

**Talking Book Center News
News & Information from the
Voices of Vision Talking Book Center**

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Newsletter Formats: If you would like to receive this newsletter in braille or audio, or by email, contact the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center. An Electronic Subscription Service which provides copies of each publication from all Talking Book Centers in Illinois is also available. Call your Talking Book Center to learn how to subscribe.

SO MANY BOOKS! Thousands of titles are available in the collections of talking and braille books. There are several ways to locate and order books.

Catalogs, including the bimonthly **Talking Book Topics** and **Braille Book Review**. All contain checklist order forms. Or, call the Talking Book Center to check on books by author, title, or subject.

Online help: The Illinois online catalog allows you to search for books that are available from the Illinois collection:

<http://www.klas.com/ilbph>

Anyone may browse this catalog, but if registered talking book patrons want to order books online, they must contact a Reader Advisor at the Talking Book Center for a user ID and password.

Very likely every day is the anniversary of a significant event in history or the birthday of a well-known author or historical figure. We did some checking, and found some examples of notable writers or other figures with birth anniversaries in June, July, or August.

June

Frank Lloyd Wright. RC 35765 **Frank Lloyd Wright** by Meryle Secrest offers a portrait of the controversial “dean” of twentieth century American architecture.

Gwendolyn Brooks. In 2003, the Illinois State Library was rededicated and named in honor of Gwendolyn Brooks. Gwendolyn Brooks served as Illinois Poet Laureate from 1968 until her death in 2000. Among the books about Gwendolyn Brooks in our collection are a biography by George E. Kent titled **A Life of Gwendolyn Brooks** (RC 33447). Also in the collection is RC 47475 and BR 11948 **Report From Part One** by Gwendolyn Brooks which includes autobiographical writings and interviews. RC 48088 and BR 12082 **Report From Part Two** is a continuation which includes a selection of essays and poems.

Helen Keller. Of course, we have many books about Helen Keller. Here are some examples: the restored classic autobiography RC 55883, BR 14704 **The Story of My Life** by Helen Keller, edited by Roger Shattuck with Dorothy Herrmann; RC 61696, BR 16226 **Helen Keller: Selected Writings** edited by Kim E. Nielsen; and RC 57818, BR 15171 **Helen and Teacher: the Story of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan Macy** by Joseph P. Lash.

Lou Gehrig. The life and baseball career of the legendary New York Yankee Lou Gehrig is described in RC 61772 **Luckiest Man: the Life and Death of Lou Gehrig** by Jonathan Eig.

July

E.B. White wrote a variety of books, but is certainly well-known for titles for young readers such as **Stuart Little** (RC 31831, BR 13246) and **Charlotte's Web** (RC 46839, BR 9405). RC 30334 **Katharine and E.B. White: An Affectionate Memoir** by Isabel Russell offers a glimpse into the lives of this literary couple by their personal secretary.

John Quincy Adams. The life and career of the sixth president of the United States is described in RC 45653 **John Quincy Adams: a Public Life, a Private Life** by Paul C. Nagel and in BR 14399 **John Quincy Adams** by Robert V. Remini.

Amelia Earhart. Biographies that provide details about the life of the famous aviator include RC 32801 **Amelia Earhart: a Biography** by Doris L. Rich; RC 33805 **The Sound of Wings: the Life of Amelia Earhart** by Mary S. Lovell; and RC 45559 **East to the Dawn: the Life of Amelia Earhart** by Susan Butler.

August

Francis Scott Key. **The Flag, the Poet, and the Song: the Story of the Star-Spangled Banner** by Irvin Molotsky (RC 53453, BR 13894) relates the history of the United States flag, how it inspired the poem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, and how the poem was set to music and later adopted as the national anthem.

Orville Wright. The story of the achievements of the Wright Brothers and others are chronicled in RC 57312 **To Conquer the Air: the Wright Brothers and the Great Race for Flight** by James Tobin.

If you are interested in more information about these books or other subjects, contact us or visit our online public access catalog: <http://www.klas.com/ilbph>.

HAVE YOU MISSED A GOOD BOOK LATELY?

You might have...if your reading interests have changed since you first began to borrow talking books. If so, please let us know. Your readers advisor at the Talking Book Center will be happy to discuss your new or expanded reading interests with you. To discuss your reading interests and available books, call the Talking Book Center at 630-208-0398 or toll free 800-227-0625.

YOU CAN HELP RAISE AWARENESS about the Talking Book Program! Does your group need a presentation about talking books and our services? For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center.

FOR YOUNGER READERS

Our website <http://www.ilkidszone.info> includes lots of information about the talking book and braille program for kids, parents, and teachers, as well as booklists, activities, and summer reading program previews.

BORROWING OPTIONS FOR TALKING BOOKS

Our goal is to provide you with reading material on a steady basis. Books are sent based on availability and the quantity you wish to receive. Your reader advisor can assist you in choosing the circulation pattern that best meets your needs. Among the options available on our circulation system are:

“Calendar” Service. The Talking Book Center will send a specific number of books on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly schedule. This keeps a constant stream of books on hand or en route to you.

“Turnaround” Service. When you return books to the Talking Book Center, we will send the same number of books back to you.

Service preferences can be changed or adjusted at any time by contacting your reader advisor.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TALKING BOOK SERVICE:

What should I do if I'm not receiving the types of books I enjoy?

Let us know! If you are not getting the types of books you want, we can adjust this. For example, you may decide to read more adventure stories and fewer mysteries. Or, you may wish to borrow specific types of biographies, or books about a specific period in history. Contact us; our reader's advisors will be happy to check on available books.

How many books can I request at one time?

You may request as many books as you wish – they will not all be sent at once! For optimal service, you should keep plenty of requests on file with us so there are selections waiting to replace each book you return.

If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of your talking book or braille library service, let us know!

For your information

AWARENESS DAY The DuPage Center for Independent Living is presenting its annual Visually Impaired Awareness Day, Wednesday, June 18, 2008 from 3 to 6 PM at the College of DuPage, Student Resource Center, Room 2800. The college is located at 425 Fawell Blvd in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

This event will feature over 25 exhibits on services and products for persons with visual impairments. The keynote speakers will be George Abbott, Dean of Educational Programs and Instruction, Hadley School for the Blind (3:30 PM) and Rich King, WGN Sports Department, and author of "My Maggie" (4:00 PM) For further information, contact the DuPage Center for Independent Living at 630-469-2300.