

HAWAI'I STATE LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

402 Kapahulu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815, (808) 733-8444, 1-800-559-4096

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS FROM HAWAII LBPD

Aloha Kākou Dear Readers,

Fall is upon us and the end of the year is fast approaching. It sure has been a busy time at the library with some wonderful accomplishments and some great memories. The last few months of the year will be just as full of opportunities, and a bit further down in this edition you'll find out more about some of the different upcoming events. However, I want to draw your attention here to the celebration of the library's 95th birthday which we will observe on Saturday, December 5 at 12:30 pm and going through the afternoon. Hawaii LBPD was one of the original 19 libraries in the National Library Service network following the network establishment in 1931. If you're able to join us for the celebration we'd love to have you here at the library. We'll have refreshments and birthday cake, and for anyone who would like to share a poem or a short excerpt from a book about reading and/or libraries, that would be a nice addition as well. We're also hoping to have some of our musically inclined ohana share their talents in a mini-kanikapila a bit later in the afternoon. Come on out and enjoy some/all of the event and share in the celebration with the rest of your LBPD family. In the meantime, keep on reading! Mahalo nui loa, Matthew Brown.

HAWAII LBPD UPDATE

- LBPD Radio Reading Service: Streaming Now Available! More of you are finding out about the benefits of the online (streamed)

version of Radio Reading Service (RRS), especially while Hawaii Public Radio continues to troubleshoot technical problems with the original broadcast version of RRS. Give us a call at the library if you'd like to try it out so we can ensure access permissions are in place. This service is accessible to any registered LBPD patron so long as they have internet access, at any place, on any island, in any state.

- **LBPD Book Club:** Monthly meetings are continuing, and the theme for the gathering on Saturday, November 7 at 1:00 pm is adventure. If you need help finding a book, just give us a call. As noted above, our December book club meeting will be the celebration of the library's 95th birthday. We're going to skip the meeting in January and will resume February 6, 2027. Hope you can join us for the fun at the library.
- **Tech Skills:** The Digital Navigator Program has restarted at LBPD with four one hour sessions available each Tuesday afternoon, and four one hour sessions on Wednesday morning. If you would like assistance with your technology including your phone or laptop, please give the library a call to set up an appointment.
- **Dungeons & Dragons:** The monthly D&D program continues at the library, with most sessions held on Fridays, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. The next planned event is set for Friday, October 23 with a Lord of the Rings theme. We have made some plans for occasional Saturday sessions to allow folks who are working during the week to also participate in the fun. Give the library a call to check on upcoming dates and scenarios. As a reminder, each event is limited to a single day, so there is no concern about missing out on a previous event. No prior experience is required.
- **'Ōlelo Hawai'i Book Narrators Needed:** We still need Hawaiian and Pacific language readers to help us with book recording, public service announcements, and reading some news items. If you know of anyone that might be a good candidate to help in this important project please have them contact the library.

In an extra special opportunity library staff will be working on this effort with attendees at the Pacific Island Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums conference in early November in Pohnpei. We will be recording short books and cultural information in Pacific languages and this is all in the name of improved access for our current and future patrons.

- New Year Housecleaning: With the end of the year fast approaching and the need to clean up and tidy up before the New Year, please take a moment to return any old book cartridges and equipment that you are no longer using to the library. If you need shipping containers for equipment, or mailing cases for cartridges, just give us a call at 808-733-8444.
- More Housecleaning: Speaking of cleaning, we are looking forward to another session of Home Economics 101 with Kyle Laconsay on Thursday, October 22 at 11:00 am. The main topic for this hybrid in-person and virtual presentation is housecleaning and cupboard organizing. Give us a call for more information and to sign up.
- Feedback: Hawai'i LBPD is blessed with a pool of wonderful volunteers that help us in many ways including with recording, and also reading stories and announcements for the radio reading service. Please let us know if you enjoy a particular reader so we can share your feedback with them.

NEWS FROM NLS AND THE NETWORK

- NLS Accessible Maps from U.S. History: NLS is inviting you to explore accessible collections and materials including maps and documents that provide a representative record for America at 250 years. Items are available at the following link as downloadable audio, braille and tactile materials. These materials preserve digital content reflecting commemorations, historical interpretation and community experiences: [America250 - National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled \(NLS\) | Library of Congress.](#)

- Many Faces of BARD: Following is the link to the popular NLS “Many Faces of BARD” series. The most recent recordings include topics addressing advanced navigation of BARD Mobile, an overview of the anticipated web-based BARD, and different operating features for the DA-2 machines. Here’s the link: www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/many-faces-of-bard.
- NLS Patron Corner: NLS is continuing to run quarterly Patron Corner online sessions covering a variety of topics. The most recent topic focused on BARD, where we’ve come, and where we’re going with this app. Here’s a link to previous sessions: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/patron-corner/>
- That All May E-Read Online Fora: The series of online opportunities to learn about different NLS resources continues with the next such event scheduled for Tuesday, October 27 at 1:00 pm HST. The topic for this upcoming event is Care and Use of NLS eReaders: Troubleshooting and Other Miscellany. Previous sessions may be accessed at: www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/that-all-may-eread.
- Smart Speaking to the (Alexa) Smart Speaker: NLS is running a series of interactive sessions online about how to access BARD using the Amazon Smart Speaker platform. The next planned session is on Thursday, November 19. Here’s a link to previous sessions: www.loc.gov/nls/news-and-updates/smart-speaking-to-the-smart-speaker.
- Music Notes Webinar: The next NLS Music Notes Webinar for patrons and network staff will take place Thursday, October 22, at 7:00 pm EDT. NLS Music Section patron Noah Tobias Carver will be the featured guest for the session which will include a discussion of his musical journey, how technology and braille music have shaped his experiences, his advocacy for disability rights, and other topics. Noah Tobias Carver is a tenor soloist and disability rights advocate creating impactful musical experiences and working to protect and expand awareness for disabled musicians and the public. Carver is in his fourth year at the Eastman School of Music. Here’s the link for the session:

<https://loc.zoomgov.com/j/1654494695?pwd=wA3sFcwrXTPjRelFoYWMccbxblrmu.1> The meeting ID is: 165 449 4695

- **Book Request:** Do you have a favorite book that you can't find, or perhaps an area of newly found interest, but there just aren't any titles available on BARD? If that's the case, please consider contacting LBPd to let us know. We have excellent luck getting a diverse range of materials accepted into the NLS transcribing queue back in Washington, so give us a call or send in an email.

IN OTHER NEWS

- **NFB Newsline:** Working with Marcus Bass, the NFB Hawai'i Newsline point of contact, we are looking forward to expanding the information LBPd makes available to Newsline in the coming months. If you haven't already signed up for the NFB Newsline service don't wait any longer. Let Marcus know, or you may contact LBPd staff to get signed up. More information is available at the NFB Newsline website at:
<https://nfbnewslineHawai'i.org/home/faqs/>
- **Disaster Preparedness:** As we've seen over the last two months, damaging weather events and other natural disasters can occur with little or no notice. We're still in the midst of a very strong El Nino year and the peak of hurricane season at the time of release for this newsletter. Please take the time to assess your personal preparedness and take steps to be ready for any disaster should it come up. As a reminder, the current edition of the HECO Disaster Preparedness booklet is available on the library website in various accessible formats:
<https://www.librarieshawaii.org/lbpd/#emergencypreparedness>
- **Office of Elections Notice:** Many thanks to the Office of Elections for their recent presentation on accessible voting hosted by the library. Our general election is coming up on November 3, and if you have questions about the process for accessible voting do not hesitate to contact the Office of Elections at (808) 453-8683. Additionally there is a wealth of information available on their website at: www.elections.hawaii.gov.

NEW READS

Large Type Books (fiction)

Halloween Night Murder; by Leslie Meier (LT 15823).

The Vanishing Place; by Zoe Rankin (LT 15845).

A Box Full of Darkness; by Simone St. James (LT 15851).

Served Him Right; by Lisa Unger (LT 15858).

The Lady of Esplanade; by Karen White (LT 15861).

A Perilous Plot; by Lorna Barrett (LT 15879).

Hope Falls; by David Baldacci (LT 15880).

26 Beauties; by James Patterson (LT 15900).

The Calamity Club; by Kathryn Stockett (LT 15905).

Large Type Books (non-fiction)

The Idaho Four: An American Tragedy; by James Patterson (LT 15870).

On Air: The Triumph and Tumult of NPR; by Steve Oney (LT 15871).

The Mysterious Bookshop Presents the Best Mystery Stories of the Year 2025; ed. John Grisham and Otto Penzler (LT 15872).

Parks and Rec: The Underdog TV Show That Lit'rally Inspired a Vision for a Better America; by Jennifer Keishin Armstrong (LT 15912).

True Crime: A Memoir; by Patricia Cornwell (LT 15913)

Family of Spies: A World War II Story of Nazi Espionage, Betrayal, and the Secret History Behind Pearl Harbor; by Christine Kuehn (LT 15914).

The Knowing: How the Oppression of Indigenous People Continues to Echo Today; by Tanya Talaga (LT 15915).

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS AND CALENDAR ITEMS

LBPD will be closed on the following holidays:

- Tuesday, November 3 – Election Day
- Wednesday, November 11 – Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day
- Friday, January 1, 2027 – New Year's Day

Important Dates and Programs:

- Every Tuesday afternoon, and every Wednesday morning, one hour Digital Navigator sessions available at LBPD.
- Thursday, October 22 – Home Economics 101 with Kyle Laconsay. In person and online starting at 11:00 am
- Friday, October 23 – Dungeons and Dragons at 11:00 am
- Saturday, November 7 – Book Club at 1:00 pm
- Friday, November 20 – Dungeons and Dragons at 11:00 am
- Saturday, December 5 – LBPD 95th Birthday Celebration
- Friday, December 18 – Dungeons and Dragons at 11:00 am
- Friday, January 29, 2027 – Louis Braille Birthday Celebration

FINAL NOTES

On behalf of your entire Hawaii LBPD staff and our volunteers, we send out our aloha to you. Please take time to read and also to meet up with fellow community members and enjoy each others'

company. If there is something that you would like to read that you haven't found, or if there is a program or information opportunity that you would like to explore, please let us know here at the library. We truly look forward to your calls!

This newsletter was produced by volunteers and the staff of the Hawai'i State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. If you have any questions or comments, please contact our Managing Librarian. Email matthew.brown@librarieshawaii.org or call 808-733-8444.



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and Print Disabled
402 Kapahulu Ave.
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**FREE MATTER
FOR THE BLIND
OR HANDICAPPED**

