

# Summer 2024 Newsletter

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Dear patrons and friends,

Great Lakes Talking Books (GLTB) serves all 15 counties of Michigan's Upper Peninsula as well as Alpena and Crawford County in Michigan's lower peninsula. Brought to you by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) and the Michigan Braille Talking Book Library (BTBL), the service is available to all who are blind or have a visual impairment that makes them unable to comfortably read print books, have a perceptual or reading disability, or have a physical disability that makes it hard to hold or manipulate books or to focus or move the eyes as needed to read print books.

Inside you'll find details about the Summer Reading Program, a tip for finding TV guide information using NFB Newsline, three new audio magazines, canceled magazines, book suggestions, local recording news, patron counts by county, and trivia from Sonny Longtine's book, Michigan's Upper Peninsula: Life, Legends, and Landmarks.

GLTB is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9 – 5 pm. To refer a friend, ask a question, request a book, or get help finding something good to read, please call 906-228-7697 Ext. 0, or send an email [tb@greatlakestalkingbooks.org](mailto:tb@greatlakestalkingbooks.org).

Thank you, Tonia Bickford

# Summer Reading Program

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## **BTBL Summer Reading Program June 26 – Aug 11**

Registration is open for the BTBL Summer Reading Program! All Michigan patrons may participate in the BTBL Reading Challenge, Collective Art Project (CD weaving), or the Pen Pal program (Youth only). To participate in the program, which includes the NLS Virtual Summer Reading Program (see next article), patrons should contact Librarian Stephanie Wambaugh at [wambaugh@michigan.gov](mailto:wambaugh@michigan.gov) or call 1-800-992-9012. The BTBL program also includes an Isle Royale National Park Ranger virtual program, Birding by Ear with Donna Posont, adventure themed reading lists, activity ideas, and a grand prize drawing.

## **NLS Virtual Summer Reading Program Events**

Monday, June 24 at 4:00 pm EST

Kickoff event (all ages) with Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden who will read *The Adventures of Marshmallow and Peter* by Peter Heath (DBC30393, Braille in process).

Thursday, July 18 at 4:00 pm EST

Story time and music by Turtle Dance Music (K-3rd grade but all are welcome.)

Thursday, July 25 at 7:00 pm EST

Author Talk with New York Times Bestselling Author Angeline Boulley with the moderator, Andrea L. Rogers. (YA and Adult). *Firekeeper's Daughter* (BR24040, DB102762) and *Warrior Girl Unearthed* (BR25116 in process, DB114761). Read these books ahead of the talk and submit questions for the author to [NLSPE@loc.gov](mailto:NLSPE@loc.gov).

To register, contact BTBL librarian Stephanie Wambaugh at [wambaugh@michigan.gov](mailto:wambaugh@michigan.gov) or call 1-800-992-9012. For more information about the NLS summer reading program, go to <https://www.loc.gov/nls/summerreading2024/>.

## A Patron Tip

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### **NFB Newsline tip from patron Dorothy Dickey**

Did you know that NFB Newsline is not just for listening to newspapers and magazines? NFB Newsline also accesses the TV guide to help you watch your favorite programs and movies and make a list of your favorite channels. By listening to the prompts and pushing the correct buttons on your phone, NFB Newsline asks for your zip code and provides a TV guide for the national channels in your area.

Patrons are eligible to sign up for NFB Newsline, a free audio news

service for anyone who is blind, low-vision, deafblind, or otherwise print-disabled that offers access to more than 500 publications, emergency weather alerts, job listings, and more. For more information, go to <https://nfb.org/programs-services/nfb-newsline>.

## Magazine News

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### Three New Audio Magazines

Best Friends - 6 issues/year

Description: “Best Friends magazine is the nation's most uplifting magazine for pet lovers. Full of engaging stories, happy tales of rescue and gorgeous photos, the magazine is the official publication of Best Friends Animal Society, a national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving the lives of homeless pets.”

Magnolia Journal - Quarterly

Description: “The Magnolia Journal is a quarterly magazine by Chip and Joanna Gaines containing inspiration for life and home. Useful as a resource and a guide to living well, the Magnolia Journal contains stories, recipes, tips, and useful information you will refer to again and again.”

Mother Jones - 6 issues/year

Description “Mother Jones is a nonprofit American progressive magazine that focuses on news, commentary, and investigative journalism on topics including politics, environment, human rights, health and culture.”

## **Discontinued Magazines**

Outdoor Life (OTL4) and The Writer (WRT4) are no longer available for NLS producers to narrate. Therefore, NLS will not be able to provide them going forward.

## **Modern Gems**

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We often talk about books that are new or popular. How about a list of modern books that you may consider gems? Do you have a favorite or life-changing book you would like to recommend to other patrons? If so, let us know.

The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt DB 77453

At the age of thirteen, Theo Decker survives an accident that kills his mother. Abandoned by his father, wealthy family friends raise Theo. His last connection to his mother--a painting--draws Theo

into New York City's underground art world as he grows older.  
Pulitzer Prize winner. Unrated.

Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders DB 86941, BRG04014  
One night, soon after the death of his eleven-year-old son, Willie, President Abraham Lincoln goes to visit the recently interred body in Georgetown. There, he encounters the ghosts of the cemetery's residents, including Willie, who must escape the limbo he is in. Some violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex.

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles DB 85533, BRG04038  
Count Alexander Rostov has been judged by a Bolshevik tribunal and found to be an unrepentant aristocrat. Sentenced to house arrest for life, he joins the community in the luxurious Hotel Metropol. Some descriptions of sex.

Kafka on the Shore by Haruki Murakami DB 59914  
After teenager Kafka Tamura runs away, his father, a famous sculptor, is murdered. This crime links Kafka and an elderly illiterate man in inexplicable ways. Both journey separately to a private library where their destinies overlap. Some explicit descriptions of sex, some violence, and some strong language.  
Bestseller.

A Little Life: A Novel by Hanya Yanagihara DB 81645

College friends Willem, J. B., Malcolm, and Jude attempt to find their ways within their chosen careers. Each encounters difficulties, but it is Jude, the center of their friendship, who must face the biggest demons of all. Strong language, some violence, and some descriptions of sex.

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro DB 59667, BR 21107

England, 1990s. Kathy H., Ruth, and Tommy attended Hailsham, one of the better academies where human clones bred to be organ donors are sheltered from reality. As her own time to donate nears, Kathy appreciates her privileged upbringing.

Beloved by Toni Morrison DB 26026, BR 16707

Related in kaleidoscopic fashion and set in rural Ohio during the period immediately following the Civil War, this chronicle of slavery and its aftermath traces the life of Sethe, a former slave. Bestseller. Some violence.

The Road by Cormac McCarthy DB 63649, BR 17072

A father and his young son journey south after the destruction of the civilized world. Their survival kit consists of a few blankets, a pistol, a cart of scavenged food, and their love for each other. Pulitzer Prize winner. Bestseller. 2006.

# Victoria E. Wolf Recording News

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Our latest locally recorded book is available for request or BARD download. Michigan's Upper Peninsula: Life, Legends & Landmarks, Engaging Vignettes about Michigan's Upper Peninsula People and Places by Sonny Longtine DBC19559

Reviews from our readers so far are:

“I grew up in the UP and thought I knew most everything about it, but I had more to learn.” and,

“This book reminded me of all the things I forgot!”

We are currently recording Valley Cats, a three book juvenile series featuring adventurous cats with their furry friends and their human families on Valley Road (south of Marquette) by local author Gretchen Preston.

## Good To Know

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### Due dates

If you receive digital books on cartridge by mail, there is no need to read them quickly because you think another patron is waiting for your cartridge. A digital book cartridge is due 6 months from the check-out date. A braille book is due 2 months from the check-out date. A magazine cartridge is due 5 weeks from the check-out date. Books downloaded from BARD do not have due dates.



## **Listen to WDET/DRIS**

Anyone can stream Detroit Radio Information Services (DRIS) online at [www.wdet.org/dris](http://www.wdet.org/dris). DRIS is Detroit's NPR station offering readings of local and national newspapers and magazines.

Saturday programs include the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Sciences, and Your Pets. Questions about the service should be directed to [diane.sanders@wdet.org](mailto:diane.sanders@wdet.org).

## **Subscribe to NLS Calendars**

Patrons may subscribe to receive one of the following NLS calendar services by mail each January. Please note that CAW1, the wall-sized calendar, includes large print and braille together.

CAW1 = Wall-sized calendar, large print text and braille together

CAP1 = Pocket-sized calendar, braille only

For information about other organizations that mail (or sell) braille and large print calendars, please visit

<https://www.loc.gov/nls/services-and-resources/informational-publications/braille-and-large-print-calendars/>.

## **Many Faces of BARD**

The NLS Patron Engagement Section invites you to The Many Faces of BARD online event the second Thursday of every month, at 7:00 p.m. EST. Each monthly event covers one aspect of BARD

(Braille and Audio Reading Download service) and is open to all. For more information, go to <https://www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/many-faces-of-bard/>.

### **Quarterly Patron Corner**

Patrons are invited to attend the NLS Quarterly Patron Corner, a virtual meeting on the second Monday in March, July, September, and December. For more information, go to <https://www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/patron-corner/>.

### **Mike May**

Mike May, CEO of the Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. in Seattle, served as the keynote speaker for the 2024 Michigan Libraries Without Walls event. Learn more about Mike May at <http://crashingthrough.com/> or request his biography, *Crashing Through: A Story of Risk, Adventure, and the Man Who Dared to See* by Robert Kurson DB 63747, BR 17156. Description: Michael May (born 1953) was blinded at age three and later became a champion skier, CIA analyst, and entrepreneur.

# By the Numbers

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The count of Great Lakes Talking Books patrons by county.

County	Patron Count
Alger	10
Alpena	35
Baraga	3
Chippewa	40
Crawford	15
Delta	51
Dickinson	42
Gogebic	17
Houghton	27
Iron	17
Keweenaw	5
Luce	5
Mackinac	9
Marquette	111
Menominee	40
Ontonagon	14
Schoolcraft	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>456</b>

Numbers from Sonny Longtine's book, Michigan's Upper Peninsula: Life, Legends, and Landmarks

**\$0.00**

The amount of money inventor John Burt received for his Sault (Soo) Lock invention.

**8 ft. 1 inch**

The unconfirmed height of the Copper Country's Gentle Giant, Big Louis Moilanen, who died in 1913.

**1,979 feet**

The height of Mount Arvon in the Huron Mountains.

Great Lakes Talking Books  
1615 Presque Isle Avenue  
Marquette, MI 49855-2811

FREE  
MATTER  
FOR THE  
BLIND

Your donations are accepted and used to support library services. In the case of memorials or donations in honor of a particular person or event, please include the name(s) and address(es) of those to be notified. Checks should be made payable to the Superiorland Library Cooperative and should include a note that the donation is for Great Lakes Talking Books. Mail to Great Lakes Talking Books, 1615 Presque Isle Ave, Marquette, MI 49855-2811. Thank you.

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