

READING IS FOR EVERYONE

Newsletter of the Pinellas Talking Book Library

Vol. 13, No. 4

July 2008

Welcome Manatee and Sarasota Counties!

The Pinellas Talking Book Library would like to welcome all patrons from Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Effective July 1, we will be your library: answering questions, sending books, ordering replacement players, changing your record to reflect a new address or book preferences.

Each member of our staff is trained in providing talking book services. Anyone who answers the phone will be able to assist you.

The Pinellas Talking Book Library staff:

Marilyn Stevenson, Librarian: supervises the day-to-day operation of the library, coordinates volunteer services, outreach and public awareness.

Abby Ingram, Juliet Relyea, and Kathi Wendt, Reader Advisors: assist and advise readers in their choice of materials, assist patrons in using the online catalog, maintain the integrity of the collection and patron records. Abby, Juliet and Kathi will be glad to assist you with any requests for books or questions about the service.

We hope to make this transition as efficient as possible. We recognize that change can be difficult. Please be assured that we will continue to provide quality library services, with no interruption in services. If you have any questions, or just want to call and get to know us, please use the toll-free number (effective from the 941 area code): 1-866-619-9568.

The Pinellas Talking Book Library looks forward to serving you.

*Executive Director, Pinellas Public Library Cooperative, Mary A. Brown
Head Librarian, Talking Book Library, Marilyn Stevenson*

LET'S PICNIC IN THE PARK!
Meet the Blind Picnic, Lake Seminole Park
October 18th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On October 18, 2008, the Pinellas chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida (NFBF) is hosting the third annual "Meet the Blind" Picnic at Lake Seminole Park, **Pavilion 5**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The public is invited to join the NFBF for food, fun and facts about blindness. This event is in conjunction with the October celebration of "Meet the Blind" month and of National White Cane Safety Day.

To raise public awareness of the white cane safety law, cane and guide dog users will be demonstrating street crossings at the intersection of Starkey Road and Park Boulevard. In addition, NFBF members and volunteers will be distributing information, and serving food for a nominal donation.

Just like last year, representatives of the Division of Blind Services, Pinellas Talking Book Library, the Light House of Pinellas, Inc. and Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc. puppy raisers are being invited to the picnic to answer questions and provide information about their organizations. Invitations are also being made to many of our area politicians as well. It is our hope that many will accept and be on hand to meet with those in attendance to discuss issues that affect us all. We are also happy that the Pinellas Council of the Blind, the local affiliate of the Florida Council of the Blind, will be joining us to answer questions and provide information about their organization.

The Pinellas Chapter of the NFBF is a nonprofit organization that is affiliated with the NFB of Florida www.nfbflorida.org that is affiliated with the National Federation of the Blind headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, www.nfb.org. The NFB is not an organization speaking for the blind; it is the blind speaking for themselves!

Downloading Digital NLS Books

NLS has begun offering downloads of digital recorded audio books to anyone who is an active reader in good standing, who has purchased a commercially available digital player, and who has an e-mail address and a high-speed internet connection. There is an online application at www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb. This download project includes all of the currently produced audio books along with some magazines.

The commercially produced digital machine that will enable users to download digital books is Humanware's Victor Reader Stream. The current price is \$329.00. Library patrons wanting to download books will also need to purchase a memory card. Contact Humanware at 1-800-722-3393 or e-mail us.sales@humanware.com.

The Association of Blind Citizens operates the Assistive Technology Fund (ATF). The ATF provides grants to cover 50% of the retail price of adaptive devices or software, including the Victor Reader Stream. Applicants must be legally blind and a resident of the United States to qualify for this program. Applications must be submitted by e-mail by June 30th and December 31st for each grant period (two per year). Contact www.blindcitizens.org for more information.



FBI 100th Anniversary Celebration July 2008

The Pinellas Public Library Cooperative and the Pinellas Talking Book Library will partner with the FBI this summer to celebrate their 100th anniversary. Please join in the festivities at:

Largo Public Library
Saturday, July 26, 2008
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

FBI special agents will provide a tent outside the library with demonstrations including a bomb threat program, S.W.A.T. maneuvers, and additional tactical skills. Inside the library, participants will have the opportunity to learn more about identity theft and participate in a forensics demonstration. Refreshments will be provided.

F.B.I. Related Fiction

RC021513 The Hunt for Red October

Author: Tom Clancy

The entire crew of “Red October,” a new Soviet missile submarine under the command of Marko Ramius, is defecting to the U.S. Most of the Russian navy is sent to find and destroy the sub. Jack Ryan, a CIA data analyst, must make contact with Ramius, and the U.S. mobilizes to protect its shores and the sub. 1984. (First of 10 books in this series. Series CTJRY.)

RC023468 Murder at the FBI

Author: Margaret Truman

FBI Special Agent George L. Pritchard is found shot dead on the firing range in the new J. Edgar Hoover Building during a demonstration for tourists. When Special Agent Ross Lizenby, who worked under Pritchard, and Chris Saksis, investigate the murder, they find it linked to a long kept secret. 1985.

RC042271 The Cove

Author: Catherine Coulter

Someone thinks Sally Brainerd knows who murdered her father. If Sally can just get to Aunt Amabel’s house in The Cove, on the Pacific coast, she knows she will be safe. But then, the man she begins to rely on for help turns out to be with the FBI. 1996. (First of 10 books in this series. Series CCFBI.)



F.B.I. Related Non-fiction

RC037795 Autumn FBI: inside the world's most powerful law enforcement agency.

Author: Ronald Kessler

While researching the Federal Bureau of Investigation for this book, the author requested a response to some questions that were forwarded to the Justice Department and resulted in the firing of FBI director William S. Sessions. Kessler's research also reveals an intimate look at FBI facilities, personnel, procedures, successes and failures, and hiring practices. 1993.

RC054407 Cold Zero: Inside the FBI Hostage Rescue Team.

Author: Christopher Whitcomb

Memoir by an FBI special agent. Describes his rigorous training and early missions investigating bank robberies, drug busts, and crank phone calls of Martian kidnappings. He joins the Hostage Rescue Team as a sniper and is involved at Ruby Ridge, Waco, and Kosovo. Violence and strong language. 2001.

RC055193 The Bureau: The Secret History of the FBI.

Author: Ronald Kessler

Comprehensive history of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, from its beginning in 1908 through September 11, 2001, World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks and the war on terrorism. Assesses the bureau's failures and accomplishments, including the Watergate scandal and the Waco disaster. 2002.

RC062429 A G-Man's Life: The FBI, Being "Deep Throat," and the Struggle for Honor in Washington

Author: Bill Wallace

The author, the FBI's second in command after the death of J. Edgar Hoover, draws on his memoirs, correspondence and memos to reconstruct his long career with the agency. With the help of his lawyer John O'Connor, Felt describes his work, role in the Watergate affair, and personal tragedies. 2006.

Farewell to Donna Wiggins

It is with deep regret that due to budget reductions, PTBL has eliminated the position of receptionist held by Donna Wiggins. Donna played an influential role with the Pinellas Talking Book Library. She provided an exceptional service to library patrons for 12 years, including helping patrons having problems with their players, and introducing the service to new users. Donna's knowledge and experience, and always cheerful greeting on the phone, will be greatly missed. We wish her (and Ranger) the very best in their new endeavors.



LIBRARY CLOSINGS



*The Pinellas Talking Book Library
will be closed on the following
dates:*

Friday, July 4
Monday, September 1
Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28

MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

Donations, Bequests and In Memoriam gifts to the Pinellas Talking Book Library are used to help defray costs of operating the library. We use funds prudently and reserve the money for development of collections not provided by NLS, special equipment needs, and volunteer recognition. Thank you to all the kind people who have shown their appreciation by giving these gifts. All monetary gifts are acknowledged with a thank you letter.

Please send and make checks payable to:

Pinellas Talking Book Library
1330 Cleveland Street
Clearwater, FL 33755-5103

You may also make a donation online:

Go to the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative website at www.pplc.us and click on DONATE NOW! Choose the TALKING BOOK LIBRARY as the designated donation recipient.



We receive notes and letters on a regular basis that say how important this program is to the people we serve. Our staff and volunteers enjoy hearing from you, and learn from your comments regarding the library service. Letters expressing the need to maintain a local talking book library support our continued presence in Pinellas County. Please keep the notes and letters coming!

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION#CH21170

Library Staff

Marilyn Stevenson
Access Services Librarian
mstevenson@pplc.us

Kathi Wendt
Library Assistant
kwendt@pplc.us

Abby Ingram
Library Assistant
aingram@pplc.us

Juliet Relyea
Library Assistant
jrelyea@pplc.us

You may reach us Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(727) 441-9958
(727) 441-3168 TDD
(727) 441-9068 FAX

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**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**