

Look Again

Spring/Summer 2019



OTBS

Oakland Talking Book Service @ RHPL

The US Joins Marrakesh Treaty

The United States of America has joined the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) fast-growing Marrakesh Treaty as its 50th member. The Marrakesh Treaty allows for copyright exceptions to increase the worldwide availability of texts that are specially adapted for use by persons with visual or print impairments.

The involvement of the U.S. in the treaty adds a major publishing powerhouse to the ranks, because the U.S. is home to the world's largest number of English-language texts in accessible

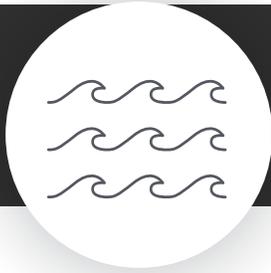
formats—such as Braille, automated Audiobooks, and large print novels.

The treaty aims to facilitate access to worldwide published works in all accessible formats between the 50 contracting parties, which now links 78 countries, including the 28-member European Union.

When the Treaty takes effect in the U.S. in late spring, some 550,000 accessible texts will become immediately available to visually impaired persons living in Marrakesh Treaty-adherent countries, according to figures from the U.S. National Federation of the Blind.

From WIPO





RHPL Director Welcomes Alice

In 2012 when the Rochester Hills Public Library (RHPL) began offering talking book service to Oakland County residents, we were fortunate to have Michelle Wisniewski serve as our first Oakland Talking Book Service librarian. Michelle had not only years of experience at RHPL in our Outreach Department, but also the heart, passion, and dedication to serving our large community. It was bittersweet when Michelle told me she wanted to retire at the end of last year.

Michelle cannot be replaced, no one can, but she has been succeeded by Alice Cruz. Alice has worked at the Orion Township Public Library, as well as the Kresge Library at Oakland University. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in English and Spanish from Butler University in Indianapolis, she holds a Master's Degree in Teaching from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, as well as a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science

from Wayne State University. Outside of her work, Alice enjoys spending time with her family, reading, cross-stitching, exercising, and playing the oboe.

Alice brings a fresh perspective to OTBS. During the interview, RHPL was wowed by her commitment, experience, and enthusiasm for service. Since she has been on the job, she has quickly learned the software, settled into her new role at the Rochester Hills Public Library, and is getting to know you, our patrons. Working with Marsha Katona, our assistive technology trainer, and Jennifer Smith our OTBS assistant, Alice has blended right into our RHPL family. We are so lucky to have her on board to direct and expand our OTBS services in the coming year. I hope you all have the opportunity to meet and work with Alice, the OTBS librarian.

by Christine Lind Hage, Library Director

OTBS Reaches Out to Its Community

If you are planning a low vision or senior event and would like OTBS to participate, or if you would like us to conduct a training session with your consumer group, agency, or clients, please contact us as we would be delighted to share information about our service with you. We would be happy to demonstrate the use of digital talking book players or BARD, the downloadable book and magazine program from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Contact OTBS at 800-744-4542.

Leader Dogs for the Blind Bark & Brew

Saturday, June 1

1-10 p.m.

Presented by Chief Financial Credit Union

Leader Dogs for the Blind will hold the fourth annual Bark & Brew, presented by Chief Financial Credit Union, on Saturday, June 1 from 1 to 10 p.m.

This outdoor, family-friendly event to support Leader Dogs for the Blind includes Griffin Claw brews and grub (food/drink tickets available for \$1 per ticket), live music, a kids' play area with inflatables, carnival games, face painting and more!

The event will take place at Griffin Claw Brewing Company and Clubhouse BFD in Rochester Hills at Crooks and M59.

Leader Dogs is proud to announce that this year, they are partnering with Kona Running Company and iHeart Radio for the first ever Bark & Brew 5K. Runners will receive a race t-shirt, medal and a Griffin Claw beer (or pop if under 21) at completion of the 5K!

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and admission is free for those 21 and under. The kids' play area is \$5 per child. For more information about the event and race, visit leaderdog.org/bark-and-brew or call 248-651-9011.

OTBS Book Discussion Groups

If you are looking for an opportunity to discuss great books and network with other Talking Book Service patrons, please consider joining one of these stimulating book discussion groups.

OTBS Book Friends

The group meets monthly at the Good Samaritan Lutheran Church, 517 W. Walton Blvd. in Pontiac. The Church is accessible by the SMART bus system. Visit otbs.rhpl.org for the upcoming schedule of discussions. For digital copies of the discussion books, contact Marsha at 248-650-5682.

Phoney Friends



If you prefer not to travel, join our virtual book group that requires only a phone call. Every month, the group will discuss books via conference call. To learn more about this group, visit otbs.rhpl.org or contact Alice at 248-650-5681.

Follow OTBS on Facebook! • Connect with other members of the OTBS community and stay up to date with OTBS happenings by liking us on FB at facebook.com/OTBS-at-RHPL.



Do You Miss **Downton Abbey?** Then Check **These Out!**

If you couldn't get enough of Lady Mary and Lady Edith's bickering, and if Anna and Bates' romance made you swoon, you'll be delighted to know that the Crawleys will be back in a full-length feature film in movie theaters on Sept. 20. In the meantime, here are some books you might enjoy reading if you're a *Downton Abbey* fan:

Belgravia by Julian Fellowes

Two English families' lives are entwined on the eve of the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, with secrets coming to a head in the 1840s. The mixing of classes in the most elite postcode of London causes drama some are unprepared for. Commercial audiobook. **DB84907**

Below Stairs: The Classic Kitchen Maid's Memoir by Margaret Powell

Brilliantly evoking the long-vanished world of masters and servants portrayed in *Downton Abbey* and *Upstairs, Downstairs*, Powell's classic memoir of her time in service is the remarkable true story of an indomitable woman who, though she served in the great houses of England, never stopped aiming high. **DBC02943**

Carnegie's Maid by Marie Benedict

Clara Kelley travels to America from Ireland to better her family's lot in life, but when she arrives, she is mistaken for another Clara Kelley, who died on the trip. She takes the other Clara's position as lady's maid to Margaret Carnegie--mother to industrialist Andrew. **DB89953**

Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey: The Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle by Fiona Carnarvon

Lady Fiona, the Countess of Carnarvon, chronicles the era that inspired the British television series *Downton Abbey*. She details the life of Almina, who married the fifth earl of Carnarvon in 1895 and enjoyed upper-class privileges until World War I.

DB75167

The Romanov Empress: A Novel of Tsarina Maria Feodorovna by C.W. Gortner

As the daughter of the Danish king, Minnie understands it is her place to marry well. She ends up at the Russian court, at the side of the future tsar, Alexander. Political changes through time threaten the family they create. **DB92748**

The Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson

In 1914, Beatrice Nash arrives in the English village of Rye to teach Latin. Although the townspeople are suspicious of a lady Latin teacher, she is befriended by town leader Lady Agatha Kent and even begins a romance. But the outbreak of WWI changes everything. **DB84023**



The Library of Congress Wants to Hear from You!

Beginning in early March, a sample of 10,000 readers and patrons across the country who currently use services provided by the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), will be invited to participate in a nationwide survey. The information collected from this survey will guide NLS as they move forward on a variety of projects to enhance and expand the braille and talking book program.

As a part of NLS's cooperating network of libraries, the Oakland Talking Book Service @ RHPL encourages invited

patrons to respond to the survey at their earliest convenience. Insights gathered from this survey will help us better understand the needs of all of our patrons.

You may receive an invitation by mail, email, or phone. In order to ensure ease of use, readers selected for the survey will be given the option of responding in a number of ways to their invitation. Once you have received your invitation, if you have questions, please feel free to contact Gallup Support at galluppoll@gallupmail.com or call 1-888-297-8999.

Annual White Cane Week

From April 26 to May 5, Lions Clubs International will hold its annual White Cane Week. This is the one time of the year when local Lions go out to the community to ask for donations to help fund eye care and services for the visually impaired in their local communities.

Money raised during White Cane Week helps support Leader Dogs for the Blind and other Lion supported charities. This also supports eye exams and eyeglasses for those in need in our community.

To make a tax deductible donation to White Cane Week, you can send a check payable to:

Rochester Lions Club Charities, Inc.
Attn: White Cane Week
P.O. Box 80393
Rochester, MI 48308





RHPL Spring Program Highlights!

Sunday, April 28 Outlaws in Concert, 2-3:30 p.m.

Enjoy classic country music from characters like Hank, Merle, Johnny, and Willie, all portrayed by master impressionist Dave Ehlert. He'll perform songs like "Hey Good Lookin'," "Workin' Man Blues," and "On the Road Again."

Wednesday, April 17 Ocean to Ocean in a Model T, 7-8:30 p.m.

Starting at 6 p.m. the Model T will be on display in the west parking lot! In 1909, there was a famous automobile race that ran from New York City to Seattle. A Model T won this incredible 4,400+ mile race. Rochester Hills resident Steve Shotwell helped organize a reenactment of the famous event. Steve's Model T and 54 others left on the 100th anniversary of the original event and followed the same route. Learn about his adventure and see rare photos from the original 1909 race as well as the 2009 reenactment.

Thursday, April 18 Terror in the City of Champions, 7-8:30 p.m.

Author Tom Stanton tells for the first time the riveting, intersecting tales of the frightening rise and fall of the Black Legion and the magnificent athletic ascension of Detroit in the mid-1930's.

Tuesday, May 14 The 75th Anniversary of D-Day, 7-8:30 p.m.

Oakland University Professor Frank Cardimen is back to discuss one of the most important historical events of WWII. June 6, 2019, will be the 75th anniversary of D-Day, when Allied forces invaded Normandy, France, and began its liberation of German-occupied France (and later Europe) from Nazi control, and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

Tuesday, May 28 Traditional Folksongs, 7-8:30 p.m.

Adam Miller's songs tell stories about the logging industry and the Great Lakes, while showing an understanding and appreciation for history.

As an OTBS patron, you are welcome to register and attend any of the programs scheduled at the Rochester Hills Public Library. We are happy to help you obtain a RHPL library card, which is required for program registration. To view a complete listing of spring programs, visit calendar.rhpl.org or call 1-800-774-4542 for assistance.

NFB-Newsline Audio News Service

Did you know that as an OTBS patron you are eligible to subscribe to Newsline, a free audio news service for anyone who is blind, low-vision, or otherwise print-disabled?

NFB-Newsline subscribers have access to: National newspapers, breaking news sources, magazines, state newspapers, retail advertisements, and more!

Once you sign up, you can access content in a variety of ways, including on a touchtone phone, Amazon Alexa, iOS mobile app, website, or e-mail. To request an application, or for more information, visit nfbnewslineonline.org, call 1-866-504-7300, or e-mail nfbnewsline@nfb.org.

National Federation of the Blind National Convention

The National Federation of the Blind National Convention is the largest gathering of blind people in the world. It is the premier event for training, support, and information for the blind community. It also serves as a governing body, democratically electing leadership and establishing each year's organizational priorities.

Although the convention is open to all, only members of the NFB have the right to participate in decision making when it comes to organizational policy. If you are not already a member, you can join the NFB.

The 2019 Convention will take place July 7-12 at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information, visit <https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention>, call 410-659-9314 or e-mail nfb@nfb.org.

Salvation Army VIP Camp for Adults with Visual Impairments

The Salvation Army will be holding a VIP Camp at Echo Grove in Leonard, Michigan for adults from June 10-14, 2019. The camp is open to those 18 years of age and older who are legally blind.

Campers must be ambulatory (no wheelchairs, scooters, or caregivers will be allowed), but leader dogs are welcome. Activities include Bible study, bingo, arts and crafts, movies, pontoon rides, hay rides, and various workshops. The cost per person is \$75. Applications are mailed to campers and must be returned with payment to a Salvation Army in your area. To request an application, call 248-443-5500.





Oakland Talking Book Service @ RHPL
 Rochester Hills Public Library
 500 Olde Towne Road • Rochester, MI 48307

**FREE MATTER
 FOR THE BLIND
 AND HANDICAPPED**

Look Again Online:

This newsletter is available in several formats via otbs.rhpl.org. You can listen to an audio version, scan the text-only version using screen reading software or print off the PDF version. We can send you a Braille version of the newsletter upon your request.

OTBS Hours

Monday -Thursday..... 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
 Friday & Saturday..... 9 a.m. -6 p.m.
 Sunday..... 1-6 p.m.
 (Closed Sundays June 14-Sept. 8)

OTBS Closings

April 21..... Easter
 May 12..... Mother's Day
 May 25-27..... Memorial Day
 July 4..... Independence Day
 Aug. 31-Sept. 2..... Labor Day



1-800-774-4542 or 248-650-7150
outreach@rhpl.org
Visit us at: otbs.rhpl.org