



Greetings from the State Librarian



After the summer heat, a chill fall with leaf filled breezes is quite welcome. As we dig out our sweaters and jackets for the season, pumpkin carving, bonfires, and harvest festivals will be on the rise. When you gather with friends and family, you may have the opportunity to share your current read. Perhaps you may even convince some to join in the fun and read along with you, and we'd love to be a part of starting and continuing your literary

conversations this season.

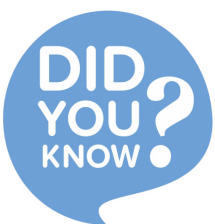
If you hope to share a hair raising tale around a campfire, the Recording Studio has a spine tingling option with their recent audiobook release of *Ghost Stories of an Antiquary*. You could join the Wolfner Library Book Club to explore multiple genres and take part in the live virtual discussions of pre-selected titles. You can also check out a book club kit from our collection to discuss with your local reading group in a pumpkin spice filled coffeeshop. If you're unsure of what book to read next on your own or with friends, talk with our reader advisors and they will help you find titles that match your interests.

I hope you experience the joy of gaining new perspectives on plot points, of discovering details you may have missed, of relishing in ranting about a detestable antagonist and of simply sharing your thoughts about your reading.

Happy Fall!

Janet

Support Available for the DA2



Many of you have already received the new DA2 next-generation Digital Talking Book Machine. While the updated device offers exciting new features, we understand there may be a learning curve as you become familiar with it.

To help users get started, National Library Service (NLS) has a series of videos titled [NLS](#)

[Digital Advanced Player 2 \(DA2\) How-To Series](#), available on



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YouTube, covering the basics of the DA2. Topics include power management, navigating menus, using text input mode, logging into BARD, and more.

For additional help with the player, the [DA2 User Guide](#) is available on the NLS webpage. It is also available as an audio or braille file on BARD, and on an audio cartridge from the library. The user guide is also embedded on the DA2 player itself.

The DA2 includes several new features, including Wi-Fi capability and direct access to BARD, allowing users to download books directly to the machine's internal storage in addition to playing books from cartridges. Users can also connect Bluetooth-enabled devices such as speakers, headphones, and some hearing aids. If you are interested in receiving a DA2, please contact Wolfner at 573-751-8720 or 800-392-2614.

Upcoming Missouri Spotlight

Did you know that iced tea was invented in Saint Louis or that Kansas City has more fountains than any city in the world except Rome? Stay tuned each new quarter as Wolfner Library shares tidbits and trivia about the Show-Me State. And let us know if you'd like to add your name to our waiting list for Wolfner Studio's upcoming recording of ***The Little Book of Missouri Facts: Fascinating Things You Never Knew About the Show-Me State*** by Jonah Keene, narrated by Tim Emmel.
(DBC34853 in process)



*Eastern Male Bluebird
submitted by Emma D.,
Wolfner Library Tech*

Talking Book Topics Update

Do you want to discover something new to read? Talking Book Topics is a list published every two months featuring new books across various genres. This catalog is available as an audio magazine on BARD, an email attachment, or a digital cartridge from Wolfner Library.

Due to changes at NLS, the audio version of Talking Book Topics will be sent directly from Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library. The audiobook catalog will no longer arrive with a paper order form. The order form will remain available to view and print on the [NLS Talking Book Topics website](#).

Wolfner patrons with email who are currently subscribed will receive the full catalog and order form by email. If you would prefer to receive the catalog by audio cartridge or need the paper order form printed and mailed, please contact a reader advisor.

Current and past issues of Talking Book Topics will continue to be available for download from BARD as magazines. They will also still be available as a PDF in large-print format on the [NLS Talking Book Topics website](#).



Missouri Secretary of State Wolfner Library Book Club

2026 Upcoming Book Club Titles

If you are a Wolfner patron, participate in our biweekly book club by dialing in every first and third Thursday at 2:00 p.m., or by using Webex from a smart device. Patrons may also call Wolfner at 2:00 p.m. and be added to the meeting. If you just want to read the book selections, you can call and request a cartridge of the book club titles.

Here's a list of books that will be featured for September, October and November.

September 17 — ***Presumed Innocent*** by Scott Turow ([DB026965](#), [BR018936](#))

Chief prosecutor Rusty Sabich is given a case involving the murder of lawyer Carolyn Polhemus. But the married Sabich once had an affair with Polhemus, and his colleague Tommy Molto is convinced he is the killer. [15 hours, 18 minutes]

October 1 — ***Falling Like Leaves*** by Misty Wilson ([DB132622](#))

Ellis has a plan: spend her senior fall prepping her application for Columbia, get into their journalism program, and set the foundation for a respectable career. So, when her parents announce that not only are they separating, but Ellis has to move with her mom from New York City to Bramble Falls, Connecticut, to live with her aunt and cousin, it couldn't come at a worse time. [8 hours, 47 minutes]

October 15 — ***All the Colors of the Dark*** by Christopher Whitaker ([DB122210](#))

1975 is a time of change in America. The Vietnam War is ending. Muhammad Ali is fighting Joe Frazier. And in the small town of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing. When the daughter of a wealthy family is targeted, the most unlikely hero emerges—Patch, a local boy, who saves the girl, and, in doing so, leaves heartache in his wake. Patch and those who love him soon discover that the line between triumph and tragedy has never been finer. And that their search for answers will lead them to truths that could mean losing one another. [14 hours, 39 minutes]

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November 5 — **Crota** by Owl Goingback ([DB048229](#))

When an enormous bear-like monster begins attacking men, including sheriff Skip Harding, Little Hawk identifies him as Crota, an ancient evil creature. The advice of Strong Eagle, a wise medicine man, and Skip's acceptance of his Native American heritage enable Skip and Little Hawk to confront Crota. [8 hours, 15 minutes]

November 19 — **11/22/1963** by Stephen King ([DB073931](#))

The dying owner of Al's Diner has a shocking request for his friend, English teacher Jake Epping: go back in time through a portal in Al's storeroom and stop JFK's assassination. [30 hours, 59 minutes]

To request these titles or the Webex link by email, call Wolfner toll-free at 800-329-2614 (in-state) or 573-751-8720.

Kind Notes from Wolfner Friends

“Our family can’t thank you enough for the nearly 10 years of enjoyment you provided our mom through your wonderful service.” Ruth, Raymore

“Thank you very much for another of Jan Karon’s books! So good and also funny! How does she do it!! I’m so thankful to receive books from the Wolfner Library. Also appreciate the large print. Again, thank you!” Anonymous

“...I could do nothing without your support! Your library provides the juice that keeps elderly people curious, alert, and desirous of understanding world events. The service you and your wonderful staff provide is an expression of goodness for the betterment of humanity!...” Ross, Saint Louis

“Thank you for such a great service to the community. It’s really been a lifesaver for my family member.” Maureen, Kirksville



Wolfner Adult Mail and Make craft created by Keasha Orban, adorns an outdoor garden.

New from the Wolfner Recording Studios

All books produced by the Wolfner Recording Studios are the result of many hours of service by volunteers who go through a rigorous audition process to record, monitor and review each title. These Missouri-centric titles are uploaded to BARD for the enjoyment of Wolfner patrons and readers across the country.

(Additional studio funding is provided by Friends of the Wolfner Library.)

Youth

Sadie Jane: A Turn Back Tale by Shirley Gilmore. ([DBC33016](#))

Narrated by Louise Eggen.

The year is 1937, and the world is in the grips of the Great Depression. The town is dying and its death knell arrives with the news that a new government dam will soon bury Turn Back. This is also the era of Jim Crow. Turn Back has a sizable African American population, but laws and customs separate the two races. There are times, however, when their lives intersect. Experience these events through the eyes of nine-year-old Sadie Jane Woods as she navigates through these unsettled times. For grades 5–8 and older. [8 hours, 10 minutes]

Shadowed by Carl Deuker. ([DBC33070](#))

Narrated by Dennis Donley.

Forced to choose between his family's dream of a soccer scholarship and his own passion, Nate discovers who he is through the game he truly loves—basketball. For grades 6–9. Truman Award nominee. [8 hours, 7 minutes]

Uprising by Jennifer A. Nielsen. ([DBC33071](#))

Narrated by Julie Harker.

Twelve-year-old Lidia is outside her grandfather's house when planes fly overhead, bearing the Nazi cross on each wing. Before the bombs hit the ground, Lidia realizes her life is about to change forever. When the Warsaw city uprising begins, Lidia joins the Polish nationalist's fight. Drawing on the extraordinary real-life story of Polish teenager Lidia Zakrzewski, bestselling author Jennifer A. Nielsen presents an inspiring and dramatic account of the Polish resistance fighters who struggled to force out their Nazi occupiers and reclaim their nation's freedom from tyranny. Some strong language. Violence. For grades 4–7. Truman Award nominee. [9 hours, 3 minutes]

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On a Wing and a Tear by Cynthia Leitich Smith. ([DBC33072](#))

Narrated by Theresa Sullivan.

Melanie "Mel" Roberts and Ray Halfmoon may be from different Indigenous Nations, but the friends have become like siblings. And they soon welcome a distinguished guest: Great-grandfather Bat, whose wing is injured, has taken refuge in their old oak tree. A rematch of the legendary Great Ball Game is coming up. Grampa Charlie Halfmoon offers to drive Bat from Chicago down to the traditional playing field outside Macon, Georgia, and Mel and Ray are determined to help out. For grades 3–6. Mark Twain Award nominee. [6 hours, 12 minutes]

Let's Be Bees by Shawn Harris. ([DBC33077](#))

Narrated by Ritzy Johnson.

The only thing better than playing make believe is playing make believe with your favorite grown-up! Especially when that grown-up's imagination is as big as yours, and you both get to make all kinds of funny sounds. For preschool–grade 2. Building Block Award nominee. [5 minutes]

Adult

Black Jack: The Life and Times of John J. Pershing-Volume II by Frank Everson Vandiver. ([DBC29137](#))

Narrated by Vaughn Whiting.

Traces the life of the general whose career began on the western frontier and culminated with victory in a world war. Some violence. [30 hours, 49 minutes]

Gangsters, Outlaws and Mobsters: A Missouri History of Twentieth Century Crimes and Criminals by David R. True. ([DBC31095](#))

Narrated by Mark Simmons.

When people think of organized crime, the cities of Chicago, Las Vegas, and New York come to mind, but the state of Missouri has produced a long list of high-profile criminals known across the nation. In fact, Pretty Boy Floyd, Bonnie and Clyde, Machine Gun Kelly, and Fred "Killer" Burke — all high on the FBI's most wanted list — had ties to the state. Some strong language. Some violence. [14 hours, 46 minutes]

Ozark Folk Magic: Plants, Prayers, and Healing by Brandon Weston. ([DBC32957](#))

Narrated by Terry Lyskowski.

Bring traditional methods of healing and magic into the modern world with this impressive book on Ozark folk magic. Providing lore, verbal charms, healing plants, herbal recipes, magical tools and alignments, and more, folk healer Brandon Weston sheds light on the region's secretive culture and shows you how to heal both yourself and others. [12 hours, 55 minutes]

The Devil and Mrs. Davenport by Paulette Kennedy. ([DBC32965](#))

Narrated by Mary Beth Broughton.

Missouri, 1955. Loretta Davenport has led an isolated life as a young mother and a wife to Pete, an ambitious assistant professor at a Bible college. They're the picture of domestic tranquility-until a local girl is murdered and Loretta begins receiving messages from beyond. Pete dismisses them as delusions of a fevered female imagination. Some violence. [11 hours, 1 minute]

Union Renegades: Miners, Capitalism, and Organizing in the Gilded Age by Dana M. Caldemeyer. ([DBC33028](#))

Narrated by Marlene Lee.

In the late nineteenth century, Midwestern miners often had to decide if joining a union was in their interest. Arguing that these workers were neither pro-union nor anti-union, Dana M. Caldemeyer shows that they acted according to what they believed would benefit them and their families. [9 hours, 58 minutes]

Wolfner Facebook

Stay connected with all the latest news, events and resources provided by Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library by following us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/wolfnerlibrary>.

Accessible Voting in Missouri

With November elections right around the corner, make your plan to vote. For information on accessible voting in Missouri; including curbside voting, accessible polling locations and accessible voting systems, you can visit sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/howtovote#accessible.

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***Brailled It* Coming This October**

The Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (LBPD) invites the public to view *Brailled It*, an award-winning documentary highlighting the skill and achievements of young Braille readers and writers. A free national discussion will follow on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time, or 6:00 p.m. Central Time.



Through community partnerships with the Friends of the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, Artifact Studios, Hadley, the Braille Institute, and the Library of Congress' National Library Services for the Blind and the Print Disabled (NLS), this event brings together readers, educators, network library staff, families, and advocates nationwide to explore the importance of Braille literacy.

Brailled It follows leading blind and low-vision Braille readers and writers under 18 as they compete in the Braille Challenge. The Braille Challenge, hosted by the Braille Institute, is the only international academic competition for students who are blind or visually impaired. It brings together the top 50

finalists selected from more than 2,000 competitors across Australia, Canada, Ireland, Kenya, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

By placing cameras in the hands of the competitors, the documentary provides an authentic perspective on their experiences and celebrates confidence, community, and the transformative impact of Braille.

Registration opens on Wednesday, October 7th, <https://bit.ly/BrailledIt>.



NLS Programs

Collections Connections

When You Need Ideas for What to Read Next

With hundreds of thousands of audio and Braille books and magazines available through the National Library Service, finding a place to start can feel overwhelming.

That's where Collection Connections comes in. This free monthly email newsletter from NLS Collection Development staff spotlights carefully curated fiction and nonfiction titles centered on timely, engaging themes—making it easier to discover your next great read.

To sign up, send your name and email address to the Collection Connections team at connections@loc.gov. You can unsubscribe from the list at any time. [Past editions of Collections Connections](#) are available on the NLS website

Monthly *The Many Faces of BARD*

The Patron Engagement Section of NLS offers a monthly program called The Many Faces of BARD on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. central time. Each monthly event covers one aspect of BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download offered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, Library of Congress). This event is open to all.

BARD, an online audiobook and braille service, debuted in 2009. In the 2025 federal fiscal year, patrons downloaded more than 4.3 million audio titles from BARD.

For more information, please visit www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/many-faces-of-BARD/ or call a Wolfner reader advisor at 800-392-2614 or 573-751-8720.

DA2 Software Update

On Thursday, August 13, 2026, NLS made DA2 software version 2.0.0 available to patrons. DA2 units connected to Wi-Fi will be offered the opportunity to download and install the software update. This software update delivers an enhanced Bookshelf, apps for Bookshare and NFB Newline, and various bug fixes. To check if your DA2 player is updated, go to the main menu, enter Settings, then navigate to About, press Enter to hear the player's current version. The latest update is Version 2.0.0 Build 2593.

Please contact Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library with any questions.

NLS Short Links

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled has created new short links for primary information and programming sites. Wolfner Library encourages all patrons to visit any of the programming sites to learn more:

My Talking Books Skill is an Alexa skill for Amazon smart speakers that allows BARD users to use voice commands to browse, search, and stream audiobooks. www.loc.gov/nls/MTB.

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The Many Faces of BARD engages patrons with training on BARD and offers a platform for patrons to ask questions. www.loc.gov/nls/MFOB.

Smart Speaking to the Smart Speaker provides training on the My Talking Books skill and offers a platform for patrons to ask questions. www.loc.gov/nls/SmartSpeaking.

That All May eRead provides training on the NLS Braille eReaders and offers a platform for patrons to ask questions. www.loc.gov/nls/TAME.

Patron Corner shares specific information of interest to patrons. To learn more and listen to past episodes, go to www.loc.gov/nls/PatronCorner.

Braille on Demand provides hard copies of braille titles from BARD for patrons to keep www.loc.gov/nls/BOD.

Stay Connected through NFB Newsline



NFB-NEWSLINE® is a free audio news service available to Wolfner patrons that offers access to more than 500 publications, emergency weather alerts, job listings, and more.

Patrons can access national newspapers, including the Wall Street Journal and USA Today, breaking news sources, including CNN, BBC, and ESPN Online and emergency weather alerts and seven-day forecasts localized to your zip code. The news service can be accessed through phone, website, email, the NFB Newsline App for iOS or Amazon Alexa.

If you are interested in this audio news service, please contact a reader advisor at 573-751-8720 or email wolfner@sos.mo.gov.



These projects are supported by the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Upcoming Holidays

As a reminder to patrons, Wolfner Library will be closed on the following holidays:

- Monday, October 12 Columbus Day
- Wednesday, November 11 Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving Day

Wolfner Library Donations

If you are interested in donating to Wolfner Library, there are two options:

1) Help offset operating expenses through the Wolfner Trust Fund:

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library
PO Box 387
Jefferson City, MO 65102

2) Help provide patron programming through Friends of Wolfner Library:

Friends of Wolfner Library
PO Box 24834
Kansas City, MO 64131

For information on how to become a Friend of Wolfner Library you can email wellsjerry9@gmail.com or phone 816-678-1257.

Wolfner Library and our patrons appreciate your support!

Wolfner Staff

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