



Reading is for Everyone...

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped @ CMPL

(586) 286-1580

Fall 2017

Sharon's Corner

Microsoft has produced an app for the iPhone that has several features in one app. With Seeing AI, you can see short text, which helps you read just the address on an envelope, or the office number on a large building. The document reader will read text in a letter, a flyer or a newsletter and will even help you center the document before you take the picture so that you do not miss any portion of the document.

The product feature allows you to read a barcode on any type of merchandise. It will then give you more information as it is available. The Seeing AI app will also take pictures and identify persons, and you can train the app to recognize specific people.

There is a feature within this app that is experimental. It will take a picture of your surroundings and describe the objects in the room. This part of the app is still being tested. Seeing AI is easy to use on your iPhone and there is an excellent help menu that will guide you every step of the way throughout the app. At this point, the app is free.

If you have any questions or if you would like to see how it works, please call us at the library to schedule an appointment with Sharon at (586) 286-1580 or toll free at (855) 203-5274.

Macomb Blind Bowling League

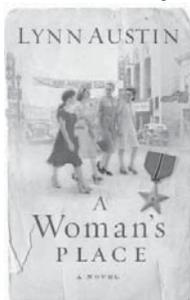
The Macomb Blind Bowling League offers fun and friendship for visually impaired, blind, and sighted bowlers. The group meets on Wednesdays, from 11:30 am until 3:00 pm, at Fraser Lanes. The cost is \$10 per week. Besides bowling, there are 50/50 raffles, mystery jackpots, and an end of season banquet.

Eight different Lions Clubs sponsor the league. The league invites sighted persons to join in the fun of bowling and to help with scorekeeping and pin placement. To join and to get information please call Frank at (586) 465-6694.



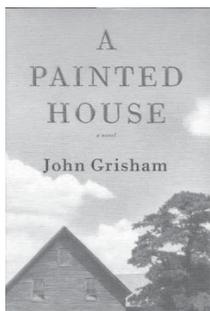
Reader Recommendations

Linda Kincannon recommends *A Woman's Place* by Lynn Austin. After the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor, four diverse women take shipyard jobs in Michigan to help the war effort. They all struggle with personal problems: Virginia tires of pampering her ungrateful husband; middle-aged Helen loses her faith; Rosa lives with her new in-laws; and Jean yearns for college.



Linda says this book reminded her of her mom, who came in the early 1940's to work in a factory and made lifelong friends. You learn about that era's challenges through the story. **DB 67644**

Oscar Freeman recommends *Painted House* by John Grisham. Arkansas, 1952. Seven-year-old Luke Chandler, who lives with his parents and grandparents in a house that has never been painted, recounts the events during cotton-picking season. As Luke faces the daily grind of harvesting, he witnesses a murder, a birth, and a storm that changes their lives forever. Some violence.



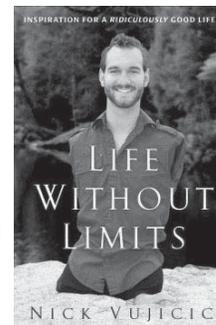
Oscar says he lived in this area around the time of the 1950's and the book is true to his experiences. **DB 51331**

Rita Taylor offers two titles for our readers to try:

The Trials of Kit Shannon, Books 1-3 by Tracie Peterson. Three books written between 2001 and 2002 focusing on woman lawyer Kathleen "Kit" Shannon in early 1900s Los Angeles, who is guided in her profession by her Christian faith. Includes *City of Angels*, *Angel's Flight*, and *Angel of Mercy*.

Rita says it is historically correct and a fun, enjoyable read. Kit has strong Christian virtues. The books include murder and mayhem and the good guys win! **DB 84463**

Life without Limits: Inspiration for a Ridiculously Good Life by Nick Vujicic. Motivational speaker uses himself as an example of the power of unconditional love and self-acceptance. He describes growing up without arms or legs and having self-pity turn into total enjoyment of life with the help of faith. Discusses the work he does worldwide. Includes his "ridiculous rules."



Rita recognizes this book as a most monumental, inspirational, true-life story. Wonderful faith and grateful for what you have. **DB 72475**

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MLBPH Survey

Our goal at MLBPH @ CMPL is to provide you with excellent service. Please complete and return this anonymous survey before November 30, 2017, and let us know what you think. Thank you for your input!

You may:

- Complete the survey and fold it in half so the return address and free postage mark appear at the front of the fold. The survey can then be mailed as postage is already paid.
- Complete the survey over the phone by calling 586-286-1580 or toll free at 855-203-5274.
- Complete the survey online at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mlbphsurvey>

1. How long have you been a patron of the Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped?

- Less than one year
- One to four years
- Five to nine years
- More than ten years
- Not sure

2. How did you first learn about our library services?

- Medical provider
- Friend or relative
- Social or rehabilitation worker
- Public library
- Website
- School
- Not sure

3. How often do you contact the library?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less than once a month

4. If you contact us less than once a month, is it because:

- No need to contact. The service is working fine
- I am not sure how to contact the library
- I cannot use the phone
- Other – please specify:

5. When you contact the library, do you receive the help you requested?

- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Almost never

6. Are you able to access a computer and the Internet?

- Yes, at home
- Yes, through friends and family
- Yes, at the public library or somewhere else
- No, not at this time

7. If yes, are you registered with BARD, our Braille and Audio Reading Download website?

- Yes, I use it frequently
- Yes, but I cannot use it well enough yet
- No, I prefer to get my books by mail
- No, I do not know how to register for BARD
- Not sure what BARD is

8. Do you read or post to Social Media? If so, do you use

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Blogs
- Other – Please specify: _____

9. How would you rate the overall services provided by the Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

10. Have you used the following services from our library? Check all that apply

- Digital books
- Audio magazines
- Audio-described movies
- Braille books
- BARD
- Computer and device tutoring
- Book Discussion Group by phone
- Vision Networking Group by phone

Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve our service or offer additional services that might be helpful to you?

40900 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038-2955

Free Matter for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped

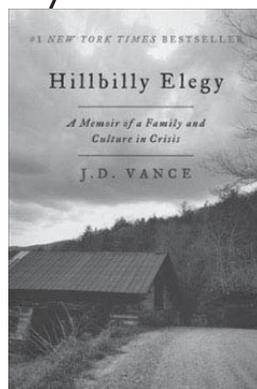
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Please fold and staple before mailing

Susan Perry recommends *Blinded by Sight: Seeing Race through the Eyes of the Blind* by Osagie K. Obasogie. Legal scholar explores the ways blind people experience racial differences. Argues that we are socialized to attach particular characteristics to race regardless of our ability to see and considers the implications of that convention on efforts to achieve a "color-blind" society.

Susan feels this book exposes blind people to different racial groups and explains how we can learn from each other. **DB 78044**

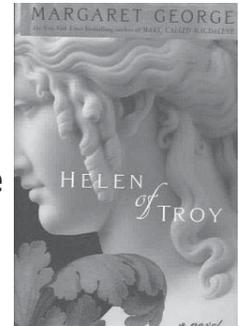
Phyllis Gramza recommends *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. Memoir of growing up in the Ohio Rust Belt in a family culture rooted in Scots-Irish Appalachia. Explores political themes affecting these community cultures through the lens of personal and familial experiences. Discusses what it took to go from nearly failing high school to graduating from Yale Law School. Some strong language.



Phyllis says that although this book may not be for everyone's sensibilities, she felt it was a super book. Well-written and with a good narrator. She felt like she was conversing with someone. It is worth the read. The issues raised make you realize we are all in this boat together. The book is humorous in parts. **DB 85796**

Lawrence Robbins recommends two titles:

Helen of Troy by Margaret George. Beautiful Helen describes her reclusive life in Sparta after her parents hear the prophecy of a war she will cause. Tells of her passionless marriage to Menelaus before she falls in love with Trojan prince Paris, who spirits her away to his homeland and ignites a twenty-year-long conflict.



Lawrence says that although the book is 600 pages and 30 hours long, it is a mesmerizing book that took place over 1200 years before the birth of Christ. The historian is the narrator, written in first person, and the descriptions take you back to the past as if you were there. **DB 64785**

The Last of the Great Scouts by Zane Grey. An account of the adventurous life of Buffalo Bill Cody as narrated by the sister of the legendary Western figure. Traces his childhood in rural Iowa through his years as a mule driver on the Kansas plains, Pony Express rider, Indian fighter, and performer in the world-famous Wild West Show.

Lawrence felt the character had an interesting life as he performed in Wild West shows and traveled around the world. **DB 49361**

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FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND
OR HANDICAPPED

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is a public service of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Seminar

We are planning a two hour seminar this fall called "Communication Skills for V.I.P.s". Attendees will explore techniques for expressing our needs to our family and friends, medical personnel and the community. The seminar will be presented by Sharon Lotoczky, but there will be ample time for open discussion. This seminar is open to V.I.P.s (Visually Impaired Persons) and their family members. Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Clinton Macomb Library, Brennan Conference Room. For more information, please contact us at (586) 286-1580 or toll free at (855) 203-5274. Registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome.

A Note from Anne

Due to the length of the survey, articles regarding our events held this past summer will appear in our next newsletter, the Winter 2018 Newsletter. Thank you for your patience.

Clinton-Macomb Public Library Hours

Monday-Thursday	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday	12 - 6 p.m.