

# **Connections**

## **Talking Book Service News**

Late Summer  
2011

### **The “Never Stop Reading” campaign**

The Idaho Commission for Libraries’ “Never Stop Reading” campaign to promote the Talking Book Service (TBS), begins in October 2011 and runs through June 2012. This statewide outreach, intended to provide information about TBS to potential users and their family and friends, features a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) that focuses on the variety of titles available to TBS users.

A highlight of the PSA is that all five people in it are either current or former TBS users. Many thanks to Stephanie Decker, David Hand, Samantha Holmberg, Lesa Shields, and Kyle Swanstrom for their participation.

The campaign will focus on different regions of the state at different times. Southwest Idaho will be targeted October through December. Northern Idaho will be



### **“Never Stop Reading” logo**

targeted January through March, and eastern and southeastern Idaho will be targeted April through June 2012. During each of these times the PSA will run on television and radio stations in the targeted regions. In addition, TBS staff will contact and present to support groups for the blind, as well as institutions such as schools, nursing homes, libraries, and senior centers. Staff will distribute information about the service and how to enroll in it.

Current users can help with the outreach by suggesting organizations to contact or visit, referring potential users to TBS, and, of course, notifying TBS when

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## Campaign *(cont'd from page 1)*

they hear the PSA on the TV or radio. Help us share the word about this important service!

### The SHELF Project

Idaho Commission for Libraries staff and volunteers have worked the last two years to make Idaho's locally recorded books available for download for those who have access to computers and the Internet.

This will soon occur, with the introduction of the SHELF Project in October 2011. Similar to BARD, the SHELF Project will allow users to download books to their computers and transfer them to be played on their digital players. Books in the SHELF Project are all locally recorded and supplement the National Library Service collection.

Idaho's collection focuses on books about Idaho and the Pacific Northwest. Users will also have access to the locally produced titles of all states participating in the SHELF Project. At this point that includes Massachusetts, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Vermont, but more states are expected to join.

Currently, the SHELF Project contains more than 1,000 titles, including about 300 Idaho books. More titles will be added as they are recorded or made available digitally. The current Idaho collection contains almost 800 titles, with approximately 50 new titles recorded each year. Idaho's remaining 500 titles will be made available digitally as soon as possible.

To see what is available, search the online catalog (<http://webopac.klas.com/idbph>) by author, title, or subject. When a title is identified for download, click on the URL. The URL will be part of either the BARD or SHELF Project database.

- For the BARD database, enter the login and password you received when you registered for BARD.
- For the SHELF Project, the login and password is the user ID and password used to order books through the online catalog.

If you have not received the above login information or you have questions about this new service, contact TBS at 800-458-3271.

## Recent Donations to TBS

### General Donations

Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Mabel English  
Cary and Beverly Smith

### Memorial Donations

#### Dean Gumm

Sam and Marien Barton

#### Dick Scott/LaRita Hutchinson

Bryce and Barbara Keck

#### Betty Ustohal

Sue and Richard Foerster

Donations are used to enhance the Talking Book Service and are fully tax deductible as allowable by law. Acknowledgements are sent to donors and honorees, so please include the name and address of all those to be notified. Please make checks payable to Idaho Commission for Libraries and mail to:

Idaho Talking Book Service  
325 West State Street  
Boise, ID 83702

Credit card donations can be made online from the Idaho Commission for Libraries website (<http://libraries.idaho.gov>) by clicking on the "Donate Here!" button in the lower left hand corner.

Thank you for your generosity!

## Resources for Readers

### Tape Ministries NW

Are you looking for additional inspirational and Christian fiction titles? Tape Ministries NW may be able to help. The organization's website describes itself as "a non-denominational Bible-based religious organization which partners with churches and individuals from many denominations, including Presbyterian, Lutheran, Covenant, Methodist, Episcopalian, Baptist, Assemblies of God, and many more."

The organization has a collection of 1,300 Christian books on cassettes and monthly issues of *Our Daily Bread* and *Decision Magazine* available to circulate by mail to those unable to read standard print due to a physical disability. The collection includes Christian fiction, Biblical commentary and theology, and some sermon collections. The service is free, including mailing to and from the user.

For more information or to request an application:

- Call:  
206-243-7377
- Email:  
[tmnw@tapeministries.org](mailto:tmnw@tapeministries.org)

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### **Resources** (*cont'd from page 3*)

Note: Be aware that this organization is supported by grants and donations. Its services are free, but the group does solicit readers for donations.

### **Free Jewish Materials**

JBI International offers a large collection of Jewish interest books and magazines on audio recording, Braille, and large print to those who cannot read standard print due to a physical disability. The service is free, including mailing to and from the user.

Materials can be requested by telephone, email, or via the online catalog. Similar to the Talking Book Service, materials can also be selected based on the user's profile.

For more information or to request an application:

- Call:  
800-433-1531
- Website:  
[www.jbilibrary.org/home.html](http://www.jbilibrary.org/home.html)

### **Magazine Corner**

#### ***Choice Magazine Listening***

Effective April 2011, the publication schedule for *Choice Magazine Listening* changed from bimonthly to quarterly. The content in each issue increased from 8 hours to 12 hours, so listeners will continue to receive the same amount of content from more than 100 current magazines.

The magazine is in the process of being converted from cassettes to digital cartridges over the next one to two years. When that occurs, users will receive the cartridge directly from the publisher and must return it to receive the next issue. At that time, the cassette format will no longer be available.

Free subscriptions to this title can be requested by email at [choicemag@aol.com](mailto:choicemag@aol.com) or by phone at 888-724-6423. This title is also currently available for download from BARD.

#### **More downloadable magazines**

The *Reader's Digest* and *Newsweek* are now available for download from The American Printing House for the Blind website. Users can register to access the titles at:  
<http://tech.aph.org/mags>.

## New Books Order Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**New Idaho Talking Books from Our Recording Studio**  
*New locally recorded books are available on digital cartridges.*

To order, select the VDB number of the titles you want and mail this pre-addressed Order Form, call 800-458-3271, or order online at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Summer2011>.

*Tiger On The Road: The Life of Vardis Fisher* (Adult Nonfiction)  
 Author: Tim Woodward Read By: Art Latterell  
 This book tells the story of the "dean of the Western novelists," Vardis Fisher, a complex man whose writings intrigued and inspired his readers. He lived much of his life in Idaho, where he drew his inspiration for *Mountain Man*, the basis for the movie *Jeremiah Johnson*.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1191) 1989 10 hours/40 minutes

*Courting Disaster: An Angie Amalfi Mystery* (Adult Fiction)  
 Author: Joanne Pence Read By: Maryan Stephens  
 Angie and homicide detective, Paavo, are about to celebrate their long-awaited engagement. But when Angie gets distracted by a vengeful stalker and strange happenings on a boat, it looks like Paavo may be celebrating solo.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1198) 2004 8 hours/45 minutes

*Beyond the Flames: A Family Touched by Fire* (Adult Nonfiction)  
 Author: Heather S. Thomas Read By: Sue Robinson  
 This true story recounts the tragedy and healing of Andrea, a 30 year old mother who is severely burned in a range fire near Salmon, Idaho.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1202) 2004 18 hours/30 minutes

*Owyhee Trails: The West's Forgotten Corner* (Adult Nonfiction)  
 Author: Mike Hanley Read By: Sue Vap  
 Hanley, with the assistance of Ellis Lucia, provides the reader with an eclectic mix of stories, including true history, tall stories and anecdotes.

All the stories provide interesting insights into the colorful history of the Owyhees, a mountain range in Idaho's wild high-desert country.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1206) 1973 10 hours/22 minutes

*Dreamers: On the Trail of the Nez Perce* (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Martin Stadius Read By: Colette Cowman

Stadius, in his VW van, follows the 1,200 mile trail of Chief Joseph and his retreating Nez Perce band. The author recounts the historical story with diligent research and his own personal insights gleaned from his travels.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1208) 1999 15 hours/35 minutes

*Little Lost River* (Adult Fiction)

Author: Pamela Johnston Read By: Deborah Lynch

This moving coming-of-age novel is set in Boise, Idaho in the early 1980s. As wild, rebellious Cindy and quiet, responsible Frances negotiate the angst of adolescence, they find support and compassion in each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1209) 2008, Some adult language 10 hours

*Silent Screen and My Talking Heart: An Autobiography* (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Nell Shipman Read By: Margaret Dimmick

Silent screen actor Nell Shipman shares her life story. From Vaudeville to the talkies, Shipman's candid saga tells of joining a theatrical group while still a teenager and how this teenager grew into a pioneer woman filmmaker.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1210) 1988 Some adult language 10 hours/53 minutes

*Death in Time* (Adult Fiction)

Author: Lindsley Rinard Read By: Kathy Yribar

When Baltimore doctor Timothy Anderson is acquitted in the murder of his wealthy wife, Melanie Withers is terrified. She testified against Anderson and ruined his career as a plastic surgeon. Melanie makes plans to disappear to a remote town in Idaho where she plans to start anew. But disturbing events suggest that her escape hasn't gone as planned. Enter private detective Nate Griswald, determined to uncover the truth.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1223) 2007 9 hours/22 minutes

*Tom & Julia Davis: "Some Good Place," Boise, Idaho* (Adult Nonfiction)  
Author: Susan M. Stacy Read By: Art Latterell  
*Tom and Julia Davis*, the fifth Idaho history by Stacy, will introduce all Idahoans to this extraordinary couple and to the much-loved city they worked so deliberately to make into "some good place."  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1229) 2007 4 hours/33 minutes

*God's Dogs: A Novel in Stories* (Adult Fiction)  
Author: Mitch Wieland Read By: Carla Stern  
Ferrell Swan fled the shambles of his life in Ohio for the vast and empty landscape of Idaho's high desert. Here he tries to escape his past and its failures, even to escape memory itself.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1231) 2009 Sex & adult language 7 hours/20 minutes

*Elena, Woman of Courage: A Family Saga in Bear Lake, ID* (Adult Fiction)  
Author: Linda Weaver Clark Read By: Lyn McCollum  
Being the new doctor isn't easy, especially if you are a woman in a conservative western town in the 1920s. Newly arrived from New York, Elena Yates has come to Montpelier, Idaho to open a private practice.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1233) 2009 7 hours/30 minutes

*Hanged: A History of Idaho's Executions* (Adult Nonfiction)  
Author: Kathy Deinhardt Hill Read By: Kris Query  
Hanged explores the history behind each legal hanging in Idaho from the earliest execution in 1864 to the last in 1957. The stories take you on a journey through Idaho's past and the desperate days of these 26 men.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1236) 2009 10 hours/20 minutes

*Idaho Wine Country* (Adult Nonfiction)  
Author: Alan Minskoff Read By: Alan Minskoff  
Learn about Idaho's diverse and prolific wine producing regions and the growers and wine producers that create the wine. Author Minskoff and photographer Paul Hosefros spent 15 months touring Idaho vineyards, interviewing and photographing over 50 winemakers.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1242) 2010 3 hours/39 minutes  
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Idaho Commission for Libraries  
Idaho Talking Book Service  
325 West State Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**



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*The Iron Bodkin, book one of the Sardonyx Trilogy* (Juvenile Fiction)  
Author: Amy Allgeyer Cook Read By: Amy Cook  
What if you accidentally turned your sister invisible? What if invisibility was illegal...and so was the spell to cure it? What if Inquisitors were watching you day and night? What would you do?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1251) 2011 3 hours/30 minutes

*Love To Water My Soul* (Adult Fiction)  
Author: Jane Kirkpatrick Read By: Kathy Yribar  
Based on historical characters and events, *Love to Water My Soul* recounts the dramatic story of an abandoned white child rescued by Indians. Among Oregon's Paiute people, Shell Flower seeks love and a place of belonging... only to be cast away from her home. In the years that follow, she faces a new life in the world of the white man. This heartwarming story is a sequel to Kirkpatrick's award-winner, *A Sweetness to the Soul*.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VDB 1232) 1996 15 hours

## What Are You Reading?

Talking Book Service Coordinator Sue Walker recently realized how many books, both fiction and nonfiction, she's read about Afghanistan over the years. She's drawn by the exotic landscapes, diverse culture, and the persistence of its people, who have endured much over the centuries. Below are some of her favorites with brief descriptions:



***Caravans*** by James Michener:  
This oldie but goldie book explores the diverse history and culture of Afghanistan in true Michener fashion: long and detailed.  
**Adult Fiction: RC010890**

***Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes behind the Veil*** by Deborah Rodriguez & Kristin Ohlson:  
A factual account by a Michigan hairdresser who founded the Kabul Beauty School after the Taliban's fall in 2002. The book describes how she taught, befriended, and empowered her students despite financial problems, language barriers, and cultural misunderstandings.  
**Adult Nonfiction: DB/RC064555**

***A Thousand Splendid Suns***  
by Khaled Hosseini:  
Set in war-torn Kabul during the 1970s and 1980s, this bestseller focuses on the love of women for

Over the years, Sue Walker has read many books about Afghanistan

their families.  
**Adult Fiction with strong language and violence: DB/RC064803**

***Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations...One School at a Time*** by Greg Mortenson:  
An inspiring account of one man's dedication to building schools for girls in Taliban controlled Pakistan and Afghanistan.  
**Adult Nonfiction: DB064285**

TBS users are invited to share favorite titles or genres. Please send a brief description of the genre or titles and why you like them. Provide contact information so staff can verify that you supplied the descriptions.

## Volunteer Highlight: Becky DeSilvia

About ten months ago, Becky DeSilvia's friend was talking to Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Winther about projects at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL). Her friend thought that Becky would be a perfect fit here. Previously, Becky had been reading newspapers for the Idaho Commission for the Blind, and since that project had ended she decided to see if the Talking Book Service at ICfL could use her assistance. We're sure glad she did because now our Talking Book Service users are benefitting from Becky's wonderful reviewing and narrating skills.

Three times a week, whenever she's in town, Becky reviews the audio portions of our local recordings, comparing them to the text in the books. She enjoys the challenge of making the narrators sound as good as possible. Becky also narrates regional magazines and says that one of the biggest challenges when she first began reading was to correct any idiosyncrasies in her voice.

Becky has a love for reading, both fiction and nonfiction, and finds it fulfilling to help those unable to read standard print enjoy books as much as she does.

Through the years, Becky has volunteered for multiple projects and organizations and this is the first time she has found herself volunteering "at only one place." She is now retired, after 20 years as a corporate certified public accountant (CPA), and appreciates the control over her own schedule that volunteering allows.

When Becky is not volunteering, she and her husband, Craig, also retired, love to travel. Europe, Maui, Palm Springs, the Caribbean, and their cabin at Flathead Lake in Montana are favorite spots. Avid skiers, Becky and Craig also go to Vail and Whistler when they can.

We appreciate Becky's dedication to enhancing the Talking Book Service for users around the state.



**Volunteer Becky DeSilvia reviews and narrates locally recorded books**

## How long can I keep my books?

### Circulation periods

- Cartridges: 4 weeks, with one 2-week renewal
- Cassettes: 6 weeks, with one 6-week renewal

Not certain when a title is due? Call and ask.

## How many books can I have?

Users in good standing may have an unlimited number of cartridges at a time. Contact TBS to increase the number you receive.

Users accept responsibility for using borrowed materials with reasonable care and for returning them to the Talking Book Service. Violation of these guidelines may result in suspension of some or all services.

## What about movies?

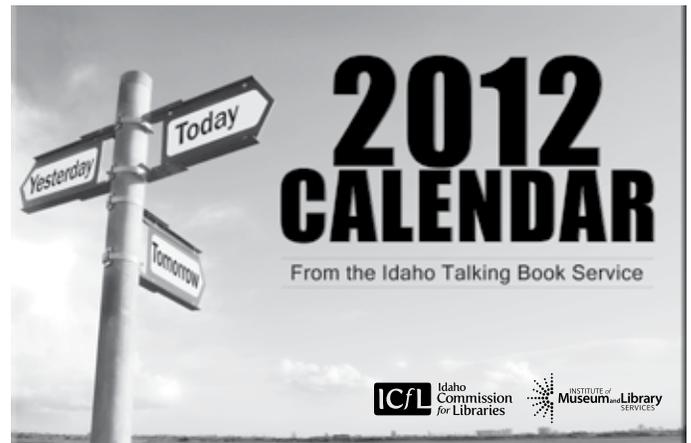
- DVSS, DVDs, and videos: 2 weeks with one 1-week renewal

Please note that our movie collection has not been updated in recent years and we do not have current movies to loan. We do not provide players for movies.

Please return your titles on time so that others may use them, or call 800-458-3271 to request a renewal.

## 2012 Calendar Arrival

The 2012 Talking Book Service large-print calendar will be sent to TBS users in November. The 2012 theme traces the history of both the National Library Service and Idaho's Talking Book Service from 1931 to the present and highlights digital titles relating to time. Please contact TBS if you haven't received your copy by Thanksgiving.



## TBS 10<sup>2</sup> Club

The newest centenarians to join the Talking Book Service 10<sup>2</sup> Club are:

- Myrtle Wilson from Garden City, born August 4, 1911
- Fern O. Siple from Nampa, born August 27, 1911
- Alice Koehler from Boise, born September 15, 1911
- Echo Young from Idaho Falls, born September 29, 1911

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Funded by  
the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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Locally recorded books allow native Idahoans an opportunity to travel down memory lane and TBS users new to Idaho to learn about Idaho.

In 2011 all recently locally recorded books will be available on cartridge only, as we will continue to convert our wonderful collection over to digital. But don't worry, we have a large supply of digital players. If you don't have one yet, call 800-458-3271 to request one today.



**The digital player and cartridge**