

HAWAII STATE LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

402 Kapahulu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815, (808) 733-8444, 1-800-559-4096 Toll Free

SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

LIBRARY STAFF RETURNS!

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed life as we know it. Since March 23, 2020, Hawaii has been under a stay-at-home order issued by Governor David Ige and all the county mayors. As a result, services from federal, state, and local governments have been reduced. But even under these circumstances, NLS and the Hawaii State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (LBPD) have continued to provide library services to patrons.

When the building closed in late March, we were forced to operate with a skeleton crew. But despite the difficulty, we fulfilled all requests for braille, audio and large print books. While the building is still closed to the public, the full staff of the Hawaii State LBPD has returned and is happily taking requests and providing all the services you've come to expect.

Please call us at 733-8444 if you would like to request any books or magazines in audio or braille or any of the books in our large print collection. And don't worry about any of our items being contaminated. We put all of our books and audio cartridges in quarantine after each use, so that they are safe when they get to your house.

In the midst of all the uncertainty, many of you have continued to express gratitude for our services. Please know that we are equally grateful for your continued patronage. We look forward to hearing from those of you who haven't had the opportunity to contact us these last few months!

DELIVERY OF CATALOGS

In the past few weeks, there has been a delay in the delivery of the catalogs published by NLS. The March/April issue of Talking Books Topics was mailed out in late April and the May/June issue will be distributed during the first week of June. If you need access right away, there is an HTML version on the NLS website, which includes improved navigation for those accessing the page with a screen reader. TBT is not being distributed on cartridge at this time because of vendor closures.

The large-print edition of the March/April issue of the Braille Book Review has been mailed to patrons. This issue is also available on the NLS website. Electronic braille files for this catalog are available on the NLS website and from BARD. The May/June issue should already be available on the NLS website and on BARD. Hard-copy braille production of all issues of BBR is indefinitely on hold because of vendor closures.

DELIVERY OF MAGAZINES

Because the Coronavirus pandemic has created distribution problems, magazines are not currently available on cartridge or

in hard-copy braille but are being posted on BARD in audio and ebraille. We anticipate that back issues will be made available via the Magazine on Cartridge program and in hard-copy braille when normal operations resume. Some audio magazines, including the Economist, are not available at all because of the closure of production facilities. If you have any questions about catalog or magazine delivery, please call us at 733-8444.

NEW NONFICTION BOOKS ON BARD

Having access to the books and magazines available for download from BARD has been a blessing for those who have not been able to get books by mail because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Here are a few of the new nonfiction titles available on BARD right now.

The cure for hate: a former white supremacist's journey from violent extremism to radical compassion by Tony McAleer. DB98218

The author recounts his years spent as a white nationalist, and how fatherhood spurred him to question his hateful beliefs and disengage from white supremacist ideology.

Lady in waiting: my extraordinary life in the shadow of the crown by Anne Glenconner. DB98917

A memoir from a close member of the royal circle and lady-in-waiting to Princess Margaret. Describes her experiences witnessing landmark moments in royal history.

Mastering diabetes: the revolutionary method to reverse insulin resistance by Cyrus Khambatta and Robby Barbaro. DB98915

Maintains eating a low-fat plant-based whole-food diet reverses insulin resistance in all types of diabetes. Includes more than thirty nutrient-dense recipes.

MORE LIBRARY SERVICES RETURNING

After having been closed to the public for 8 weeks, The Hawaii State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled has started the process of phasing in more public services. Although the building is still closed, we are allowing our valued patrons to request materials and pick them up from the library, if preferred. Please call us at 733-8444 if there is something you'd like to request and pick up in person.

Over the next few weeks, we will be slowly opening up the building for book browsing and use of the public computers. We will soon be able to assist you with any library account concerns as well. We look forward to serving you in a fuller capacity soon!

MESSAGE FROM NLS DIRECTOR KAREN KENINGER

Books have been a mainstay of my life since my parents read to me as a small child. And NLS and its affiliated libraries have been a foundational requirement for me since I was seven years old and could read for myself both braille and talking books. So I cannot help but feel a very personal appreciation for the work I see continuing both at NLS and in the network

libraries to make sure that patrons have books and magazines to read. Perhaps reading becomes even more important during this time of isolation and social distancing, but we all know that reading is always a fundamental part of our patrons' lives.

I am seeing extraordinary dedication to the mission and creative and forward-thinking efforts to remove the barriers that have arisen as shelter-in-place, social distancing, and other precautions have changed the way we live and work.

I know there are some obstacles we have yet to surpass, and we are all looking for untrodden paths around them. I also believe that we will come out of this experience stronger as a network, and with new tools, forged in the crucible of necessity to serve us well going forward. So please allow me to express my sincere gratitude, appreciation, and admiration for library staff and patrons in this time of pandemic and precautions, so That All May Read.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Hawaii LBPD will be closed on the following holidays:

June 11, 2020 (Thursday) Kamehameha Day

July 3, 2020 (Friday) Independence Day

August 21, 2020 (Friday) Statehood Day

This newsletter was produced by the staff of The Hawaii State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. If you have any questions or comments, please contact our branch manager at baron.baroza@librarieshawaii.org or call 733-8444.