

# **Connections**

## **Talking Book Service News**

**Library Highlight:**  
**Portneuf District Library**  
5210 Stuart Avenue  
Chubbuck, ID 83202  
208-237-2192

**Winter Hours:**  
**Labor Day to Memorial Day**  
Monday through Thursday—  
10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday—  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Summer Hours:**  
**Memorial Day to Labor Day**  
Monday through Saturday—  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Portneuf District Library in Chubbuck, Idaho, provides many resources for those requiring reading alternatives—including books on tape, CDs, large-print books in all genres, and a spare cassette player for Talking Book Service (TBS) patrons to borrow if theirs breaks down.

The library also provides programs and services for all ages



**Portneuf District Library**

that patrons can participate in or volunteer for. One program that's always a favorite is "Dinner and Book with Dad." Each month on a Saturday, kids ages 2 and up bring Dad to the library to eat lunch, read stories, and take a book home. Sometimes "dad" is Grandpa, Grandma, or another relative, but whoever attends always enjoys the event.

The Portneuf library also offers Monday at the Movies, Family Story Time, Music and Movement, and Art Start—where children in grades 1–12, of all levels of physical ability, explore a different art medium each month.

*(continued on p. 2)*

## Library Highlight *cont'd from p. 1*

In addition to those programs, there's a lapsit program for toddlers and a story/snack/activities program for kids in grades K-4. And young adults can participate in book clubs, science labs, fitness and health activities, and service projects that give back to the community. The library collaborates with area schools to publicize services and programs geared to students, and for certain library programs, participating students can earn extra credit at school.

Portneuf District Library hosts and facilitates health fairs at the library one to three times per year. They also participate in local health fairs, including the Parents Resource Fair hosted by Idaho State University. Family members and extended family members of all ages attend these fairs to learn about what the library offers and visit the booths of the library's many community partners.

The staff works with patrons to help them access services, and often investigates options for new programs and services. Staff is currently discussing additional services for veterans and seniors.



### A health fair at the library

For more information on the many resources that Portneuf District Library offers, contact Jeanne Farnworth, or stop in and visit.

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### New look to the newsletter

We're starting the new year off with a new look and new title for the Talking Book Service (TBS) newsletter from Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL). We wanted a title that would better reflect all of the formats that we deliver. The TBS Advisory Committee selected *Connections: Idaho Talking Book Service News* from a pool of titles submitted by ICFL staff. The tagline at the bottom of the front page, "Innovative services and community," is part of our statewide library vision. A newly designed masthead completes the makeover. We hope you like it.

Email: [talkingbooks@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:talkingbooks@libraries.idaho.gov)  
Website: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/tbs>  
Phone: 208-334-2150 or 800-458-3271

**Recent Donations to TBS**  
**General Donations**

Emily Baker	Marian Niece
Lois M. Beno	Carmen Ryzner
Joyce Dodge	Alice Uhl
Helen Grant	Bill Wennstrom
Beth Gray	Harriet Wilkerson
Ruth Jacobson	Keith Windrum
Dick Messersmith	Clara Znaniecki

**Memorial Donations:**



**Donald Edkins**  
Sam & Marien Barton



**R. Starr Farish**  
John & Genevieve Dahl

**Charles Freeland**  
Sam & Marien Barton

**Donald Miller**  
Carl & Eleanor Olson

**Clarence Woodard**  
David Woodard

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 names and addresses of all those to be notified. Please make checks payable to Talking Book Service and mail to:

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

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Magazine Corner**

This quarter we have some new titles in Direct Publications (D) and some title changes and other changes in the Circulating Magazines (C).

**Direct publications (D)** do not need to be returned. The new titles are:

- **Audubon**—covers news of the natural world. Bimonthly.
- **Playboy**—fiction, interviews, articles with a male perspective. Monthly.
- **People en Español**—news, articles, and interviews of celebrities. Spanish language. Weekly. (Replaced *Selecciones del Reader's Digest*).
- **Vanidades**—articles on home management, beauty, fashions, and decorating. Spanish language. Monthly. (Replaced *Buenhogar*).
- **The Week**—news, opinions, and ideas from U.S. and international media. 50 issues a year. (Replaced *U.S. News and World Report*).

**Circulating magazines (C)** do need to be returned and they come in the familiar green container. Changes are as follows:

- **Good Old Days** has changed the name of their Special Issues to **Good Old Days Looking Back**. (Still the same number of issues.)
- **Idaho Yesterdays** changed their name to **Idaho Landscapes**.
- **Scientific American** is no longer available in audio format; however, *(cont'd on back of book order form)*

## Reading Alternative: BARD

Those with a digital player and high speed Internet access can now read NLS books and magazines faster and easier by using BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download).

Titles are always available and can be downloaded anytime of the day, 7 days a week. Best yet—it's free! Here's all you have to do:

### 1. Register for BARD

- a. BARD registration site: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/cgi-bin/public/nlsbardprod/accountrequest.cgi?libcode=ID1A>.
- b. Complete each field as requested. The address you submit must match the information on file with NLS. If you are uncertain what that information is, contact TBS at 800-458-3271 to verify.
- c. Submit the application.
- d. NLS will email you to confirm receipt of your application.
- e. NLS will accept or reject your application within 48 hours.
  - If accepted, you will receive a password to access the database. You may change the password once you've entered the database.
  - If rejected, you will be notified of the reason why.

### Note:

TBS staff cannot supply missing passwords. There is an email address on the BARD log-in page to request a new password. You cannot receive a new password by applying again.

### 2. Select and Download a Title:

- a. Go to <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/cgi-bin/nlsbardprod/index.cgi>, enter your email address and password; log in.
- b. Search the database by author, title, subject, or keyword.
- c. Select the title to download by clicking on the download link.
- d. Choose where you want to save the file on your computer; click on save. The zipped file will be downloaded onto your computer. Depending on the size of the file and your Internet connection, this will take several minutes.
- e. Locate the zipped file folder on your computer and right click on it.
- f. **Extract** zipped files from the folder.
- g. Right click on the file name to **Copy** the unzipped files; right click to **Paste** to either a flash drive or a NLS compatible cartridge.
- h. Select the **Safely Remove Hardware** icon and remove drive.
- i. Place a flash drive in the USB port on the side of the digital player or a cartridge in the front. Turn the player on, and press **Play**.

### Notes:

- The unzipped file can't be listened to on the computer; it can only be played on a NLS-compatible player.
- The player can recognize more than one title on the playback device. To access them, hold the play button down until the player says **Bookshelf**. Use the FF key to advance through the titles.

## New Books Order Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

### New Idaho Talking Books From Our Recording Studio

To order, checkmark your selections and mail this pre-addressed order form, call 800-458-3271, or order online at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Winter2010>.

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1135) **Cooking Up Trouble: an Angie Amalfi Mystery**

**Author: Joanne Pence**

**Read By: Nichole Albertson**

A scenic pleasure trip and job opportunity for Angie and homicide detective, Pavo, has lots of mixed ingredients. Battling investors, rumors of ghosts, cold drafts, and a leaky roof all sprinkled with a little murder on the side, makes for some appetizing reading. Angie is determined to solve the case and salvage her romantic getaway, or die trying!

**2 Cassettes Adult Fiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1137) **Frank Church, D. C., and Me**

**Author: Bill Hall**

**Read By: Carla Stern**

With wit and humor, Lewiston Morning Tribune reporter Bill Hall gives us an insider's look at politics, Washington D.C. style. He spent 18 months as speech writer and press secretary to former Idaho Senator Frank Church during the Senator's 1976 presidential campaign. Hall gives us an intimate picture of this remarkable man and his contributions to Idaho and the entire United States. Throughout his time in Washington D.C., Hall was proudest that "I kept my orange tennis shoes and never wore a pin-striped suit."

**2 Cassettes Adult Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1138) **Hawk in the Sun: Adventures Studying Hawks**

**Author: Leon Powers**

**Read By: Sue Robinson**

A richly detailed and pleasantly readable account of biologist Leon Powers' research on the nesting habits of the ferruginous hawk. This shy bird lives in rough desert country of Curlew, Blackpine, and the Raft River on the Idaho/Utah border. Powers' narrative gives the reader such a vivid picture of the landscape you can almost smell the sagebrush and feel that you have had a close personal relationship with Penelope, the vigilant hawk mother.

**1 Cassette Adult Nonfiction**

### **New Books Order Form (cont'd from p. 5)**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1147) **It's Fun to Remember: An Autobiography**

**Author: Warren Brown**

**Read By: Kathy Yribar**

Author Warren Brown, born in 1912 in McCall, Idaho, takes us down memory lane to a different age, recalling a time of dog racing down Main Street, wooden sidewalks, and early winter sports—a time when logging and millwork were the main industries in this high mountain paradise. Brown was also a motivator in bringing tourism and winter sports to the area.

**1 Cassette Adult Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1148) **Fire In The Hole**

**Author: Mary Farrell**

**Read By: Britt Thain**

Set in 1899, this is a story about a claustrophobic boy who dreams of going to college and becoming a newspaperman rather than a hard-rock miner like his father. But when the union miners in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District are arrested, Mick develops new respect for his father while taking over responsibility for his family.

**1 Cassette Juvenile Fiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1154) **Boise Baseball: the First 125 Years**

**Author: Arthur Hart**

**Read By: Lyn McCollum**

This book describes the colorful history of our national game as it has been played by the Boise teams over the past 125 years. For the first time, the history of all the leagues that ever played in Boise Valley and southern Idaho have been compiled, including the memorable Pioneer League, 1939-1963 and today's Northwest League.

**1 Cassette Adult Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1157) **Lewis and Clark's Bittersweet Crossing**

**Author: Carol MacGregor**

**Read By: Kathy Yribar**

This young adult book describes the Lewis and Clark Expedition to explore the American West in the early 1800s, focusing particularly on the time the group spent with the Shoshoni and Nez Perce Indians in Idaho.

**1 Cassette Juvenile Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1172) **Guardian Angel Brigade**

**Author: Ralph Prouty**

**Read By: Maryan Stephens**

Stir together fifteen children on a small Idaho farm at the edge of Hell's

### **New Books Order Form (cont'd from p. 6)**

Canyon during the 1930s with an abundance of old men and women from the previous century and you have the ingredients for a lot of family memories. Ralph Prouty shares his family memories and tells how it took a brigade of guardian angels to keep him and his siblings out of harm's way.  
**3 Cassettes      Adult Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (VCT 1173) **From the Ganges to the Snake River: An East Indian in the American West**

**Author: Debu Majumdar**

**Read By: Ken Cooper**

Debu Majumdar's book of essays throws two vastly different ways of life into fascinating juxtaposition. Majumdar, a native of Calcutta, India, settled in Idaho Falls in 1980. This nuclear physicist tells his story of everyday life, both in Idaho and India, with human warmth and a love of nature.

**2 Cassettes      Adult Nonfiction**

The following IC books are new from other libraries.

\_\_\_\_\_ (IC 365) **Suicide or Murder? The Strange Death of Governor Meriwether Lewis**

**Author: Vardis Fisher**

**Read By: Marilyn McHargue**

An inquiry into the mysterious death of Meriwether Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark team, which occurred in 1809 while he was traveling from Louisiana to Washington, D.C.

**2 Cassettes      Adult Nonfiction**

\_\_\_\_\_ (IC 366) **The Dansing Star**

**Author: Kirby Jonas**

**Read By: Bill Coates**

Mort Dansing is caught between the world of the white man and the Apache. In this story of vengeance in the Old West, Dansing is trapped in the desert, the target of both sides. These real, flesh-and-blood characters deal with their actual and philosophical struggles in a manner that makes them more appealing than most characters in popular Western novels.

**3 Cassettes      Adult Fiction**

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Boise, Idaho 83702

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**



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This newsletter is available on cassette tape upon request. Call 800-458-3271.  
For a podcast or PDF, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/books-tape-update>.

### Order magazines below

- \_\_\_\_\_ Audubon. Bimonthly. Monthly. (D)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Playboy. Monthly. (D)
- \_\_\_\_\_ People en Español (Replaced Selecciones del Reader's Digest).  
Weekly. (D)
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Week. 50 issues per year. (Replaced U.S. News and World  
Report)(D)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vanidades Monthly. (Replaced Buenhogar). (D)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Good Old Days Looking Back. (formerly Good Old Days) (C)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Idaho Landscapes (formerly Idaho Yesterdays) (C)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Utah Quarterly. (formerly was direct) (C)

*(continued from p. 3)*

you will continue to get copies of what we have if you signed up for it.  
- Southern Idaho Living ceased publication so we no longer offer it.  
- Utah Quarterly is so popular that we moved it to circulating rather than direct, so  
return them to get the next issue.

## What are you reading?

Welcome to our new column, added to introduce you to some of the books that ICFL staff members are reading.



Laurel Day is reading *The Camel Club*

Laurel Day, a customer service representative at ICFL, is an avid reader who always has a book going. Currently she's reading David Baldacci's *The Camel Club*, a mystery set in Washington, D.C., that involves Homeland Security and the kidnapping of the President. Although it's more political than she normally prefers, Laurel says that the intrigue keeps her turning the pages.

Four men, each an outcast, band together to form the "Camel Club." During one of their regular meetings, they discover a murder. One of the outcasts calls himself Oliver Stone. He lives in a house on the grounds of a cemetery and caretakes the grounds for the church that owns it: a seemingly mundane occupation, but he can take a man down with one finger. So who *is* Oliver Stone, *really*?

There is some violence in this book, but very little strong language or sexual content. Laurel says that if you like James Patterson, Nelson DeMille, or Ridley Pearson you are likely to enjoy Baldacci's novels.

*The Camel Club* is RC 60678 and DB 60678 and is also available on BARD. This is the first book in a 4-part series.

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



We are honored to announce the newest centenarians who are being added to the Talking Book Service 10<sup>2</sup> Club and will be given priority in receiving digital players:

- Irene M. Jackson, Nampa, born November 7, 1909
- Murray Harper, Idaho Falls, born November 16, 1909
- Alvina Taney, Blackfoot, born November 19, 1909
- Jessie L. Bell, Mountain Home, born December 10, 1909
- Thelma Brazeal, Coeur D'Alene, born December 25, 1909
- Gordon H. Durney, Blackfoot, born February 19, 1910
- Ellen Ford, Cambridge born March 25, 1910

## Volunteer Highlight

### Nichole Albertson

In 2005 a client of Nichole Albertson's told her about the United Way volunteer opportunity webpage. When Nichole checked it out and discovered a listing for a talking book narrator at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, she knew that was the volunteer service for her. So she auditioned in front of ICFL Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Winther and has been recording books weekly for TBS patrons ever since.

Nichole has a degree in English literature and experience as a radio disc jockey (DJ) from her college days, so reading and recording books comes as a natural expression of that knowledge and skill.

Nichole loves volunteering at the Commission. She says that people always take time to recognize and acknowledge the work that volunteers do, and remind the volunteers that they play an important role in facilitating the Talking Book Service program. Nichole must certainly be dedicated to her volunteer work: she bikes 3-4 miles one way to get to the Commission because she doesn't own a car.

In addition to volunteering, Nichole is a stylist at a local salon, which doesn't leave her a lot of leisure. But when she does have spare time, she enjoys biking, gardening, and, of course, reading. Novels are her favorite.

Nichole would encourage anyone with two spare hours a week to volunteer. She says, "It's so easy and allows you to give back to the community. It should be the norm." She plans her volunteer schedule around her work schedule and it has become an established part of her week. And after five years, she still says, "It's a cool gig!"



Nichole Albertson records a book in the recording booth

## Digital Transition

2010 will be the year of digital books for TBS users. We continue to receive 120 players per month and send them out as quickly as they are received. The number of titles and copies available on cartridge is limited, but continues to increase every month. 17,000 titles are available for those able to download from BARD.

We checked with Richard Ehrler, who was highlighted in the last newsletter, for feedback on the player and books. He summed it up well: "NLS got it right". He especially likes the excellent sound quality, the battery life between charges, and the rapid recharge. Centenarian Gordon H. Durney loves his digital player. Other users have commented on the ease of use of the player, the sound quality of the cartridges, being able to download books 24/7, and how great it is to be able to listen to the entire book without doing anything but enjoying it.

Leon Allgire loves his digital player and downloading books. He said if we wanted him to he would sing praises on top of a mountain to let everyone know.

Bobby Bopp said, "This new player is so wonderful I couldn't stop reading the first book and already have it ready to go back in the mail."

The only negative we've heard is

regarding the location of the flash drive port on the side of the player. The flash drive sticks out where it might get bumped and knocked out.

Below are several suggestions for those thinking of going digital:

- You must be on the waiting list to receive a player. The waiting time is currently about 3 months. Call TBS at 1-800-458-3271 (334-2150 in the Boise area) to be added to the waiting list. Veterans receive priority.
- Because of limited numbers, cartridge circulation is two at a time for two weeks. One 2-week renewal is permitted.
- Users who are registered for BARD can also receive cartridges. Call TBS to request them.
- BARD is easy to use. There is documentation with the player, plus other users and TBS staff are available to answer questions.
- We will post sources for purchasing cartridges to download BARD books at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/digital-collection> as those sources become available.
- This spring and summer TBS staff will be available to demonstrate the player to support groups and explain how to use BARD. Call TBS to schedule a demonstration.
- Users are encouraged to keep their cassette players since not all titles are available on cartridges.

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### Introducing the Digital Player

The digital format has many advantages including:

- Improved sound quality
- A lighter-weight, easier to use player
- Ability to download books and magazines from a website

Have you signed up for the waiting list?