

The Reading Light

Mississippi Library Commission
Blind & Physically Handicapped Library Services
Summer 2014 Vol. 40 No.2



Volunteer Recognition 2014



In April we celebrated our Blind and Physically Handicapped Services volunteers with a luncheon. We get so much from our volunteers and are so thankful for all the time and hours they put into making this service as beneficial as it is. Our volunteers put together bibliographies, record books, write books and donate the proceeds from selling their books, put together art work, are part of our Friends of Handicapped Readers Group and are part of our Advisory Group. They wear so many different hats!

Radio Reading Service of Mississippi is now available over the internet

Radio Reading Service of Mississippi, RRSM, provides information and entertainment to blind and print impaired Mississippians 24 hours a day.

This free service is operated by Mississippi Public Broadcasting as part of its state-wide radio network.

The purpose of RRSM is to provide its listeners with access to print material such as newspapers, books and magazines. It concentrates on timely material such as area newspapers, current event readings and other print material.

Until recently, RRSM could only be heard over a special radio receiver. Now, the service is also available on the internet. Enjoy your favorite programs in perfect digital clarity by signing up for the free internet audio stream. You will need access to the internet, along with a computer, a smart phone, or other device that will play a live mp3 audio stream directly from the internet.

If you already have the Radio Reading Service receiver, you can also request the internet stream. Send an email to radioreading@mpbonline.org. Use the phrase "RRSM Stream" in the subject line. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, and email address within the message.

Once your registration is confirmed, the information you will need in order to listen to the protected stream will be sent to you in a reply email.

If you are not a Radio Reading Service of Mississippi listener, you can request the RRSM application form through the above email address, or by calling 601-432-6301.

Since many people in the target audience do not have access to the internet, the traditional special radio receivers will remain available for all listeners.

Cassette Service Deadline



Many of you may know that the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has stopped production and maintenance of the cassette book collection and the players needed to listen to those cassettes.

The Mississippi Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has been slowly phasing out cassette service to patrons. If you have a cassette player in good working condition you may keep it and continue to receive cassette books for it as long as we have a cassette collection. However, if this machine breaks down we will not be able to repair or replace it. This will be the end of your cassette service. It would be in your best interest to get comfortable with your digital player and digital books. The collection we have in digital far surpasses the cassette in both quality and quantity.

Magazines on Digital Cartridge

If you are not getting your digital magazines on a monthly basis then you may be late in getting your cartridges back in the mail. Please remember to return them as soon as you finish listening to them so you won't be late getting the next month's issue. If you are not receiving magazines on digital cartridges and would like to please give us a call and we can set you up to begin receiving them.

Battery Tips

We are aware of the problems many of you are having with the batteries in the standard and digital players. Here are some tips in managing your batteries in the players:

-Disregard what the player says about how much time the battery has left because the information can often be inaccurate. The best way to get an accurate reading is to let the player run down to zero and then recharge it 3 times.

-It is fine to let the battery run down to zero; in fact the battery will not recharge unless it is less than $\frac{1}{4}$ charged.

-Even if it the battery will not charge at all, it will still possibly play if plugged into an electrical outlet.

-If you are not going to use your player for a long period of time, please make sure it is plugged into an electrical outlet to prevent battery damage.

Helpful Hints & Reminders



1. When calling the Mississippi Library Commission, please identify yourself as a BPHLS (Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services) patron. This will assist in expediting calls to the appropriate department.
2. In order to maintain an active status as a BPH patron, you must check out or download one item each calendar year. Maintaining an active status ensures that you receive this newsletter as well as other updates.
3. Please do not write on the containers, cartridges, boxes or the machines. Please do not put duct tape anywhere on the boxes. All of our items are recycled and sent to other patrons after each use. Please help us conserve funds by not damaging our items with writings.
4. Please retain the box the digital player arrives in. This box can be used to send the item back should you need a replacement or decide to discontinue service. The player can be mailed back to the library via "Free Matter for the Blind and Physically Handicapped." The free shipping is marked on the box.

Book Suggestions

DB078243-The Four Doors: A Guide to Joy, Freedom, and a Meaningful Life. by Richard Paul Evans.

Adult Non-Fiction. Read by Patrick Downer: 2 hours, 24 minutes

Award-winning novelist uses scripture and his own and others' experiences to explain how one can live life with freedom, power, and purpose. Suggests four concrete ways to make positive changes in one's life. 2013.

DB077835 – The Ice Princess by Camilla Lackberg. Adult Fiction
Mystery/Suspense Fiction. Read by Andy Pyle. 12 hours, 50 minutes

Fjällbacka, Sweden. When writer Erica Falck sees the body of her childhood friend, it looks like suicide. But the autopsy proves it was murder. Erica and detective Patrik Hedstrom investigate--and begin dating. Originally published in Swedish in 2003. Strong language, some violence, and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2009.

DB078150- The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion. Adult Fiction.
Read by Guy Williams. 8 hours, 12 minutes.

Socially stunted geneticist Don Tillman embarks on an endeavor he calls the Wife Project. As he quantifies the qualities of a perfect wife, he encounters Rosie, who seeks Don's help in identifying her real father. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2013.

DB078227- Orfeo by Richard Powers. Adult Fiction.

Psychological Fiction. Read by Gary Telles. 14 hours, 46 minutes.

Future America. When he calls emergency services for help with his dying dog, composer Peter Els sets in motion a chain of events that forces him to flee from Homeland Security. Els's search for music in everything has people thinking he is a bioterrorist. Some strong language. 2014.



Free Matter for the Blind
& Physically Handicapped

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That All May Read

The Reading Light is written and edited by staff of the Mississippi Library Commission's Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services Department. It is available in Braille, through email, in large print, as well as via MP3 audio on our website.

Library Service Hours: 8 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday

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