

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We would like to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and safe, happy, and healthy New Year. It has been a pleasure to serve you for another year and we hope we have met your reading needs. Remember to let us know if there are any changes we can make to serve you better.

NEW WAY TO SEND US YOUR APPLICATION

You may now submit applications to us by fax or email. The application must be legible and you must still have a certifying authority stamp or sign the application before we can accept it.

Applications can be scanned and sent to our email box at: lbph@sccl.lib.mi.us, faxes can be sent to 810-987-7326.

COMMERICAL AUDIO BOOKS ON BARD

The Braille Audio and Reading Download or BARD website has just passed 50,000 items that are available for download and your reading enjoyment. Over 14,000 items are braille books and music and more than 36,000 digital audio titles are available. Please remember that while the BARD website is available 24/7 the folks that maintain the system do work regular office hours. If you experience major problems with the download site, help may not be available until the next regular business day.

The National Library Service has begun partnering with commercial publishers to make new titles available to patrons in a timelier manner. Because of this NLS may not always be able to assign sex, violence, and strong language content flags within the descriptions of these books. Instead you will see the terms “unrated” and “commercial audiobook” used in the annotation of these books.

MAGAZINE UPDATES

If you read the braille magazines Parenting Early Years and/or Parenting School Years, it has been replaced with Parents Magazine.

Some magazines are available as downloads only through the BARD website at: <http://nlsbard.loc.gov>. They include Audubon, Cowboys & Indians, Humpty Dumpty, National Geographic Traveler, Playboy, Smithsonian, Southern Living and Vital Speeches of the Day. If you do not already have a login for BARD, follow the links provided to create an account.

You can also get Newsweek and Reader's Digest in an audio format for your Digital Talking Book Machine from the American Printing House for the Blind. The website: tech.aph.org/mags is the home page for magazine downloads and should answer any questions you have about downloading from their website. On the right you will see links to login if you have an account or a link to create an account.

MICHIGAN NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Michigan State University is conducting a survey on behalf of Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Bureau for Services for Blind Persons, and State Independent Living Council to identify possible gaps in services available for people with disabilities called Project Excellence.

If you have a disability or are a friend or family member of someone with a disability, please take the 10 minute survey online at www.michigan.gov/mrs. To take the survey by phone contact Su Pi at **517-432-0273**.

BOOKS YOU MAY ENJOY

Here are some selections you may enjoy reading this holiday. Please contact the library if you would like us to send you any of these books.

The perfect Christmas DB 69967, by Debbie Macomber. Cassie Beaumont looks to professional matchmaker Simon Dodson to find true love for her. Simon assigns Cassie three holiday tasks: raise money for charity, dress up as Santa's elf, and prepare dinner for neighbors. After completing these duties Cassie will meet her mate. Commercial audiobook. 2009.

Christmas at The Mysterious Bookshop: 'tis the season to be deadly: stories of mistletoe and mayhem from 17 masters of suspense DB 72892, by Otto Penzler. Seventeen short holiday mysteries that involve Otto Penzler's New York City bookstore. In Mary Higgins Clark's "What's in a Name?" a valuable handwritten manuscript is misplaced. 2010.

Letters from Father Christmas DB 63808, by J.R.R. Tolkien. A collection of Christmas letters penned by J.R.R. Tolkien and signed as Father Christmas that were sent to Tolkien's children from 1920-1943. Each recapped activities of the preceding year at the North Pole, including reindeer running amok and the North Polar Bear breaking the moon into four pieces. 2004.

Small-batch baking: when just enough for 1 or 2 ... is just enough! DB 71542, by Debby Maugans Nakos. Food writer provides more than 250 recipes for cakes, pies, cookies, cobblers, puddings, and breads that yield two or three servings. Offers tips on selecting equipment, such as cans for baking cakes and muffin pans for baking individual quick breads, measuring techniques and storing leftover ingredients. 2004.

Is This Thing On: A Computer Handbook For Late Bloomers, Technophobes, And The Kicking and Screaming DB75394, by Abigail Stokes. Computer instructor presents concepts and techniques for computer novices. Covers subjects such as purchasing a computer, establishing Internet access, and working with iPads and mobile devices. Also offers tips on online banking, shopping and using social media. 2011.

BOOKTALKERS BOOK CLUB

The Book Talkers next meeting will be on December 13 at 6:30 pm in the United Way Carriage House, 1723 Military Street, Port Huron. The books to be discussed are:

Candy Cane Murders by Joanne Fluke, DB73341.

Three mysteries centering around candy canes and Christmas. In the title piece a storeowner is murdered after playing Santa to Hannah Swensen's elf. In *The Dangers of Candy Canes* a man dies installing Christmas decorations. In *Candy Canes of Christmas Past* Lucy Stone investigates a cold case. Includes recipes. 2007.

Snowy Night with a Stranger by Jane Feather, DB68380.

Three short seasonal romances. In "A Holiday Gamble," Ned Vasey, the viscount Allenton, is caught in a blizzard on Christmas Eve. He finds refuge at Selby Hall, where he encounters the beautiful Lady Georgiana. Includes "When Sparks Fly" and "Snowy Night with a Highlander." Some explicit descriptions of sex. 2008.

BLUE WATER LEAGUE OF THE BLIND

The BWLB will have their Christmas party on December 5th at the Grotto Hall, 2884 Krafft Rd., Fort Gratiot. The Port Huron host Lions will be sponsoring the annual Christmas party. You are invited to join them for a night of food and fun. Please contact Phyllis at 810-966-9185 or Jerry at 810-329-0124 for more details.

DONATIONS

Donations are often made by library patrons or family members in memory of a loved one, to honor a friend, or just because you appreciate the service. We are grateful to receive such gifts and your donations are used to purchase additional large print books or cartridges that are added to the collection that serves you.

If you would like to make a donation, please use St. Clair County Library System as the payee and note LBPH donation in the memo area on your check. Your tax deductible donation can be sent to St. Clair County LBPH, 210 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron, MI., 48060. If you wish your donation to be used for something specific, then those instructions should be included.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

The LBPH will be closed the following days:

- Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th, for Thanksgiving.
- Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24th and 25th, for Christmas.
- Tuesday and Wednesday, December 31st and January 1st, for New Year's.
- Monday, January 20th, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Monday, February 17th, for President's Day.

If you think you will run out of books, please call us a few days before the holiday to be sure we have time to get them into the mail for you.

DISCLAIMER

The LBPH does not endorse any companies, products or services referred to by this newsletter, nor does it validate any websites that may be mentioned. This information is offered as possible solutions for your needs, and it is up to you to research the topics given for accuracy.

St. Clair County LBPH
210 McMorran Blvd.
Port Huron, MI., 48060-4014

**FREE
MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR
HANDICAPPED**

St. Clair County LBPH

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

SEND MAIL TO:



St. Clair County LBPH
210 McMorran Blvd.

Port Huron, MI 48060-4014

TO CALL US DIAL:



982-3600 Local Calls
1-800-272-8570 Toll Free

TO CALL THE TTY DIAL:



455-0200 Local Calls
1-866-462-2075 Toll Free



TO SEND US A FAX:

810-987-7326

SEND E-MAIL TO:



lbph@sccl.lib.mi.us

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:

www.sccl.lib.mi.us/LBPH.aspx

TO VISIT US:



Check in at Circ Desk

Please call ahead

Mon—Fri 8:30 am—5:00 pm