



VIEWS

Volume 38, No. 3

Fall 2003

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

The library has been in a state of upheaval the past few months and we have not had a chance to put together a newsletter until now. We are going to try and let you know what has been happening here so you can have a better idea of what we will be facing in the future.

In the last legislative session, the Colorado Talking Book Library's budget was cut dramatically. The library was forced to cut two staff positions, all state funds for large print books, cassettes, descriptive videos, and materials to process these items for circulation have been cut. All in all, the CTBL lost around \$125,000 in staff and operating costs from the state general fund.

We have always encouraged our patrons and their families to join the Friends of the CTBL and to make a yearly contribution to this worthwhile organization and thanks to those of you who have supported our Friends group the library's Friends organization has picked up the cost of our operational expenses. Please read the article about the Friends organization in this newsletter and support this very valuable organization. The CTBL could not provide some of the services you request without their help.

Now for some changes:

Because of staffing shortages, the library will answer patron phone calls from 8:00 a.m. until noon then from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Please remember, MONDAY is usually the busiest phone day for the library, so, if your call can wait until later in the week we would appreciate it.

As we have lost staff in our mailroom, your requests may take more than one day to be filled. Please be patient. (Hint: do not wait until you are out of reading material before calling us for more.)

We appreciate your patience and understanding during these hard times.

NOW IT'S TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

By Lois Gross

As a child of the fifties, I grew up with the first Mickey Mouse Club. It always made me a little sad when the closing song was sung, "Now it's time to say goodbye to all our company." I am very sad that it is now time for me to say goodbye to all of you, my friends, clients, and colleagues.

My position with the library was cut as a part of the State's budget cutbacks. I will be leaving my position as Senior Consultant and Children's Librarian, on June 30, 2003, after eighteen years.

To many of you, I have been the librarian who knows all the book titles. To others of you, I have been the Children's Librarian. In my own mind and heart, my work with the children has always come first. In the time that I have worked for the CTBL, we have quintupled the number of young clients that we serve. The evaluations that we do each year reflect the heights that talking books have helped CTBL students to reach. I am proud to have been a small part of these successes, and I cheer for you right along with your wonderful parents and teachers. You have taught me so much about meeting challenges in everyday life. These are lessons I will apply at this time in my life.

NEW OFFICERS PRESIDE OVER FRIENDS OF CTBL BOARD

New officers were welcomed at the April meeting of the Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library. The current slate of officers will serve one-year terms on this voluntary group that steers the fund-raising efforts of the Friends.

Officers for 2003-04 are: Michael Jones, President; George Beard, Vice President; Veralyne Fenty, Secretary; and Carrie Peterson, Treasurer.

The Board meets quarterly, at the CTBL in Denver, on the second Tuesday evening of January, April, July, and October.

If you are interested in joining the board, as future vacancies occur, contact Barbara Goral, Library Supervisor at 303-727-9277 or 1-800-685-2136.

Service on the Board requires a voluntary commitment to a term of three years.

WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF THE CTBL?

It's good to have friends, and the Colorado Talking Book Library is supported by funds raised by some of the best **Friends** around.

The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library is a 501C3 charitable organization that has the primary function of raising contributions to support the library's programs. of library equipment, enhancements to *In the past, this has taken a form of monetary support for the purchase the computer system, support of the children's program, and funds to recognize the valuable work of our volunteers. As State sup-*

port for the budget decreases, the Friends have stepped up to pay for collection items like large print books, Braille books, and videotapes.

At the end of each year, the **Friends** send you a letter requesting contributions to help support the life-enriching work of the CTBL. This request is legitimate, and any donation you make to the Friends is tax-deductible.

This year, more than ever, the Friends need

Friendship is like oxygen; you need it to live. Anonymous

costs as basic as staff salaries and building maintenance. If you regularly gift or tithe to charity, please include the **Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library** as a recipient. Also, consider remembering the **Friends** in your will, or as memorial donations for friends and relatives.

Contributions must include the name **"Friends of the CTBL"** so that the money is correctly distributed. Send contributions to **180 Sheridan Blvd., Denver, CO 80226**. You can make credit card donations by phone at **303-727-9277** or **1-800-685-2136**.



Harry Potter

If you are interested in purchasing copies of the Harry Potter Series in

LARGE PRINT, you may contact Thorndike Press at 1-800-877-4253. Thorndike Press has many large print titles for purchase to individuals. Contact them at the phone number listed above and request a catalog. The Harry Potter books range in price from \$24.95- \$29.95.



CAR CRASHES INTO CTBL

August 16, 2003 on or about 10:30 p.m. The Colorado Talking Book Library had an unwelcome visitor enter the library using his automobile. Our visitor made a right turn off Sheridan Blvd careened off of a mailbox on the north side of Second and swerved on to the library parking lot knocking over three iron posts before striking the north west wall of the library. A portion of the vehicle entered the building enough to knock over a shelving unit attached to the wall, that unit hit the next unit which fell and hit the next unit, which fell and so on..... The Director of the Library was notified that the burglar alarm was tripped early Sunday morning. "I couldn't believe the mess when I arrived at the library Sunday morning. I was frightened that someone was buried in the whole mess." Ten units twenty eight feet long were knocked down. We estimated about 36,000 books were knocked off the shelving units. All of the shelves needed to be emptied and reconstructed. The books needed to be placed in numerical order and then placed back on the book shelves.

Many thanks to the volunteers and staff who came together and provided the people power we needed during our crisis. **THANK YOU!!!!**



R4R—RECORDINGS AVAILABLE TO CTBL CLIENTS

Recordings for Recovery promotes the use of music to enhance the quality of people's lives.

This private, not-for-

profit agency has a catalog of over 1200 programs, mainly musical selections. There is a \$10 membership fee to join R4R. All disabled

readers are eligible for membership. To receive taped catalog and more information, call 1-800-798-1192, or visit the website at: www.rfr.org.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR SERVICE?

Got a question you've always wanted answered about Talking Book Library service? E-mail it to us at ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us so that we can answer it in a future newsletter.

Q. With staff changes at the CTBL, who should I ask to speak to when I call for books?

Many of you have a special person you like to speak with when you

telephone the library. However, with the loss of a position, we must ask you to speak with any of the three Readers' Advisors who are available when you call. Each Readers' Advisor can help you get the books that you want.

To help us serve you quickly, have your patron number ready, and keep your phone lists to twenty RC numbers or less. Longer lists can be

mailed to us for future use.

Also, be sure to mention if you need a book for school or for a book club, as soon as you call. We will try to expedite your request so that you will meet your deadlines.

You can help us most, at this time of change, by being flexible and well-prepared when you call the library.

DISABLED READERS GET NEW TECHNOLOGY AT DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Denver Public Library now has adaptive technology available at the Central Library, at 14th and Broadway in Denver; and in many of

the library's branches around the city. Visual and physical access equipment has been set up to assist customers who might need differ-

ent access to print and electronic resources.

For more information about which branch can serve your needs, call DPL at 720-865-1111.

REMINDER: The Colorado Talking Book Library will be **closed** on the following holidays:

THANKSGIVING November 27, 28, 2003

CHRISTMAS December 25, 26, 2003

NEW YEARS DAY January 1, 2004.

BOOKS WITH BITE (FOR KIDS)

Many public libraries in Colorado will be taking part in the State-sponsored program, *Chews to Read*. Here are some CTBL titles that you can sink your teeth into. Find more booklists and activities of the CTBL website, or call to order the following titles. (*There is always high demand for books listed in the newsletter*).

RC054575 Chocolate, by Robert Burleigh.

Traces the history of chocolate from the seeds of the cocoa tree to delicious chocolate bars. Grades 4 to 7.

RC049276 Eat Your Words, by Charlotte Jones.

Ever wonder how dishes get their names, and how phrases like “couch potato” and “spill the beans,” came to be? These books are lots of fun and filled with interesting food facts. Grades 4 to 7.

RC046925 It’s Disgusting and We Ate It, by James Soheim.

Collection of facts, poems, and information about plants and animals not usually found on American plates. Reminds readers of the strange origins of “normal food.” Grades 2 to 4.

RC045368 Orp and the Chop Suey Burgers, by Suzy Kline.

Orville Rudemyer Pygenski dreams of traveling but never goes anywhere. When he hears about a cooking contest that offers a trip to Disneyworld, he invents a winning recipe. Grades 4 to 7.

RC050733 Science Experiments You Can Eat, by Vicki Cobb.

Describes food experiments that demonstrate principles of physics and chemistry that produce edible results. Grades 5 to 8.

RC050733 Strudel Stories, by Joanne Rocklin.

When Lori’s grandfather dies, she and her sister carry on a delicious family tradition of making strudel and sharing stories. Grades 3 to 6.

BRAILLE AT THE CTBL

Because of the budget cuts the Colorado Talking Book Library faced a decision was made to provide Braille service through the library here in Colorado. As a result, on July 1, 2003 CTBL began serving our Braille clients through the library here in Denver. The CTBL has become a “sub” regional Braille library, this means that we will carry the most current two years of Braille produced by the Library of Congress. We will be able to interlibrary loan older titles for you if you are interested in reading them.

Because we have limited space for Braille the library will most likely be ordering one copy of each Braille title, unless it is a wildly popular book, i.e. Harry Potter is a good example. We are asking our Braille readers not to keep more than three titles in their possession. The checkout period will be two months and overdue notices will be sent out after that period of time. If you do not return your Braille books in six months, a hold will be placed on your Braille service until all late books are returned. We ask that you are careful with Braille books as we have very limited copies. Please do not damage or mar them in any way. If you lose or damage a volume please let us know so that we can try and acquire the lost or damaged volume.

Almost always, books are processed within 24 hours of return to the library so you will receive replacement books quickly. Braille books will be sent on a turn around basis. We encourage you to have a list of Braille books you may want to read so the computer may have a selection to choose. PLEASE return the books as soon as you have read them. You will be rewarded with a new title and someone who may have been waiting for your returned title will be please to receive it.

We hope that our Braille service will equal the service you received through Utah. We would also like to thank the staff at the Utah library for the smooth transition of service back to Denver.

Library Lending Policy

We have been asked by many patrons “how long am I able to keep out the talking books?” The library policy has always been: you are able to check out as many talking books as you can listen to in one month period. If you find that you have items longer than 30 days, please send them back. You can always reorder the title again when you have the time to listen to it.

How To Reach Us

By mail:

**Colorado Talking Book Library
180 Sheridan Boulevard
Denver, CO 80226**

By Phone:

**(303)727-9277
1-800-685-2136 (outside of Denver)**

On the Internet:

www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl

**COLORADO STATE
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Colorado Department of Education
Colorado Talking Book Library
180 Sheridan Boulevard
Denver, CO 80226

Free Matter for
the Blind and
Handicapped

The Colorado Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or age.