



NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY

# DISCOVERY

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1

SPRING 2011

## TALKING BOOKS AND BRAILLE PROGRAM CELEBRATES 80 YEARS

On March 3, 2011, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), the Library of Congress' talking book and Braille program, celebrated 80 years of helping visually impaired and physically handicapped individuals enjoy reading their favorite books and magazines.

North Dakota patrons are served locally through North Dakota Talking Books a service of the State Library. "Talking books offer a wonderful opportunity for anyone who cannot use regular print materials because of blindness or a physical, visual, or reading handicap," says Susan Hammer-Schneider, head of North Dakota Talking Books.

North Dakota Talking Books delivers reading materials in digital audio and Braille formats straight to the homes of patrons. Braille books, books on digital cartridge, and digital talking book players are sent to registered patrons via the U.S. Postal Service at no charge. Talking Books patrons also have the option to download talking books and magazines over the Internet.

The NLS collection of more than 400,000 titles of bestsellers, classics, biographies, romance, and other genres delights even the most selective readers. Magazine-lovers enjoy free subscriptions to more than 40 periodicals in audio format, including *Consumer Reports*, *National Geographic*, and *Sports Illustrated for Kids*, and 30 periodicals in Braille, such as *Ladies Home Journal*, *ESPN: The Magazine*, and the *New York Times Large-Print Weekly*. The NLS program also keeps pace with the latest book titles, adding 2,500 annually.



*Lynn Iverson, a blind Talking Books patron, shared her experiences with the Talking Books program during a March 23rd celebration at the North Dakota Capitol. Lynn has been a Talking Books patron since the early 1960's.*

## STATE LIBRARY WELCOMES HULEN BIVINS

There's a new face at the North Dakota State Library. Hulen Bivins began duties as State Librarian on December 6, 2010. Bivins replaced former State Librarian Doris Ott, who retired in November 2010.

Bivins previously served as the Assistant Director of the Alabama Public Library Service where he coordinated the Field Services staff, in-agency library programs, services to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and the certification program for the payment of state funds to libraries in accord with state regulations. With more than 35 years of librarian experience, he has also worked with the Public Library of Nashville (TN) and the library system of Marshall University (WVA).



“I am excited about the opportunity to work with a State Library agency known for its dedication to library services that enhance the quality of life for the citizens that it serves,” Bivins said. “Whether the service rendered is for educational or leisure interest, the 100% effort of the library staff is exemplary. It is my personal hope that the vision that I bring to the staff shall challenge standard perceptions, create more analysis, and result in even more quality services for the citizens of North Dakota.”

Bivins holds a B.A. in History from Lipscomb University, an M.S.L.S. in Library Science from the University of Tennessee, and a J.D. from the Jones School of Law at Faulkner University.

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## HELP SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Tell your neighbors, friends, family physician, or pastor about North Dakota Talking Books. Everyone knows someone who could benefit from these services. Talking Books staff are often asked to speak to visual support groups, fraternal organizations, church groups, and other interested agencies. Staff members look forward to describing how this wonderful service can add pleasure to the lives of those unable to read standard print materials. Please help spread the good news about Talking Books in North Dakota!

**AUTHOR READALIKES**

**If you enjoy John Grisham,  
then try:**

Lisa Scottoline

David Baldacci

Perri O'Shaughnessy

Scott Turow

Stuart Woods

Nelson DeMille

Michael Connelly

**If you enjoy Lillian Jackson  
Braun, then try:**

Rita Mae Brown

Carole Nelson Douglas

Carolyn Hart

Tamara Myers

Laurien Berenson

**If you enjoy Janette Oke,  
then try:**

Karen Kingsbury

Terri Blackstock

Beverly Lewis

Tracie Peterson

Lauraine Snelling

Jan Karon

**NORTH DAKOTA TALKING BOOKS  
AND DRIS WILL BE CLOSED FOR  
THE FOLLOWING DATES IN 2011:**

April 22	Good Friday
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 24	Thanksgiving
December 26	Christmas

**CANCELLING TALKING  
BOOKS SERVICE**

If you are a Talking Books patron, family member, friend, or care institution who has decided to cancel an individual's Talking Books service, please remember that players and materials are the property of the federal government and must be returned to the lending agency. Even non-working players must be returned, since they can often be repaired or salvaged to repair other players. If you have any questions about cancelling Talking Books service, please call 800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408.

## USING BRAILLE AND AUDIO READING DOWNLOAD (BARD)

Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) is a free service which allows patrons to download books from the comfort of their own home, any time of day. There are about 80 North Dakotans who currently use this service. BARD currently has over 21,000 book titles and 45 magazines available for download. All titles that are available on digital cartridge may be downloaded using BARD.

To download items from BARD, you must be an active patron of the Talking Books service and must apply to use the BARD service. The requirements to use BARD include: a computer with unzipping software, a high-speed Internet connection, an email address, basic knowledge of file transfer and storage, and either a flash drive cartridge or USB flash drive. You cannot play downloaded BARD materials on the computer; you must play them on an authorized player. If you have received your National Library Service (NLS) digital talking book player, either the standard or advanced model, you can play BARD downloads on them or on any of the authorized commercial players, such as a Victor Stream.

You will need to purchase a USB flash drive or a blank flash cartridge and a USB cable with male and female connector ends. The USB flash drive fits in the USB port on the right side of the player next to the headphone plug. You can purchase cartridges just like the one NLS uses from American Printing House for the Blind at <http://shop.aph.org> or Adaptive Technology Online at [www.perkins.org](http://www.perkins.org).

You may store more than one book on the same cartridge or flash drive. Each gigabyte is equivalent to approximately 100 hours of reading time. To register, visit the North Dakota Talking Books website [www.library.nd.gov/disabilityservices.html](http://www.library.nd.gov/disabilityservices.html) and click on the BARD application link to apply. Once your application is reviewed and accepted, you will be authorized to download books.

If you have any questions about registering for BARD or downloading items from BARD, please call 800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408.

# ON THE SHELF SPRING 2011

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## LD00530

### **Ringling In Murder**

AUTHOR: Kate Kingsbury

At the Pennyfoot Hotel, Cecily Sinclair Baxter is busy preparing for the holiday meal and assisting her friend Madeline plan her upcoming wedding. This year she has a surprise for her guests: gorgeous handmade crackers, one of which contains a beautiful pearl brooch. But when two crackers go astray, things turn less than jolly. A mysterious fire breaks out in an upstairs room, killing two guests. At the bottom of it all: one of the missing Christmas crackers. Some strong language. 2009.

## LD00532

### **Fire When Ready**

AUTHOR: Kate Kingsbury

In World War II England, the quiet village of Sitting Marsh is faced with food rations and fear for loved ones. But Elizabeth Hartleigh Compton, lady of the Manor House, insists that life must go on. For the residents for Sitting March, a munitions factory not only blemishes their country side but is a target for the Luftwaffe. Elizabeth manages to pacify those fears by appealing to their

patriotism. Unfortunately, patriotism isn't the only thing to get ignited - as the factory explodes, killing owner Douglas McNally. The fire warden rules it an accident, but Elizabeth knows McNally received threatening letters demanding he close the factory. And where there's smoke, there's fire. 2005.

## LD00533

### **For Whom Death Tolls**

AUTHOR: Kate Kingsbury

At 3:05 am, the town of Sitting Marsh was awakened by church bells. It was supposed to be the signal for a German invasion. Instead, Elizabeth discovers something just as alarming...the body of an American GI, hanging from the bell rope. In a town filled with growing tension between Yanks and villagers, this won't help matters. Elizabeth can only hope the murder is an isolated incident and not a wake-up call of more to come. 2002.

## LD00534

### **Bloody Knife: Custer's Favorite Scout**

AUTHOR: Ben Innis

Originally published in 1973, this revised edition transports today's reader back to the Northern Plains of the 1800's. It chronicles the rise and near demise of the Arikara nation, the cultural conflicts brought about by the arrival of the white man and the ensuing skirmishes, fights and battles of the Indian Wars that culminate at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Through it all, is the story of Bloody Knife, the Indian scout who experiences many of these historical events. Contains some violence. 1994.

□ **LD00537**

**North Dakota to India: Memoirs of a Missionary**

AUTHOR: Mildred Monke

A help wanted ad listed in the Lutheran Standard magazine seeking a supervisor for a lace school in India opened the doors to a life of adventure and service for Millie Monke. Monke met the challenge of writing her memoirs with wit and detail, despite being 94 years old and living with macular degeneration. 2006.

□ **LD00539**

**North for the Harvest: Mexican Workers, Growers, and the Sugar Beet Industry**

AUTHOR: Jim Norris

Throughout most of the twentieth century, thousands of Mexicans traveled north to work the sugar beet fields of the Red River Valley. *North for the Harvest* examines the evolving relationships between American Crystal Sugar Company, the sugar beet growers, and the migrant workers. Though popular convention holds that migrant workers were invariably exploited, Norris reveals that these relationships were far more complex. The company often clashed with growers, sometimes while advocating for workers. And many growers developed personal ties with their workers, while workers themselves often found ways to leverage better pay and working conditions from the company. 2009.

□ **LD00541**

**Darling Cassidy**

AUTHOR: Tracey Victoria Bateman

Alone on the Kansas prairie with her orphaned niece, Cassidy Sinclair has no means or choice but to do the unthinkable. She meets with Wendell St. John III - a man with four children who has advertised for a wife. Cassidy has thrown convention to the prairie winds in order to make her home on the harsh frontier. When confronted with the power of human and divine love, can she risk her heart? 2008.

□ **LD00542**

**On a Someday**

AUTHOR: Roxanne Henke

Claire Westin has spent her adult life being a wife, mother, and college professor. The last thing she expects as she nears retirement status is to have a whole new career open before her. Her husband, Jim, has spent his life growing his chain of grocery stores. He has a grand plan to restore an old Dodge Charger...someday when he retires. Someday soon, he hopes. If his son Drew would only agree to take over the family business. Drew, however, has plans of his own. And Claire is busy climbing the ladder of her new career. This book explores the conflict arising from the family's colliding plans and the challenges faced when their 'someday' dreams don't materialize. 2009.

□ **LD00544**

### **To Love Again**

AUTHOR: Bonnie K. Winn

Laura Manning wasn't going to take "no" from anyone anymore, especially not her late husband's rude business partner. Determined to provide for her two children and prove she wasn't the weak woman her husband had convinced everybody she was, Laura moved her family to tiny Rosewood, Texas, to take over his share in the real-estate firm. No matter what anyone said, she knew she could do anything, especially since her family and her heart were at stake. 2009.

□ **LD00548**

### **Stepping Twice Into the River: Following Dakota Waters**

AUTHOR: Robert King

King recounts his exploration of the "almost unnoticeable" along the North Dakota Sheyenne River, from its headwaters to rivers end. With each experience along the way - from tracing a military campaign, canoeing the river, and visiting a ghost town - King delves deeper into the river's culture, bringing to light different aspects of the plains. Blending travel narrative and poetic reflection, King takes readers on a journey through time. 2005.

□ **LD00552**

### **One Perfect Day**

AUTHOR: Lauraine Snelling

This is the story of two mothers, each a stranger to the other. The first has twins,

a boy and a girl, who are seniors in high school. She wants their last Christmas as a family living in the same house to be perfect, but her husband is delayed returning from a business trip abroad. And then there's an accident - a fatal one involving a drunk driver. Meanwhile, the other mother has a daughter who needs a new heart, and so one woman's loss becomes a miracle another has desperately prayed for. While one mother grieves and pulls away from her family, the other finds that miracles aren't always easy to receive. 2008.

□ **LD00553**

### **Walking Beans Wasn't Something You Did With Your Dog: Stories of Growing Up In And Around Small Towns In The Midwest**

AUTHOR: Jean Tennant

Inside these pages you'll find 30 heartwarming, funny and dramatic stories about life in the Midwest, ranging from the days after the Depression to the more recent past. Stories such as "Cyrano the Pig" and "The Great Snowman War of 1952" will have you laughing out loud, while "Stars in the Window" will bring back memories of widespread patriotism and rationing during WWII. 2008.

□ **LD00555**

### **The 33-Year Old Rookie: how I finally made it to the big leagues after eleven years in the minors**

AUTHOR: Chris Coste

The 33-Year-Old Rookie, Chris Coste, is like a real-life Rocky, an unforgettable and inspirational story of one man's

unwavering pursuit of a lifelong goal.  
Some strong language. 2008.

□ **LD00556**

**Prairie Murders: The True Story  
of Three Murders and the Loss of  
Innocence in a Small North Dakota  
Town**

AUTHOR: Robert Dodge

When West Fargo, a growing young town, was struck by annual murders for three consecutive years, something had changed. Each crime was more violent and heinous than its predecessor, beginning when one of the town's favorites, a personable high school cheerleader, was murdered in her family's home in a sex-related attack. Within months came the bloody bludgeoning to death of a young mother in her own home. As one homicide was prosecuted and the investigation moved forward on the second, a young man's body was found bisected floating in bags in the Red River. Some strong language and some violence. 2009.

□ **LD00557**

**The Bismarck D.T.: The People  
and Events That Gave Birth to the  
Wickedest City in the West: A History  
of Bismarck's Beginning**

AUTHOR: Kim Fundingsland

This book is a compilation of many incidents from the beginning of a very unsettled Bismarck until the period when law and order became more prevalent. The reader will come to understand how North Dakota's capital has grown into what it is today. 2009.

□ **LD00558**

**The Reckless! How Debt, Deregulation,  
and Dark Money Nearly Bankrupted  
America (And How We Can Fix It!)**

AUTHOR: Byron L. Dorgan

As one of only eight senators to vote against bank deregulation, Byron Dorgan warned America that a free-market system left unchecked is like driving a car at ninety miles per hour without brakes. With the recent financial collapse having proven him right, Dorgan exposes this modern-day carnival of greed and calls out the corporate executives who reap millions and even billions as a "reward" for self-interest and mismanagement. In his prairie-populist voice peppered with incisive wit, Dorgan argues that we must rescue the economy from the influence of financial conglomerates and power brokers, and hold our public officials accountable for regulating the economy. 2009.

**MAIL THIS FORM TO:**

**NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY - TALKING BOOKS**

**604 EAST BOULEVARD AVENUE**

**BISMARCK, ND 58505-0800**



## DIGITAL TALKING BOOK PLAYER ACCESSORIES

### Cartridges and USB Extension Cables

The American Printing House for the Blind, Inc. sells a single blank cartridge that costs \$12 and contains 2 GB of memory, which is approximately 200 hours of listening time. The USB cable that is needed to connect the cartridge to your computer costs \$5.

Phone: 800-223-1839

Website: <http://shop.aph.org>

Email: [cs@aph.org](mailto:cs@aph.org)

Adaptive Technology – Perkins Products sells a single 1 GB cartridge for \$10.99 or a 1 GB cartridge with USB cable for \$15.99. A single 2 GB cartridge sells for \$11.99 or a 2 GB cartridge with USB cable for \$16.99.

Phone: 617-972-7308

Website: [www.perkinsproducts.org](http://www.perkinsproducts.org)

Email: [adaptivetech@perkins.org](mailto:adaptivetech@perkins.org)



### Talking Book Player Carrying Case

This case fits snugly around your talking book player, and has a storage zipper compartment for your cartridges. The case has been designed to enable the user to easily utilize all keys, ports, and compartments while installed on the unit.

Features:

- Access to all controls.
- Extremely durable with a superior design quality.
- Convenient D-rings to attach carrying straps.
- A convenient zipper-pocket for carrying cartridges and accessories.
- Velcro fastens the flap while in the open and closed position.

Available from Adaptive Technology for \$39.95.

Phone: 617-972-7308

Website: [www.perkinsproducts.org](http://www.perkinsproducts.org)

Email: [adaptivetech@perkins.org](mailto:adaptivetech@perkins.org)

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### **Adaptors for Headphones and USB Flash Drive**

North Dakota Talking Books has a headphone adaptor and a USB port adaptor available to patrons. The headphone adaptor was developed to connect the NLS-issued headphones to the digital player. The flash drive adaptor allows the USB flash drive to align parallel to the player instead of perpendicular. Call 800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408 if you are interested in either one of the adaptors.

### **VOICEMAIL TIPS**

In order to provide Talking Books patrons with the best service, here are a few suggestions for leaving voicemail messages.

- Slowly and clearly identify yourself, including your name, phone number, and your request.
- Only ask for a call back if your request requires one.

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

### **NOTES IN BOXES**

As a reminder to patrons, it is against federal mailing regulations to include notes in the book mailing boxes that you return via Free Matter for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. To submit requests, please call 800-843-9948, email [tbooks@nd.gov](mailto:tbooks@nd.gov) or send a separate envelope to North Dakota Talking Books - 604 E. Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505.

### **IN MEMORY**

A long-serving Talking Books volunteer, Dwaine Shilman, passed away on January 1, 2011. Dwaine started volunteering for North Dakota Talking Books in 1999 and logged 1,631 total hours of time. The various jobs he performed included inspection, rewinding tapes, making copies of books, and stripping labels from boxes and cassettes. Dwaine always had a positive disposition and never complained. He was a wonderful, kind, and patient man. He will be missed by the entire staff at North Dakota Talking Books.

## RETURNING DIGITAL BOOKS

North Dakota Talking Books occasionally receives a cartridge box with the accompanying cartridge missing. When this happens, the patron will be notified and sent an empty mailing box to return the cartridge.

Here are a few simple tips to help with this situation:

- When you remove the cartridge, leave one of the box tabs undone so you know which box the cartridge belongs in.
- Before putting the mailing box in the mail, open it up to make certain the book is in the box.
- Verify that the box tabs are firmly locked into place.
- If you find the book in your possession after you returned the box, call 800-843-9948 or email [tbooks@nd.gov](mailto:tbooks@nd.gov) to request an empty mailing box to return the cartridge.
- Please notify North Dakota Talking Books if you discover that you mailed a book back in the wrong mailing box.
- Please do not attempt to put two cartridges into one mailing box. That could cause the box to pop open in the mail and the books could be lost or damaged.

North Dakota Talking Books is still building its digital book collection and so any problem like this delays the book for the next patron. Please take a moment to verify that your book goes in the mail the correct way. Thank you for your assistance!

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604 E. Boulevard Ave. - Dept. 250, Bismarck, ND 58505-0800  
Hulen Bivins, State Librarian  
North Dakota State Library, a division of the  
ND Department of Public Instruction  
Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent

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**FREE MATTER  
FOR THE BLIND**

**North Dakota State Library  
Talking Books  
604 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0800**

**DISCOVERY**

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**SPRING 2011**

## **THANK YOU, CONTRIBUTORS!**

### **Donations given to Talking Books and DRIS**

Eleanor Ohnstad  
Richard Trenbeath  
Norris Olson  
Robert Asker  
Ted and Ester Mertes  
Marie Haugen  
FJ Majors  
Mandan Lions Club

### **Memorials given to Talking Books**

Aurora Sandberg  
given by Lowell and Laurie Hickman  
Mildred Heyne  
given by Pat Monson, Jack Heyne,  
and Jo'an Huber  
Paulette Hauge  
given by Scott Hauge, Joetta Miller,  
and Davis and Wanda Martin  
George Gagnon  
given by Ed Gagnon and George Gagnon  
Edith Stroklund  
given by Kenneth Stroklund