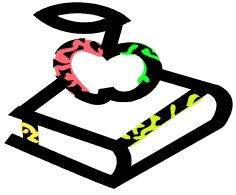


Western Kansas Talking Books Program



Talking Books Service
A Service of the State Library of Kansas

Fall Edition



TALKING BOOKS

2 Washington Square
Norton, KS 67654

1-800-432-2858

Director:

Mary Boller

Assistant Librarian:

Amanda Davis

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Kansas Talking Book Service is to provide books and magazines in Braille and recorded format and playback equipment to any Kansas Citizen unable to use standard print because of a visual or physical impairment.

The service, coordinated through the State Library of Kansas and the Library of Congress, National Library Service, provides for free home delivery of library resources designed to meet the cultural and recreational needs of eligible patrons by providing:

- A well-rounded leisure-reading collection
- Bibliographic access to the collection
- Equipment adapted to readers' needs
- Timely registration and service
- Helpful response to requests for information
- Timely and accurate circulation of books and playback equipment.

Check out the Kansas Talking Book Library Blog for the updates at

<http://kstalkingbooks.blogspot.com>

Rewarded for listening over the summer!



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Lavonia Snodgrass pictured here with Mary Boller, the Western Kansas Talking Books Librarian, was one of four Summer Reading Program WINNERS. Other winners included Geraldine Lee, Judith Nelson and Doreen Mendenhall. Congratulations to all our winners and participants. We look forward to next year's program being just as big of a success.

KANSAS LIBRARY NEWS



State Librarian Joanne Budler and Roy Bird, Director of the Kansas Center for the Book (KCFB) at the State Library of Kansas, proudly announce the 2010 Kansas Notable Books List. Fiction, nonfiction, poetry, children's books and a graphic novel are on the list which contains some of the best books published by Kansans or about Kansas in 2009.

The Kansas Notable Books List is a project of KCFB and is an annual selection of 15 titles each year. The KCFB Notable Books committee identifies the titles and forwards a list to the State Librarian for a final decision. This year's committee included representatives from academic and public libraries, booksellers, media, and previous honorees/authors. This is the fifth Kansas Notable Books List compiled by KCFB.

The alphabetical list by title of the 2010 Kansas Notable Books follow:

- Addie of the Flint Hills: A Prairie Child During the Depression, by Adaline Sorace as told to Deborah Sorace Prutzman
- The Blue Shoe: A Tale of Thievery, Villainy, Sorcery, and Shoes by Roderick Townley, illustrated by Mary GrandPre
- Carter Finally Gets It by Brent Crawford
- The Evolution of Shadows by Jason Quinn Malott
- Ghost Town by Richard W. Jennings
- A Kansas Year by Mike Blair
- Lisa's Flying Electric Piano by Kevin Rabas, edited by Dennis Etzel, Jr.
- Nothing Right: Short Stories by Antonya Nelson
- One Kansas Farmer: A Kansas Number Book by Devin & Corey Scillian, illustrated by Doug Bowles
- Our Boys: A Perfect Season on the Plains with the Smith Center Redmen by Joe Drape
- Silver Shoes by Paul Miles Schneider
- The Storm in the Barn written and illustrated by Matt Phelan
- To the Stars: Kansas Poets of the Ad Astra Poetry Project edited and with commentary by Denise Low
- Under Siege! Three Children at the Civil War Battle for Vicksburg by Andrea Warren
- Years of Dust: The Story of the Dust Bowl by Albert Marrin

—Roy Bird
Director
Kansas Center for the Book

Meet The New Director and Librarian



Hi, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who have only heard my voice when you call Talking Books. I am Mary Boller, the new Sub-Regional Director of the Talking Books Program here in Norton, Kansas. I received my Masters in Library Science from Sam Houston Sate University in 2009. My daughter Allie and I just recently moved to Norton where I met and married my husband Todd Boller.

I am the mother of two, a son Zachary, 22 who is currently serving with the TACP unit of the Air Force in Afghanistan and my daughter Allie, 19, who is a freshman at Fort Hays State University. I was formerly an elementary Librarian and First Grade teacher. This has certainly been a very different opportunity, but a welcomed one. I can tell you that it is an absolute pleasure to serve the Talking Book community and I look forward to working for you and with you in the future.

Meet the Librarian's Assistant



Amanda Davis is the other voice you will hear on the phone here at Western Kansas Talking Books. Amanda has been with the program for over a year now. Her family previously lived in McPherson, Kansas where she worked as a Residential Site Manager for the MRDD population. She and her family then moved to the Norton area where she took a position as a mental health case worker and ultimately started her position here at the Talking Books program.

Amanda, her husband Steve and their three children, James, Nicholas and Brooke stay very busy with family and community activities. Amanda's job at Talking Books is to assist you, our patrons in any way possible. Her biggest responsibility is to get all those cartridges and cassettes in the mail and into your hands each and every day. She is a valuable member of our team.



Finally—A Task Lamp Made For The Senior Low Vision

After almost 10 years of research, MD Support has joined with Berryessa Designs to create the first task lamp designed specifically by and for seniors with low vision. The result is a lamp based upon current science and designed with input from hundreds of patients and leading eye care professionals.

We all know the best and safest type of lamp illuminates the viewing surface brightly and evenly, while providing the best contrast between black and white ("warm white" light).



In addition to providing good light, the fixture itself should be portable, easy to manipulate, sturdy, and safe to touch while operating. It should also be attractive, inexpensive, durable, and economical to operate. So MD Support challenged Mike Ju, CEO of Berryessa Designs, to see if he could meet all of those requirements, and over the past year, the "Junior" LED task lamp was born. MD Support does not benefit financially from sales of this product. The organization's only motivation is to encourage the safest and most beneficial lighting for the low vision community.

Visit their site at: <http://www.berryessadesigns.com/shop/elegance-led-desk-lamp-13.html>



Helpful Tips For The New Digital Players



As you may know, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has started to send the new NLS Digital Standard and Advanced Players to many of the participants in the program. You might be wondering what you can do with your large NLS talking book player since you probably have other devices to read books. Here are some advantages and tips for the players.



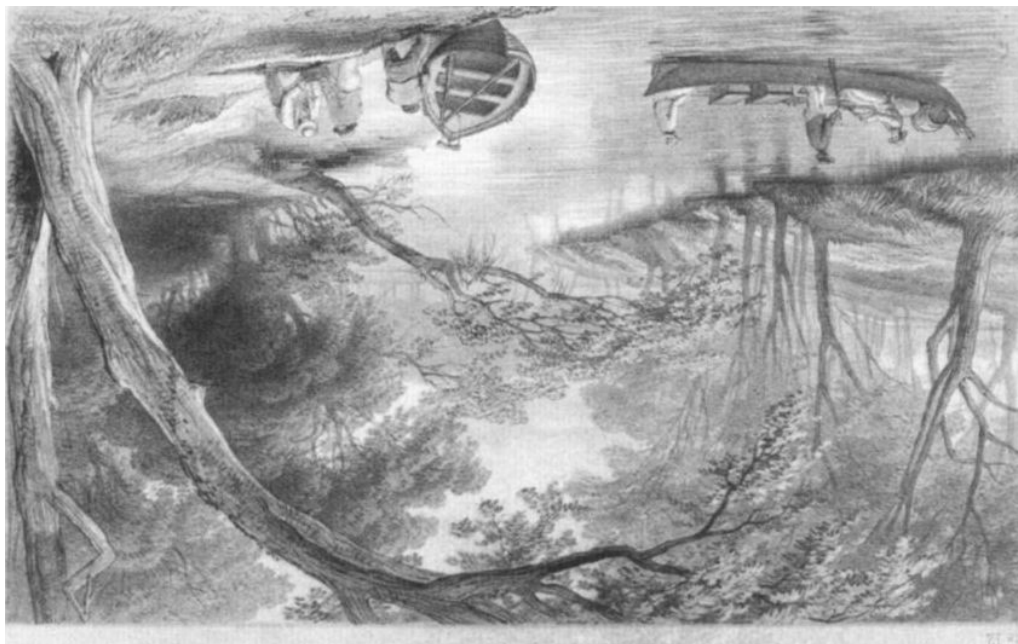
Advantages.

1. **Battery:** the NLS/BPH player has a phenomenal battery. You can get at least 30 hours out of a charge, sometimes more. Plus, the player has a high quality battery that should keep running for years to come.
2. **Speaker:** for anyone that is hearing impaired, you will really like the player's speaker. With a tone control allowing you to control the bass and treble sound, and a speaker that can go quite loud, it is a very high quality speaker.
3. **Built in cartridge support.** You don't have to have cables, simply put in a cartridge and it will begin playing.

Some Tips.

1. You can have more than one book on the media! Put as many books as you like on your drive and they all play. To choose which book plays, hold down the play key to open the bookshelf. Use the left and right keys to move from book to book, and then press play to begin playing that book. Note: The NLS player can't play books from audible.com, nor can it play any text based books as it does not have a built in text to speech engine.
2. You are not limited to the cartridge slot. If you don't have your own blank cartridge, you can plug in a flash drive in the side of the player. The USB port is covered by a little cap on the right side of the player a little farther away from you than the headphone jack. Take off the plastic cover, plug in your flash drive, and begin reading.
3. You are not limited to NLS books! Not only can you download books from BARD you can also obtain a key from Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic to play those books on your player.

A tranquil gateway to a place
of absolute peace...
where all inhabitants are
related and share a common
purpose; love, joy, smiles,
hugs, kisses and eternity
forever prayerful and free to
the end of time...



An Autumn Day

Western Kansas Talking Books
2 Washington Square
Norton, KS 67654-1615



**FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND AND
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**