

974.905  
L66 c.2

PROPERTY OF  
NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY  
APR 22 2002  
STATION 520  
TRENTON, N.J.

**New Jersey**  
**Library for the Blind and Handicapped**  
2300 Stuyvesant Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08625

*NJLBH*  
*Newsletter*

Spring 2002

1-800-792-8322

## 9/11 Impacts Library's Services

### Inside this issue:

<i>Newspapers</i>	2
<i>E-Books</i>	2
<i>Computer class</i>	2
<i>Bookworm by Patt Thrash</i>	3
<i>Bookworm Checklist</i>	5
<i>Talking Pictures</i>	7
<i>Machine Tips</i>	8

The tragic events that have followed September 11th have impacted on so many of us. Our hearts go out to all who have lost family and friends during this time.

Services here at the Library have also been affected by the anthrax situation. LBH is on the mail route where the letters were posted and the main shipping and sorting postal center in Trenton remains closed. Many of the materials that were sent to our readers in October never arrived, so if you have not received books recently, your file could be blocked by books shipped out at that time, but never received. Call us if you need books and we'll be sure to check your record.

The post office now sends all our books and machines to other locations, some as far

away as the mid-west to be sorted and sent to you. This can cause considerable delays in your receiving material from us. We sincerely apologize for this, and ask for your patience in understanding that it is beyond our control.

Who would have thought that our postal workers, on whom we rely so heavily, would be risking their lives to carry our mail? Please let your carrier know how much his or her work is appreciated! The Library depends on them every day as they carry away hundreds of items and bring us back the same amount!



## Audiovision and Newline, Newspapers by Ear



Do you miss your morning paper? There are two services that may fill the void. Audiovision is a radio reading service provided by the Library where a corps of dedicated volunteers read many local

New Jersey papers—Bergen News, Newark Star Ledger, Camden Courier Post, Trenton Times, Asbury Park Press as well as selections from national newspapers on a daily basis. Like almost all our services, it's free.

Newline is a service provided by the National Federation of the Blind that transfers

texts of newspapers into synthetic computerized speech which eligible patrons may access from any touch tone phone by dialing 1-888-882-1629. Newline reads a variety of newspapers such as the Los Angeles Times, The Milwaukee Journal, and the New York Times.

To be eligible for this service, you must be blind or visually impaired and complete an application or let them know that you receive services from us.

Both Audiovision and Newline can satisfy your need to be informed. Call the Library for information about both services.

## E-Books, via the Internet

The site [www.bookshare.org](http://www.bookshare.org) already includes scanned copies of "A Beautiful Mind," the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy and more than 7,500 other books. Volunteers are scanning hundreds more each month and adding them to the site's database.

Before using the site, you must mail or fax a disability form signed by a qualified professional or e-mail them that you are certified by the Library of Congress, Na-

tional Library Service and are a registered reader here in New Jersey. The site also requires a \$25 sign-up fee and a \$50 annual subscription.

If your interest runs to non-fiction, you may want to consider netLibrary that is available at no cost by contacting Deborah Rutledge at the Library. Signing up for netLibrary comes with a hitch—you may be called on to help evaluate its usefulness!

## Free Computer Classes

If you are visually impaired and would like to learn to use computers, the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired may be providing just the program you need.

De Witt & Associates is offering free hands-on computer training at nine con-

venient locations throughout New Jersey. The program includes the Internet, the Windows operating system and other software.



For more information contact De Witt & Associates toll free at 1-866-745-5996 or 1-877-447-6500.

## Bookworm by Patt Thrash



I just finished Orson Scott Card's *Stone Tables* (RC 49462). If the only version of the story of Moses that you know is the movie *The Ten Commandments* (DV468) with Charlton Heston, et. al, then you might like this book. It gives a historical context to Moses and it is told from a Mormon perspective. I don't usually read prefaces and notes until after I discover whether the story is good or not. The preface in this case is wonderfully informative, both in historical content and in the details of *why* the story is told the way it is. The narrator has lovely ringing oration when Moses speaks as God's representative and in some cases he actually sounds a bit like Yul Brenner's Rameses from the movie for the voice of Pharaoh. At nine sides, it's an excellent, well-paced read. There is no foul language or graphic sex.

Another well-told story of ancient Egypt is *Lady of the Reeds*, by Pauline Gedge (RC 45180). This tells of the House of Pharaoh's inner workings from a concubine's perspective. It details the often murderous intrigues from behind the scenes and the jockeying for power that is hinted at in *Stone Tables*. Particularly interesting are the details of women's daily life in the palace precincts. Poison is a frequent food additive, and some of the deaths are gruesome in the telling. Some of the violence is graphic but not so gory as to detract from the story.

Skip *Ancient Evenings* by Norman Mailer (RC 19218). It drones on and on and never seems to get around to the story. Historical details are given at such length and so ponderously that I can only compare it to Thomas Hardy's *Return of the Native* (BR 616, RC 15328, LT 522) for the most boring book I've ever read.

For a lively story, Lillian Berkowitz of Monroe Township likes Anne Perry's William Monk character, particularly in *Breach of Promise* (RC 47705) the 8th book in this Victorian murder mystery series. "It's like I'm watching her (Perry) take lessons, each one is better and better. I did not guess it in the least, I did not pick up on the clues at all!" Lillian says of *Breach of Promise*. The checklist gives the William Monk books. Anne Perry also has a long series of Victorian

## Bookworm continued

murder mysteries featuring Thomas Pitt and sleuthing wife Charlotte, beginning with *Cardington Crescent* (RC 26079).

For those who say “enough of ancient history. I want something about today,” Dianna Faust of Howell comments about Nora Roberts’ recent “Irish Trilogy” “You just couldn’t beat it. You hated to start the last book BECAUSE you knew it *was* the LAST book. So different from the genre she usually writes!” If the clamor for the recently released third volume is any indication, many NJLBH readers agree with Dianna. Just to add a little bit of confusion, Roberts had released 2 books with “Irish” in the title but they are NOT part of the “Irish Trilogy”—these are also included on the checklist. Irish Hearts contains two novellas “Irish Thoroughbred” and “Irish Rose.”

Barbara Plocker of Edison likes “Stone Barrington” by Stuart Woods. Stone’s a freelance attorney for a prestigious law firm. “It’s not crazy romance. They come to him when they need something special to be solved. They take place in California and the Caribbean.” Plocker says “He (Woods) describes it so well you want to be there. These are good books, you’ll like them.” These books all contain some graphic violence or some graphic sex.

“I remember vividly” *Glass Lake* by Maeve Binchy (RC 39883, LT 19089) Elsie Kahora of Whiting recalled. *Glass Lake* is a sharply drawn novel about a mother abandoning her family to lead a more exciting life and how she comes to realize what she had given up. “I need to read that one again, and when’s the next one coming out by her?” *Scarlet Feather* is the newest offering by the popular Irish author. A little more “modern” than most of Binchy’s stories in that it takes place almost wholly in the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, readers will find the same detailed characterization and the complex intertwining of families that Binchy does so well. The hip-replacement surgery that delayed this book’s release in print didn’t do anything to slow the author down. Have some munchies ready when you receive this one: the Scarlet Feather referred to in the title is a catering business.



## Bookworm Checklist

Stone Tables by Orson Scott Card RC 49462 \_\_\_

Lady of the Reeds by Pauline Gedge RC 45180 \_\_\_

### "William Monk" books by Anne Perry:

Face of a stranger RC 32732 \_\_\_

Dangerous Mourning RC 35113 \_\_\_

Defend and Betray RC 37192 \_\_\_ BR 9362 \_\_\_

Sudden, Fearful Death RC 37571 \_\_\_

Sins of the Wolf RC 44216 \_\_\_

Cain His Brother RC 44539 \_\_\_ LT 19445 \_\_\_

Silent Cry RC 46870 \_\_\_ LT 20322 \_\_\_

Breach of Promise RC 47705 \_\_\_ LT 20596 \_\_\_

Twisted Root RC 49427 \_\_\_

Cardington Crescent (Inspector Pitt) RC 26079 \_\_\_

### Nora Roberts "Irish Trilogy:"

Jewels of the Sun RC 49482 \_\_\_ LT 21329 \_\_\_

Tears of the Moon RC 50766 \_\_\_ LT 21602 \_\_\_

Heart of the Sea RC 51351 \_\_\_ LT 21830 \_\_\_

Irish Hearts RC 50504 \_\_\_

Irish Rebel RC 50505 \_\_\_

### "Stone Barrington" books by Stuart Woods:

New York Dead RC 36337 \_\_\_ LT 18288 \_\_\_

Dirt RC 43128 \_\_\_

Dead in the Water RC 44806 \_\_\_

Swimming to Catalina RC 46180 \_\_\_

Worst Fears Realized RC 48778 \_\_\_

LA Dead RC 51598 \_\_\_ LT 21765 \_\_\_

Cold paradise RC in process LT 22213 \_\_\_

### Maeve Binchy

Glass Lake RC 39883 \_\_\_ LT 19089 \_\_\_

Scarlet Feather RC 51764 \_\_\_ BR 13352 \_\_\_

**Free Matter for the Blind**

---

---

---

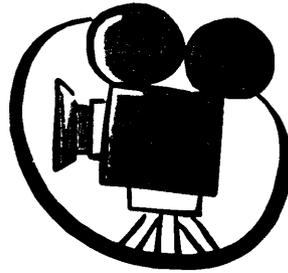
**New Jersey Library for the Blind & Handicapped  
2300 Stuyvesant Avenue  
P.O. Box 501  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625**

## Miss the Action in Movies?

Do you no longer go to the movies because you cannot see what's happening on the screen? Are friends and family tired of describing the action to you when you watch a video at home? There is a solution available for you! Talking Pictures are complete

movies, just as you would see it in the theater or on your home video machine, but a narrator describes any action that you might miss because you are unable to see the screen. For example, in a suspense movie when the music gets tense and there is no dialog, but action is happening on the screen, a voice unobtrusively comes on and would say something like this:

*An individual enters a darkened room and approaches a desk. He opens the drawer on the right and rifles through it, then opens the drawer on*



Talking Pictures describe movie action

*the left, and the central drawer and rifles through those. He is not careful, leaves papers disheveled and does not close the drawers. Suddenly the light comes on in the room and the figure stiffens.....*

Talking Pictures are the one service offered by the Library that does have a charge because they are provided by the Friends of the Library. There is a one-time \$20 fee and a separate application form that you will need to complete. Only one video is mailed out at a time and another is not sent until the borrowed film is returned. If you would like more information, a catalog of the videos available or an application form, contact **Gail** in Readers' Services at **1-800-792-8322**. She's a big fan of Talking Pictures and will be happy to help.

## Cassette Tips and Suggestions



Be kind! Rewind

It can be very frustrating to get a book and then discover that the cassette begins in the middle of the tape.

Please, if you don't care for a title after you have started to read it, please be sure to rewind it so the next reader gets to start at the beginning of the book.

too. While we rewind all books that are sent out from the stacks, we rely on you to lend a hand with the most popular materials!

If you do receive a book with a damaged or missing tape, call the Library at 1-800-792-8322 and we will make a new tape for you and have it in the mail within 24 hours!

---

**New Jersey Library  
for the Blind  
and Handicapped**

---

2300 Stuyvesant  
Avenue  
P.O. Box 501  
Trenton, NJ 08625

---

**Call: 800-792-8322**

Fax: 609-530-6384

Email:  
njlbh@njstatelib.org

*Affiliated with  
Thomas Edison State College*

**Free Matter for Blind  
and Handicapped**

NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY  
P.O. BOX 520  
185 WEST STATE STREET  
TRENTON NJ 08625

---

## **Machine Tips — Trouble Shooting**

If you are having a problem with your cassette player, here are a few tips to try to figure out the problem.

Have your cassette player instruction tape handy. Place the tape in the player. If the instruction tape sounds good, the problem is not your cassette player, but the tape. Call for a replacement tape, not a replacement machine.

When the voice on your cassette player talks too fast, make sure the buttons are in the right position on the cassette player: The "speed control" switch should be pressed down to the

left side and the "variable speed control" switch should be moved to the left side marked "normal." If this does not improve the sound, call the library for a machine.

If you hear double voices you also need a machine. The player heads are out of alignment and need to be fixed. Call the Library at 1-800-792-8322 for a replacement.

