

Reading is for Everyone...

Macomb Library for the Blind and Print Disabled @ CMPL

(586) 286-1580

Summer 2022

It's Time for Summer Reading

Join the 2022 MLBPD's Summer Reading Program for a chance to win a prize! This summer, we are asking you to read 5 books, one from each of the following genres: Mystery, Biography, Historical Fiction, Classic Literature, and a fiction or nonfiction book about Michigan. To register, call the library at (586) 286-1580. We can help you select five titles and create a cartridge for you, or if you are a large print reader, we will send you the large print books.

Once you have finished your books, call us with a brief comment about them, and we will enter your name in a drawing for a prize from the Maxi Aids catalog which has products for patrons to lead independent lives. All ages are welcomed to join. Only one entry per person.

The contest ends on August 31st and two names will be drawn the week of September 6th. The two contestants will be notified that week by phone.

MLBPD @ CMPL

Sat., June 25 at 10 a.m. | Main Library

Explore the programs, services, resources and adaptive technology offered at MLBPD. This program will be available via Zoom if you are unable to attend in person.

If you are already one of our patrons, think about attending as you might learn something new. If you know of someone who may want to learn more about our services, share this program notice with them. To register, call the Library for the Blind at (586) 286-1580.

Contact Us

Phone: (586) 286-1580

Toll-free: (855) 203-5274

mlbpd@cmpl.org
www.cmpl.org/mlbpd

MLBPD Staff is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.*

**Leave a message after 5 p.m. and we will return your call as soon as possible.*

Donated CD Books Looking for a Good Home

A very nice collection of audiobooks on CD was donated to MLBPD. The collection is well organized in 3 zippered cloth binders, and includes Christian Fiction and Inspirational biography titles.

If you or someone you know would be interested in having this free selection of audiobooks, please contact the library at (586) 286-1580 to make arrangements for pick up.

Book Discussion Group

MLBPD hosts a book discussion group by phone on the first Monday of every month excluding holidays. Registration is required. If you would like to join our fun and informal discussion, please call the library for more details. Join us for a discussion:



June 6: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson, DB 95243

July 11: *Summerhouse* by Jude Deveraux, DB 52370 and in Large Print

August 1: *Lightning Strike* by William Kent Krueger, DB 105655 and in Large Print

September 12: *The Last Bookshop in London* by Madeline Martin, DB 103176 and in Large Print

Assistive Technology Demonstrations and Computer Tutoring

Set up an appointment at the library for a hands-on demonstration of devices such as check-writing guides, video magnifiers, lamps, and more to assist a person with vision issues.

In addition, we offer adaptive technology computer and personal device tutoring either by phone or in-person. If you need ideas to make your Windows-based computer or your iPad, iPod or iPhone more accessible, we will make an appointment for you with our tech tutor.

Finally, if you want to try out an iPad, we have one that you may borrow to use at home. It has built-in Wi-Fi so you do not have to have internet access to use it. The iPad must be picked up and checked out on your public library card as we are unable to mail the iPad to you.

Macomb County Senior Services

The following county programs are available for seniors:

- Home Delivered Meals
- Dining Senior Style
- Handy Helpers
- Friendly Caller
- Community Liaison
- Dementia Adult Day Care

If you are interested in learning more about these services, please call Macomb County's Office of Senior Services at (586) 469-5228 or visit macombgov.org/seniors.

Summer Program Vision Group

Good news! Our Vision Group will meet in-person this summer at the library. Our meetings are informational and informal for those who have low vision or are blind. Caregivers are welcomed and encouraged to attend. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday in June, July, and August from 10 a.m. until noon at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library's (CMPL's) Main Library, 40900 Romeo Plank Road in Clinton Township. No registration is required. Presenters are as follows:

June 14: Henry Ford Low Vision Therapist Annette Babinski discusses vision issues.

June 28: Michael Powell demonstrates NFB Newline's free audio newspapers and magazines service.

July 12: Jennifer Lyman, RN, discusses Non-24.

July 26: Audio Described Movie Feature West Side Story. Film runs approximately 2 ½ hours. Plan on staying until 1:30.

August 9: MLBPD Librarian Barbara Shipman demonstrates voice-activated devices (such as Alexa) that patrons will be able to borrow with their library card starting in the Fall of 2022.

August 23: Former Macomb Library for the Blind consultant Sharon Lotoczky discusses vision challenges and solutions.

Kathy's Choice

MLBPD's Library Assistant, Kathy, has some "choice" books to share with you!

We can all use inspiration to live a better life no matter what our age. I found that the main character of the book *The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett* by Annie Lyons taught me a lesson about the power of friendship. Eudora Honeysett, a rather crusty 85-year-old, wants to end her life on her terms until she encounters her new neighbor, 10-year-old Rose and a recent widower named Stanley. Rose, in her colorful and spirited ways builds a bond with these two octogenarians. The lives of all three of them are enriched; even Eudora's cat Montgomery becomes more outgoing and loving. **DB 103795**. Also available in Large Print.

If you are a lover of psychological thrillers and/or drawn to locations in the upper peninsula of our state of Michigan, I highly recommend the author Karen Dionne. Her 2017 novel, *The Marsh King's Daughter* is a real page-turner with a lot of family drama and trauma. When child abductor, "The Marsh King", escapes from prison his daughter, Helena, uses the hunting and tracking skills she learned from him while she was unknowingly in his captivity to find him and return him to prison. Library Journal called this one of the best thrillers of the year. **DB 90692**. Strong language, violence. Also available in Large Print.

A Minute with Marie

Losing eyesight can be a very isolating experience. One way to help alleviate the loss is by using the Audio Description feature that is readily available for free in many places. At the movies you can ask for an Audio description device. You will be given a small box, about the size of a deck of cards, that you can plug headphones into, either a pair of your own or a disposable pair provided by the movie theater. Headphones must have a plug-in jack; no blue tooth!

Do you have a SmartTV? In the Language menu system look at the SAP options and select the option for Audio Description. This will enable the TV to play the Audio Description track on any shows that have that feature. The hilarious downside is that any live sporting events come across in Spanish language. You should turn off the Audio Description selection for those shows.

So, what is Audio Description? It is a secondary audio track on many movies and TV shows that tell you what is happening on the screen that you may not be able to see clearly. It tells you things such as when a character comes in the room, leaves the room, or does any other action relevant to the plot of the show. You no longer have to rely on just dialogue to follow the show or movie.

Blind author, Judy Dixon, has written a very handy guide describing how to

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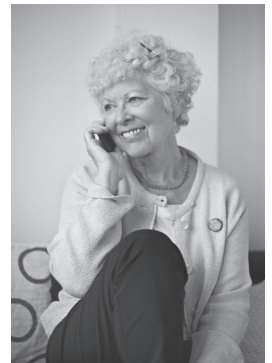
access the audio description feature on many devices and streaming services such as Netflix, Apple TV, Hulu, Paramount, etc. The book is titled *Audio Description: What It Is, Where To Find It, and How To Use It*. This book is available through the library! You can check it out for the standard borrowing period and have plenty of time to get all of your devices set up with audio description.

LIONS Blind Low Vision Outreach Committee of District 11-A1

The Lions Outreach Committee has used assistive technology (AT) that they can offer to you, at no charge, through their recycle program. They have a variety of magnifiers and items for daily tasks for blind and low vision users. If they don't have what you need, they can help look for it, or direct you to other recycling programs. Items will be distributed through your local LIONS Club. To get an application or if you wish to donate an item, contact Cathy McAdam at (313) 563-1412 or mcmcadam@gmail.com.

Story Phone

We have partnered with our host library, CMPL, to create Story Phone for Grown-Ups. Just call (586) 226-5006 to hear short stories, poems, excerpts and more. Press 4 to hear the grown-up option as stories for children are also included. Options change weekly and are read by our storytelling team. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Library Updates – News to Know

We have two pieces of information to share with you regarding library services.

The first news is about Talking Books Topics (TBT), the catalog of the latest audiobooks to be added to the collection, which comes in the mail every other month for those who subscribe to it. For our patrons who receive the catalog in large print, we regret to inform you that due to supply-chain issues and worldwide paper shortages, the National Library Service is unable to receive the Talking Books Topics catalogs in large print from their publication source and will no longer send large print copies.

Patrons who were subscribed to the large print version of TBT can still get fast access to the latest issue of TBT online in HTML and PDF at www.loc.gov/nls/tbt. Please feel free to call our library for more information. For those who receive TBT in audio on cartridge and or on BARD and BARD Mobile, you will experience no changes.

The second piece of news deals with notes that patrons sometime send with their returning audiobooks. Instead of putting a note inside your mailing container, please call us at the library with your request. With the new system incorporated last year at the Regional Library, notes cannot be identified with the specific audiobook and patron.

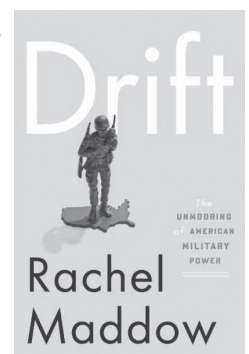
For faster service regarding the information you seek, please call us at (586) 286-1580 and we will be happy to handle your requests and answer your questions!

Reader Recommendations

Sharon Lotoczky recommends *The Phone Booth at the Edge of the World* by Laura Imai Messina. "When Yui lost both her mother and her daughter in the 2011 tsunami, grief took hold of her life. Then one day she hears about a man who has an old, disconnected telephone booth in his garden where those who lost loved ones speak with the dead. Includes supplemental material." Sharon enjoyed reading this book because although grief and loss are universal, its setting in Japan allows us to explore these concepts from that cultural perspective. The characters are believable and the writing format/style is similar to that of the book *Lincoln in the Bardo*. Excellent narrator. **DB 104589.**

Sharon also recommends *Drift: the Unmooring of American Military Power* by Rachel Maddow.

"Emmy Award-winning MSNBC talk-show host argues that America has grown accustomed to perpetual war. Recounts the expansion of executive authority and outsourcing and relates other changes in national security priorities. Some strong language." Sharon found this book interesting because it describes



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the military decisions that have taken place throughout several administrations and points out facts that we should be concerned about in regard to programs that still exist today. **DB 74592.**

Phyllis Gramza recommends several books you might enjoy.

Death in a Strange Country by Donna Leon. "Venetian Commissario Guido Brunetti investigates the murder of Mike Foster, a nearby American military base's public health officer, found floating in toxic water. Later Foster's boss is also killed. Brunetti suspects an environmental cover-up that eventually extends beyond the U.S. military to the Italian government--and even Brunetti's own father-in-law." Phyllis says this is an absolutely enthralling book. Extremely gripping, fascinating and well-written. This book is part of the Commissario Guido Brunetti mystery series. **DB 61683.**

History of the World in Six Glasses by Tom Standage. "Author...explores the historical impact of six beverages. Documents the role of beer in Mesopotamia and Egypt, wine in Greece and Rome, spirits in colonial times, coffee in the Age of Reason, tea in Britain, and Coca-Cola in America." Phyllis says you will learn things you didn't know about and ideas you've never thought about. Pleasurable and informative in an easy to read style. **DB 61242.** Also try *A Brief History of Motion: From the Wheel, to the Car, to What Comes Next* by Tom Standage, **DB 105167.**

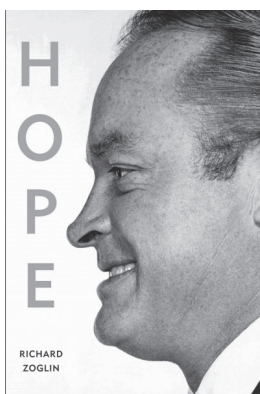
The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York by Robert Caro. "Biographical critique of Robert Moses (1888-1981) as the most powerful man in New York City for almost half a century. Behind the scenes he shaped the city's politics and physical structure. Pulitzer Prize." Phyllis notes this is a very fascinating book about a man who wanted to gain absolute power without being elected to any office and how he accomplished this. Phyllis admits it is a long book, but she says to listen to it in segments. **DB 17458.**

Robert Goike recommends *The Genesis Question: Scientific Advances and the Accuracy of Genesis* by Hugh Ross. "Creationist, astronomy doctorate, director of Reasons to Believe, and talk show host provides a blueprint for understanding the factual and spiritual content of Genesis 1-11. Argues that established scientific findings substantiate God's hand in the miracles of creation, water cycles, plant development, humanity's origin, and long biblical life spans." Robert feels this is a super book as it discusses the latest scientific discoveries that back passages in Genesis. Information includes citations as well. **DB 59708.**

Beverly Lauzon recommends *Dead Eyes* by Stuart Woods. "Since she is careful never to give out her address, actress Chris Callaway is alarmed when she receives unstamped fan letters and roses at her home. After Chris falls and loses her eyesight, the stalking continues. Believing someone

has entered her house, Chris calls the police. Detective Larsen, Chris, and her friend, pint-sized gay hairdresser Danny Devere, set out to catch her 'Admirer.' Strong language and some violence." Beverly says this book is well-written and it kept her up all night reading it! **DB 39197.**

Lawrence Robbins recommends *Hope: Entertainer of the Century* by Richard Zoglin. "Biography of entertainer Bob Hope (1903-2003). Details Bob Hope's early childhood and immigration from England to Cleveland, years on the vaudeville circuit, career in movies and on the radio, service in the USO during World War II and the Vietnam era, and his later years. Discusses personal and professional relationships." Lawrence mentions this is a real interesting book about vaudeville, radio and TV days. Hope had a real interesting life and Lawrence thinks readers will enjoy it. **DB 80253.** Also available in Large Print.



Lawrence also recommends *Braver Than You Think: Around the World on the Trip of My (Mother's) Lifetime* by Maggie Downs. "Journalist chronicles her journey around the world as she travels to the destinations her mother dreamed of visiting. Discusses managing and maintaining her relationship with her new husband as she travels alone, dealing with the death of a family member, and coming to an understanding of herself. Strong

language." Lawrence felt this was a very insightful and exciting read. **DB 100268.**

Jeanne Pichel recommends the *Miss Julia series* by Ann B. Ross. Jeanne feels that readers get so involved in the characters and all the stories are humorous, light-hearted and include some thought-provoking ideas. Jeanne especially enjoyed *Miss Julia Hits the Road*, book 4 in the series, as she found it to be a laugh-out-loud read. "When elderly widow Julia Springer learns that her housekeeper Lillian and other tenants are being evicted by slum landlord Clarence Gibbs, she organizes a fund-raising motorcycle race to save the neighborhood." **DB 56262.**

Patrons can also start with book one: *Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind*. **DB 49141.** Some books in the series are available in Large Print.

Susan Perry recommends *The New Strong-Willed Child: Birth Through Adolescence* by James Dobson. "Christian radio and television psychologist revises his 1978 parenting book to offer updated advice on raising difficult children. Profiles several families to illustrate successful methods for specific concerns, including attention deficit disorder. Discusses discipline, spanking, sibling rivalry, and other common issues." Susan says this book helps parents to better understand how strong-willed children think. She feels this was an excellent book. **DB 59507.**

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

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
OR HANDICAPPED

Macomb Library for the Blind and Print Disabled is a public service
of Macomb County.

MLBPD Facebook Page

Don't forget to access us on our new Facebook Page, and if you do not have a Facebook page, ask your family members or friends who do, to check us out! Find us at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/MLBPDatCMPL/>.

Bowlers Wanted

The Macomb County Blind Bowlers are always looking for legally blind bowlers as well as sighted bowlers/scorekeepers. The bowling season runs from September till mid-May and we bowl every Wednesday starting at 11:45 a.m.

at Fraser Star Lanes
33042 Garfield (just
north of 14 Mile Rd).
Please call Frank Cunningham at (586)
465-6694 for details.



Vision Network Group

Although we have our in-person summer Vision Network Group scheduled at the library, we want to remind patrons that we still host a monthly-by-phone Vision Group that meets year-round.

Connecting with people who have vision issues can be a good way to realize you are not alone, so we host a phone group on the third Monday of every month from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The phone meeting is moderated by our facilitator, Marie, and the group discusses issues that people with vision challenges face. Call us at the library for more details on how to connect with our group.

MLBPD does not endorse any services or websites, outside of its own library, that may be referred to in this newsletter. Please call the MLBPD for your questions and comments at (586) 286-1580 or toll free (855) 203-5274.