

Prairie Trails Memorandum

South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Program

Cassette Books Ending; Digital Books Continue

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that 2014 is past and that another year is before us. The one constant in life is that things are always changing.

In 2009, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped introduced their new digital player and books. We have heard from many of you about how much you enjoy the new player and books.

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At the same time that the National Library Service introduced the digital player and books, they began to phase out the cassette player and books. It has now been several years since the National Library Service has produced any books in cassette format.

As of April 1, we will no longer send out cassette machines or books. Patrons must return their cassette books and yellow cassette players to the South Dakota State Library Braille and Talking Book Program at that time. The National Library Service requires us to return all cassettes and equipment. We cannot allow you to keep them, nor will they be for sale.

The good news is that the digital collection will continue to circulate as before. The Braille and Talking Book Program continues to add new titles to the collection every week.

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Thank you so much for your cooperation. If you have any questions, or need a digital machine, do not hesitate to call us. We want to make this transition easy for everyone. It is time to say goodbye to the old and embrace the new!

*Colleen Kirby
Assistant State Librarian*

*Cassette machines &
books are no longer
being sent out.*

*Please return all
cassettes and
equipment.*



Last Annual Digital Talking Books Plus Catalogs by NLS

The 2013 Digital Talking Books Plus catalog will be the last annual print catalog NLS will produce and ship to patrons in mid-2015. To search for books online go to the NLS Online Voyager Catalog, <http://nlscatalog.loc.gov> , or search and directly order books on WebOPAC, <http://talkbook.library.sd.gov/cgi-gin/webopac.cgi/sd1a>, or by contacting your reader advisor. Bimonthly print catalogs will continue to be produced. We suggest that you keep your bimonthly catalogs for future reference.

Helpful Hint: Playing the Book Twice

“I loved the book and want to play it again. How do I play the book twice without rewinding it?”

After the book says “End of book,” simply press the PLAY button twice! The player will restart your book at the beginning.



Learning how to use the digital player

More Helpful Hints!

When you receive your digital player, please keep the original box; this box will be needed later if you need to return your player for any reason. The serial number of the player matches the number on the outside of the box, so they should stay together.

If you do lose the original box though, you can return your player in any box you might have around the house; simply address it to the South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Program, 800 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501. Write "Free Matter for the Blind" where postage would go. When you return a player, it is also helpful to include a note so that we can quickly send you a replacement player or cancel your books if needed.

Movie Titles for You

Winter is a great time to watch a movie. It's cold and snowy outside. What could be better than to fix popcorn and hot cocoa and watch a movie? The Braille and Talking Book Program has recently added descriptive movies on DVD to the collection. Just a few of the titles are:

12 Years a Slave – DVD100 – Solomon Northup is a free man living in New York until he's kidnapped and sold in Louisiana as a slave.

2 Guns – DVD101 – A DEA agent and a naval intelligence officer find themselves on the run after a botched attempt to infiltrate a drug cartel. While fleeing, they learn the secret of their shaky alliance: Neither knew that the other was an undercover agent.

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked – DVD110 – Playing around while aboard a cruise ship, the Chipmunks and Chipettes accidentally go overboard and end up marooned in a tropical paradise. Animated.

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Big Miracle – DVD 116 – In a small town in Alaska, a news reporter recruits his ex-girlfriend, a Greenpeace volunteer, on a campaign to save a family of gray whales trapped by rapidly forming ice in the Arctic Circle.

Brave – DVD 119 – Determined to make her own path in life, Princess Merida defies a custom that brings chaos to her kingdom. Granted one wish, Merida must rely on her bravery and her archery skills to undo a beastly curse. Animated.

Cowboys and Aliens – DVD 129 – A spaceship arrives in Arizona, 1873, to take over Earth, starting with the Wild West region. A posse of cowboys and natives are all that stand in their way.

Gunsmoke: Return to Dodge – DVD 159 – Will Mannon is released from a frontier prison and promptly goes in search of the people who put him there some 12 years ago.

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These are just a few of the hundreds of movies that we have. If you would like to receive movies or look at our movie catalog, please call your Reader Advisor.



South Dakota Titles

Some South Dakota titles that you can checkout include:

Ethnic Oasis: The Chinese in the Black Hills by Liping Zhu – DBS0045729

Roadside Geology of South Dakota by John Paul Gries – DBS004628

Principle over Party: The Farmers' Alliance and Populism in South Dakota, 1880 – 1900 by R. Alton Lee – DBS004634

What Makes a South Dakotan by John E. Miller and Lenora Hudson – DBS004646

On the Homefront, South Dakota Stories by Charles L. Woodard – DBS004661

Laura Ingalls Wilder by Kaye Pratchett – DBS004676

Assistive Technology Training Available for South Dakotans Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired

The S.D. Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI), will provide instruction to address built-in accessibility options in personal computing devices.

Adults and high school students with low vision or who are blind are eligible for the free individualized training with up to five hours of instruction per program participant.

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“Using technology to access and share information is an important part of day-to-day life in 2014, and nearly all jobs require the use of computers or mobile devices of some kind,” DHS Secretary Gloria Pearson said. “Assistive technology training is a vital part of maintaining a high quality of life, including competitive employment, for South Dakotans who are blind or visually impaired.”

The intent of SBVI’s access-training project is to help people with vision loss maximize their ability to use their mobile devices and computers. No devices, applications or software will be purchased through the program.

“We believe the specific, individualized nature of the instruction will be a key to the successful training of each participant as well as the project overall,” SBVI Director Gaye Mattke said. “Training may include topics such as utilizing built-in accessibility features, downloading apps and accessing everything from the Internet and email to other existing applications.”

More information about this access-training program is available by calling SBVI at 800-658-5441, toll free, or the S.D. Rehabilitation Center for the Blind at 605-367-5260.



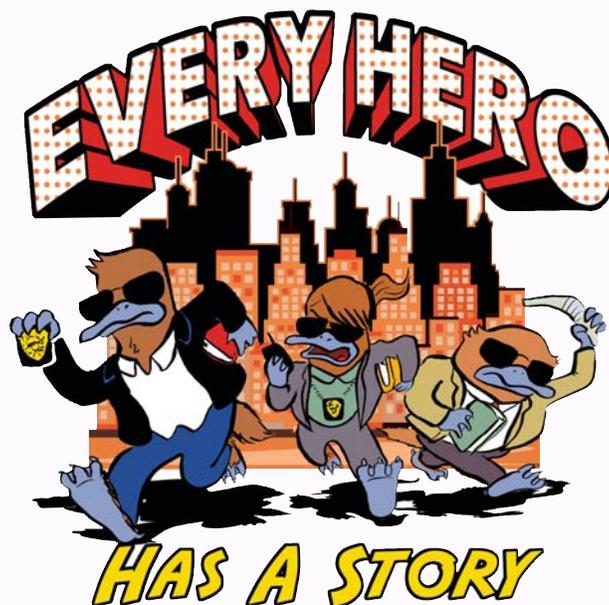
*Person using
computer*

Kids/ Teen News

Summer Reading Program

Mark your calendars! We will be starting our Summer Reading Program on June 8. The theme this year for children is "Every Hero Has a Story." The theme for teens is "Unmask."

If you are interested in participating in the Summer Reading Program, or learning more about the program, contact Mary Sjerven at 1-800-423-6665 options 1, 1 or email Mary at mary.sjerven@state.sd.us. Please join us for a fun summer of reading.



Vision Loss Books for Children and Young Adults

Dead End Bluff by Elizabeth Witheridge - DB073569

Business is Looking Up : Featuring Renaldo Rodriguez
by Barbara Aiello and Jeffrey Shulman - DB030566
(Download Only)

Hanni and Beth: Safe and Sound by Beth Finke -
DB067181

Ray Charles: "I Was Born with Music Inside Me" by Carin T.
Ford - DB067059

Vision Without Sight: Human Capabilities by Susan Brocker
- DB065682 (Download Only)

The World at His Fingertips: A Story About Louis Braille by
Barbara O'Connor - DB069606

Follow My Leader by James B. Garfield - DB070876

To the Rescue: Found Dogs with a Mission by Elise Lufkin - DB070466

She Touched the World: Laura Bridgman, Deaf-Blind Pioneer by Sally Hobart Alexander and Robert Joseph Alexander - DB066527

From Charlie's Point of View by Richard Scrimger - DB061308 (Download Only)

Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements - DB054713 (Download Only)

Blind Sighted by Peter Moore - DB055570 (Download Only)



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If you have any questions or comments you would like to address, or wish to request this newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the SD Braille and Talking Book Program. Call us toll free at 1-800-423-6665.

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