



Summer 2019
TALKING TIMES
That All May Read

**RHODE ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
FOR THE BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED
Talking Books Library
Office of Library and Information Services
website: www.olis.ri.gov/tbl Email: talking.books@olis.ri.gov
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Spring is Here and Summer Awaits!

“Summer afternoon, summer afternoon; to me those have always been two of the most beautiful words in the English language”- Henry James. This installation of our newsletter is a little longer than usual. We hope you enjoy your summer and the reading selections we have listed for you in this issue of the Talking Times Newsletter. Don't forget to charge your talking book player so that you may take it along with you when you go out during the nice weather, or maybe consider a Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) account if you are not already subscribed to BARD. This will enable you to download all your favorite books in a matter of minutes to your mobile device (iPhone, Android device, Kindle Fire). Call (401)574-9310 or email the Talking Books staff at talking.books@olis.ri.gov if you would like to have a BARD account. You will need an email address that can be used for your account login. All the information about BARD and the free apps that you will need to use this program are located on the Talking Books Library website at www.olis.ri.gov/tbl/bard.

Summer Reading 2019 – A Universe of Stories

Visit your local public library this summer to register for the annual Summer Reading Program. Kids and teens who read for fun throughout the summer are less likely to lose skills learned during the school year. And there's no better way to enjoy summer reading than at Rhode Island public libraries! Kids and teens who meet their summer reading goals can earn prizes and coupons to visit local attractions. But why let kids and teens have all the fun? There is a Summer Reading program for adults, too. All types of reading count! Whether it's traditional print materials, audio books, or materials from the Talking Books Library, all forms of reading are included in the Summer Reading Program. The 2019 Summer Reading theme is "A Universe of Stories," and coincides with NASA's 60 years of achievement and its celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing. Libraries also have a stellar roster of performers lined up, so be sure to check your library's calendar for artists, musicians, dancers, animals and more! The Summer Reading Program runs from June through August and is free, though registration may be required at some libraries. Call or visit your local public library for more information and to register. The statewide Rhode Island Summer Reading Program is supported by the RI Office of Library and Information Services, with additional funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

A Universe of Stories About Space Travel and Space Exploration

Below is a list of 7 titles about space and space travel. The first 4 titles are adult non-fiction titles and the last 3 titles are for young readers, with selections for young readers in grades 3-6, 6-9 and 9-12.

Apollo 8: The Thrilling Story of the First Mission to the Moon by Jeffrey Kluger (DB88328)

Author of *Journey beyond Selene* (DB 50687) chronicles the Apollo 8 mission, manned by Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders, which was the first to successfully orbit Earth's moon. Discusses behind-the-scenes interactions in Mission Control, at the astronauts' homes, and in the labs tasked with making the mission a success. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly (DB86234)

Daughter of a NASA engineer profiles the black women who worked for NASA, and its predecessor NACA, as human computers. Discusses their lives prior to joining NACA/NASA, the challenges they faced due to gender and race discrimination, and their impact on the space program. Basis for the 2016 movie. Biography, Sciences. 2016.

No Dream is Too High: Life Lessons from a Man Who Walked on the Moon by Buzz Aldrin (DB85352)

Astronaut who was one of the first two humans to walk on the moon shares thirteen lessons he has learned over the course of his life. Uses personal experiences to highlight each lesson and discusses his support of future manned space exploration programs, particularly to Mars. Sciences. 2016.

Spaceman: An Astronaut's Unlikely Journey to Unlock the Secrets of the Universe by Mike Massimino (DB89626)

An astronaut chronicles his life and the journey to his career. Discusses growing up in New York, figuring out how to achieve his dreams of working for NASA, his initial medical disqualification due to his eyesight, and his eventual training. Includes anecdotes of the other astronauts he has met over the years. Biography, Sciences. 2016.

Titles Below for Younger Readers – "It's About Time, It's About Space, About Strange People in the Strangest Place"

Christa McAuliffe: A Pioneer Space Teacher by Charlene Billings (DB27586)

Christa McAuliffe, a high school social studies teacher from Concord, New Hampshire, was chosen in 1985 to be the first private citizen to go into space. She wanted to encourage schoolchildren to take more interest in the space program, and she wanted to increase respect for all teachers. Tragically, she and her fellow astronauts were killed when the space shuttle "Challenger" blew up on January 28, 1986. For grades 3-6.

Pioneers in Astronomy and Space Exploration by Michael Anderson (DB77541)

Profiles the lives of thirty-seven pioneers of astronomy and space exploration, from the ancient Greek mathematician and astronomer Eudoxus of Cnidus to astronaut Sally Ride, the first American woman in space. For grades 6-9 and older readers. 2013.

Elon Musk and the Quest for a Fantastic Future by Ashlee Vance (DB87265)

Adaptation for a younger audience of journalist Ashlee Vance's bestselling biography *Elon Musk* (DB82434). The revolutionary inventor and business magnate, born in 1971, is the founder of PayPal, SpaceX, and Tesla Motors. Highlights his ambition to colonize Mars. For grades 9-12. 2017.

Recent Books About Politics and Our Government

Below is a list of 8 books produced commercially and published in 2017 and 2018 about politics and our government. All are non-fiction, best sellers.

A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, and Leadership by James Comey (DB90517)

Former FBI director shares lessons and anecdotes from his decades of government service. Includes discussions of specific cases in which he was involved, such as prosecuting the Mafia and Martha Stewart, effecting changes to torture and surveillance policies, and overseeing the Clinton email investigation. Narrated by the author. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

Becoming by Michelle Obama (DB92627)

A memoir by the former First Lady, the first African American in that role. Obama recounts her childhood in Chicago, her years balancing motherhood and her career as an executive, and her time in the White House. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2018.

Fear: Trump in the White House by Bob Woodward (DB91876)

Pulitzer prize-winning investigative journalist details the decision-making process for both foreign and domestic policy in the Trump administration. Draws on interviews with firsthand sources, meeting notes, diaries, files, and documents. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2018.

Killing the Deep State: The Fight to Save President Trump by Jerome Corsi (DB92128)

Self-proclaimed conspiracy expert theorizes about a shadow organization which he calls the "Deep State" attempting to undermine President Donald J. Trump and his administration. Presents strategies for the administration to employ against this theoretical entity. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. Non-Fiction History. U.S. 2018.

Resistance is Futile! How the Trump Hating Left Lost its Collective Mind by Ann Coulter (DB92259)

The author denounces liberals who, she feels, overreact to things they don't like about Donald Trump's presidency. Derisively discusses the "Resistance," the pink-hat brigade, those who believe in Trump's collusion with Russia, and more. Argues that these types of people are meddling with democracy. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2018.

Trumped Up: How Criminalization of Political Differences Endangers Democracy by Alan Dershowitz (DB92820)

Prominent law professor discusses early twenty-first-century America's hyper-partisan politics, particularly during the Trump presidency. Examines the author's views on the dangers of intolerance from the Left

and authoritarian rhetoric from the Right. Calls for Americans to focus on what unites rather than divides. Politics and Government 2017.

Unhinged: An Insider's Account of the Trump White House by Omarosa Manigault (DB92159)

A former presidential assistant and director of communications for the Trump Administration's Office of Public Liaison details her time in the White House and discusses the behind-the-scenes operations of the Trump presidency, as well as her interactions with President Trump before his time in office. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2018.

You Can't Spell America Without Me: The Really Tremendous Inside Story of My Fantastic Year as President Donald J. Trump (a so-called parody) by Alec Baldwin (DB89948)

A satirical presidential memoir from the fictional perspective of President Donald Trump. Discusses Trump's first year as president, his campaign, his relationship with the media, his family relationships, and more. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

Financial Planning Titles in Alternate Formats

Understanding finance can be complicated as the economy is influenced by a wide variety of factors—stock market fluctuations, corporate upheavals, and foreign currency crises among them. Knowing how to handle personal financial matters can assist in many aspects of life: finding a home, providing for family members, arranging medical care, and preparing for retirement. Books are a great resource for navigating the various labyrinths of these topics. Titles dealing with money issues

from management and investment to selecting insurance and managing estate planning are available from the NLS collection of special-format materials. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/DigitalFinancials> to see a mini-bibliography which lists titles about personal finance that are available in braille and/or talking book formats. Recorded titles are available on digital cartridge or can be downloaded (DB) from the NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) site at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/>. Braille titles (BR) are also available on BARD.

Read Every Book by the Author, How About a Read-Alike?

If you have read every book by a particular author and would like to read more of the same type of book, you may request a Read-Alike. Read-Alike authors can fill the gap when there aren't any books left that you haven't read by a particular author. You can ask the TBL staff to find you an author that writes in a similar style, about the same subject, same genre, etc. We will work to find the best match, or you may discover a Read-Alike author on your own, by going to <https://www.bookbrowse.com/read-alikes/>.

Reading Across RI (RARI) 2019

For over 15 years, Rhode Island's only One Book, One State program from the RI Center for the Book, focuses on a single book selected to stimulate meaningful discussions across our state. This year the selected RARI book was *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City* by Mona Hanna-Attisha (DB92227). In 2014 when the state of Michigan shifted the source of its water supply to the Flint River, citizens began complaining about the water quality.

After initially believing state officials, the author--a pediatrician--soon realized that she needed undeniable proof to stop the lead poisoning. She details this fight of her life. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

Reader's Digest Now Available through NLS

The National Library Service (NLS) is pleased to announce the addition of Reader's Digest to its selection of audio magazines. Issues of the magazine will be available to patrons through BARD and via subscription, on cartridge. If you previously had a subscription to the Reader's Digest and would like to continue to receive this magazine, please email the Talking Books Library at talking.books@olis.ri.gov or call (401)574-9310.

Rhode Island Collection

The Talking Books Library is working to create a RI Collection. If you know of a RI author or title about a popular Rhode Islander, or know of a story that was written in or about RI, email that information to Talking Books Library at talking.books@olis.ri.gov so that we may add it to our list of local title recommendations to be recorded and produced in digital audiobook format.

No Need to Use Bookshelf Mode

NLS has updated the firmware for the Digital Talking-Book Machine (DTBM). Members may now download this firmware which allows users to sequentially play multiple talking-book titles on a single cartridge without the need to enter Bookshelf mode—a capability that has long been requested by NLS patrons and network libraries. For cartridges

containing more than one book or magazine, the new Sequential Play feature enables users to press the play/stop button to go to the next title when the player announces, "End of book." Standard Bookshelf mode will still work as before, allowing users to play multiple books or magazines in any order they wish, but for those who want a simpler method, the new functionality makes it possible to move from one title to the next without having to use the bookshelf. The updated firmware and instructions for installing are available for download on the NLS public website at <https://tinyurl.com/NoBookShelf> and the BARD Help page at <https://tinyurl.com/BARDFirmware>. NLS has also added the firmware to the Magazines on Cartridge system for use by multiple-magazine subscribers.

Warwick Public Library Homebound Program

In our last issue of the Talking Times Newsletter, we missed mentioning that Warwick Public library also has a program to provide books to homebound residents in their community. If you are a homebound Warwick resident, you can receive books through the Warwick Public Library's homebound reading program. Just send an email to reference@warwicklibrary.org or you may call Mary Anne Quinn at (401)739-5440 ext. 4 to sign up for the program. If you live in another city or town, there may be a homebound program in your area. Here is the list of cities and towns that have the homebound program.

Barrington, Bristol, Charlestown, Coventry, Cranston, Cumberland, East Greenwich, Foster, Glocester, Greenville, Jamestown, Narragansett, Newport, North Scituate, North Smithfield, Rochambeau Library in Providence, South Kingstown, Tiverton, West Warwick and Westerly.

Just call your local library in your city or town today to sign up for the program. All you will need is an Ocean State Libraries card which you can obtain for free from your local public library.

Blind Runner Makes History by Finishing NYC Half Marathon with Help of Guide Dogs

Here's an inspirational story from CBS News that we just had to share with our members. Runner, Thomas Panek, who lost his sight over 25 years ago, made history in March 2019 while running in the United Airlines, New York City Half Marathon. Panek ran with his guide dogs from Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a non-profit organization in New York that provides trained dogs to people who are blind and visually impaired. Thanks to 3 golden retrievers, Waffle, Westley and Gus who took turns running with Panek, he was able to finish the race in just over 2 hours and 20 minutes. Thomas Panek is the President and CEO of Guiding Eyes for the Blind. You can read the complete article or listen to the audio at <https://tinyurl.com/y3paq6hq>. To learn more about Guiding Eyes for the Blind see their website at <https://www.guidingeyes.org/>.

The Carroll Center for the Blind

The Carroll Center for the Blind at 770 Centre Street in Newton Massachusetts offers services to all New England residents. The Carroll Center serves individuals of ALL ages and ALL stages of vision loss. They offer social rehabilitation programs in assistive technology instruction, need training on computers, tablets, smartphones or daily living devices like the Victor Reader Stream, PenFriend and other digital technologies. They can also provide customized instruction depending on individual

needs. For more information, please contact Maureen Foley at (800) 852-3131.

Computers for the Blind

Computers for the Blind is a non-profit organization located in Richardson, TX which provides deeply discounted, refurbished computers with pre-loaded, assistive technology software to individuals who are blind or have low vision, with free shipping in the US. There is no income limit, but students and individuals with low income or those who may be receiving SSI or SSDI benefits, will receive additional discounts. Contact them by email at info@computersfortheblind.org or call Customer Service at (214)340-6328, Monday - Friday from 9 am - 7 pm. Visit their website at <https://www.computersfortheblind.org>.

Xavier Society for the Blind Offers Religious Materials Compatible with Talking Book Machines

The Xavier Society for the Blind provides inspirational, spiritual and religious reading materials in braille and audio to the blind and visually impaired community of faithful free of charge. They recently announced that their conversion to digital talking book format is now complete. These books can be played on the talking book machines provided by the National Library Service. The Xavier Society for the Blind has an existing catalog of over 1,500 braille and audio titles and has added some popular titles to their catalog. One of the primary objectives of the Xavier Society for the Blind is to choose new titles which will appeal to a larger audience. They hope that the combination of more appealing titles and the digital talking book format will allow them to reach many

more people, said the Xavier Society in a recent press release. They plan to add titles in Spanish as well. For more information, including how to register for Xavier Society materials, please visit their website www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org or call (800)637-9193.

Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry

While it seems like winter just ended, hurricane season is coming – it starts on June 1! Many people need extra help during an emergency. If you are vision impaired, blind or physically handicapped, you may enroll in the RI Special Needs Emergency Registry which alerts your local police, fire and rescue to better prepare for their response to your emergency. To find out more about the special needs registry go to <https://tinyurl.com/emergencyRI>. You may find the enrollment form at <https://tinyurl.com/enrollRI>.

Members with BARD Accounts - Download the TBL Newsletter

As a member of TBL BARD service, consider downloading the newsletter instead of subscribing to the digital hard copy through the mail. You will avoid mail delivery, due dates, and overdue notices that can cause a cancelled subscription to the newsletter. Email talking.books@olis.ri.gov today and ask to switch to the electronic subscription of the newsletter. You will get an email announcement whenever there is a new issue.

Talking Books Library Annual Report FY 2018

During fiscal year (FY)2018, the Talking Books Library staff have been busy processing new member applications and assisting members with their BARD accounts. We have mailed 38,394 digital and braille audio

books and members downloaded 11,384 books through BARD. Talking Books had 1,618 active members, including 1,526 individuals and 92 institutional members. TBL connected with Rhode Islanders last fall at the Assistive Technology Conference of New England and the National Federation of the Blind RI Conference at the Crowne Plaza, Radisson in Warwick. We also promoted TBL programs and resources to RI librarians, focusing on inclusive programs for people with visual impairments and other disabilities. In June, we updated veterans with low vision on TBL services at the VA Medical Center in Providence. Throughout the year, we visited senior centers throughout the state and promoted library programs through our website and our blog. We published 2 newsletters and mailed 1,927 Large Print, 474 Digital Cartridges and emailed 761 Talking Times Newsletters to members. We will continue supporting your needs and promoting our resources and activities to Rhode Islanders in the next year!

Some Important Tips and Reminders for Our Members

If you have chosen to be a "Request List" only patron, this means that you must have titles or items in your request list or no books will go out to you. You may add requests to your account by logging into the WebOPAC catalog and selecting titles to be placed in your book basket. The WebOPAC catalog is available at <http://bit.ly/tblcatalog>. You may rush up to 3 items. Rushed items will be given the highest priority in selecting books for shipment. You may also call the Talking Books Library staff at (401)574-9310 or email us at talking.books@olis.ri.gov to provide us with the numbers for titles you wish to have added to your request list. If you do not receive books and you know that you have

titles in your list, this may be due to copies being unavailable to fill your request. Please do not allow too much time to pass before you call us to let us know. If you are an "On Demand" patron, this means that you will only receive books when you call or email us to send them to you. No matter what type of service you have been assigned to, please remember that when you reach your maximum number of books out, the system will block any additional books from going out. Please return books as soon as you are done reading them. This ensures that those titles are available to other readers and will be checked in and updated to status "Returned" on your account. If you move or change your phone number, please contact the Talking Books staff so that we may update your account. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Tax Deductible Donations

Every gift to the RI Talking Books Library benefits all members of the program. Contributions allow us to fund projects not covered in the general budget. Donations are accepted in memory of a loved one, family member or to honor an individual. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let us know in an accompanying note. To make a donation, send check or money order payable to the RI Talking Books Library and mail to the RI Office of Library & Information Services, Talking Books Library, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Your donations are greatly appreciated and are used solely for the purchase of materials for the Talking Books Library.

**RI TALKING BOOKS LIBRARY
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***Free
Matter
for the
Blind***

TBL Closings and Holidays

Thursday, July 4, 2019, Independence Day
Monday, August 12, 2019, Victory Day
Monday, September 2, 2019, Labor Day



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