



Special Services Unit Fall 2015 Newsletter

BARD Mobile App for Androids Available Now

The BARD Mobile application for Android devices, version 1.0, is now available at the Google Play store. This app allows library patrons to download audiobooks and audio magazines directly to their Android devices, provided they have BARD accounts and are using devices running Android OS 4.1 or later. Contact us for more information on the BARD Mobile app or instructions on how to apply for BARD (<https://nlsbard.loc.gov/vt1a>).

New Library Hours and Voicemail

We now have reduced hours for walk-in service. We are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30am to 3pm; closed Monday and Friday. We are still open for telephone service Monday through Friday, 7:45am to 4:30pm, at 802-828-3273 or 1-800-479-1711. If we are unable to get to the phone

we do have voicemail, so it is fine to leave us a brief message any time of the day or night, including your book requests. Please make sure you include your name, reason for calling, and phone number if you require a return call. We will get back to you within one business day.

Sixth Locally-Recorded Book Now in Circulation

We have just put into circulation our sixth locally-recorded book, *High-Altitude Woman* (VTD 6), by Stowe author Jan Reynolds. A world record-breaking skier and climber, Reynolds paved the way for many female extreme athletes; *High-Altitude Woman* details several of her high-altitude skiing expeditions in the 1980s and '90s, as well as her training for the U.S. Biathlon team and the growth of her interest in the indigenous cultures she encountered while traveling in some of the world's most remote regions.

Our local recording program makes available books and magazines of Vermont interest that are not in the national collection. This includes books by Vermont authors, books set in Vermont, and books on topics of importance to Vermonters.

We currently have five other locally-recorded books in circulation: *Invasion on the Mountain*, *Trouble on the Mountain*, and *At the Top of the Mountain*, a historical fiction trilogy by Vermont author Judith Edwards; *My Name Is Jody Williams*, by Vermont native and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams; and *Dateline Vermont*, by former Associated Press Vermont Bureau Chief Chris Graff.

All six books are also available for download through our online catalog: <http://webopac.klas.com/vtssu>. Please call the library if you want to use our catalog and don't know your user ID or password.

More New Titles from Our Collection

Adult Fiction:

The Boston Girl, by Anita Diamant. DB 80645
When Addie's granddaughter asks about her life, Addie recounts growing up in Boston as the daughter of immigrants who did not trust the opportunities America affords their children. But when Addie joins a library group, her world opens up. Bestseller.

Prodigal Son, by Danielle Steel. DB 81411

When investment banker Peter McDowell's life implodes, he has nowhere to go but to the lake house he inherited from his parents. Wary of meeting his estranged twin, Michael, he is surprised when Michael warmly welcomes him. Bestseller.

Go Set a Watchman, by Harper Lee. DB 81896
Twenty years after the events of *To Kill a Mockingbird* (DB 77672), Jean Louise Finch – once known as Scout – returns home to Maycomb, Alabama. She confronts the racism of her hometown in the 1950s, including the views of Atticus, the father she idolizes.

The Fateful Lightning: A Novel of the Civil War, by Jeff Shaara. DB 81929
1864. After the promotion of General Grant to commander of the entire Union army, General William Tecumseh Sherman succeeds him and leads his troops south from Tennessee to Atlanta on his March to the Sea. Bestseller.

Adult Nonfiction:

The Organized Mind: Thinking Straight in the Age of Information Overload, by Daniel J. Levitin. DB 80105

Author of *This Is Your Brain on Music* (DB 65609) examines the development of the brain and the mind in the Information Age. Bestseller.

Jeter Unfiltered, by Derek Jeter. DB 80644
Collection of reminiscences from former New York Yankee. Bestseller.

You Can, You Will: Eight Undeniable Qualities of a Winner, by Joel Osteen. DB 81051
Television pastor enumerates eight principles he believes are the hallmarks of winners. Bestseller.

The Wright Brothers, by David McCullough. DB 82175
Author of *The Greater Journey* (DB 73472) details the lives of brothers Wilbur and Orville Wright and their development of the first working airplane. Bestseller.

Children's Books:

Mary Poppins from A to Z, by P.L. Travers. DB 80596
For each letter of the alphabet there is a brief description of a character or incident from the other Mary Poppins books. Grades 4-7.

You Wouldn't Want to Live without Bacteria! by Roger Canavan. DB 81484

Guide to understanding the benefits of bacteria in our environments. Grades 3-6 and older.

What Pet Should I Get? By Dr. Seuss. DB 82138

A boy wants all of the critters in a pet store, but he and his sister can choose only one. Preschool-grade 2.

Vermont Humanities Council Announces
2016 Vermont Reads Books

The Vermont Humanities Council has announced its 2016 selections for Vermont Reads, Vermont's statewide, one-book community reading program.

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition, by Caroline Alexander. DB 47531, LP 47531

Chronicles the survival of Ernest Shackleton and his crew of 27 men marooned on ice floes off the coast of Antarctica in 1915. Recounts the entrapment and later destruction of their ship, the Endurance, by pack ice and the hardships the men suffered before their rescue in 1916.

Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World, by Jennifer Armstrong. DB 49029

An account of the survival of Ernest Shackleton and his 27-man crew whose ship, the *Endurance*, was marooned in pack ice during an expedition to Antarctica. Explains the daily difficulties the men faced during their nine-month ordeal and Captain Shackleton's bravery to effect their rescue.

Vermont Reads Shackleton will afford Vermonters the opportunity to consider, among other things, the power of vision, courage, and perseverance; the nature of leadership; and the spirit of adventure and exploration. 2016 is the 100th anniversary of the climactic and dramatic conclusion of the *Endurance* expedition (1914-1916).

Audio Described Lyric Theatre Performances

The Vermont Council of the Blind (VCB) has a limited number of tickets for sale for two audio-described Lyric Theatre performances at the Flynn Center in Burlington:

Sunday, November 15, 2015, 2PM – *White Christmas*. The story of two show biz buddies putting on a show in a picturesque Vermont setting and finding their perfect mates in the bargain.

Sunday, April 10, 2016, 1PM – *Mary Poppins*. The story of a nanny reconnecting parents Winifred and George Banks with their children. The children are out of control, until a new nanny, Mary Poppins, arrives.

For further information call Carol Ann Richman, VCB Treasurer, at 802-862-8558.

Choice Magazine Listening Free!

Choice Magazine Listening (CML) is a free audio magazine for adults with impaired vision or other disability, available as a BARD download or on a digital cartridge (easily returnable in the postage-free mailer it arrived in). Four times a year, readers receive 12 hours of writing chosen from over 100 of the finest magazines by CML's team of editors. These quarterly issues feature stories, poems, and articles from publications such as *National Geographic, the New Yorker, Time, Vanity Fair, Harper's, Smithsonian, and Sports Illustrated*. All CML's selections are read by narrators. If you are interested in this free publication, please call 1-888-724-6423. Or check out CML's website: www.choicemagazinelisting.org.

Battery Issues? Check List for Steps to Try

- Make sure your player is plugged into a working outlet. If it is plugged in and it doesn't say "power cord operated" when the play button is depressed, the player is not recognizing that the power cord is plugged in. Try a different outlet.
- Batteries sometimes do not take a full charge the first several times they are charged. If this seems to be the case with your machine, use the player on battery until it dies and then recharge it at least three times to see if the battery life is restored. If you still have trouble, call the library.
- After fully charging the player, as long as the battery gauge is reading over 12 hours the battery is still fine.
- A battery that has completely discharged can sometimes take up to 12 hours to reach a level that is registered by the player. If your new player will not turn on at all, plug it in for a minimum of 12 hours and try it again. If it still won't turn on, call the library for a replacement.

Tech Talk – Bookshelf Feature

As a reminder on how to access multiple titles on a single cartridge:

- Insert the cartridge into the player.
- Press and hold the play button until the player says "bookshelf -- # books."
- Use the fast forward key to scroll to the next book in the list.
- Use the rewind key to scroll to the previous book in the list.
- Once you hear the title you want, push the play button and the book will start playing.

Transition to Unified English Braille Code

The date for implementing the production of braille in Unified English Braille (UEB) code is January 4, 2016, the 207th birthday of Louis Braille. The move to UEB from English Braille American Edition (EBAE) is being implemented at the national level by the National Library Service, Library of Congress. UEB code will use the same six-dot cell pattern that braille readers are familiar with; primarily, the changes are in the rules for spacing and the discontinuation of some contractions. More information about UEB code can be found on the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) website: <http://www.brailleauthority.org>. We anticipate receiving handouts from the National Library Service as the transition date approaches.

The End of Cassettes Is Near

With the successful transition to digital books and players, the end of cassette books and players is very near. If you have a cassette book player you are no longer using, please return it to the library. If you do not yet have a digital book player, please call the library to request one.

Change of Address?

To ensure your delivery of books is not interrupted, please notify us if you have a change of address. If you are going to be at a temporary address for a month or more – heading south for the winter, for example – let us know that, as well. We can send your books to your temporary address. If you are permanently moving outside of the state of Vermont, notify us in advance of your move so that we can send the necessary paperwork to your new home state. We don't want you to be without a good book to read!

Spread the Word!

If you know of any friends or relatives who may qualify and benefit from our services, please give

them our phone number (802-828-3273 or 1-800-479-1711). We work hard at promoting our services, but we can always use your help and support with spreading the word! We are also happy to send out extra applications to any facility or institution that serves individuals who qualify. Please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we may better reach potential patrons.

Holiday Closings

Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11, 2015
Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 26 & Friday,
November 27, 2015
Christmas Day – Friday, December 25, 2015

Vermont Department of Libraries, Special Services Unit
1-800-479-1711 or (802) 828-3273

Monday-Friday, 7:45 am to 4:30 pm

Email lib.ssu@vermont.gov

Website libraries.vermont.gov/library_for_the_blind

Online catalog webopac.klas.com/vtssu

This newsletter is available in alternative formats upon request.



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