

**Iowa Radio Reading Information Service**

**For the Blind and Print Handicapped, Inc.**

**IRIS – Your 24-hour Radio Reading Service!**

**IRIS Newsletter – Winter 2012**

**Welcome 2012!**

We are excited for the year ahead. From programming to fundraising, IRIS is committed to maintaining and improving our services for you in 2012.

**Thank You !**

We heard from a number of our listeners after our last newsletter. Your contribution – no matter how large or small – keeps us on the air for you. Even better, some of you sent comments along to us:

“I listen to IRIS every night and enjoy it so much. Thank you.”

“Thank you for the work you do.”

“Please accept this small donation. I listen to IRIS every morning.”

“Thank you for the use of the radio. Connie enjoyed listening every day.”

“Thank you for the good service. I hear the Fort Dodge Messenger every morning.”

“I am so happy to be able to have this radio. I will be listening more and more and I enjoy listening to the Waterloo Courier. Thank you all.”

**IRIS loves to hear from YOU, please drop us a line any time.**

**Technically Speaking -**

IRIS operates reading studios in seven locations – resulting in lots of places for things to break down. Thanks to a lightning strike in Fort Dodge, we have been struggling with technical problems there. An amazing donation from Fort Dodge listener Roger Larson appeared, and we were able to purchase new equipment that put our signal back and better than ever! Our thanks to Roger, Friendship Haven and the WOI engineers who worked together to fix and improve our service to our Fort Dodge listeners!



**Congressman Boswell Reads on IRIS -**

December 21st, IRIS listeners got a special treat when Congressman Leonard Boswell visited our studios. Representative Boswell took a turn at the microphone and visited with volunteers and staff. Thank you, Congressman for your continued support of IRIS!

**Here is our updated Program Schedule – Effective January 1, 2012**

**MONDAY**

Midnight – American Past

1am – Commentary

6am – Cover to Cover

7am – Wall Street Journal

8am – Local Papers/Disability Topics

9am – Des Moines Register

Noon – Pet Hour

1pm – Old Friends

2pm – New York Times

3pm – World Safari

4pm – Iowa Salute

5pm – Ames Tribune/CB Nonpareil

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – 50 Something

9:30pm – Business Record

10pm – Cityview

11pm – Ames Tribune

**TUESDAY**

Midnight – Business Commentary

1am – Business Week

2am – World Safari

3am – Money Matters

4am – Diabetes News

5am – NY Times Book Reviews

6am – People’s Pharmacy

7am – Wall Street Journal

8am – Local Papers/Diabetes News

9am – Des Moines Register

Noon – People

1pm – In the Kitchen

2pm – New York Times

3pm – National Geographic

4pm – Access Iowa

5pm – Ames Tribune/CB Nonpareil

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – Magazine Picks

10pm – Readers Digest

11pm – Ames Tribune

**WEDNESDAY**

Midnight – Blind Handyman

1am – Rolling Stone

2am – Sports Illustrated

3am – Old Friends

4am – New Yorker

5am – Mother Earth

6am – In Focus

7am – Wall Street Journal

8am – Local Papers/In the Kitchen

9am – DM Register

Noon – Midweek Shopping Cart

1pm – At Home

2pm – New York Times

3pm – Oprah

3:30pm – Catalogs

4pm – Cityview

5pm – Ames Tribune/CB Nonpareil

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – Midweek Shopping Cart

10pm – Mother Earth

11pm – Ames Tribune

**THURSDAY**

Midnight – Old Friends

1am – Good Old Days

2am – It Makes a Difference

3am – Disability Topics

4am – Money Matters

5am – National Enquirer

6am – People’s Pharmacy

7am – Wall Street Journal

8am – Local Papers/Personal World

9am – Des Moines Register

Noon – Consumer Advocate

1pm – Time Magazine

2pm – New York Times

3pm – Smithsonian

4pm – Midweek Shopping Cart

5pm – Ames Tribune/CB Nonpareil

**(THURSDAY CONTINUED)**

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – Midweek Shopping Cart

10pm – Mother Earth

11pm – Ames Tribune

**FRIDAY**

Midnight – Multicultural Press

1am – People

2am – Apple a Day

3am – To Your Health

4am – Time

5am – Money Matters

6am – 50 Something

6:30am – Business Record

7am – Wall Street Journal

8am – Local Papers/Personal World

9am – Des Moines Register

Noon – Readers Digest

1pm – To Your Health

2pm – New York Times

3pm – Pet Hour

4pm – Cover to Cover

5pm – Ames Tribune/CB Nonpareil

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – Sports Illustrated

10pm – Newsweek

11pm – Ames Tribune

**SATURDAY**

Midnight – Apple a Day

1am – Time

2am – Nothing but the Truth

3am – New Yorker

4am – Newsweek

5am – Consumer Advocate

6am – Oprah

6:30am - Catalogs

7am – Science Hour

8am – Iowa Salute

9am – Des Moines Register

Noon – Multicultural Press

1pm – Your Personal World

2pm – Money Matters

3pm – Apple a Day

4pm – In Focus

5pm – Ames Tribune

6pm – Des Moines Register

9pm – Blind Handyman

10pm – Nothing but the Truth

11pm – American Past

**SUNDAY**

Midnight – Cover to Cover

1am – Wall Street Journal

2am – Smithsonian

3am – Business Commentary

4am – Multicultural Press

5am – Inner Life

6am – Time

7am – Polk County Senior

7:30am – AARP Report

8am – Local Papers/Business Week

9am – Des Moines Register

1pm – Magazine Picks

2pm – Bookcase

3pm – Art Fare

4pm – Polk County Senior

4:30pm – AARP Report

5pm – DM Register

9pm – It Makes a Difference

10pm – People’s Pharmacy

11pm – Cityview

**Hear our schedule each day at 7:58am. Schedules can be sent to you in braille, large print or audio formats. Just call 1-800-404-4747.**

**Listener Spotlight: Kirsten Christanson**

Kirsten was diagnosed with macular degeneration three years ago and has been tuned into IRIS ever since!

“My favorite program is the Des Moines Register – I listen to it faithfully every day. I can still read the newspaper with a magnifying glass, but I love listening to it on IRIS.”

Fun Fact: Kirsten was born in Denmark, but has called Des Moines home since 1953.

**The Reverend Canon William L. Jacobs –**

IRIS lost a dear friend and longtime champion for our service in late November. Reverend Bill was a devoted IRIS volunteer who served as a reader for many years – and most recently served on the IRIS Board of Directors. Our thoughts are with his family as we thank them for sharing such an amazing person with IRIS. Reverend Bill was 94 years old.

**IRIS FACT: 3,000 Hours = 125 Days of Reading**

The power of IRIS comes from the voices of our volunteers. More than 300 strong, these dedicated folks make sure that YOU have equal access to print information. In 2011, IRIS volunteers produced more than 3,000 hours of spoken material – both live and recorded.

**The VOICES of IRIS –**

One of our most popular programs is The Midweek Shopping Cart. Each week, you hear the latest ads and specials from grocery, discount and department stores. The voices of The Cart are longtime IRIS volunteers Marlys Van Hauen and Deb Headington. We are so grateful for their continued dedication – Thank you Marlys and Deb!

**Do you have an email address?**

If you would like to be on our electronic mailing list, please give us a call and share your email address. 515-243-6833 or toll-free 1-877-404-4747.

**THANK YOU Sally Vander Linden and Jo Slayton –**

The IRIS Board of Directors is losing two amazing women. Sally has worn so many hats in our organization for years. As an IRIS volunteer, board member and executive director, Sally’s voice and influence have been fixtures for so many years. Jo has been an avid IRIS listener and fan since the beginning. We have relied on her guidance time and again. All of us at IRIS send our best wishes and gratitude to Sally and Jo.

**Around the Office –**

Meet Jim Boyd – the new Operations Coordinator for IRIS. You might be familiar with Jim from some of our weekend programs. Jim joined IRIS last March as our weekend producer. In October, Jim was promoted to his new position. Radio Reading is in Jim’s blood. While in college, Jim helped a blind student at Grand View University – reading texts aloud, helping with tests and recording assignment to tape for her. After graduate school, Jim joined the folks at the Kansas Audio Reader as their telephone reader supervisor. We were thrilled when Jim moved back to Iowa and darkened our door as a volunteer in 2010. It has been a perfect fit ever since. If you need anything at all, please give Jim a call.

**IRIS in Your Pocket –**

You can use your smart phone or other mobile device to access the live IRIS signal wherever you go. Just download the free iBlink Radio application from SamNet. Choose “Reading Services”, then “Iowa Reading Information Service” to listen to IRIS on mobile device! The application is now available for both iPhone and Droid platforms.

**Follow IRIS on Twitter or Facebook –**

If social media is your thing, you can keep tabs on IRIS on Facebook – just do a search for Iowa Radio Reading. On Twitter, you can find us at IRIS\_DSM.

Remember IRIS –

**Memorial Gifts –**

IRIS has been privileged to be named the recipient of memorials in 2011. We are so grateful for this kind of support and humbly accept these memorial gifts. From bequests to memorials, including IRIS in your final plans ensures the voices of IRIS can continue for others. If you would like to find out more about how to include IRIS in your final planning, we would be happy to help you. Just give us a call at 243-6833 or 1-877-404-4747.

**IRIS Makes it Easy –**

We’re now equipped to accept donations from your credit or debit card. You can make a donation on our website or simply call our office and we can process your donation over the phone.

**And finally -**

Though we work closely with Iowa Public Radio, Iowa Public Television and the Iowa Department for the Blind, IRIS remains an independent non-profit organization – relying solely on contributions. We are so proud that we continue to provide our services and equipment at no cost to our listeners. In order to sustain our mission, we must constantly seek the financial support needed to keep the voices of IRIS on the air for you. If you or your loved ones value what we do each day, let us know – and we thank you.

*“My radio is very much appreciated. I use it mostly at night as I awaken often and it is there to listen to some interesting programs. I enjoy hearing your readers.”*

*Marie D. – Sioux City listener in Nebraska*

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Des Moines, Iowa 50313

**Free Matter for the Blind**

**And Physically Handicapped**

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**IRIS Delivers ACCESS to Information: On the Air, On your Mobile Device, and On the Web**

[**www.iowaradioreading.org**](http://www.iowaradioreading.org) **515-243-6833 1-877-404-4747**

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