6:30 p.m. ♦ Main Library

The Great Jazz Day, a photograph taken in 1958, is the most famous photograph in jazz history. Stuart Johnson, member of the Michigan Jazz Record Collectors, will discuss the back story of the photograph. He will play recorded examples of the music of some of the musicians who appeared in the picture. Their sounds ran the gamut from early Stride piano to Dixieland, to Swing, to the Modern jazz explosion. This is a great event for jazz lovers or those who want to learn more about jazz history. Please call 586-286-1580 to register.