

Monthly Highlights from TBBC

New Jersey Talking Book & Braille Center <tbbs@njstatelib.org>

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To: Patt Ferrari <pferrari@njstatelib.org>;

Categories: Purple Category

Monthly Highlights from TBBC – May, 2021



TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER

It feels like spring has come and gone, and that summer is right around the corner. I'm pleased that we're able to offer books using Gutenberg so that you can stock up on summer reading titles. Noted elsewhere in this newsletter, we'll be running a Summer Reading Program for kids and teens again this year. We'd love your thoughts on how to make it as engaging as possible.

I don't know about you, but the highlight of my summer is going to be watching the 2021 Tokyo Paralympic games in mid-August. While international visitors aren't allowed to attend, there will be unprecedented TV coverage along with webcasting of events. I'm excited because my son will be competing – for his third Paralympics – on the USA Wheelchair Rugby Team, vying for gold. Other athletes to watch include wheelchair racer Tatyana McFadden, track and field competitor Blake Leeper and swimmer Brad Snyder, both of whom are blind. If you haven't tuned into the games before, try and find the time this year. In my opinion, it is the sporting event of the year!

Thanks to those of you that have already signed up for our 10th Annual Golf Tournament. It promises to be a golf-filled day and, we hope, sunny and not too hot. Your support for TBBC means a lot to our patrons and staff; thank you.

Be safe and be well.

Jen

Jennifer R. Nelson
New Jersey State Librarian

REMINDER

TBBC is open to the public virtually, but not for any walk-in patrons.

If you need anything, just call or email us! We will call or email you back. Just remember to leave your name, phone number, and what time is best to return the call. Or, if you want, we can set up a call on the computer so you can talk via the computer to a Readers Advisor.

Please, do not visit the building. Our health and safety protocols do not allow the public to visit at this time. If you do visit, you will not be able to talk to staff or pick up any materials.

SUMMER READING 2021: COMING SOON! STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!

With the warmer weather upon us, TBBC is gearing up for another summer of fun for our kids and teens with our annual Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Tails and Tales" and we're looking forward to creating an exciting program for you all.

We are still in the very early planning stages, but as we have more information, we will be certain to share it with everyone. If you have any questions, or want to share any feedback with us about your experiences from previous summer programs, please let us know! We are always happy to hear about the things you loved, or didn't love. You can email us at TBBCYouth@njstatelib.org.

TBBC'S 10TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The New Jersey State Library Talking Book & Braille Center is proud to announce its 10th Annual TBBC Golf Classic on Tuesday, June 15th 2021 at the [Bedens Brook Club in Skillman, New Jersey](#).

The day's events start at 7:30 a.m. with registration and continental breakfast, 9:00 a.m. shot gun start followed by a lunch reception with prizes, awards and an excellent auction featuring foursomes at several New Jersey courses including Bedens Brook.

We already have fifty golfers registered to play but there is still room. Even if you're not a golfer you can help spread the word to those interested in golfing, sponsoring or donating to the auctions. All proceeds from this event help TBBC pay for items that our budget cannot.

To find out more information on registering and sponsoring, visit our website at: <http://www.njstatelib.org/tbbc/donate>.

To register and sponsor on our secure online site go to:
<https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/NewJerseyStateLibrary/donate-1.html>.

Questions? Contact Linda Cerce at lcerce@njstatelib.org or call 1-800-792-8322 ext. 835.

FUTURE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

Later this year, NLS hopes to begin testing a new digital player. Among the features NLS hopes to include in the new player will be voice commands for playing and searching. NLS is also beginning to work with both Google and Amazon on their Home and Alexa products to play audiobooks.

New features are expected to be added to NLS's BARD Express software that will allow audio playback on computers.

NLS's plan for the future is to make it easier for all patrons. In time, a patron can move from listening to a book on one device and continue listening to that same book on another device without losing your place.

TBBC'S APRIL STATISTICS

This past April, TBBC downloaded 29,693 book requests from patrons. Because of TBBC's ability to use the Gutenberg software for duplication on demand, TBBC needed only 4,030 digital cartridges to fulfill these requests. Easier for everyone!

Additionally, for patrons who can download themselves, they downloaded 7,701 books from BARD.

Because of these improvements, TBBC patrons continue to have "any book, any time."

BRAILLE eREADER – UPDATE

Our pilot has had successes over the past few months. Some patrons have cancelled their Braille magazine issues since they can get any issue at any

time. Most patrons have responded positively to the reader. NLS has provided excellent support when a patron has had an issue.

NLS has reported that the second Braille eReader in the pilot from Zoomax has yet to be added. But NLS has added Alabama to the pilot libraries using the units from HumanWare.

If you are a Braille reader and you would like to join the eReader pilot program, please call us at 800-792-8322, extension 861 and leave your name and telephone number. One of our Readers Advisors will contact you.

MAY'S MOST POPULAR BOOKS ON BARD

[Suicide Run: Three Harry Bosch Stories DB97953](#) by Michael Connelly and read by Len Cariou.

LAPD Detective Harry Bosch in three never-before-collected stories. In the title entry, the apparent suicide of a beautiful young starlet turns out to be much more sinister than it seems. Also includes "Cielo Azul" and "One Dollar Jackpot. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2011.

[The Reversal: A Novel DB72138](#) by Michael Connelly and read by Gregory Gorton.

Attorney Mickey Haller agrees to re-prosecute convicted child murderer Jason Jessup when the DA's office allows Haller's ex-wife Maggie McPherson and half-brother detective Harry Bosch to assist. After spending twenty-four years in prison, Jessup has been exonerated by DNA evidence — but Haller is convinced he's guilty. Some violence. Bestseller. 2010

[Sycamore Row DB77720](#) by John Grisham and read by David Hartley-Margolin.

Still reeling from the racially charged case in *A Time to Kill* (DB 35891), attorney Jake Brigance learns he has been hired — posthumously — by reclusive Seth Hubbard. Before hanging himself, Hubbard wrote a will that cut out his children and bestowed his wealth on his black housekeeper. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2013.

[Fair Warning DB99807](#) by Michael Connelly and read by Myron Levin.

Veteran reporter Jack McEvoy — last seen in *The Scarecrow* (DB 69445) — has taken down killers before, but when a woman he had a one-night stand with is murdered in a particularly brutal way, McEvoy realizes he might be facing a criminal mind unlike any he's ever encountered. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2020.

[Hidden in Plain Sight: A Detective William Warwick Novel DB101354](#) by Jeffrey Archer and read by George Blagden.

1986. William Warwick from *Nothing Ventured* (DB 96828) has been promoted to Detective Sergeant. Along with the rest of his team, he is

assigned to the Drugs Squad. Their mission is to capture a notorious drug dealer, but a trap is hidden in plain sight. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

[Fly Away DB76664](#) by Kristin Hannah read by Gabriella Cavallero.

After Kate Ryan, from *Firefly Lane* (DB 66232), passes away from cancer, her family falls apart and her teenage daughter Marah eventually runs away. Kate's childhood friend Tully is devastated and follows her own mother's path into addiction. It takes another tragedy before reconciliation begins. Strong language. 2013.

[Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century DB86971](#) by Jessica Bruder and read by Karen White.

A look at the subculture of older Americans who, unable to afford either mortgages or retirement, are traveling the country in RVs, campers, and vans. Particularly examines the life of one woman as she travels between seasonal jobs and reunions with her van-dwelling friends. Some strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

[Long Range DB98717](#) by C. J. Box and read by David Chandler.

When the wife of a prominent local judge is wounded on Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett's turf, signs point to the shot having been taken from an impossible distance. Joe's best friend, Nate Romanowski — who is adjusting to parenthood — is a suspect. Meanwhile, Joe attempts to decipher a startling grizzly attack. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Bestseller. 2020.

[Murder of Innocence DB101365](#) by James Patterson; Max DiLallo; Andrew Bouelle and read by Stephen Graybill.

Two true crime cases. In *Murder of Innocence*, dozens of women have fallen for rich, charming, good-looking Andrew Luster. But Andrew is a predator, and it'll take a global effort to put him behind bars. In *A Murderous Affair* a rookie FBI agent may have impregnated his informant — who then disappears. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2020.

[Mindfulness Meditations for Anxiety: 100 Simple Practices to Find Peace Right Now DB97954](#) by Michael Smith and read by Tim Pabon.

A psychologist and meditation instructor designed these one-hundred breathing and mindfulness exercises to reduce nervousness and fear, and to develop the ability to target specific types of anxiety, whether they involve time of day, physical circumstances, or stressors like insomnia. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Toll-Free Number: (800) 792-8322 ext. 861

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Mail - pferrari@njstatelib.org

Local Phone Number: (609) 406-7179 ext. 861

Email Address: tbbc@njstatelib.org

Website Address: www.njstatelib.org/tbbc

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Talking Book & Braille Center | 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08618-3226

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