



# Prairie Trails Memorandum

South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Program

## Strategic Plan for Braille and Talking Book Program

The South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Program is currently working on a strategic plan. The purpose of a strategic plan is to help an organization do a better job. We want to do the best job possible for all of our readers and we feel a strategic plan will help us focus our energies and do the best job possible.

When we decided to write a strategic plan we called on a number of people

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from around the state to give of their time and talent. The following individuals deserve our sincere thanks.

- Pat Geditz, South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Sandy Neyhart, South Dakota Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Doug Puetz, South Dakota Association of the Blind
- Kenneth Rollman, South Dakota National Federation of the Blind
- Nancy Sabbe, Madison Public Library
- Beth Schiltz, Special Education, South Dakota Department of Education
- Connie Sullivan, Braille and Talking Book Program, South Dakota Department of Education

Once the Strategic Planning Committee has

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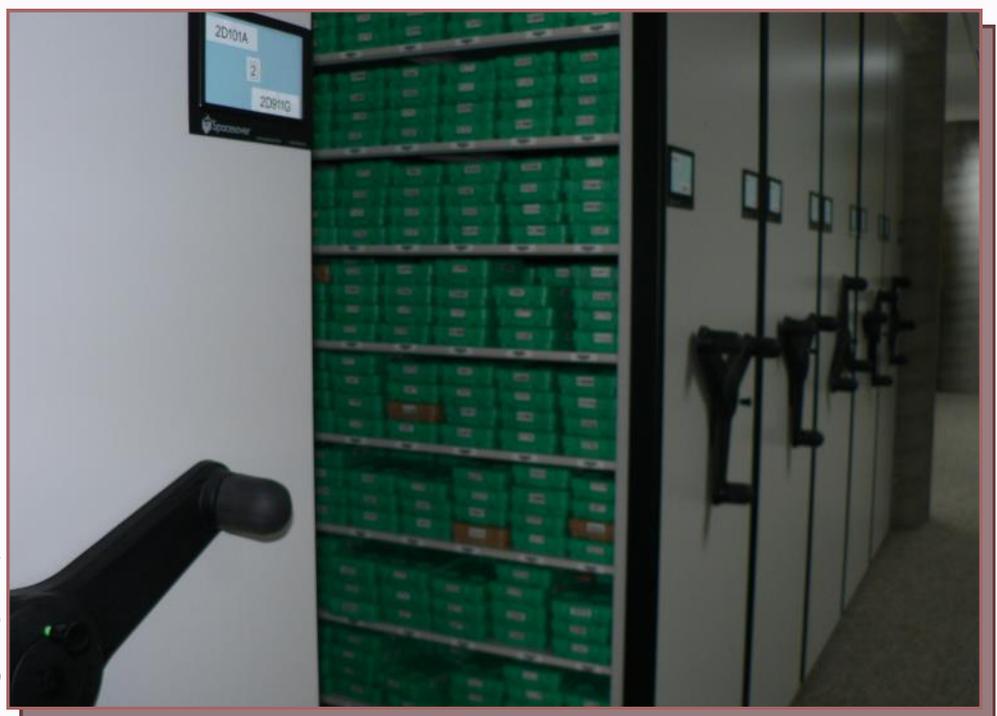
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completed a draft of the strategic plan, it will be posted on the State Library's website. We will also have the plan produced in Braille and audio format. If you would like a copy to read, please call and we will put you on the list and send you a copy once the draft is available.

You will have until October to comment on the strategic plan. At that time it will go to the State Library Board for final reading and adoption.

*Braille and Talking  
Book Collapsible  
stacks, Pierre*



# Borrow a Cartridge

BARD, Braille and Audio Reading Download, is a wonderful program provided by the National Library Service. You can receive all the titles that we have on our shelves. The only difference is that instead of waiting three to four days for the books to come in the mail, you can have the books within minutes. Plus, BARD has an additional 30,000 titles that are not available from our collection.

In order to get books from BARD you need to have access to a computer and also a flash drive or book cartridge. If using a book cartridge you also need a cable. The cable transfers Digital Talking Book files from the PC to the cartridge for playback on the digital talking-book machine.

If you are currently using BARD or would like to register to use BARD, we will loan you a cartridge and cable. They are yours to keep as long as you are downloading books from BARD. If you decide to stop using BARD we ask that you return the cartridge and cable to us.

Don't forget, you can always ask a friend to download books for you.

# **Need a Speaker or Have an Upcoming Event?**

If you are a member of a support group or know of any organization that would like a presentation about the Braille and Talking Book Program, please call us. We would be happy to visit your group or facility and discuss our library services. We can also set up an exhibit table at a health fair or conference and demonstrate the digital player and highlight some of the services that we offer. We enjoy reaching out and meeting some of the people that use or refer others to our library.

# **New Category of Audio Books to Begin Soon**

The National Library Service has begun issuing some books which will be "unrated" for content containing sex, violence or strong language. These books are the result of recently formed partnerships between NLS and some commercial audiobook producers. They are expected to increase the number of books in the collection and to decrease the amount of time it takes to distribute bestsellers and other popular titles to our patrons. Many of these audiobooks have yet to be released in print at the time that NLS receives the audio file for production, so NLS cannot determine content before they are ready for distribution.

Many SDBTBP patrons who have their books chosen for them by our automated system have prohibitions against certain types of content (e.g. de-

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scriptions of sex, strong language, violence). If you are one of those patrons and do not want to take a chance that one of these books might have something you don't wish to hear, please contact your Reader Advisor. We will have them stop all "unrated" books from being automatically distributed on your account. Remember that you will also be stopping books that may NOT have such content, so think carefully before you make the request. As always, these prohibitions do not apply to books that you have specifically requested.

Readers of these commercially produced books may notice other changes in their production, particularly the use of narrators not used in previous NLS books. We hope you enjoy the increased access to timely works.

# Talking Book Topics and Braille Book Review Update

With the January -- February 2014 issue of Talking Book Topics (TBT) and Braille Book Review (BBR), NLS has introduced some subscriber-requested changes. The large-print, online, and audio versions of TBT have returned to the fifty-word format for announcing books, and in both TBT and BBR, books are now announced in a structured, alphabetical format to make it easier for patrons to find books by subject and author. The change is as follows:

- 1) As before, the titles are listed under broad headings: Books for Adults, Books for Children, and Foreign Language Books.

- 2) Within Books for Adults and Books for Children, titles are subdivided into Fiction and Nonfiction. Fic-

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tion will now be listed first, since it comes first alphabetically.

3) Inside the Fiction and Nonfiction genres, titles are listed by their subject categories in A-to-Z order. For example, the Adult Fiction titles for this issue of TBT are ordered by subject, from Adventure to Westerns.

4) Within each subject category, the titles are arranged alphabetically by the author's last name.

5) If there is more than one title by a given author, the titles are further organized alphabetically by title.

For example, if you are interested in Stephen King's latest novel *Joyland*, you would look under Adult Fiction, then in Mystery and Detective, and then for the last name King. The new arrangement eliminates the need for an index.

In addition, the 2013 edition of Digital Talking Books Plus will be the last audio book catalog produced and the 2011-2012 edition of Braille Books will be the last braille book catalog. The biennial For Younger Readers catalog will stay.

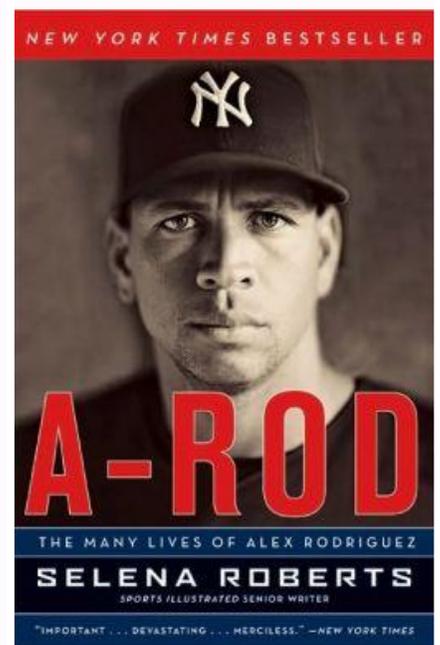
# Baseball

It is that time of year. The days are finally warming up. The sun comes up sooner and stays up long past the supper hour. The grass needs mowing every few days. That's right, it's baseball season! Listed here are just a few of the books that are available about the world of baseball. If none of these titles are of interest to you, give us a call and find out what other titles we have on the subject of baseball. In the meantime, "batter up!"

## **A-Rod: The Many Lives of Alex Rodriguez**

By Selena Roberts. Read by Carol Dines.  
Reading time 9 hours 26 minutes.

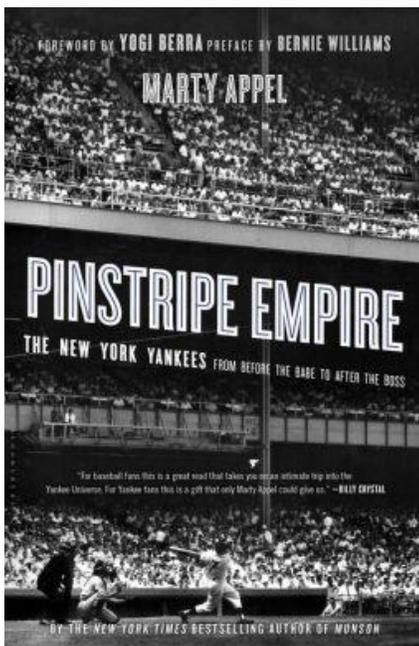
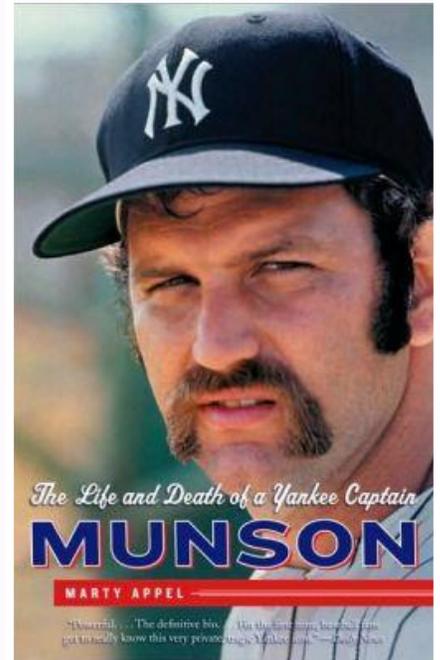
Biography of Alex Rodriguez, the highest-paid player in the history of baseball. Sports Illustrated writer expands on her expose of Rodriguez's use of steroids--tracing substance abuse since his high school days in Miami. Details Rodriguez's personal and professional life, including his divorce and dedication to Kabbalah. Some strong language. 2009. DB69287



## **Munson: The Life and Death of a Yankee Captain**

By Marty Appel. Read by Robert Sams.  
Reading time 12 hours 27 minutes.

Biography of Ohio native and professional baseball catcher Thurman Munson (1947-1979). Chronicles Munson's 1968 draft from Kent State University to the New York Yankees, the team's success that led to winning the 1977 and 1978 World Series, and Munson's death in the crash of an airplane he was piloting. 2009.  
DB71037



## **Pinstripe Empire the New York Yankees From Before the Babe to After the Boss**

By Marty Appel. Read by Barry Bernson.  
Reading time 26 hours, 24 minutes.

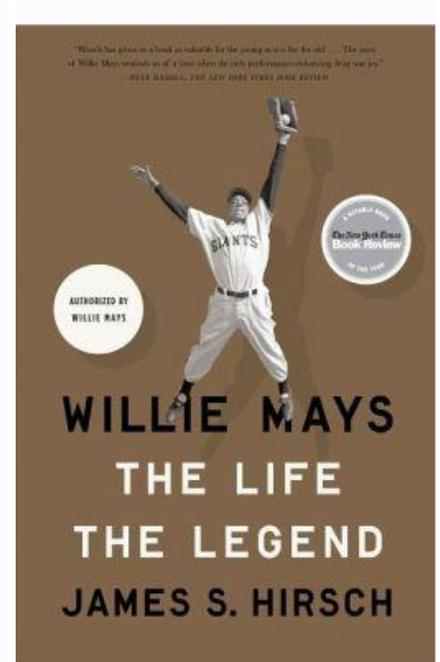
Sports commentator and former New York Yankees press director presents a year-by-year history of the team from

its beginnings in 1903 to the death of George Steinbrenner in 2010. Discusses players, managers, owners, and stadiums. Foreword by Hall of Fame catcher Yogi Berra. 2012. DB75552

## **Willie Mays: The Life, the Legend**

By James S. Hirsch. Read by Patrick Downer.  
Reading time 31 hours 37 minutes.

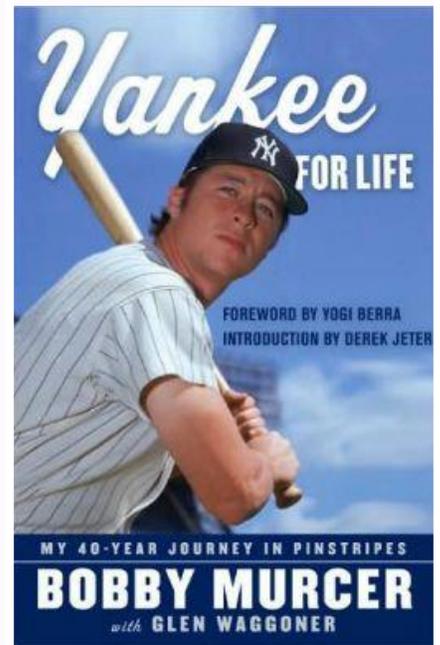
Authorized biography of baseball outfielder Willie Mays, born in 1931 Alabama. Follows Mays from the Negro Leagues to the New York Mets. Highlights Mays's best games, including his astonishing catch when playing for the Giants in the 1954 World Series. Discusses his personal life and baseball's racial integration. Bestseller. 2010. DB70896



## **Yankee for Life: My Forty-Year Journey in Pinstripes**

By Bobby Murcer. Read by Jim Zeiger. Reading time 11 hours 28 minutes.

Autobiography of Bobby Murcer, who joined the New York Yankees in 1965 as a nineteen-year-old short-stop. Describes his 1975 trade to the Giants, later trade to the Cubs, and 1979 return to the Yankees havin2g missed winning two World Series. Discusses his broadcasting career and battle with brain cancer. 2008. DB67415

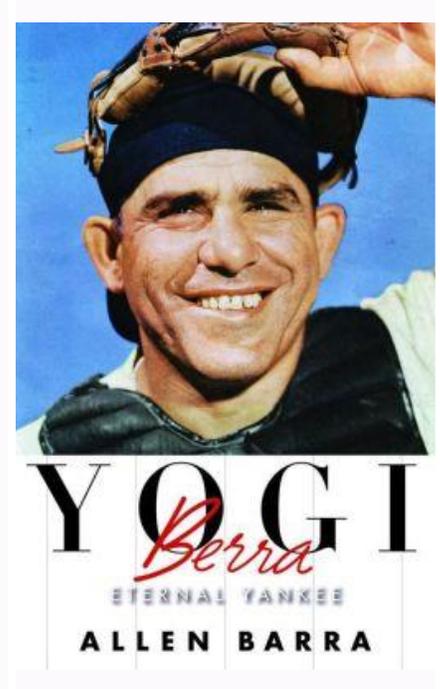


## **Yogi Berra: Eternal Yankee**

By Allen Barra. Read by Jack Fox. Reading time 19 hours 12 minutes.

Biography of New York Yankees catcher Lawrence "Yogi" Berra (born 1925 in St. Louis). Chronicles Berra's career, which began after he dropped out of school in eighth grade. Describes his 1946 signing by the Yankees and subsequent success, including five consecutive World Series and stints as manager and coach. 2009.

[Download Yogi Berra: Eternal Yankee, DB69268](#)





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The Prairie Trails Newsletter is our means of communication with all patrons of the Braille and Talking Book Program. The Prairie Trails Newsletter is made available on audio and also in braille, in large print, or on a diskette upon request and is posted on our website.

If you have any questions or comments you would like to address, or wish to request this newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the SD Braille and Talking Book Program. Call us toll free at 1-800-423-6665.

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